A. Rebecca Neal, Ph.D.

CURRICULUM VITAE

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Office Address: University of Texas
Department of Psychology
1 University Station A8000
Austin, TX 78712

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HIGHER EDUCATION

1989-1993 Undergraduate Student, *major:* Psychology
The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

1995-2002 Graduate Student in Applied Developmental & Child Clinical Psychology
Department of Psychology, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL
APA-accredited doctoral program in Clinical Psychology

2001-2002 Psychology Intern, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior
Brown Medical School, Providence, RI
APA-accredited internship in clinical psychology program

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2002-2004 NRSA T-32 Postdoctoral Fellowship
Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior,
Brown Medical School and Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, RI

2004-2006 Research Psychologist
Brown Center for the Study of Children at Risk
Brown Medical School and Bradley Hospital, Providence, RI

2005-2008 Research Fellow & Lecturer
Department of Psychology
University of Texas at Austin

2009 to present Assistant Professor
Clinical Psychology Area
Department of Psychology
University of Texas at Austin

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests center on the early identification of developmental delay in at-risk infants and toddlers. Previous studies have closely examined social-cognitive, communication, and regulatory processes as promising “markers” of delay. Additionally, a complimentary research interest involves social cognitive impairment in autism.

GRANT SUPPORT

Title: Demographic diversity in children's behavioral and emotional development.
Role: Co-Mentor
Agency: Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (F311HD061216-01A1, 6/1/10-5/31/13)
This project involves theoretically grounded research on the co-occurrence of internalizing and externalizing behaviors among children, with a focus on demographic disparities in such co-occurrence. The project aims will be accomplished by using the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study-Kindergarten Cohort and a wide range of longitudinal quantitative methods, including growth curve modeling, mediational models, and logistic regression.

Title: Pediatric Loan Repayment Award
Role: Award Recipient
Agency: National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (6/03-8/06, 7/07-6/08)
The NIH developed this program to attract health professionals to careers in pediatric research. Applications undergo a competitive review process based on the applicant's research potential as reflected in a personal statement/biographical sketch, research proposal, and letters of recommendation.

Title: Joint Attention Predicts Cognitive Outcome in MLS Sample
Role: Principal Investigator
Agency: National Institute on Drug Abuse (1 R03 DA017985-01, 7/04-11/06)
The purpose of this study is threefold: (1) test for cocaine effects on joint attention skills at 12 and 18 months, (2) examine the stability of infant joint attention skills across 12 and 18 months in cocaine-exposed and comparison infants, and (3) examine the predictive validity of 12 and 18 month joint attention skills in the prediction of cognitive outcome at 3, 4, and 4½ years.
Role: Principle Investigator

GRANT IN PREPARATION FOR RESUBMISSION

Title: Understanding negativity bias in infants of depressed mothers
Type of Award: R21
Agency: Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

1989-1993	Hugh L. Dryden Memorial Scholarship, the Johns Hopkins University
November 1998	First Place, Social Sciences Division, University of Miami Graduate Research and Creativity Forum
November 1999	First Place, Social Sciences Division, University of Miami Graduate Research and Creativity Forum
1995-1999	Departmental Letter of Commendation for excellence in clinical work, teaching, research, and academics (6 semesters).
May 2000	Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award – award presented annually to two graduate students for excellence in teaching assistantship in the Department of Psychology.
2003-2004	Senior Fellow, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Brown University. Elected by peers to represent NRSA postdoctoral fellows.
Spring 2005	Letter & Token of Appreciation from the office of Services for Students with Disabilities, Office of the Dean of Students, University of Texas at Austin

Spring 2008	Letter & Token of Appreciation from the office of Services for Students with Disabilities, Office of the Dean of Students, University of Texas at Austin
Fall 2008	Nominee for the Merck Scholars Program in the Biology of Developmental Disabilities in Children, selected by the Vice President of Research to be one of two nominees for the University of Texas at Austin to the Merck Scholars Program.
Summer 2009	Faculty Development Program Summer Research Assignment (SRA), Office of the Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies, University of Texas at Austin.
October 2009	Grant Reviewer, 2009 Autism Research Program, Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP), US Army Medical Research
September 2010	Grant Reviewer, 2010 Autism Research Program, Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP), US Army Medical Research

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Consulting Reviewer:	Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics Applied Psycholinguistics Early Education and Development Infant and Child Development Journal of Applied Social Psychology

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

1996 to present	Society for Research in Child Development
2000-2004, present	Association for Behavior and Cognitive Therapy
2003 to present	International Society on Infant Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Oller, D.K., Eilers, R.E., **Neal, A.R**., & Cobo-Lewis, A.B. (1998). Late onset canonical babbling: A possible early marker of abnormal development. *American Journal on Mental Retardation, 103,* 249-263.

Oller, D.K. Eilers, R.E., **Neal, A.R**., & Schwartz, H.K. (1999). Precursors to speech in infancy: The prediction of speech and language disorders. *Journal of Communication Disorders, 32,* 223-245.

Morales, M., Mundy, P.M., Fullmer, C., Yale, M., Messinger, D., **Neal, A.R**., & Schwartz, H. (2000). Responding to joint attention across the 6- to 24-month age period and early language acquisition. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 21,* 283-298.

Morales, M., Mundy, P., Delgado, C., Yale, M., **Neal, A.R.** & Schwartz, H.K. (2000). Gaze following, temperament, and language development in 6-month-olds: A replication and extension. *Infant Behavior and Development, 23,* 231-236.

Mundy, P.M. & **Neal, A.R.** (2001). Neural plasticity, joint attention, and autistic developmental pathology. *International Review of Research in Mental Retardation, 23,* 139-167.

Vaughan, A., Mundy, P., Block, J., Burnette, C., Delgado, C., Gomez, Y., Meyer, J., **Neal, A.R.**, & Pomares, Y. (2003). Child, Caregiver, and Temperament Contributions to Infant Joint Attention. *Infancy, 4,* 603-616.

Neal, A.R. (2004). Affect disorders in infancy and early childhood [Review of the book *Affect Dysregulation and Disorder of the Self]. Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatric,* 25, 295-296.

Morales, M., Mundy, P., Crowson, M., **Neal, A.R.,** & Delgado, C. (2005). Individual Differences in Infant Attention Skills, Joint Attention and Emotion Regulation Behavior. *International Journal of Behavioral Development, 29*¸ 259-263.

LaGasse, L.L., **Neal, A.R.**, & Lester, B.M. (2005). Assessment of Infant Cry: Acoustic Cry Analysis and Parental Perception. *Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, 11,* 83-93.

Nathani, S., Oller, D.K., & **Neal, A.R.** (2007). On the robustness of vocal development: an examination of infants with moderate hearing impairment and additional risk factors. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research, 50,* 1425-1444.

Vaughan Van Hecke, A., Mundy, P., Acra, C.F., Block, J., Delgado, C., Venezia, M., Meyer, J., **Neal, A.R**., and Pomares, Y. (2007). Infant joint attention, temperament, and social competence in preschool children. *Child Development.*

Neal, A.R. (2008) Autism. In D. Blanchfield (Ed.), *The encyclopedia of life course and human development.* Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Publications.

MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION

Neal, A.R., Lester, B.M., LaGasse, Linda L., Beeghly, M., & the Maternal Lifestyles Study, NICHD, Neonatal Research Network (revise and resubmit). Testing the Biosocial Model of Infant Cry: Cry predicts cognitive, language and motor outcome in the Maternal Lifestyles Study.

Neal, A.R., Mundy, P.C., Claussen, A., Malik, S., Scott, K., & Acra, F. (revise and resubmit). The relations between infant joint attention skill and cognitive and language outcome in at-risk children.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Neal, A.R., Lester, B.M., Sheinkopf, S., and the Maternal Lifestyles Study, NICHD, Neonatal Research Network (in preparation). Infant cry as a marker of physiological and behavioral regulation in the maternal lifestyles study.

Neal, A.R., Lester, B.M., Sheinkopf, S., and the Maternal Lifestyles Study, NICHD, Neonatal Research Network (in preparation). Prenatal cocaine effects on the development of joint attention and requesting behaviors in infants and toddlers: Implications in the short and long-term.

Neal, A.R., Lester, B.M., Sheinkopf, S., and the Maternal Lifestyles Study, NICHD, Neonatal Research Network (in preparation). Using infant joint attention skills to predict cognitive and language development in the Maternal Lifestyles Study: Early identification of developmental delay.

CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Neal, A.R. & Mallik, S. (1999, April). Joint attention in cocaine-exposed infants and cognitive outcome at 36 months. In P. Mundy (Chair), *Joint attention in the prediction of outcome in normal and at-risk children.* Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, NM.

Neal, A.R. Lester, B.M., Sheinkopf, S.J., LaGasse, L.L., Bauer, C.R., Shankaran, S., Bada, H.S., Poole, K., & Smeriglio, V. (2005, April). Infant cry as a marker of physiological and behavioral regulation in the Maternal Lifestyles Study (MLS). In **A.R. Neal (Chair)**, *Infant cry as a marker of regulatory development.* Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA.

Sheinkopf, S.J., **Neal, A.R.,** & Miller-Loncar, C. (May 2006). Cardiorespiratory reactivity in autism: preliminary evidence of response threshold differences. Paper presented at the International Meeting for Autism Research, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

CONFERENCE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Eilers, R.E., **Neal, A.R**., & Oller, D.K. (1996, April). *Late onset babbling as an early marker of abnormal development*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Providence, RI.

Neal, A.R., Rojas, J., & Slater, K. (1997, April). *Joint attention in hearing and hearing-impaired infants*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, D.C.

Crowson, M., Lee, J., **Neal, A.R**., & Stella, J. (1997, April). *Correlates of nonverbal communication with language development and parental report in young children with autism.* Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, D.C.

Neal, A.R., Mundy, P.M., Oller, D.K., & Eilers, R.E. (1998, April). *Verbal and nonverbal communication skills in infants with late onset of canonical syllables.* Poster presented that the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Providence, RI.

Crowson, M., Mundy, P., Lee, J. & **Neal, A.R**. (1998, April). *The relationship between joint attention and symbolic play in autism.* Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Atlanta, GA.

Markus, J. & **Neal, A.R**., (1999, April). *Infant skills and caregiver behavior predict joint attention episodes and language.* Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, NM.

Neal, A.R., Block, J.J., Claussen, A. & Mundy, P.C. (2000, July). *The validity of responding to joint attention in cocaine-exposed infants.* Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Conference on Infant Studies, Brighton, England.

Block, J.J., Claussen, A.H., **Neal, A.R**., & Mundy, P.C. (2000, April). *The development of responding to joint attention skill and its relation to language development in cocaine-exposed infants.* Poster presented at the Conference on Human Development, Memphis, TN.

Neal, A.R. and Block, J.J. (2001, April). *Responding to Joint Attention: Early Identification and*

Intervention in "At-Risk" Infants. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.

Neal, A.R., Block, J.J., Mundy, P.M., & Claussen, A. (November, 2001*). The relationship between responding to joint attention and psychoeducational intervention in prenatally cocaine-exposed infants*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Association for the Advancement of Behavioral Therapy, Philadelphia, PA.

Sheinkopf, S.J., **Neal, A.R**., Miller-Loncar, C., Johnson, A. (April, 2005). Vagal tone and joint attention in children with autism. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA.

Neal. A.R., Lester, B.M., LaGasse, L.L., **&** the Maternal Lifestyles Study, NICHD, Neonatal Research Network (May, 2004). *Testing the Biosocial Model of Infant Cry: Cry Predicts Cognitive and Motor Outcome in Prenatally Drug-Exposed Infants*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the International Society on Infant Studies, Chicago, IL.

Sheinkopf, S.J., Barry, R., & **Neal, A.R**. (May 2010). Parasympathetic response profiles and adaptive functioning in young children with autistic disorder. Paper presented at the I nternational Meeting for Autism Research, Philadelphia, PA.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Summer 1992 **Research Intern,**
National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland

1993-1995 **Research Associate** (December 1993 to August 1995)
Mailman Center for Child Development
University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, Florida

1993-1995 **Head of Clinical Research**
Intelligent Hearing Systems, Kendall, Florida

1995-1999 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Infant Vocalization Project
NIDCD funded longitudinal study

2000-2001 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Early Social Communication Project
NICHD funded longitudinal study

2002-2004 **NRSA T32 Postdoctoral Fellowship**
Brown Center for the Study of Infants at Risk
Brown Medical School, Providence, RI

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING (SELECTED)

November 1999 Hierarchical linear modeling, multilevel modeling, and growth curve modeling. Judith Singer, Ph.D. Harvard University. Full-day workshop conducted at the University of Miami, Coral Gables.

2002-2003	Lecture Series: Special Topics in Statistics - Multiple Regression. Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Brown University Medical School.
2002-2003	Lecture Series: Grantwriting, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Brown University Medical School.
2003-2004	Lecture Series: Special Topics in Statistics – Hierarchical Linear Modeling, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Brown University Medical School.
Summer 2009	Summer Statistics Institute: Power Analysis for Proposal Writing, Division of Statistics and Scientific Computation, University of Texas at Austin.

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

Instructor

Fall 1998	Introduction to Child and Adolescent Development (PSY 203) Lower division undergraduate course University of Miami
Spring 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008	Introduction to Child Psychology (PSY 304) Lower division undergraduate course University of Texas at Austin
Fall 2005-2010 Summer 2010	Behavior Problems of Children and Adolescents (PSY 339-W) Upper division undergraduate course with substantial writing component University of Texas at Austin
Fall 2007 Spring 2008	Introduction to Developmental Psychology (PSY 333D-W) Upper division undergraduate course with substantial writing component University of Texas at Austin
Fall 2008	Introduction to Developmental Psychology (PSY 333D) Upper division undergraduate course University of Texas at Austin
Spring 2009, 2010	Introduction to Theory & Techniques of Assessment I (PSY 389K) Graduate level psychology course University of Texas at Austin

Guest Lecturer

Introduction to Language Development (PSY 343)
Introduction to Child and Adolescent Development (PSY 203)
Introduction to Abnormal Psychology (PSY352)
Health Inequality during Childhood & Adolescence, Bridging Disciplines Program (FS118)
Early Childhood Intervention (PSY341K)

Dissertation Committee Member

Aaron Shield, Department of Linguistics, 2006 to 2010

Aaron was one of three recipients of the 2010 Outstanding Dissertation Award from the University of Texas at Austin Graduate School.

Cindy Stappenbeck, Department of Psychology, 2008 to date

Master's Thesis Committee Member
Jimmy Singh, Department of Psychology, 2006-2007

Undergraduate Honor's Thesis Supervisor:
Desiree Wilkinson (2005-2006). Desiree was awarded a $500 undergraduate research fellowship from the College of Liberal Arts and $1000 undergraduate research fellowship from the University Co-operative Society to conduct research under my supervision. Desiree studied the role of visual distracters in facial recognition among high-functioning children with autism.
Kalli Kemp (2006-2007). Kalli was awarded a $1000 undergraduate research fellowship from the University Co-operative Society to conduct research under my supervision. Kalli investigated the relations between ambiguous emotion recognition and social functioning in undergraduate students.
Patty Moreno (2008-2009). Patty was awarded was awarded a $1000 undergraduate research fellowhop from the University Co-operative Society and a Summer Undergraduate Research Internship (SURE) from the Department of Psychology to conduct research under my supervision. Patty assessed the impact of a sensorimotor intervention on parenting stress and depression among parents of children with autism.
Brittany Kinard (2009-2010). Brittany was awarded a $1000 undergraduate research fellowship from the University Co-operative Society to conduct research under my supervision. Brittany studied the relations between over-excitabilities and self-esteem in children placed in gifted and talented vs. mainstream classrooms.
Lisa Sperle (2010-present) Lisa was awarded a $1000 undergraduate research fellowship from the University Co-operative Society to conduct research under my supervision. Lisa is currently conducting a study to determine how temperament and history of peer victimization influence response to ambiguous emotional faces among high-functioning adolescents with autism.
Daniel Faso (2010-present) Daniel was awarded a $1000 undergraduate research fellowship from the University Co-operative Society to conduct research under my and Dr. Caryn Carlson's supervision. Daniel is conducting a study to assess the role of hope in understanding individual and marital adjustment among parents of a child with autism.

Bridging Disciplines Supervisor:
Amanda Rawlinson (2008-2009). Amanda participated in BDP internship experience at the local children's shelter under my supervision.
Natalie Raff (2009-2010). Natalie participated in a BDP research experience in the Child Development in Context Laboratory under my supervision.
Blair Barton (2010). Blair participated in a BDP internship experience at an Austin area Early Childhood Intervention program under my supervision.

Research Internship Supervisor:
Jelka Schillmöller (Summer 2010). Jelka participated in a 140-hour research internship in my lab as a requirement of her undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Münster, Germany.

Other Supervision Experience

1993-1995 **Language Development Project**
University of Miami Medical School
Trained and supervised undergraduate work-study, full-time research staff, and graduate students participating in a large-scale longitudinal study of vocal development in at-risk infants.

1996-1997, 1999-2000 **PSY 367/368, Introduction to Research Projects**
University of Miami, Department of Psychology
Provided direct supervision to undergraduate students seeking research experience for course credit. Undergraduates were encouraged to pursue independent readings on topics of interest and become involved in ongoing longitudinal research projects

1999-2000 **Clinical Assistant to the Director**
Psychological Services Center (PSC), University of Miami
Responsibilities included organizing and participating in a team triage meeting designed to review clinical cases and manage the overall running of the PSC. Additional responsibilities included supervision of graduate student therapists in their initial clinical placement such as ensuring that students were receiving the appropriate caseload and hours of practicum experience.

1999-2000 **Prevention and Evaluation of Early Neglect and Trauma Program**
Dependency Court Intervention Program for Family Violence
Trained postdoctoral fellows in clinical psychology on various infant assessment measures for a clinical intervention research project funded by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

2006 & 2008-present **PSY357, Undergraduate Research**
University of Texas at Austin, Department of Psychology
Trained and supervised undergraduate students seeking research for course credit.

SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS

University of Miami

1998 to 2000	Senator, Graduate Student Association
1998 to 1999	Qualifying Exam Revision Committee, Psychology Graduate Student Association
1997 to 1998	Applied Developmental Program Representative, Psychology Graduate Student Association
1997 to 1998	Curriculum Revision Committee, Psychology Graduate Student Association

Brown University

2003 to Present	Senior Fellow, T32/F32 Program, Dept of Psychiatry & Human Behavior
2001 to 2002	Child Track Representative, Internship Admissions Committee

University of Texas at Austin

2005 to Present	Psychology Honor's Thesis Advisor
2005 to Present	Masters and Doctoral Thesis Committee Member Departments: Psychology, Linguistics
Fall 2008	Faculty Moderator, Freshman Reading Round-Up, College of Liberal Arts

Fall 2008	Panel Member, “Is grad school for me?” program, sponsored by the Office of Graduate Studies
Fall 2009	Invited Lecturer, College of Liberal Arts Parents Weekend
Spring 2007-2010	Committee Member, Lee Willerman Award for Excellence in Research, Department of Psychology
Fall 2010	Faculty Moderator, Freshman Reading Round-Up, College of Liberal Arts

REFERENCES

Available upon request.