

# SAMUEL E. FIALA, PhD, LP

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Work: Department of Psychology & Counseling  
Texas A&M University-Central Texas  
1001 Leadership Place  
Killeen, TX 76549

## EDUCATION

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- December 2005     Doctor of Philosophy  
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX  
Major: Clinical Psychology  
Dissertation: *Camp Counselors Working with Chronically Ill Children*
- August 2002     Master of Science  
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX  
Major: Clinical Psychology  
Thesis: *The Effects of Mentoring on Mentors*
- May 1999     Bachelor of Arts with Honors  
Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX  
Major: Psychology  
Honors thesis: *Research Utilization by Mental Health Practitioners*

## LICENSURE

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2008-present     Licensed psychologist in Texas #33254

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- 2008-present     Associate Professor of Psychology and Counseling  
*Texas A&M University-Central Texas (formerly Tarleton State University-Central Texas)*  
PSYK 310: Abnormal Psychology (8 sections)\*  
PSYK 330: Elementary Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (2 sections)  
PSYK 350: Personality (5 sections)\*  
PSYK/MHCK 501: Research Methods (17 sections, graduate)\*  
PSYK 504: Human Development (1 section, graduate)  
PSYK/MHCK 505: Practicum I: Field Experience (3 sections, graduate)  
PSYK 513: Crisis Intervention/Management for Individuals & Families (6 sections, graduate)\*  
PSYK 514: Assessment of Intelligence and Achievement (2 sections, graduate)  
CPSK 553: Personality and Counseling Theories and Applications (1 section, graduate)  
CPSK 558: Counseling Perspectives on Psychopathology (1 section, graduate)  
PSYK 580: Personality and Social Assessment (2 sections, graduate)  
PSYK 584: Practicum II: Field Experience (3 sections, graduate)  
PSYK 587: Practicum III: Field Experience (1 section, graduate)  
PSYK 588 Thesis (Chair, 4 students)  
MHCK 595: Internship in Counseling I (2 sections, graduate)  
CNSK 591: Ethical Foundations of Counseling (2 sections, graduate)\*

*\*Courses developed to be taught fully online*

- 2007-2008 Visiting Faculty  
*Southwestern University*  
Developmental Psychology (2 sections)  
Abnormal Psychology (1 section)  
Principles of Psychology (2 sections)  
Experimental Research Methods
- 2002-2004 Graduate Teaching Instructor  
*Texas A&M University*  
Introduction to Psychology (3 sections)  
Behavioral Statistics (1 section)  
Abnormal Psychology (1 section)
- 2000-2003 Lab Instructor  
*Texas A&M University*  
Behavioral Statistics (8 sections)  
Experimental Psychology Lab (4 sections)  
Testing of Children and Adolescents Lab (graduate)
- 2002 Teaching Assistant  
*Texas A&M University*  
Psychology of Adjustment (1 section)
- 1998 Lab Instructor  
*Southwestern University*  
Experimental Research Methods (1 section)

## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

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- 2008-present Staff Psychologist  
*Early Childhood Intervention, Childteam, Bell County, TX*  
Conduct developmental and psychosocial assessments for children aged 0-3 who are at risk for having a developmental delay/disability. Consult with other professionals (social workers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists) on the team to construct an individualized family service plan to help the child reach appropriate developmental milestones.
- 2005-2007 Early Intervention Specialist/Postdoctoral Psychologist in Training  
*Early Childhood Intervention, Lubbock ISD, Lubbock, TX*  
Provided developmental and infant mental health services to families with children identified as having a developmental delay/disability. Consulted with other professionals (social workers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists) on the team to ensure quality service delivery.  
*Clinical supervisor:* Michael Ratheal, Ph.D.
- 2005-2006 Postdoctoral Psychologist in Training  
*Student Counseling Center, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX*  
Conducted outpatient individual and couples therapy with undergraduate and graduate students presenting with a variety of issues. Presenting problems included mood, anxiety,

eating, adjustment, and personality disorders as well as difficulties adjusting to life changes or relationship conflicts that are not reflective of axis I or axis II pathology.

*Clinical supervisor:* Rich Lenox, Ph.D.

2004-2005

Predoctoral Intern

*Student Counseling Center, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX*

Conducted outpatient individual, couples, and group therapy with undergraduate and graduate students presenting with a variety of issues. Presenting problems included mood, anxiety, eating, adjustment, and personality disorders as well as difficulties adjusting to life changes or relationship conflicts that are not reflective of axis I or axis II pathology.

Supervised masters-level therapists, supported resident advisors and provided training for residence life professional staff, consulted with psychiatrists and other university personnel regarding client needs, and provided walk-in and after-hours crisis coverage.

Developed and presented outreach presentations.

- Depression Awareness Week
- Curb Your Anxiety Week
- GLBT and Allies Awareness Week
- Feed Your Body and Soul Week
- Safe Zone Trainings
- Mental Health Awareness Poker Tournament
- GLBT and Christianity College Advisor Development
- Sexual Assault Awareness
- Responding to Students in Need (training for college advisors)

*Training Director:* Rich Lenox, Ph.D.

*Clinical supervisors:* Stacey Moore, Ph.D.; Sharla Boyd, Ph.D.; Sarah Haley, Ph.D.

2003-2004

Student Clinician

*Student Counseling Services, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX*

Conducted outpatient individual therapy with college students presenting to a university counseling center with a variety of psychiatric disorders and problems of living.

*Clinical supervisors:* James Degear, Ph.D.; Kristin Clemens, Ph.D.

2000-2004

Student Clinician

*Texas A&M Psychology Clinic, College Station, TX*

Conducted outpatient individual therapy with children, adults, and families presenting to a low-cost mental health clinic with a variety of disorders and problems of living. Conducted cognitive, intellectual, and personality assessments on adults, adolescents, and children, and completed psychological assessment of police officer candidates in local communities.

*Clinical supervisors:* Antonio Cepeda-Benito, Ph.D., Robert W. Heffer, Ph.D., Douglas K. Snyder, Ph.D. Brian, H. Stagner, Ph.D.

2003

Group Therapist

*Texas A&M Psychology Clinic, College Station, TX*

Co-led two iterations of an 8-week psychoeducational group for parents of children ages 2 to 10 years who were exhibiting symptoms of Oppositional Defiant Disorder. The curriculum was based on Forheand & Long's *Parenting the Strong-Willed Child: A Clinically Proven Program for Parents*. Topics covered included the parenting skills of attending, rewarding, ignoring, giving directions, and use of consequences, as well as establishing a healthy family structure and addressing sibling rivalry.

*Clinical supervisor:* Robert W. Heffer, Ph.D.

- 2003            Psychology Extern  
*Brazos County Jail and Sandy Point Minimum Security Jail, Bryan, TX*  
 Served as the sole on-site provider of psychological services at two correctional facilities serving male and female inmates. Screened inmates for need of other services (e.g., medication, MHMR) and provided brief therapy. Also consulted with staff regarding how to best meet the needs of at-risk inmates.  
*Clinical supervisor:* Lesley C, Morey, Ph.D.
- 2002-2003    Assessment Extern  
*Sheltering Arms, Bryan, TX*  
 Administered, scored, and interpreted psychological and intellectual tests to children ages 3-17 years at a shelter for youth removed from their homes by Child Protective Services. Wrote reports integrating results to be used in determining most appropriate placement for a child and best practices regarding their care while at the shelter.  
*Clinical supervisor:* Brian H. Stagner, Ph.D.
- 2002-2003    Psychometrician  
*University Pediatrics Association, Bryan, TX*  
 Scored child, teacher, and parent measures of child behavior, and compiled summaries of the results to be used by pediatricians in assessment of ADHD. Consulted with nursing staff when assessment results suggested areas of immediate concern.  
*Clinical supervisor:* Jesse Parr, M.D.
- 2001-2002    Psychology Clinic Coordinator  
*Texas A&M University, College Station, TX*  
 Assisted in the coordination of clinical services for an outpatient community mental health clinic. Responsibilities included performing intake screening assessments, managing crisis situations, assisting in case assignments, and consulting with and providing referrals to other mental health providers in local communities.  
*Clinical supervisor:* Robert W. Heffer, Ph.D.
- 2000-2001    Group Therapist  
*Federal Corrections Institute, Bryan, TX*  
 Provided group-based psychoeducational/therapy programs to inmates at a federal women's prison on self- and relationship improvement, parenting skills, and coping with grief. Developed the curriculum for two new groups: parenting and grief groups.  
*Clinical supervisors:* Robin Sanabria, Ph.D., Antonio Cepeda-Benito, Ph.D.

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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- Fiala, S. E.**, Strutton, J. N., & Swanson, V. (revisions submitted). Predicting breastfeeding intention among nonpregnant female and male U.S. adolescents. Submitted to the *Journal of Human Lactation*. Manuscript ID: JHL-15-07-203R1. Awaiting editorial review of revisions.
- Lapierre, C., Ruehlen, G., Campbell, S., & **Fiala, S.** (2015). Responses to school bomb threats: A survey of stakeholders. *Research and Practice in the Schools*, 3 (1), 30-36.
- Snyder, D. K., Balderrama-Durbin, C. Fissette, C., Scheider, D. M., Barnett, J., & **Fiala, S. E.** (2012). Infidelity. In B. A. Moore (Ed.), *Handbook of counseling military couples* (pp. 219-235). New York, NY US: Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group.

Faith, M. A., **Fiala, S. E.**, Cavell, T. A., & Hughes, J. N. (2011). Mentoring highly aggressive children: Pre-post changes in mentors' attitudes, personality, and attachment tendencies. *The Journal of Primary Prevention, 32* (5-6), 253-270.

Cavell, T. A., Meehan, B. T., & **Fiala, S. E.** (2003). Assessing social competence in children and adolescents. In C. R. Reynolds & R. W. Kamphaus (Eds.), *Handbook of psychological and educational assessment of children: Personality, behavior, and context*. New York: Guilford.

**Fiala, S. E.**, Giuliano, T. A., Remlinger, N. M., & Braithwaite, L. C. (1999). Lending a helping hand: the effects of sex stereotypes and gender on likelihood of helping. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology, 29*, 2164-2176.

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### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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Strutton, J. N., & **Fiala, S. E.** (2015). The effect of equine assisted therapy on human and horse physiological and behavioral patterns. Data collected; manuscript in preparation.

**Fiala, S. E.**, Lapiere, C. B., & Schwegler, A. F., Labauve, B., Barnett, K., & Stagar, M. (2015). Relation between attachment style and mental health among returning combat veterans. Data collected and analyzed; manuscript in preparation.

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### PEER-REVIEWED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

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Berry, J., & **Fiala, S. E.** (2015). Global greying: Essential guidelines to counseling the aging population. Half-day workshop presented at 49<sup>th</sup> annual International Association for Counseling Conference, Verona, Italy.\*\*\*

Coble, M. J., Schwegler, A. F., **Fiala, S. E.**, & Lapiere, C. B. (2015). Ringtone triggers negative stress reactions after military deployment. Poster presented at the 123<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Alberta, Canada. \*\*

**Fiala, S. E.**, & Cavell, T. A. (2002). The effects of mentoring on mentors. Poster presented at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy, Reno, NV.\*\*

Giuliano, T. A., **Fiala, S. E.**, Davis, D. M., & Patrick, E. C. (1998). The reluctance to admit, "I don't know": Exploring Male Answer Syndrome. Paper presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Psychological Society, Washington, DC.\*\*

**Fiala, S. E.**, Remlinger, N. M., & Giuliano, T. A. (1997). The effects of sex stereotypes and gender on likelihood of helping. Poster presented at the 44<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, New Orleans.\*

\*regional, \*\*national, \*\*\*international

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### STUDENT PRESENTATIONS OF CLASS PROJECTS/THESES

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Keits, A. L., & Rohde, N. N. (2013). Students' perception of professors based on dress. Poster presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Dallas, TX.\*\*

Cintron, J., Leiva, N., Fields, Y, Teixeira, P. D., & Singer, J. J. (2013). Countertransference in marital therapy for infidelity occurring in clients with military affiliation. Poster presented at the 2013 annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Dallas, TX.\*\*

Lapiere, C., Yeager, R. K., Teixeira, P., Brown, E., & Singer, J. (2012). Homeschool motivations and perceptions. Poster presented at the 2012 annual meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association, Oklahoma City, OK.\*\*

\*regional, \*\*national, \*\*\*international

## SERVICE

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- 2017-present Chair, Counseling & Psychology Department  
*Texas A&M University-Central Texas*  
Provide collaborative leadership on behalf of the department, maintain a collegial environment, and ensure that the department functions efficiently, effectively, and in accordance with A&M-Central Texas rules and standard administrative procedures and System regulations and policies.
- 2013-2017 Practicum/Internship Director  
*Texas A&M University-Central Texas*  
Determine eligibility of students in clinical programs (CMHC, SSP, MFT, School Counseling) applying for practicum and internship, and screen external sites and site supervisors to ensure they meet the requirements of the various training programs. Serve as the liaison between the Department and external internship/practicum sites and develop memoranda of understanding for these sites.
- 2009-present Chair of the College of Education Grade Appeals Committee  
*Texas A&M University-Central Texas*  
Authored the guidelines and created forms for submission of and response to grade appeals filed in the College of Education. Coordinate the faculty and student members of the committee's response to students' appeals.
- 2008-present Committee Member (various standing and ad hoc committees)  
*Texas A&M University-Central Texas*  
I have served on various standing university-level committees during my tenure with the University, including the Distance Learning Advisory Council (now the Council for Academic Technology & Innovative Education), Institutional Review Board, Diversity Committee, Library Services Committee, and Academic Assessment Committee as well as college/department-level committees such as the Psychology & Counseling Department Admissions and Curriculum Committees and the College of Education Grade Appeals Committee. Additionally I have served on various ad hoc committees needed to create policy recommendations and/or address emergent issues in the University (e.g., creating a faculty handbook, drafting an academic integrity policy, making changes to new student orientation, choosing recipients of faculty awards, and hiring faculty members).
- 2015-present Alternate Member  
*Bell County Public Health District*  
The mission of this group, which meets quarterly, is to promote healthy lifestyles in the communities served through education, service, and leadership; to prevent disease and protect the public's health; and to serve as professionals dedicated to public health service. I am able to attend all board meetings and vote on items when the primary Killeen representative is absent.
- 2014-present Member  
*New Beginnings*  
This group meets quarterly and is comprised of physical and behavioral health stakeholders who have an interest in networking for the purpose of developing an effective and collaborative system of services and access to residents of Bell County and surrounding areas.
- 2014-present Member

### *Central Texas Behavioral Health Network*

This group is an off-shoot of New Beginnings and is comprised of representatives of various community stakeholders who have a primary interest in the provision of behavioral health services to residents of Bell County and surrounding areas. We meet quarterly and are developing a database of providers that can be used as a referral source for community agencies and private practitioners.

- 2010-2014    Member of Faculty Senate  
*Texas A&M University-Central Texas*  
I was founding member of the Faculty Senate at the University and contributed to the writing of the constitution and bylaws of that group. The faculty Senate's role and responsibility is to provide advice and recommendations to the President of the University. In turn, the President of the University charges the Senate with primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of its curriculum. The Faculty Senate reports to the President of the University
- 2010-2011    Treasurer of Faculty Senate  
*Texas A&M University-Central Texas*  
The Treasurer of the Senate is responsible for expenditures of monies available to the Senate, reporting the use of Senate funds to the Senate in a timely manner, proposing special expenditures such as the awarding of scholarships, and serving as Chair of the Senate Budget Committee. As an officer in the Senate, I was also a member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee organizes and coordinates the committee structure of the Senate, manages the Senate's affairs between meetings, and meets regularly with President and Provost to provide liaison between the Senate and the administration.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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| 2015    | Outstanding Graduate Faculty-Teaching (finalist)                          |
| 2003    | Wal-Mart Foundation Community Bonus Grant                                 |
| 2002-03 | Dorothy M. Wolf Benevolent Trust Scholarship                              |
| 1999-00 | Texas A&M Graduate Merit Fellowship                                       |
| 1999    | Phi Beta Kappa, Southwestern University                                   |
| 1999    | Southwestern University Outstanding Senior in Psychology                  |
| 1998    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> place, Psi Chi/Allyn & Bacon Nationwide Paper Competition |
| 1998    | Psi Chi Regional Research Award, Southwestern Psychological Association   |
| 1998    | William D. Hooker Internship Fellowship                                   |
| 1997    | Psi Chi, Psychology Honors Society  |

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- American Psychological Association, Member  
Texas Counseling Association, Member  
Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Member  
West Texas Infant Mental Health Association, Past Member