

CHRISTINA G. MCDONNELL

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2019-present **Assistant Professor**, Department of Psychology
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University

2018-2019 **BrainsCAN Postdoctoral Scholar**
Brain and Mind Institute and Department of Psychology
University of Western Ontario; London, ON, Canada

2017-2018 **Predoctoral Intern; Medical University of South Carolina**; Charleston, SC
Child Psychology Track; APA-Accredited

EDUCATION

2012-2018 **Ph.D., Clinical Psychology; University of Notre Dame**; South Bend, IN
APA-Accredited

2014 **Master of Arts, Clinical Psychology; University of Notre Dame**; South Bend, IN

2012 **Bachelor of Arts; Psychology; University of Notre Dame**; South Bend, IN

HONORS AND AWARDS

2019 International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Young Investigator Award

2018 Tier II BrainsCAN Postdoctoral Fellowship Award; University of Western Ontario

2018 Brain and Mind Institute Cognitive Neuroscience Postdoctoral Fellowship Award
University of Western Ontario

2017 Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, University of Notre Dame

2017 Graduate Student Union Conference Presentation Award, University of Notre Dame

2016 Striving for Excellence in Teaching Certificate, University of Notre Dame

2013, 2014 Graduate Student Professional Development Award (\$2,200)
University of Notre Dame Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts

2012 Senior Departmental Recognition Award for Excellence in Psychology; Notre Dame

GRANTS FUNDED

- 2020-2021 **Organization for Autism Research (OAR) Applied Research Grant**
Supporting the Most Vulnerable: A Randomized Feasibility Trial of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Youth with ASD
Role: Principal Investigator (\$40,000 USD)
- 2013-2017 **National Institute of Child Health and Development – R01HD071933-01A1**
Fostering Healthy Development Among Maltreated Children
Role: Graduate Assistant (PI: K. Valentino) (\$2,949,441 USD)
- 2016 **Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Student and Early Career Council Dissertation Funding Award**
Emotional Reminiscing and Autobiographical Memory among Children with ASD
Role: Principal Investigator (\$2,000 USD)
- 2016 **Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts Graduate Student Research Award; University of Notre Dame**
Memory, Emotion, and Personality
Role: Principal Investigator (\$3,000 USD)
- 2016 **Earnest Swarm Psychopathology Research Award; University of Notre Dame**
Emotional Reminiscing and Autobiographical Memory among Children with ASD
Role: Principal Investigator (\$1,500 USD)

Grants Pending

- 2019 **National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Loan Repayment Program (NIH LRP)**
A Randomized Feasibility Trial of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Youth with ASD (submitted November 2019)

PUBLICATIONS (** denotes graduate student; ++ denotes undergraduate student)

Peer-reviewed original publications (n = 18)

18. **McDonnell, C.G.**, DeLucia, E.A.**., Hayden, E.P., Anagnostou, E., Nicolson, R., ... Stevenson, R.A. (in press). An exploratory analysis of predictors of youth suicide-related behaviors in autism spectrum disorder: Implications for prevention science. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*.
17. **McDonnell, C.G.**, Fondren, K., Speidel, R., & Valentino, K. (2019). Emotion socialization and developmental risk: Interactive effects of receptive language and maltreatment on reminiscing. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. Advance online publication.
16. Stanton, K., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Hayden, E.P., & Watson, D. (in press). Transdiagnostic approaches to psychopathology measurement: Recommendations for measure selection, data analysis, and participant recruitment. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*. (5 year IF = 6.127)

15. **McDonnell, C.G.**, Bradley, C.C., Kanne, S.M., Lajonchere, C., Warren, Z., & Carpenter, L.A. (2019). When are we sure? Predictors of clinician certainty in the diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 49(4), 1391-1401. doi: 10.1007/s10803-018-3831-3 (5 year IF = 4.365)
14. **McDonnell, C.G.**, Boan, A.D., Bradley, C.C., Seay, K.D., Charles, J., & Carpenter, L.A. (2019). Child maltreatment in autism spectrum disorder and intellectual disability: Results from a population-based sample. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 60(5), 576-584. doi: 10.1111/jcpp.12993 (1 year IF = 6.486)
13. Speidel, R., Valentino, K., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Cummings, E.M., & Fondren, K. (2019). Maternal reminiscing quality in the context of child maltreatment: Implications for child self-regulation. *Developmental Psychology*, 55(1), 110-122. doi: 10.1037/dev0000623 (5 year IF = 4.525)
12. Lawson, M., Valentino, K., Speidel, R., **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Cummings, E.M. (2018). Reduced autobiographical memory specificity among maltreated preschoolers: The indirect effect of neglect through maternal reminiscing. *Child Development*. Advance online publication. doi:10.1111/cdev.13153 (1 year IF = 3.779)
11. **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Nuttall, A.K. (2018). The broad autism phenotype and emotion regulation: The mediating role of autobiographical memory specificity. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 134, 131-136. doi:10.1016/j.paid.2018.06.008 (5 year IF = 2.390)
10. Lawson, M., Valentino, K., **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Speidel, R. (2018). Maternal attachment is differentially associated with mother-child reminiscing among maltreating and nonmaltreating families. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 169, 1-18. doi: 10.1016/j.jecp.2017.12.005 (5 year IF = 3.033).
9. **McDonnell, C.G.**, Valentino, K., & Diehl, J.J. (2017). A developmental psychopathology perspective on autobiographical memory in autism spectrum disorder. *Developmental Review*, 44, 59-81. doi:10.1016/j.dr.2017.01.001 (5 year IF = 6.633)
8. Valentino, K., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Comas, M., & Nuttall, A.K. (2017). Preschoolers' autobiographical memory specificity relates to their emotional adjustment. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, 19 (1), 47-64. doi: 10.1080/15248372.2017.1418745. (5 year IF = 2.107)
7. Kaboski, J., **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Valentino, K. (2017). Resilience and autism spectrum disorder: Applying developmental psychopathology to optimal outcome. *Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 4(3), 175-189. doi: 10.1007/s40489-107-0106-4 (5 year IF not yet available)
6. Valentino, K., De Alba, A., Hibbel, L.C., Fondren, K., & **McDonnell, C.G.** (2017). Adherence to diurnal cortisol sampling among mother-child dyads from maltreating and nonmaltreating families. *Child Maltreatment*, 22(4), 286-294. doi: 10.1177/1077559517725208 (5 year IF = 4.007)
5. **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Valentino, K. (2016). Intergenerational effects of childhood trauma: Evaluating pathways among maternal ACES, perinatal depressive symptoms, and infant outcomes. *Child Maltreatment*, 21(4), 317-326. doi:10.1177/1077559516659556 (5 year IF = 4.007)
4. **McDonnell, C.G.**, Valentino, K., Comas, M., & Nuttall, A.K. (2016). Mother-child reminiscing at-risk:

Maternal attachment, elaboration, and child autobiographical memory specificity. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 143, 65-84. doi:10.1016/j.jecp.2015.10.012 (5 year IF = 3.033)

3. Valentino, K., Hibbel, L., Cummings, E.M., Nuttall, A.K., Comas, M., & **McDonnell, C.G.** (2015). Maternal elaborative reminiscing mediates the effect of child maltreatment on behavioral and physiological functioning. *Development and Psychopathology*, 27 (4), 1515-1526. doi: 10.1017/S0954579415000917 (5 year IF = 5.151)
2. Valentino, K., & **McDonnell, C.G.** (2015). Distinguishing between traumatic and non-traumatic memory: A commentary on reminiscing and child maltreatment. *Journal of Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 29 (6), 802-804. doi: 10.1002/acp.3187 (5 year IF = 1.802)
1. Valentino, K., Nuttall, A.K., Comas, M., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Piper, B., Thomas, T.E., & Fanuele, S. (2014). Mother-child reminiscing and autobiographical memory specificity among preschool-age children. *Developmental Psychology*, 50 (4), 1197-1207. doi: 10.1037/a0034912 (5 year IF = 4.525)

Chapters and encyclopedia articles (n = 4)

4. **McDonnell, C.G.**, & DeLucia, E.A.** (in press). Predictors of clinician certainty in the diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. In F.R. Volkmar (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Springer.
3. Liu, P., **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Hayden, E.P. (in press). Inhibited children in a social world: Transactional and interactive processes. In L.A. Schmidt & K.L. Poole (Eds.), *Adaptive Shyness: Developmental, Comparative, and Cultural Perspectives*. Springer Publishers.
2. **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Valentino, K. (2017). Maternal warmth. In *SAGE Encyclopedia of Abnormal and Clinical Psychology*. (2057-2061). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications. doi:10.4135/9781483365817.n826
1. Diehl, J.J., **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Valentino, K. (2015). Autism spectrum disorder. In B. Flamez & J.C. Watson (Eds.), *Diagnosis and Treatment of Children and Adolescents: A Guide for Clinical and School Settings* (pp. 103-127). Wiley Publishing.

Manuscripts under review

McDonnell, C.G., Hayden, E.P., Penner, M., Curcin, K.++, Anagnostou, E., ... Stevenson, R.A. (under review). Child and family predictors of timeliness of autism identification over time: Implications for diagnosis among girls.

McDonnell, C.G., Kotelnikova, Y., Stevenson, R.A., & Hayden, E.P. (under review). Factor structure of the measure of parental style: Implications for assessment of abuse.

Stanton, K., DeLucia, E.A.**, Brown, M.F.D., & **McDonnell, C.G.** (under review). A transdiagnostic examination of the personality and psychopathology correlates of ADHD and Broad Autism Phenotype Symptom Dimensions.

Fondren, K., Speidel, R., **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Valentino, K. (under revision). Elaborative reminiscing and child receptive language in the context of maltreatment: The moderating role of maternal sensitivity.

Fondren, K., Speidel, R., Lawson, M., **McDonnell, C.G.**, & Valentino, K. (under revision). Building trauma-informed schools: A review with recommendations for assisting traumatized youth within the school setting.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (** denotes graduate student; ++ denotes undergraduate student)

Conference Symposia and Oral Presentations

McDonnell, C.G., Hayden, E.P., Penner, M., Curcin, K., Anagnostou, E., Nicolson, R., ... Stevenson, R.A. (2019, May). *Child and Family Level Predictors of Timeliness of Autism Identification Over Time: Implications for Diagnosis Among Girls*. Paper presented at the Dr. Benjamin Goldberg Developmental Disabilities Research Day of Western University Department of Psychiatry. London, Ontario.

McDonnell, C.G., Valentino, K., Lawson, M., Speidel, R., & Fondren, K. (2019, March). *Explicating the Structure of Emotion Dialogues: Maternal Reminiscing Factors Differentially Relate to Parenting and Child Outcomes*. Paper symposium presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2019 Biennial Meeting. Baltimore, MD.

Valentino, K. & **McDonnell, C.G.** (2016, November). *Attunement of maternal-child diurnal cortisol is moderated by child maltreatment*. Symposium presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology 49th Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA.

Conference Poster Presentations

Liu, P., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Stanton, K., Johnson, S., & Hayden, E.P. (2019, September). *Validating the dominance behavioral system in childhood: Associations with other traits and symptoms*. Poster to be presented at the Society for Research in Psychopathology Annual Meeting. Buffalo, NY.

McDonnell, C.G., Anagnostou, E., Nicolson, R., Kelley, E., Georgiades, S., Liu, X., & Stevenson, R.A. (2019, May). *Disparities in the Identification of Autism: The Influence of Sex, Family Income, and Cognitive Abilities*. Poster presented at International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting. Montreal, CA.

Brierley, N.++, **McDonnell, C.G.**, Dalal, T., & Stevenson, R.A. (2019, February). *Factor structure of repetitive behaviors in ASD and ADHD*. Poster presented at the Lake Ontario Visionary Establishment Annual Meeting. Niagara, Ontario.

McDonnell, C.G., Speidel, R., Fondren, K., & Valentino, K. (2017, April). *Maltreatment and Developmental Disability: The Influence of Maternal and Child Language Impairment on Reminiscing*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2017 Biennial Meeting. Austin, TX.

Speidel, R., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Fondren, K., Pogue, M., McKenna, M. & Valentino, K. (2017, April). *Maternal Reminiscing Quality in the Context of Child Maltreatment: Implications for Child Regulatory Outcomes*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2017 Biennial Meeting. Austin, TX.

Fondren, K., Speidel, R., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Barton, T., & Valentino, K. (2017, April). *Maternal Sensitivity and Child Language in the Context of Maltreatment: The Moderating Role of Elaborative Reminiscing*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2017 Biennial Meeting. Austin, TX.

- McDonnell, C.G.,** Valentino, K., Cummings, E.M., Comas, M., Nuttall, A.K., & Barton, T. (2015, March). *Elaborative Reminiscing and Sensitivity Within the Context of Maternal Romantic Attachment and Trauma History*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2015 Biennial Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.
- McDonnell, C.G.,** Valentino, K., Taylor, S., Mattei, J. (2015, March). *Intergenerational Effects of Trauma: Maternal Adverse Childhood Experiences in Relation to Reproductive and Postnatal Outcomes*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2015 Biennial Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.
- Comas, M., Valentino, K., **McDonnell, C.G.,** & Nuttall, A.K. (2015, March). *Maternal Attachment Avoidance Predicts Consistency in Children's Positive Self-Concept: The Moderating Role of Reminiscing*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2015 Biennial Meeting. Philadelphia, PA.
- Morrison, K., Valentino, K., Nuttall, A.K., **McDonnell, C.G.**, Comas, M., Barton, T., Cummings, M. (2015, March). *Linking Maternal Sexual Abuse History to Sensitivity With Preschool-Aged Children: The Roles of Avoidance and Dissociation*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting 2015. Philadelphia, PA.
- McDonnell, C.G.,** Valentino, K., Comas, M., & Nuttall, A.K. (2014, November). *Mother-Child Reminiscing At-Risk: Maternal Attachment, Elaboration, and Child Autobiographical Memory Specificity*. Poster presented at the SRCD 2014 Special Topic Meeting: New Conceptualizations in the Study of Parenting At-Risk. San Diego, CA.
- Valentino, K., Comas, M., Nuttall, A.K., & **McDonnell, C.G.** (2014, November). *Linking Maternal Childhood Maltreatment History to Parenting: The Role of Traumatic Avoidance in Maternal Reminiscing Style*. Symposium presented at the SRCD 2014 Special Topic Meeting: New Conceptualizations in the Study of Parenting At-Risk. San Diego, CA.
- McDonnell, C.G.** (2013, August). *Mother-child reminiscing and child adjustment: The mediating role of child emotion*. Oral presentation at the Graduate Research Symposium, University of Notre Dame.
- McDonnell, C.G.,** Valentino, K., Comas, M., Nuttall, A.K., Fanuele, S., & Thomas, T. (2013, April). *Evaluating elaborative versus emotionally-supportive mother-child reminiscing in relation to child adjustment*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2013 Biennial Meeting, Seattle, Washington.
- Comas, M., Valentino, K., **McDonnell, C.G.,** Fanuele, S., Piper, B., & Nuttall, A.K. (2013, April). *Mother-child reminiscing predicts children's self-concept*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2013 Biennial Meeting, Seattle, Washington.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate

2020	Child Psychopathology (PSYC-6265): Instructor, Virginia Tech
2019	Clinical Practicum (PSYC-6964): Instructor, Virginia Tech
2019	Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (PSY 9321-B): Instructor, University of Western Ontario

Undergraduate

2016	Neurodevelopmental Disorders (PSY-30133): Instructor, University of Notre Dame
2014	Youth, Risk, and Resilience (PSY/CSC 23090): Instructor, University of Notre Dame
2014	Experimental Psy I: Statistics (PSY 30100): Lab Instructor, University of Notre Dame
2013	Experimental Psy II: Methods (PSY 30160): Lab Instructor, University of Notre Dame

STUDENT COMMITTEES & MENTORSHIP

Graduate Student Committees

2020	Masters Thesis: Courtney Swanson Title TBD
2019	Dissertation: Tyler McFayden <i>Multisensory Integration in Toddlers with ASD</i>
2019	Preliminary Exam: Angela Dahiya-Singh <i>Technology-Based Assessments for ASD</i>

Mentored Undergraduate Honors Theses and Independent Studies

2018-2019	Kristina Curcin: "Factors Predicting Early Autism Identification"
2018-2019	Noah Brierley: "Repetitive Behaviors in Autism and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder"
2017-2018	Maddie McKenna: "Maternal Broad Autism Phenotype and Child Emotion in ASD"
2012-2013	Suzanne Fanuele: "Reminiscing, Maternal Attachment, and Child Emotion Regulation"

INVITED TALKS

2019	Understanding Autism in Adulthood: Tips for Working with Adults on the Spectrum; <i>Cook Counseling Center, Virginia Tech</i>
2019	Child and Family Predictors of Timeliness of Autism Identification Over Time: Implications for Diagnosis Among Girls; <i>Annual Child Health Research Day of Children's Hospital London Health Sciences Centre. London, Ontario.</i> *Paper awarded chair-selected presentation distinction for top five abstract submissions.
2019	Developmental and Social Assessment; <i>University of Western Ontario Graduate Assessment Practicum</i>
2018	Early Signs of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Tips for Identifying Developmental Risk in Early Head Start; <i>Charleston County School District, SC</i>
2018	Identification and Management of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Young Children <i>SC Leadership for Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND)</i>
2017	Differential Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, <i>Charleston Consortium Internship Program, Department of Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina</i>
2016	Intervention and Prevention Approaches for Maltreated Children <i>Advanced Practicum in Child Maltreatment; University of Notre Dame</i>

2016	Trauma Across Development: Treatment Approaches for Building Resilience <i>Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth of America (SAFY); South Bend, IN</i>
2015	Intergenerational Effects of Childhood Trauma: Pathways Among Maternal Depressive Symptoms and Birth and Infant Outcomes; Memorial Hospital, IN

EDITORIAL AND JOURNAL ACTIVITIES

2019-present	Editorial Board, <i>Psychological Assessment</i>
2016-2018	Student Editorial Board, <i>Child Maltreatment</i>

Ad hoc Reviewer

Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders
Psychological Assessment
Journal of Child and Family Studies
Child Maltreatment
Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review
Journal of Women's Health
Archives of Women's Mental Health
Journal of Behavior Therapy and Experimental Psychiatry

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Departmental Committees

2019-present	Virginia Tech Clinical Science Practicum Subcommittee
2019-present	Virginia Tech Clinical Science Awards Committee
2019-present	Virginia Tech Autism Assessment Database Team (ADT), Co-Supervisor

University Committees

2019	Virginia Tech Center for Autism Research Steering Committee
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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

Positions

2016-2017	Campus Representative, <i>Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology (SSCP)</i>
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Memberships

Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT)
 Autism Spectrum and Developmental Disabilities Special Interest Group (ASDD ABCT)
 International Society for Autism Research (INSAR)
 Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology (SSCP)
 Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)