

## Research Labs/Groups

### Albizu University – Miami campus

<b>Youth, Families &amp; Community Risk Prevention</b>	
<b>Faculty Facilitator/s</b>	Dr. Ana Ojeda & Dr. Jessica Ruiz
<b>Team Consultant</b>	Dr. Susana Blanco
<b>Description:</b> This research team is working closely with one of AU's community partners, Urban Promise Miami. Research projects are aimed at better understanding risk issues among youth, families, and the broader community. Projects are also prevention focused and geared towards assisting in the implementation of effective programs within Urban Promise and other inner city prevention programs. This team has a community advisory board attended by community and program stakeholders including experts in various community risk issues.	

<b>Course of Drug Addiction Group</b>	
<b>Faculty Facilitator/s</b>	Dr. Scott Hyman
<b>Description:</b> Students working on literature reviews focused on the effects of early life stress on the course of drug addiction. We have 2 review papers in progress: 1. Effects of Emotional Forms of Childhood Bullying on the Course of Drug Addiction. 2. Effects of Emotional Childhood Abuse and Neglect on the Course of Drug Addiction  Dr. Hyman will be accepting new doctoral students after November, 2015. If you are interested, please email him at: <a href="mailto:shyman@albizu.edu">shyman@albizu.edu</a>	
<b>Goals:</b> Current goals are to publish up-to-date review papers in these areas and develop research questions to examine empirically in the future.	

<b>Encouraging Exercise in Chronic Disorders Lab</b>	
<b>Faculty Facilitator/s</b>	Dr. Farrell-Turner
<b>Description:</b> The research group focuses primarily on developing a CBT-based (probably ACT, or a mix of ACT and motivational interviewing) intervention for women with polycystic ovary syndrome that aims to improve their commitment to exercise. It's possible that instead of PCOS specifically, the target population may be expanded so as to include other chronic disorders characterized by insulin resistance and inflammation. Students will have an active role in all aspects of conducting this study. The team is open to doctoral students. If you are interested please contact Dr. Farrell-Turner at: <a href="mailto:kfarrell@albizu.edu">kfarrell@albizu.edu</a>	

<b>Dr. Bravo's Research Lab</b>	
<b>Faculty Facilitator/s</b>	Dr. Irene Bravo
<b>Ongoing Research Studies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Systematic review of single-subject child anxiety and phobia treatment studies.</b> So far, we have entered 90 articles in our data set and obtained inter-rater reliability for type of treatment; we need to obtain inter-rater reliability for current articles. I enter the data and transfer it to multiple tables and to a final write-up.  Accepting doctoral students for the fall, 2015.</li></ul>	

- **Infidelity project.** Working on creating a treatment manual in English and Spanish. The aim of the manual is to use to treat couples experiencing infidelity in the Goodman Center.

Accepting doctoral students for the fall, 2015

- **Teaching Responsible Behaviors to Adolescents Program (TRBA).** This has been an ongoing program for adolescents at risk (ages 12-18) housed at the Goodman Center. The program has been in existence since 2003. We have presented posters at APA's Divisions 37, Child and Family Policy and Practice, and 43, Family Psychology. It was also presented in an APA symposium in 2009, and its conceptual model at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, at their 2008 Cultural Impact Conference. I am re-grouping students to start offering the treatment again in the Fall 2015. We are planning to send a manuscript with outcome data this year to the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Accepting doctoral students for the fall, 2015

- **Parents of Adolescents Interaction Scale.** We developed this scale before we launched the TRBA program, and since then, we have been using it as one of its outcome measures. It has adequate reliability and validity. I am working to enhance the scale, adding a subscale on the Separation-Individuation construct.

Accepting doctoral students for the fall, 2015

#### Trauma and Anxiety Research Lab

<b>Faculty Facilitator/s</b>	Dr. Carlos Perez Benitez & Dr. Marilyn Cugnetto
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**Description:** The aim of the research group is to develop a research project in the area of trauma associated with anxiety disorders and PTSD, with the active participation of students, who will be responsible for developing the research questions, research design, and data collection methods. Students will be leading the data collection process as well as the analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of results  
Accepting doctoral students. Contact [cperezbenitez@albizu.edu](mailto:cperezbenitez@albizu.edu)

#### Forensic Psychology Research Lab

<b>Faculty Facilitator/s</b>	Dr. Johanna Guerrero
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**Description:** Study: Malingering in forensic psychological evaluations

The group accepts doctoral, master's and bachelor level (second and third year) students.  
Contact Dr. Guerrero – [jguerrero@albizu.edu](mailto:jguerrero@albizu.edu)

#### Dr. Pi's Lab

<b>Faculty Facilitator/s</b>	Dr. Ana Maria Pi
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**Ongoing Research Studies:**

- a. Doors in the Unconscious: This is a new method for brief trauma resolution useful for treating adults experiencing depression, anxiety, phobias, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The freedom of choice is the cornerstone of this modality as it is derived from a Humanistic-Existential frame of reference. It is based on the notion that the mind has the ability to establish (or re-establish) an adaptive balance through self-regulatory processes that do not require an invasive course of action. Not accepting new students
- b. The work drawing Test: The purpose of this study was to develop, codify and validate a drawing test that will capture the perception and feelings that individuals have about their work environment and reveals information about the dynamics between the employee, peer, and supervisor. Not accepting new students

New studies accepting students:

- c. The relationship between suicidal behavior and the cognitive rigid style in the military
- d. A redefinition of Anorexia Nervosa as a Delusional Disorder. ( this research will be conducted with Dr. Karen Feuerman)
- e. Sex addiction as a developmental arrest. This will be measure using the Rorschach Test

Contact Dr. Pi – [api@albizu.edu](mailto:api@albizu.edu)