

# ANDREA J. MACIAS

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Southern California (USC) Rossier School of Education** expected 2026

**Ph.D. Urban Education Policy**

Concentration: Educational Psychology

Advisor: Dr. Stephen J. Aguilar

**University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA)**

**B.A. Psychology**

Thesis: *The Self-efficacy, Mindset, and Achievement of Children of UC Student Mothers: The Links to Perceptions of Mothers' Student Role*

Thesis Advisor: Dr. Alison L. Bailey

**El Camino College (ECC)**

**A.A. Psychology and General Biological & Physical Sciences**

## AWARDS, HONORS, & FELLOWSHIPS

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National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP): \$111,000	2024
COOP Careers Data Analytics Fellowship	2024
USC Graduate School Travel/Research Award: \$1,500	2023
USC External Fellowship Boot Camp Research Award: \$1,000	2023
Always Soñando National Scholarship Program Grant: \$2,500	2023
USC Provost Fellowship	2022
UCR Eugene Cota Robles Award*	2022
UCSB Racial Justice Fellowship Award*	2022
UCSB Block Grant Fellowship*	2022
UCLA College Honors	2022
Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA) Undergraduate Scholars Program*	2022
Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) Scholar: \$2,500	2021, 2023
UCLA Dean's Honors List	2020-2022
UCLA Ronald E. McNair Research Scholars Program: \$10,000	2020-2022
Mission Asset Fund College Student Relief Scholarship: \$100	2020
ECC Dean's List	2018-2020
OSHER Scholarship from ECC Osher Foundation: \$1,000	2019
El Segundo Masonic Lodge No. 421 Doolittle Memorial Scholarship: \$1,000	2018
Imperial Lions Club Scholarship: \$500	2018
Ronald Reagan Student Leader Award	2018

\*denotes selected but did not accept

## PUBLICATIONS

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McCoy, W. N., Leach, O., **Macias, A. J.**, & DeCuir-Gunby, J. T. (manuscript in preparation). "I feel like a mule": Black women professionals in higher education experiencing and coping with gendered

racial microaggressions. *Journal of Women and Gender in Higher Education*.

DeCuir-Gunby, J. T., Gibson, S., McCoy, W. N., & Modaressi, S. & **Macias, A. J.** (manuscript in review). Using Critical Race Mixed Methodology to explore Black college students' experiences with racial microaggressions: Lessons for the field. *Innovation Higher Education*.

Aguilar, J., Torres, G. M., & **Macias, A. J.** (manuscript in review). Engaging in "me-search": Researcher reflexivity and responsibility in re-constructing community-informed research. *Contemporary Educational Psychology*.

McCoy, W. N., DeCuir-Gunby, J. T., & **Macias, A. J.** (2024). Qualitative and mixed methods. In *Reference Module in Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Psychology*. Elsevier.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-96023-6.00017-8>

**Macias, A. J.** (2023). Reflections and consejos for thriving in research from a first-gen Chicana scholar. *MAP National McNair Research Journal*, 2. <https://mcnairmap.org/page-18093>

## **MEDIA AND IMPACT**

**Macias, A. J.** (2023, October 31). Belongingness: A key to supporting motivation, retention, & success for Black and Brown communities in academia. <https://andreamacias19.weebly.com/blog>

## **RESEARCH GRANTS**

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**Latina Transfer Students in Higher Education: Support Networks Guiding Persistence and Institutional Culture at Selective R-1 Universities** 2023  
*Principal Investigator*. Co-PI: Jimmy Aguilar and Gabriela Torres  
USC Rossier Internal Research Grant (\$1,500)

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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**Black Family Storytelling Project, USC** 2023  
*Research Assistant*  
Collected news articles/reports, social media posts, blogs, and videos about the experiences of Black families in the U.S. K-12 education system. Supported the development of informational webinars that provide advice for Black families.  
Principal Investigators: Dr. Jessica DeCuir-Gunby and Dr. Shaun Harper

**Latina Transfer Students in Higher Education Project, USC** 2023  
*Principal Investigator*. Co-PI: Jimmy Aguilar and Gabriela Torres  
Designed and conducted a qualitative study using semi-structured interviews to investigate the support networks and sense of community of Latina transfer students at selective R1 four-year universities.

**Collaborative Autoethnography with Doctoral Students, USC** 2023  
*Research Assistant*  
Crafted focus group protocol and led a focus group reviewing Fall 2022 course journal entries and reflecting on the teaching and learning principles of the guiding theoretical frameworks. Conducted holistic coding of focus group memos to generate themes and subthemes.  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Dwuana Bradley

**A Mixed Methods Exploration of Helping Professionals' Colorblind Racial Ideology,** 2023

## **Beliefs About Race, and Emotional Regulation, USC**

*Research Assistant*

Analyzed quantitative survey data with factor analyses and multiple regression analyses using SPSS to explore the impact of diversity class on preservice teachers' and non-education majors' colorblind racial ideology and psychological inflexibility.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica DeCuir-Gunby

## **The McNair Program: A Policy Analysis, USC**

2023

*Principal Investigator*

Conducted and produced a manuscript of in-depth policy analysis of the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. Using policy documents, other primary sources, and interview data with a current McNair Program assistant director, I analyzed the policy window, design, implementation, and impact of this policy to determine to what extent its equity goals for underrepresented students were met.

## **A Qualitative Exploration of Transfer Student-Parents of Color, UC San Diego**

2022- 2023

*Research Associate*

Conducted holistic coding of interview transcripts for a study of transfer student-parents of color at a selective R1 university to generate themes and subthemes.

Principal Investigator: Jesse Enriquez

## **UCLA Diversity Project**

2021-2022

*Research Assistant*

Participated in pilot interviews. Transcribed, cleaned, and manually coded participant responses from recorded transcripts of interview data with participants who are ethnically diverse young adults from Los Angeles and Bay Area public schools.

Principal Investigators: Dr. Jaana Juvonen and Dr. Sandra Graham

## **UCLA Haselton Lab**

2021-2022

*Research Assistant*

Ran descriptive and mediation analyses with PROCESS macros using R for project that examines disgust attitudes and LGBT rights attitudes. Created mediation models.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Martie Haselton

## **UCLA McNair Research Scholars Program**

, 2020-2022

*Research Scholar*

Designed quantitative study. Administered questionnaires to student mothers and their children for a study on how children's perception of mothers' student roles is correlated with children's academic self-efficacy, growth mindset, & academic achievement. Ran statistical analyses using SPSS. Produced 50-page manuscript.

Advisor: Dr. Alison L. Bailey

## **UCLA Language & Cognitive Development Lab**

2020-2021

*Research Assistant*

Conducted experiments and entered data on children ages 2-3 for study on emotion understanding & word learning and study on variability between categories, interleaved/massed presentations, & word learning.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Catherine Sandhofer

*Research & Project Assistant*

Organized and analyzed research data for web content and book project. Wrote and uploaded web content using WordPress for lausdhistory.org. Conducted outreach phone calls to individual schools. Principal Investigator: Dr. John Baranski

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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- Aguilar, J., Torres, G., & **Macias, A. J.** (2024, April 11). *The Latina Community College Transfer Experience: An Exploration of Their Sense of Community at Selective R1 Institutions* [Oral presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2024 Annual Meeting.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Enriquez, J. (2023, November 2). *Community College to 4-Year Research University: A Case Study of Transfer Student-Parents of Color* [Oral presentation]. Association for the Study of Higher Education 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.
- DeCuir-Gunby, J. T., McCoy, W., & **Macias, A. J.** (2023, March 3). *African American Educators' Experiencing of Gendered Racial Microaggressions in Higher Education* [Poster presentation]. USC Rossier Research Conference.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Bailey, A. L. (2022, May 25). *Academic Institutions, College Mothers, & Children: A Critical Psychological Exploration of Mechanisms of Influence* [Oral presentation]. Undergraduate Research Week.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Bailey, A. L. (2022, May 24). *"Mom, you never get bad grades": A Critical Psychological Investigation of the Experiences of UC Student Mothers and Their Children* [Oral presentation]. Undergraduate Research Week.
- Garcia, C., Farrukh, U., **Macias, A. J.**, FeiziLighvan, R., Widman, K., Lesko, L., Strickland, L., & Haselton, M. (2022, May 24). *Determining the Influence of COVID-19 Disgust Messaging on Anti-LGBT Attitudes* [Poster presentation]. Undergraduate Research Week.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Bailey, A. L. (2022, February 19). *Student Mothers' Modeling and Children's Observations: Implications for Positive Academic Trajectories* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) Annual Convention.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Bailey, A. L. (2022, Jan 28). *Showing How It's Done: Investigating the Influence of UC Student Mothers Modeling How to be Scholars* [Oral presentation]. UCLA McNair Brown Bag.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Bailey, A. L. (2021, July 27-30). *More Than Just Mom: Investigating Linkages Between College Mothers' Unintentional Role-Modeling and Indicators of Children's Academic Success* [Oral presentation]. National McNair Conference at UCLA.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Bailey, A. L. (2021, June 23-25). *Academia, Student Mothers, & Children: A Pathway for Intergenerational Academic Success* [Oral presentation]. 26th Annual SAEOPP SSS/McNair Scholars Research Conference.
- Macias, A. J.**, & Bailey, A. L. (2021, May 24-28). *Children of Student Mothers: Their Perceptions of Mothers' Student Role & Its Associations with Positive Outcomes* [Oral presentation]. UCLA Undergraduate Research Week.

**Macias, A. J., & Bailey, A. L. (2021, May 14).** *Children's Self-efficacy, Mindset, and Achievement: The Role of Their Perception of Their Student Mothers* [Oral presentation]. UCLA Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference (PURC).

**Macias, A. J., & Bailey, A. L. (2021, March 10-12).** *The Self-efficacy & Achievement of Children of Mother Scholars* [Poster presentation]. University of Maryland McNair Scholars & Undergraduate Research Conference.

## **INVITED TALKS**

**"Applying to PhD Programs Panel," Jumpstart Professional Development Speaker, USC** 2024  
Spoke about my experience applying to Ph.D. programs and shared strategies for staying organized, crafting a well-written application, and interviewing.

**"Prepping for the Poster Presentation," JumpStart Professional Development Speaker, USC** 2023  
Shared strategies and advice for how to prepare for a successful poster presentation.

**"After Graduation" panel, UCLA** 2023  
Spoke about my experience navigating opportunities post-graduation, provided advice and resources for managing stress and applying to graduate school.

**Academic Advancement Program (AAP) "The Comeback" panel, UCLA** 2022  
Spoke about my experience navigating UCLA as a first-generation student, provided tips and advice to other first-generation students, and shared information about campus resources.

**Transfer Transitions, UCLA** 2021  
Spoke about my experience as a transfer student in the McNair Research Scholars Program to inform incoming transfer students about this research program. Provided insight about the McNair application, the McNair program, and the research process.

**Counselor's Professional Learning Day, Centinela Valley Union High School District** 2021  
Spoke about personal experiences as a first-generation student navigating through higher education to inform counselors on how they can better serve their students from underserved and underrepresented backgrounds.

## **PROFESSIONAL/INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE**

**COOP Careers** 2024

### *Data Analytics Fellow*

Engaged in a 16-week highly selective fellowship program, acquiring expertise in data cleaning, transformation, analysis, and visualization using Excel, Tableau, SQL, and Python, alongside continuous professional development. 200 hours of instruction time with a hands-on mastery of data tools, communication training, networking, and client work with actual companies

**Katalyst Methods** 2023-2024

### *Research Consultant*

Directed cognitive interviews and coded qualitative data, which resulted in a 45% improvement in refinement, validation, and user experience of 5 surveys. Supported development of interview protocol, study screener,

recruitment strategy, and qualitative coding strategy. Supported 9 client relationships with school districts and partner company through user-centered memos and insight reports that inform clients' survey design & strategy

**UCLA National McNair Conference, UCLA Academic Advancement Program** 2022  
*Conference Coordinator*

Worked closely with director of UCLA McNair Program and conference planning committee to lead and organize national conference (in-person) with approximately 500 attendees.

**Research Support Office, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health** 2022  
*Research Administration Assistant*

Grant writing, copyedited/reviewed grant proposals, wrote literature reviews, created data tables, updated databases, and created training guides.

## **TEACHING & MENTORSHIP**

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**Lumiere Education** 2024  
*Research Mentor*

**OnYourMark Education** 2023-2024  
*Early Literacy Tutor*

**JumpStart Mentorship Program, USC** 2023, 2024  
*Ph.D. Student Mentor*

**Adolescent Development (PSYCH 133A) Course, UCLA** 2022  
*Learning Assistant*

**Transfer Mentorship Program, UCLA** 2021-2022  
*Peer Mentor*

**Leadership and Education for All Foundation, UCLA** 2021-2022  
*Academic Mentor*

**AAP Transfer Summer Program, UCLA** 2021  
*Peer Learning Facilitator*

**Latino Community Stage** 2021  
*Role Model*

## **TRAINING**

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**Mindfulness Training, Wise Up** 2024  
Participated in this 9-hour mindfulness training course that taught mindfulness practices and techniques for increased presence, self-compassion, and anxiety/stress reduction.

**Trauma-Informed Communication Practices, CCC Health & Wellness** 2023  
Participated in this training intended to teach skills for recognizing signs of trauma and best practices for responding to individuals exhibiting signs of trauma.

**Intergroup Dialogue Training, USC** 2023

Participated as a graduate student in this training intended to enhance skills in facilitating courageous conversations in educational spaces.

**CET Future Faculty Teaching Institute, USC** 2023

Participated as a graduate student in this training program intended to prepare future faculty with exposure to course design and teaching.

**McNair Summer Research Institute, UCLA** 2021

Participated as a scholar in this intensive 6-week research program.

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS**

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### **PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES & VISUALIZATION**

R, Python, SQL, Excel (Pivot Table and Vlookup), Tableau, Stata, SPSS

### **OTHER COMPETENCIES**

Microsoft Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel), Google Workspace, Zoom, GitHub, Qualtrics, WordPress

### **CERTIFICATIONS**

Google Analytics Professional Certificate 2024

Tableau Essential Training 2024

Microsoft 365 Excel Essential Training 2023

CITI Program Research HIPPA Course 2023

CITI Program Human Research - Social & Behavioral Researchers & Staff Basic Course 2023

Structural Equation Modeling CenterStat Certificate 2023

Social Network Analysis AERA Professional Development Course 2023

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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**American Psychological Association** 2022-Present

**(General & Division 15)**

*Member*

**Society for Personality and Social Psychology** 2021-Present

*Member*

**American Educational Research Association** 2022-Present

**(Division C, E, G; Motivation SIG, Latina/o/x Research Issues SIG)**

*Member*

**American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE)** 2023-Present

*Member*