

DIANA ALKIRE

Curriculum Vitae

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University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

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EDUCATION

- August 2021 **PhD in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science**
University of Maryland, College Park, MD
Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth Redcay
Dissertation: “The Role of Theory of Mind in Social Interaction”
- May 2012 **BA in Psychology, minor in Philosophy**
University of Maryland, College Park, MD
summa cum laude

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021–Present **Postdoctoral Associate**
Developmental Social Cognitive Neuroscience Lab
University of Maryland, College Park
Principal Investigator: Dr. Elizabeth Redcay
- 2016–2021 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Developmental Social Cognitive Neuroscience Lab
University of Maryland, College Park
Principal Investigator: Dr. Elizabeth Redcay
- 2013–2016 **Research Specialist**
Center for the Study of Learning
Georgetown University Medical Center
Principal Investigator: Dr. Guinevere Eden
- 2011–2012 **Research Assistant**
Maryland Child and Family Development Lab
University of Maryland, College Park
Principal Investigator: Dr. Jude Cassidy
- 2010–2012 **Research Assistant**
Maryland Psychotherapy Clinic and Research Lab
University of Maryland, College Park
Principal Investigator: Dr. Clara Hill

AWARDS & HONORS

2021	Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship, UMD
2016–2021	Flagship Fellowship, UMD
2019	Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship, UMD
2018	Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant, UMD
2012	Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society
2011	Honors College Citation, UMD
2011–2012	Psi Chi Psychology Honors Society, UMD
2008–2012	National Merit Scholarship, UMD
2008–2012	Maryland Distinguished Scholar, UMD
2008–2009	Dean’s Scholarship, UMD

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Dziura, S., Merchant, J. S., **Alkire, D.**, Rashid, A., Shariq, D., Moraczewski, D., McNaughton, K., & Redcay, E. (in press). Effects of social and emotional context on neural activation and synchrony during movie viewing. *Human Brain Mapping*.

Alkire, D., Warnell, K. R., Kirby, L. A., Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. (2020). Explaining variance in social symptoms of children with autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 1–17. doi: 10.1007/s10803-020-04598-x

Alkire, D., Levitas, D., Warnell, K. R., & Redcay, E. (2018). Social interaction recruits mentalizing and reward systems in middle childhood. *Human Brain Mapping*, 39(10), 3928–3942. doi: 10.1002/hbm.24221

Under review:

McNaughton, K., Kirby, L. A., Warnell, K. R., **Alkire, D.**, Yarger, H., Merchant, J., Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. Neural sensitivity to social interaction predicts success of real-world peer interaction in children with typical development and autism spectrum disorder.

Merchant, J. S., **Alkire, D.**, Dziura, S., & Redcay, E. Neural similarity between mentalizing and live social interaction in middle childhood.

Xiao, Y., **Alkire, D.**, Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. Developmental changes in brain functional connectivity during social interaction in middle childhood.

Manuscripts in preparation:

Alkire, D., McNaughton, K., Regars, R., Shariq, D., Trostle, A., Yarger, H., & Redcay, E. Theory of mind in naturalistic conversations between autistic and typically

developing children and adolescents.

Book Chapters

Eden, G. F., Olulade, O. A., Evans, T. M., Krafnick, A. J., & **Alkire, D.** (2016). Developmental dyslexia. In G. Hickok and S. Small (Eds.), *Neurobiology of language*. Elsevier: Oxford, UK.

Eden, G. F., Olulade, O. A., Evans, T. M., Krafnick, A. J., & **Alkire, D.** (2015). Imaging studies of reading and reading disability. In A.W. Toga (Ed.), *Brain mapping: An encyclopedic reference*. Elsevier: Oxford, UK.

Other Publications

Alkire, D., & Redcay, E. (2019). Understanding other minds: What happens in our brains when we interact with people? *Frontiers for Young Minds*, 7(101).
doi: 10.3389/frym.2019.00101

Laboratory Manuals

Alkire, D., Regars, R., Trostle, A., & Redcay, E. (2020). *Coding manual for conversational theory of mind (cToM)*. Unpublished coding manual.

PRESENTATIONS

Campus Talks

Alkire, D. (2019, April). What is the role of theory of mind in social interaction? Invited talk at the annual Neuroscience and Cognitive Science Program (NACS) Research Day, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Symposia

McNaughton, K., **Alkire, D.**, Warnell, K. R., Kirby, L. A., Merchant, J., Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. (2021, April). Neural sensitivity to social interaction predicts success of real-world peer interaction. In A. Vallorani (Chair), *Timescales in the Study of Social Relationships: From Getting to Know You to Strengthening Bonds*. Symposium presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Virtual Biennial Meeting.

Poster Presentations * indicates undergraduate mentee

Alkire, D., Merchant, J., McNaughton, K., Yarger, H., & Redcay, E. (2021, September). Conversational theory of mind and social brain function in autistic and typically developing children and adolescents. Poster presented at the Flux Congress Annual Meeting (virtual).

Alkire, D., McNaughton, K., Regars, R., Shariq, D., Trostle, A., Yarger, H., & Redcay, E. (2021, April). Theory of mind in naturalistic conversations between autistic and typically developing children and adolescents. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Virtual Biennial Meeting.

Alkire, D., McNaughton, K., Yarger, H., & Redcay, E. (2020, May). The role of reciprocity in interaction success in naturalistic conversations of autistic and neurotypical peers. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting (virtual).

McNaughton, K., **Alkire, D.**, Kirby, L. A., Warnell, K. R., Yarger, H. A., Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. R. (2020, May). Neural correlates of social interaction enjoyment in children with typical development and autism spectrum disorder. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting (virtual).

Alkire, D., Xiao, Y., Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. (2019, August). Functional development of the social brain in middle childhood. Poster presented at the Flux Congress, New York, NY.

Alkire, D., Warnell, K. R., Kirby, L. A., Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. (2019, May). Explaining variance in social competence in school-aged children with autism spectrum disorder. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.

Xiao, Y., **Alkire, D.**, Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. (2019, May). Altered functional connectivity during social interaction in children with autism spectrum disorder. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.

Yarger, H. A., Kirby, L. A., Moraczewski, D., Warnell, K. R., McNaughton, K., Cechaviciute, A., **Alkire, D.**, & Redcay, E. (2019, May). Decreased ventral striatum activation during receipt of social response in children with ASD and co-occurring social anxiety symptoms. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.

Dziura, S., **Alkire, D.**, Merchant, J., Rashid, A., Shariq, D., Moraczewski, D., McNaughton, K., & Redcay, E. (2019, May). The effect of joint social interaction on affective movie viewing. Poster presented at the Social & Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, Miami, FL.

Merchant, J., **Alkire, D.**, Dziura, S., Rashid, A., Shariq, D., Moraczewski, D., & Redcay, E. (2019, May). Decoding joint attention to emotional videos using fMRI. Poster presented at the Social & Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, Miami, FL.

Xiao, Y., **Alkire, D.**, Moraczewski, D. & Redcay, E. (2019, March). Developmental changes in functional connectivity during social interaction in middle childhood. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

Alkire, D. & Redcay, E. (2018, August). Probing theory of mind in typical development and autism spectrum disorder using a socially interactive fMRI task. Poster presented at the Flux Congress, Berlin, Germany.

Xiao, Y., **Alkire, D.**, Moraczewski, D. & Redcay, E. (2018, June). Functional connectivity dynamics during social interaction in middle childhood. Poster presented at the Meeting of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Singapore.

*Rosenthal, T., **Alkire, D.**, Warnell, K. R., & Redcay, E. (2018, May). Social anxiety and mentalizing in middle childhood: Exploring brain–behavior correlations in a social-interactive context. Poster presented at the Social & Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting, Brooklyn, NY.

Alkire, D., Levitas, D., Warnell, K. R., & Redcay, E. (2017, November). Social interaction recruits mentalizing and reward systems in middle childhood. Poster presented at the Society for Social Neuroscience Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Alkire, D., Levitas, D., Warnell, K.R., & Redcay, E. (2017, September). Social interaction recruits mentalizing and reward systems in middle childhood. Poster presented at the Flux Congress, Portland, OR.

Turesky, T., **Alkire, D.**, Andriola, D., Lujete, M., & Eden, G. F. (2017, June). A comparison of true and pseudo resting-state functional connectivity data in children. Poster presented at the Meeting of the Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Vancouver, Canada.

TEACHING & MENTORING

Teaching & Fellowship Positions

2019–2021	Writing Fellow, Graduate School Writing Center, UMD
2020	Co-Instructor, Developmental Psychology, UMD
2020	Teaching Assistant, Developmental Psychology, UMD
2011	Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Psychology of Women, UMD

Guest Lectures

2019, 2020	“Social Neuroscience,” Topics in Neurosciences Seminar, UMD
2018, 2019	“Autism Spectrum Disorder,” Developmental Psychology, UMD
2011	“Benevolent Sexism,” Psychology of Women, UMD

Mentoring

2016–2021	Supervised and mentored over 20 undergraduate research assistants for the Developmental Social Cognitive Neuroscience Lab
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AD HOC REVIEWER

Cognition
Journal of Child Science
Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders
Neuropsychologia

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2016–2021	Cohort Representative, NACS Student Representative Committee, UMD
2019–2020	NACS Representative, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Council, UMD
2017–2019	Co-Chair, NACS Outreach Committee, UMD

ADVOCACY & OUTREACH

September 2020	Attendee, Rally for Medical Research (virtual)
March 2018, 2019	Volunteer, Brain Awareness Week, Silver Spring, MD
January 2018, 2019	Presenter, Adventure in Science, Rockville, MD
Spring 2011	Mentor, Philosophy Outreach Program, Kenmoor Middle School
2010–2011	Mentor, America Counts, Mount Rainier Elementary School

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

June 2021	Bayesian Statistical Modeling short course, UMD
December 2020	Analysis of Complex Survey Data short course, UMD
January 2019	Scientific Writing for Psychology course, UMD
January 2018	Structural Equation Modeling short course, UMD
February 2017	AFNI Bootcamp, NIH, Bethesda, MD
January 2017	R Programming for Behavioral Sciences Course, UMD

SKILLS

Research methods: functional magnetic resonance imaging, behavioral observation and coding

Statistical techniques: multiple regression, Bayes Factor model comparison, dominance analysis, factor analysis, multilevel modeling

Software: R programming, AFNI (Analysis of Functional NeuroImages), SPSS, PsychoPy, CLAN (Child Language Analysis)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Research in Child Development
 International Society for Autism Research
 Social & Affective Neuroscience Society
 Flux Society
 Society for Neuroscience