

Mandi Alexander, M.A.

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Ph.D. Student GTA/GRA

University of Kansas

Department of Psychology

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Education

University of Kansas:

Lawrence, KS (June 2011 – Present) Working toward a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology with a minor in Quantitative Methods

University of Nebraska at Omaha:

Omaha, NE (*Aug 2009 – Dec 2011*) M.S. in Developmental Psychology; Coursework in Regression, ANOVA/ANCOVA, Developmental Methods, Multilevel Modeling, Structural Equation Modeling, Behavioral Neuroscience, Developmental Psychology, and Socioemotional Psychology

San Francisco State University:

San Francisco, CA (*June 2008 – December 2008*) Coursework: “Human Sexuality” (physiology), “Sex, Power & Politics”, “Cross Cultural Aspects of Sex and Gender”

Foothill College:

Los Altos, CA (*September 2005 – June 2007*) Coursework in HTML/XHTML, XML, Java, JavaScript, PHP, PERL, Dreamweaver and Flash

Stanford University:

Stanford, CA (*Sept 2000 – June 2005*) BA in Studio Art. Coursework in Photography, Computer Science, Neuroscience, Spanish, Italian, Arabic, Humanities and Archaeology among others

Academic and Research Positions

Assistant Instructor:

University Kansas, Lawrence, KS (August 2013 – December 2013)

I served as an emergency instructor for *Social and Personality Development (Psyc 435)*. Starting with two weeks notice, I prepared a syllabus, lectures, assignments, and tests. I delivered lectures to 90 advanced undergraduate students twice a week, oversaw two teaching assistants, and received high reviews from the students at the end of the term.

Graduate Teaching Assistant:

University Kansas, Lawrence, KS (August 2011 – Present)

I currently assist with and teach a lab for the graduate-level regression course. In the past I have assisted with undergraduate courses including a personality and development course (70 students), an evolution course (cross-listed biology/psychology/archaeology; 30 students), and an entry-level developmental psychology course (350 students). The second time I assisted with the

350-student course I helped to orient a professor and six other TAs to novel management methods.

Graduate Research Assistant:

Center for Research Methods and Data Analysis, University Kansas, Lawrence, KS (June 2011 – August 2013)

Transitioned the CRMDA's website to a wiki content management system; adapted and managed a software system to track intern and consulting hours; created a system to partially automate invoicing; developed and consulted on matters of web/tech; designed and implemented Redcap plugins (php) and surveys; set up and managed a Paypal account for the CRMDA's conferences and camps;

Graduate Teaching Assistant:

University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE (August 2010 – May 2011)

Lectured for six sections of Introduction to Psychology during one semester and assisted with an undergraduate methods course in another semester;

Statistics Tutor, ANOVA/ANCOVA

Personal Tutor (April 2010 - May 2010)

Undergraduate Research Assistant Supervisor, Social Development Lab, UNO

University of Nebraska at Omaha (October 2009 - December 2009)

Trained and supervised undergraduates on data entry, literature searches, and the research process;

Web Developer:

Self Employed/Contract (June 2008 – August 2010)

I worked with companies to build or improve their web sites using HTML, CSS, PHP, MySQL and JavaScript; I have worked on pre-existing code bases and have also built sites from the ground up.

Teaching Assistant:

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA (August 2008 – December 2008)

Assisted with a large sexuality course taught from an integrated sciences perspective and a smaller sexuality course taught from a physiological perspective;

Web Developer:

Technorati Inc, San Francisco, CA (Sept 15, 2006 – Feb 29, 2008)

I updated and created code for Technorati's front end using HTML, CSS, JavaScript and PHP; restructured several of the outdated areas of the site, including the site's account/profile section and widgets pages; worked independently as well as on small teams;

Service

Student Representative to Faculty Meetings (Fall 2013 and Spring 2014)

SRCD Evolutionary, Peer, and Longitudinal Workshop Preconference Registrations

Assisted with the technical and administrative aspects of registration for three preconferences

“Useful tools for your research (Backups, resource libraries, and organizing your thoughts)” (Spring 2013)

Presented to a small group on useful free tools for academic work

Developmental Proseminar (Fall 2012 and Spring 2013)

Co-organized bimonthly meetings; developed themes for each semester; sought out speakers and assisted them for each meeting; presented on useful research tools

Neuroscience Workgroup (Fall 2012)

Helped to coordinate the beginnings of the KU Neuroimaging Data Analysis (NiDA) Workgroup; the workgroup provides a collaborative space for students and faculty to learn and practice working with fMRI data

Papers, Presentations, and Posters

Alexander, M. (2013). Past doing “It” and into the muddy waters: Structure and invariance of participation, interest, and willingness for sexual behaviors. Poster presented at the 2013 SSSS conference in San Diego, CA and the 2013 Midwest Social Development Consortium in Lincoln, NE.

Alexander, M. (2013). Resource control, dating self-presentation and dating preferences. Poster presented at the Midwest Social Development Consortium. Lincoln, NE.

Alexander, M., Santo, J. B., Da Cunha, J., Weber, L., & Russell, S. T. (2011). Effects of Homophobic versus Nonhomophobic Victimization on School Commitment and the Moderating Effect of Teacher Attitudes in Brazilian Public Schools. *Journal Of LGBT Youth*, 8(4), 289-308. doi:10.1080/19361653.2011.607317

Alexander, M. (2011). Perceived Parenting Styles and Young Adults' Sexual Attitudes (Master's Thesis) and poster presented at the 2011 SSSS conference.

Alexander, M., Casas, J.F., Bower, A.A., Giles-Woerner, H., LaVoie, J.C., & Jones, L.I. (2010). The relationship between relational, physical and electronic aggression and frequency of social technology use. Poster presented at the 2011 SRCD Biennial Meeting. Montreal, Quebec

Alexander, M. (2010). Transmission of sexual values from parents, siblings and peers. Poster presented at the Midwest Social Development Consortium. Columbia, MO.

Alexander, M. (2010). The relationship between parenting styles in childhood and sexual attitudes in young adulthood. Poster presented at the Deffenbacher Festival. Omaha, NE.

Grants

Sexual Medicine Society of North America Research Grant (Awarded April, 2014)

A \$5000 grant to conduct a diary study on the relationships between women’s ovulatory cycles and relationship dynamics.

Conferences and Workshops

“Engaging Ideas Working Group” (Spring 2014)

A five-week workshop on how to engage students through writing and well-thought-out assignments and rubrics; based on John Bean’s Engaging Ideas and hosted by the KU Center for Teaching Excellence

“Improving Student Learning: The Power (and Limits) of Evidence” (Spring 2013)

A workshop presented by Pat Hutchings and hosted by the KU Center for Teaching Excellence

Lecture Capture Lunch and Learn (Spring 2013)

A workshop on using Echo360 for multimedia classes

SafeZone Training (Spring 2012)

A workshop to discuss awareness of and myths around LGBT issues and how to provide support to LGBT individuals

fMRI Workshop (Summer 2012)

A weekend workshop on conducting fMRI research and processing fMRI data

3rd Annual Alternative Sexualities Conference: Cultural competencies, Clinical Issues, Research (2010)

Attended a one day conference with researchers, clinicians and community members; organized by CARAS – Community Academic Consortium for Research on Alternative Sexualities

Sexual Literacy and Social Justice: Making Your Research Matter (2008)

Attended a two day sexual literacy training conference organized by the National Sexuality Resource Center. San Francisco, CA.

Lab Membership

Sex Lab -- Led by Dr. Charlene Muehlenhard (Clinical Psychology and Women, Gender, and Sexuality)

Gillath Lab -- "Explorations in the foundations of attachment, sex, and caregiving in close relationships." Led by Dr. Omri Gillath (Social Psychology)

Professional Memberships:

Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)

The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS)

Midwest Social Development Consortium (MWSDC)

Community-Academic Consortium for Research on Alternative Sexualities (CARAS)

Research Interests

Context and development of sexual behavior preferences, Evolutionary theories and sexuality, Life history theory (especially as it pertains to social dominance and sexuality), Consensual dominance and submission in sexual relationships, Personality and sexuality, Sexuality across cultures