

CURRICULUM VITAE SORAYA NATALIE LESTER

Contact Details

Current position: PhD Candidate
Department of Psychology
University of Cape Town

Gender: Female

Age (birthdate): 31 years (12/04/1991)

Nationality: British (Permanent resident in South Africa)

Home address: 13 Sunhill Estate
Sunnydale
Fish Hoek
7975

Telephone: 083 774 0741

E-mail: ltsor001@myuct.ac.za/sorayalester@gmail.com

Qualifications

PhD in Psychology	Psychology University of Cape Town	2016 - in progress
MPhil (Distinction in dissertation and degree with distinction)	Monitoring and Programme Evaluation Title of thesis: <i>Evaluation of the Parent Centre's Positive Parenting Skills Training programme: A randomised controlled trial</i> University of Cape Town	2015
B.SocSc. (Hons) (First Class Pass)	Psychology University of Cape Town	2013
B.SocSc. (Distinction in Sociology)	Psychology and Sociology University of Cape Town	2010-2012

Employment History

1 April 2021-present (part-time)	<p>Project Assistant for UCT UCDG Project 10 Centre for Innovation in Learning Technology University of Cape Town Duties include: Survey development and analysis, literature reviewing, report writing, budget management, project monitoring and reporting, contribute to policy development and revision, interview guide development, managing data collection, managing meeting agendas and chair team meetings</p>
March 2019 – Present (part-time)	<p>Research Assistant for UCT MOOC Takers Research Project Centre for Innovation in Learning Technology University of Cape Town Duties include: quality control of captured data, assist with survey and interview guide development, survey creation in SurveyMonkey, manage data collection, conduct interviews, analyse data in NVivo, develop shared EndNote library, manage meeting agendas and chair team meetings, contribute to publications (write up, review and amendment)</p>
4 September 2020 – 15 October 2020 (part-time)	<p>Research Consultant Centre for Innovation in Learning Technology University of Cape Town Duties include: contribute to the qualitative analysis of a portion of the open-ended answers in UCT Remote Teaching Staff Experience Survey (n=519). Contribute to a report of findings.</p>
August 2020 (part-time)	<p>Evaluation Consultant Centre for Innovation in Learning Technology University of Cape Town Duties include: Providing guidance on report write up and brief analysis of qualitative survey data</p>
13 July 2020 – 10 August 2020 (part-time)	<p>Research Consultant Centre for Innovation in Learning Technology University of Cape Town Duties include: qualitative analysis of open-ended answers in UCT Remote Teaching Student Experience Survey (n=3818). Write up a report of the findings including recommendations.</p>

- July 2019 – March 2020
(part-time) **Evaluation Officer**
Centre for Innovation in Learning Technology
University of Cape Town
Duties include: conducting evaluations on the UCT Formal Online Education Projects. This included conducting interviews, focus groups, analysis and report write-up on two separate projects.
- March - May 2019
(part-time) **Lecturer's class assistant for a statistics and SPSS workshop**
Marylin Lake
University of Cape Town
Duties include: assisting students with the completion of workshop exercises
- February – June 2019
(part-time) **Numeracy Centre Tutor**
Centre for Higher Education Development
University of Cape Town
Duties include: preparing tutorials, presenting tutorials to undergraduate students
- August 2018 –
November 2019 (part-time) **Mandisa Project Mentor**
Humanities Education Development Unit
University of Cape Town
Duties include: holding meetings with mentees to support their postgraduate application process, assist with course work.
- May 2016 -
September 2016
(part-time) **Research Assistant**
Department of Psychology
University of Cape Town
Duties include: managing a team working on a systematic review for the Know Violence in Childhood Project, presenting results and editing for submission for publication
- April 2015 –
March 2016 **DST-NRF Intern**
National Research Foundation
Hosted by the Department of Psychology
University of Cape Town
Duties include: Managing a small qualitative study and writing a policy brief on the findings, managing the 1-year follow-up of a randomised controlled trial of a parenting programme, contributing to a systematic review, editing honour's thesis for submission to be published
- February 2015 -
March 2015 **Research Assistant**
Department of Psychology
Stellenbosch University

Duties include: Writing a research proposal, editing a book and manual, writing literature reviews.

February 2014 –
July 2014
(part-time)

Psychology Tutor

Department of Psychology
University of Cape Town

Duties include: Presenting several tutorials to first year Psychology students, providing tutees with course-work related assistance, marking tutees coursework assignments, attending tutor meetings.

Research Output

Publications

Manuscripts in press

1. **Lester, S.,** Lawrence, C., & Ward, C.L. (2017): What do we know about preventing school violence? A systematic review of systematic reviews, *Psychology, Health & Medicine*, DOI: 10.1080/13548506.2017.1282616
2. Heekes, S. Kruger, C.B., **Lester, S.N.,** Ward, C.L. (2020): A systematic review of corporal punishment in schools: Global prevalence and correlates. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, DOI: 10.1177/1524838020925787
3. Marquard, S., Walji, S., Lester, S., Kefale, K., & Deacon, A. (2020). UCT ERT Student Experience Survey 2020. Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching and Data Analytics for Student Success. University of Cape Town.

Presentations and workshops at South African conferences

1. **Lester, S.,** Preston, N., Madalane, M.S., & Ward, C.L. (2013, November). *Do contextual stressors affect parenting behaviours and child aggression in South African townships?* Paper presented at the 2nd Colloquium of the University of Cape Town Safety and Violence Initiative, Cape Town, South Africa.

Presentations and workshops at international conferences

1. **Lester, S.,** Preston, N., Madalane, M., & Ward, C.L. (2014, August). *Do contextual stressors affect parenting behaviours and child aggression in South African townships?* Paper presented at the 21st World Congress of the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Health Professions, Durban, South Africa.
2. Madalane, M., Ward, C.L., **Lester, S.,** & Preston, N. (2014, August). *Properties of the Alabama Parenting Questionnaire in an isiXhosa-speaking sample.* Poster presented at the 21st World Congress of the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions, Durban, South Africa.
3. **Lester, S.,** Lawrence, C., Naylor, T., Nestadt, A., Berlein, A., Barnes, C., Scheepers, A., Hammerschlag, D., Abrahams, N., Guattari-Stafford, T., Ward, C.L. (2016, September). *The State of Knowledge on School Violence Interventions: A Systematic Meta-Review.* Paper

presented at the University of Cape Town Safety and Violence Initiative, and Global Campaign for Violence Prevention, Cape Town, South Africa.

Published abstracts of conference presentations

1. **Lester, S.**, Preston, N., Madalane, M., & Ward, C.L. (2014). Do contextual stressors affect parenting behaviours and child aggression in South African townships? *Journal of Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, 26(2), 33.
2. Madalane, M., Ward, C.L., **Lester, S.**, & Preston, N. (2014). Properties of the Alabama Parenting Questionnaire in an isiXhosa-speaking sample. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, 26(2), 99

Grant Funding Received

Project title	Funding agency	Amount	Role	Dates
Behind the scenes: Taking the National School Safety Framework to Scale	Wellspring Philanthropic Fund through the African Child Policy Forum	ZAR 354,148.20	Principal Investigator	July 2019- December 2022
Evaluating the Parent Centre's Positive Parenting Programme: A randomised controlled trial	Cape Higher Education Consortium	ZAR48,000	Principal Investigator	1 July 2014 – 31 December 2015

Awards and Achievements

- 2018 Centre of Excellence in Human Development, DST-NRF Doctoral Bursary
University of Cape Town Postgraduate Office Centre and Funding Office Doctoral Research Scholarship
- 2017 Centre of Excellence in Human Development, DST-NRF Doctoral Bursary
University of Cape Town Postgraduate Office Centre and Funding Office Doctoral Research Scholarship
- 2016 Centre of Excellence in Human Development, DST-NRF Doctoral Bursary
University of Cape Town Postgraduate Office Centre and Funding Office Doctoral Research Scholarship
- 2014 Institute of Monitoring and Evaluation Prize

- 2013 National Research Foundation Innovation Scholarship
- 2012 University of Cape Town Humanities Faculty Scholarship
- 2010-2012 Humanities Faculty Dean's Merit List (for students with an overall average above 70%)
- 2010 Member of Golden Key International Honour Society

Referees

Dr Catherine Ward

catherine.ward@uct.ac.za
Tel: +27 (0)21 650 3422

Dr Colin Tredoux

Colin.Tredoux@uct.ac.za
Tel: +2721 650 3424