

Curriculum Vitae

SYDNEY A. MCKINNIS, B.S.

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Psychology

University of North Texas

Summa Cum Laude

- Major GPA: 4.0
- Honors Thesis Topic: The relationship between insecure attachment and drinking problems among adolescents
- Minor: Spanish Language
- Study Abroad: Universidad Veritas, San Jose, Costa Rica, 2015

May 2017

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Honors Thesis: *The Role of Attachment Anxiety and Avoidance in Adolescent Problematic Alcohol Use: The Moderating Role of Deviant Peers.* Examined the relationship between dimensions of anxious and avoidant attachment generally (e.g., parents, peers) and levels of drinking problems among adolescents as well as the role of affiliation with deviant peers in this relation.

Chair: Heidemarie Blumenthal, Ph.D.

Committee: Shelley Riggs, Ph.D. & Michael Barnett, Ph.D.

Defense: April 2017

Follow-Up Call Coordinator

Teen Stress and Alcohol Research Laboratory, Heidemarie Blumenthal, Ph.D.

University of North Texas, Department of Psychology

- Trained and oversaw a team of 8 undergraduate research assistants in 1-year follow-up data collection for two studies involving adolescent health, stress, and development
- Led weekly meetings regarding scheduling, progress, and protocol updates
- Conducted bi-weekly reviews of phone interview protocol, addressing mistakes and discrepancies

August 2016-

July 2017

Research Assistant

Teen Stress and Alcohol Research Laboratory, Heidemarie Blumenthal, Ph.D.

University of North Texas, Department of Psychology

- Recruited participants via flyering, tabling events, and community engagement
- Screened and scheduled community-recruited youth (12-17 years) for three studies examining the etiology of anxiety and substance use
- Collected data in studies that involved several psychological (e.g., semi-structured interviews) and physiological (e.g., heart rate, skin conductance, salivary cortisol, and alpha amylase) assessments
- Entered and cleaned data for ongoing projects into IBM SPSS

January 2015-

July 2017

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

1. Tristan, E., Pogue, J., Cloutier, R., Gutierrez, S., **McKinnis, S.**, Dunham, K., Douglas, M., & Blumenthal, H. (2017). *Imaginary Audience and Anxiety: Subjective Versus Physiological Responding among Adolescent Girls.* Poster accepted to the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Boston, MA.

2. Blumenthal, H., Cloutier, R. M., Douglas, M. E., **McKinnis, S.**, & Adams, M. (2016). *Real-time social stress response and subsequent initiation of alcohol use among female adolescents*. Poster presented at the 4th annual meeting of the Collaborative Perspectives on Addiction, Albuquerque, NM.
3. Cloutier, R., Pogue, J., **McKinnis, S.**, Russo, M., & Blumenthal, H. (2016). *Exploring the relations among salivary cortisol, alpha amylase, and female adolescent psychopathology*. Poster presented at the 56th annual meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research, Minneapolis, MN.
4. Pogue, J., Cloutier, R., Russo, M., **McKinnis, S.**, & Blumenthal, H. (2016). *Electrodermal Activity and Anxiety Symptoms Among Adolescent Females*. Poster presented at the 56th annual meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research, Minneapolis, MN.

HONORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

President's List, Fall 2013-Fall 2014, Fall 2015-Spring 2017
Dean's List, Spring 2015
UNT Excellence Scholarship, Fall 2013-Spring 2017
UNT International Education Fee Scholarship, Summer 2015

MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

UNT Honors College, 2014-2017
Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity, 2015-2017
Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology, 2015-Present
National Society of Collegiate Scholars, 2015-2017

SPECIAL TRAINING AND SKILLS

Training: NIH CITI certification for human subjects, UNT Blood Borne Pathogens Training (for safe salivary assessment)
Skills: SPSS (data entry and analyses), Bio Pac (physiological data collection)
Languages: Spanish (basic)