

Manal Fasih

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EDUCATION

University of North Texas (UNT) – Denton, TX **Aug. 2017-May 2020**
Bachelor of Arts, Biology - Summa Cum Laude
Minors: Chemistry, Psychology
Cumulative GPA: 3.975 Science/Psychology GPA: 4.0

HONORS & AWARDS

UNT Excellence Scholarship II **2017-2021**
• Awarded \$24,000 towards tuition

Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher in Biological Sciences Award **2020**
• Awarded by UNT College of Science and Department of Biological Sciences

UNT President's List **2017-2020**
• Earned 4.0 GPA (Fall 2017 through Spring 2020)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Stress & Alcohol Research Laboratory – UNT Psychology Dept. **May 2018-Present**
Director: Heidemarie Blumenthal, PhD.

Research Assistant- 8-10 hours/week: 750 total hours

- Completed trainings involving child abuse/neglect, biosafety, and protecting human participants
- Recruited adult and hard-to-reach adolescent samples (e.g., substance-using teens) by speaking at public events and handing out flyers to local businesses
- Screened and scheduled participants for studies
- Ran participants through 3-5 hour laboratory protocols for NIH-funded experimental studies
 - Discussed consent/assent procedures with parents and participants
 - Affixed participants for psychophysiological assessment of acute stress responding (e.g., heart rate, skin conductance) and facilitated saliva sample collection
 - Administered psychological assessments, including semi-structured clinical interviews, to adolescents and adults to assess substance use, mood/anxiety disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder
 - Instructed participants to complete tasks involving script-driven imagery, computer-simulated driving, talk-aloud responses to social rejection, and substance-related decision making
 - Assisted in alcohol administration for study involving trauma-exposed adults
- Transcribed recordings from talk-aloud portions of studies
- Interviewed and trained prospective research assistants (RA) in participant communication and study protocols
- Participated in co-reviews of poster submissions to the 2020 convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies

Data Management Coordinator

June 2019-Present

- Assigned and monitored weekly tasks for a group of 8-20 undergraduate research assistants involved in data entry
- Merged and cleaned databases for analysis in various studies
- Trained RAs to organize and enter data into databases
- Composed protocols to help standardize lab activities and expedite training
- Prepared, analysed, and cleaned physiological data (e.g. ECG, GSR)
- Supported RAs by correcting errors in databases and providing ongoing training

Motivation Sciences Laboratory – UNT Psychology Dept.

Feb. 2018-May 2018

Director: Rex A. Wright, PhD.

Research Assistant- 30 hours

- Ran participants through study protocol involving cardiovascular response and task performance
 - Administered assessments to participants and gave instructions for tasks
 - Affixed electrodes on participants
 - Operated software to measure blood pressure and heart rate

HHMI SEA-PHAGES Program – UNT Biology Dept.

Aug. 2017-Dec. 2017

Director: Lee Hughes, PhD.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Research-Based Laboratory Course- 40 hours

- Science Education Alliance-Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science (SEA-PHAGES)
- Practiced microbiological and septic techniques necessary to cultivate bacteria and bacteriophage
- Isolated a unique bacteriophage from an environmental soil sample
- Obtained a high-titer lysate of the isolated phage
- Obtained an electron micrograph of the isolated phage
- Obtained a clean DNA sample and created a restriction digest
- Uploaded isolated bacteriophage information to The Actinobacteriophage Database

DISSEMINATION EXPERIENCE

Fasih, M., Rafiuddin, H., Cloutier, R., Hanes, J., Bocanegra, A., & Blumenthal, H. (2020). *Race as a predictor of intergenerational transmission of substance use disorder.* Poster presented at the 128th annual convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Fasih, M., Rafiuddin, H., Cloutier, R., Hanes, J., Bocanegra, A., & Blumenthal, H. (2020). *Intergenerational transmission of substance use problems: The roles of race and income.* Poster accepted to the annual convention of the Southwestern Psychological Association, San Antonio, TX.

Carey, C., Proenza, H., Hinojos, A., **Fasih, M.**, Kearns, N., & Blumenthal, H. (2019). *The intersection of race, biological sex, sexual identity, and PTSD Symptom Severity.* Poster presented at the 53rd annual convention of the Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Atlanta, GA.

Fasih, M., Payne, A., Cloutier, R., Nielson, N., & Blumenthal, H. (2019). *The influence of parental behavioral control on depression and anxiety in adolescent girls.* Poster presented at the 127th annual convention of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Ardent Hospice – Flower Mound, TX

Feb. 2020-Present

Patient Visitor- 1-2 hours/week

- Visited patients who are terminally ill in assisted-living facilities and in their homes
- Supported patients by talking with them, playing games, doing crafts, listening to music together, and reading religious devotionals upon request
- Entered a summary of each visit into electronic health records (EHR)

New Hope Equine Assisted Therapy – Argyle, TX

Jan. 2017-Present

Sidewalker/Leader- 215 hours

- Facilitated therapeutic horse-riding lessons for children of all ages with special needs and/or mental illnesses
- Physically assisted the rider during mounting, riding, and dismounting
- Provided emotional support and encouraged riders to play games and complete tasks during the lesson
- Groomed and tacked horses in preparation for lessons
- Helped the rider guide their horse during the lesson and ensured that the horse cooperated while maintaining overall safety

Medical City Lewisville – Lewisville, TX

June 2016-Aug. 2019

Volunteer- 4-8 hours/week every Summer: 165 total hours

- Departments: Emergency Department, Laboratory, Outpatient Rehab, Surgical Services, Pre-Operative Testing/Day Surgery, and Front Desk
- Assisted staff with organizing paperwork, answering phone calls, and other administrative tasks
- Transported patients via wheelchairs and gave directions to visitors
- Delivered flowers to patient rooms
- Distributed toys, games, and hygiene products to families
- Restocked linens and cleaned equipment

UNT Meadows Center for Health Resources – Denton, TX

Sept. 2017-Nov. 2017

Event Volunteer- 30 hours

- Involved in the development and implementation of health-education outreach events to increase awareness of the following topics: first aid, menstrual health, LGBTQ+, prostate cancer, mental health, and STD's/STI's
- Assisted with games and activities for students during events
- Increased awareness of health resources available to students on campus

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

UNT Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-Health Honor Society

Aug. 2017-Dec. 2018

Local Member- 50 hours

- Attended monthly lectures from various health professionals
- Volunteered at Denton Rehabilitation & Nursing Center by participating in game nights and interacting with residents
- Volunteered at community events, such as environmental clean-up events and marathons

Physician Shadowing

Orthopedic Surgery, Orthopedic Associates – Flower Mound, TX

May 2019

- 25 hours
- Observed Dr. Manuj Singhal, Dr. Michael Willenborg, and Dr. Aaron Schrayner in the clinic while visiting patients, as well as perform ACL repairs, bone fracture repairs, meniscus repairs, manipulations, tendon repairs, and other procedures

General Surgery, Associates of Surgery – Flower Mound, TX

July 2017-Dec. 2017

- 25 hours
- Observed Dr. Patrick Shovlin and Dr. Chad Treece perform hernia repairs, gallbladder removals, gastric sleeves, and other procedures

WORK EXPERIENCE

OrthoTexas Physicians & Surgeons – Plano, TX

May 2020-Present

Medical Scribe- 35 hours/week

- Worked under the supervision of orthopedic surgeons, Dr. Michael Schwartz (specialties in sports medicine, knee, shoulder, hip, and elbow) and Dr. Victoria Knoll (specialties in hand, wrist, and elbow)
- Greeted and escorted patients to examination rooms and interviewed patients to obtain a brief history of illness
- Prepared electronic health records (EHR) and presented patients' information to the physician
- Documented patients' complaints, physical exam, diagnoses, procedures performed, and treatment plan during the office visit
- Entered patients' medical history, visit notes, and billing orders for services performed into the EHR
- Cleaned and restocked examination rooms
- Assisted in the training of new hires

UNT Learning Center – Denton, TX

Lead Tutor- 10-15 hours/week, Spring semesters: 510 total hours

Jan. 2019-April 2020

- Facilitated one-on-one, group, online, and walk-in tutoring sessions for various courses in biology, chemistry, statistics, psychology, art, and technical writing
- Offered support to students by facilitating understanding of course content, helping with development of effective study strategies, and giving advice to be a successful student
- Developed and led workshop presentations for chemistry and statistics courses, as well as study strategies (e.g. test taking, time management, note taking)
- Attended weekly meetings for ongoing training and discussion of tutoring techniques/theories
- Trained and interviewed prospective tutors
- Maintained accurate and protected student data records

Supplemental Instruction Leader- 8-10 hours/week: 275 total hours

Jan. 2018-Dec. 2018

- Attended lectures and took notes for an assigned statistics class
- Met with supervising professor to discuss specific expectations of students
- Planned and led three 1-hour long sessions per week for students to review course content, ask questions, and study for exams
- Facilitated group work during sessions and reinforced both course content and study strategies

- Created activities specific to course content for students to complete during sessions such as group discussions, practice quizzes, and review games
- Attended weekly meetings with other SI Leaders for ongoing training
- Attended new SI Leaders' sessions to help evaluate their progress and offer advice in terms of leading effective sessions

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Math)

- Introductory Biology 1&2 + Lab
- Microbiology + Lab
- Biodiversity & Conservation
- Bioinformatics
- Genetics + Lab
- Cell Biology + Lab
- Immunology + Lab
- Mammalian Physiology + Lab
- General Chemistry 1&2 + Labs
- Organic Chemistry 1&2 + Labs
- Biochemistry 1&2
- Algebra-Based Physics 1&2 + Labs
- Elementary Probability & Statistics
- Calculus 1

Psychology

- Introductory Psychology 1&2
- Health Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Special Problems