

CITLALI MONTES

Los Angeles, CA 90033 · cmonte42@calstatela.edu

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Expected Graduation: May 2026

California State University, Los Angeles

GPA: 3.92 (Cumulative)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Lab Manager, Spring 2025 - Present

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Spring 2023 - Spring 2025

California State University, Los Angeles - Legal Attitudes Lab, *Department of Psychology*

PI: Alma P. Olaguez, Ph.D.

- Implemented and refined qualitative coding schemes for mock jury deliberation transcripts.
- Trained RAs to inter-rater reliability; independently coded full datasets.
- Developed new coding frameworks for an experimental study and trained peers on usage.
- Coordinated participant recruitment, data collection, and RA scheduling.
- Conducted SPSS analysis including coding quantification and between-group comparisons.

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Summer 2025

University of California, Irvine - Child Narratives Lab, *Department of Psychological Science, School of Social Ecology*

PI: J. Zoe Klemfuss, Ph.D.

- Transcribed and timestamped child forensic interviews for an NIH-funded study
- Cleaned and quality-checked 300+ heart rate variability (HRV) files in Kubios, verifying RMSSD values, heartbeat detection, and RR interval distributions
- Designed and presented an independent research project, producing literature reviews, scientific presentation materials (abstract, slides, visual icons), and a 10-minute oral talk at UCI's Summer Research Symposium
- Trained lab members in transcription protocols and coordinated with the physiology data team to manage workflow and resolve data quality issues

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Summer 2024 - Fall 2024

University of Southern California - Brain, Emotion, and Attention Development Lab

PI: Santiago Morales, Ph.D.

- Conducted qualitative research on postpartum challenges among Latinx mothers, developing a coding scheme, coding transcripts, and contributing to theme development
- Recruited and scheduled Spanish- and English-speaking families; translated study materials to improve accessibility and engagement
- Supported EEG-based neurodevelopmental research with infants, including EEG net capping, eye-tracking alignment, attention monitoring, and participant comfort
- Prepared, maintained, and organized lab equipment and materials, including EEG nets, saline prep, and impedance checks

Volunteer Research Assistant, February 2025, September 2025

- Provided one-time assistance with data collection for a study examining eyewitness memory and suggestibility.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Paraprofessional Counselor Intern, Fall 2024 – Spring 2025

Gateways Hospital and Mental Health Center, Percy Village

Advisor: Dr. Mitchell Eisen

- Supported adults with severe mental illness, including individuals with substance use histories and court involvement, in a structured residential treatment setting
- Assisted residents with activities of daily living (ADLs) such as hygiene and personal care, providing necessary supplies and positive reinforcement to promote autonomy
- Monitored and documented resident behavior, progress, and safety; conducted safety checks, enforced facility protocols, and completed incident reports as needed
- Maintained a safe, structured, and therapeutic environment through regular room checks, boundary setting, and trauma-informed crisis prevention and de-escalation
- Collaborated with an interdisciplinary team to address resident needs and ensure consistency with individualized care plans

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Montes, C. & Klemfuss, J.Z. *The Moderating Role of Heart Rate Variability in the Link Between Parenting Discipline and Children's Disclosure* UCI 2025 Summer Research Symposium (August 2025)

Gil-Zamudio, B. & **Montes, C.** *The Dynamics of Group Deliberations in a Mock Trial: A Qualitative Analysis* Annual Cal State LA Symposium on Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (March 2024)

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Henriquez, B.M., **Montes C.**, Eworonsky, S.M., Reay, A., & Olaguez, A.P. *A Qualitative Analysis of Verdict Justifications: The Role of Character Evidence in Civil Cases* Annual Meeting of the Western Psychological Association, Las Vegas, NV (May 2025)

Montes, C., Reay, A., & Olaguez, A.P. *Attribution of Responsibility in Civil Jury Deliberations: Exploring Shifts in Liability Judgments* MORE 2026/2027 MORE Graduating Class (March 2025)

Montes, C., Kwan, M., Bobadilla, C., & Morales, S. *The Baby Diary: A Qualitative Comparison of Negative Interactions Among Mothers*

- MORE Programs Summer 2024 Extramural Research Experiences (January 2025)
- USC JumpStart Symposium (July 2024)

Montes, C., Reay, A., & Olaguez, A.P. *A Qualitative Analysis of Verdict Justifications: The Role of Defendant's Violent History in Civil Cases* UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center MORE Programs Research Retreat (September 2024)

Eworonsky, S.M., **Montes, C.**, Lavasani, K., & Olaguez, A.P. *Emotion Regulation Instructions in a Motorcycle Accident* UCLA Psi Chi Research Conference (May 2024)

Montes, C., Lopez-Valadez, M., Lavasani, K., & Olaguez, A.P. *A Qualitative Analysis of Deliberations in a Mock Trial* [Poster Presentation] Annual Meeting of the Western Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA (April 2024)

Montes, C. & Olaguez, A.P. *The Dynamics of Group Deliberations in a Mock Trial: A Qualitative Analysis* [Poster Presentation] MORE 2025/2026 Graduating Scholars (March 2024)

Montes, C., Lavasani, K., & Olaguez, A.P. *Exploring Jurors' Liability and Award Decisions in Civil Cases*

- MORE Programs Open House (January 2024)
- UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center MORE Programs Research Retreat (September 2023)

HONORS & AWARDS

NIH Undergraduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (URISE) Fellowship, Summer 2023 - Fall 2026, *California State University, Los Angeles*

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF), June 2025 - August 2025, *University of California, Irvine*

USC JumpStart Program, May 2024 - August 2024, *University of Southern California*

Finalist, 2025 HSF Scholar Designation, June 2025, *Hispanic Scholarship Fund*

Outstanding Oral Presentation in Behavioral and Social Sciences I, 2024, *Cal State LA Symposium on Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities*

Cal State LA Honors College

- Admission (Fall 2024)
- Scholars Scholarship (Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024)

Dean's List, CSULA, Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022

Cal State LA Scholarships

- William Hobson & Evelyn Trou Scholarship (Fall 2024, Fall 2025)
- William James Dermody Scholarship (Fall 2024, Spring 2026)
- John B. Willis Scholarship (Fall 2024)
- Elliott R. Barton Endowment (Fall 2024, Spring 2026)
- Blanca Flanagan Rios Scholarship (Fall 2024, Spring 2026)
- Coca-Cola Scholarship (Fall 2024)
- Alumni Association Scholarship (Fall 2025)

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

President, Spring 2024 – Spring 2025

PSI CHI International Honor Society, Cal State LA Chapter

Advisors: Dr. Karen Wu & Dr. Robert Kennison

- Coordinated chapter meetings, shared research and academic resources, and helped members navigate Psi Chi membership and campus opportunities

- Collaborated with faculty and student leaders to organize professional development workshops and informational events
- Mentored psychology students by answering questions about academic planning, research involvement, and graduate preparation, while promoting an inclusive and accessible chapter environment

WPA Student Council Member, October 2024 – Present

Western Psychological Association (WPA)

- Selected to represent Cal State LA within the Western Psychological Association, focusing on initiatives to enhance student engagement and promote research opportunities in psychology.

Secretary, Fall 2023 – Spring 2025

Cal State LA Wrongful Conviction Club

In affiliation with The Innocence Network and The Innocence Project

Advisor: Dr. Mitchell Eisen

- Managed administrative tasks, organized meetings and events, and supported the club's mission in collaboration with The Innocence Network and The Innocence Project.

Conference Reviewer, October 2023, October 2024

AP-LS 2025 American Psychology-Law Conference

- Reviewed and provided feedback on submitted research papers and abstracts for the conference, contributing to the selection of high-quality presentations.

Psychology Resource Center Working Group Member, February 2024 – April 2024

Department of Psychology, Cal State LA

Advisor: Dr. Olaguez

- Contributed to the establishment of the Psychology Resource Center by assisting in budget planning, developing workshop proposals, and presenting information in various classrooms to inform students about the PRC's upcoming offerings and gather interest through an application form for potential mentors.

Member, Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Data Analysis with R Club

Advisor: Dr. Ji Son

Volunteer, January 2024

2024 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

- Participated in in-person data collection for a community initiative aimed at addressing homelessness in the Los Angeles area.

CERTIFICATIONS

Social & Behavioral Research Certificate, 2023-2026

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI)

Social-Behavioral Human Subjects Certificate, 2024-2027

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI)

SKILLS

Language:

- Fluent in Spanish (spoken, read, and written); experienced in translating research documents

Qualitative Research:

- Extensive experience in developing and applying qualitative coding schemes
- Skilled with ATLAS.ti, Microsoft Excel, and Google Sheets for qualitative analysis

Software Proficiency:

- Proficient in SPSS for statistical analysis and data management
- Proficient in Qualtrics for survey creation and data management
- Advanced skills in Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint) and Google Workspace (Docs, Sheets, Slides)
- REDCap for designing clinical and translational research databases