

ANGELICA DEFALCO, M.S.

SHE/HER/HERS

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Psychology Anticipated May 2029
Colorado State University (CSU)

M.S., Psychology August 2025
CSU

*Thesis: Tell Me Why: An Ecological Momentary
Assessment Study of Unknown Substance Use Motives*

B.S., Psychology May 2021
University of Miami (UM)
Cum Laude
Minors in Art and Chemistry

CLINICAL TRAINING

Practicum II Student, Psychological Services Center, CSU May 2025 – Present
Supervisors: Dr. Noah Emery, Dr. Michael Brinker

- Providing individual (CBT, CBT-i, ACT, CPT) therapy to individuals in the greater Fort Collins community experiencing a variety of mental health struggles and psychopathology
- Performing intake interviews, including psychodiagnostic interviews (SCID-5, DIAMOND)
- Conducting cognitive (WISC-V, WAIS-V) and psychoeducational (WJ-V) assessment
- Writing integrative reports

Practicum I Student, Psychological Services Center, CSU July 2024 – May 2025
Supervisors: Dr. Noah Emery, Dr. Crystal Pierce

- Provided individual (CBT, CBT-i, ACT, CPT) therapy to individuals in the greater Fort Collins community experiencing a variety of mental health struggles and psychopathology
- Performed intake interviews, including psychodiagnostic interviews (SCID-5, DIAMOND)
- Co-facilitated a Mindfulness-Based Relapse Prevention Rolling Admission (MBRP-RA) group therapy for individuals seeking support with their substance use

PUBLICATIONS

Emery, N.N., Carlon, H.A., Walters, K.J., Mei, S., Sung, A., **DeFalco, A.**, Baumgardner, S., Mataczynski, M.J., & Prince, M.A. (2025). Examining the moment-to-moment association between drinking and problems: The moderating role of emotional functioning. *Alcohol: Clinical & Experimental Research*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/acer.70035>

Bland, A.R., Bradford, D.E., **DeFalco, A.**, Dicks, G., Bertaina-Anglade, V., L'hostis, P., Guillo, A., Pourtois, G., Wang, N., Hajcak, G., Foti, D., Mushtaq, F., & Pavlov, Y.G. (2024). Revisiting Defensive Motivation and the Error-Related Negativity: A Multi-Site Replication Study. *Cortex*.

Whittaker, F., **DeFalco A.**, Sanders, S., Perkins, E.R., Joyner, K.M., & Bradford, D.E. (2024). Racial biases in skin conductance response-based polygraphs and their legal implications. *Nature Human Behavior*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-02025-0>

Oldham, J.R., **DeFalco, A.**, Willwerth, S., Nagle, S., Whittaker F., Mannix, R., Meehan, W.P., & Bradford, D.E. (2024). Research Letter: Concussion-Related Suppression of General Startle Reactivity in Adolescent Athletes. *Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation*. <https://doi.org/10.1097/htr.0000000000000979>

Bradford, D. E., Dev, A. S., **DeFalco, A.**, Whittaker, F., & Timpano, K. A. (2023). Increasing ecological validity in neuropsychopharmacology research on the relationship between alcohol use and uncertain stressors. *Neuropsychopharmacology*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41386-023-01672-7>

Bradford, D.E.*, **DeFalco, A.***, Perkins, E.R., Carvajal, I., Kwasa, J., Goodman, F.R., Jackson, F., Richardson, L.N.S., Woodley, N., Neuberger, L., Sandoval, J.A., Huang, H.J., & Joyner, K.J. (2022). Whose signals are being amplified? Towards a more equitable clinical psychophysiology. *Clinical Psychological Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/21677026221112117>

*These authors contributed equally

PRESENTATIONS

DeFalco, A., & Emery, N.N. (2025, November). *Habitual and Reflexive Use: Examining the Phenomenology of Unknown Substance Use Motive Endorsement*. Poster submitted to the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Addiction, Newcastle upon Tyne, England, UK.

Richardson, C., **DeFalco, A.**, & Emery, N.N. (2025, August). *Being Outdoors is Linked to Craving Reduction among Young Adults with Cannabis Use Disorder*. Poster to be presented at the American Psychological Association 2025 Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

DeFalco, A., & Emery, N.N. (2025, April). Tell me why: An ecological momentary assessment study of unknown substance use motives. In K. Joyner (Chair) *Matching Theory to Data: Leveraging Longitudinal Designs to Explicitly Test Core Theories of Addiction*. Symposium presented at the 11th annual meeting of the Collaborative Perspectives on Addiction, Providence, RI.

Whittaker, F., Respini, S. E., Watkins, G. M., Gilmore, E. M., **DeFalco, A.**, Peavey, N., Tepe, L. R., Rifkin, E. J., Perez, M., & Bradford, D. E. (2024, August). *Lost in the Shadows: a Novel Dark-Enhanced Startle Task*. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association 2024 Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.

DeFalco, A., Richardson, C., Mataczynski, M. J., Mei, S., Baumgardner, S., Emery, N. N. (2024, April). Ecological momentary assessment of savoring, cannabis use, and problems in young adults with CUD. Poster presented at the 10th annual meeting of the Collaborative Perspectives on Addiction, Denver, CO.

Richardson, C., **DeFalco, A.**, Mei, S., Baumgardner, S., Mataczynski, M. J., Emery, N. N. (2024, April). Non-use on planned drinking days in young-adults with AUD: Role of craving and emotion dysregulation. Poster presented at the 10th annual meeting of the Collaborative Perspectives on Addiction, Denver, CO.

Mei, S., Winters, A., Baumgardner, S., Sung, A., Mataczynski, M. J., **DeFalco, A.**, Richardson, C., Emery, N. N. (2024, April). Ecological Momentary Assessment of Drinking and Thoughts of Death Among College Student. Poster presented at the 10th annual meeting of the Collaborative Perspectives on Addiction, Denver, CO.

DeFalco, A., Whittaker, F., Dooley, C., Curtin, J.J., Bradford, D.E. (2023, October). Risky business: alcohol increases the subjective value of uncertain rewards. Poster presented at the 24th annual International Center for Responsible Gambling and Addiction Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

DeFalco, A., Whittaker, F., Dooley, C., Curtin, J.J., Bradford, D.E. (2023, September). Spirited away: alcohol may dull error monitoring and encourage risky choices. Poster presented at the 63rd annual Society for Psychophysiological Research, New Orleans, LA.

Whittaker, F., **DeFalco, A.**, Tognoli, M.I., Gilmore, E., & Bradford, D.E. (2023, September). A refined dark enhanced startle task. Poster presented at the 63rd annual Society for Psychophysiological Research, New Orleans, LA.

Oldham, J.R., Bradford, D.E., **DeFalco A.**, Willwerth, S.B., Mannix, R.M, Meehan III, W.P. (2023, February). Acoustic Startle Response Suppression in Adolescent Athletes Following Concussion. Poster presented at the 10th Annual Pediatric Research in Sports Medicine (PRiSM) Meeting.

DeFalco, A., Beaman, L., Cutler, J.T., Doran, N., Tognoli, M.I., Perkins, E.R., Joyner, K.J., Bradford, D.E. (2022, September). The dearth of sample demographic description and representativeness in clinical psychophysiological research. Poster presented at the 62nd annual meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Bradford, D.E., Willwerth, S.B., **DeFalco, A.**, Mannix, R.M., Meehan III, W.P., Oldham, J.R. (2022, September). Attenuated general startle reactivity in adolescent athletes with a concussion history. Poster presented at the 62nd annual meeting of the Society for Psychophysiological Research. Vancouver, BC, Canada.

DeFalco, A., Karlovich, A., Pino, A., Ehrenreich-May, J. (2021). The impact of parental beliefs about anxiety on youth avoidance. Presented at the 2021 Research, Creativity, and Innovation Forum (RCIF), Virtual.

DeFalco, A., Karlovich, A., Tonarely, N., Ehrenreich-May, J. (2020). Assessing the role of mindfulness in protecting against maladaptive COVID-19 fears and behaviors. Presented at the 2021 Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) Conference, Virtual.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, Advancing Research on Change August 2023 – Present
(ARC) Laboratory

Department of Psychology

CSU, Fort Collins, CO

PI: Dr. Noah Emery

- Recruiting participants for Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA) protocol
- Interfacing with participants, administer intake questionnaires and collect informed consent for enrollment in the study
- Administering Diagnostic Interview for Anxiety, Mood, and OCD and Related Neuropsychiatric Disorders (DIAMOND) for enrollment in a mindfulness-based relapse prevention (MBRP), rolling admission therapy group
- Creating and managing participant profiles on mEMA Sense
- Managing participant data

Lab Manager, Biology and Emotion of Addiction September 2021 – August 2023
Via Experimental and Reproducible Science (BEAVERS) Laboratory

School of Psychological Science

Oregon State University (OSU), Corvallis, OR

PI: Dr. Daniel Bradford

- Constructed new psychophysiology laboratory (e.g., procurement and set up of Brain Products actiCHamp plus EEG-amplifiers system and related equipment)
- Assisted in laboratory organization and administration (e.g., purchasing, scheduling, IRB development, coordination of projects, expensing)
- Developed of laboratory procedure and culture manual(s)
- Collected pilot data for new research protocols
- Laboratory website, logo and recruitment material development and publishing
- Lead team of undergraduate research assistants (e.g., scheduling lab meetings, setting agenda items, delegating tasks, etc.)
- Assisted in grant writing and funding procurement
- Programmed and executed computer scripts used for stimulus and experiment presentation, electrophysiological data collection, processing, and analysis
- Aided in course structure and designing course materials
- Trained undergraduate assistant researchers and graduate students in use of psychophysiology equipment and procedure

Assistant Researcher, Bradford Reproducibility, Affect and Drugs (BRAD) Laboratory

July 2020 – August 2021

Department of Psychology

UM, Coral Gables, FL

PI: Dr. Daniel Bradford

- Constructed new psychophysiology laboratory (e.g., procurement and set up of Brain Products actiCHamp plus EEG-amplifiers system and related equipment)
- Assisted in laboratory organization and administration (e.g., purchasing, scheduling, IRB development, coordination of projects)

Honors Thesis, Evolution and Human Behavior Laboratory

January 2020 – May 2021

Department of Psychology

UM, Coral Gables, FL

PI: Dr. Debra Lieberman

- Completed honors thesis project on the effect of food attitude similarity on liking and altruistic motivations
- Designed custom Qualtrics survey for data collection
- Collected, processed and analyzed data using SPSS

Research Assistant, Child and Adolescent Mood and Anxiety Treatment (CAMAT) Program

July 2019 – May 2021

Department of Psychology: Child Division

UM, Coral Gables, FL

PI: Dr. Jill Ehrenreich-May

- Prepared clinician materials for assessment of children and adolescents with possible mood disorders or other emotional difficulties
- Administered computerized behavioral stress tasks to participants at intake assessments and follow up appointments
- Maintained organization of audited and filed clinician paperwork
- Transferred data from Qualtrics and Excel spreadsheets into SPSS databases
- Tracked and communicated via email and phone with study participants through different timepoints
- Consented and screened participants for initial study participation

Research Assistant, School Readiness Program

December 2018 – June 2019

Department of Psychology: Child Division

UM, Coral Gables, FL

Supervisor: Patty Jaramillo

- Worked across Miami-Dade County low-income elementary schools with bilingual (English and Spanish-speaking) students to assess their math and science ability
- Administered assessments and questionnaires to students
- Coded participant responses and maintained response databases

TEACHING AND MENTORSHIP

Volunteer Mentorship

April 2024 – Present

Mentee: William Selby (University of Miami)

Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA), CSU

January 2024 – May 2024

Psychology (PSY) 100: Introduction to Psychology

Mentor, Mentoring Undergraduates

September 2023 – Present

to Graduate School Success (MUGSS), CSU

Mentees: Nadia Coke, Messiah Morning

Writing Graduate Teaching Assistant (WGTA), CSU

August 2023 – May 2024

Psychology (PSY) 100: Introduction to Psychology

Guest lecturer, Psychology of Addiction, OSU

May 2022, June 2023

Psychedelics: Current Research and Therapeutic Possibilities and Limitations

Program coordinator

March 2023 – June 2023

American Psychological Association (APA)/

March 2022 – July 2022

American Psychological Foundation (APF)/

OSU Workshop for High School Psychology Teachers

Teaching assistant, OSU
PSY330: Brain and Behavior

January 2023 – March 2023

Workshop Leader, Biology (BIL) 150, UM

August 2018 – December 2018

FUNDING

Society of Addiction Psychology Student Research Grant (Under Review)	2025 – 2028
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Role: Student Researcher

Direct costs: \$1,000

“Understanding the Unknown: A Mixed Methods Study of Unknown Substance Use Motive Endorsement”

Oregon Council on Problem Gambling (Funded)

2022 – 2023

Role: Co-Investigator

Direct costs: \$20,000

“Processing, Analysis, Writing, and Dissemination of data from a study on the effects of alcohol on decision making and neurophysiological responses in an experimental gambling task.”

CO-REVIEWING

Brain and Behavior, Clinical Psychological Science, Journal of Abnormal Psychology, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance, Psychophysiology

RELEVANT TRAININGS

Virtual ERP Bootcamp	2021
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Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Certification	2020
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PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Psi Chi, The International Honor Society in Psychology	January 2019 – May 2021
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Counseling Outreach Peer Education (COPE)	August 2018 – May 2021
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Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA) Fraternity	January 2018 – May 2019
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LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Graduate Student Assistant (GSA), CSU <i>Director of Training Assistant</i>	August 2024 – Present
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Counseling Department Student Association (CDSA), CSU Events Coordinator	January 2024 – May 2024
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COPE Outreach Programming Chair	December 2020 – May 2021
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COPE Membership Chair
ZTA Sisterhood Chair

June 2019 – May 2020
June 2020 – May 2021
January 2019 – May 2019

HONORS AND AWARDS

President's Honor Roll	2021
Ellen R. Eber Psychology Scholarship Award Nominee	2021
Vice President's Service Award Nominee	2021
Provost's Honor Roll	2018, 2021
Dean's List	2017 – 2019, 2021

LANGUAGES

English: Native Language
Italian: Advanced Listener, Advanced Speaker, Advanced Reading and Writing
Portuguese: Advanced Listener, Advanced Speaker, Intermediate Reading and Writing
Spanish: Novice Listener, Novice Speaker, Novice Reading and Writing

SKILLS

Proficient: Asana Task Manager, Canva, Microsoft Office: Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, and Word, R, RStudio, Qualtrics, Zotero
Intermediate: Adobe Acrobat, GitHub, MATLAB, Netlify, Neurobehavioral Systems Presentation, Stata, SPSS
Working knowledge: Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, LaTeX, Mplus, REDCap

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Noah N. Emery, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, CSU

Crystal Pierce, Ph.D.

Clinical Supervisor, Psychological Services Center, CSU

Daniel E. Bradford, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, OSU