



# Northwestern

ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY



*Learn in the city. Lead in the world.*

Psychology Department

Term: Spring | Issue 13 | Date: May 01, 2023

Hello 

## SPRING SEMESTER 2023

Happy May Psychology Students!

We hope everyone is doing well in their courses and your semester is ending well. Finals are around the corner, so remember that if you need assistance, our tutors are ready to help you! Also, remember that registration for the Fall semester is open! Be sure to visit the department's open advising hours for class planning and any other academic advising. Have a wonderful Summer break!



# COMEDIC RELIEF

me at the beginning of the semester vs me now



# ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT: KAREN BASURTO, BA '19



## 1. What are you doing now?

I am preparing to start my graduate training as a clinical psychology PhD student at Rosalind Franklin University under the guidance of Dr. Racheal Ellison! I have been a bilingual neuropsychology psychometrist for the past few years and I have developed a niche understanding of culturally appropriate measures for Hispanic/Latino populations in Neuropsychology.

## 2. What are your responsibilities?

As a psychometrist, I ensure the collection of data from standardized measures of cognitive abilities for the diagnosis of a wide range of neurocognitive disorders. My responsibilities include the administration of tests, scoring, and recording of cognitive and behavioral performance per patient. As a bilingual psychometrist,

I have additional responsibilities to ensure proper care. I facilitate communication between English speaking clinicians with Spanish speaking patients by translating and interpreting between them. I administer standardized measures in both English and Spanish, while providing additional services wherever needed within the clinic and hospital (i.e., pre-surgical procedures, inpatient care, etc.).

## 3. How did NEIU prepare you for your professional journey?

NEIU's psychology department trained me for my professional journey by providing the necessary foundation of what it means to practice psychology at its core. NEIU hosted two distinct research assistantships that provided me with a sense of what to expect when conducting research and data interpretation, both qualitatively and quantitatively. The core stats classes provided core knowledge that assisted me when conducting analyses for conference presentations and development of manuscripts. The professors provided me networking opportunities that eventually lead me to be a strong candidate for graduate programs clinical psychology.

## 4. What advice would you give to undergraduate students?

My advice for undergraduate students would be to take a moment to find a passion and then take advantage of it. Take advantage of NEIU for all its worth! I had a genuine transition from a "complete assignment for a degree" mindset to pursuing and developing a passion for what I truly find interesting, clinical psychology. At the beginning of my academic career, I was simply a student completing the next step requirements from a community college. I had no clear idea on what I found interesting. Once I attended NEIU, I found people who genuinely loved learning and teaching psychology, which sparked a true interest in the field for me, which lead to a focused intent for my goals and aspirations. With the support of fellow students, professors, and the psychology department, I was able to adequately prepare for my next goal, graduate school.

## CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to DeMara Campbell (BS '17 Psychology) Admissions and Records Associate and Chair of the University Planning and Budget Council for her Inclusive Excellence and Diversity Award. She was one of 3 staff recipients. DeMara and her son pictured on the left.



# STUDENTS OF THE MONTH: HANNAH SMITH

## 1. What are your goals after graduation?

My goal right after graduation is to take a break! I have been in college for approximately 5 years and plan to take time off to enjoy the accomplishment of obtaining my Bachelor's in Psychology. After I have taken a sufficient break, I plan to go to graduate school to get my Masters in Applied Behavioral Analysis and become a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and work with children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

## 2. What motivates you to work hard?

My daughter Scarlett is my motivation. I strive to be a positive role model for her; if you can dream it, then you can accomplish it. Being a full-time mom and a full-time student has been hard work but she is my daily reminder and motivation to achieve my dreams so that she can not only witness that anything is possible with resilience and hard work, but that one day she may accomplish her dreams as well!



## 3. What is your proudest accomplishment?

My proudest accomplishment is being a first-generation student while being a mom! I am the first person in my family to receive an undergraduate degree!

## 4. Favorite Psychology class so far and why?

My favorite psychology class that I have taken at Northeastern is the Psychology of Food. I enjoy learning about why we eat, the perceptions of others based on our food consumption, and how taste preferences can be culturally influenced. It is fascinating how external and internal factors play a role in our food consumption and choices. Overall, I have enjoyed all of my psychology courses at NEIU and have expanded my knowledge in the field of Psychology over the past two years!

# GET TO KNOW YOUR FACULTY: SHANNON SASZIK, PhD



## 1. What are some of your hobbies?

When I have time, I enjoy playing tennis and running. I like to be active and outside when the weather is nice. If I had to pick indoor hobbies, I can spend hours reading or watching movies.

## 2. If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?

I would go anywhere the weather is warm and there is a beach. I have vacationed a couple of times along the gulf side of Florida, and love white sand beaches that are hidden away to avoid crowds.

## 3. What is your favorite movie?

I love a lot of movies, so this is hard to give you just one. However, I can tell you which movie is the worst movie I have ever seen, Citizen Kane. I know it won an Oscar and was supposed to be really good, but I tried to watch it, made it half way and quit. No regrets there.

## 4. If you could have any job that isn't this one, what would it be?

I would be a photographer. I love taking pictures and catching those moments when you think no one is watching. I think this is why I ended up studying sensation and perception, specifically the visual system.

## 5. What is the best piece of advice you have received?

The best advice I have ever received is to not be afraid to fail. I have learned more about myself from my failures, success is easy.



# 2023 JOHN SARGON ALBAZI RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES STUDENT SYMPOSIUM



Good job to all the student presenters, congratulations to all the winners, and a special S/O to Nicholas Koukis for his Award for Excellence in Library-Based Research by an Undergraduate Student. We would also like to extend a special thank you to all faculty members for their support.



## PSYCHOLOGY FUN FACT

May 1, 1852 — Santiago Ramón y Cajal was born. Ramón y Cajal was a histologist and neuroanatomist who was the first to recognize that neurons are separate morphological units of the nervous system, not nodes in a nervous net.

**NEED HELP? WE GOT YOU...**

### SCSE Tutor Hours

Maggie Verne

Monday: 10:00am-2:00pm (In person)

Tuesday: 10:00am-2:00pm (In person)

3:00pm-6:30pm (Virtually)

Wednesday: 1:00pm-2:00pm (In person)

6:00pm-8:00pm (Virtually)

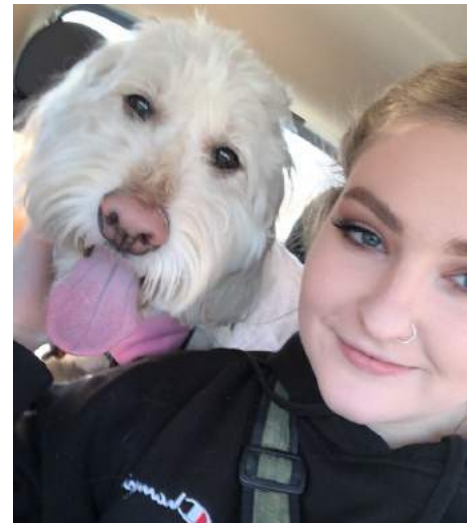
Thursday: 11:30pm-2:00pm (In person)

4:00pm-5:00pm (Virtually)

Friday: 3:00pm-5:00pm (Virtually)

**In person location: BBH 247**

**Email [m-verne2@neiu.edu](mailto:m-verne2@neiu.edu) to set up appt.**



### Capstone / Lab Assistance Hrs

Sandra Paz Sosa:

Tuesday and Thursday: 12:00am-1:00pm

**Location: In person (BBH 313A) and zoom**

**Email [snpazsos@neiu.edu](mailto:snpazsos@neiu.edu)**



## WIP Tutoring Hours (CAW Room)

Ronald Williams Library 4th floor  
(773) 442-4568 or (773) 442-4492

Use Google (Nmail) Chat [lsc@neiu.edu](mailto:lsc@neiu.edu)

*All appointment times can be in person or online*

### Nicholas Koukis:

Tuesday and Thursday:  
2:00pm-6:00pm

Friday: 3:00pm-5:00pm



### Anna Sgueros:

Tuesday: 9:00am-12:00pm

Wednesday: 9:30am-12:30pm

Friday: 9:00am-1:00pm



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Save the Date**

#### **Spring 2023 Commencement Ceremony**

Friday, May 12



### **Open Advising Hours for Majors**

*\*No appointment necessary, stop in when you are available\**

-Mondays: 10:50-11:50am (F2F-BBH 307A)

4:00-3:00pm (Zoom)

-Tuesdays: 2:00-3:00pm (Zoom)

-Wednesdays: 12:00-1:00pm (F2F-BBH 307B)

-Thursdays: 12:00-1:00pm (Zoom)

3:00-4:00pm (F2F-BBH 307C)

6:00-7:00pm (Zoom)

-Fridays: 9:00-10:00am (Zoom)

12:00-1:00pm (Zoom)

-Saturdays: 3:00-4:00pm (Zoom)

## STAY CONNECTED!



@neiu\_psychology



Psychology Department's  
Google Classroom

Google Classroom <https://classroom.google.com> code: rszuvk4

### ***Scan QR code or follow the link***



<https://neiu-edu.zoom.us/j/99261869841?pwd=Qy9jNUhuRktpTU5WekxQTENRckVuZz09>

