

Sara Peck, Ph.D., BCBA-D

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EDUCATION

Utah State University, Logan, UT, United States

Doctor of Philosophy in Behavior Analysis – Summer, 2022

- Cumulative GPA: 4.0
- Honors: Walter R. Borg Scholarship

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, North Adams, MA, United States

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, Behavior Analysis Concentration – Spring, 2017

- Summa Cum Laude
- Cumulative GPA: 3.89
- Honors: Research Scholar Award, Dean's List, Psi Chi International Honor Society, Alpha Chi National Honor Society, Recipient of the 2017 Departmental Award, Recipient of the 2016 Samuel H. Clark Scholarship
- Activities: Founder and President of the Psychology Club, Vice President of the MCLA Chapter of Psi Chi International Honor Society

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Western New England University, Springfield, MA, United States

Assistant Professor of Psychology, *Fall, 2023-Present*

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), #1-21-55622 (2021)

AWARDED GRANTS

Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis (SABA)

- *Innovative Student Research Dissertation Grant (2021)* – Evaluating whether exposure to high-effort contingencies produces generalized effects of improved effort-based decision-making in children with ADHD
- *Innovative Student Research Thesis Grant (2018)* – Assessed the efficacy of exposure to high-effort contingencies as a method to reduce effort-based impulsive choice in rats

Psi Chi International Honors Society

- *Graduate Student Grant Award (2019)* – Tested effects of Episodic Future Thinking (EFT) on effort discounting

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Mahmoudi, S., Peck, S., & Madden, G. J. (2023). Effects of inter-trial interval on sign-tracking and conditioned reinforcer efficacy in female rats. *Behavioural Processes*, 210, 104911. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2023.104911>

- Peck, S., & Madden, G. J.** (2022). Effects of episodic future thinking on delay and effort discounting. *The Psychological Record*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40732-022-00516-y>
- Peck, S., Preston, E., Smith, K. B., & Madden, G. J.** (2022). Reducing impulsive choice: VIII. Effects of delay-exposure training in female rats. *Behavioural Processes*, 104622. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2022.104622>
- Aguilar, J., **Peck, S.**, Mattson, S. L., Reinert, K. S. Higbee, T. S., Lindgren, N., Osos, J. (2022). Caregiver-implemented digital activity schedules with virtual coaching. *Behavior Modification*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01454455221118341>
- Peck, S., & Madden, G. J.** (2021). Effects of effort training on effort-based impulsive choice. *Behavioural Processes*, 104441. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2021.104441>
- Renda, C. R., Rung, J. M., **Peck, S.**, & Madden, G. J. (2020). Reducing impulsive choice VII: effects of duration of delay-exposure training. *Animal Cognition*, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10071-020-01412-0>
- Mattson, S. L., Higbee, T. S., Aguilar, J., Nichols, B., Campbell, V. E., Nix, L. D., Reinert, K. S., **Peck, S.**, & Lewis, K. (2020). Creating and sharing digital instructional activities: A practical tutorial. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, Digital Materials Tutorial. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/9gwpj>
- Peck, S., Rung, J. M., Hinnenkamp, J. E., & Madden, G. J.** (2019). Reducing impulsive choice: VI. Delay-exposure training reduces aversion to delay-signaling stimuli. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/adb0000495>
- Rung, J. M., **Peck, S.**, Hinnenkamp, J. E., Preston, E., & Madden, G. J. (2019). Changing delay discounting and impulsive choice: Implications for addictions, prevention, and human health. *Perspectives on Behavior Science*, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40614-019-00200-7>
- Peck, S., & Byrne, T.** (2018). Free-operant discounting: Initial results from an adjusting-duration procedure. *Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/bar0000146>
- Manning, T., **Peck, S.**, & Byrne, T. (2018). Effects of naloxone and caffeine on responding under a progressive-duration schedule of food delivery. *The Psychological Record*, 68(1), 39-48. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40732-018-0265-4>
- Valois, M., **Peck, S.**, & Byrne, T. (2017). A comparison of resetting and nonresetting contingencies in progressive-duration schedules. *Behavioural Processes*, 142, 119-125. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2017.07.004>
- Peck, S., & Byrne, T.** (2016). Demand in rats responding under duration-based schedules of reinforcement. *Behavioural processes*, 128, 47-52. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2016.04.002>

PAPERS IN PREPARATION FOR PUBLICATION

- Peck, S., & Madden, G. J.** (*in preparation*). Effects of the delay confound in effort discounting and validation of a novel task.
- Peck, S., & Madden, G. J.** (*in preparation*). Effects of episodic effortful thinking on effort discounting and task persistence.
- Mahmoudi, S., **Peck, S.**, Smith, K., & Madden, G. J. (*in preparation*). Effects of real-time social-normative messages on a hypothetical vehicle idling task.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/POSTERS

- Peck, S. & Madden, G.** (2023). Assessing and improving effort-based decision-making. *Paper presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, Denver, CO.

- Preston, E., Pan, S. X., Joslyn, P. R., Najafichaghabouri, M. **Peck, S.** (2023). Episodic future thinking and its relationship to immersion in virtual reality environments. *Paper presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, Denver, CO.
- Peck, S.** & Madden, G. (2022). Effects of the delay confound in an effort discounting task. *Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior*, Boston, MA.
- Aguilar, J., **Peck, S.**, Mattson, S. L., Reinert, K. S., Higbee, T. S. (2022). Caregiver-implemented digital activity schedule with virtual coaching. *Paper presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, Boston, MA.
- Peck, S.** & Madden, G. (2021). Interventions to Reduce Discounting. *Paper presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, Virtual.
- Galizio, A., Higbee, T. S., **Peck, S.**, Becerra, L. A., Hinnenkamp, J. E., & Odum, A. (2020). Choice for variability in children with autism. *Paper presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, Virtual.
- Peck, S.**, Rung, J. M., Hinnenkamp, J. E., & Madden, G. J. (2019). Delay aversion as a potential mechanism of delay-exposure training. *Paper presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, Chicago, IL.
- Peck, S.** & Madden, G. (2019). The effect of high effort training on effort-based impulsive choice. *Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior*, Chicago, IL.
- Preston, E., Morrissey, K., Harper, N., **Peck, S.** & Madden, G. J. (2019). Delay Exposure Training: Procedures, Effects, & Potential Mechanisms. *Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior*, Chicago, IL.
- Peck, S.**, Harper, N., Swanson, K., Morrissey, K., & Madden, G. J. (2018). Reduction in delay aversion as a potential mechanism of delay exposure training. *Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior*, San Diego, CA.
- Griffith, K., **Peck, S.**, Pinkelman, S., & Madden, G. J. (2018). Teaching self-control: from basic findings to educational applications for children. *Paper presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, San Diego, CA.
- Gulotta, K., **Peck, S.**, & Byrne, T. (2017) Recent research in response duration. *Symposium presented at the annual conference of the Massachusetts Association for Behavior Analysis*, Marlborough, MA
- Byrne, T., Kelliher, H., Lemay, M., Manning, T., & **Peck, S.** (2016). A duration suite. *Poster presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International*, Chicago, IL.
- Johnston, B., **Peck, S.**, Byrne, T. (2016). The effects of caffeine in rats responding under a progressive-duration schedule of food delivery. *Poster presented at the annual convention of the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy*, Amherst, MA
- Peck, S.** & Cassimassima, M. (2016). Binge eating in rats with a progressive duration schedule. *Poster presented at the annual MCLA Undergraduate Research Conference*, North Adams, MA
- Peck, S.**, & Byrne, T. (2016). Delay discounting combined with effort: sweetened condensed milk self-administration in rats. *Poster presented at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research (NCUR)*, Asheville, NC
- Peck, S.**, & Byrne, T. (2016) Behavioral Momentum: Disrupting Sweetened Condensed Milk Self-Administration. *Poster presented at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research (NCUR)*, Asheville, NC

- Peck, S., Dewey, C., Law, E., Dwyer, J., & Benjamin, R. (2015).** Re-Examining Predictors of College Student Success: A Multivariate Approach. *Poster presented at the annual MCLA Undergraduate Research Conference, North Adams, MA*
- Peck, S., Kelliher, H., Lemay, M., Manning, T., Hoag, A., & Byrne, T. (2015).** Ethanol self-administration using a sweetened condensed milk vehicle. *Poster presented at the annual MCLA Undergraduate Research Conference, North Adams, MA*
- Peck, S., Kelliher, H., Lemay, M., Manning, T., Hoag, A., & Byrne, T. (2015).** Ethical and applied considerations in animal research. *Poster presented at the annual MCLA Undergraduate Research Conference, North Adams, MA*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Utah State University, Logan, UT, United States

Translational Research Collaboration, Fall 2018-Present

- Collaborating with Dr. P. Raymond Joslyn from USU SPED department
 - Assessing and altering effort-based decision-making in children with ADHD
- Collaborating with Dr. Thomas S. Higbee from USU SPED department
 - Assessing and altering effort-based impulsive choice in children with ASD
 - Testing digital activity schedules for children with ASD and telehealth coaching of caregivers
 - Developing and disseminating digital services for families and children with ASD
 - Conducted translational research on improving play variability in children with ASD
- Collaborating with Dr. Katherine R. Brown from USU PSY department
 - Evaluating caregiver decision-making with effortful outcomes and behavioral treatments

Graduate Research Assistant, Summer 2017-Summer, 2022

- Conducted NIH and NSF grant-funded research under Dr. Gregory J. Madden; Specific grants include: R21 DA042174-01; R03 DA044927-01; NSF-00196667
- Research areas include: Delay Discounting, Effort Discounting, Impulsive Choice, Delay-Exposure Training, Delay Aversion, Conditioned Reinforcement, Allomorphic Choice, Social Norm Messaging, Episodic Thinking Interventions, Delay Framing in Consumer Decision-Making

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, North Adams, MA, United States

Student Researcher, Summer 2016-Spring 2017

- Conducted operant conditioning research with Dr. Tom Byrne
- Conducted survey research on the Interrelationships among Impulsivity, Locus of Control, and Swearing with Dr. Timothy Jay

Student Researcher, Spring 2016

- Conducted research on Intermittent Exposure Behaviors and Binge Eating in Rats and Behavioral Economics
- Assisted Dr. Benjamin Wood by transcribing interviews for his research related to Mental Health Issues Disclosed in the Classroom

Research Assistant to Dr. Tom Byrne, Fall 2015

- Conducted experimental sessions with rats
- Oversaw students in Research in Behavior Analysis (PSYC 416) course
- Assisted with studies involving behavioral momentum and delay discounting
- Conducted research on ethanol self-administration in rats

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

New England Center for Children (NECC), Southborough, MA, United States

Program Specialist, Summer 2022-Summer 2023

- Supervises clinical services and staff, including education coordinators, level 2 teachers, and case managers
- Develops curriculum and behavioral programs
- Participates in NECC's applied research program
- Provides BCBA supervision to prospective clinicians
- Oversees all administrative personnel functions
- Delegates and supervises roles and cases

- Conducts ongoing evaluations of staff
- Responsible for student program development and implementation; Assures student clinical and educational programs are effective and modified in a timely manner
- Maintains familiarity with current research in best practice in behavior analysis
- Coordinates all communication with families and supports home training services; Conducts monthly meetings with families to review educational and clinical progress

Autism Support Services: Education, Research, and Training (ASSERT), Logan, UT, United States

ASSERT Case Manager, Summer 2019-Summer 2021

- Developed, implemented, and oversaw behavioral interventions
- Revised ASSERT program skill acquisition curriculum
- Evaluated early skill level (e.g., conducted ELM, VB-MAPP)
- Developed and disseminated virtual ASSERT program curriculum
- Taught use of assistive technology to promote communication
- Trained and evaluated general and lead staff
- Held staff team meetings with general and lead staff
- Participated in IEP meetings
- Conducted parent trainings and home visits
- Gained BCBA certification hours and professional supervision

ASSERT Lead Preschool Instructor, Spring 2019-Summer 2019

- Programmed skill acquisition curriculum
- Developed behavioral intervention
- Input behavioral data and developed graphs
- Taught functional skills to children with developmental disabilities
- Gained BCBA certification hours and professional supervision

ASSERT Preschool Instructor, Summer 2018-Fall 2018

- Taught functional skills to children with developmental disabilities
- Gained BCBA certification hours and professional supervision

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Western New England University, Springfield, MA, United States

Assistant Professor

- PSY 509 – Ethics & Professional Issues in Applied Behavior Analysis (Fall, 2023)

Tufts University, Medford, MA, United States

Lecturer

- PSY 32 – Experimental Psychology/Research Methods with lab (Fall, 2022; Spring, 2023)

Utah State University, Logan, UT, United States

Instructor of Record

- PSY1400 – Introduction to Behavior Analysis (Summer, 2020; Spring, 2022)

Course Supervisor

- PSY4950 – Undergraduate Apprenticeship (Fall, 2017-Summer, 2022)
- PSY5910 – Undergraduate Independent Research (Fall, 2017-Summer, 2022)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- PSY1410 – Introduction to Behavior Analysis Lab (Fall, 2018)

SUPPLEMENTAL SKILLS

- Clinical Assessment
 - Early Learning Measure (ELM)
 - Early Echoic Skills Assessment (EESA)
 - Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (VB-MAPP)
 - Functional Analysis
 - Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales
- Behavioral Intervention Application and Development for Children with Disabilities
- Remote Behavioral Services and Training
- Certified BCBA Supervisor (APF-1663716398-30555-291404)
- Autism Curriculum Encyclopedia (ACE)
- Statistical Analysis
- R Studio/R Markdown
- MED Associates Operant Chambers/ MED-PC IV Software and Programming
- Visual Basic Excel Programming
- Rat Care
- GraphPad Prism
- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher)
- APA Formatting
- First Aid and EpiPen Trained