

# Laura River

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## EDUCATION

POMONA COLLEGE, Claremont, CA

May 2015

### **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (Religious Studies minor)**

GPA: 3.89; Psychology GPA: 3.96

*Relevant coursework:* Fieldwork in Clinical Psychology, Clinical Seminar in Relationships and Psychopathology, Seminar in Social and Emotional Development, Child Development, Abnormal Psychology, Research Design & Methodology, Advanced Statistics: Analysis of Variance and Regression, Narrative in Everyday Life, Memory and Language

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### **Pomona College Child Attachment, Relationships, and Emotion (CARE)**

Laboratory

Feb 2012 – present

- Study coordinator for Working Parenthood studies:
  - Assisted with study design and IRB proposal
  - Programmed questionnaires in Qualtrics
  - Designed a digital parenting stressor task
  - Recruited study participants
  - Managed a team of research assistants
  - Created original narrative coding systems to analyze working parents' experiences of guilt and working parents' narrative intimacy/ability to savor relational memories with partners and children
  - Analyzed questionnaire and narrative data
  - Assisted with preparing data for publication
- Research assistant for projects investigating links between parent-child relationships, romantic relationships, and emotion:
  - Parent-Child Anxiety study:
    - Conducted semi-structured interviews with children
    - Collected physiological data (cortisol; EEG; respiratory sinus arrhythmia; electrodes measuring galvanic skin response; Bio-Lab; E-Prime)
    - Assisted with design of coding system to assess parental support of children's autonomy, competence, and relatedness needs
  - Growing Families study:
    - Coded reflective functioning in parents' narratives about stressful experiences with their children
  - Partners Apart study:
    - Designed poster about effects of relational savoring intervention on partners in long distance relationships
  - Child Attachment Study:
    - Designed coding system to assess the role of narrative coherence in transmission of depression and anxiety from mothers to children
    - Assisted with development of coding system to analyze the influence of maternal conditional regard on children's emotion regulation

## **The University of Chicago Goldin-Meadow Laboratory May 2013 – June 2014**

- Research assistant for the Language Development Project
  - Helped develop and implement coding system for analysis of higher order thinking and decontextualized speech in spontaneous conversation between parents and children
  - Analyzed narrative data
  - Assisted in design of posters
  - Designed and implemented independent project proposal
  - Presented independent project at undergraduate research conference

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

Borelli, J.L., Nelson, S.K., **River, L.**, Smiley, P., Birken, S., & Moss-Racusin, C. (in preparation). *Guilt about Working in Parents of Young Children*.

### **PRESENTATIONS IN PREPARATION**

Gómez, A., Bond, D. K., Sichko, S., Girard, A., **River, L.**, DeMeules, M., Smiley, P., & Borelli, J.L. (2014, August.) *Predicting Children's Introjected Motivation: Links to Maternal Attachment Avoidance and Emotional Distance*. Poster accepted to 2015 Biennial Meeting of Society for Research in Child Development. Philadelphia, PA.

Sichko, S., Rasmussen, H., Borelli, J., Smiley, P., Gómez, A., Girard, A., & **River, L.** (2015, March.) *Children's perception of relationship closeness as a buffer against parental overcontrol and depression in middle childhood*. Poster accepted to 2015 Biennial Meeting of Society for Research in Child Development. Philadelphia, PA.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

**River, L.**, Rasmussen, H., Burkhart, M., Sbarra, D., & Borelli, J.L. (2014, May). *Relational Savoring in Long Distance Romantic Relationships*. Poster presented at 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of Association for Psychological Science. San Francisco, CA.

Rasmussen, H., **River, L.**, Vazquez, L., Reade, M., & Smiley, P. (2014, May.) *Parent Socialization of Shame Predicts Depressive Symptoms in Middle Childhood*. Poster presented at 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of Association for Psychological Science. San Francisco, CA.

**River, L.**, Freeman, C., Frausel, R., & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2013, November). *The Influence of Parent and Child Decontextualized Language on Higher-Order Thinking*. Paper presented at Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research, Whittier, CA.

Freeman, C., Goldin-Meadow, S., Richland, L., Levine, S., & **River, L.** (2013, August). *The Use of Gesture During Analogical Thinking*. Poster presented at Third International Conference on Analogy, Dijon, France.

### **SKILLS**

- Experienced with data analysis in Microsoft Excel, SPSS statistical software, and LIWC 2007 (Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count text analysis software)

## AWARDS

**Pomona College Research Grant Recipient** **Jun 2013, Jun 2014**

- Received \$8000 grant over the course of two years to conduct research

**Pomona College Scholar** **Dec 2011, May 2013, Dec 2013, May 2014**

- Academic distinction for placing in the top 25% of class year based on term GPA

**Pomona College Beinecke Scholarship Nominee** **Feb 2014**

- Pomona College's sole nominee for national scholarship supporting juniors planning to attend graduate school

## COUNSELING EXPERIENCE

**River Stones Residential Services Inc.** **Sept 2014 – Dec 2014**

- Volunteer designing, administering, and testing the impact of a mentalizing-based intervention for teenage male foster youth in a group therapy setting, under the supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist

**Tri-City Mental Health Center (Pomona, CA)** **Sept 2013 – Sept 2014**

- Volunteer providing individual and crisis intervention counseling to individuals through the Peer to Peer counseling program, under the supervision of Tri-City licensed therapists

**Pomona College Residence Halls Staff** **Aug 2012 – May 2014**

- Head Sponsor leading peer mentorship program for all first-year students at the college, providing academic, social and emotional support and guidance to first-years and sophomore residence hall Sponsors

**Jewish Community Center of Chicago** **June 2012 – Aug 2012**

- Summer day camp counselor for fourth- and fifth-graders

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Teaching Assistant for Introductory Psychology** **Jan 2014 – May 2014**

- Teaching assistant for Professor Jessica Borelli
  - Prepared study guides for midterms
  - Led mentor sessions for students
  - Assisted with midterm grading
  - Assisted in design, implementation, and data analysis for students' independent research projects

**The Children's School at Claremont McKenna College** **Sept 2012 – May 2013**

- Teaching assistant for preschool class

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY

**Pomona College Choir** **Sept 2011 – present**

**Pomona College Glee Club** **Jan 2012 – present**

**Solo harpist and soprano** **2003 – present**