

SYEDA MAHWISH

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EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

Ph.D., Psychology

Advisor: Jonathan Rottenberg Ph.D.

August 2025 - Present

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York

May 2024

MPH, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Master's Thesis: Measuring Resilience Through Language in World Trade Center Responders

Advisors: Andrew Schwartz, Ph.D., Sean Clouston, Ph.D., and Ryan Boyd, Ph.D.

St. Joseph's University, Patchogue, New York

May 2022

BA., Psychology | *Magna cum Laude*

Minors: Therapeutic Recreation | Mindfulness & Contemplative Living

Honors Thesis: *Effects of Early Life Adversity on Adaptive Coping Behavior*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Human Language Analysis Beings (HLAB)

August 2022 – August 2025

Computer Science Department

Stony Brook University | Vanderbilt University

Principal Investigator: Andrew Schwartz

Senior Research Coordinator

- Led research efforts for a multi-institution RO1 grant on Large-scale Data Scientific Assessment of Unhealthy Alcohol Consumption funded by NIAAA.
- Managed data collection for DARPA-funded ARO grant on Quantifying Relations in Human Beliefs using Deep Learning and Computational Linguistics.
- Supervised clinical recruitment for the NIAAA project at Stony Brook Hospital's Emergency Department, overseeing a team of 14 associates and 3 research assistants.
- Developed study protocols and documentation for clinical research at Stony Brook Hospital Emergency Department.
- Produced comprehensive data reports for RO1 and DARPA grants, tracking project progress and finances through MySQL, Python, and SAS.

- Monitored research activities and prepared ad hoc data reports for investigators and stakeholders.
- Facilitated communication among interdisciplinary teams to achieve project milestones.
- Recruited and trained a team of four research assistants in annotation and data collection procedures.
- Initiated independent research on language-based resilience assessment alongside coordinator role.

SJCNY Research Lab

January 2020 – May 2022

**Principal Investigators: Dominique Treboux, Ph.D.
Attachment, Spirituality and Pro-Social Orientation**

St. Joseph's University
Patchogue, NY

Research Assistant / Advanced Research Intern (2022)

- Conducted and led a research study with undergraduates to investigate the influence of early experiences on the accurate interpretation of emotions in individuals wearing masks.
- Independently acquired proficiency in utilizing the Gorilla software program for designing and collecting reaction time data.
- Conducted 30- to 45-minute-long semi-structured interviews.
- Analyzed and prepared reports of collected data using Microsoft Excel and SPSS.

Advanced Undergraduate Thesis

September 2021 – May 2022

Mahwish, S., Donovan, C. (2021). *Effects of Early Life Adversity on Adaptive Coping Behavior*. Undergraduate Research Symposium Talk, St. Joseph's University, Patchogue, New York.

- Independently collected data and recruited 168 participants using the university SONA system and social media platforms like Instagram and Facebook.
- Organized and cleaned over ten data sets using Microsoft Excel and SPSS.
- Conducted various data analyses, including T-test, Multiple Regression, ANOVA, and Correlation.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

Crisis Counselor

March 2020 – August 2022

Response Crisis Center of Suffolk County

Clinical Internship

Pilgrim State Psychiatric Center Building

January 2020 – May 2020

PROFESSIONAL THERAPEUTIC EXPERIENCES

Medford MultiCare Center

Recreational Therapist

August 2021- August 2022

The Bristal Assisted Living at Holtsville

Recreational Therapist Assistant

February 2019 – August 2021

PUBLICATIONS

Mahwish, S., Boyd, R.L., Varadarajan, V., Kotov, R., Luft, B.J., Schwartz, H. A., & Clouston, S. A. P. (2026). Measuring resilience using language modeling: A computational approach to observing resilience. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jts.70046>.

Soni, N., Nilsson, A. H., **Mahwish, S.**, Varadarajan, V., Schwartz, H. A., & Boyd, R. L. (2025). Who we are, where we are: Mental health at the intersection of person, situation, and large language models. In A. Zirikly, A. Yates, B. Desmet, M. Ireland, S. Bedrick, S. MacAvaney, K. Bar, & Y. Ophir (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 10th Workshop on Computational Linguistics and Clinical Psychology (CLPsych 2025)* (pp. 300–313). Association for Computational Linguistics. <https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/2025.clpsych-1.27>

Singh., Varadarajan, V., Ganesan, A. V., Nilsson, A., Soni, N., **Mahwish, S.**, Chitale, P., Boyd, R. L., Ungar, L.H., Rosenthal, R.N., & Schwartz, H. A.(2025). Systematic Evaluation of Auto-Encoding and Large Language Model Representations for Capturing Author States and Traits. In *Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistic*. (Vienna, Austria: Association for Computational Linguistics.

Varadarajan, V., Lahnala, A., Vankudari, S., Raghavan, A., Feltman, S., **Mahwish, S.**, Ruggero, C., Kotov, R., & Schwartz, H. A. (2025). *Linking language-based distortion detection to mental health outcomes*. In A. Zirikly, A. Yates, B. Desmet, M. Ireland, S. Bedrick, S. MacAvaney, K. Bar, & Y. Ophir (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 10th Workshop on Computational Linguistics and Clinical Psychology (CLPsych 2025)* (pp. 62–68). Association for Computational Linguistics. <https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/2025.clpsych-1.5>

Nilsson, A. H., Schwartz, H. A., Rosenthal, R. N., McKay, J. R., Vu, H., Cho, Y. M., **Mahwish, S.**, Ganesan, A. V., & Ungar, L. (2024). Language-based EMA Assessments Help Understand Problematic Alcohol Consumption. *PloS one*, 19(3), e0298300. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0298300>

Matero, M., Vu, H., Nilsson, A., **Mahwish, S.**, Cho, Y. M., McKay, J., ... & Schwartz, H. A. (2024, March). Using Daily Language to Understand Drinking: Multi-Level Longitudinal

Differential Language Analysis. *In Proceedings of the 9th Workshop on Computational Linguistics and Clinical Psychology (CLPsych 2024)* (pp. 133-144).

Nilsson, A., Boyd, R., Ganesan, A. V., Kjell, O. N. E., **Mahwish, S.**, Huang, H., ... Schwartz, H. A. (2024, November 18). Language-based Assessments for Experienced Well-being: Accuracy and External Validity Across Behaviors, Traits, and States. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/dgnaf>

Varadarajan, V., **Mahwish, S.**, Liu, X., Buffolino, J., Luhmann, C., Boyd, R.L., & Schwartz, H.A. (2024, October). Capturing Human Cognitive Styles with Language: Towards an Experimental Evaluation Paradigm. Under Review at the *Association for Computational Linguistics Rolling Review (ARR)*.

Varadarajan, V., Juhng, S., **Mahwish, S.**, Liu, X., Luby, J., Luhmann, C., & Schwartz, H. A. (2023). Transfer and Active Learning for Dissonance Detection: Addressing the Rare-Class Challenge. *In Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 11923–11936, Toronto, Canada: Association for Computational Linguistics.

PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Mahwish, S., Boyd, R. L., Varadarajan, V., Schwartz, H. A., & Clouston, S. A. *Understanding World Trade Center Responders through Language-Based Resilience Measure*. Poster presented at the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies 40th Annual Meeting, 2024; Boston, MA

Mahwish S., Ganesan, A. V., Boyd, R., Rosenthal R. N., and Schwartz H. A. AI- Based Analysis of Natural Language for Understanding and Contextualizing Patterns of Alcohol Use. Speaker at the *Stony Brook University Addiction Research Symposium* April 5th 2024; Stony Brook, NY

Mahwish S. Effects of Early Life Adversity on Adaptive Coping Behavior. Paper presented at the *St. Joseph's University Undergraduate Research Symposium*; April 2022; Patchogue, NY

Mahwish S., Vincent B., Mariani T., & Storm D. Masked Emotion Recognition: Mothers' Influence on Speed and Accuracy. Poster presented at the *St. Joseph's University Undergraduate Research Symposium*; April 2022; Patchogue, NY

Mahwish S. The Influence of Minority Group Membership on Prosocial Orientation. Paper presented at the *St. Joseph's University Undergraduate Research Symposium*; April 2021; Patchogue, NY

CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING

CITI Program: Human Research 2022 – 2025

CITI Program: Conflict of Interest 2022 – 2026

Certification in Counseling Access to Lethal Means, April 2020

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

SJC Scholastic Achievement Scholarship	2018 – 2022
The Vimala and Kanu Scholarship Program	2018 – 2022
Psi Chi, The International Honor Society in Psychology	2021 – 2022

SKILLS

- **Software Proficiency:**
 - Qualtrics, REDCap, SONA Systems, Visual Studio Code, Jupyter Notebook, SurveyMonkey, Google Workspace, Microsoft Excel, Slack
- **Statistical Analysis and Software:**
 - Proficient in RStudio, SAS, SPSS
 - Basic use of Python and MySQL