

# Daniel A. Pinto

## Curriculum Vitae

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### EDUCATION:

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**University of Central Florida**  
*PhD in Clinical Psychology*

**Orlando, FL.**  
2018 - current

**Florida International University**  
*Bachelor of Arts in Psychology*  
*Double Minor in English / Religious Studies*

**Miami, FL.**  
2012 – 2015

**Undergraduate Thesis:** *Reward Delay and Addictive Behavior*. Mentor: Yanerys Leon, Ph.D.

- Substance dependent individuals (SDI's), from several substances completed a temporal discounting task. These results were scored and compared to their scores on an impulsivity questionnaire (e.g., BIS-11), thus creating the framework for a hierarchy of impulsivity, correlated with specific substances.

### HONORS AND AWARDS:

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- Member, FIU Chapter, Delta Epsilon Iota (DEI): Academic Honor Society (2013).
- Member, FIU Chapter, Psi Chi: International Psychology Honors Society (2013).
- Dean's List, Florida International University (2013-2014).
- McNair Scholar, 12th cohort, Florida International University (2015).

### RESEARCH INTERESTS:

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- Impulsivity and addiction.
- Etiology of substance use disorders.
- Mechanisms of coping and disinhibition.
- Psychopathology and comorbidity.

### RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS:

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Pinto, D., & McClernon, F.J. (2015, October). *Associations between Impulsivity, ADHD Symptoms and Smoking Motivation: Implications for Understanding and Treating Nicotine Dependence*. Oral and Poster session presented at the 2015 FIU McNair Scholars Research Conference, Miami, FL.

Pinto, D. (2014, August). *The importance of building rapport with university faculty when planning for graduate school*. Oral session presented for the Psychology Ambassadors for Student Success (P.A.S.S., FIU).

Pinto, D. (2014, March). *The prevalence of comorbid psychiatric disorders among the homeless population*. Oral session presented for the Psi Chi Honor Society (FIU).

## **MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION:**

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Pinto, D., & McClernon, F.J. (under review). Associations between Impulsivity, ADHD Symptoms and Smoking Motivation: Implications for Understanding and Treating Nicotine Dependence.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:**

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### **Duke University / Duke University Medical Center**

**Durham, N.C.**

*Post-Baccalaureate Internship*, Mentor: F.J. McClernon, Ph.D.

Jan. 2015 – Aug. 2015

- Assisted in SPSS data analysis.
- My primary project was to investigate the role of impulsivity in the context of nicotine addiction:
  - 1) Associations between Impulsivity, ADHD Symptoms and Smoking Motivation: Implications for Understanding and Treating Nicotine Dependence.
    - *Principal Investigator*: Daniel Pinto; mentored by F.J. McClernon
      - The purpose of this study was to investigate the hypothesis that impulsivity underlies important dimensions of smoking behavior with loss of control being a particularly important component.
  - Assisted in fMRI data analysis using SPM and FSL.
  - Assisted in the following studies:
    - 2) Hippocampal and Insular Response to Smoking-Related Environments: Neuroimaging Evidence for Drug-Context Effects in Nicotine Dependence.
      - *Principal Investigator*: McClernon, F.J.
        - The purpose of this study was to extend prior animal research by evaluating the effects of exposure to smoking-related environments on activation in HPC and other brain areas involved in conditioned reward (e.g., amygdala, mPFC, insula, striatum), and to examine correlations between brain reactivity, cue-provoked craving, and smoking behavior.
    - 3) Increased Functional Connectivity in an Insula-Based Network is Associated with Improved Smoking Cessation Outcomes.
      - *Principal Investigator*: Addicott, M.A.
        - This study's working hypothesis was that smokers who relapsed would exhibit weaker functional connectivity between the dorsoanterior insula and cognitive control regions (e.g., anterior cingulate, prefrontal cortex, and sensorimotor cortices) compared with smokers who did not relapse.

### **Florida International University / Severe Behavior Disorders Clinic**

**Miami, FL.**

*Research Associate*, Mentor: Yanerys Leon, Ph.D.

Aug. 2014 – Jan. 2015

- Assisted in the formulation and implementation of questionnaires and study scripts.
- Collected and entered data.
- Performed Functional analyses.
- Assisted in lab personnel recruitment.

- Research Assistant on the following study:
  - 1) Further Evaluation of the Use of Multiple Schedules for Behavior Maintained by Negative Reinforcement.
    - *Principal Investigator:* Leon, Y.
      - The purpose of this study was to 1) evaluate the use of a shaping procedure to teach children with ASD functional toy play skills and 2) evaluate if those toys can later be used as rewards for academic behavior. We conducted formal assessments to identify highly preferred edible and tangible items or activities. We selected an age appropriate toy that the participant engages with at a low rate as the target toy.

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## **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:**

**University of Miami / Miller School of Medicine / Center for Cognitive Neuroscience and Aging** **Miami, FL.**  
*Research Associate / Interventionist*, Clinical Supervisor: Daniel Jimenez, Ph.D. 2016 – 2018

- Formulate and implement intervention scripts.
- Deliver socio-behavioral interventions via videoconference.
- Travel to participant’s homes and conduct baseline assessments, socio-behavioral interventions and follow-up assessments.
- Assist in the overall implementation and quality assurance of all interventions delivered.
- Collect, code, enter and verify self-report measures and archival data sets.
- Primary studies where I performed the afore-mentioned duties:
  - 1) PRISM 2.0.
    - The goal of this study is to examine the impact of access to PRISM 2 (Personalized Reminder Information and Social Management System) on social connectivity, engagement, social support, and loneliness. All participants receive an LG tablet on which the PRISM2 program is accessible.
  - 2) Caring for the Caregiver Network.
    - This NIH funded study focused on gathering systematic data on the acceptability and efficacy of a unique technology-based, culturally- tailored psycho-social intervention program that targets ethnically/culturally diverse family caregivers of patients with Alzheimer's Disease. The overall goal of this project was to improve the lives of family caregivers as well as their ability to provide care to their loved one and to reduce disparities in access to needed services and support among caregiver populations.

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## **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE:**

**Florida International University / Center for Children and Families (CCF)** **Miami, FL.**  
*Data Entry Tech* Jan. 2014 – Aug. 2014

- Entered and verified data from self-report questionnaires using REDCap software.
  - Assisted in the creation of scripts and questionnaires.
  - Verified accuracy of data entered.
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## **RELEVANT COURSEWORK:**

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Abnormal Psychology, Advanced Behavior Analysis and Lab, Behavior Analysis, Behavior Analysis of Child Behavior Problems, Personality Disorder, Principles and Theories of Behavior Modification, Psychology of Dreams, Psychotherapy, Research Methods, Statistics, Theories of Personality.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

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- Alzheimer's Association, Florida Chapter Affiliate.
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Florida Southeast Affiliate.
- American Psychological Association (APA), Student Affiliate.
- American Society on Aging (ASA), University of Miami Affiliate.
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Miami-Dade County Affiliate.

## **SKILLS, ACTIVITIES & INTERESTS:**

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### **Languages:**

- Fluent in English and Spanish / Conversational Proficiency in Portuguese.

### **Technical Skills:**

- SPSS, FSL, SPM, MATLAB, R, Python and MOODLE.

### **Certifications & Training:**

- Professional writing certificate from FIU.

### **University Activities:**

- Member, Psychology Ambassadors for Student Success, (PASS): FIU Psychology Student Organization.
- Member, FIU Chess Team.

## **REFERENCES:**

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- Daniel Jimenez, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.  
1695 N.W. 9th Avenue  
Suite 3204  
Miami, Florida  
33136
- Joe McClernon, Ph.D.  
Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.  
Director, Duke CfAST  
Director, Triangle Smoking Studies  
2608 Erwin Rd,  
Durham, NC  
27705

