

Dissertations Sponsored
by
Kim Gilbert, Ph.D.

2026-2027 (in process)

Jordyn Blaustein (in process), *The Rippling Effect of Resilience: A Program for Caregivers of Neurodiverse Children*

Nicole Mare (in process), *Effects of Adult Free Play on Positive Emotions, Stress, and Resilience*

Mary Katherine Ryan (in process), *Regulation Rocket: A Gamified Emotion Regulation Intervention for Children with Autism*

Kane Tajnai (in process), *Examining Camouflaging, Anxiety, Depression, Socialization, Well-Being, and Gender in Adults with Autism*

Lindsay Uffer (in process), *Building Regulation: A Parent-Child Intervention for Children with Level 1 Autism Spectrum Disorder*

2026

Richard Bedard, *Effects of Microaggressions and Social Support on Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Advocacy* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Kayla Cusano, *Assessing Training Effectiveness for Level 3 ASD Paraprofessionals*

Toni Lionetti, *A Comparative Study of Stress, Anxiety, and Burnout Among Teachers and Aides*

Gabriel Oldshein, *Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Occupational Burnout in Adults*

Nicole Ramirez, *Crisis Prevention Institute's Verbal Intervention Training for Parents Addressing Youth Externalizing Behaviors* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Danielle Tesoriero, *Caring for the Caregiver: The Impact of Respite Services on the Well-Being of Parent Caregivers*

2025

Liam Alvarez-Gonzalez, *Family CARES Skills: A Social-Emotional Learning Program for Autistic Children With Parent Training Sessions* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Diana Charlop, *Creative Activity Participation and Self-Perceived Communication Competence for Adults With Autism Spectrum Disorder Level 1*

Hayley Kmack, *Preparing Parent Partners: The Effects of an Informative Intervention on Parent Empowerment and Advocacy in Special Education*

Rachel Ladds, *Efficacy of Dialectical Behavior Therapy for Parents With Level One Autistic Children* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

2024

Malka Jacobs, *Attitudes Towards Mental Health Treatment: An Assessment of Bukharian Jews*

Julia Pearlstein, *Dyadic Coping and Couple Satisfaction for Parents with Autistic Children: A Study of Interdependent Patterns* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Alexa Prodromakis, *Empowered on the Spectrum: Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Positive-Psychoeducational Group Intervention for Adolescents on the Autism Spectrum* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Jane Shnayder, *Examining the Effects of Social Skills Groups on Feelings of Loneliness and Friendship for Adolescent Girls With Autism Spectrum Disorder*

2023

Nicole Brezel, *The Relationship of Stress, Self-Care and Burnout in School Psychologists*

Nicole King, *An Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Based Intervention for Parents of Children on the Autism Spectrum*

Amanda Neal, *Comprehensive Dialectical-Behavior Therapy Skills Training for Adults with High Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

2022

Kristina Aganova, *Relationship Among Cultural Orientation, Knowledge of ASD, Stigma, and Help Seeking Behavior*

Shayna Goldstein, *Relationship among Media Exposure, Body Image, and Depressive Symptoms in Pregnant and Postpartum Women*

Orly Gross, *The Relationship among Birth Order, Parenting Stress, and Perceived Social Support in Mothers of Young Children with Hearing Loss*

Monica Rush, *Resilience, Social Support, & Psychological Adjustment in Adult Adoptees* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Danielle Schulman, *Using Social Stories™ to Implement Cognitive Behavioral Therapy via Zoom in Parents and Their Children with Autism and Anxiety* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

2021

Kierstan Hall, *HOPE for Parents of Children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Jessica Jacobs, *The Relationship among Religiosity, Maternal Self-Efficacy, and Women with Postpartum Depression Symptoms*

Rebecca Simoni, *Consistency Among School Psychologists' Training, Beliefs, and Implementation in Autism Evidence-Based Treatments*

2020

Justin Ayoub, *Does Cognitive Scatter Attenuate the Validity of the Global Intelligence Score?*

Rachel Gottlieb, *School Psychologists and Autism: Current Understanding and Opportunities for Improving Assessment Practices*

Brian Levkovich, *Attitudes Towards Mental Health Treatment: An Assessment of Jewish Young Adults*

2019

Amanda Pearlberg, *Effects of Behavioral Activation Treatment on the Socialization of Adults with Autism*

Samantha Preston, *A Social Skills Intervention for Middle School Children with High Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Zachary Rose, *Learning Disability Simulation to Foster Awareness and Acceptance of the Disorder*

2018

Ilana Herzberg, *The Diagnostic Efficacy of a Facial Recognition Screening Tool for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Taylor Kurtz, *Utilizing Exercise to Treat Symptoms of Anxiety in Autism Spectrum Disorder*

2017

Kimberly Cameron, *Effect of a Mindfulness Intervention on Early Primary School Children with Subclinical ADHD*

Ashley Ragusa, *Effects of Classroom Milieu Communication Therapy on Prelinguistic and Play Skills of Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Sahar Younai-Rabizadeh, *Parent Attitudes Toward Inclusive Education and Social Participation*

2016

Nara Allen, *Effects of Computer Cognitive Training on Depression in Cognitively Impaired Seniors*

2015

Danielle Arouty, *Does Character Matter?: The Role of Grit and Resilience in Predicting Academic Success*

Laura De Gennaro, *Loneliness in Adolescents with High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Caryn DePinna, *The Effect of Parent Involvement on Children's Reading Development and Academic Self-Concept*

Jaime Holtzer, *DIR Intervention on Socio-Emotional Development in Children With Autism Spectrum Disorders*

Nicole Rodi, *Understanding Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms in Caregivers and Relatives of Adults Surviving Cancer* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Jason Teague, *Improving Social Skills Through Paper and Digital Social Stories*

2014

Stefani M. Angiulo, *Relationship Among Factors Affecting Teacher Attitudes Toward Students With Autism* (**Won** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

2013

Edel McCarville, *Adaptive Skills Building in High-Functioning Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Using Peer Mentors*

2012

Juliana LaRossa, *Stress and Related Factors in Couples Who Have Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

2011

Jennifer Doles, *Developmental Level of Object Play as a Predictor of an Autism Spectrum Disorder* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Nora Fayerberg, *Father Speaks: The Psychological Effects of Having a Child with Autism*

Yael Hammer, *Efficacy of Social Stories with Children with ASD*

Jennifer Kuligowski, *Efficacy of the Power Card Strategy in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders*

Liz O'Keefe, *Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Support Groups for Parents of Children with ASD*

2009

Megan Cunningham, *Effects of Peer-Mediated Intervention on Social Competence in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)* (**Nominated** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

Jennifer Rodman, *Efficacy of Brief Quantitative Measures of Play for Screening for Autism Spectrum Disorders* (**Won** for the Alan H. Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Dissertation, university-wide)

2008

Mary Milonnet, *Effects of a Bibliotherapy Based Emotion Knowledge Intervention for Preschoolers*

Allison Teta, *Improving Homework Completion in Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Utilizing Mystery Motivators*

2007

Jessie Povermo, *Magazine Influence and Body Dissatisfaction in Women: The Role of Moderating Factors*

2006

Melissa Bennett, *An Interdependent Group Contingency with Mystery Motivators to Increase Spelling Performance*