

Tessa Clarkson, B.S.

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Education

Stony Brook University- Stony Brook, NY

PhD. Student in Clinical Psychology

Advisors: Dr. Johanna Jarcho and Dr. Matthew Lerner

Anticipated graduation date 05/2021

Harvard University, Extension School- Cambridge MA

Non-degree seeking graduate credits

2013-2014

Boston University, Sargent College - Boston, MA

B.S. Human Physiology

2011

Awards

Society for Research and Child Development (SRCD)

Student Travel Award of \$300 for 2017 conference in Austin, TX.

International Meeting For Autism Research (IMFAR)

Student Award of \$500 for 2017 conference in San Francisco, CA.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Clarkson, T., Kang, E., Lerner, M.D., Jarcho, J., Prinstein, M.J. *RDoC Special Issue: A Meta-Analysis of the RDoC Social Processing Domain Across Units of Analysis (under review)*. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*.

Clarkson, T. LeBlanc, J., Degregorio, G., Vogel-Farley, V., Barnes, K., Kaufmann, W.E., Nelson, C.A. (in press). Adapting the Mullen Scales of Early Learning for a Standardized Measure of Cognition in Children with Rett Syndrome. *American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*. Doi 10.1352/1934-9556-55.6

Faja, S., **Clarkson, T.**, & Webb, S. J. (2016). Neural and behavioral suppression of interfering flankers by children with and without autism spectrum disorder. *Neuropsychologia*.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2016.10.017>

O'Leary, Heather M; Marschik, Peter B; Khwaja, Omar S; Ho, Eugenia; Barnes, Katherine V; **Clarkson, Tessa W**; Bruck, Natalie M; Kaufmann, Walter E. Increased autonomic response to pain in Rett syndrome. *Dev Neurorehabil*, Early Online: 1–7. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26457613>

Conference Symposiums

Jarcho, J., Smith, A., Rappaport, B., **Clarkson, T.**, Masson, M., Liebenluft, E., Pine, D., Nelson, E., Guyer, A., Caouette, J., Forbes, E., Hipwell, A., Keenan, K., Lerner, M.D., Kang, E., Rosen, T., Keifer, C., Weber, R. (2017). *Neural Correlates of Peer Relations in Atypical Youth Populations*. M.D. Lerner & J.M. Jarcho (Chairs). Symposium at the *Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting*. Austin, TX. April 6-8.

Conference Posters

Chen, H., Gardner, E., **Clarkson, T.** Eaton, N.R. Pine, D.S., Leibenluft, E., Jarcho J.M. (2017). Irritability and Anxiety: Risk-Factors for Perpetration and Being Targeted for Bullying. Poster at *the Society for Personality and Social Psychology*. Atlanta, GA. March 1-3.

Gregory, JC, Baczewski, LM, **Clarkson, T.**, Nelson, CA. (2017). Determining the Validity of the Eye-Tracking Mullen Scales of Early Learning (MSEL) in Age-Matched Control Participants. Poster presented at: *Neurodevelopmental Disorders Symposium*. Boston, MA Oct 30.

Clarkson, T., Hung-Wei Chen, Megan Quarmley, & Jarcho, J.M. (2017). Ecologically valid neural predictors of social anxiety disorder in youths. Poster at *Flux*. Portland, OR. September 15-18.

Clarkson, T., Kang, E., Lerner, M.D., Jarcho, J.M., & Prinstien, M.J. (2017) A Meta-analysis of the RDoC Social Processing Domain across Units of Analysis. Poster at the *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (JCCAP) Future Directions Forum*. College Park, MD. June 1-2.

Clarkson, T., Smith, A., Rappaport, B., Lerner, M.D., Leibenluft, E., Pine, D., Nelson, E., Jarcho, J. (2017) Subclinical impairments in social competence differentially predict brain activation and anxiety symptoms in healthy youths. Poster at the *Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting*. Austin, TX. April 6-8.

Clarkson, T., Rosen, T., Keifer, C.M., Lerner, M.D. (2017, May). ERN As a Predictor of Treatment Response to Social Skills Interventions in ASD. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, San Francisco, CA.

Gerber, A.H., Kang, E., Mulhall, A., **Clarkson, T.**, Lerner, M.D. (2017, May). Performance-Based Social Skills Training Improves Treatment Outcomes for Youth with Comorbid ADHD or Anxiety. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, San Francisco, CA.

Kang, E., Keifer, C.M, Rosen, T.E., **Clarkson, T.**, & Lerner, M.D. (2017, May). Hemispheric Asymmetry as an Electrophysiological Marker of Anxiety in Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, San Francisco, CA.

Buirkle, J. **Clarkson, T.**, Vaidyanathan, A., Faja, S. (2017, May). Neural and Behavioral Responses in an Executive Functioning Task Predict Social Communication Symptoms in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, San Francisco, CA.

Vaidyanathan, A., Faja, S. **Clarkson, T.** (2017, May). Retest Reliability of the N2 Event-Related Potential Component and Conflict Processing Behavioral Task in Children with High Functioning ASD. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, San Francisco, CA.

Zhou, A.M. **Clarkson, T.**, Levin, A.R., Faja, S. (2017, May). Resting-State Theta Oscillations Predict Executive Functioning Deficits in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, San Francisco, CA.

Keifer, C.M., **Clarkson, T.**, Kang, E., Stoerback, A., Lerner, M.D. (2017, May). Differences in the Late Positive Potential ERP As a Function of Valence Versus Intensity in Adults with and without ASD. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, San Francisco, CA.

Clarkson, T. Bhandarkar, A. & Faja, S. (2016, May). Phase-Locked Frequency Contributions to Executive Functioning in Children with and without ASD. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, Baltimore, MD.

Buirkle, J. M., Greco, G., **Clarkson, T.** & Faja S. (2016, May). Severity Scores on the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule 2 Relate to Inhibitory Control in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, Baltimore, MD.

Faja, S., Greco, G., **Clarkson, T.** (2016, May). Examining the Executive Function Profile of Children with Autism, Autism Plus Significant Symptoms of Attention Deficit Disorder, and Typical Development. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, Baltimore, MD.

Clarkson, T. LeBlanc, J., Degregorio, G., Vogel-Farley, V., Barnes, K., Kaufmann, W.E., Nelson, C.A. (2015, October). Adapting the Mullen Scales of Early Learning in Rett Syndrome. Poster presented at Translational Neuroscience Conference, Boston, MA.

Faja, S., **Clarkson, T.** (2015, May). Brain and Behavioral Responses to a Flanker Task Differ for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Poster at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, Salt Lake City, UT.

Faja, S. **Clarkson, T.** (2015, March). Different Brain and Behavioral Responses to a Flanker Task by Children with and without Autism Spectrum Disorders. Poster presented at Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA.

Faja, S., **Clarkson, T.** (2014, October). A Battery for testing executive functioning intervention in children with autism spectrum disorder. Poster presented at Translational Neuroscience Conference, Boston, MA.

Invited Guest Lectures and Presentations

Social and Affective Neuroscience Symposium at NYU 2016

"Dysregulated Neural Response During the Anticipation and Receipt of Peer Evaluation In Adolescents with Social Anxiety Disorder."

Review Experience

Ad hoc Reviewer

American Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (since 2016).
Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (since 2017).

Professional Memberships

Flux Society (2017-present)
Association for Psychological Association (2017-present)
Social and Affective Neuroscience Society (2016-present)
Association for Psychological Science (2016-present)
Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology (2015-present)
International Neuropsychology Society (2015-present)
Society for Research and Child Development (2014-present)
International Society for Autism Research (2014-present)

Research Experience

Social Developmental Neuroscience Lab: Stony Brook University

Graduate Student (Mentor: Johann Jarcho, Ph.D.)

August 2016-present

- ◆ Conduct fMRI sessions and process fMRI data with healthy adolescents and adolescents at high risk for anxiety disorders.
- ◆ Code virtual school paradigm experiments and scripts, and study databases.
- ◆ Supervise a team of undergraduate students in processing EEG/ERP data.

Social Competence & Treatment Lab: Stony Brook University

Graduate Student (Mentor: Matthew D. Lerner, Ph.D.)

August 2016-present

- ◆ Develop analysis pipelines for EEG/ERP task for novel theory of mind ERP task, process and analyze EEG/ERP.
- ◆ Teaching graduate lab and coordinators on EEG theory and techniques.

Laboratories of Cognitive Neuroscience: Boston Children's Hospital & Harvard Medical School

Research Coordinator (Mentor: Susan Faja, Ph.D.)

July 2014-July 2016

- ◆ Set up and maintained EEG/ERP lab, developed novel EEG-ERP data analysis techniques, processed and analyzed all EEG/ERP and behavioral data for the ongoing study and previous pilot study. Programmed EPRIME experiments, coded and designed study database.
- ◆ Responsible for all administrative duties of the lab which included, writing the Manual of Operations (MOO), managing the IRB, preparing grant applications, managing and training staff and undergraduate and graduate students, and budgets.
- ◆ Conducted EEG/ERP sessions and cognitive and behavioral assessments with school-aged children with high functioning autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and wrote preliminary clinical feedback reports.
- ◆ Developed and administered a novel integrated behavioral support training program, which uses computer games to help improve executive functioning and social skills in children with ASD.

Laboratories of Cognitive Neuroscience: Boston Children's Hospital & Harvard Medical School

Research Assistant II (Mentor: Charles A. Nelson, Ph.D.)

March 2012-July 2014

- ◆ Worked on several studies of high-risk clinical populations including: TSC, Rett Syndrome, 16p, ASD, infants with older siblings on the spectrum collecting EEG, fNIRS, and eye-tracking data as well as administered cognitive and behavioral measures. Processed and analyzed EEG data for event-related potentials (ERP) across multiple studies and tasks.

- ◆ Coordinated and lead team of researchers to collect EEG/ERP data at two 16P family conferences.
- ◆ Conducted trainings for staff and postdocs on cognitive and behavioral measures, EEG/ERP, fNIRS, eye-tracking, data processing, data analysis, database coding, scheduling and recruitment, and consenting.
- ◆ Adapted 2 versions of a cognitive assessment for girls with Rett syndrome using novel methods and eye-tracking technology to better assess cognition without relying on language and motor abilities (see publications).

Rett Syndrome Research: Neurology, Boston Children's Hospital & Harvard Medical School

Research Data Coordinator (Mentors: Omar Khawaja, M.D., Ph.D, Walter Kaufmann, M.D.)

September 2011-June 2012

- ◆ Collected heart rate, respiration, and electro-dermal activity on girls with Rett syndrome while coding for artifact (movement), respiratory events, seizure activity, and parent-child interactions.
- ◆ Conducted screening visits to check for eligibility, administered behavioral questionnaires through parent interview, and organized, scheduled, and supervised clinic trial visits.
- ◆ Authored Manual of Operations (MOO) and Data Safety Management Board (DSMB) reports for the clinical drug trial, created Regulatory Binders for multiple studies including the drug trial, and designed Clinical Research Forms (CRFs) for the clinical drug trail. Documented and reported all adverse events and protocol deviations.

Outpatient Cardiology Unit: Department of Cardiology, Children's Hospital Boston

Intern as Clinical Assistant in the electrophysiology clinic (Supervisor: Gary Horne)

September 2010- December 2010

- ◆ Read and provided preliminary interpretations of EKG holter monitor and event monitor reports, entered reports into the computer database.
- ◆ Measured vital signs: blood pressure, oxygen saturation, height, weight, conducted EKGs.
- ◆ Assisted in conducting exercise tests and respiratory function tests

Clinical Experience

Stony Brook University, Krasner Psychological Center

Staff Therapist

September 2017- present

Supervisors: Kristin Bernard, Ph.D.; Nicholas Eaton, Ph.D.; Dina Vivian, Ph.D.

- ◆ Provide evidence-based individual therapy (primarily CBT) to adults and children with a diverse range of clinical presentations including: autism, ADHD, anxiety, and depression.
- ◆ Administer full battery assessments including cognitive, psychological, and psychoeducational evaluations.

Laboratories of Cognitive Neuroscience: Boston Children's Hospital & Harvard Medical School

Staff Interventionist

July 2014-July 2016

Supervisor: Susan Faja, Ph.D.

- ◆ Provided novel computerized and behaviorally augmented executive function intervention to children ages 8-13 with autism.

Assessment Expertise

- ◆ In process of attaining Research Reliability for the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, Second Edition (ADOS-2), Modules 1, 2, 3, & 4, October 2017

- ◆ Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis I Disorders, Research Version, Patient Edition (SCID-I/P), training under the supervision of N. Vadhan, PhD, Stony Brook University, Fall 2017– Present
- ◆ Advanced Risk Assessment and Management, completed online certification in Counseling on Access to Lethal Means and Mandated Reporter Training and participated in advanced training in child abuse, suicidality and interpersonal violence under the supervision of D. Vivian, PhD, Stony Brook University, August 2017
- ◆ ADOS-2 Introductory/Clinical Training; ADOS-2 Advanced/Research Training, Center for Autism and the Developing Brain, West Chester, NY, October 2017
- ◆ Also trained in administering: WAIS, WISC, WASI, DAS, Mullen, K-BIT, Woodcock Johnson Cognitive and Achievement Tests, Vineland-II, ESCS, ASOI, CELF, MINI,

Teaching Experience

Instructor, Department of Psychology, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY

- ◆ Research and Writing in Psychology, Fall 2017

Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY

- ◆ Biological Psychology, Fall 2016

Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY

- ◆ Psychology of Social and Personality Development, Spring 2017

Software Expertise

- ◆ SPSS, R, Mplus, Eprime, Netstation, BrainVision, Tobii Studio, SRLink, Matlab (basics), EEGlab, ERPLab, AFNI/SUMA, Redcap, python (basics), html (basics), Mendeley, Prism Graphpad, tsch/bash scripting
- ◆ Participate in monthly working group “Advanced topics in EEG signal processing” through Harvard- Boston Children’s Hospital- MIT

Volunteer Experience

Camillion Center Bangkok, Thailand, 2009

- ◆ Worked with children with HIV/AIDS and disabilities by educating them on their health and medications, basic math, English, and art therapy, and physical therapy plans. Fed, bathed, and cared for palliative care children.
- ◆ Assisted with budgeting and financial planning of the NGO in order for children to attend specialized schools.

PTD, Battambang, Cambodia, 2009

- ◆ Assisted women who had been trafficked or living on the streets with socialization, rehabilitation, and skill acquisition. Facilitated safe reintegration of these women with their families or into independent lifestyles

Peer Health Exchange, 2007-2008

- ◆ Taught health curriculum to underserved communities in the Boston Metro area.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life, 2007-2008

- ◆ Helped organized relay for life event, obtained sponsor donations for the event, and captained a relay team for raising funds for cancer research.

References

Dr. Johanna Jarcho, Johanna.jarcho@stonybrook.edu

Stony Brook University

Graduate Advisor

Dr. Matthew D. Lerner, matthew.lerner@stonybrook.edu

Stony Brook University

Graduate Advisor

Dr. Susan Faja, susan.faja@childrens.harvard.edu

Harvard Medical School, Boston Children's Hospital

Research Coordinator in Dr. Faja's Lab

Dr. Charles A. Nelson, charles.nelson@childrens.harvard.edu

Harvard Medical School, Director of the Laboratories of Cognitive Neuroscience, Boston Children's Hospital

Research Assistant II in Dr. Nelson's Lab

Dr. Sabina Berretta, sberretta@mclean.harvard.edu

Harvard Medical School, Director of the Translational Neuroscience Laboratory, McLean Hospital

Professor for Neurobiology of Emotion and Psychiatric Illnesses

Dr. Alexandra Adams, azadams@bu.edu

Boston University, Sargent College

Professor for Cellular Biology