

CYNTHIA VALENCIA

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA
Ph.D. – School Psychology	August 2016 – Present
<i>Graduate School of Education</i>	
University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA
Master of Arts – Education	August 2016 – May 2018
<i>Graduate School of Education</i>	
University of California, Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara, CA
Bachelor of Arts – Psychology Chicana/o Studies	September 2010 – March 2014
<i>Minor in Education & Applied Psychology</i>	

AWARDS & HONORS

Marcus Foster Fellowship University of California, Berkeley & Oakland Unified School District	August 2020
Dissertation Fellowship University of California, Berkeley	
Continuing Student Fellowship University of California, Berkeley	August, 2019
Graduate Division Conference Travel Grant University of California, Berkeley	July, 2018
GSE Block Grant Fellowship University of California, Berkeley	August 2016, 2017
Gold Fellowship Award University of California, Berkeley	August 2016
Gigi Coe & Michael Garland Award University of California, Berkeley	August 2016
Campus Philanthropy Award University of California, Santa Barbara	April 2014
Dean's Honors List University of California, Santa Barbara	March 2013

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Valencia, C.**, Leibovitz, T. (in press). How School Segregation and the carceral apparatus mutually reinforce one another: A historicized understanding of anti-Blackness in Oakland schools. *Educational Researcher's Anti-Black Racism Special Issue*.
- Valencia, C.** (2020, Apr 17 – 21). The Influence of School-Level Factors on Adolescent Gang Involvement [Poster Session]. *AERA Annual Meeting* San Francisco, CA (Conferenced Canceled)
- Valencia, C.** (February, 2019). The School to Prison Nexus and the Role of School Staff. Professional Development training for Vallejo City Unified School District teachers and paraprofessionals. Vallejo, Ca.
- Valencia, C.** (July, 2018). The Role of Schools and Teachers within the School to Prison Nexus. *Presentation of position paper at the International School Psychology Association (ISPA) Annual Conference*. Tokyo, Japan.
- Janes, L., Stelling, A., Igaz, T., Carnazzo, K., Doty, S., **Valencia, C.**, Guzman, S., & Sharkey, J. D. (2018). South-Coast California Gang Reduction, Intervention, and Prevention Project: Results of the Santa Barbara South Coast CalGRIP Evaluation. A report prepared for the Board of State and Community Corrections CalGRIP funding. Santa Barbara, CA.

RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| UC Berkeley Graduate School of Education | California, United States |
| Graduate Student Researcher | January 2021 – Present |
| Faculty Supervisor: Travis Bristol, Ph.D. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support organizers and collaborators of the California Teacher Residency book project in the development of qualitative methodology, data collection, analysis, and overall organization of the project • Serve as liaison between collaborators and faculty by meeting with team members regularly to promote communication, and ensure that all aspects of the project are adhered to and up to publication standards | |

Michigan State University

Virtual – Nationwide Study
September 2020 – Present

Stepping-Up Qualitative Student Researcher

- Attend weekly meetings with research team on NIH funded study on Stepping Up efforts to improve mental health services and justice utilization among currently and formerly incarcerated people
- Reviewing mixed methods study design, procedures, and qualitative interviewing training guides
- Participate in shadowing of PI interviews and complete 90 minute qualitative interviews with prison staff and mental health providers
- Engage in data analysis upon completion of data collection process

Academic Talent Development Program and National Academy Foundation

Berkeley, CA

Academic Support Advisor and College Prep Instructor

July 2020

- Create and deliver curriculum on topics related to higher education accessibility and career options including but not limited to – financial aid, first-generation student experiences, test requirements, choosing the right school, etc.
- Assign relevant on and offline projects and presentation and provide feedback to students as needed.
- Attend weekly program huddles to promote student – instructor relationship building and program community.
- Organize guest speaker lectures and provide opportunities for relationship development among classmates.

UC Berkeley Graduate School of Education

Berkeley, Ca

Graduate Student Instructor

August 2019 – December 2019

Faculty Supervisor: Travis Bristol, Ph.D.

- Read, evaluated, and provided feedback on academic papers and ethnographic field notes
- Held at least 2 hours of office hours per week to meet with students individually and support them with their academic writing, fieldwork, and other academic concerns
- Attended lectures in order to provide feedback and instruction to students regarding lessons and curriculum
- Organized and facilitated the fieldwork placement of 70+ students into local schools via admin collaboration
- Provided mentorship and guidance to students interested in the education field for graduate study

UC Berkeley Psychology Clinic

Berkeley, Ca

Graduate Student Researcher

June 2019 – August 2019

Supervisor: Nancy Liu, Ph.D.

- Under the supervision of 2 licensed clinical psychologists and the clinic director, complete 4 psychological evaluations for youth under age 18
- Participate in assessment clinic outreach and development activities, such as phone screening, consent, and distribution of teacher packers
- Prepare written reports of assessments and provide results and recommendations

UCLA High School Diversity Project

Bay Area, CA

Graduate Student Researcher/Project Manager

January 2017 – June 2017

Supervisor: Sandra Graham, Ph.D., Frank Worrell, Ph.D.

- Lead and supervised team of graduate and undergraduate students at UC Berkeley and collaborated with UCLA research team via weekly meetings and continuous email interactions
- Organized dates, times, and locations of data collection through contact with school site representatives
- Supported team in collecting data at 10 high schools in the bay area by surveying 11th & 12th grade students at their respective school sites via electronic devices
- Managed, oversaw, and distributed financial compensation to participants of the study
- Contacted and developed rapport with school administrators and teachers to ensure project quality

UCSB Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) Project

Santa Barbara, Ca

Graduate Student Researcher

May 2017 – August 2017

Supervisor: Jill Sharkey, Ph.D.

- Collected qualitative data at parent and youth group meetings in order to identify disparities in access to mental health care among Latina/o families in the Santa Barbara area
- Facilitated group discussion and transcribed the recorded group sessions of other researchers
- Coded transcriptions in order to identify common themes to present to mental health providers in the area

Trauma Sensitive Yoga | Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth

Fort Collins, CO

September 2015 – July 2016

Family Coach/Research Employee

Supervisor: Ryann Vernetson, LLPC

- Participated in Trauma Sensitive Yoga sessions once per week for 10 weeks in order to support to youth suffering from PTSD who were involved in the program
- Observed and measured participants' ability to actively engage in sessions and conducted pre-and post- tests to measure decrease in trauma symptoms

Corrective Reading Program | UCSB Department of Counseling, Clinical & School

Goleta, CA

August 2013 – June 2014

Independent Research Assistant

Advisor: Shane Jimerson, Ph.D., CCSP Chair

- Independently observed and analyzed Goleta school district teachers' implementation of the Corrective Reading program for students enrolled in special education
- Prepared specialized graphs, questionnaires, surveys, and write-ups for research presentation
- Collected and interpreted data to distribute to Goleta school district officials regarding student progress

Power of Play Project | UCSB Department of Counseling, Clinical & School Psychology

Goleta, CA

August 2013 – March 2014

Playground Specialist, Research Assistant

Supervisor: Shane Jimerson, Ph.D., CCSP Chair

- Created an environment of structured and educationally meaningful physical play activities to reduce the frequency of problematic physical behaviors
- Facilitated problem solving and conflict resolution during elementary students' recess

Feminism & Consciousness Theory | UCSB Department of Chicana/o Studies

Goleta, CA

March 2013 – July 2013

Research Assistant

Advisor: Chela Sandoval, Ph.D.

- Coded and analyzed recorded interviews with published feminist theorists such as Angela Davis, to gather information for Professor Sandoval's latest book
- Reviewed and organized scheduled coursework, provided feedback regarding lesson plans & teaching

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Oakland Unified School District

Oakland, Ca

School Psychologist

October 2020 – Present

- Complete all responsibilities listed in School Psychologist Intern position (below) as an independent employee
- Provide trauma sensitive counseling

Oakland Unified School District

Oakland, Ca

School Psychologist Intern

July 2019 – June 2020

- Administer a wide range of cognitive, behavioral, and assessment techniques on 15 students to determine eligibility for Special Education services, including triennial, initial, autism and mental health assessments
- Participate in mental health and special education school meetings such as COST in order to discuss and implement interventions for students and discuss student progress
- Complete psychological evaluation reports with detailed information regarding assessment findings, special education eligibility and recommendations for teachers and parents
- Lead the presentation of report, evaluation, and behavioral results to IEP team and student's family members

Contra Costa County Juvenile Hall

Martinez, Ca

Psychologist Intern

September 5 – Present

- Administered intake assessments to determine whether first time offenders will require mental health services
- Responded to unit and nursing referrals, assessed for safety and provided therapy to detained youth residents utilizing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Trauma-Focused CBT, and Humanistic therapeutic strategies
- Complete suicide and risk assessments as needed and manage regular caseload of 8-10 ongoing clients
- Collaborate with Institutional Officer staff to reduce stigma and ensure that clients are supported on and off the unit

- Participate in an array of mental health trainings to promote best practice services

Oakland Unified School District

Oakland, Ca

Psychology Assessment Intern

November 2017 – June 2018

- Administered a wide range of cognitive and behavioral assessment techniques on 6 students to determine eligibility for Special Education services, including triennial assessments and initial assessments
- Determined the academic and mental health needs of students through communication with student, family, & teachers
- Prepared report with detailed information regarding assessment findings and recommendations for teachers and parents
- Present assessment and behavioral results to IEP team and student's family members

Oakland Unified School District

Oakland, CA

Mental Health Consultant

August 2017 – Present

- Consulted biweekly with two elementary school teachers and conduct classroom observations
- Supported consultee teachers by managing classroom behavior and conducting reading and math assessments
- Collaborated with teacher on case study of students with behavioral and academic needs

Goleta Union School District

Santa Barbara, CA

Substitute Teacher

May 2017 – August 2018

- Managed classroom behaviors and conducted all teacher-related responsibilities during a teacher's absence
- Lead class instruction, collaborated with teachers, and promoted classroom safety

Multigenerational Treatment Services | Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth (SAFY)

Fort Collins, CO

Lead Family Coach/On-Site Supervisor

April 2015 – July 2016

- Interviewed, trained and oriented new staff members and interns by modeling, coaching and providing feedback
- Assisted in establishing performance goals and monitor progress to ensure that staff meet productivity targets
- Provided psychoeducation and trauma focused services to caregivers in both English and Spanish as needed
- Attended leadership trainings and support staff while maintaining all Family Coach responsibilities (listed below)

Specialized Alternatives for Family & Youth (SAFY) of Colorado

Fort Collins, CO

Family Coach

November 2014 – April 2015

- Developed individualized treatment plans and provided ongoing mental health and educational services to youth and families who have experienced severe trauma and/or are involved in the juvenile justice system
- Developed and maintained consultative relationships with school officials, human service agencies and caregivers
- Researched and implemented trauma focused interventions to produce psychoeducation for families
- Respond to crisis through 24-hour on-call phone service and promote de-escalation to ensure safety

Independent Living Program | Family Care Network, Inc.

Santa Barbara, CA

ILP Intern

August 2013 – July 2014

- Assisted and supported foster youth in their transition (ages 14-21) to financial and emotional independence through a non-profit social services program
- Shadowed youth specialists, case managers, and FCNI staff during meetings and interventions
- Responded to emotional disturbances and crises such as suicidal thoughts, and physical altercation

A Change in Trajectory

Lancaster, CA

Behavioral Instructor

August 2014 – October 2014

- Provided therapeutic intervention & instructional services to children with autism & related behaviors
- Implemented Applied Behavioral Analysis programming & appropriate developmental curriculum

SERVICE & EMPLOYMENT

- UC Berkeley Graduate Assembly Berkeley, Ca
Graduate Wellness Project Director October 2020 – July 2021
- In partnership with GA Wellness Center, address issues that can affect the wellbeing of graduate and professional students within the campus community through advocacy, collaboration, and project and program development.
 - Plan and host events in collaboration with the Wellness Center counseling staff from Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and the Disabled Student’s Program (DPS)
 - Develop graduate student programming to promote student wellness including a meditation series and peer support groups, nutritional information, and mental wellness skill development.
 - Advocate for student support through regular attendance of campus committees on student mental health
- American Cultures Engaged Scholarship Program UC Berkeley, CA
Learning Community for Graduate Scholar Activists Participant October 2020 – December 2020
- Attend 6 weekly workshops exploring community-engaged scholarship and the importance of academia and community relationships and social justice
 - Complete readings on topics related to engaged scholarship in preparations for discourse with guest speakers who have been identified as activist scholars in their academic communities
 - Develop relationships and build community with graduate participants to continue to produce engaged activist scholarship
- Athletic Study Center | University of California, Berkeley Berkeley, CA
Graduate Student Tutor August 2017 – May 2019
- Meet with caseload of four student athletes regularly to support them in practicing time management and study skills
 - Attend weekly trainings to improve and inform practice
 - Lead study groups, create study guides and support students with reading, writing, and other class related supports
- School Psychology Student Association Berkeley, CA
Committee Leader August 2017 – Present
- Lead both conference committee and program advisory committee in completing committee goals
 - Lead committee meetings by creating meeting agenda and assigned roles to committee members
- School Psychology Student Association Berkeley, CA
President August 2016 – August 2017
- Served as the contact person for all issues/concerns related to the school psychology student association
 - Apply for funding multiple times each semester and handle receipts/reimbursements of members
 - Oversee signatory members and complete required trainings necessary to lead a campus organization
- La Escuelita | University of California, Santa Barbara Goleta, CA
Chair September 2013 – June 2014
- Planned and executed weekly general and officer meetings while overseeing 9 officials and 30 student members
 - Organized and facilitated work-shops and events regarding higher education for underserved students and families
 - Provided tutoring and other educational community service activities for youth in the Isla Vista area
 - Facilitated workshops regarding inclusive language & cultural sensitivity to accommodate diversity
- Isla Vista Elementary School Goleta, CA
After School Tutor September 2012 – June 2014
- Assisted 6th grade students with completion of Language Arts, Science, Math & History coursework
 - Discussed progress with teachers & provided feedback regarding strengths and needs of students
- Jodi House | Brain Injury Support Center Santa Barbara, CA
Brain Injury Support Volunteer June 2013 – September 2013

- Interacted and built rapport with members recovering from brain injuries
- Responded to abnormal or antisocial displays of behavior
- provided support by planning activities and classes

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

University of California, Berkeley | August 2016 – Present

- Graduate Student Instructor Training and Orientation
- The Art of Pedagogy: Best Practices for Graduate Student Instructors
- Trauma Informed Systems of Care
- Diagnosis of Human Handicaps and Cognitive Assessment
- Individual Appraisals of Intelligence
- Biological Embedding of social factors
- Socialization Processes within the Family

Oakland Unified School District | July 2019 – Present

- WhyTry Counseling Curriculum
- Silent Sufferers: What to Know and What to Do for Students with Internalizing Disorders
- Social Emotional Learning
- The Impact of Trauma at School: Better Understanding, Recognition, Assessment, and Support for Students with Trauma-Related Challenges

Contra Costa County Behavioral Health | August 2018 – July 2019

- Identifying Psychosis
- Trans Affirming Services
- Risk Assessment

Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth | November 2014 – June 2015

- Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) | Nonviolent Crisis Intervention
- Motivational Interviewing
- Cultural Issues in Mental Health
- Documenting the Treatment Planning Process
- Client/Patient Rights
- Trauma Informed Treatment for Children with Challenging Behaviors
- De-escalating Hostile Clients
- Suicide Prevention
- Confidentiality & HIPAA
- Child Abuse & Mandatory Reporting

A Change in Trajectory | August 2014

- Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Training

Family Care Network, Incorporated | August – October 2013

- Applying Intervention & Communication Skills
- Documentation (Standard, Medical, IR)
- Child Development
- Cognitive Behavioral Interventions
- Crisis De-escalation
- Wrap Training (Strength Based, Needs Focused)