

W.J. Higgins

Curriculum Vitae

WILLIAM J. HIGGINS, PhD
Assistant Professor
Psychology Department
University of Nebraska Medical Center's
Munroe-Meyer Institute
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PERSONAL INFORMATION

9346 Spring St
Omaha, NE 68105

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

B.S.	Illinois State University, 2002-2005 Major: Psychology
M.A.	University of North Carolina Wilmington, Wilmington, 2005-2009 Major: Clinical Psychology
Ph.D.	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, 2009-2013 Major: Behavior Analysis

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

Nebraska Mental Health Practitioner License #4017 (January 2012-**present**)
Behavior Analysis Board Certification #1-09-5828 (August 2009-**present**)

GRANT SUPPORT

Title: Autism Care for Toddlers Clinic
Funding Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration: AmeriCorps
Dates: 2016-2019
Costs of Entire Project: \$872,000 (cumulative)
Role in Project: PI

GRANT WRITING EXPERIENCE

Title: Virtual Immersive Simulation Training in Mathematics and Special Education (VISTAS)
Funding Agency: National Science Foundation
Amount requested: \$849,650 (3 year)
Date: February 2021 – Submitted, 2/21 - TBA
Role in Project: Co-PI

Title: Interdisciplinary Autism Project

Funding Agency: Office for Special Education Programs (OSEP)
 Amount requested: \$250,000 (5 year)
 Date: May 2020 – Submitted, not funded
 Role in Project: Co-PI

Title: Immersive Virtual Instruction in Discrete-Trial Education (Project VITE)
 Funding Agency: Organization for Autism Research
 Amount requested: \$40,000 (2 year)
 Date: 2020 – Submitted, not funded
 Role in Project: Co-PI

Title: Iowa Institute for AI-Augmented Learning
 Funding Agency: National Science Foundation
 Amount requested: \$20,000,000 (5 year)
 Date: 2020 – Submitted, TBA
 Role in Project: Collaborator

Title: Pilot investigation of group-based training for pediatric nurses to improve the use of behavioral health techniques and clinic workflow.
 Funding Agency: Pediatric Research Grant, University of Nebraska Medical Center
 Amount requested: \$20,190 (1 year)
 Date: 2019 – Submitted, not funded
 Role in Project: Co-PI

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND AFFILIATIONS

2006 to 2010	Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis
2014 to 2018	National Rural Health Association, member
2005 to present	Association for Behavior Analysis International
2009 to 2018	Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis
2016 to 2018	Society of Pediatric Psychology, APA Division 54
2019 to present	Nebraska Association for Behavior Analysis
2018 to present	Association for Professional Behavior Analysts
2019 to present	Hawaii Association for Behavior Analysis

PROFESSIONAL RECORD

Assistant Professor	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE
July 2015 to present	Duties: Clinical faculty in pediatric outpatient behavioral health, caregiver and teacher training, Telehealth, Intern and Practicum supervision, MS in ABA program committee member, Grant Writing, Applied Research, UNMC Graduate Faculty, Instructor; Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis, Conceptual Foundation of Behavior Analysis, Behavior Analysis and Intervention, Family Medicine Resident Training – Anticipatory Guidance (x6)

July 2015 to May 2019	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE <i>Duties:</i> Director, Autism Care for Toddlers Clinic, serve on the admissions committee for the ABA Masters' program, teach UNO masters' courses, conduct research, supervise interns and graduate practicum students, lead clinician at the MMI Psychology Behavioral Telehealth Clinic, supervise practicum students, staff and caregiver training, coordinate the PhD program in ABA, UNMC digital campus committee, MMI Telehealth Committee
Instructor Jan 2013 to July 2015	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE <i>Duties:</i> Serve on the admissions committee for the UN-O ABA Masters' program, teach UN-O masters' courses, conduct research, lead clinician at Beatrice Behavioral Health (BH) Clinic, Wahoo BH Clinic, and the MMI Psychology Behavioral Telehealth Clinic, supervise practicum students, staff and caregiver training, coordinate PhD program in ABA, UNMC digital campus committee, MMI Telehealth Committee member.
Graduate Assistant Aug 2009 to Dec 2013	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE <i>Supervisors:</i> Wayne W. Fisher, Ph.D., BCBA-D <i>Responsibilities:</i> Served as primary therapist in the Severe Behavior Program, implemented treatment and assisted with treatment planning, supervision, analyzing data, monitoring patient goals and progress, caregiver and staff training, collect direct-observation data and graph data into Excel, collect reliability data, assign session-related responsibilities to the behavioral therapy team members, assist in session and protocol preparation, construct graphs, and interact with interdisciplinary team members.
BCBA Supervisor August 2011 to present	University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE <i>Responsibilities:</i> Supervise interns and practicum students across several Behavioral Health Clinic, conduct weekly meetings, assign readings, and a review of scholarly articles.
Graduate Assistant Aug 2005 to Aug 2008	The University of North Carolina Wilmington, Wilmington, NC <i>Supervisor:</i> Raymond C. Pitts, Ph.D. <i>Responsibilities:</i> Supervise ongoing behavioral pharmacology research studies, conduct weekly laboratory meetings, review scholarly articles, and manage the laboratory animal environment.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2009-2015	Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (guest reviewer)
2009-2011	Analysis of Gambling Behavior (guest reviewer)
2014-2019	Journal of Behavioral Education (guest reviewer)

RESEARCH

Publications

Higgins, J. P. & Higgins, W. J. (2020). What is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst? *Rethinking Behavior*.

Ausenhus, J. A., & **Higgins, W. J.** (2019). An evaluation of real-time feedback delivered via telehealth: Training staff to conduct preference assessments. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*. 12, 643–648.

Higgins, W. J., Fisher, W. W., Gibson, A. L., & Velasquez, L. (under review). Evaluation of a telehealth training package to remotely teach caregivers to conduct discrete-trial instruction. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*.

Gibson, A. L., **Higgins, W. J.**, & Preas, E. (?). Evaluation of real-time feedback to train caregivers to conduct early intensive behavioral interventions. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*.

Mathews, T. L., et al., (2017). Expanding access to clinical services for toddlers with autism spectrum disorders *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*, 32(2), 173-183.

Higgins, W. J., Luczynski, K. C., Carroll, R. C., Fisher, W. W., & Mudford, O. C. (2017). Evaluation of a telehealth training package to remotely train staff to conduct a preference assessment. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*.

Zangrillo, A. N., et al., (2016). The Munroe-Meyer approach: Continuous integration of didactic instruction, research, and clinical practice. *The Behavior Analyst*,

Perle, J., Burt, J. D., & **Higgins, W. J.** (2014). Psychologist and physician interest in telehealth training and referral for mental health services: An exploratory study. *Journal of Technology in Human Services*, 32, 158-185.

Higgins, W. J., Falcomatta, T. S., Roane, H. S., & Stephenson, K. M. (2012). Effects of body positioning on automatically reinforced self-injurious behavior exhibited by a child with Duane syndrome and Goldenhar syndrome. *Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities*, 24, 135 – 144.

Rapp, J. T., Carroll, R. C., Stangeland, L., Swanson, G., & **Higgins, W. J.** (2011). Comparison of reliability measures for continuous and discontinuous recording methods: Inflated agreement scores with partial interval recording and momentary time sampling for duration events. *Behavior Modification*, 35(4), 389 – 402.

Alferink L. A., Critchfield, T. S., Hitt, J. L., & **Higgins, W. J.** (2009). Generality of the matching law as a descriptor of shot selection in basketball. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, (42), 595-608.

Research in Progress

Brief Parent training: Teaching caregivers to strategically distribute social reinforcers
VR training for parents and teachers.

SYMPOSIA AND PRESENTATIONS

Higgins, W. J. (April, 2021). Using Telehealth to Expand the reach of behavior analysis. Invited speaker at the annual meeting of the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts, virtual conference.

Roberts, H. J., **Higgins, W.J.**, Grennan, A. Valleley, R, Burt, J, Klepper, C, Sjuts, T and Johnson, K (April, 2021). Patient Satisfaction with the Rapid Shift to Telehealth for Behavioral Health Due to Covid-19. Poster presentation at the Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference

Higgins, W. J., & Roberts, H. J., (May, 2020). Practical and Ethical Considerations for Telehealth Service Providers. Invited speaker at the 3rd Annual Rural Provider Support Network Virtual Conference

Roberts, H. J., **Higgins, W. J.**, & Costello, JK. (April, 2020). Session 2: Telehealth Billing. Invited webinar for Telehealth Learning and Consultation (TLC) Tuesdays. Hosted by Mountain Plains MHTTC, Mid-American MHTTC, and Mid-America ATTC.
<https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/mid-america-mhttc/product/tlc-tuesdays-telehealth-billing-week-2>

Roberts, H. J., **Higgins, W.J.**, & Costello, JK. (March, 2020). Session 1: Telehealth Basics. Invited webinar for Telehealth Learning and Consultation (TLC) Tuesdays. Hosted by Mountain Plains MHTTC, Mid-American MHTTC, and Mid-America ATTC.
<https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/mid-america-mhttc/product/tlc-tuesdays-telehealth-basics-week-1>

Higgins, W. J. (2020, March/cancelled). Outpatient behavioral telehealth: Bringing behavioral healthcare to scale. Invited speaker at the annual meeting of the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts, Denver, CO.

Higgins, W. J. (2019, October). Expanding the reach of behavior analysis: Parent training in early intervention and primary care. Invited speaker at the annual meeting of the Hawaii Association for Behavior Analysis, Honolulu, HI.

Higgins, W. J., Valesquez, L., & Fisher, W. W. (2014, May). Using telehealth technologies to remotely teach caregivers to conduct discrete-trial instruction: Effects on caregiver implementation and child correct responding. Presented in a symposium at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.

Roberts, H. J., Volkert, V., & **Higgins, W. J.** (April, 2014). Parent satisfaction with web-based behavioral health services. Paper presentation at the National Rural Health Association's 37th Annual Rural Health Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Higgins, W. J., Valesquez, L., & Fisher, W. W. (2014, May). Using telehealth technologies to remotely teach caregivers to conduct discrete-trial instruction: Effects on caregiver implementation and child correct responding. Presented in a symposium at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.

Higgins, W. J., Valesquez, L., & Fisher, W. W. (2014, February). Using telehealth technologies to remotely teach caregivers to conduct discrete-trial instruction: Effects on caregiver implementation and child correct responding. Poster scheduled to be presented at the annual meeting of the Heartland Association for Behavior Analysis, Omaha, NE.

Higgins, W. J., Luczynski, K. C., Carroll, R. C., Fisher, W. W., & Mudford, O. C. (2012, May). Determining the efficacy and social validity of web-based technologies to teach staff to conduct a multiple stimulus without replacement preference assessment. Presented in a symposium at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Seattle, WA.

Sy, T. A., Mudford, O. C., & **Higgins, W. J.** (2011, October). Web-based behavioural skills training for caregivers of individuals with disabilities. Presented in a symposium at the annual meeting of the New Zealand Association for Behavior Analysis, Hamilton, NZ

Higgins, W. J., Wilkins, J., Fisher, W. W., & Stephenson, K. M. (2011, May). An evaluation of multiple schedules when thinning reinforcement following functional communication training. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Denver, CO.

Higgins, W. J., Falcomatta, T. S., Roane, H. S., Feeney, B. J., & Stephenson, K. M. (2010, May). Assessment and treatment of elopement maintained by access to stereotypic behavior. Presented in a symposium at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, San Antonio, TX.

Higgins, W. J., Fisher, W. W., & Roane, H. S. (2009, October). An examination of the relation between interrelated and associated symptoms of autism. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis, Wilmington, NC.

Higgins, W. J., Bouxsein, K. J., Roane, H. S., Fisher, W. W., Groff, R. A., & Lomas, J. (2009, October). Further evaluation of structured criteria to be used during visual inspection of functional analysis data. Presented in a symposium at the annual meeting of the Heart Land Association for Behavior Analysis, Omaha, NE.

Carroll, R. A., **Higgins, W. J., Pabico, R. S., Feeney, B. J., Groff, R. A., & Roane, H. S.** (2009, October). Further evaluation of a delayed timeout procedure in the treatment of severe problem behavior. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Heart Land Association for Behavior Analysis, Omaha, NE.

Higgins, W. J., Pabico, R. S., Feeney, B. J., Veenstra, R. A., & Roane, H. S. (2009, May). Further evaluation of a delayed timeout procedure in the treatment of severe problem

behavior. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Phoenix, AZ.

Skorupinski, A. E., Key, S. I., **Higgins, W. J.**, Hughes, C. E., & Pitts, R. C. (2007, October). Effects of *d*-amphetamine on "self-control" choice under signaled and unsignaled conditions. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis, Athens, GA.

Higgins, W. J., Lambert, T. L., Hughes, C. E., & Pitts, R. C. (2007, May). Do delay signals modulate the effects of d-amphetamine under a self-control procedure? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, San Diego, CA.

Higgins, W. J., Lambert, T. L., Hughes, C. E., & Pitts, R. C. (February, 2007). Do delay signals modulate the effects of d-amphetamine under a self-control procedure? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis, Wrightsville Beach, NC.

Higgins, W. J., Lambert, T. L., Hughes, C. E., & Pitts, R. C. (October, 2006). Do delay signals modulate the effects of d-amphetamine under a self-control procedure? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association for Behavior Analysis, Greenville, SC. - Student Chair

Babich, T., **Higgins, W. J.**, Miles, M., Thompson, W., & Zimmerman, T. (2005, May). Effects of competition matching in an open foraging paradigm. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.

TEACHING & TRAINING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2014-present

Assistant Professor

Behavior Analysis and Intervention; Conceptual Foundation of Behavior Analysis; Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis

MS in ABA and School Psychology Programs
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Spring 2015-2016

Assistant Professor

Single subject Research Methodology

ABA Masters and School Psychology Programs
University of Nebraska at Omaha

(Co-Instructor: Lindsay Booker, Ph.D.)

2013-2016

Instructor

Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis

ABA Masters and School Psychology Programs
University of Nebraska at Omaha

University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Nebraska ABA Chapter
March 2019 to present

Location: Omaha, NE

Role: Legislative Committee member

Responsibilities: working with other committee members to create and prepare the 407-process application to create licensure for behavior analysts in NE.

Heartland ABA Chapter
March 2015 to 2017

Location: Omaha, NE

Role: Vice President, President

Responsibilities: Manage board activities, assist with conference planning and development, organization of monthly speaker series, promotion, and marketing

UNMC Ph.D. in ABA
January 2014 to 2018

Location: Omaha, NE

Role: Co-coordinator

Responsibilities: Assist faculty with reviewing prospective students, schedule interviews with students, student orientation, assist faculty while students matriculate through the program, and coordinate practicum and internship.

UN-O Master's in ABA
January 2014 to present

Location: Omaha, NE

Role: Program committee member

Responsibilities: Assist faculty with reviewing prospective students, schedule interviews with students, student orientation, assist faculty while students matriculate through the program, and coordinate practicum and internship.

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Keith Allen, Ph.D., BCBA-D – Director, Department of Pediatric Psychology, Professor, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE. (402-559-6408) kdallen@unmc.edu

Holly Roberts, Ph.D., BCBA-D – Associate Professor, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE (402-559-6408) hroberts@unmc.edu

Jennifer Burt, Ph.D. – Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE (402-559-6408) jburt@unmc.edu

Joe Evans, Ph.D. – Professor, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE. (402-559-6408) kdallen@unmc.edu.