

# Psycho-Babble



February 2023

IN THIS ISSUE [Department Events](#) | [Department Information](#) | [Alumni News](#)

## Chair Talk - Darcy Burgund

Greetings, all!

Welcome to the spring semester! I hope it has begun well for you!

It certainly does not feel like spring these days, but the days are getting longer, and the summer will be here soon enough. As such, February is a good time to think about what you will do this summer, and beyond. We have been sending ads for summer opportunities to the Psychology student email list and we will continue to do so. We have also listed some summer and employment opportunities below. In addition, for those of you interested in learning more about careers in mental health, make sure to attend the Careers in Mental Health Lunch with Jaine Strauss later this month (details below). Finally, we plan to host additional informational events in March—Getting a Ph.D. in Psychology and Tips for International Students Seeking Jobs in the US. Stay tuned for details in the future. I hope that you will find some (or lots!) of our events valuable for your planning.

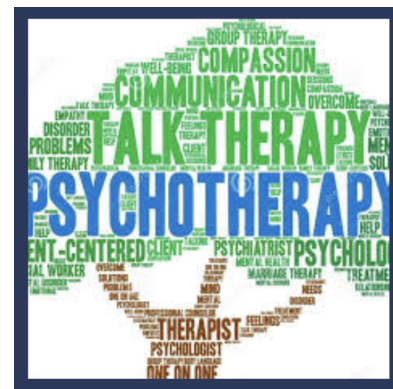


## Careers in Mental Health Lunch with Jaine Strauss Thursday, Feb. 16 11:30 - 12:30 OLRI 352

Interested in a career in mental health?

Please join Jaine Strauss for an informal discussion over lunch where she will talk about a wide range of mental health professions (e.g. social work, counseling psychology, clinical psychology, psychiatry, psychiatric nursing, school psychology), and will explore the ins and outs of graduate training in each discipline.

Please RSVP to Lee ([lolson4@macalester.edu](mailto:lolson4@macalester.edu)) by 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15.



## Psych Leaders for spring '23

Psych Leaders this year are Sam Ash '24, Sanya Bains '25, Emilio Gray '24, Samara Kurien '23, Marvellous Ogunsola '24, Raina Tenenbaum '25, and Nae Williams '25. Please talk to them about any ideas you have on how to make the Psych Club year the best ever.

## Visiting Faculty this Spring!

**Cory Fleck:** I completed my PhD in social psychology from the University of Minnesota last summer and am very excited to get to be teaching at Macalester this year. I will be teaching Introduction to Psychology. I have taught classes across a variety of domains of psychology and Intro might be my favorite so I'm happy to be there. My areas of research tend to focus on important relationships throughout the lifespan, especially romantic relationships. My dissertation was focused on the impact and influence of differences in political attitudes in the early stages of romantic relationships.



Hi, I'm **Theresa Glaser** (she/her). I am happy to be back at Macalester as a visiting professor, teaching Psychology of Gender and Psychology of Death and Dying this semester. I got my Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at the University of Minnesota in 2006. Since then, I have done a variety of things--including research, teaching, counseling, and consulting. My focus in these activities relates closely to building anti-deficit and acceptance-based models and working toward decolonizing curricula. I'm also passionate about social justice and am on the leadership team for the Decriminalizing Communities Campaign at Jewish Community Action. What gives me the most joy outside of work is spending time with my family and friends and being in nature (hiking and skiing). I live in St. Paul with my husband, teenage daughter, and two little dogs and my son is off at Carleton as a Junior. I'm originally from Brooklyn, New York.

**Ashley Hufnagle** (She/Her) is visiting this semester teaching *Land of Opportunity?*, a course which prioritizes critical perspectives alongside research from Educational and Social Psychology to examine inequities in the American educational system. Broadly, her research focuses on social-emotional learning (SEL) processes and social supports that promote student resilience and well-being. She is currently working on her dissertation at the University of Minnesota examining how parents and educators collaborate with young children to interpret and respond to their emotions in naturalistic interactions. She is originally from the Pacific Northwest (a small island just a quick ferry ride from Seattle) and completed undergrad at a small liberal arts college in Portland, OR. Please feel free to stop by her office anytime to get to know her -- particularly if you have any coffee or restaurant recommendations in the Twin Cities!



**Annie Pezalla** I'm excited to be visiting Macalester this year in a full-time position, teaching Research in Psychology II, Directed Research, and Family Relationships in fall 2022 and Research in Psychology I and Developmental Psychology in the spring of 2023. I'm a developmental psychologist with interests in the tender years of adolescence and young adulthood, although a lot of my energy these days is directed to the childhood years, as my husband and I try to keep up with our twin 8-year-old boys. When I'm not running after the kids, I'm doing research on a couple grants with the National Institute of Health, studying ways in which young people's social identities impact their health-seeking behavior.

We moved to the Mac-Groveland neighborhood of St. Paul last year and love exploring new parks, restaurants, coffee corners, and antique shops. Any ideas on places we should go? I'm all ears!



Looking forward to a great year at Macalester. Thanks to many of you who have made me feel so welcome!



**Anne Rial** (was Huntemer-Silveira) graduated from Western Washington University with a B.S. in Behavioral Neuroscience in 2018 and is currently pursuing a PhD in Neuroscience at the University of Minnesota. Her thesis focuses on the application of stem cell therapeutics to spinal cord injury, a debilitating condition that often leaves patients with sensory and motor paralysis for which there is currently no cure. Anne is very passionate about science and teaching and has spent several years in roles supporting students in writing, education, and advocacy roles. She enjoys reading and salsa dancing in her downtime and lives with her husband and two cats in St Paul.

## Friday Socials

Friday Socials are every Friday that classes are in session at 3:20 in the hallway by the blue house. It's a time to socialize with other students, faculty and staff. We have a treat each week and all are invited. The first Friday Social in February is hosted by the psych leaders.



## Mesmerizing Major - Andrea Vijil Morin

Favorite Movie: Imitation Game

Favorite Book: La Tregua- Mario Benedetti

Favorite place to eat in the Twin Cities: Pad Thai

What do you do when you are not studying?: I like baking and watching Netflix.

Where did you grow up? Leon, Nicaragua

Interesting fact about your hometown: It is close to a volcano called Cerro Negro; when the volcano is active, we have small earthquakes

Tell us something about your family: I have two sisters, Alejandra and Antonella. I am the middle child.

Tell us something that you are pleased with or proud of about yourself: I have survived three Minnesota winters!



## Mesmerizing Major - Sarah Hamilton

Favorite Movie: Any movie with Sandra Bullock

Favorite Book: The Birth Order Book by Dr. Kevin Leman

Favorite place to eat in the Twin Cities: Meseret Ethiopian Restaurant

What do you do when you are not studying? Go for lots of walks and read.

Where did you grow up? Chanhassen, MN

Interesting fact about your hometown: The Temple of Eck is in Chanhassen and their organization believes Chanhassen is the center of the universe.

Tell us something about your family: I have two older sisters!

Tell us something that you are pleased with or proud of about yourself: For this school year, I am volunteering at the Listening House of St. Paul and it has been really important to me.

## Mesmerizing Major - El Alcalá

Favorite Movie: My Neighbor Totoro

Favorite Book: Dream Work by Mary Oliver

Favorite place to eat in the Twin Cities: Zait and Za'atar before they closed :(

What do you do when you are not studying? read, do yoga, and hang out with friends

Where did you grow up? Austin, TX

Interesting fact about your hometown: We have the largest urban bat colony in the world!

Tell us something about your family: My dad and I are members of the Lipan Apache Tribe.

Tell us something that you are pleased with or proud of about yourself: I'm abroad right now and I'm super proud of how well I've handled such a big change.





## Mesmerizing Major - Emilio Gray

Favorite Movie: Moneyball

Favorite Book: Leviathan

Favorite place to eat in the Twin Cities: Bap and Chicken

What do you do when you are not studying? Ultimate Frisbee, spend time outdoors

Where did you grow up? Portland, Oregon

Interesting fact about your hometown: it's home to Mills' End Park, the smallest park in the world

Tell us something about your family: I've never beat both my parents in the same Scrabble game

Tell us something that you are pleased with or proud of about yourself: Successfully drove cross country from the West to East coast, and got to stop in multiple National Parks along the way.

## New Majors



Dheera Yalamanchili '23 Wayzata, MN Naomi Glunz-Kennedy '25 Seattle, WA Lily Vernier '24

## New Minors



(Avianna) Hien Anh Bui '25 Hanoi, Viet Nam

Solana Cushing '23 Minneapolis, MN

Malia Borg '23 Charleston, SC



Kirstyn Barsola '25 New Braunfels, TX Clara Becker '24 Nierstein, Germany Nate Gehrenbeck-Miller '23 Mpls, MN



Kate Ellerd '23 St. Paul, MN

## Opportunities

[Research Assistant/Sr. Research Assistant](#) Regular 100% Full-Time Admin Maryland, Bethesda, MD +3 More Locations **Salary Range:**\$52,000.00 To 60,000.00 Annually

Child Trends is seeking a Research Assistant in its Early Childhood research area. Research Assistants are expected to work on multiple projects simultaneously to support project teams. Under the supervision of Early Childhood staff, the Research Assistant supports social science research projects by helping to gather data and other information from study participants and stakeholders; helping to develop project materials and data collection tools; administering surveys and questionnaires, conducting interviews, and compiling results; helping organize meetings; note taking; and performing other duties as necessary.

Our team values equity and recognizes that systemic discrimination has negatively impacted the well-being of individuals, families, and communities who also are underrepresented in the research field. As researchers, we aim to be accountable for promoting equity by centering the lived experiences

of these individuals in our research. As researchers, we also commit to ensuring that we are contributing to Child Trends' work culture in an equitable way. We strongly encourage individuals from populations that are historically underrepresented in research and academic fields (e.g., people of color, first-generation college students, first-generation immigrants) to apply.

The Early Childhood team at Child Trends studies programs and systems affecting young children from birth through early elementary school. Our team works with the federal government, state agencies, communities, and foundations on research, evaluation, and policy projects that address important issues for policymakers, practitioners, and families. We develop resources and reports that address complex topics in easy-to-understand terms. We are strong thought partners in addressing a range of early childhood issues and help policymakers and practitioners translate research into actions that can improve the lives of young children.

This position requires strong writing and organization skills, logical thinking, great attention to detail, excellent communication skills, and a commitment to ethics and equity in research and the workplace. The ideal candidate will have experience and/or interest in a wide range of policy- and practice-relevant early childhood topics such as access to high-quality early care and education, the early childhood workforce, home visiting, child care licensing, early childhood assessment, family engagement and support, and/or state-based early childhood data systems. The ideal candidate will also be knowledgeable about designing and conducting research rooted in equity and equitable principles.

### **Typical Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Conduct literature reviews on specified topics and synthesize information according to instructions.
- Recruit and follow-up with study participants.
- Conduct data collection through observations, interviews, surveys, and other methods as needed.
- Tabulate and maintain study data; assist with data entry; clean data and perform quality checks; develop tables and graphs.
- Conducts research with an equity lens (e.g., regularly examines one's own biases, recognizes their own power and power dynamics on research teams, recognizes the limitations of research findings based on who is represented in data, facilitates eliminating barriers for those who are underrepresented in research to participate, etc.).
- Commits to continuing their own learning and growth to being a more equitable employee and researcher.
- Take notes during meetings with clients or other project stakeholders. Summarizes notes to distribute to team, clients, and others.
- Process and analyze quantitative data using SAS/SPSS or other statistical packages.
- Analyze qualitative data using tools such as Dedoose or NVivo and basic thematic coding methods.
- Organize project files and track important project deadlines.
- Assist with administrative tasks such as scheduling meetings, mailings, filing.

The following is our list of preferred qualifications. If you do not meet our criteria exactly but think you are a good fit for this position, please submit and tell us why in your cover letter.

### **Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree, preferably in one of the social sciences, and the demonstrated ability to perform beginning level research in a social science field.
- Strong detail-orientation, written and verbal communication skills, and experience with

[literature reviews.](#)

- [Excellent writing skills, including the ability to clearly communicate complex information for general audiences.](#)
- [Excellent task management and organizational skills.](#)
- [Strong communication skills to support a collaborative working environment.](#)
- [Ability to work independently and as part of a team.](#)
- [Strong critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities.](#)
- [Ability to both provide and take direction.](#)
- [Two to three years of applied research experience outside of college courses may be considered for a Senior Research Assistant position.](#)

### **Desired, but not required Qualifications:**

- [Experience with early childhood research or policy.](#)
- [Experience conducting research in applied settings.](#)
- [Ability to speak Spanish and conduct research in Spanish.](#)
- [Experience with a statistical package such as Stata and/or R.](#)

**Locations:** Flexible Remote Work; Child Trends' offices are based in Bethesda, MD; Chapel Hill, NC; Minneapolis, MN. Many Child Trends staff work remotely, and while we are set up to hire remote staff in many states, we are not yet operating everywhere in the US and do not have any overseas operations. We are currently approved to hire full-time staff in Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. The organization will require time to assess additional set up requirements (e.g., employment and tax law) for locations outside of areas where we are currently approved to hire. Individuals who would like to work from areas outside of the currently approved states, if offered the position should indicate this preference as early as possible in the application process.

**How to Apply:** Please follow the "apply" link to submit your application. When asked by the system to upload resume, please upload **one document** that includes your resume, cover letter, transcripts, a writing sample and contact information for three professional references. Materials must be combined into one document in order to be uploaded. If you have any difficulties with this process please email the requested materials to [recruitment\(at\)childtrends.org](mailto:recruitment(at)childtrends.org) and make sure to reference the position in the subject line. No phone calls please!

Child Trends is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research center headquartered in Bethesda, MD with more than 200 staff in over 28 states that provides valuable information and insights on the well-being of children, youth, and their families. For more than 40 years, policymakers, funders, educators and service providers in the U.S. have relied on our data and analyses to make better decisions and policies on programs serving children, families, and youth. [www.childtrends.org](http://www.childtrends.org)

Child Trends is committed to hiring, retaining, and promoting staff who bring a rich diversity of experience to support our mission of improving the lives and prospects of children and youth, especially those made most vulnerable by the effects of historical and ongoing systemic discrimination. Together, we envision a world in which a child's race, ethnicity, family income, gender, sexual orientation, disability status or any other social identity does not determine how that child will fare in life. Therefore, we approach every aspect of our work with these ideals in mind and encourage



professionals who share in our commitment to apply.

*Child Trends is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer. Protected veterans and individuals with disability encouraged to apply.*

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# SUMMER INTERNSHIPS WITH NEURODIVERGENT YOUTH



*Akeela supports youth with ASD, ADHD, and similar social communication disorders*



## Our Communities

**Camp Akeela** is a coed traditional overnight summer camp in Vermont set on 400 acres in the picturesque Green Mountains of Vermont.

**Beyond Akeela** infuses a college readiness program (nonacademic) into a fun and socially immersive camp on a college campus in New Hampshire.



## What You'll Get...

- Unparalleled hands-on experience with neurodivergent youth
- Build your resume and social/professional network
- Hone your leadership, collaboration, and critical thinking skills
- Continued support and feedback from an experienced mentors
- Competitive salary package, including room & board, travel allowance, and meals

## Your Role at Camp...

**Coach:** Mentor youth with ASD & ADHD, supporting their social-emotional development.

**Collaborate:** Work with staff peers and leadership team developing behavior plans and goals.

**Lead:** Facilitate camp activities and group meetings providing structured experience for campers.

**Build:** Support skill building in areas like executive functioning, self-advocacy, and time management.


**Play:** Actively participate in camp activities alongside the campers. Have fun!


**...is FUN & professionally fulfilling!**



**APPLY NOW!**

**Get More Info**

 [staff@campakeela.com](mailto:staff@campakeela.com)

 866 - 680 - 4744

 @campakeela / @beyondakeela



## Summer 2023 Details

### Compensation

\$2,100 - 2,500 + travel stipend.

Housing & meals are provided by camp.

### Dates

Camp Akeela - June 14 - August 13

Beyond Akeela - June 17 - August 2

[www.macalester.edu](http://www.macalester.edu)

651-696-6223

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