**Julia Thomas, M.S.**

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**EDUCATION**

Illinois Institute of Technology

**Doctoral Student, Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program**

Rehabilitation track

2019 Illinois Institute of Technology

**Master of Science in Research**

2014 Saint Louis University

**Honors B.A., Psychology and Spanish**

Minor: Political science

Semester abroad: Ecuador (Spring 2012)

**CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

2018 - present **Adult Neuropsychology Extern**

NorthShore University Health System

Evanston, IL

*Responsibilities:* Administer, score, and interpret neuropsychological batteries for adults with a variety of clinical concerns including dementia, epilepsy, brain injury, ADHD, and pre-surgical screenings. Assist neuropsychologists to write assessment reports and provide feedback to clients. Participate in bi-weekly didactics and neurology grand rounds.

*Supervisors:* Leslie Guidotti Breting, Ph.D., ABPP; Jerry Sweet, Ph.D., ABPP; Elizabeth Geary, Ph.D., ABPP

2018 - present **Examiner Supervisor**

Chicago Public Schools Center for Research and Service

Chicago, IL

*Responsibilities:* Supervise administration of tests used to determine eligibility for the Chicago Public Schools’ Selective Enrollment Program. Oversee 1:1 testing and group testing for children ages 4-12.

*Supervisor:* LaShonda Flowers

2017 - 2018 **Psychotherapy Extern**

Euclid Outpatient Counseling Center, MacNeal Hospital

Berwyn, IL

*Responsibilities:* Provided outpatient psychotherapy services to diverse adult population, including aftercare services following psychiatric hospitalization. Participated in weekly supervision meetings related to treatment planning.

*Supervisors:* David Schnee, LCPC; Dr. Lauren Neaman, Psy.D.

2016 - 2018 **Examiner**

Chicago Public Schools Center for Research and Service

*Responsibilities:* Assessment administration. Administered a battery of tests used to determine eligibility for the Chicago Public Schools’ Selective Enrollment Program for children ages 4-12. Assessed over 300 children individually.

*Supervisor:* LaShonda Flowers

2016 - 2017 **Data Coordinator**

Department of Performance Improvement and Risk Management

Hartgrove Behavioral Health System, Chicago, IL

*Responsibilities*: Paid work monitoring trends of patient safety incident data. Audited charts to ensure compliance of Medicare, Medicaid, The Joint Commission’s Hospital Based Inpatient Psychiatric Services (HBIPS) standards. Educated staff on proper documentation to ensure compliance. Monitored physician compliance for ongoing professional practice evaluation (OPPE). Compiled, analyzed and reported audit findings to the Director of Performance Improvement and to other departments in the facility. Investigation of risk incidents and patient complaints, as well as video review for restrictive interventions. Other duties as assigned.

*Supervisor*: LeJuan Robinson

2016 **Program Specialist**

Hartgrove Behavioral Health System

*Responsibilities:* Full-time, paid work as supervisor on acute adolescent unit. Oversaw the implementation of program structure and activities. Acted as shift leader; accountable for functioning of the milieu schedule. Practiced de-escalation techniques and ensure safety of patients and staff in crisis situations. Facilitated communication between mental health specialists and the remainder of the treatment team.

*Supervisor:* LeJuan Robinson

2014 - 2017  **Mental Health Specialist**

Hartgrove Behavioral Health System

*Responsibilities:* Full-time, paid work providing emotional support and care to children, adolescents, and adults at in-patient setting. Assisted clinical team in safety observations and crisis situations. Facilitated program activities and led therapy groups daily. Communicated with therapists, doctors, and family members to meet goals of patient treatment plan. Served as 1:1 translator (Spanish) for patients. Hospital-wide Employee of the Month, October 2015. *Certifications:* Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (Crisis Prevention Institute), CPR (American Red Cross).

*Supervisor:* LeJuan Robinson

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2018 - present **Project Coordinator: ASSET Program**

Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL

*Responsibilities:* Collaborating with research team at IIT and Michigan State University to conduct 4-year intervention-level study to assess the effectiveness of the ASSET program, a social and employment skills training program for young adults with high functioning autism spectrum disorder. Funded by the Department of Defense. Conducting screening interviews for potential participants, including ADOS-2 administration. Coordinating program logistics with teachers, families, and participants in the Chicagoland area. Conducting fidelity checks to monitor program implementation.

*Adviser:* Nicole Ditchman, Ph.D., CRC, LCPC

2016 - present **Research Assistant: Disability and Community Engagement Lab**

Illinois Institute of Technology

*Responsibilities*: Assisting in writing paper on employment, quality of life, and traumatic brain injury. Conducted community-based participatory research focus groups for individuals with Multiple Sclerosis, a grant-funded project. Previous outreach for study of civic engagement for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Participating in bi-weekly lab meetings and assisting with additional tasks as needed.

*Adviser*: Nicole Ditchman, Ph.D., CRC, LCPC

2014 - 2015 **Research Assistant: Cross-Cultural Human Development Lab**

Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO

*Responsibilities:* Transcribed and coded data from interviews between the researcher and St. Louis high school students regarding experiences of gratitude and envy, as well as additional interviews conducted between the researcher and Guatemalan high school.

*Principal Investigator:* Katelyn Poelker, Ph.D.

2012 - 2014 **Research Assistant: Violence and Traumatic Stress Lab**

Saint Louis University

*Responsibilities:* Assisted with recruitment of participants as well as data analyses using AcqKnowledge software for “PTSD, Injury, and Pain from Intimate Partner Violence: Psychophysiological Assessment” study. Developed and implemented comparative sub-study to understand the psychological effects of scars. Recruited 16 participants and collected survey and psychophysiological data via Qualtrics and AcqKnowledge. Trained new research assistants to continue the sub-study.

*Adviser:* Terri L. Weaver, Ph.D.

2012 - 2013 **Co-Investigator**

Capstone Project: Empathy, Age and Attribution of Responsibility

Saint Louis University

*Responsibilities:* Designed and implemented an experimental capstone project with 2 group members. Recruited 50+ participants for participation. Scheduled participants and recruited data. Analyzed data using SPSS software. Presented findings with group members at the Saint Louis University Psychology Department’s Spring Symposium.

*Adviser:* Kristin Kiddoo, Ph.D.

2011 **Research Assistant: Child and Family Research Lab**

Saint Louis University

*Responsibilities:* Transcribed interviews between researcher and young children about the concept and portrayal of courage.

*Principal Investigator:* Natalie Homa, Ph.D.

**PUBLICATIONS**

Lee, E.-J, Ditchman, N., **Thomas, J**., & Tsen, J. (2019). Microaggressions experienced by people in the workplace: An exploratory study using Sue's taxonomy. *Rehabilitation Psychology* (In Press).

**RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS**

**Thomas, J.** (2019, August). “Predictors of Sexually Transmitted Infection Testing Intention Among College Students.” Poster to be presented at 127th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, Illinois.

Haak, C., Ditchman, N., **Thomas, J**., Schiave, E., Johnson, K., & Rafajko, S. (2019, August). “Sense of Community and Engagement Outcomes of Transition-Age Individuals with Disabilities.” Poster to be presented at 127th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, Illinois.

**Thomas, J.,** Johnson, K., Klipfel, K., Guidotti Breting, L., Sweet, J., & Geary, E. (2019, June). “Investigating Sustained Visual Attention as a Moderator of Age and Learning.” Poster to be presented at 17th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology, Chicago, Illinois.

Johnson, K., **Thomas, J.,** Klipfel, K., Guidotti Breting, L., Sweet, J., & Geary, E. (2019, June). “Examining Attention as a Moderator of Verbal and Visual Encoding.” Poster to be presented at 17th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology, Chicago, Illinois.

**Thomas, J.** (2019, April). “**Gender Differences in Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Infections.” Paper presented at 91st Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, Illinois.**

**Thomas, J**. (2019, March). “Sexually Transmitted Infection Testing Intention Predicted by Knowledge, Self-efficacy, and Label Avoidance: A Path Analysis.” Poster presented at the 40th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, March 6-9, 2019, Washington, DC.

Moller, A. C., **Thomas, J**., Fominaya, A., & Kornfield, R. (2019, March). “Leading the Narrative on Gun Violence in Higher Education: Developing & Sharing Cross-Disciplinary Curricula for SBM Educators.” Poster presented at the 40th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, March 6-9, 2019, Washington, DC.

Tsen, J., **Thomas, J.,** Ditchman, N., & Lee, E.-J. (2018, August). “Microaggressions Experienced by People with Multiple Sclerosis in the Workplace.” Poster presented at the 126th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, California.

**Thomas, J.,** Rafajko, S., Johnson, K., & Ditchman, N. (2018, April). **"Employment and Quality of Life among Adults with Brain Injury." Paper presented at 90th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, Illinois.**

Poelker, K.E., Gibbons, J.L., Elizondo Quintanilla, I.L., Maxwell, C, & **Thomas, J**.  (2015, February). La Gratitud y la Envidia: ‘When I need it the most, my friends support me’ and ‘When I saw her with the shoes, I felt angry.’ Paper presented at Society for Cross-Cultural Research Annual Symposium, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Weaver, T. L., Buchanan, T., Griffin, M. G., Bosch, J., Weber, S., Thelemaque, T., Murray, T., **Thomas, J.,** & Whitman, S. (2014, July). Trauma-related body image distress: Exploring the psychological impact of an appearance-related physical injury associated with interpersonal violence. Paper presented at the 6th Annual Appearance Matters Conference, Bristol, United Kingdom.

**Thomas, J.** (2014, April). La dolarización ecuatoriana y su impacto en la identidad nacional (The dollarization of Ecuador and its effect on national identity). Paper presented at Saint Louis University’s 2014 French and Spanish Undergraduate Student Symposium, St. Louis, MO.

Weaver, T. L., Buchanan, T. W., Griffin, M. G., Weber, S., Riebel, J., Bosch, J., Murray, T. Pelletier, T., Boswell J., Perez, E., **Thomas, J.,** & Whitman, S. (2013, November). Residual injury, PTSD and body image distress following intimate partner violence: Psychophysiological assessment for comparative cues. Poster presented at the 29th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies, Philadelphia, PA.

Uvalic, Z., **Thomas, J.,** & Dyer, P. (2013, April). In their shoes: Empathy, age, and attribution of responsibility. Poster presented at Saint Louis University Psychology Department’s Spring Symposium, St. Louis, MO.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2017 - 2019 **Teaching Assistant**

Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL

*Responsibilities:* Assisted with material preparation, grading, and feedback for master’s level rehabilitation counseling courses. Other teaching and research duties as assigned.

*Adviser:* Nicole Ditchman, Ph.D., CRC, LCPC

2013 - 2014 **Tutor, Student Success Center**

Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO

*Responsibilities:* Provided 1:1 tutoring services to undergraduate students for psychology, Spanish, and political science courses.

2012 - 2013 **Peer Instructor, Student Success Center**

Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO

*Responsibilities:* Planned and facilitated 2 semester-long courses for first-year students. Class topics included time management, health and wellness, and adjustment to college. Organized out-of-class excursions to local service sites and cultural exhibits.

2012 **Teacher’s Aide, Working Boys’ Center**

Quito, Ecuador

*Responsibilities:* Assisted teacher with religion classes for students ages 6-12. Assisted with classroom management and lesson planning for a setting with limited resources.

**SECONDARY PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2012 - 2013 **Translator, Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates**

St. Louis, MO

*Responsibilities:* Translated at community action meetings for Spanish-speaking populations. Promoted events in the local community.

2011 **Student Intern, Crime Victim Advocacy Center of St. Louis**

St. Louis, MO

*Responsibilities:* Assisted victims on a telephone hotline and walk-in basis. Directed victims to proper resources in the community. Data entry for individual cases.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

2017 - **Colloquium Committee Member, Illinois Institute of Technology**

Chicago, IL

July 2017 **Attendee, “Rethinking Hoarding Interventions” Workshop**

Chicagoland Hoarding Task Force

Chicago, IL

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

2018 Psychology Student Research Award, IIT Department of Psychology

2015 Hartgrove Employee of the Month – October

2015; 2018 Bank of America Chicago Marathon finisher

2014 Summa Cum Laude graduation honors

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/CERTIFICATIONS**

2018 American Psychological Association

2018 Society of Behavioral Medicine

2017 Midwestern Psychological Association

2014 American Red Cross CPR Certification (renewed October 2016)

2014 Crisis Prevention Institute Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (renewed August 2017)

2012 Psi Chi International Honor Society

**REFERENCES**

Nicole Ditchman, Ph.D.,

CRC, LCPC

Associate Professor of Psychology

Illinois Institute of Technology

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Chicago, IL 60616

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