

Alexander Porto

tele: 412-540-6473 | email: alexanderporto@posteo.net | www.alexanderporto.net
ORCID: 0000-0003-0535-5065

EDUCATION

- 2022–ONGOING** **Ph.D. Clinical Psychology** | Dept. of Psychology, Duquesne University
Dissertation: *Sound Symbolism Across Diverse Writing Systems*
- 2022–2023** **M.A. Clinical Psychology** | Dept. of Psychology, Duquesne University
- 2018–2020** **M.Sc. Early Childhood Research** | Universität Leipzig
Depts. of Developmental Psychology, Philosophy, & Empirical Pedagogy
Thesis: *A Critical Theory of Childhood Research: Perspectives on Reification, Normativity, and Objectivity*
Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Kristina Musholt & Prof. Dr. Patricia Kanngießer
- 2011–2015** **B.A. Psychology** | Point Park University
Thesis: *Phenomenological Responses to Architectural Environments*
Awards: Dean's List Honors (2013–2015)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2022–ONGOING** **Graduate Researcher**
Dept. of Psychology, Duquesne University
Project: *Sound Symbolism Across Diverse Writing Systems*
- 2022–ONGOING** **Graduate Instructor**
Dept. of Psychology, Duquesne University
- 2022–2023** **Community-Based Psychology Fellow**
Dept. of Psychology, Duquesne University
- 2022–2023** **Graduate Research Assistant**
Dept. of Psychology, Duquesne University
Supervisors: Dr. Russell Walsh & Dr. Alexander Kranjec
- 2021–2022** **Pre-Doctoral Fellow**
Universität Leipzig & Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
Award: Universität Leipzig, 2021–2022 Pre-Doc Award
Project: *The Production of Symbolic Communication During Literacy Acquisition*
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Anne Deiglmayr
- 2021–2022** **Guest Scientist**
Dept. of Comparative Cultural Psychology, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
Project: *Symbolic Literacy*
Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Daniel Haun & Dr. Gregor Kachel

- 2019–2020** **Graduate Research Assistant**
 Universität Leipzig & Leipzig Research Center for Early Child Development
 Project: *Emotions & Social Cognition*
 Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Robert Hepach
- 2019–2020** **Research Internship**
 Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology
 Project: *Social Learning in Austronesian Cultures*
 Supervisors: Dr. Roman Stengelin & Sarah Peoples, M.Sc.
- 2017–2018** **Clinical Research Associate**
 Dept. of Psychology, Shriners Hospitals for Children Chicago
 Supervisor: Dr. Kathy Zebracki
- 2017–2018** **Research Assistant**
 Dept. of Psychology, Loyola University Chicago
 Supervisor: Dr. Grayson Holmbeck

PUBLICATIONS & ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW

- Brar, P., Pienkos, L., **Porto, A.**, Wood, H., Sarpal, D., Schreiber, J., Kalarchian, M., Kranjec, A. (2024). Methods and Models for Investigating Anomalous Experiences in Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders. *Philosophical Psychology*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09515089.2024.2305232>
 [Contributions: Wrote section on network modeling; general consulting on manuscript development]
- Porto, A.** (under review). Probabilistic claiming as meta-comparative practice.
- Porto, A.** (2023). *A Picture Theory of Symbolic Development in Early Childhood*. Theory & Psychology. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09593543231192973>
- Porto, A.**, Anderson, L., Kalinich, T., Deane, K. C., Vogel, L. C., & Zebracki, K. (2019). Understanding transition for youth with spinal cord injury: Youth and caregiver perceptions. *The Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine*, 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10790268.2019.1574437>
- Porto, A.** (2018). *Communitas & Spinal Cord Injury*. SCI Informer, Cover Article, Summer 2018 Issue. [Editorial publication].

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & ACCEPTANCES

- 2024** Midwinter Meeting of the Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology
 Duquesne University (Accepted; Upcoming: 26.4.2024).
 Talk: *The Picture Theory of Symbolic Development in Early Childhood*

- 2024** Midwinter Meeting of the Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology
Duquesne University (Accepted; Upcoming: 26.4.2024).
Workshop: *Drawing Connections: Ideas and Applications of Expressive Activity in the Clinic* (w/
Dall’Aglia, J. & Flynn, C.)
- 2024** Conference of Multimodality in Early Interactions for ECRs
The University of Warwick (Accepted; Upcoming: 18.4.2024).
Poster: *The Picture Theory of Symbolic Development in Early Childhood*
- 2022** Emory Symposium for Psychoanalysis & Politics
Emory University | Atlanta, GA, USA
Talk: *Reified Childhood: Examining the Psychoanalytic Implications of Social Reification During Child Development*
- 2022** Lacan: Clinic & Culture Conference
Duquesne University | Pittsburgh, PA, USA
Chair: *Clinical Praxis with Dr. Daniel Garcia & Dr. Sam Boyle*
- 2018** 72nd Annual Meeting of the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and
Developmental Medicine | Cincinnati, OH, USA
Poster: *Barriers in accessing adult healthcare for transitioning youth with spinal cord injury.*
(**Porto, A.**, Anderson, L., Vogel, L., & Zebracki, K.)
- 2018** 57th Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Spinal Cord Society | Sydney,
Australia
Poster: *Barriers in accessing adult healthcare for transitioning youth with spinal cord injury.*
(**Porto, A.**, Anderson, L., Vogel, L., & Zebracki, K.)
- 2018** Annual Meeting of the Society of Pediatric Psychology | Orlando, FL, USA
Poster: *Depressive symptoms, neuropsychological functioning, and medical responsibility
in youth with spina bifida: Direct, mediating, and reciprocal pathways.*
(Stern, A., Anderson, L., **Porto, A.**, & Holmbeck, G. N.)
- 2015** Eighth Annual Meeting of the Society for Humanistic Psychology
APA Div. 32 | Chicago, IL, USA
Presentation: *Phenomenological Responses to Architectural Environments*
- 2014** Sixth Annual Undergraduate Qualitative Research Conference
Point Park University & Confluence Psychology Alliance | Pittsburgh, PA, USA
Presentation: *Phenomenological Responses to Architectural Environments*

TEACHING & SUPERVISION

SPRING 2024	Introduction to Psychology Duquesne University
FALL 2023	Introduction to Psychology Duquesne University
SPRING 2023	(Graduate Assistant) Psychological Disorders Duquesne University
FALL 2023	(Graduate Assistant) Laboratory in Psychology Duquesne University
SPRING 2020	(Graduate Supervising Assistant) Empirical Methods in Early Childhood Research II Universität Leipzig

FURTHER EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, & VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

FALL 2023	Visiting Student , Department of Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh. Invited by Robert Brandom for PHIL2410: <i>Sellars as a Metaphysician: Norms and Nature, Appearance and Reality</i>
2023–Ongoing	Member of the American Society for Cybernetics
2022–Ongoing	Reviewer for <i>Journal of Humanistic Psychology</i>
2020–2022	Reviewer for <i>Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation</i>
2019–2020	Scholarship Awarded for the <i>Capra Course</i> by Fritjof Capra & Schumacher College, Fall 2019
2012–2015	Student Board Member , Confluence Psychology Alliance

COMPETENCIES

Computer Programming & Data Science:	<i>Advanced/Primary Environment:</i> R (e.g., regression analysis, machine learning, etc.) <i>Proficient:</i> SPSS Pure Data OpenMusic ChuckK lab.js OpenPose GitHub Jupyter Notebooks HTML Qualtrics <i>Familiar:</i> Python
Languages:	English – Native Language German – Intermediate (CEFR B2) French – Basic-Intermediate (CEFR A2)