

# MARLENE ANGELA GARZA, PSYD

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## **EDUCATION**

### **Pepperdine University – Malibu, CA**

**2018**

Doctor of Psychology, Clinical Psychology

GPA: 3.7

***Dissertation:** Reclaiming Empowerment, Agency, and Collective Healing (REACH) for Youth: An Adaptation of Emotional Emancipation Circles for Adolescent Males of African Ancestry*  
*Dissertation Chair: Daryl Rowe, PhD*

#### **Honors and Awards**

Psi Chi National Honor Society-Pepperdine University, 2016-2018

Marco A. Garcia Memorial Fellowship-Pepperdine University, 2016, 2017

Colleagues Grant-Pepperdine University, 2015-2017

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Fellowship-Pepperdine University, 2014-2015

### **University of San Francisco - San Francisco, CA**

**2006**

Master of Arts-Counseling Psychology

Credential - Pupil Personnel Services, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

### **University of California, Los Angeles - Los Angeles, CA**

**2002**

Bachelor of Arts--Political Science, Minors in Latin American Studies and Chicana/Chicano Studies

#### **Honors and Awards**

Chancellors Service Award-University of California, Los Angeles, 2012

UCLA Latino Alumni Association Scholarship Recipient, 2001-2002

### **West Los Angeles College - Culver City, CA**

**2013**

Certificate - Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counseling

California Association of Alcohol and Drug Educators

### **UCLA Extension - Los Angeles, CA**

**2013**

Certificate - College Counseling

### **Universidad Complutense de Madrid-Spain**

**2002**

Certificate-Advanced Spanish Grammar and Culture

## **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

*Specializations:* Neuropsychological evaluations, presurgical evaluations, psychological assessments, Spanish speaking mental health treatment, Liberation Psychology and working with individuals struggling with addictions, overcoming posttraumatic stress and racial trauma, exploring identity development and liberation for queer individuals.

Certified by the county of Los Angeles to provide service in Spanish, provide individual psychotherapy, psychodiagnostic evaluations and neuropsychological assessments in Spanish, performed intake evaluations in Spanish for inpatient and outpatient medical setting, translate research interviews from Spanish to English, developed treatment plan using psychological modalities from countries of patient's origin, provided treatment recommendations for Spanish speaking families in hospital setting.

### **Owner, Principle Psychologist**

**2011-Present**

#### **Guidance by Garza, LLC**

Founder of private practice holistic psychological services that aim to privilege cultural and linguistic contexts in academic advising, consulting, individual psychotherapy, and neuropsychological and psychological assessment. Work with families to identify best strategies to help adolescents excel in high school and plan/prepare for higher education through individual and family sessions to highlight the scholar's strengths. Also develop comprehensive recommendations to employers for individuals with different workplace needs.

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## Consulting Testing Psychologist

March 2022-Present

### ***Innovation Behavioral Health Solutions, LLC-Las Vegas, NV***

Conduct telehealth neuropsychological and psychoeducational evaluations for the lifespan to determine diagnosis of learning disabilities, neurological disorders, and developmental disabilities. Write integrative neuropsychological and psychodiagnostics reports and provide recommendations for school and home learning environments, managing psychiatric problems, and identifying strengths of the individual.

## Neuropsychologist

June 2019-2024

### ***Nexus Clinical Solutions/Neuropsychological Consultants, Inc.***

Conduct comprehensive neuropsychological services for independent medical examinations in Spanish, collaborate on battery selection for Spanish speaking patients referred by legal teams throughout the United States. Conduct brief neuropsychological assessments via telehealth for patients across California, write reports and develop appropriate cognitive rehabilitation treatment plan for patients. Provide brief cognitive behavioral therapy for select Spanish speaking patients with emphasis on cognitive rehabilitation and improved socio-emotional functioning post-traumatic brain injury.

## Licensed Clinical Psychologist

December 2020-May 2022

### ***Student Psychological Services, California State University, Dominguez Hills***

Provide culturally congruent short-term individual telehealth psychotherapy to a diverse clientele of first-generation university students. Conducted intake assessments and created treatment plans to assist with the individual needs of each individual undergraduate or graduate student at the most diverse California public university.

## Neuropsychologist

February 2018-March 2022

### ***Dr. Laury Paul, PhD***

Conduct neuropsychological and psychoeducational evaluations for children to young adults, evaluating individuals for learning disabilities, neurological disorders, and developmental disabilities. Write integrative neuropsychological and psychodiagnostics reports and provide recommendations for school and home learning environments, managing psychiatric problems, and identifying strengths of the individual.

## Behavioral Medicine Postdoctoral Fellow

September 2018- August 2019

### ***Harbor UCLA Medical Center***

**Clinical Training Director:** Astrid Reina, Ph.D.

- APA Accredited, 2000-hour postdoctoral fellow
- Advanced training and professional development specializing in the provision of services in the public sector and poverty medicine setting in several clinics across the hospital:
  - Provide outpatient psychotherapy at the Gardena High School Medical Clinic (GHS; Adolescent Medicine)
  - Behavioral Medicine Consult Clinic: consult and provide short-term treatment to patients referred from various medical departments and clinics at HUMC.
  - Provide weekly consultation services to the Department of Pediatrics focused on reducing diabetes and overweight and obesity disparities in pediatric populations
- Participation in supervision of clinical cases, administrative issues, professional development, and supervision of externs
- Teaching Behavioral Medicine Foundations to Department of Mental Health psychologists; teaching appropriate psychological and health behavior change theories, models, applications, topics, etc., to medical staff.

## Neuropsychological/Rehabilitation Doctoral Intern

### ***Mount Sinai Medical Center-Department of Rehabilitation Medicine***

September 2017- 2018

**Clinical Training Director:** Sabrina Breed, PhD

*Inpatient Supervisors: Christina Parfene, Psy.D. & Angela Riccobono, Ph.D.*

*Outpatient Supervisors: Angeles Cheung, Ph.D, ABPP-CN & Svetlana Serova, Ph.D., ABPP-RP*

- APA Accredited, 2000-hour internship
- Concurrent rotations on outpatient and inpatient (Brain Injury Unit and Spinal Cord Injury Unit)
- Conduct and score brief and comprehensive neuropsychological and psychodiagnostic assessments on

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populations with a wide array of medical and neurological diagnosis, conduct medical chart reviews, and write integrative neuropsychological and psychodiagnostic reports

- Provide individual neuropsychological and psychological interventions (i.e. cognitive remediation, psychotherapy, psychoeducation, behavioral counseling, advocacy counseling).
- Interdisciplinary team consultation including participation in patient evaluations, and conferences
- Participate in didactics specific to neuroanatomy (monthly series), neuropsychology (i.e. fact finding protocol for board certification in neuropsychology), and rehabilitation psychology.
- Attend monthly grand rounds with several different departments in the school of medicine.
- Attend weekly individual and group supervision led by psychologists and bi-weekly group supervisions led by board certified neuropsychologists and rehabilitation psychologists in the New York City area

### **Neuropsychology Testing Clerk**

**Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center**

**September 2016- 2017**

**Licensed Neuropsychology Supervisor:** Nora Jimenez, Ph.D.

Assessment Clerkship Training Program: Neuropsychological outpatient assessments conducted in Spanish and English for patients referred by physicians from medical departments. Patient diagnoses include various neurological disorders, general medical disorders, and psychiatric disorders. Referrals for assessments include screening of dementia or assessment of capacity and evaluation of epilepsy temporal lobectomy surgical candidates for baseline assessment pre-surgery and follow up assessment one-year post-surgery. Provide assessment to Spanish speaking patients, observed Wada testing for epilepsy surgical candidates.

### **Neuropsychology Extern**

**Sports Concussion Institute**

**September 2016- 2017**

**Licensed Neuropsychology Supervisor:** Tony Strickland, PhD

Provide comprehensive concussion care for athletes of all ages playing high velocity sports, including baseline testing, cognitive rehabilitation, concussion management, neuropsychological evaluation, neurosurgical consultation, psychotherapy, pain management, and psychiatric consultation. Patient population includes military service men and women, persons suffering with substance use addictions, and patients suffering with post-concussion syndrome.

### **Psychology Extern (two rotations)**

**Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center**

**September 2015-August 2016**

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Virginia Chavarria, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

Outpatient Adult Brain Injury Rehabilitation Clinic: Conduct initial weekly psychodiagnostic evaluations for mood, cognition, and neurobehavioral functioning on patients rehabilitating from major neurocognitive disorders, facilitate a weekly Cognitive Behavioral Therapy psychotherapy group with outpatients in acquired brain injury-day rehabilitation program to discuss topics such as relationships, substance use and social functioning after brain injury, participate in family conferences with multidisciplinary treatment team, provide consultation to other rehabilitation therapy disciplines, conduct comprehensive Spanish neuropsychological assessments for outpatients to determine level of cognitive functioning for evaluations to include eligibility to obtain driver's license after brain injury, assess patient's effects of myelinating disorders.

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Jason Smith, Ph.D., ABPP-RP

Epilepsy Service & Acute Stroke Service, Spanish Adult Brain Injury: Administer weekly inpatient comprehensive psychodiagnostic evaluations in Spanish for patients on the Epilepsy Monitoring unit, and participate in team determination of patient surgical candidacy, provide brief psychotherapy and behavioral interventions to inpatients and outpatients and provide patient psychological recommendations to interdisciplinary treatment team, participate in weekly didactic seminars on medical conditions requiring rehabilitation, complete 2-3 psychodiagnostic reports weekly, including cognitive assessments and follow-up evaluations with daily direct clinical supervision.

### **Psychotherapy Intern**

**Pepperdine Community Counseling Clinic**

**2015-2017**

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Aaron Aviera, Ph.D.

Provide long term psychotherapy for a diverse population of race, gender, and age, in English and Spanish, maintain progress notes and complete intake forms for all clients to ensure proper documentation of session content and interventions, engage in weekly group supervision.

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### **Psychotherapy Intern**

**Union Rescue Mission-Pepperdine Counseling Clinic**

**2014-2017**

**Licensed Clinical Psychology Supervisor:** Aaron Aviera, Ph.D.

Provide psychological services to men in Spanish and English in a residential treatment facility at the Union Rescue Mission, a homeless shelter serving ethnically diverse men who are in alcohol/drug rehabilitation program, who suffer from co-occurring disorders and chronic mental illness including psychotic disorders, personality disorders, and mood disorders; maintain progress notes and complete intake forms for all clients to ensure proper documentation of session content and interventions, participated in ongoing skill development through didactic seminars pertaining to relevant factors within multicultural clientele, engage in weekly individual and group supervision.

### **Substance Abuse Counseling Intern**

**Asian American Drug Abuse Program**

**September 2012-May 2013**

**Supervisor:** Patricia Abrantes, MSW

Worked with adolescents ranging from 14-18 years old struggling with substance abuse problems in an inpatient facility, assisted team with a broad spectrum of clinical and agency services, co-facilitated small CBT groups on topics ranging from substance abuse triggers, rehabilitation, to educational planning, health and hygiene, co-facilitated and interpreted family counseling sessions and parent education group meetings in Spanish

### **Substance Abuse Counseling Intern**

**Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services**

**January 2012-May 2012**

**Supervisor:** Natasha McCool, LMFT

Worked with adolescents ranging from 14-18 years old struggling through substance abuse problems in an outpatient setting, assist facility with a broad spectrum of clinical and agency services, including 8 core conditions as outlined in TAP 21 (Screening and Assessment, Treatment Planning, Referral, Service Coordination, Counseling, Client Education, Documentation, Professional and Ethical Responsibilities), co-facilitated small CBT groups on topics ranging from substance abuse triggers and rehabilitation, facilitated weekly parent education groups in Spanish

## **SUPERVISION AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Adjunct Faculty-Psychology and Addiction Studies**

**Los Angeles Community College District-West Los Angeles College**

**2019-Present**

Teach undergraduate college-level classes during the academic school year. Teach Group Counseling Skills, Introduction of Psychology, Law and Ethics for Addiction Professionals, Life Span Psychology, Psychology of Human Sexuality, Intro to Social Work, Counseling Skills for the Addictions Professional, and Pharmacology for the Addictions Professional. Developed online supplemental information for students in all classes. Distance Education and Canvas Teaching certified.

### **Part-Time Faculty-Psychology Department**

**American Jewish University-Los Angeles**

**2019-2020**

Teach undergraduate college-level classes during the academic school year. Developed new courses for the undergraduate program including curriculum development and selecting relevant textbook and supplemental readings for Substance Use and Addictions and Human Sexuality.

### **Peer Supervisor- Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program**

**Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology**

**2016-2017**

Mentor and supervise two first year and one second year doctoral students in Pepperdine's GSEP Clinical Psychology program. Coordinate weekly meetings with students, provide feedback on psychological intake evaluations, provide feedback on writing, diagnosing clients, and developing treatment plans for clients. Participate in weekly case conferences and group supervision, participate in clinical outreach and network opportunities, networking activities, and clinical development projects

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### **Project Match Intern, Los Angeles Community College District**

#### **West Los Angeles College**

**June-December 2016**

Mentorship training program that recruits and prepares a diverse community college faculty to educate the most diverse and largest community college district in the U.S. Mentored by Psychology course advisor and Alcohol and Drug Studies Director. Guest lectures in Introduction to Psychology and Fieldwork/Practicum for Alcohol and Drug Studies certificate program. Supervised by Dr. Carrie Canales.

### **Secondary School Counselor Intern Supervisor**

**2008-2015**

#### **Los Angeles Unified School District**

Work with 1-3 Masters' level students each semester, teaching counseling skills, relevant computer programs for school counseling, oversee curriculum development for group counseling sessions, Supervise individual, family and group counseling sessions for families in English and Spanish, monitor paperwork and approve documentation needed for submission to university and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, provide weekly supervision on cases and programming

### **Camp Director and Associate**

**1998-2009**

#### **Norm Hull and Associates-CORE Leadership Camps**

Taught high school students leadership and management skills such as Facilitative Leadership, Situational Leadership, Group Development Model, Results/Process/Relationships and Teambuilding and served as the liaison for two camps on university campuses in California

### **Peer Counseling Coordinator - UCLA**

**April-September 2002**

#### **Summer Readmission and Retention Program**

Organized a peer counseling team to counsel students seeking academic readmission to UCLA, organized and facilitated peer counselor training on counseling techniques, academic methodologies and strategies, organized database of student information and participated in meetings with university administrators, academic counselors, and student leaders involved in the program.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Dissertation Topic:** *Reclaiming Empowerment, Agency, and Collective Healing (REACH) for Youth: An adaptation of Emotional Emancipation Circles for Adolescent Males of African Ancestry*

Group Handbook for Mental Health Clinicians, culturally grounded adaptation of Emotional Emancipation Circles treatment manual for young men originally created by the Community Health Network and the Association of Black Psychologists. Manual follows culturally relevant indigenous principles through seven keys of emancipatory healing developed to inspire action in the young black men.

**Dissertation Chair:** Daryl Rowe, PhD

### **Graduate Assistant to Dr. Daryl Rowe**

**2016-2017**

#### **Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology**

#### **Theories and Techniques of Multicultural and Community Interventions**

Researched relevant articles which incorporate multicultural training and evidence based practices with traditional theoretical orientations for class discussions, created annotated summaries of research articles on integrating multicultural treatment with traditional treatment modalities and using proverbs in psychotherapy treatment.

### **Research Assistant to Dr. Elena Flores**

**September 2004-2006**

#### **University of San Francisco, UC San Francisco**

Translated interview transcripts from Spanish to English for coding, organized data from interviewers into document for research team, assisted with literature review

## **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Undergraduate Application Reader**

**2008-Present**

#### **UCLA Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools**

Analyze undergraduate freshman applications through a process called Comprehensive Review, readers are trained to evaluate all application data to assess student's academic and personal achievements in comparison to the academic opportunities available in the student's community environment. Readers undergo extensive training and practice evaluating applications.



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### **College Counselor**

**2014- 2015**

#### ***Alexander Hamilton Senior High School***

Organize and facilitate workshops and seminars for college and graduation for 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade families on college planning and preparation, improved college eligibility by 20% within one year for a graduating class of over 600 students, collaborate with over 100 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada to connect students with the right post-secondary opportunities.

### **Secondary School Counselor, Junior and Senior Class Sponsor**

**2006-2014**

#### ***Alexander Hamilton Senior High School***

Advised and counseled students and families on academic planning and preparation, post-secondary options, social-emotional, crisis intervention, teacher and parent mediation, collaborate with counselors, teachers and administrators to create school's master schedule with over 100 teachers and 3100 students, facilitate classroom sessions, hold parent meetings, create class schedules for 380 students; organize and facilitate seminars on college and graduation for 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade families; increased attendance at college counseling workshops from previous years by 150%; Coordinate, oversee and direct student activities such as graduation ceremony, prom, senior week, talent show with budgets ranging from \$5,000 to \$60,000

### **Student Affairs Assistant**

**2003-2004**

#### ***UCLA College Academic Counseling***

Advise students' in-person and via telephone on all college rules, regulations, policies, process student academic petitions; scheduled and prepared files for counseling appointments, updated substitutions and exemptions on Degree Progress Reports and monitored student progress

### **Mentorship Coordinator, Peer Counselor - UCLA**

**1999- 2002**

#### ***Campus Retention Committee***

Analyzed and organized applicants interested in mentorship program, paired upper classmen with underclassmen, created and facilitated mentorship events and weekend activities on minimal budgets. Advised UCLA students on course selection, academic planning, financial planning, personal issues, etc. for one of five student-initiated, student-run organizations focused on advising students on academic probation.

## **VOLUNTEER WORK**

### **Primary Leader, Volunteer and Fundraising Team, Scholarship Committee**

**2006-present**

#### ***Students Run Los Angeles***

##### ***Star Award-Students Run Los Angeles***

Train and mentor a team yearly of up to 40 high school students aged 14-18 to complete the Los Angeles Marathon, manage daily training sessions and weekend long runs from 4 miles-20 miles during a period of seven months from August to March every academic year, coordinate with headquarters on race registration, bus ordering, event planning and advertising with social media, attend yearly leader conference consisting of seminars and activities aimed to provide support and best practices for all leaders. Attend seminars regarding meal preparation, training calendars, mental health and mentoring, Volunteer in school/team registration and check-in on event day.

### **Scholarship Chair**

**August 2011-2013**

#### ***UCLA Latino Alumni Network-Los Angeles, CA***

Create and disseminate scholarship applications to undergraduate students through advertisements on social networks, university departments, and with high school and community college counselors, coordinate over sixty interviews with applicants and UCLA Alumni panelists, select awardees for one of our scholarships totaling \$75,000, collaborate with James West Alumni Center and UCLA Financial Aid Office to distribute funds to students, hold quarterly meetings with scholars to review service opportunities and commitments to ULAN.

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## LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

<b>Adjunct Faculty Senator</b> <i>West Los Angeles College</i>	<b>2024-2026</b>
<b>Adjunct Faculty Division Representative</b> <i>West Los Angeles College</i>	<b>2022-2026</b>
<b>Primary Leader</b> <i>Students Run Los Angeles, marathon team</i>	<b>September 2006-June 2015</b>
<b>Vice President-2001-2002</b> <i>UCLA Latin American Student Association</i>	<b>1998-June 2002</b>
<b>Founding Committee Member: Leadership Academy</b> -Chapman University	<b>2007-2008</b>
<b>Vice-Chair</b> <i>UCLA Campus Programming Committee</i>	<b>September 2001-June 2002</b>
<b>Director</b> - <i>UCLA Festival Latino</i>	<b>1999-2001</b>

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

**Language:** Fluent in spoken and written Spanish, provide psychotherapy, psychodiagnostic evaluations, and neuropsychological assessments in Spanish, translate research interviews from Spanish to English

**Computers:** Proficient in Microsoft Office (Excel, ACCESS, Word, Power Point, Publisher), HTML, LAUSD Student Information Systems, Medical Records systems (Affinity, ORCHID, EPIC)

**Personal Athletic Training:** CrossFit level 1 trainer, with education in proper technique, skills, and exercise programming and modifications for athletes with injuries, education in athlete anatomy

## CURRENT ASSOCIATIONS

*National Latinx Psychological Association*

*International Neuropsychological Society*

*Hispanic Neuropsychological Society*

*Los Angeles County Psychological Association*

*American Psychological Association*

*UCLA Alumni Association, Latino Alumni Association*

*California Association of Alcohol and Drug Educators*

*Divers Alert Network-PADI Certified Advanced Open Water Diver*

*CrossFit, Inc. Level 1 Trainer*