



Mari S. Davies, Ph.D.

Neuropsychological and Psychoeducational Evaluation

1932 14th Street, 2nd floor, Santa Monica, CA 90404

Tel: 310.699.4968 / Fax: 888.748.1291

Education & Credentials

Psychologist (PSY 24383), California Board of Psychology, 2011

Ph.D., Developmental Psychology, UCLA Department of Psychology, 2009

M.A., UCLA Department of Psychology, 2005

B.A., Psychology, University of Chicago, 2000

Affiliations & Memberships

American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology, Affiliate Member

American Psychological Association, Member

APA Division 15: Educational Psychology

APA Division 37: Child & Family Policy and Practice

APA Division 40: Neuropsychology

Association of Educational Therapists, Allied Professional

California Psychological Association, Contributing Member

CPA Div. 2: Education & Training

CPA Div. 8: Neuropsychology

International Dyslexia Association, Member

Los Angeles County Psychologists Association (LACPA), Member

Clinical Activities

Psychologist, private practice, Neuropsychological and Psychoeducational Evaluation.

2013 - present

Consultant and Contractor, California school districts, Independent Educational

Evaluations (IEEs), psychoeducational and neuropsychological assessments, 2013 -

present

Director, Child & Adolescent Assessment Clinic, Sports Concussion Institute and

Neuropsychological Consultants, Los Angeles. *Duties:* Conducted comprehensive

neuropsychological and psychoeducational evaluations in a pediatric population,

provided supervision for predoctoral graduate student externs and postdoctoral

trainees. Cases primarily involved neurodevelopmental conditions (e.g.,

attention/executive functioning disorders, autism spectrum disorder, specific learning

disorders, epilepsy), acquired brain injuries, and related psychological conditions.

Coordinated treatment referrals, attended school meetings, and interfaced with other

care providers. Jul 2011 - Mar 2013

Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Trainee, Sports Concussion Institute and

Neuropsychological Consultants. Training program (non-APPIC) in comprehensive

neuropsychological, psychological and psychoeducational assessments. Also assisted

with forensic neuropsychological assessments, limited cognitive rehabilitation therapy,

and annual conference. Clinical populations included children, adolescents and adults

with neurodevelopmental, neurodegenerative, and/or acquired brain-based disorders

or injuries. Consulted with schools and community care providers. Clinical supervisor:

Tony Strickland, M.S., Ph.D., Clinical neuropsychologist and Associate Clinical

Professor of Neurology, UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. Jan 2010 - Jul 2011

Pediatric Clinical Neuropsychology Postdoctoral Psychological Assistant, Lorie

Humphrey & Associates, Los Angeles. *Duties:* Assisted clinical intake interviews and

feedback sessions; conducted supervised, comprehensive neuropsychological and

psychoeducational assessments including school observations and participation in

school meetings. Generated neuropsychological and psychoeducational reports, and



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coordinated with community care providers. Populations included children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental and related disorders. Supervisor: Lorie Humphrey, Ph.D. *Jun 2009 – Dec 2009*

Clinical Neuropsychology Predoctoral Extern, Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, UCLA (MPAC), and The Help Group. Trained in conducting clinical interviews, administering neuropsychological assessments, generating results summaries and reports, and assisting with feedback sessions for pediatric patients with epilepsy, Autism/PDDNOS, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, TBI, chiari malformation, brain tumors, and other neurological, developmental or related psychiatric conditions. Participated in weekly didactic courses and group supervision at UCLA. Participated in regular case presentations at supervision meetings. Clinical supervisors: Karen Miller, Ph.D., Brianna Paul, Ph.D.; Philip Levin, Ph.D. *Aug 2007 – Jun 2009*

Adult Neuropsychology Predoctoral Extern, Division of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, UCLA (MPAC). Trained in conducting neuropsychological assessments, pre-surgical and intra-operative language-mapping evaluations, test scoring, clinical interviews, and feedback sessions for patients with epilepsy, brain tumors, HIV, acquired brain injury, and associated disorders. Postdoctoral Fellow supervisors: Claudia Kernan, Ph.D, Talin Babikian, Ph.D., and Erica Brandling-Bennett, Ph.D; Faculty Supervisor: Susan Bookheimer, Ph.D. *Aug 2007 – May 2009*

Child Therapy Extern, The Help Group, Culver City. Conducted 8-week group therapy and social skills training sessions with children aged 10-12 years with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other co-morbid conditions. 10 hours/week. Supervisor: Nicole Connolly, Ph.D. *Fall 2008*

Volunteer Interventionist / Predoctoral Trainee, UCLA Early Childhood Partial Hospitalization Program (ECPHP). Assisted in behavioral interventions for young children (aged 2 – 7 years) with ASD, developmental delay, and related diagnoses enrolled in program encouraging development of communication skills, adaptive skills, and other customized interventions. 7 hours/week. Head faculty supervisor: Tanya Paparella, Ph.D. *Aug 2008 – Dec 2008*

Research Activities

Sports Concussion Institute and UCLA Health Services Research Group. Study of neurobehavioral correlates of mild traumatic brain injury and associated clinical disorders in children, adolescents and young adults. Advisor: Tony Strickland, M.S., Ph.D., Clinical neuropsychologist and Associate Clinical Professor of Neurology, UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. *2011 - 2013*

UCLA School of Public Health. HIV Nutrition Research Project (GI-CRSP) of child and maternal health in rural Kenya, in conjunction with Dr. Charlotte Neumann, M.D. (UCLA), Dr. Judith Ernst (University of Indiana Medical School) and Moi University, Kenya, Department of Public Health. *2007 - 2009*

UCLA Department of Psychology and UCLA Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences. Informal continuation of interdisciplinary dissertation research on infant siblings of children with autism examining social-emotional processing using eye tracking, and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) in children and adolescents with autism. Faculty advisors: Marian Sigman, Ph.D., Susan Bookheimer, Ph.D., and Mirella Dapretto, Ph.D. *2009 - 2011*

UCLA Department of Psychology and Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, Interdisciplinary dissertation research with advisors Marian Sigman, Ph.D.,



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Susan Bookheimer, Ph.D., and Mirella Dapretto, Ph.D. Proposed and conducted original research studies using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) with children with ASD, and utilized infrared eye tracking in infants at risk of neurodevelopmental disorders. *Defended May 2009*

Graduate Student Researcher, Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART) and UCLA Department of Psychology. Faculty Advisor: Marian Sigman, Ph.D. *Duties:* Designed, structured and implemented original research, and conducted data analyses, conference presentations, and publication of results. Conducted assessments and in-lab visit sessions for children with ASD and typically-developing children, eye tracking in infants at increased risk of developing autism, training for administration and scoring of the Autism Diagnostic Interview-Revised (ADI-R), Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS), Wechsler scales, and other standardized clinical and neuropsychological instruments. *Apr 2004 – Jun 2009*

Cognitive Assessments Trainer, HIV Nutrition Research Project (GI-CRSP), Eldoret, Kenya. *Duties:* Trained local clinicians to conduct culturally appropriate developmental and cognitive assessments in children 0 - 8 years of age as part of a study of health and development in HIV positive mothers and their children. Longitudinal nutrition research project in conjunction with UCLA Department of Public Health, Moi University and Indiana University Medical School. *Dec 2007 – Dec 2008*

Graduate Student Fellow, John Merck Fund, Summer Training Institute at Princeton: Neurobiology of Developmental Disorders (org. B.J. Casey, Ph.D.). *Summer 2005*

Master's Thesis Research, UCLA Department of Psychology and UCLA Brain Mapping Center. Advisors: Marian Sigman, Ph.D., Mirella Dapretto, Ph.D., Marco Iacoboni, M.D., Ph.D., and Susan Bookheimer, Ph.D. fMRI study in children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), aged 7-16 years. Assisted with study design, conducted data collection, image processing and statistical data analysis, and prepared findings for peer-reviewed publication. *2004 - 2006*

Graduate Student Researcher, UCLA Department of Psychology. Faculty advisor: Patricia Greenfield, Ph.D. *Duties:* Analysis of player data and journals in developmental study of 1st-person socially interactive online video gaming. Coauthored two resulting book chapters. *Jan 2004 – May 2004*

Research Associate, UCLA Department of Communication Studies. Advisor: Assistant Professor Francis Steen, Ph.D. *Duties:* Collection and analysis of preschool and kindergarten playground activity data, and paper preparation on children's play and cognitive development. *2002 – 2003*

Volunteer Research Assistant, UCLA, with Assistant Professor Martie Haselton, Ph.D. and Postdoc Gian Gonzaga, Ph.D., Social Psychology Laboratory. *Duties:* Assisted behavioral research. Served as pre-conference coordinator for meeting for the Society of Personality & Social Psychology conference, February 2003. *May 2002 – Feb 2003*

Research Assistant, UCLA Department of Public Health. Advisor: Gian Gonzaga, Ph.D.. Assisted with research study on psychology, nutrition and health in low-income families. *Summer 2002*

Clinical Research Coordinator, Genzyme Corporation, Clinical Research department. *Duties:* Coordinated site visits to participating hospitals, aided in administration duties, interim report writing and presentation of findings, data analysis editing, and correspondence with physicians and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for phase III clinical trial. *Nov 2000 – Feb 2002*



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Parent and Child Research Intern, Alfred P. Sloan Center, University of Chicago and National Opinion Research Center (NORC). Conducted in-person parent and teen semi-structured interviews, coded interview data of 500-family, nationwide study of balancing work and family demands. *Summer 2000*

Senior Undergraduate Honors Research Project. The University of Chicago, Department of Psychology. *Short-term Memory for Scenes with Affective Content* (Published, *Journal of Vision*, 2005). With advisor Vera Maljkovic, Ph.D. *Oct 1999 – Oct 2000*

Research Assistant, University of Chicago Hospitals, Psychomotor Research lab. Faculty Advisor: David Zacny, M.D. *Duties*: Collection and scoring of psychomotor assessment data in randomized treatments with morphine sulfate, hydromorphone hydrochloride, or placebo. *1999*

Supervision and Teaching

Lecturer, Neuroscience and Somatics I, Pacifica Graduate University, Depth Somatic Studies Doctoral Program. *July 2018*

Clinical Supervisor, for postdoctoral trainee Dr. Shereen Tabibian, Psy.D., Office of Mari Davies, Ph.D., Neuropsychological and Psychoeducational Evaluation, Santa Monica. *2014 – 2016*

Lecturer, Seminar: Neuropsychological Assessment, Fielding Graduate University, Clinical Psychology doctoral program, *Spring 2015*

Director, Child & Adolescent Assessment Division, Sports Concussion Institute & Neuropsychological Consultants, Los Angeles. Oversaw clinical activities, conducted comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations, and coordinated care and management for patients within pediatric assessment arm of clinic. *2011 – 2013*

Neuropsychology Externship Training Program Clinical Supervisor, Sports Concussion Institute, Los Angeles. Assisted in organizing training program; helped provide supervision for postdoctoral trainees and predoctoral psychology externs. *2011 – 2013*

Presenter, Psychoeducational Assessment. Invited talk at Milestones Educational Institute to Association of Educational Therapists study group. *Dec 2013*

Presenter, Traumatic Brain Injury in Youth: Assessment and Management. Invited talk at Santa Monica Launch Station to local pediatric care professionals. *Apr 2013*

Guest panel speaker, Sportsmavericks Show, Voice America Radio. Concussion and traumatic brain injury in children and adolescents (<http://www.voiceamerica.com/episode/62439/the-sportsmavericks-show>) *Jun 12, 2012*

Adjunct Faculty, Antioch University. Teaching within core training program for Psychology and Marriage and Family Therapy Master's program, Los Angeles. Courses: Psychological Testing; Research & Writing; and advisor for Independent Studies. *2010 – 2011*

Supervision, UCLA Help Group. Informal assistance in supervision/consultation for clinical psychology intern. Case conceptualization, neuropsychological report write-up and report editing, approx. 1-2 hrs / week, *2009 – 2010*

Teaching Associate, UCLA Department of Psychology. Psych 133A: Adolescent Development (Summer 08, with Sylvie Taylor, Ph.D.). No individual TA sections or evaluations.

Teaching Associate, UCLA Department of Psychology. Psych 133G: Culture & Human Development (Winter 08, Rob Lemelson, Ph.D.). Taught three sections/wk and one class lecture. Mean & median overall T.A. rating: 8.7 & 9.0 (scale 0-9.0).



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Teaching Assistant, UCLA Department of Psychology. Psych 133G: Culture & Human Development (Fall 06, Patricia Greenfield, Ph.D). Taught two sections/wk. Mean & median overall T.A. rating: 8.6 & 9.0 (scale 0-9.0).

Teaching Assistant, UCLA Department of Psychology. Psych 131: Research in Developmental Psychology. (Spring 06, Catherine Sandhofer, Ph.D). No individual TA sections.

Teaching Assistant, UCLA Department of Psychology. Psych 133B: Cognitive Development. (Winter 06, Catherine Sandhofer, Ph.D). No individual TA sections.

Teaching Assistant, UCLA Department of Psychology. Psych 130: Developmental Psychology (Summer 04, Lisa Travis, Ph.D). No individual TA sections.

Conference Presentations

Davies, M., Evaluation and Clinical Management of Concussions in Youth. Invited Lecture for *Arizona Pediatric Trauma Symposium*. 2012

Davies, M., Sigman, M., Marshall, S. & Hutman, T. Early Attention to Facial Expressions and Eye Gaze Direction in Infants at Increased Risk of Developing Autism. Oral Presentation at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, 2010

Davies, M., Dapretto, M., Sigman, M., Sepeta, L. & Bookheimer, S. Neural Correlates of Gaze and Emotion Processing in Children with and without Autism Spectrum Disorders. Oral Presentation at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, 2007

Sepeta, L., **Davies, M.**, Dapretto, M. Bookheimer, S.Y., and Sigman, M. Fixation behavior in children and adolescents with autism: Passive vs. Active viewing of facial stimuli. Poster for the *Society for Research in Child Development* meeting, 2007

Sepeta, L., **Davies, M.**, Dapretto, M. and Sigman, M. Fixation behavior in children and adolescents with autism: Viewing facial stimuli with direct vs. averted gaze. Poster for the *International Meeting for Autism Research* meeting, 2007

Davies, M. Understanding emotions in others: mirror neuron dysfunction in children with autism spectrum disorders. Oral presentation, UCLA Center for Culture, Brain, and Development, 2006

Davies, M., Pfeifer, J., Bookheimer, S.Y., Sigman, M., Iacoboni, M., & Dapretto, M. Abnormal Mirror Neuron System Activity During Facial Affect Imitation and Observation in Children with ASD. Oral presentation at the *International Meeting for Autism Research*, 2005

Gonzaga, G.C., Haselton, M.G., Smurda, J., **Davies, M.S.**, & Poore, J.A. Emotions and Thought Suppression: Differential Effects of Love and Lust. Poster presented at *Society for Personality and Social Psychology* meeting, 2003

Publications

Davies, M.S., Strickland, T.L. and Cao, M. (2014). Invited book chapter for *APA Handbook of Multicultural Psychology (Vol II): Neuropsychological Assessment of Culturally Diverse Populations* (<http://www.iaccp.org/node/637>) American Psychological Association.

Sepeta, L. / Tsuchiya, N., **Davies, M.**, Sigman, M.S., Bookheimer, S.B. and Dapretto, M. (2012). Abnormal Social Reward Processing in Autism as Indexed by Pupillary Responses to Happy Faces. *Journal of Neurodevelopmental Disorders*, **4**:17.

Davies, M., Bookheimer, S.Y., Dapretto, M. & Sigman, M.D. (2011). The neural bases of gaze processing abnormalities in high functioning children with autism spectrum disorders. *Brain & Behavior* **1**(1), p. 1-11.



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- Uddin, L., **Davies, M.**, Scott, A., Zaidel, E., Bookheimer, S., Iacoboni, M. and Dapretto, M. (2008). Neural basis of self-other representation in autism: An fMRI study of self-face recognition. *Plos One*, in press.
- Gonzaga, G., Haselton, M., Smurda, J., **Davies, M.S.**, Poore., J. (2008). Love, desire, and the suppression of thoughts of romantic alternatives. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, **29** (2), pp. 119-26.
- Dapretto, M., **Davies, M.**, Pfeifer, J., Bookheimer, S.Y., Sigman, M., Iacoboni, M. (2006). Understanding emotions in others: mirror neuron dysfunction in children with autism spectrum disorders. *Nature Neuroscience* **9**, pp. 28-30. (publication of Master's thesis)
- Steen, F.F., **Davies, M.S.**, Tynes, B. & Greenfield, P. (2006). "Digital Dystopia: Player Control and Strategic Innovation in The Sims Online." In Ralph Schroeder and Ann-Sofie Axelsson (eds.) *Avatars at Work and Play*. London, UK: Springer.
- Steen, F.F., Greenfield, P.M., **Davies, M.S.**, & Tynes, B.M. (2006). "Cultural Learning and Barriers to Identification in a Massively Multiplayer Online Role-playing Game." In Vorderer P and Jennings B, (eds.) *Playing Video Games: Motives, Responses, and Consequences*. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates: Hillsdale, NJ.

Expert Testimony

- Special Education hearing, Student v. Los Angeles Unified School District 2016
- Special Education hearing, Student v. Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District. 2013
- Family Court trial, Case involving neurodevelopmental disorder, Los Angeles, California. 2013
- Asylum case (Immigration Court) trial involving traumatic brain injury, San Francisco, California. Physicians for Human Rights. 2012

Honors & Awards

- UCLA Graduate Division Dissertation Award Fellowship, 2008 - 2009
- UCLA Center for Culture, Brain & Development (CBD) Research Grant for an early detection study of infant siblings of children with autism, 2008
- UCLA Center for CBD Predoctoral Research Grant for the neuropsychological and developmental assessment of children with HIV in rural Kenya, 2008 - 2009
- Society for Psychological Anthropology (SPA) Conference Scholarship, 2007
- UCLA Center for CBD Research Grant for study of brain bases of social information processing in children with high-functioning autism, 2005
- John Merck Fund Summer Training Institute Fellowship, Princeton University. Neurobiological Bases of Developmental Disorders, 2005
- Foundation for Psychocultural Research Conference Fellowship, 2005
- Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship (UCLA Graduate Division), 2005
- UCLA Center for Culture, Brain & Development Predoctoral Trainee Fellowship, 2004 - 2005
- National Science Foundation Incentive Award, Department of Psychology, UCLA, 2004
- UCLA Graduate Division Fellowship, 2003 - 2004
- Richter Grant for Undergraduate Research, University of Chicago Department of Psychology. Honors award project on original research study regarding the influence of emotion on visual attention and memory. 1999 - 2000