

Jessica Balla

jballa@ucmerced.edu

(909) 294-0295

Education

August 2020-2025
(Expected)

Ph.D. Psychological Sciences
University of California, Merced
Advisor: Dr. Martin Hagger

January 2020

**B.S. Psychology, Summa Cum Laude, Departmental Honors,
Honors Program Graduate**
University of La Verne
Major GPA: 3.94
Cumulative GPA: 3.88

Publications, Peer-Reviewed

- Gamst, G., Ma-Kellams, C., Arellano-Morales, L., Meyers, L. S., **Balla, J.**, McCafferty, K., Verbarendse, K., Serpas, D., Rojas, A., Huffman, N., & Menendez, C. (2021). Development and validation of the Asian American Women's Shifting Scale (AsAWSS). *Asian American Journal of Psychology, 12*(2), 122-137. <https://doi.org/10.1037/aap0000220>
- Gamst, G., Arellano-Morales, L., Meyers, L.S., Serpas, D., **Balla, J.**, Diaz, A., Dobson, K., Feller, C., Rought, S., Salazar, S., Garcia, S., & Aldape, R. (2020). Shifting can be stressful for African American women: A structural mediational model. *Journal of Black Psychology, 46*(5), 364-387. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0095798420939721>

Poster Presentations, Peer-Reviewed

- Balla, J.**, McCafferty, K., Verbarendse, K., Aldape, R., Awad, N., Bench, R., Vargas, V., Lawson, M., Hernandez, I., Aguilera, B., Olvera, V., Huffman, N., Arellano-Morales, L., Meyers, L. S., & Gamst, G. (2020, October 28-31). *Shifting mediates racism-related stress of Asian American women* [Poster presentation]. WPA 2020 virtual conference.
- Balla, J.**, McCafferty, K., Verbarendse, K., Huffman, N., Menendez, C., Chao, T., Serpas, D., Rojas, A., Ma-Kellams, C., Arellano-Morales, L., Meyers, L. S., & Gamst, G. (2020, October 28-31). *A confirmatory factor analysis of the Asian American Women's Shifting Scale (AsAWSS)* [Poster presentation]. WPA 2020 virtual conference.
- Balla, J.**, Vargas, V., Huffman, N., Hernandez, I., Lawson, M., Aguilera, B., Serpas, D., Rojas, A., Gordon, C., Kwon, R., Meyers, L.S., & Gamst, G. (2020, October 28-31). *Effects of type of Latinx American landscaper on assessment of petty bourgeois mentality: A field experiment* [Poster presentation]. WPA 2020 virtual conference.
- Balla, J.**, Blankenship, H., Calzada, C., Huffman, N., Camacho, J., Price, J., Lukacs, A., & Bui, N. (2019, April 25-28). *The effects of social media influencers on self-esteem among college students* [Poster presentation]. WPA 2019 conference, Pasadena, CA, United States.

- Balla, J.**, Blankenship, H., Calzada, C., Smisek, W., Zhu, X., Dalton, J., Ontiveros, A., Gutierrez, A., & Bui, N. (2019, April 25-28). *The effects of social media influencers on life aspirations among college students* [Poster presentation]. WPA 2019 conference, Pasadena, CA, United States.
- Escobar, R., **Balla, J.**, Serpas, D., Rojas, A., Huffman, N., McCafferty, K., Verbarendse, K., Wang, V., Menendez, C., Ma-Kellams, C., Arellano-Morales, L., & Gamst, G. (2019, April 25-28). *A qualitative analysis of Asian American women's shifting attitudes in a community sample* [Poster presentation]. WPA 2019 conference, Pasadena, CA, United States.
- Aldape, R., **Balla, J.**, Diaz, A., Dobson, K., Feller, C., Garcia, S., Rought, S., Salazar, B., Serpas, D., Arellano-Morales, L., Meyers, L.S., & Gamst, G. (2018, April 26-29). *A structural mediation model predicting race-related stress of African American women* [Poster presentation]. WPA 2018 conference, Portland, OR, United States.

Research Experience

- Aug. 2020-present **Doctoral Lab Member**
SHARPP Lab, Psychological Sciences Department, University of California, Merced
Advisor: Dr. Martin Hagger
- Apr. 2019-Dec. 2019 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**
Psychology Department, University of La Verne
Advisors: Drs. Glenn Gamst and Roy Kwon
- Aug. 2018-May 2019 **Undergraduate Research Chair**
Psi Chi Honor Society, University of La Verne
Advisor: Dr. Ngoc Bui
- Jan. 2017-Dec. 2019 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**
Multicultural Lab, Psychology Department, University of La Verne
Advisors: Drs. Glenn Gamst and Leticia Arellano-Morales

Professional Experience

- Jan. 2021-May 2021 **Teaching Assistant, PSY010 - Analysis of Psychological Data**
Psychology Department, University of California, Merced
Supervisor: Dr. Ren Liu
Lectures Written and Presented: 'Lab 3: Measures of Central Tendency and Variability'; 'Lab 6: Hypothesis Testing'; 'Lab 9: Related-Sample T-Test and One-Way ANOVA'; 'Lab 13: Repeated Measures ANOVA'
- Aug. 2020-Dec. 2020 **Teaching Assistant, PSY180 - Physiological Psychology**
Psychology Department, University of California, Merced
Supervisor: Dr. Darrin Tracy
Lectures Written and Presented: 'Exam 1 Review'; 'Exam 2 Review'; 'Exam 3 Review'
- May 2019 **Psychology Research Conference Coordinator**
9th Annual Psi Chi Student Research Conference, University of La Verne

Feb. 2019-
May 2019 **Assistant Teacher**
Fairplex Child Development Center, Pomona, CA

Training/Certifications

Nov. 2020 **Methods for Meta-Analysis: Webinar**
Georgia State University, Center for International Business Education & Research

Aug. 2020 **Preparing to Teach in the Online Environment: Three-Part Workshop**
Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning, University of California, Merced

Service

Nov. 2020-
present **Academic Journal Peer Reviewer**
Behavioral Sciences, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, SAGE Open, Social Science and Medicine, Applied Psychology: Health and Well-Being

Honors and Awards

2021 Psychological Sciences Summer Support Award, University of California, Merced

2021 Graduate Fellowship Incentive Program Award, University of California, Merced

2019 2nd Place Poster Award, Western Psychological Association Division 52: International Psychology

2019 Psychology Departmental Award in Academic Recognition, University of La Verne

2017-2019 Dean's List (Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019), University of La Verne

2016-2019 Presidential Scholarship, University of La Verne

Professional Memberships

2018-present Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology

2021-present Society of Behavioral Medicine