

# Research opportunities in family and human development at the Sanford School

All faculty listed are available for mentorship



## **Jose Causadias, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Culture, Health, Psychology

Dr. Causadias is interested in the role of cultural rituals on the mental health of Latinx children, youth, and families.



## **Dawn DeLay, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Gender, Identities, Intergroup Relations, Measurement and Statistical Analysis, Research Methodology, Social Influences, Social Networks

Dr. DeLay's research focus is on child and adolescent peer relationships. Key themes include how peer relationships impact child and adolescent adjustment and well-being.



## **Natalie Eggum, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Developmental Psychology Statistics

Dr. Eggum's expertise is in children's and adolescents' socio-emotional adjustment. She teaches undergraduate-level statistics, as well as graduate-level advanced quantitative methods courses.



## **Steve Elliot, Professor**

Expertise areas: Assessments, Tests, and Evaluation in Education

Dr. Elliot's research focuses on the assessment and intervention of children's social and academic achievements.



## **Richard Fabes, Professor**

Expertise areas: Children - Teens - Families, Gender Relations, Interpersonal Relationships, Gender and Education, Diversity, School Segregation, Social and Emotional Development, Innovation and Success

Dr. Fabes' research interests include children's adjustment to school, peer relationships, gender, positive development, and the translation of research for interventions and policy.



### **Laura Hanish, Professor**

Expertise areas: Formal and Informal Learning Environments, Gender and Socioeconomic Status, Human Development, Prevention and Intervention Science, Social and Emotional Development

Dr. Hanish studies children's peer relationships; aggression and bullying; and school-related contexts and outcomes.



### **Masumi Iida, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Family and Couple Relationships, Human Development

Dr. Iida's research interests span several domains of social, health, and quantitative psychology.



### **Justin Jager, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Children - Teens - Families, Family and Couple Relationships

Dr. Jager is a developmental psychologist whose research is devoted to unpacking how complex person-context interactions across adolescence and the transition to adulthood inform substance use/abuse and mental health.



### **Becky Ladd, Professor**

Expertise areas: Human Development, Social and Emotional Development

Dr. Ladd's research explores children's social development and peer relationships.



### **Gary Ladd, Professor**

Expertise areas: Children - Teens - Families, Family and Couple Relationships

Dr. Ladd is a Cowden Distinguished Professor. His research interests include children's and adolescents' friendships, peer group relations, and social competence.



### **Roy Levy, Professor**

Expertise areas: Bayesian Statistics, Measurement and Statistics in Education, Quantitative Psychology

Dr. Levy specializes in measurement and statistical analysis. His interests include methodological investigations and applications in psychometrics and statistical modeling.



### **Sarah Lindstrom Johnson, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Human Development, Prevention and Intervention Science, Public and Community Health, Violence

Dr. Sarah Lindstrom Johnson's work takes a positive youth development approach towards identifying ways to prevent youth involvement in risk behaviors, which focuses on supporting development assets and improving the environments in which youth learn and grow.



### **Sabina Low, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Child and Adolescent Development, Child Welfare, Family and Couple Relationships, Prevention and Intervention Science, Violence

Dr. Low's program of research focuses on social-contextual influences on development using life-span, and dyadic dynamic systems frameworks, with an emphasis on adolescent outcomes.



### **Carol Martin, Professor**

Expertise areas: Child and Adolescent Development, Education, Gender, Gender and Education, Gender Relations

Dr. Martin is a Cowden Distinguished Professor. Her interests include gender development, gender identity, and peer relationships in children and adolescents and the role of gendered relationships in school adjustment and functioning.



### **Tracy Spinrad, Professor**

Expertise areas: Parenting, Social and Emotional Development, Socialization, Youth Development, Childhood Studies, Child and Adolescent Development

Dr. Spinrad's research focuses on the socio-emotional development of young children, particularly the relations of children's self-regulation abilities to children's social adjustment.



### **Monica Tsethlikai, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Cognitive Development

Dr. Tsethlikai's research focuses on the role children's experiences and activities play in shaping their cognitive development and well-being.



### **Rebecca White, Professor**

Expertise areas: Migration, Race, Ethnicity, and Culture, Prevention and Intervention Science

Dr. White trained in family and human development and in public health. They are interested in the ways in which U.S. neighborhood contexts, culture, and family processes come together to influence adolescent development.



### **Mengya Xia, Assistant Professor**

Expertise areas: Culture, Dynamical Systems Theory, Emotion, Children - Teens - Families, Parenting, Developmental Psychology, Family and Couple Relationships, Human Development, Social and Emotional Development, Interpersonal Relationships, Quantitative Analysis, Youth Development, Psychology, Research Methodology, Families, Health and Well-Being, Child and Adolescent Development

Dr. Xia's research focuses on identifying positive assets and processes in interpersonal contexts, and how they accumulate or change over time and interact with broader ecological contexts.



### **Brandon Yoo, Associate Professor**

Expertise areas: Psychology, Migration, Race, Ethnicity, and Culture, Racism

Dr. Yoo's research draws on multiple disciplines (including Psychology, Sociology, and Ethnic and Asian American Studies) to examine uniquely racialized risks, resiliency, and resistance of minoritized youth and families. In particular, Dr. Yoo is looking for students to join his research team who are interested in topics of stereotypes and discrimination, racism and racial identity, ethnic and racial socialization, and critical consciousness and collective action.