

# ASHLEY ZOLLIFFER

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Baton Rouge, LA 70803

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, Louisiana State University** **Expected 2030**  
Advisor: Alex Cohen, Ph.D.

**M.S., Community Psychology, Florida A&M University** **2021**  
Thesis: "The Relationship Between Perceived Family Support and Risk for Psychosis Among Black College Students"  
Thesis Advisor: Huijun Li, Ph.D.

**B.A., Psychology, San Diego State University** **2018**  
Dean's List - 2017, 2018

## GRANTS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| • Huel Perkins Fellowship ( <b>Awarded: \$25,000 annually</b> )           | Fall 2024 – Spring 2028 |
| • ABPsi Council of Elders Student Book Stipend ( <b>Awarded: \$150</b> )  | Fall 2022               |
| • ABPsi Council of Elders Student Book Stipend ( <b>Awarded: \$150</b> )  | Fall 2021               |
| • Marijuana and Mental Health Project Stipend ( <b>Awarded: \$1,500</b> ) | Summer 2020             |
| • David H. Jackson Jr., Test Preparation & Graduate Research Award        | Spring 2020             |
| • PURPOSE Fellowship ( <b>Awarded: \$6,000</b> )                          | Fall 2020               |
| • Psi Beta WPA Conference Funding Award ( <b>\$300</b> )                  | Fall 2015               |

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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**Totals: 4**

**First Author: 1**

1. **Zollicoffer, A.**, Strauss, G., Luther, L., Schiffman, J., Sims, B., Kambui, H., & Li, H. (2024). The relationship between perceived family support and subclinical positive symptoms of psychosis among Black college students. *Early Intervention in Psychiatry*, 19(1), e13554.
2. Auguste, E., Lodge, T., Carrenard, N., Onwong'a, J. R., **Zollicoffer, A.**, Collins, D., & London, L. (2024). Seeing one another: the creation of the Sawubona healing circles. *Journal of Black Psychology*, 50(4), 411-447.
3. Camille, L., Li, H., **Zollicoffer, A.**, Slater-Sa-Ra, N., & Singleton, G. (2023). Correlates of attenuated positive psychotic symptoms in a non-clinical sample: Perceived discrimination, stress, and substance use. *International Journal of Social Science and Humanity*, Vol. 13, No. 1. DOI:10.18178/ijssh.2023.V13.1116
4. Oliphant, V. N., Robertson, J., Erato, G., **Zollicoffer, A.**, Clement, D. N., & Wingate, L. R. (2022, August). Black women in academia: Maintaining psychological well-being using NTU informed strategies. *The Griot: The Journal of African American Studies*.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS/UNDER REVIEW

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**Totals: 5**

**First Author: 2**

1. Burney, D., Li, H., & **Zollicoffer, A.** (in revision). Impact of ecological factors on cannabis/marijuana use among African American young adults.
2. James, S. H., Galvan, T., **Zollicoffer, A.**, & Strauss, G. P. (under review). A meta-analysis of the role of social deprivation in psychotic disorders.
3. **Zollicoffer, A.**, Wells, T., & Cohen, A. S. (in preparation). Pathways from social media use to psychosis.
4. **Zollicoffer, A.**, Carter, Z. A., Schiffman, J., Ellman, L. M., Walker, E. F., Gold, J. M., Waltz, J. A., Woods, S. W., Powers, A. R., Corlett, P. R., Silverstein, S. M., Mittal, V. A., Zinbarg, R. E., Williams, T. F., & Strauss, G. P. (in preparation). Evaluation of ethnic identity dimensions among minoritized youth at clinical high-risk for psychosis and help-seeking clinical controls.
5. Cohen, A. S., Masucci, M., Granrud, O. E., Warren, K. K., Corporandy, A., **Zollicoffer, A.**, & Strauss, G. P. (in preparation). Humanizing “multimodal” digital phenotyping of serious mental illness.

## PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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### Conference Posters

**Totals: 5**

**First Author: 4**

1. Carter, Z. A., **Zollicoffer, A.**, Schiffman, J., Ellman, L. M., Walker, E. F., Gold, J. M., Waltz, J. A., Woods, S. W., Powers, A. R., Corlett, P. R., Silverstein, S. M., Mittal, V. A., Zinbarg, R. E., Williams, T. F., & Strauss, G. P. (2024, October). *Evaluation of ethnic identity dimensions among minoritized youth at clinical high-risk for psychosis and help-seeking clinical controls* [Poster Presentation]. Society for Research in Psychopathology 2024 Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada.
2. **Zollicoffer, A.**, James, S. H., Collins, D. E., Ayawvi, G., Luther, L., Raugh, I., & Strauss, G.P. (2022, September). *African American and Asian participants evidence disproportionately greater increases in psychosis risk during the COVID-19 pandemic* [Poster Presentation]. Society for Research in Psychopathology 2022 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, United States.
3. Oliphant, V.N., Robertson, J., **Zollicoffer, A.**, Erato, G., Clement, D., & Wingate, L.R. (2022, July). *Academia: Black women and NTU strategies* [Poster Presentation]. 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual ABPsi International Convention, virtual.
4. **Zollicoffer, A.**, Berglund, A.M., James, S.H., Luther, L., Collins, D., Jarvis, S., Ayawvi, G., Walker, E.F., Mittal, V. A., & Strauss, G.P. (2022, February). *Risk factors in African Americans meeting criteria for the attenuated psychosis syndrome* [Poster Presentation]. National Association of African American Studies Conference, virtual.
5. **Zollicoffer, A.** (2020, October 29-31). *The relationship between perceived family support and risk for psychosis among Black college students* [Poster Presentation]. Black Doctoral Network Conference, virtual.
6. **Zollicoffer, A.** (2017, March 2). *Perceptions of Black women due to their hairstyles and textures* [Poster Presentation]. San Diego State University Student Research Symposium,

San Diego, CA, United States.

### Oral Presentations

**Totals: 3**

**First Author: 1**

1. Zollicoffer, A. (2025, March 24). *Digital footprints and life journeys: Navigating connection and impact* [Conference panel presentation]. IMHOTEP Conference, Florida A&M University (virtual).
2. Oliphant, V., Robertson, J. Erato, G., **Zollicoffer, A.**, Clement. D., & Wingate, L.R. (2021, November). *Black women in academia: Maintaining psychological well-being using NTU informed strategies* [Conference session]. Third Annual Dr. Frederick B. Phillips NTU Legacy Conference (virtual).
3. Emanuel-Wright, A., **Zollicoffer, A.**, & Reid Marks, L. (2020, August). *The impact of microaggressions and how to combat them from an educational perspective*. [Conference session]. American Psychological Association Conference (virtual).
4. **Zollicoffer, A.** (2017, March 8-12). *Perceptions, policing, prison – What it means to be a Black woman in America* [Conference session]. National Conference for Black Studies, Houston, TX, United States.

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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#### Ph.D. Student Researcher

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

August 2024 – Present

Affective Science and Psychopathology Laboratory

Advisor: Alex Cohen, Ph.D.

**Lab Focus:** Adapting biobehavioral technologies, such as automated computerized analysis of natural behavior for assessing clinical phenomena including psychosis.

- Developing expertise in vocal and facial analysis tools (e.g., PRAAT, FaceReader) and data analysis in R, including scripting and data wrangling;
- Lead author on a manuscript investigating pathways from social media use to psychosis;
- Co-authoring a manuscript on multimodal digital phenotyping in serious mental illness.

#### Research Coordinator

June 2021 – August 2024

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Clinical Affective Neuroscience Laboratory

Supervising Faculty: Gregory Strauss, Ph.D.

**Lab Focus:** The phenomenology, etiology, assessment, and treatment of negative symptoms in individuals diagnosed with schizophrenia and youth at clinical high-risk for psychosis.

- **Prodromal Inventory for Negative Symptoms (PINS):** Develops and validates the Negative Symptoms Inventory for Psychosis Risk (NSI-PR) for assessing negative symptoms in youth at clinical high-risk for psychosis to enhance risk prediction algorithms.

**NIMH R01-MH116039 Duration: 03/01/2019 – 11/30/2024 Funding: \$2,969,883**

- Create and disseminate online advertisements through social media to recruit participants;
- Utilize Qualtrics to screen participants and determine eligibility, and consent participants for study;

- Administer a variety of neuropsychological and clinical assessments (e.g., SCID-5, SIPS, NSI-PR, etc.) to participants;
  - Rate clinical instruments to determine potential diagnoses, compose a written report of participant's symptoms and diagnoses, and present findings at meetings to reach rating consensus;
  - Collect digital phenotyping data;
  - Organize and upload data for NDA data collection; submit participant payments and maintain payment records;
  - Analyze data via SPSS to inform manuscripts submitted for publication and presentations; and
  - Facilitate laboratory trainings for incoming research coordinators.
- **4/5 CAPER: Computerized Assessment of Psychosis Risk**: Develops and validates a novel computerized screening battery for the early identification of psychosis among youth with prodromal syndromes.  
**NIMH R01-MH120092 Duration: 04/01/2020 – 03/31/2025 Funding: \$2,080,177**
    - Create and disseminate online advertisements through social media to recruit participants;
    - Utilize Qualtrics to screen participants and determine eligibility and consent participants for study;
    - Administer a variety of neuropsychological and clinical assessments (e.g., SCID-5, SIPS, NSI-PR, etc.) to participants;
    - Administer a computerized tasks battery and questionnaires to participants;
    - Rate clinical instruments to determine potential diagnoses, compose a written report of participant's symptoms and diagnoses, and present findings at meetings to reach rating consensus;
    - Organize and upload data for NDA data collection;
    - Submit participant payments and maintain payment records;
    - Analyze data via SPSS to inform manuscripts submitted for publication and presentations; and
    - Facilitate laboratory trainings for incoming research coordinators.

#### **Research Assistant**

October 2021 – July 2022

Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK

Black Equity and Mental Health Research Lab

Faculty Advisor: LaRicka Wingate, Ph.D.

**Lab Focus:** Black/African American mental health concerning culture specific content, including racial microaggressions, ethnic discrimination and ethnic identity, and suicidology.

- Reviewed relevant literature and composed written sections of a manuscript published in a journal of African American studies; and collaborated with Clinical Psychology doctoral students to build understanding of the scientific process.

#### **Research Fellow/Peer Mentor**

January 2020 – August 2022

Florida State University - Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL

Partners United for Research Pathways Oriented to Social Justice in Education

Faculty Advisor: Huijun Li, Ph.D.

Awarded: \$6,000

**Fellowship Mission:** Train a diverse cohort of fellows in research with a focus on social justice in education with the long-term goal of increasing the diversity of the doctorate in education science.

- Developed research skills (e.g., identifying and examining relevant literature, completing and submitting documents for IRB approval, uploading measures into Qualtrics, administering surveys and data collection, analyzing data using SPSS, and constructing research written sections) through partnership with a faculty member;
- Assisted with faculty mentor's research; attended bi-weekly proseminars;
- Completed coursework related to thesis;
- Assisted undergraduate students with developing research projects; and
- Provided guidance to students with completing graduate school applications.

### **Research Scholar**

August 2019 – July 2022

Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL

Center for Ethnic Psychological Research and Application

Faculty Advisors: Huijun Li, Ph.D. and Gwendolyn Singleton, Ph.D.

**Center Mission:** Promote mental wellness, enhance mental health literacy, and improve overall behavioral and mental health for all individuals with a special emphasis on African American and other underserved populations.

- Reviewed literature on the impact of COVID-19 on post-traumatic stress disorder;
- Organized and facilitated a virtual series highlighting students of Black psychology and Black psychologists;
- Conducted research concerning marijuana use and mental disorders within the African American community to inform a manuscript submitted for publication;
- Received and provided education on mental wellness, enhancing mental health literacy, and improving overall behavioral/mental health;
- Organized and facilitated emotional intelligence workshops;
- Organized and conducted a mentoring workshop on completing graduate school applications; and
- Participated in grant writing surrounding the secondary effects of COVID-19.

### **Graduate Assistant**

August 2019 – August 2020

Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL

Faculty Supervisor: Huijun Li, Ph.D.

- Created online training modules on the effects of substance use for undergraduate and graduate students to inform an upcoming manuscript;
- Assisted with research on college student's attitudes toward marijuana use by facilitating focus groups;
- Composed sections of a manuscript on college students' attitudes toward marijuana for a submitted publication; and
- Edited a manuscript concerning psychosocial experiences on risk for psychosis in African American young adults for an upcoming publication.

**Research Assistant**

January 2017 – February 2018

San Diego State University, San Diego, CA  
Developmental Psychopathology Research Laboratory  
Faculty Advisor: Joseph Price, Ph.D.

**Lab Focus:** Examining the effectiveness of a foster parent training program (Keeping Foster and Kinship Families Support; KEEP), based on principles from the Parent Management Training Model, in decreasing behavior problems among children and adolescent in foster care and preventing foster placement disruptions.

- Received training on KEEP curriculum;
- Assisted in coding 10-second intervals of sessions to pinpoint parent's level of engagement;
- Uploaded data from child behavior assessment forms into SPSS; and
- Consistently reviewed relevant literature.

**CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Assessment Specialist**

January 2022 – August 2022

Thrive Together OC, Orange County, CA  
Supervising Faculty: Jason Schiffman, Ph.D., & Mallory Klaunig, Ph.D.

- Completed psychosocial evaluations of clients;
- Prepared written reports of the evaluation, and provided feedback to client, client's family, and client's providers, under the supervision of a psychologist;
- Screened clients, participated in consultation sessions, prepared reporting materials, and assisted with administrative tasks as needed; and
- Located and assisted with preparing materials for grant funding.

**Graduate-Level Intern**

January 2021– April 2021

Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL  
Center for Ethnic Psychological Research and Application  
Supervising Faculty: Gwendolyn Singleton, Ph.D. and Huijun Li, Ph.D.

**Center Mission:** Promote mental wellness, enhance mental health literacy, and improve overall behavioral and mental health for all individuals with a special emphasis on African American and other underserved populations.

- Received referrals from the university's counseling center to provide individual and group life empowerment workshops to students (e.g., mental health literacy, emotional wellness education, stress management strategies, self-care assessment, self-care plan development, and wellness recovery action plans);
- Performed intake assessments, conducted screenings, and developed case formulations for students receiving mental health services;
- Developed and facilitated group mental health literacy workshops to community partners; and provided research mentorship to first-year graduate students.

**Psychosocial Rehabilitation Specialist II**

July 2018 – August 2019

Alpine Special Treatment Center, San Diego, CA

- Assisted adults with mental illness and dual diagnosis in transitioning from acute crisis towards stabilization;

- Facilitated groups and activities that support the psychosocial rehabilitation model; utilized motivational interviewing to encourage clients to successfully complete the program in order to reintegrate into society;
- Closely monitored and observed clients as well as assisted clients in completing activities of daily living;
- Assessed client's affects, thought processes, and off baseline behaviors to determine necessary support and completed documentation;
- Provided crisis prevention and intervention; and
- Assisted in preparing clients for both admission and discharge from the facility.

## **16 CLINICAL INSTRUMENTS SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

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|--|---|
| 1. Structured Interview for Prodromal Symptoms (SIPS)  | (GFS-S)   |
| 2. Negative Symptoms Inventory for Psychosis Risk (NSI-PR)   | 9. Global Functioning Scale: Role (GFS-R)                 |
| 3. Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS)   | 10. MATRICS Consensus Cognitive Battery (MCCB)            |
| 4. Positive Symptoms and Diagnostic Criteria for the CAARMS and Harmonization with the SIPS (PSYCHS) | 11. Level of Functioning Scale (LOF)                      |
| 5. Columbia-Suicide Rating Severity Scale (C-SRSS)   | 12. Research Interview for Life Events (RILES)            |
| 6. Calgary Depression Scale for Schizophrenia (CDSS)   | 13. Family Interview for Genetic Studies (FIGS)           |
| 7. Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-5 (SCID-5)  | 14. Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC-V)     |
| 8. Global Functioning Scale: Social  | 15. Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS-IV)           |
|  | 16. Woodcock Johnson Tests of Cognitive Abilities (WJ-IV) |

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Teaching Assistant**

August 2020 – April 2021

Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL

Undergraduate Courses - Psychological Statistics/Research Methods

Supervising Faculty: Brian Sims, Ph.D. and Deanna Burney, Ph.D.

- Assisted with keeping attendance and calculating grades;
- Provided additional statistics support during office hours;
- Organized and facilitated review sessions; collaborated with professor on lecture material and course structure; and
- Facilitated breakout rooms via Zoom during lectures to provide a more focused discussion.

### **Teaching Assistant**

August 2017 – December 2017

San Diego State University, San Diego, CA

Undergraduate Course - Industrial and Organizational (I-O) Psychology

Supervising Faculty: Jeffrey Conte, Ph.D.

- Created lecture PowerPoint slides on new topics in psychology that incorporated quotations, pictures, videos, and APA-style references; and
- Assisted with proctoring in-person exams.

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

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### **CDOP Mentorship Network Student Leader**

August 2024 – Present

Louisiana State University

Supervising Faculty: Kelly Clark, Ph.D.

- Coordinate department-wide mentorship initiatives aimed at supporting graduate student success and community building;
- Create and distribute newsletters highlighting upcoming events and graduate student accomplishments;
- Maintain ongoing communication with faculty and students to collect and share updates;
- Develop a mentorship guidebook to support effective mentor-mentee engagement;
- Promote regular mentor-mentee meetups and organize a year-end mentorship luncheon;
- Design and disseminate a satisfaction survey to assess and improve the mentorship program.

### **National Student Circle Secretary**

September 2020 – August 2022

Association of Black Psychologists

**Organization Mission:** Liberation of the African Mind, empowerment of the African Character, and enlivenment and illumination of the African Spirit.

- Recorded and distributed meeting minutes to each student officer;
- Managed the correspondence between board members and the student circle;
- Communicated frequently with the chairperson;
- Organized records via Google Docs; and
- Conducted research concerning the importance of Black psychology.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS**

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Society for Research in Psychopathology

Psi Chi Honor Society

Psi Beta Honor Society

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Graduate Feeder Scholar

## **RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS/CERTIFICATIONS**

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### **CITI Program Training**

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|--|-----------------------------|
| • Bio-Medical Research                                     | January 2022 – January 2027 |
| • Human Research – Social and Behavioral Research          | June 2021 – June 2026       |
| • Human Research – Social and Behavioral Research Internet | June 2021 – June 2026       |
| • Responsible Conduct of Research – Biomedical             | June 2021 – June 2025       |
| • Responsible Conduct of Research – Social & Behavioral    | June 2021 – June 2025       |
| • Good Clinical Practice – Social & Behavioral             | June 2021 – June 2024       |



**Experience in SPSS (Intermediate) and Qualtrics (Expert)**  
**Experience in RedCAP (Intermediate) and Adobe Acrobat (Novice)**

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**EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATIONS**

MRI Safety Training on the 3T GE Scanner

October 2021

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**REFERENCES**

Available upon request