

REBEKAH J. BROWN SPIVEY

Sam Houston State University
Department of Psychology and Philosophy
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy Candidate, Clinical Psychology Present
Sam Houston State University
Advisor: Laura E. Drislane, Ph.D.

Bachelor of Science, Major in Psychology, Minor in Neuroscience May 2020
The University of Alabama
Honors Thesis: *The Influence of Defendant Psychopathic Traits on Prosecutorial Decision Making*

Bachelor of Arts, Major in Criminal Justice May 2020
The University of Alabama

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Research interests include biological factors contributing to psychopathy and externalizing behaviors (antisocial behavior, aggression, impulsivity, etc.), dimensional models of personality, psychophysiology, and conceptualization/assessment of psychopathy.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant: Measurement and Etiology of Externalizing Problems Lab August 2020-Present
Sam Houston State University
Department of Psychology and Philosophy
Advisor: Laura E. Drislane, Ph.D.

- Research study: *Examining Shared and Unique Cognitive Profiles Among Externalizing Problems*
 - Designed online survey and ran pilot tests
 - Managed undergraduate research assistants: ran meetings and delegated tasks
 - Data collection to begin Fall 2021
 - Poster presentation accepted for Texas Psychology Association Convention (November 2021)
- Co-authored book chapter: Drislane, L. E., & Brown Spivey, R. (accepted). Psychopathy and antisocial personality disorder. To appear in L. R. Kurtz (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of violence, peace, and conflict* (3rd ed.). Elsevier.

- Master's thesis (expected to propose Fall 2021): Meanness and Affective Processing: a Meta-Analysis of EEG Findings on Emotional Face Processing in Individuals with Callous-Unemotional and Psychopathic Traits

Honors Thesis Principal Investigator

August 2018-May 2020

University of Alabama Psychology Honors Program

Advisors: Andrea Glenn, Ph.D.; Jennifer Cox, Ph.D.

The Influence of Defendant Psychopathic Traits on Prosecutorial Decision Making

- Investigated the relationship between prosecutors' perceptions of a capital defendant's psychopathic traits and the punitiveness of their legal decision making regarding pursuing the death penalty and plea bargaining
- Collected and analyzed Qualtrics survey data of prosecutors practicing in death penalty states

Research Assistant: Intellectual Disability and the Law Lab

May 2017-Dec. 2019

University of Alabama

Department of Psychology

Advisor: Karen Salekin, Ph.D.

- General Responsibilities
 - Conducted multiple literature reviews regarding various aspects of individuals with intellectual disability in the context of the criminal justice system
 - Assisted in creating an *Atkins* decision database
- Research Study: "*Fake it till you make it: a replication of simulated malingering of adaptive behavior deficits*"
 - Ran multiple data collection sessions involving administering measures of adaptive behavior for college student participants who attempted to successfully mangle adaptive functioning deficits
 - Scored measures of adaptive behavior
- Research Study: "*Atkins Decision: The impact of crime and mock juror characteristics*"
 - Ran multiple data collection sessions involving administering several measures of personality characteristics to student participants
 - Assisted in editing the manuscript for publication

Research Assistant: Psychology and Legal Decision Making Lab

June 2019-May 2020

University of Alabama

Department of Psychology

Advisor: Jennifer Cox, Ph.D.

- Ran multiple data collection sessions to examine juror implicit racial bias
- Administered measures of social desirability, guilt and shame proneness, locus of control, and other variables related to juror decision making to college student participants

Research Assistant: Center for Youth Development and Intervention June 2019-May 2020
University of Alabama

Advisor: Susan W. White, Ph.D; Nicole Capriola-Hall, M.S.

- SENSE Theater Intervention
 - Scored several assessments of child mental health
 - Data entry of assessments
- Research study: *“Validation of gaze indicators of attention bias: Insights from cross-modal measurement”*
 - Assisted with participant recruitment
 - Administered cognitive and screening measures to adolescents with social anxiety disorder
 - Aided in running of the eye-tracking portion of the study

PRESENTATIONS

American Psychology and Law Society Conference March 2020

- **Brown, R.J.**, Glenn, A.L., and Cox, J. *The Influence of Defendant Psychopathic Traits on Prosecutorial Decision Making*. Poster presentation for the American Psychology-Law Society Conference in New Orleans, LA.

Texas Psychological Association Convention November 2021

- **Brown, R.J.**, and Drislane, L.E. *Examining Shared and Unique Cognitive Profiles Among Externalizing Problems*. Accepted for poster presentation at the Texas Psychological Association Convention in Austin, TX.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

SHSU Beginning Doctoral Practicum Course (PSYC 8381) June 2021-July 2021

Supervisor: Mary Alice Conroy, Ph.D.

- Conducted mock therapy sessions with graduate student volunteers and undergraduate student volunteers
- Observed forensic competency evaluations at Brazos County Detention Center

The Center for Youth Development and Intervention May 2019-May 2020

Advisor: Susan W. White, Ph.D.

- Tackling Teenage Training (TTT) Intervention Program Counselor
 - Education program for youth with ASD
 - Responsible for rating of fidelity to TTT program curriculum
 - Assisted in teaching weekly lessons on adolescence and puberty including psychological, social, and sexual development
 - Assisted in behavior management of participants
- Coping Power Intervention Program
 - Preventative intervention program designed to reduce delinquency and lower aggression in children

- Assembled approximately 200 intervention kits with supplies necessary to implement the intervention program
- SENSE Theater Intervention Program Counselor
 - Monitor for EEG assessments of SENSE and TTT participants
 - Assisted in behavior management of participants
 - Responsible for rating of fidelity to SENSE program curriculum

Brewer-Porch Children’s Center

August 2019-Dec. 2019

Advisor: Sara Stromeyer, Ph.D.

- Weekly practicum for Child Mental Health psychology course
- Mentor for elementary and middle-school aged children with behavioral problems and/or mental health problems
- Attended group therapy sessions

The University of Alabama’s Autism College Transition and Support Program

August 2019-May 2020

Advisor: Megan Davis, Ph.D.

- Mentor for a university student with autism
- Attended multiple weekly meetings with the student and provided support in the student’s academic, social, and emotional domains
- Wrote weekly notes tracking the student’s progress in each of these domains

LEADERSHIP

SHSU Graduate Student Psychology Organization

August 2021-Present

- Treasurer

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Sam Houston State University Graduate School General Scholarship Fall 2021
- University of Alabama Honors College Fall 2015-Spring 2020
- University of Alabama Psychology Honors Program Fall 2018-Spring 2020
- University of Alabama President’s List (4.0 GPA) Fall 2016-Spring 2020
- Psi Chi Psychology National Honor Society Spring 2018-Spring 2020
- Foundation in Excellence Academic Scholarship Fall 2015-Spring 2020