

Curriculum Vitae
SYLVIE MESSER, BA

Queens, NY || 949-529-6551
smesser@mail.yu.edu (Yeshiva University)
sylvie.messer@nyspi.columbia.edu (Columbia University)

Education

Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, Yeshiva University – Bronx, NY
Clinical Psychology, Health Emphasis, PhD, Degree Expected 2024

Hunter College, CUNY – New York, NY
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Degree Conferred 2017
GPA: 4.0

Publications

Messer, S., Siegel, A., Bertin, L., Erlich, J. (2018). Gender differences in affect-triggered lapses during smoking cessation: A daily diary study. *Addictive Behaviors*.

Estey, D., Yadgaran, E., Birchwale, J., Lee, J., Cruz, L., Gordon, N.A., Kashan, R.S., Friedman, J., Min, J.-Y., Agterberg, S., Levin, J., Cohen, J., Gittleman, J., **Messer, S.**, Perez, E., Pia, T., Eichenbaum, M., Segal, K.S., & Weinberger, A.H. (in preparation). COPD, smoking, and psychiatric comorbidities: a systematic review.

Doctoral Research Experience

Smoking and Nicotine Dependence Research Lab

Doctoral Student, Graduate Student Researcher

08/19 to Present

Research Advisor: Andrea Weinberger, PhD

Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, Yeshiva University – Bronx, NY

- Investigate smoking and nicotine dependence, psychiatric and substance use disorders, gender and race and smoking
- Project: investigating the relationship between substance use, clinical symptoms and sequential belief updating processes in those at clinical high risk for schizophrenia and patients with schizophrenia (in conjunction with the Horga Lab)
- Project: investigating race and diversity in relation to clinical symptoms and substance use a clinical-high risk sample (in junction with the COPE clinic)
- Project: Review paper investigating grief interventions implemented in hospitals to aid in grief/bereavement for clinical providers after the death of a patient

The Horga Lab

Doctoral Student Research Assistant

08/19 to Present

Research Advisor: Guillermo Horga, MD, PhD

The New York State Psychiatric Institute at Columbia University - New York, NY

- Investigate computational and neurobiological mechanisms of psychotic symptoms in schizophrenia and clinical high-risk for schizophrenia
- Project: investigating the relationship between substance use, clinical symptoms and sequential belief updating processes in those at clinical high risk for schizophrenia and patients with schizophrenia

Additional Research Experience

The Horga Lab

Research Assistant and Coordinator

02/18 to 09/19

Principal Investigator: Guillermo Horga, MD, PhD

The New York State Psychiatric Institute at Columbia University - New York, NY

- Coordination of behavioral and imaging studies in a variety of clinical populations, including adolescents and young adults
- Carrying out imaging procedures (MRI and fMRI), clinical interviews and clinical and neuropsychological assessments (e.g., PDI, CAPS, Hollingshead, Matrics)
- Collecting, organizing and cleaning MRI, clinical and behavioral data for various MRI and non-MRI studies
- IRB proposal submissions, renewals, and amendments and grant related issues
- Project: coordination and spearheading of behavioral "beads" belief updating task

Alcohol and Nicotine Lab

Undergraduate Research Assistant

02/17 to 05/18

Principal Investigator: Joel Erblich, PhD, MPH

CUNY Hunter College - New York, NY

- Nicotine cue-induced cravings qualitative analyses, gender differences in smoking cessation
- Conducting literature reviews and writing research papers from both current and past data sets
- Project: Coordination and preparation of new protocol for alcohol craving study in college students

Supervised Clinical Training

Parnes Family Psychological and Psychoeducational Services Clinic, Bronx NY

Behavioral Medicine Student Therapist

08/20 to Present

Primary Supervisor: Yvette Fruchter, PhD

- Caseload of three weekly individual ongoing psychotherapy patients from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds
- Perform evaluation and write reports on patients seeking bariatric surgery
- Weekly individual supervision and training

Brooklyn College Personal Counseling Program, Brooklyn, NY

Student Therapist

06/20 to Present

Primary Supervisor: Margaery Frosch, PhD

Secondary Supervisors: Andriana DiMatteo, PhD & Jennifer Hunter, PhD

- Caseload of five individual ongoing psychotherapy patients of diverse backgrounds
- Co-leader of CBT skills group with 3-10 patients
- Weekly individual supervision, training and didactics

Additional Clinical Training

The Door, A Center of Alternatives – New York, NY

Intake Counselor Intern

06/17 to 04/18

Primary Supervisor: Eliza Ng, LMSW

- Interview new members for an intake process by having a thorough conversation about home, education, friends, drugs and alcohol, sexual activity and health, mood
- Provide new members with knowledge, resources and support for services in legal, counseling, job opportunities, extracurricular, college advising, health services center, crisis intervention and runaway and homeless youth.
- Mandated reporter responsibilities, documentation and reporting of information through salesforce, follow-up phone calls to new members

Monarch Place Recovery – Costa Mesa, CA

House Manager and Coordinator

01/15 to 07/15

- Support residents in transition from in-patient substance abuse program to residential sober living home and Intensive Outpatient (IOP)
- Mediate any issues between client and their families regarding transition
- Manage transportation services to IOP, 12 step meetings, doctor visits, etc.

Newport Academy – Orange, CA

Care Coordinator

04/14 to 11/14

- Support staff at adolescent residential treatment center and school for mood disorders, alcohol and substance abuse and eating disorders
- Responsible for clinical notations for each client interaction during each shift
- Manage client transportation to aftercare, distribute medication, assist in biweekly family therapy

Professional Trainings, Certifications and Memberships

- 2020 Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco – membership
- 2020 APA Telepsychology Best Practices 101 – certification
- 2019 American Psychological Association - membership
- 2018 MRI Training for Research Assistants – New York State Psychiatric Institute
- 2018 Drupal Distribution Training - Web Development for Columbia University Medical Center
- 2018 Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) training: Biomedical researchers & key personnel, CITI good clinical practice, Social & behavioral researchers & key personnel
- 2017 Psi Chi, International Honors Society in Psychology - membership
- 2017 Mandated Reporter Training: Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse Maltreatment

Assessment and Training Experience

Fall 2019

Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status (RBANS)
Structured Clinical Interview I for the DSM-5 (SCID I)
Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale – IV (WAIS-IV)
Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children – IV (WISC-IV)
Wechsler Memory Scale – IV (WMS-IV)

Spring 2020

Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory – 2 (MMPI-2)
Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory – 2 – Revised Form (MMPI-2-RF)
Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI)
Rorschach Inkblot Method (Exner Comprehensive System)
Structured Clinical Interview for the DSM-5: Personality Disorders
Thematic Apperception Test (TAT) (exposure)

Research Administration

Addiction Severity Index (ASI)
Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS)
Hollingshead Scale
Measurement and Treatment Research to Improve Cognition in Schizophrenia (MATRICS), Consensus Cognitive Battery
Numeracy scale
Penn Computerized Neurocognitive Battery (CNB)

Honors and Awards

2017 Dean's List, Hunter College, CUNY
2017 Psi Chi, International Honors Society in Psychology

RELATED SKILLS

MATLAB; SPSS; MRI, fMRI & EEG technologist, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint; EMR, Titanium