

MAIA SOUTHWICK

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RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

To study the intersection of moral development, sense of self, and identity by identifying short-term and long-term patterns in moral reasoning and judgment across childhood and adolescence

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology

University of California, Davis

Davis, CA

September 2023 – Present

- Advisors: [Drs. Kristin Lagattuta](#) & [Emilio Ferrer](#)

Honors B.S. in Psychology, Minor in Sociology

University of Utah, 3.98 GPA

Salt Lake City, UT

August 2017 – May 2021

- Thesis: “I never felt like I was heard”: Feeling Heard in Disagreements Across Relationships
- Advisors: [Drs. Monisha Pasupathi](#) & [Cecilia Wainryb](#), [Social Development Lab](#)

Bachelor of Science in Health, Society, & Policy, Minor in Economics

University of Utah, 4.00 GPA

Salt Lake City, UT

August 2017 – May 2021

Quantitative Research Analysis in Social Sciences Certificate

University of Utah, 3.98 GPA

Salt Lake City, UT

August 2017 – May 2021

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIP

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- Undergraduate Research Scholar Designation (URSD) (Spring 2021)
 - Francis Family Foundation Undergraduate Research Scholarship (Spring 2021)
 - Aimee LaPine Memorial Scholarship Recipient (Fall 2020)
 - Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Scholar (Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Fall 2020)
 - College of Social & Behavioral Sciences Solutions Scholar (Fall 2018 – Spring 2020)
 - Dean’s List (Fall 2017 – Spring 2021)

PUBLICATIONS

Southwick, M. L. (2021). “I never felt like I was heard”: The experience of feeling heard in disagreements across relationships. *Undergraduate Research Journal*. <https://tinyurl.com/URJ2021-MaiaSouthwick>

Southwick, M. L. (2020). Subsidized childcare policy and its implications for low-income families. *Hinckley Journal of Politics*, 21, 54-60. <https://tinyurl.com/HJOP2020>

CONFERENCE POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS

Southwick, M. L. (2021, April). “I never felt like I was heard”: *Feeling heard in disagreements across relationships*. Poster presented at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research.

Southwick, M. L. (2021, April). “I never felt like I was heard”: *Feeling heard in disagreements across relationships*. Poster presented at the Spring 2021 Virtual Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Utah.

Southwick, M. L. & Phan, T. (2020, July). *Mental health among college freshmen displaced by COVID-19*. Poster presented at the Summer 2020 Virtual Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Utah

Southwick, M. L. (2020, April). *The experience of feeling heard in conflict across relationships*. Poster presented at the Spring 2020 Virtual Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Utah.

RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Veris Insights

Remote, based in Washington, D.C.

Senior Research Associate – Rapid Insights Group

January 2022 – August 2023

- Proposed and led a research project in creating a new product for supporting recruiting professionals in building a more diverse and inclusive workforce
- Managed a portfolio of multiple concurrent research projects, including both collaborative and individual assignments on trends in job seeker decision-making and labor market trends

University of Utah, Social Development Lab

Salt Lake City, UT

Research Assistant

January 2018 – May 2021

- Developed an undergraduate thesis exploring social relationships, conflict, and interpersonal resolution by creating a university-scale online survey, leading a team of RAs quantifying qualitative data, and performing a series of statistical analyses from 400 coded narratives
- Processed and analyzed narrative and survey data from over 200 college freshmen in a multi-institution longitudinal study investigating the effects of displacement caused by COVID-19, such as disruptions in identity development, mental health concerns, and additional impacts
- Trained research assistants in survey creation and lab protocol to help promote a supportive and efficient lab environment
- Created an online survey using Qualtrics to collect pilot data differences between relationship styles in interpersonal resolution for a university-scale social development study
- Interviewed 20 university student participants about interpersonal conflict experiences as part of a pilot study to identify patterns in interpersonal resolution

Honors College, University of Utah

Salt Lake City, UT

Thesis Peer Mentor

August 2020 – May 2021

- Worked as a point of contact for fellow peers studying in the Honors College working towards an undergraduate thesis

University of Utah, Department of Psychology

Salt Lake City, UT

Teaching Assistant, Psychology 1010 & 2010

August 2019 – May 2020

- Graded student papers and provided support to 150 students to promote classroom success in a general psychology class
- Prepared and presented a 40-minute lecture focused on the development of sense of self across infancy to adolescence to a general psychology class of 300 students

WORK EXPERIENCE

San Luis Coastal United School District

San Luis Obispo, CA

Kindergarten Instructional Aide

August 2022 – June 2023

- Assisting the teacher with the preparation and presentation of instructional activities in reading, language, math, and other subject areas
- Supporting the teacher in classroom management and socio-emotional learning

Compass Center, Inc.

Santa Maria, CA

Child Development Specialist/Early Interventionist

November 2021 – August 2022

- Provided one-on-one intervention for two- to three-year-old toddlers, modeled effective adult-child interactions, and maintained weekly visits to provide complete early intervention services
- Designed implemented, and adapted activities for language, cognitive, fine and gross motor, sensory, self-help, and socio-emotional development

Fit Learning SLC***Learning Coach/Behavior Technician*****Salt Lake City, UT*****August 2020 – July 2021***

- Coached students aged 8 to 15 in core math and reading skills to promote cognitive fitness and help students achieve fluency in previously struggling educational areas
- Engaged in behavioral management throughout coaching sessions with learners using principles from applied behavioral analysis and general reinforcement strategies

United States Census Bureau***Census Taker/Enumerator*****Salt Lake City, UT*****August 2020 – September 2020***

- Interviewed residents of every household that had not responded via online or paper to collect data for the 2020 Decennial Census
- Participated in one of the largest survey data collection efforts to occur within the United States

YWCA, Family Justice Center***Student Intern*****Salt Lake City, UT*****January 2020 – March 2020***

- Connected survivors of domestic violence to legal and victim advocates as the first point of contact for incoming visitors
- Ensured the center was a safe, comfortable, and clean place for survivors to visit

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services***Strategic Planning Intern*****Washington, D.C.*****May 2019 – August 2019***

- Drafted a 15-page report analyzing barriers in access to childcare subsidies among low-income families to be used as an informational resource for the HHS Strategic Planning Team
- Provided logistical support for a 3-hour virtual strategic planning consultation developing mission statements for a federal steering committee aimed at reducing violence against women

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

United Way/Allan Hancock Community College***Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Volunteer*****Santa Maria, CA*****January 2022 – April 2022***

- Participated in an intensive tax law and software course over the course of three days to develop tax preparation knowledge to better serve the Santa Maria community
- Completed 40 hours of tax preparation work, working one-on-one with low-income individuals and families who requested additional assistance to submit their 2021 federal and state tax returns

Utah Health & Human Rights***Tutor/Mentor*****Salt Lake City, UT*****August 2018 – February 2019***

- Tutored in math and reading to help educate 4 children of a refugee family aged 5 to 12.
- Assisted the parent in understanding English documents sent from school and housing to ensure the family can participate in school activities and follow apartment housing policies

The Children's Center***Preschool Assistant*****Salt Lake City, UT*****October 2017 – August 2018***

- Interacted with 9 children aged 4-5 with emotional and behavioral issues through play and the demonstration of socially appropriate behaviors and emotion management techniques
- Assisted 2 Therapeutic Preschool Specialists in managing and maintaining the classroom to create a safe and consistent environment for the children

EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

Oxford Consortium for Human Rights

Virtual Workshop

Student Experience

March 2021

- Participated in a multi-weekend online workshop studying and discussing racial justice, minority rights, and religious freedom
- Presented on the connection between human rights, racial inequality, and air quality in Utah, with a focus on current environmental issues in Salt Lake City and student organizing efforts

University of Utah, Women in Economics Club

Salt Lake City, UT

Director of Programming

August 2019 – August 2020

- Assist the club president in planning and scheduling future events for the school year
- Engaged in outreach to multiple economics professionals in the community to request their presence at a Women in Economics networking Q&A panel

University of Utah, Capital Encounter

Salt Lake City, UT

Student Experience

January 2019 – May 2019

- Drafted a policy proposal aimed at directing federal funding to a veterans' resource center as part of a class project in order to practice policy writing and problem-solving
- Engaged in outreach to Senate and House of Representative staffers to coordinate meeting times with their respective offices to advocate for the outlined policy proposal
- Traveled to and advocated in Washington, D.C. to staffers from 10 different legislative offices in order to promote awareness and inform congresspeople on continuing veteran issues

University of Utah, ACME Scholars

Salt Lake City, UT

Scholar

August 2017 – April 2018

- Assisted in the coordination of a community art event where LGBTQ+ visual and performance artists presented their work and background
- Met on a monthly basis to coordinate and develop ideas to spur community engagement with art and the Utah Museum of Fine Arts