

Mercedes G. Peña

Curriculum Vitae

mpeña28@ucmerced.edu

EDUCATION

University of California, Merced | PhD | 2023-2028

(Expected) Doctor of Philosophy in Health Psychology

Advisors: Dr. Martin S. Hagger & Dr. Matthew Zawadzki

University of California, Merced | BA | 2018-2022

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Minor in Natural Sciences Education (NSED)

Cumulative GPA: 3.989/4.000

EXPERIENCE

The Social & Health Psychology Applied Behavioral Research for Prevention & Promotion (SHARPP) Lab

University of California, Merced | Research Assistant | January 2020-July 2023

Principal Investigator: Dr. Martin S. Hagger | Lab Manager: Kaylyn McAnally

- Physical activity and cortisol regulation: A meta-analysis | Dr. Susette A. Moyers
- Illness representations, treatment beliefs, and health outcomes among patients with chronic pain: A meta-analysis | Lauren E. McKinley, M.A.
- Self-determination theory in the workplace: A meta-analysis | Kaylyn McAnally, M.A.

Psychological Sciences Honors Program

University of California, Merced | Honors Student | May 2021-May 2022

Advisor: Dr. Martin S. Hagger | Honors Instructor: Dr. Eric Walle

- Mediation of the effect of mindfulness-based interventions on stress outcomes: A meta-analysis | Mercedes G. Peña

Translational Research Center (TRC) | A Health Sciences Research Institute Division

University of California, Merced | Undergraduate Research Assistant | September 2021-December 2021

Director: Dr. Linda D. Cameron | Research Project Manager: Marisela Yopez

TRAINING AND RELEVANT SKILLS

Quality Assessment Checklist for Survey Studies in Psychology (Q-SSP)

University of California, Merced | July 2021

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) - Social/Behavioral Research Course

University of California, Merced | Completion date: October 11, 2021/ Expiration date: October 10, 2024

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Peña, M. G. *Mediation of the effect of mindfulness-based interventions on stress outcomes: A meta-analysis.*

Psychological Sciences Honors Symposium. Psychological Sciences, School of Social Sciences, Humanities, & Arts,

University of California, Merced. Merced, California. May 2022.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, & AWARDS

- **Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship** August 2023/August 2025
Intended to help awardees focus on their graduate research and scholarship, and thereby accelerate progress towards achieving their doctoral degrees.
- **Institutional Highest Honors - Summa Cum Laude** May 2022
Awarded to undergraduate students who achieve a grade point average within the top 2 percent of the School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts.

- **Psychological Sciences Highest Honors** May 2022
Awarded by the honors committee for completion of a thesis following independently conducted research under the guidance of a faculty research advisor.
 - **Chancellor's Honors List** May 2019/2020/2021
Awarded to students who meet Dean's Honors List requirements for two semesters in a single academic year.
 - **Dean's Honors List** December 2018/2019/2020
Awarded to students who have maintained a 3.5 grade point average or better with no grades of incomplete or no pass for a single semester.
 - **Abrescy and Kranich Library Award for Student Research Excellence** May 2020
Awarded to recognize outstanding undergraduate research at UC Merced – recognition of students who demonstrate effective use of library and information resources along with an understanding of the research process and growth in associated practices.
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SERVICE

SHARPP Lab Research Assistant Leadership Team <i>Member</i>	Spring 2021- 2022
CalTeach Bobcat Summer Stem Academy <i>Intern</i>	Summer 2022
CalTeach <i>Pre-service Teacher</i>	Spring 2020/Fall 2021

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Psi Chi University of California, Merced	August 2020-Present
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