

# Curriculum Vitae

## Melissa N. Hale, Ph.D. BCBA-D

Department of Psychology

University of Miami

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### **Personal**

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**Home Address:** 3281 Day Ave, Miami, FL 33133  
**Email:** mhale@psy.miami.edu  
**Current Position:** Clinical Assistant Professor  
Associate Director, Center for Autism and Related Disabilities  
**Department:** Psychology  
**Citizenship:** USA

### **Higher Education**

2002 **University of Florida**  
Doctor of Philosophy, School Psychology  
Specialization: Autism/Applied Behavior Analysis

2001-2002 **Kennedy Krieger Institute at Johns Hopkins University**  
APA Approved Clinical Internship

2000 **University of Florida**  
Educational Specialist/Master of Arts, School Psychology

1994 **University of Florida**  
Bachelor of Science, Psychology

### **Professional Experience**

#### **Academic**

2015-Present **University of Miami**  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology  
Co-Director, Graduate Programs in ABA

2004-2013 **Nova Southeastern University**  
Adjunct Professor, Department of Center for Psychological Studies

## Non-Academic

- UM-NSU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (UM-NSU CARD)**
- 2015-Present Associate Director  
 2007-2015 Coordinator of Psychological Services  
 Provide client and family support, professional trainings, public education, community outreach and programmatic/school consultation on issues related to autism spectrum disorders.
- Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic (ASAC):**
- 2016-Present Faculty Supervisor  
 2007-2016 Lead Psychologist  
 Provide clinical and administrative oversight of psychological clinic specializing in the diagnosis, evaluation and treatment of individuals with autism spectrum disorders.
- Nova Southeastern University's Autism Consortium**
- 2003-2007 Program Coordinator  
 Provide autism-related consultations, trainings, and system-support to various school districts throughout the U.S.
- Nova Southeastern University's Unicorn Clinic**
- 2003-2007 Psychologist  
 Provided comprehensive psychological and diagnostic evaluations for young children suspected of having an autism spectrum disorder or other developmental delay.
- Columbus Organization and the Fort Wayne State Developmental Center**
- 2003 Post-doctoral Psychology Resident  
 Provide psychological services to adult residents with developmental disabilities. Duties included conducting functional behavioral assessments, conducting psychological evaluations, developing and implementing therapeutic intervention plans and conducting staff trainings.
- Children's Psychology Associates**
- 2002 Post-doctoral Psychology Resident  
 Clinical duties included conducting psycho-educational evaluations and developing/implementing social-skills group therapies for young children with autism spectrum disorders.

## **Refereed Publications**

The SPARK Consortium (in Press) SPARK (Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research for Knowledge): a US cohort of 50,000 families to accelerate autism research. *Neuron*.

Gutierrez, A. Jr., Fischer, A. J., **Hale, M.** Durocher, J. S., & Alessandri, M. (2013). Differential Response Patterns to the Control Condition Between Two Procedures to Assess Social Reinforcers for Children with Autism. *Behavioral Interventions*, 28, 353-361.

Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M. N.**, O'Brien, H. A., Fischer, A. J., Durocher, J. S., & Alessandri, M. (2009). Evaluating the effectiveness of two commonly used discrete trial procedures for teaching receptive discrimination to young children with autism spectrum disorders. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 3, 630-638.

Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M. N.**, Gossens-Archuleta, K., & Sobrino-Sanchez, V. (2007). Evaluating the social behavior of preschool children with autism in an inclusive playground setting. *International Journal of Special Education*, 22, 25-29.

## **Professional Activities & Accomplishments**

### **Research Grants**

Agency: **Simons Foundation**  
 Project: ***Autism Research Initiative Clinical Site Network***  
 Role: Principal Investigator  
 Institution: University of Miami  
 Funding: ***\$449,507 (total)***  
 Grant Period: April 2016-March 2019

Agency: **Marino Autism Research Institute**  
 Project: ***Joint Attention Intervention for Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders***  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Institution: University of Miami  
 Funding: ***\$30,000***  
 Grant Period: 2008

Agency: **Organization for Autism Research**  
 Project: ***Joint Attention Intervention for Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders***  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Institution: University of Miami  
 Funding: ***\$30,000***  
 Grant Period: 2008

Agency: **President's Faculty Research and Development Award**  
 Project: ***Project A+ (Autism + Mathematics = Communication): Year 2***

Role: Principal Investigator  
 Institution: Nova Southeastern University  
 Funding: \$10,000  
 Grant Period: 2006

Agency: **President's Faculty Research and Development Award**  
 Project: ***Project A+ (Autism + Mathematics = Communication)***  
 Role: Principal Investigator  
 Institution: Nova Southeastern University  
 Funding: \$10,000  
 Grant Period: 2005

### **Service Grants**

Agency: **The Children's Trust**  
 Project: ***University of Miami – Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic Diagnostic Evaluation Services for ASD***  
 Role: Co-Investigator  
 Institution: University of Miami  
 Funding: \$300,000  
 Grant Period: 2015-2018

### **Professional Presentations**

Herbert, L. M., **Hale, M. N.**, David, G., Decius, N., Correa, D., Alessandri, M. and Gutierrez, A. (2019). *Racial and Ethnic Differences in Diagnosis and Service Use*. Poster presented at The International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) 2019 Annual Meeting.

Durocher, J., **Hale, M. N.**, Cardona, S., Victoria, G., Davis, E. M., Beaumont, A. and Parlade, M. (2019). *Sex Differences in Symptom Profiles in a Preschool Sample of Hispanic Children with ASD*. Poster presented at The International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) 2019 Annual Meeting.

Ahn, Y. A., Moffitt, J., Durocher, J., Hale, M., & Messinger, D. (2019). *Objectively measured social communicative behaviors during the ADOS-2*. Poster presented at The International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) 2019 Annual Meeting.

Saiki, S., Sanchez, M., Deveaux, I., Roman, N., & **Hale, M.** (2018) Increasing imitation of video models for toddlers with ASD. Paper presented at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 38th annual convention.

Llanes, S., Martinez, C., Española, E., **Hale, M. N.**, & Gutierrez, A. (2018) Manipulating establishing operations to verify stimulus control for individuals using AAC systems. Paper presented at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 38th annual convention.

**Hale, M. N.**, Espanola, E., Gutierrez, A., Sanchez, M., Deveaux, I., & Roman, N. V. (2018). Video Modeling Intervention for Toddlers with ASD. Poster presentation at the International Society for Autism Research 2018 annual meeting.

Durocher, J., **Hale, M. N.**, Beaumont, A., Parlade, M., Cardona, S., Victoria, G., & Davis, E. M. (2018). Comparison of Symptom Profiles in a Minority Sample of Preschool Children Referred for ASD. Poster presentation at the International Society for Autism Research 2018 annual meeting.

Espanola, E., Gutierrez, A. & **Hale, M. N.** (2018). Randomized Comparison of Two Instructional Sequences for Imitation Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Poster presentation at the International Society for Autism Research 2018 annual meeting.

Weber, J., **Hale, M.N.**, & Gutierrez, A. (2016). Behavioral Profiles and Language Development of Children with ASD. Oral Symposium at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 36<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

**Hale, M.N.** (2015). What Next? Identifying Meaningful Treatment Goals for Children with ASD Who Have Completed EIBI. Oral Paper Presentation at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

Durocher, J. S., **Hale, M. N.**, Gutierrez, A., Novotny, S., & Rowley, A. M. (2013). Social Motivation and Its Relation to the Development of Joint Attention. International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR).

Name, A., Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M.** (2012). Manipulating establishing operations to verify mand training using cards: A replication and extension. Poster presented at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 32<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting.

Pawlowski, M., Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M. N.**, Durocher, J. S., & Alessandri, M. (2010). Evaluating the stability of preferences for attention for children with autism. Presentation at the Association for Behavior Analysis 36<sup>th</sup> annual convention.

Fischer, A. J., Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M. N.**, Durocher, J. S., & Alessandri, M. (2010). A comparison of four methods to assess social reinforcers for children with autism spectrum disorders. Presentation at the Association for Behavior Analysis 36<sup>th</sup> annual convention.

Gutierrez, A. Jr., Scaglia, F., **Hale, M. N.**, Durocher, J. S., Alessandri, M., Anderson, L., Starin, S., & Garcia, D. (2010). Quantifying measures of intensity in early intervention. Poster session at the Association for Behavior Analysis 36<sup>th</sup> annual convention.

Durocher, J.S., **Hale, M.N.**, Gutierrez, Jr., A., & Alessandri, M. (2009). A randomized control trial targeting initiating joint attention skills in young children with autism spectrum disorders. Presentation at the 35<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Fischer, A. J., Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M. N.**, Durocher, J. S., & Alessandri, M. (2009). A comparison of two methods to assess social reinforcers for children with autism spectrum disorders. Poster session at the Association for Behavior Analysis 35<sup>th</sup> annual convention.

James, E.D., Durocher, J.S., Gutierrez, Jr., A., **Hale, M.N.**, Rufin, M., Massa, C.L., Schoultz, P.S., Fischer, A.J., Alvarez-Tabio, C. & Alessandri, M. (2009, April). Caregiver

Synchrony, Language and Joint Attention in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Poster to be presented at the 2009 Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting Program, Denver, Colorado.

Rowley, A., Rufin, M., Durocher, J.S., **Hale, M.N.**, Gutierrez, Jr., A., James, E.D., Fischer, A.J., Schoultz, P.S., Massa, C.L. & Alessandri, M. (2009, April). Collateral Effects of Joint Attention Intervention on Imitation and Pretend Play in Children with Autism. Poster presentation at the 2009 Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biennial Meeting Program, Denver, Colorado.

Alessandri, M., Durocher, J. S., Gutierrez, A. Jr., & **Hale, M. N.** (2009) Building the evidence base: UM treatment research- A focus on joint attention. Presentation at the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. West Palm Beach, Florida.

Alvarez-Tabio, C., Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M. N.**, & Alessandri, M. (2008). An application of the matching law to interaction styles of parents of children with autism spectrum disorders. Poster at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 28th annual meeting.

Fischer, A. J., Gutierrez, A. Jr., Massa, C. L., Schoultz, P. S., Alvarez-Tabio, C., **Hale, M. N.**, Durocher, J. S., & Alessandri, M. (2008). A social reinforcement-based intervention to improve joint attention skills in young children with autism spectrum disorders. Presentation at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 28th annual meeting.

Gutierrez, A. Jr., **Hale, M. N.**, Alessandri, M., Starin, S., & Garcia, D. (2008). Quantifying measures of intensity in early intervention. Presentation at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 28th annual meeting.

Hale, M. N., Massa, C. L., Fischer, A. J., Schoultz, P. S., Alvarez-Tabio, C., Durocher, J. S., Gutierrez, A. Jr., & Alessandri, M. (2008). A method to assess preference and reinforcement effect of social consequences in children with autism spectrum disorders. Presentation at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 28th annual meeting.

Schoultz, P. S., Durocher, J. S., Fischer, A. J., Massa, C. L., Alvarez-Tabio, C., Hale, M. N., Gutierrez, A. Jr., & Alessandri, M. (2008). A clinical randomized control trial of joint attention intervention in young children with autism spectrum disorders. Presentation at the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 28th annual meeting.

Fischer, A. J., Gutierrez, A. Jr., Hale, M. N., Durocher, J. S., & Alessandri, M. (2008). Increasing attending to stimuli to facilitate discrimination training for a child with autism. Poster session at the University of Miami Research and Creativity Forum.

Schoultz, P. S., Gutierrez, A. Jr., Hale, M. N., & Durocher, J. S. (2008). Evaluation of an intervention to improve response to bids for joint attention in children with autism spectrum disorders. Poster session at the University of Miami. Research and Creativity Forum.

Massa, C. L., Durocher, J. S., Gutierrez, A. Jr., & Hale, M. N. (2008). Individual differences in treatment response to joint attention intervention among children with autism spectrum disorder. Poster session at the University of Miami Research and Creativity Forum.

Freedman, B., Turner, R., Hale, M., & Savinelli, S. (2007). Multidimensional Parent Support for an Autism Intervention Program: The Parent Coaching Model. Presentation at the conference for the Autism Society of America.

Reeve, C., Gutierrez, A., Kabot, S., Duffy, T., and Hale, M. N. (2006). Starting Right: A Pilot Project for Earliest Intervention for Children with Autism: Paper presentation presented at the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual conference for the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Gutierrez, A., Gossens-Archuletta, K. L., Sobrino-Sanchez, V., and Hale, M. N. (2006) Evaluating the Social Behavior of Preschool Children with Autism in an Inclusive Playground Setting: Poster presentation at the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual conference for the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Asmus, J. M., Conroy, M. A., **Hale, M. N.**, & Wright, C. S. (2001). Use of antecedent and consequence analysis to decrease disruptive behavior in an inclusive classroom. Presentation at the 27<sup>th</sup> annual conference for the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Conroy, M.A., Asmus, J. M., **Hale, M. N.**, Chait, Capasso, J., Caceres, E., Dozier, C., & Wright, C. (2001). The effects of contextual factors on the disruptive behaviors of students with autism. Presentation at the 27<sup>th</sup> annual conference for the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Capasso, J. M, **Hale, M. N.**, Asmus, J. M., Conroy, M., Dozier, C., & Bassette, K. (2001). Comparison and use of descriptive and experimental analyses of problem behavior for a child with autism in an inclusive classroom. Poster session at the Association for Behavior Analysis 27<sup>th</sup> annual convention.

Conroy, M. A., **Hale, M. N.**, Evans, T., Gutierrez, Jr., A., & Valcante, G. (2000). Assessment and validation of setting events on challenging behavior. Presentation at the 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis

Sinowitz, H. S., Asmus, J. A., Capasso, J. M., & **Hale, M. N.** (2000). Comparison of functional analysis findings for children's aberrant behavior across home and school settings. Poster session at the Association for Behavior Analysis 26<sup>th</sup> annual convention.

Asmus, J. M., Conroy, M. A., Capasso, J. M., Sinowitz, H.S., **Hale, M. N.**, & Wright, C. S., (2000). Comparison of functional analysis outcomes across school and home settings. Presentation at the 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis

Capasso, J. M., Asmus, J. M., Sinowitz, H., S., Chait, A., & **Hale, M. N.** (2000). Treatment of Aberrant behavior across home and school settings for children with developmental disabilities. Poster session at the Association for Behavior Analysis 26th annual convention.

Asmus, J. M., Chait, A., **Hale, M. N.**, & Capasso, J. (2000). Functional Assessment: an introduction to methodology and interpretation. Presentation at the conference for the Florida Association of School Psychologists.

### **Other Conference Activities**

2016 Discussant for Oral Symposium: Linking Assessment to Treatment Advancement in Selecting Targets for Early Intervention Programs. Florida Association for Behavior Analysis 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

### **Editorial Activities**

Invited Reviewer, PLOS ONE

### **Professional Certification/Licenses**

Florida Licensed Psychologist (PY 7272)

Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA-D) (1-02-0784)

### **Additional Trainings & Certifications**

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS)-Research Reliable

Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS<sup>®</sup>) Certified

Picture Exchange Communication (PECS)-Level 2 Trained

### **Teaching**

#### **Courses Taught**

2009 -present

#### **University of Miami Department of Psychology**

Abnormal Child Development

Concepts and Principles of Applied Behavior Analysis

Applications of ABA Principles

Professional Issues in Designing and Monitoring Interventions

Advanced Applications of ABA

Assessment and Treatment of Language and Learning

2004 -2013

#### **Nova Southeastern University Counseling Studies Institute**

The Behavior-Communication Connection

Evaluating Interventions in Applied Behavior Analysis

Applied Behavior Analysis II

2003

#### **Saint Francis University Fort Wayne**

Play Therapy

1999 -2001

#### **University of Florida**

Life-Span Development



## **Trainee/Student Clinical Supervision**

2016-Present	<p><b>Intensive Behavioral Intervention Services (IBIS) Clinic</b>  <b>University of Miami</b>          Provide clinical supervision of undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students in applied behavior analysis.</p>
Spring 2016	<p><b>Honors Thesis Committee</b>          Alejandro Fonte</p>
2007-2016	<p><b>Autism Spectrum Assessment Clinic</b>  <b>University of Miami</b>          Provide clinical supervision of graduate students in clinical psychology and pre-doctoral psychology interns.</p>
2003-2007	<p><b>Unicorn Clinic</b>  <b>Nova Southeastern University</b>          Provide clinical supervision of graduate students in clinical psychology.</p>

## **Community Activities & Service**

2016, 2017	<p><b>UM Research, Creativity and Innovation Forum (RCIF)</b>          Judge</p>
2015	<p><b>Gifts in Golf</b>          Board Member</p>
2005-2007	<p><b>IRB Member</b>          Nova Southeastern University</p>