

Paola Alejandra Baca

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Education

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) 2016-2020
 Bachelor of Science in Psychology
 Minor in Mathematics
Cum Laude

Honors Thesis: *Language and Modality Recognition* (May 2020).
 Advisor: Wendy Francis, Ph.D.

The University of Texas at Austin (Current GPA: 3.95)
 MA in Experimental Psychology (Pending)
 PhD in Developmental Psychology (Pending)
Advisors: Dr. Jacqueline Woolley & Dr. David Buss

Manuscripts

Woolley, J., **Baca, P.A.**, & Kelley, K. (2022), *Development of a Naïve Theory of Superstition*. In Review.

Professional Service

Psychology Graduate Student Diversity Committee 2021
Provided feedback to undergraduate students applying to doctoral programs

Summer Undergraduate Research Experience 2022
Mentorship program directed at underrepresented students. Directly mentored a student and helped with their development of a research project.

Psychology Graduate Student Diversity Committee Panel Speaker 2022
Gave a panel talk/Q&A session with the diversity committee to prospective students

Evolutionary Psychology Journal Club 2022-Present
Arranging weekly meetings to discuss issues and topics in the field. Providing guidance for several undergraduates, and providing graduates with an introduction to the field.

Presentations

Poster Presentations and Data Blitz

Baca, P., Duran, J., Oviedo Ramirez, S., & Zárata, M. (February, 2020). *The Role of Language Used by Health Providers and Perceptions of Seeking Mental Health Services*. Poster presented at Society of Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

- Baca, P., Francis, W. & Gomez, S.** (August, 2020). *Language and Modality Recognition*. Power Point presented for honor's thesis results to UTEP psychology department (virtual due to COVID-19).
- Baca, P., Francis, W. & Gomez, S.** (October, 2020). *Language and Modality Recognition*. Data Blitz presented at the Armadillo Annual Conference (virtual due to COVID-19).
- Baca, P., & Woolley, J.** (July, 2019). *Anthropomorphism in Storytelling*. Poster presented at final symposium for the University of Texas at Austin Summer Research Experience, Austin, TX.
- Garcia, M. A., Armendariz, V., **Baca, P.**, Moran, R., Alvarez, A., & Cohn. L. (April, 2020) *Responses to Health-Related Moral Dilemmas: The Impact of Bilingualism*. Poster presented at the Annual Undergraduate Research COURI Symposium (virtual due to COVID-19) at the University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX, United States.
- Garcia, M. A., Armendariz, V., **Baca, P.**, Moran, R., Alvarez, A., & Cohn. L. (July, 2020). *Reasoning about Health-Threats and Morality: The Impact of Bilingualism*. Poster presented at the Annual Leadership Alliance National Symposium (virtual due to COVID-19)
- Baca, P., Woolley, J., & Kelley, K.** (April, 2022). *Development of a Naïve Theory of Superstition*. Poster presented at the biannual Cognitive Developmental Society conference, Madison, WI.
- Baca, P.** (April, 2023). *The Development of Specialized Fears*. Data blitz presentation at the annual Northeastern Evolutionary Psychological Society conference, New Paltz, NY.
- Lectures and Talks**
- Baca, P., Woolley, J., & Kelley, K.** (April, 2022). *Development of a Naïve Theory of Superstition*. Talk given at the departmental area meeting, Austin, TX.
- Baca, P. & Woolley, J.** (May, 2022). *Blame it on Bad Luck: children's understanding of randomness and causal attributions*. Talk given at the departmental area meeting, Austin, TX.
- Baca, P.** (July, 2022). *Introduction to Evolutionary Psychology*. University of Texas at Austin, Introduction to Psychology.

Funding, Grants, and Fellowships

2019 – May	Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (S.U.R.E) - \$2,500
2019 – August	REU National Science Foundation Grant - \$12,600
2020 – February	Travel Award (UTEP Student Government) - \$1,500
2020 – February	Diversity Undergraduate Registration Award – \$235

2021 – March West Texas Fellowship Award - \$40,000
 2022 – April Diversity Travel Award (CDS Conference) - \$700

Professional Memberships

Society of Personality and Social Psychology	September 2019-Present
Cognitive Development Society	April 2022- Present
Human Behavior and Evolution Society	November 2022-Present
Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society	February 2023-Present

General Skills and Specialized Training

Statistical/Research Tool Exposure:

- Qualtrics (Proficient)
- SPSS (Proficient)
- Excel (Proficient)
- R (Proficient)
- Python (Basic Proficiency)
- Multinomial Processing Tree (Basic Proficiency)

Relevant Statistical and Mathematical Coursework: Statistical Methods (UG), Advanced Statistical Methods (UG), Statistical Programming (G), Discrete Mathematics (UG), Calculus 3 (UG), Principals of Mathematics (UG), Introduction to Statistics (G), Linear Models (G), Statistics 1 (G), Statistics 2 (G).

* UG = undergrad; G = grad course

Language Skills:

- Fluent in English and Spanish (reading, writing, and speaking)

References

Jacqueline Woolley, PhD
Research Mentor

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