

# Sepehr Pourkhalili

**Birth:** 11.06.1996, Isfahan, Iran; **Contact:** s.pourkhalili@gmail.com

**Research interests:** ▪ Environmental Psychology ▪ Brain imaging (EEG and fNIRS)  
▪ Cognitive Psychology

## Education

**Master of Science in General Psychology (GPA: 17.08/20)**

University of Guilan

2019–2023

Rasht, Iran

- **Master thesis (supervised by Dr. Soltani Shal):** The Genetic and Environmental Contribution of Perfectionism, Inferential Confusion, and Saving Behavior

**Bachelor of Art in Psychology (GPA: 15.65/20)**

Shiraz University

2015–2019

Shiraz, Iran

- **Final Bachelor project (supervised by Dr. Esmacili):** The association between recovery of cancer and well-being in middle-aged women
- **Project (Experimental psychology course [3 ECTS]; supervised by Dr. Mehdireza Sarafraz):** Examining the effect of stress on attention by using Stroop Test

## Publications

Meidenbauer, K. L., Pourkhalili, S., Schertz, K. E., Janey, E., & Berman, M. (2025). *Sensitive to what? Environmental sensitivity primarily amplifies affective responses to features of the social rather than physical environment.* [https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/7zdak\\_v1](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/7zdak_v1)

Pourkhalili, S., Soltani Shal, R., Abolghasemi, A., Dianatkah, M., & Gharipour, M. (2024). *Estimating the heritability of hoarding symptoms: Insights from a classical twin study.* Iranian Journal of Psychiatry, 19(4), 424-430.

Sarafraz, M, R., Pourkhalili, S. (2023). *اصلاح طلب و اصول گرا: یک مطالعه مقایسه‌ای کوچک در مورد شخصیت و سلامت روان [Reformist and Fundamentalist: A Small-Scale Comparative Study of Personality and Mental Health]. فصلنامه سیاست [Political Quarterly], 53(3), 472-449.* doi: 10.22059/jpq.2020.303181.1007596

Pourkhalili, S., Sadeghi Chookami, E., & Abolghasemi, A. (2022). *Coronavirus Anxiety: The Predictive Role of Perfectionism and Self-compassion.* Iranian Journal of Health Psychology, 5(1). <https://doi.org/10.30473/ijohp.2022.57602.1165>

## Work experience

- Research Assistant (Collaborating with Dr. Kimberly Lewis Meidenbauer) 07/2024–today  
Collaborated remotely with Dr. Kim Meidenbauer from Washington State University, US.
  - Exploring the Moderating Role of Highly Sensitive Personality in the Association of Perceived Naturalness of City Parks and Affective States.
    - Contributed to the analysis of the "Mapping Chicago Project" dataset, examining how the Highly Sensitive Personality (HSP) scale and its subscales moderate relationships between environmental features and affective states, utilizing various psychological assessments and self-reported measures.
- School and Educational Counselor 09/2023–today  
Eghtesad High School
  - Identifying and referring students who suffer from learning difficulties, parental issues, anxiety, ADHD, depression, obsession and compulsion, and other mental health issues.
- Neurofeedback therapist and Psychotherapist (applying EFT) 07/2023–today  
Kelid-e Zehn Clinic
  - Most prevalent treatment population: Children and adolescents with attention deficit disorder (ADD), attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), and general anxiety disorder (GAD)
- Internship in Neurofeedback Therapy for Children's Disorders Treatment 06/2023  
Kelid-e Zehn Clinic
- Emotional Focused Therapy (EFT) training course (80 hours) 09/2022  
Afarinesh Clinic

## Conference

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**Pourkhalili, S.** (June, 2023). *The contribution of environmental and genetic factors to hoarding behavior and its subscales*. The Joint 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Twin Pregnancy a Global Perspective & The 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Society Twins Studies (ISTS), Budapest, Hungary.

**Pourkhalili, S.** (June, 2023). *The Interplay Between Genetics and Environment in the Development of Perfectionism: Evidence From a Classical Twin Study*. The Joint 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Twin Pregnancy a Global Perspective & The 18<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Society Twins Studies (ISTS), Budapest, Hungary.

Sadeghi, E. Bagheri Sheykhan Gafshe, F. Daryayi, S. **Pourkhalili, S.** (2021.01.21-22). نقش انعطاف پذیری شناختی و تاب آوری در پیش بینی افسردگی [The Role of Cognitive Flexibility and Resilience in Predicting Student Depression During the 2019 Coronavirus Pandemic] [Poster]. نخستین کنگره ملی دانشگاه و کوید ۱۹ [First National Congress of University and Covid 19], Tehran, Iran.

Sadeghi, E. Bagheri Sheykhan Gafshe, F. Daryayi, S. **Pourkhalili, S.** (2021.01.21-22). چالش های آموزش مجازی در دانشجویان قبل و بعد از همه گیری [Challenges of Virtual Learning in Students Before and After the Covid 19 Virus Pandemic: A review study] [Poster]. نخستین کنگره ملی دانشگاه و کوید ۱۹ [First National Congress of University and Covid-19], Tehran, Iran.

**Pourkhalili, S.** (November, 2020). نانو مارکتینگ و بازاریابی؛ مروری بر تهدیدها و فرصتها. [Nano-Marketing and Marketing: A Review on Limitations and Opportunities] [Talk]. نخستین کنفرانس دانشجویی علوم شناختی. [First Cognitive Science Student Congress], Rasht, Iran.

Mohammadi, R. Sadeghi Chookami, E. Safarian Pour, K. **Pourkhalili, S.** (November, 2020) مروری بر نقش هوش مصنوعی در توانمندی شناختی مقابله با اختلالات و بیماری های جسمی و روانی [A Review on the Role of Artificial Intelligence in the Cognitive Rehabilitation to Cope with Disorders and Physical and Mental Illnesses] [Poster]. نخستین کنفرانس دانشجویی علوم شناختی. [First Cognitive Science Student Congress], Rasht, Iran.

## Honors & awards

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- **Ranked within the top 0.6%** among approx. >120.000 participants in the Iranian University Entrance Exam for Bachelor's degree.
- **Ranked within the top 2%** among approx. > 5000 participants in the Iranian University Entrance Exam for Master's degree.
- Received **national undergraduate and graduate full scholarship** (Exemption from paying tuition fees for Bachelor's & Master's degrees)

## Workshop participation

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| • Cognitive Rehabilitation Internship Program (16 hours)<br><i>Brain and Cognition Clinic</i>  | 12/2023<br>Tehran, Iran  |
| • EEG Signal Recording & Signal Processing (32 hours)<br><i>National Brain Mapping Laboratory, Tehran, Iran</i>                      | 08/2023<br>remote        |
| • Training Course on Recording EEG (66 hours)<br><i>National Brain Mapping Laboratory</i>  | 05/2023<br>Tehran, Iran  |
| • Comprehensive training course for Python Programming Language (100 hours)<br><i>Technical and Vocational Training Organization</i> | 12/2022<br>Isfahan, Iran |
| • Analysis and Processing of Signals of EEG, EMG, and fNIRS (32 hours)<br><i>National Brain Mapping Laboratory, Tehran, Iran</i>     | 11/2022<br>remote        |

## Teaching experience

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| • Communication skills, Psychology & English<br><i>Eghtesad High School</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Target group: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> graders</li></ul> | 09/2020-03/2023<br>Isfahan, Iran |
| • Statistics & Research methods<br><i>University of Guilan</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Target group: psychology students and university entrance exam candidates for master's degree</li></ul>          | 06/2019-12/2019<br>Rasht, Iran   |

## Volunteering

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- Member of Sarmad NGO, Advocate of Children's Rights  
*Identifying children at risk of forced labor, denied access to education, and living in adverse environments* 2019–today  
Isfahan, Iran

## Skills

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- *Programming:* R, Python
- *Software:* SPSS, Smart PLS, G\*Power, MATLAB- EEGLAB Toolbox, Neuroguide, MS office, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Mendeley
- *Languages:* **Persian:** Native      **English:** C1 (Academic IELTS score: 7.5, 22.10.2022)      **German:** A1

## Referee

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1. **Dr Kimberly L. Meidenbauer** – Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Washington State University | Contact information: Johnson Tower 319, Phone: [509-335-3508](tel:509-335-3508). E-mail: [kim.meidenbauer@wsu.edu](mailto:kim.meidenbauer@wsu.edu)
2. **Dr Mojgan Gharipour** – Honorary Fellow, School of Medicine, Deakin University | Contact information: Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus, 75 Pigdons Road, Waurn Ponds, Victoria 3216. E-mail: [mojgan.gharipour@deakin.edu.au](mailto:mojgan.gharipour@deakin.edu.au)