

MICHAEL MATTA

Department of Psychological, Health, and Learning Sciences
University of Houston
Houston, TX 77204
Phone Number: (857) 919-1712
Email: mmatta@uh.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2021 – present **Research Scientist** in School Psychology.
Mentors: Milena A. Keller-Margulis and Sterett H. Mercer.
Department of Psychological, Health, and Learning Sciences, University of Houston.
- 2019 – 2020 **Postdoctoral Fellow** in School Psychology.
Mentors: Milena A. Keller-Margulis and Sterett H. Mercer.
Department of Psychological, Health, and Learning Sciences, University of Houston.
- 2018 – 2019 **Postdoctoral Research Associate** in School Psychology.
Mentors: Robert J. Volpe and Amy M. Briesch.
Department of Applied Psychology, Northeastern University.

EDUCATION & LICENSURE

- 2014 – 2018 **Ph.D.** in Clinical Psychology, Mentor: Margherita Lang.
Licensed Psychologist (Italy).
University of Milano Bicocca
- 2017 – 2018 **Visiting Short-Term Scholar**, Mentor: W. Joel Schneider.
Illinois State University and Temple University.
- 2014 – 2016 **Graduate program certificate** in Psychological Assessment and Clinical Interviews.
Association for the Research in Clinical Psychology (A.R.P.).
- 2011 – 2014 **M.D.** in Clinical Psychology.
University of Milano Bicocca
- 2008 – 2011 **B.S.** in Psychology, *cum laude*.
University of Milano Bicocca

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2022 Postdoctoral Career Enhancement Award (\$995.00), University of Houston.
Invited to School Psychology Research Collaboration Conference (SPRCC) (\$800.00), Society for the Study of School Psychology, February 13-14, 2022, Boston, MA.
Editorial Appreciation Award, School Psychology Review.

- 2021 Postdoctoral Travel Award (\$425.00), University of Houston.
SMEP Minority Workshop Award (\$795.00), Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology.
Postdoctoral Career Enhancement Award (\$895.00), University of Houston.
- 2020 Service Award, School Psychology Review.

GRANTS

- Matta, M.** (2022, under review). *Cross-Cultural Adaptation of Automated Approaches to Scoring Writing*, (\$49,997.00). Spencer Foundation, Small Research Grants Program in Education.
- Matta, M.** (2021, funded). *Assessing the Simple View of Writing in School-Aged Students with ADHD*, (\$15,000.00). Woodcock Institute, Research Grant.
- Matta, M.** (PI), Keller-Margulis, M., & Mercer, S. H. (Mentors) (2020, funded). *Differential Racial/Ethnic Predictive Validity of Written-Expression Curriculum-Based Measurement (WE-CBM) and Automated WE-CBM (aWE-CBM)*, (\$20,000.00). Society for the Study of School Psychology (SSSP), Early Career Research Award (ECRA).

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Matta, M.**, Mercer, S. H., & Keller-Margulis, M. A. (in press). Implications of Bias in Automated Writing Quality Scores for Fair and Equitable Assessment Decisions. *School Psychology*.
- Matta, M.**, Keller-Margulis, M. A., & Mercer, S. H. (2022). Cost analysis and cost effectiveness of hand-scored and automated approaches to writing screening. *Journal of School Psychology*, 92, 80–95. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsp.2022.03.003>
- Matta, M.**, Mercer, S. H., & Keller-Margulis, M. A. (2022). Evaluating validity and bias for hand-calculated and automated Written Expression Curriculum-Based Measurement scores. *Assessment in Education: Principles, Policy & Practice*, 29(2), 200–218. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0969594X.2022.2043240>
- Landry, L. N., Keller-Margulis, M., **Matta, M.**, Kim, H., Gonzalez, J., & Schanding, T. (2021). Long-term validity and diagnostic accuracy of Kindergarten Acadience Reading with English learners. *School Psychology Review*. <http://doi.org/10.1080/2372966X.2021.1984170>
- Briesch, A. M., Donaldson, A., **Matta, M.**, Volpe, R. J., Daniels, B., & Owens, J. S. (2021). Development of brief rating scales for progress monitoring internalizing behavior. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*. <http://doi.org/10.1177/10634266211039761>
- Beidler, E., Schmitt, A., **Matta, M.**, & Griger C. (2021). Diagnosed and nondisclosed sport-related concussion: An exploratory comparison study by ADHD status in collegiate student-athletes. *Journal of Attention Disorders*. 26, 606–615. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10870547211015432>
- Keller-Margulis, M. A., Mercer, S. H., & **Matta, M.** (2021). Validity of automated text evaluation tools for Written-Expression Curriculum-Based Measurement: A comparison

- study. *Reading & Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 34, 2461–2480.
<http://doi.org/10.1007/s11145-021-10153-6>
- Matta, M.**, Volpe, R. J., Briesch, A. M., & Owens, J. S. (2020). Five direct behavior rating multi-item scales: Sensitivity to the effects of classroom interventions. *Journal of School Psychology*, 81, 28–46. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsp.2020.05.002>
- Vernice, M., **Matta, M.**, Tironi, M., Caccia, M., Lombardi, E., Guasti, M. T., ... & Lang, M. (2019). An online tool to assess sentence comprehension in teenagers at risk for school exclusion: Evidence from L2 Italian students. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 10, 2417.
<http://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.02417>
- Matta, M.**, Gritti, E. S. V., & Lang, M. (2018). Personality Assessment of Intellectually Gifted Adults: A Dimensional Trait Approach. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 140, 21–26. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2018.05.009>
- Lang, M., **Matta, M.**, Michelotti, C., Brusadelli, E., & Volpe, S. (2018). Intelligence Assessment of Members of Mensa Italia - The High I.Q. Society: A Preliminary Study on Giftedness using the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-IV. *Italian Journal of Psychology*, 2, 385–406. <http://doi.org/10.1421/90622>
- Lang, M., **Matta, M.**, Parolin, L., Morrone, C., & Pezzuti, L. (2017). Cognitive Profile of Intellectually Gifted Adults: Analyzing the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale. *Assessment*, 26(5), 929–943. <http://doi.org/10.1177/1073191117733547>

UNDER REVIEW REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Keller-Margulis, M. A., **Matta, M.**, Laundry, L., Zopatti, K., Reid, E., & Schanding, T. (revise and resubmit). A comparison of reading screeners for kindergartners: The Texas Primary Reading Inventory and Acadience Reading. *Assessment for Effective Intervention*.

IN PREPARATION JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Matta, M.**, Keller-Margulis, M. A., & Mercer, S. H. (in preparation). Improving Written-Expression Curriculum-Based Measurement feasibility with automated text evaluation programs.
- Volpe, R. J., **Matta, M.**, & Briesch, A. M. (in preparation). Formative behavioral assessment across eight constructs: Dependability of Direct Behavior Ratings and Brief Rating Scales.

TEST REVIEWS & ADAPTATIONS

- Tobin, R. M., & **Matta, M.** (2020). The Data Model for Teaching Preschoolers with Autism. In J. F. Carlson, K. F. Geisinger, & J. L. Jonson (Eds.), *The Twenty-First Mental Measurements Yearbook*. Buros Center for Testing.
- Tobin, R. M., & **Matta, M.** (2020). SSIS™ Social-Emotional Learning Edition. In J. F. Carlson, K. F. Geisinger, & J. L. Jonson (Eds.), *The Twenty-First Mental Measurements Yearbook*. Buros Center for Testing.
- Pignolo, C., Abbate, L., Lang, M., **Matta, M.**, Porcelli, P., & Zennaro, A. (2020). *PAS - Personality Assessment Screener (Italian Adaptation)*. Hogrefe.
- Ciancaleoni, M., & **Matta, M.** (2019). Italian adaptation of the TSI-2. In L. Abbate, M. Lang, N. Nardelli, & N. Vassalli (Eds.), *Trauma Symptom Inventory-2* (pp. 67-100). Hogrefe.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Matta, M.** (2022, March). *Computer-based assessment for the future of education. The role of test bias*. Invited talk at the School of Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.
- Matta, M.** (2021, December). *Is computer-based assessment the future of (school) psychology? A cautionary tale on test bias*. Invited talk at the Department of Psychology, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.
- Matta, M.** (2020, November). *Cost Analysis. An Introduction to Economic Considerations in Education*. Invited talk at the Department of Psychological, Health, & Learning Sciences, University of Houston, Houston, TX.
- Matta, M.** (2019, May). *Use of Progress Monitoring Tools in Applied Settings: Measuring Sensitivity to Change in Response to Behavioral Interventions*. Invited talk at the Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ.
- Matta, M.** (2018, October). *Treatment Effect Measures in Single Case Studies*. Invited talk at the Department of Applied Psychology, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.
- Matta, M.** (2018, March). *Not only IQ. Measuring High Intelligence in Adulthood*. Invited talk presented at the meeting of the Mensa Association, Bologna, IT.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

- Matta, M.,** Keller-Margulis M., & Mercer, S. H. (2022). *The use of automated scores of writing quality. What are the implications for fairness and equity?* Presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association (APA), Minneapolis, MN.
- Matta, M.,** Keller-Margulis M., & Mercer, S. H. (2022). *New Directions for Writing Assessment: Improving Feasibility with Automated Scoring*. Presentation at the annual meeting of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Boston, MA.
- Matta, M.** (2022). *writeAlizer: A Free Automated Tool for Evaluating Writing in School*. Presentation at the International Conference on the Science of Written Expression, Columbus, OH.
- Matta, M.,** Keller-Margulis M., & Mercer, S. H. (2021, July). *The Use of Automated Approaches to Scoring Written Expression of Elementary Students*. Presentation at the annual meeting of the International School Psychology Association (ISPA), Nicosia, Cyprus.
- Matta, M.,** Keller-Margulis M., Mercer, S. H., & Zopatti, K. (2021, February). *Improving Written-Expression Curriculum-Based Measurement Feasibility with Automated Text Evaluation Programs*. Presentation at the annual meeting of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Salt Lake City, UT.
- Mercer, S. H., Keller-Margulis M., & **Matta, M.** (2020, February). *Validity of automated vs. hand-scored written expression curriculum-based measurement samples*. Poster at the annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Research Conference (PCRC), San Diego, CA.
- Volpe, R. J., Briesch, A. M., **Matta, M.,** Owens, J. S., Yeung, T. S., & Donaldson, A. R. (2020, February). *Examining the Dependability of Four Direct Behavior Rating Multi-Item Scales (DBR-MIS) for Problem Behaviors*. Poster at the annual meeting of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Baltimore, MD.

Briesch, A. M., Volpe, R. J., **Matta, M.**, Owens, J. S., Donaldson, A. R., & Yeung, T. S. (2020, February). *Dependability of Direct Behavior Rating Multi-Item Scales (DBR-MIS) for Academic Enablers*. Poster at the annual meeting of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), Baltimore, MD.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019 **Course Lecturer** in Measurement: Advanced Psychometric Principles (graduate program).
Topics: Test Development and Validation; Classical Test Theory; Generalizability Theory; Factor Analysis.
Department of Applied Psychology, Northeastern University.
- 2016 – 2018 **Course Lecturer** in Psychological Assessment (undergraduate program).
Topics: Multi-method Assessment; Psychological Testing; Report Writing.
Department of Psychology, University of Milano Bicocca.

POSTGRADUATE TRAINING IN ADVANCED PSYCHOMETRICS

- 2022 Modern Missing Data Analysis (CenterStat).
Longitudinal Structural Equation Modeling (CenterStat).
- 2021 Applied Machine Learning in R (Pittsburgh Summer Methodology Series).
Machine Learning: Theory and Applications (CenterStat).
Categorical Structural Equation Modeling (Statistical Horizons).
Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling (CenterStat).

REVIEWING EXPERIENCE

- 2020 – present Member of the Editorial Board of *School Psychology Review*.
- 2020 – present Ad-hoc Reviewer for *Journal of School Psychology*.
- 2017 – present Ad-hoc Reviewer for *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*.
- 2018 Ad-hoc Reviewer for *Journal of Intelligence*.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2018 – present National Association of School Psychologists (Member, USA).
- 2017 – 2018 Association of Italian Psychology (Member, IT).