



Saira Thompson, Psy.D.
Registered Psychological Assistant | *Sentiero*
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Education

2013-2019	Alliant International University, San Diego, CA California School of Professional Psychology - CSPP Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology
2013-2015	Alliant International University, San Diego, CA California School of Professional Psychology - CSPP M.A. in Clinical Psychology
2008- 2013	Chapman University, Orange, CA B.A. in Psychology with a minor in French

Licensure & Certification

Registered Psychological Assistant
California Board of Psychology
Valid until January 12, 2022
Registration Number: PSB 94025807

Registered Behavioral Technician
Behavior analyst Certification Board
Certification Number: RBT-16-20632

NIH Ethics Training Certificate
National Institute of Health

Professional & Clinical Training Experience

2021 - present	Registered Psychological Assistant, <i>Sentiero</i> , San Diego, California Supervisor: Emily N. Kierce, Psy.D. Individual, group, and family psychotherapy School-based IEP support services Psychological, psychoeducational, and neuropsychological assessment Community outreach services
2014- 2017	Registered Behavioral Technician, <i>Cares Fred Finch Youth Center</i> Supervisor: Diana Franco, M.A. Providing behavioral tutoring, thus providing cognitive and ABA therapy for children on the autism spectrum. These interventions include Pivotal Response Training (PRT), play therapy, exposure therapy, Discrete Trial Training (DTT), parent training.



- 2013-2014 Psychology Practicum Student, *Center for Autism Research Evaluation & Services (CARES)*
Supervisors: Alan Lincoln, Ph.D. & Senia Vitale, Ph.D.
Providing behavioral therapies and research for children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other neurodevelopmental disorders.
- 2014-2015 Psychology Practicum Student, *New Haven Youth and Family Services*
Supervisor: Rowena Verosa, Psy.D.
Individual therapy, education, support and behavioral treatment for youth and their families.
- 2015 - 2015 Psychology Practicum Student, *Assessment Elective Practicum*
Supervisor: Donald Viglione, Ph.D.
Providing psychodiagnostic testing referred through Alliant International University-CSP and attended weekly meetings, lectures and supervision.
- 2015-2016 Psychology Practicum Student, *San Diego Center for Children-Behavioral Assessment Clinic*
Supervisors: Cheryl Rode, Ph.D., Cindy Barreda-Schurr, Psy.D. & Stephanie Lord Ph.D.
Preparing and executing treatment modalities, for group therapy and individual therapy Psychological assessments for children
- 2016 - 2017 Psychology Practicum Student, *University of California San Diego (UCSD) Eating Disorders Center for Treatment and Research*
Supervisor: Christina Wierenga Ph.D. & Ana Ramirez Ph.D.
Providing psychodiagnostic and neuropsychological assessments.
- 2017-2018 Psychology Doctoral Intern, *New Connections Academy (NCA)*
Supervisors: Gwen Grant, Psy.D. & Charlotte Edwards Ph.D.
Providing therapeutic based services (i.e., individual therapy, group therapy and milieu therapy) in a school environment for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP) diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other related disorders.

Teaching Experience

- 2015-2016 *Teaching Assistant*
Course: Projective Personality Assessment II
Professor: James Madero, Ph.D.
Assisted in teaching second year graduate students projective assessments.
- 2016-2016 *Supervision*
Providing clinical supervision for first year graduate students through a supervision seminar course.
- 2020-2020 *Behavioral Skills Training (BST)*
Conducted lectures, in person training, role-plays, and in vivo experiences with clients. With passing the evaluations participants were able to obtain their Registered Behavioral Technician certification at the end of training.



Academic Research Experience

- 2015 – 2015 Research Assistant, *New Haven Youth and Family Services*
Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS) – Behavioral Assessment
Outcome study. Compiling and inputting data for analysis, using SPSS.
- 2014 – 2017 Research Assistant, *Rorschach Reaction Research*
Administering the Rorschach Inkblot test, coding/scoring, contacting participants, and
administering a galvanic skin conductance test.

Doctoral Dissertation

Thompson, S. (2018). *Restrictive repetitive behavioral differences between males and females diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder using the Gilliam Autism Rating Scale, Second Edition (GARS-2)*. Alliant International University, San Diego, California.

Graduate Thesis

Thompson, S. (2013). *The Impact of Mediterranean Diet on Mild Cognitive Decline*. Chapman University, Orange California.

Professional Presentations

- Thompson, S.** (2017) *Feeding and Eating Disorders: Similarities to ASD*. New Connections Academy, Palatine, Illinois.
- Thompson, S.** (2016). Medication paper: Seroquel. *The Online Mental Health Dictionary*.
- Rogers, G. & **Thompson, S.** (2015) *Diagnostic Changes of Autism Spectrum Disorder in DSM-5*. New Haven Youth and Family Services, Vista, CA.
- Thompson, S.** & Krajenka, C. (2015). Understanding grief, death and loss. The San Diego Center for Children, San Diego, CA.

Continuing Education & External Trainings

- 2016 UCSD-DBT Intensive Training
UCSD Eating Disorder Center for Treatment and Research
Extensive Didactic Training in Dialectical Behavioral Therapy
- UCSD – FBT Intensive Training
UCSD Eating Disorder Center for Treatment and Research
Extensive Didactic Training in Family Based Treatment and the Maudsley Approach



UCSD Seminar
UCSD Eating Disorder Center for Treatment and Research
Clinical Features of Traumatized Eating Disorder Patients

UCSD Seminar
UCSD Eating Disorder Center for Treatment and Research
Therapeutic Alliance Attachment and Emotions in Family Therapy

Registered Behavioral Technician (RBT)
Center for Autism Research Evaluation and Services

Rady Children's Hospital, Child & Adolescent Grand Rounds
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)

Rady Children's Hospital, Child & Adolescent Grand Rounds
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and Tic Disorders

Rady Children's Hospital, Child & Adolescent Grand Rounds
Childhood Onset Schizophrenia

2015 Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)
Medical University of South Carolina

Poverty Simulation
Alliant International University

Pro-ACT- Professional Assault Crisis Training
Center for Autism Research Evaluation and Services
Professional Assault Crisis Training

Basic Life Support Training (BLS)
Center for Autism Research Evaluation and Services
Instructor led basic life support training

2014 Love and Fear
Alliant International University, San Diego
A conversation about Adoption

Awards & Honors

Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology

Professional Affiliations

American Psychological Association
San Diego Psychological Association
Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology
California Psychological Association