

CURRICULUM VITAE
ALEXIS MERCULIEF, M.S.

PH.D. CANDIDATE, GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT
OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY
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EDUCATION

- 2020-present** **Ph.D., Human Development and Family Studies** (Oregon State University)
Anticipated Defense: June 2023.
- 2019** **M.S., Human Development and Family Studies** (Oregon State University)
- 2012** **B.A., Psychology** (Summa Cum Laude, Seattle Pacific University)
Minor: Latin American Studies
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RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2017-present** **Graduate Research Assistant to Drs. Megan McClelland and Shannon Lipscomb**
(Oregon State University)
Projects: Children’s flame retardant exposures measured by passive wristbands: Sex specific associations, social adversity, and socio-cognitive development; Developing a Measure of Self-Regulation for Children At-Risk; Red Light, Purple Light!
Developing a Self-Regulation Intervention
- 2019-2020** **Graduate Research Assistant to Dr. Megan Pratt** (Oregon State University)
Projects: Oregon Early Learners Workforce Statistics, Oregon Early Learning Structural Indicators, Annual Researcher’s Roundtable, Oregon Childcare Research Partnership
- 2019-2020** **Graduate Research Assistant to Dr. John Geldhof** (Oregon State University)
Projects: Green Chimneys Human-Animal Therapeutic Intervention for Children with Special Needs (Data Analysis), Positive Youth Development in a Kenyan Context (Qualitative Analysis)
- 2011-2015** **Undergraduate (and Post-baccalaureate) Research Assistant**
Dr. Beverly Wilson (Seattle Pacific University)
Projects: “Spontaneous Mimicry” study within Dr. Bev Wilson’s Self-Regulation Lab, studying self-regulation in children with Autism ages 3-6 years old.
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TEACHING POSITIONS

- 2020-2021** **Instructor** (Oregon State University eCampus)
Courses taught: HDFS 361 Research Methods (5 terms)
- 2017-2019** **Graduate Teaching Assistant** (Oregon State University)
Courses assisted: Human Sexuality (3 terms; Lectures Taught: Power and Coercion), Child Development (2 terms; Lectures Taught: Teratogens and Prematurity; Emotional and Social Development in Early Childhood), Research Methods (2 terms)
- 2011** **Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** (Oregon State University)
Courses Assisted: Child Development (1 term; Lecture Taught: Moral Development)

GRANT SUPPORT

Funding Type and Agency: Diversity Supplement Award (Dissertation), National Institutes of Health

Role: PhD Student Researcher (Mentee)

Lipscomb, S., McClelland, M. M., & Kile, M. (2021-2023). *Examining Flame Retardant Exposure, Neurocognitive Effects, and Resilience Factors in Children from Underserved Racial/Ethnic Backgrounds in Preschool*. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. PI: Lipscomb.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2018** **Graduate Intern** (Friends of the Children: Portland, Oregon)
Duties: Revised and implemented annual Alumni survey for youth who graduated from Friends of the Children's (FOTC) youth mentorship program. Collected data on youth experiences with FOTC and experiences after finishing the program including educational attainment, employment, and social support. Organized and ran a summer barbeque for Alumni and their families. Assisted with the creation of a new Alumni Council at FOTC.
- 2013-2017** **Education Case Manager, Youth Services Manager** (Seattle Indian Health Board, Seattle, WA)
Duties: Supervised four staff and managed four grants (City Levy, SAMHSA, IHS, Seattle Foundation) totaling over \$1.5 million. Professional advocate and mediator for families during special education (IEP), truancy or disciplinary meetings with Seattle Public Schools. Created and taught curriculum for two supplemental educational programs: "Mathletes" Summer Camp and "Sprouts" After School Reading Program. Provided wrap-around services, health referrals, and home and school visits to enrolled families.
Accomplishments: Earned over \$50,000 in bonus/performance pay and donations for SIHB. Led SIHB's Youth Program to score above the national average on the Youth Program Quality Initiative (YPQI) Assessment for School-Age Programs. Improved school attendance rates for the Youth caseload by an average of 2% (almost 4 full school days per year).
- 2012** **Intern** (Northwest Adoption Exchange, Seattle, WA)
Duties: Created a Resource Guide for families interested in fostering or adopting. Maintained website and social media with the latest adoption and foster care news and events. Assisted in organizing and running Kids' Fest, an annual meet-and-greet event for foster children
- 2012** **Assistant Teacher** (Pacific Science Center, Seattle, WA)
Duties: Taught 2nd-6th grade children science in a hands-on, child-directed manner. Consistently ensured the safety of every child, working to promote healthy life habits, effective communication and conflict resolution skills
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PUBLICATIONS

Gonzales, C., Mercurief, A., Ghetti, S., & McClelland, M.M. (2022). Longitudinal relations between uncertainty monitoring, executive functioning and academic achievement during the transition to kindergarten. *Child Development, 93*(2), 1-16.

McClelland, M.M., Gonzales, C.R., Cameron, C., Geldhof, G.J., Bowles, R., Nancarrow, A., Mercurief, A., & Tracy, A. (2021). The head-toes-knees-shoulders revised (HTKS-R): Links to academic outcomes and measures of EF in young children. *Frontiers in Psychology, 12*, 1-14.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Martin, T., Marshall, S.M., Mercurief, A., Russette, H., Waubanascum, C., White, E.J., White, L., Sarche, M., Whitesell, N., & Ivanich, J. (2022). *Striving to be Pono (balanced, just, fair, & hopeful): Conceptualizing an indigenous writing process from a Native Hawaiian cultural perspective*. [Invited Manuscript in preparation, Adversity & Resilience Science]. College of Health & Society, Hawai'i Pacific University.

Mercurief, A., Chen, Q., Foster, S., Ozenbaugh, I., Bradetich, A., Carlson, S., McClelland, M., & Lipscomb, S. (2022). *Exploring early childhood educator experiences of workplace support and distress during the COVID-19 pandemic using multiple methods*. [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Oregon State University.

Mercurief, A., & McClelland, M.M. (2022). English proficiency and executive function in dual language learners enrolled in Head Start. [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Oregon State University.

Tsethlikai, M., Mercurief, A., Munoz, F., Meyer, A., Sparrow, J., & Murray, D. (2022). *Building a Model of Executive Function to Promote Positive Development and Reduce Harm to Indigenous Children*. [Invited Manuscript in Preparation, Child Development Perspectives]. Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics, Arizona State University.

Pratt, M., & Mercurief, A. (2020). *The Child Care Crisis in Polk County*. [Unpublished Evaluation Report] Oregon State University, College of Public Health and Human Sciences.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Mercurief, A., Lipscomb, S.T., & McClelland, M.M. (2022). Examining risk and resilience in the built and social neighborhood environment for American Indian/Alaska Native preschool children. In Tsethlikai, M. (Chair), *Exploring Protective Factors to Promote Cognitive Development and Well-being in Indigenous Children in the Midst of Economic, Environmental, and Social Stressors* [symposium submitted for presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, UT.

Mercurief, A.; Chen, Q., Foster, S.A.; Ozenbaugh, I.; Bradetich, A.; Carlson, S., Braithwaite, P., Lipscomb, S.T., & McClelland, M.M. (2022). *Early childhood teacher experiences of workplace support and self-reported distress during the COVID-19 pandemic*. [Poster presentation]. National Research Conference on Early Childhood. Virtual Conference.

Ahmadi, A., Mercurief, A., & Ozenbaugh, I. (2022). *Training Executive Function in Young Children: Effects on Working Memory and Basic Math Skills*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development Special Topics Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.

Carlson S. L., Elliot A., Karing J., Bradetich A., Mercurief A., Ozenbaugh I., Ahmadi A., & McClelland M. M. (2022). *The relationship between parent stress and preschool children's self-regulation in families with low-income*. [Poster presentation]. International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Athens, Greece.

- Merculief, A., Blodgett, J., Bolding, C.W., Asige Lawrence, M., Orucho, J., Esokomi, A., Omuse, D., & Onyiko, K. (2021). *Seeking harmony: The juxtaposition between positive and negative community influences for Kenyan youth*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Virtual Conference.
- Geldhof, G.J., Blodgett, J., Chandler, K., Bowers, E.P., Onyiko, K., Allen, L., Bolding, C.W., McQuillin, S., Merculief, A., & Thompson, D. (2021). Positive youth development across three Kenyan contexts: An inductive approach. In: Thomas, K. (Chair), *Contextual Influences on Youth Character Development: Evidence from Kenya, Brazil, and Canada*. [Paper Symposium]. Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Virtual Conference.
- Gonzales, C., Merculief, A., Ghetti, S., & McClelland, M.M. (2021). *Longitudinal Relations between uncertainty monitoring, executive functioning and academic achievement during the transition to kindergarten*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Virtual Conference.
- Merculief, A., & McClelland, M.M. (2019). *English proficiency and executive function in dual language learners enrolled in Head Start*. [Poster presentation]. Society for the Study of Human Development, Portland, OR.
- Gonzales, C., Merculief, A., Sciuto, I., Tracy, A., Karing, J., & McClelland, M. (2019). *Uncertainty monitoring predicts academic achievement at the transition to kindergarten*. [Paper Symposium]. Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Merculief, A., Sciuto, I., Alonso, J., Finders, J. & McClelland, M. (2018). *Cumulative family resources and children's self-regulation: Where does change occur?* [Poster presentation]. Oregon Parenting Educators Conference, Corvallis, OR.
- Merculief, A. & Paddock, M. (2017). *From isolation to belonging: Fostering resilience in Native American youth*. Oral presentation by former colleagues at Washington State Public Health Association Conference, Wenatchee, WA.
- Merculief, A.; McGill, K. & Wilson, B.J. (2015). *Spontaneous imitation of emotion in children with autism*. [Poster presentation]. Seattle Pacific University's 13th Annual School of Psychology, Family and Community Research Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Merculief, A; Wilson, B; Miller, H. & Murray, R. (2013). *Spontaneous mimicry: Reflection of facial expression in children with autism*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference, Seattle, WA.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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| 2021-present | Native Children's Research Exchange, Cohort 10 Scholar
Selected for 18-month fellowship and training program in Native Children's Research
Received cultural and academic mentorship, financial assistance, and tailored career development training |
| 2019 | Certificate, Early Childhood Research Summer Institute (Johns Hopkins University: Center for American Indian Health)
Attended the 2019 Tribal Early Childhood Research Summer Institute for graduate credit as a scholarship recipient. July 14-19, 2019, Baltimore, M.D. |

VOLUNTEER, SERVICE, EXTRACURRICULARS

- 2019-present** **Founding Member, Anti-Racism Student Group**
 Member of the student-led, collaborative group dedicated to exploring topics surrounding anti-racism in academia, centered in Dr. John Geldhof’s lab. Group meets biweekly and rotates facilitator role, bringing current issues, readings, videos, and guest speakers to discuss critical topics. Collaboratively wrote a statement of belonging for the DepTH Lab:
<https://health.oregonstate.edu/labs/DePTh/statement-of-belonging>.
- 2019-2021** **Representative, College of Public Health and Human Sciences Graduate Council**
 (Oregon State University)
Duties: Served as student representative for the Human Development and Family Studies program. Increased departmental collaboration via quarterly meetings and events including the Fall Harvest Social and Annual CPHHS Research Poster Symposium.
- 2020** **Graduate Student Representative for Human Development and Family Studies Instructor Search Committee** (Oregon State University)
Duties: Helped to create qualification matrix, screen candidates, conduct interviews, and select a new full-time Instructor for the department.
- 2019** **Graduate Student Mentor, “Yes, I Am” Student Club** (Oregon State University)
Duties: Graduate student mentor for undergraduate student club focused on self-efficacy, positivity, and mental health.
 Workshops taught: Stress and Coping Mechanisms (November, 2019).
- 2013** **English Teacher and Humanitarian Worker** (GoEnglish & IberoAmerican Ministries, Santiago, Chile)
Duties: Taught basic English to adolescents and adults for six months. Assisted with Casa Esperanza children’s refuge center (before and after school care for low-income children). Constructed housing for Pehuenche indigenous people of Southern Chile.