

*Paula Cooper, Ph.D.
1229 S Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34239
941-363-0878*

EDUCATION

- 2000 - 2004 **Alliant International University/** Fresno, CA
Clinical Psychology/Emphasis: Neuropsychology
Doctor of Philosophy/Psychology
- 1997- 2000 **Southeastern Louisiana University/Hammond, LA**
Master of Arts/Psychology
- 1993-1997 **Louisiana State University/Baton Rouge, LA**
Bachelor of Science/Psychology
- 1992-1993 **Louisiana College/Pineville, LA**
Major: Psychology

POSTDOCTORAL

- 9/04 – 9/05 **Comprehensive MedPsych Systems, Inc.** (Sarasota, FL)
Duties: neuro-developmental psychologist within private school setting for children with special needs; neuropsychological, intellectual, and psychodiagnostic assessments for cognitive dysfunction, ADHD, learning disabilities, giftedness, behavioral/emotional problems, and family dysfunction; play therapy, individual therapy, and child/adolescent group therapy.

INTERNSHIP

- 9/03–8/04 **Sullivan Center for Children** (Fresno, CA)
Duties: intellectual and psychodiagnostic assessments, individual and group play therapy, social skills training, intervention at local middle school, and behavior intervention specialist for developmentally delayed adult group homes
- Fresno Neurological Associates Medical Group** (Fresno, CA)
Duties: intellectual, psychological and neuropsychological assessments.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

- 9/04 – present **Comprehensive MedPsych Systems, Inc.** (Sarasota, FL)
Neuropsychological and psycho-diagnostic evaluations, psychotherapy (adult and children), and consultation with local hospitals. Primary Neuropsychologist for HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Sarasota, Florida

- 7/03–6/04 **UCSF Alzheimer’s & Memory Center** (Fresno, CA)
Psychometrist
Neuropsychological evaluations on the geriatric population to confirm diagnosis and make appropriate recommendations. Participate in current research projects with various Alzheimer’s Centers throughout California.
- 7/02-6/03 **UCSF Alzheimer’s & Memory Center** (Fresno, CA)
Research Assistant
Neuropsychological evaluations on the geriatric population to confirm a diagnosis of dementia and its etiology. Attend MDT meetings and make referrals. Participate in collaboration of current research projects with various Alzheimer’s Research Centers throughout California.
- 1/02-9/03 **Fresno Neurological Associates Medical Group** (Fresno, CA)
Psychological Trainee
Duties: intellectual, psychological and neuropsychological assessments
- 7/01-9/03 **Sullivan Center for Children** (Fresno, CA)
Psychological Assistant
Duties: intellectual and psychodiagnostic assessments, individual and group play therapy, educational parenting class, behavior specialist for developmentally delayed group home agency, instructing developmentally delayed adults in day program (ADLs), intervention at local middle school
- 5/01 – 7/02 **Gary S. Cannon Psychological Service Center** (Fresno, CA)
Senior Clinician
Duties: Participating in the S.T.O.P. grant (Students Targeted with Opportunities of Prevention) to intervene middle school aged children who appear misguided by offering individual and group therapy as well as tutoring services.
- 4/01 – 7/02 **Madera Juvenile Correctional Camp** (Madera, CA)
Parenting Skills Instructor
Duties: Counsel and instruct parents on how to deal with difficult adolescents and how to assist in keeping them out of the correctional system in the future. Offered resources in the area as further assistance. Found speakers on areas of interest for parents (e.g., gang affiliation, vocational resources)
- 5/01- 5/02 **Merced County Mental Health: Youth Services** (Merced, CA)
Psychological Trainee
Duties: psychological assessments (including intellectual, behavioral, and neuropsychological functioning), report writing, and group therapy at juvenile hall (basic social skills).
- 5/99- 8/00 **Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana** (Baton Rouge, LA)
Practicum Student
Duties: assisting with neuropsychological assessments (e.g. assessments including intellectual functioning, sensory perceptual functioning, auditory perceptual functioning, language and language related functioning, sensory motor functioning, upper extremity motor functioning, higher cognitive functioning, and personality); writing clinical reports.

- 8/95 – 8/97 **Feliciana Forensic Facility** (Jackson, LA)
Practicum Student
Duties: chart reviews, administering various psychological and neuropsychological assessments and scoring tests in this maximum-security forensic facility; assisted with exposure sessions to social phobia patients
- 5/94- 5/95 **Earl K Long Med. Center, HIV Early Intervention Clinic** (Baton Rouge, LA)
Practicum Student
Duties: chart reviews, background interviews, gathering and scoring data on psychological tests, organizing and inputting data, referrals

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 9/04 – 5/05 *Instructor, The Gap School – Sarasota*
Topic(s): social skills, how to control my body, what is a learning disorder/ADHD, introduction to parts of the brain and its functionality, anger management
- 5/04 *Guest Lecturer, Kings Canyon Middle School- Fresno*
Topic: Effects of drug abuse
- 8/03 - 12/03 *Teaching Assistance, Alliant International University, Intellectual Assessments, Fresno, CA*
- 2/03 *Guest Lecturer, California State University – Fresno, Assessments and Measurements, Fresno, CA*
Topic: Procedures and interpretation of intellectual assessments
- 1/02 – 5/02 *Teaching Assistance, Alliant International University – Fresno, Pediatric Neuropsychology, Fresno, CA*
- 4/02 *Guest Lecturer, Alliant International University, Pediatric Neuropsychology Class, Fresno, CA*
Topic: Bayleys Scale of Infant Development - 2nd Edition
- 2/02 – 5/02 *Group Leader, Anger Management, Kings Canyon Middle School*
- 5/02 – 7/02 *Group Leader, Anger Management, Madera Juvenile Correctional Camp*
- 4/01 – 7/02 *Parenting Skills Instructor, Madera Juvenile Correctional Camp*
- 3/01 *Guest Lecturer, Merced County Mental Health, S.T.O.P. (Start Transition Off Probation)*
Topic: Drugs and Alcohol
- 10/99 *Guest Lecturer, Southeastern Louisiana University, Cognitive Neuroscience & Functional Neuroanatomy Class, Hammond, LA*
Topic: Cerebral Spinal Fluid & Cerebral Arteries
- 10/98 – 5/99 *Graduate Assistant, Psychology Computer Lab, Southeastern Louisiana University/Department of Psychology, Hammond, LA*
Duties: teaching undergraduate psychology students how to correctly utilize SPSS software

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

- 7/02 – 6/04 *Research Assistant*, “Depression in Alzheimer’s Disease.”
UCSF Alzheimer’s & Memory Center, Fresno, CA
- 7/02 – 6/04 *Research Assistant*, “Evaluation of Routine Clinical Treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Problems.”
UCSF Alzheimer’s & Memory Center, Fresno, CA
- 2003 *Dissertation*, “Validation of a Dissimulation Formula of Nonverbal Abstract Reasoning for the Raven Matrices for Children.”
Alliant International University, Fresno, CA.
- 8/99 – 5/00 *Research Assistant*, study guide preparation for the Clinical Psychopharmacology Post-Doctoral Master Licensing Examination
The Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, LA.
Collaborated with Darlyne Nemeth, Ph.D.
- 8/99 – 5/00 “Self Serving Attributions of Antisocial Inmates” Thesis investigation of self-serving attributions and antisocial inmates.
Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA.
- 11/99 – 1/00 “The Year 2000 Questionnaire” Investigation to assess attitudinal groups and the mental health status within groups regarding the approaching millennium.
The Neuropsychology Center of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, LA.
- 10/98 – 5/99 *Graduate Assistant*. Assisted professor conducting research for an undergraduate class to gain experience completing a morphine withdrawal research project conducted on rats; handling the rats (i.e., measuring amount of water, morphine, and food consumption), weighing the rats, gathering and organizing data on this project.
Southeastern Louisiana University Animal Research Lab

PRESENTATIONS

- 5/07 Professional Development Presenter: **Health South Rehabilitation Hospital**
Title: *Managing Difficult and Emotional Families*
- 5/07 Professional Development Presenter: **Health South Rehabilitation Hospital**
Title: *Managing Aggressive Behaviors in Brain Injured Patients*
- 1/07 Support Group Educator/Presenter: **Health South Rehabilitation Hospital**
Title: *Coping with Emotions Following a Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)*
- 11/06 Professional Development Presenter: **Out of Door Academy**
Title: *Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder*
- 1/06 Continuing Education Speaker: **Gulf Coast South Area Health Education Center, Inc.**
Title: *Autism: Characteristic, Presentation, Diagnosis, and Early Intervention*

- 5/02 Poster Presentation: **Western Psychological Association**
Title: *Focused/Global Cognitive Styles in Occupational Choices of ADHD Adults*
- 7/01 Poster Presentation: **International Neuropsychological Society**
Title: *Explaining a Rasputin-like presentation via neuropsychological evaluation*
- 11/00 Poster Presentation: **National Academy of Neuropsychology**
Title: *Value of baseline data to chart effectiveness of cognitive rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis (MS) patient.*

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2005 - present **CHADD** (Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Sarasota Satellite)
- 6/2005 **American Red Cross** (Hurricane Katrina, Disaster Relief, mental health volunteer)
- 10/03 **National Academy of Neuropsychology** (23rd Annual conference - Dallas, TX)
- 5/02 – 7/02 **Alzheimer’s Research Center** (Fresno, CA)
Neuropsychological evaluations on the geriatric population to confirm a diagnosis of dementia of the Alzheimer’s type. Attend MDT meetings to discuss clients and make referrals.
- 6/96- 7/01 **Battered Women’s Shelter** (Baton Rouge LA)
Crisis intervention, behavioral assessment, & telephone counseling
- 8/92 – 5/93 **Louisiana Special Education Center** (Alexandria, LA)
Aid children with severe developmental disabilities with daily living skills

HOSPITAL STAFF MEMBERSHIP/AFFILIATION

All Children’s Hospital – St. Petersburg, Florida
Health South Rehabilitation Hospital, Sarasota, Florida
Sarasota Memorial Hospital – Sarasota, Florida
Ridgelake Hospital – Sarasota, Florida

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2004-present National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN), member
2004-present American Psychological Association, member
2004-present American Psychological Society, member
2004-present National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology
2001-present American Psychological Association, Division 40, Clinical Neuropsychology