

# Cassidy Jones-Goucher

Behavioral & Cognitive Neuroscience, Department of Psychology, University of Florida

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Psychology: Social**

2022-present University of Florida  
Second-Year Ph.D. Student

**M.S. Psychology: Behavioral & Cognitive Neuroscience**

2022-2024 University of Florida  
GPA: 4.00 Advisor: Dr. Lori Knackstedt

**B.A. Psychology with Spanish & Honors Minors**

2018-2022 State University of New York (SUNY) at Geneseo  
GPA: 3.96 Advisors: Dr. Vincent Markowski, Dr. Allison Bechard, Dr. Ganie DeHart

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**2024-present** Graduate Research Assistant, Rodriguez Laboratory, University of Florida  
*Interaction between social relationships and drug use on health outcomes applying a writing intervention task*

**2022-2024** Graduate Research Assistant, Knackstedt Laboratory, University of Florida  
*Role of sex & orbitofrontal cortex in cocaine-seeking in a rat voluntary abstinence model*  
*Effects of cocaine-alcohol polysubstance use on c-fos and D2 expression in rodent prefrontal cortex*

**2021-2022** Undergraduate Research Assistant, Bechard Laboratory, SUNY Geneseo  
*Effects of ketogenic diet and adenosine treatment on repetitive motor behavior in a rodent model*

**2019-2022** Laboratory Coordinator, Markowski Laboratory, SUNY Geneseo  
*Longitudinal effects of prenatal and perinatal THC exposure on physiological development, learning and motor behavior*

**2018-2022** Head Research Assistant, DeHart Laboratory, SUNY Geneseo  
*Role of familial relationships in the mental health of Latinx college students*  
*Impact of familial closeness on the strength of Latinx identity in college-age students*  
*Differential use of sarcasm and jocularity in adolescent sibling-peer dyads*

## SKILLS ACQUIRED

### Analysis Techniques

Fluorescent microscopy (expertise in prefrontal cortex and orbitofrontal cortex imaging & c-fos quantification), immunohistochemistry (fluorescent & chromogenic), brain slicing via Leica Cryostat (direct mounting to slide, loading to wells, tissue punches, etc.), basic cresyl violet & fast blue stains

### Animal-Related Skills

Rodent handling and care, intravenous operant self-administration, two-bottle choice, subcutaneous/intraperitoneal injections, oral gavage, oral micropipette dosing, jugular catheter surgery, in-vivo microdialysis, transcardial perfusions, rodent breeding, pup care & developmental measurements, Rotamex motor coordination, halogen bulb tail flick, PAS locomotor software

## Programming & Statistics

R, GraphPad Prism, CellProfiler, ImageJ, MEDPC

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- (1) **Jones-Goucher C**, Knackstedt LA. The effects of sex and orbitofrontal cortex inhibition on cocaine-seeking in a voluntary abstinence model\*. Center for Addiction Research and Education Annual Conference. Gainesville, FL, Apr. 8, 2024. \*updated data.
- (2) **Jones-Goucher C**, Knackstedt LA. The effects of sex and orbitofrontal cortex inhibition on cocaine-seeking in a voluntary abstinence model. Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference. Washington, D.C., Nov. 11-15, 2023.
- (3) Sanchez A, **Jones-Goucher C**, Mesa JR, Cottler LB, Schwendt M, Setlow B, Knackstedt LA. Simultaneous cocaine and alcohol self-administration alters the motivation to seek cocaine and associated neurobiology. Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference. Washington, D.C., Nov. 11-15, 2023.
- (4) Driver KE, **Jones-Goucher C.**, Sanchez A, Setlow B, Schwendt M, Knackstedt, LA. Behavioral economic analysis of oxycodone-THC co-use in a rat model. Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference. Washington, D.C., Nov. 11-15, 2023.
- (5) Ospina G, **Jones-Goucher C**, Knackstedt LA. Influence of sex on cocaine relapse and prefrontal cortex activity in a voluntary abstinence model. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists Annual Conference. Phoenix, AZ, Nov. 15-18, 2023. \*\*Award-winning
- (6) **Jones-Goucher C**, Hendricks A, Rissman Z, Markowski V. Developmental exposure to THC produces motor and somatosensory deficits. SUNY Geneseo GREAT Day Annual Research Symposium: Edgar Fellows Honors Program Senior Capstone Project. Geneseo, NY, April 22, 2022.
- (7) **Jones-Goucher C**, Quiroz D, DeMaria J, Rivera S, Vargas A, Palumbo NP, DeHart GB. The role of family in Latinx college students' developing identities. Association for Psychological Science Annual Conference. Chicago, IL, May 26-29, 2022\*.
- (8) Martinez C, **Jones-Goucher C**, Quiroz D, Sanchez O, Palumbo NP, DeHart GB. Sibling relationship quality in emerging adulthood: A phenomenological study of Latinx college students. Association for Psychological Science Virtual Annual Conference, May 26-27, 2021\*.
- (9) Martinez C, **Jones-Goucher C**, Mazariegos D, Sanchez O, Quiroz D, Renaldi C, Palumbo NP, DeHart GB. Influences of early relationships in Latinx college students. Association for Psychological Science Virtual Annual Conference, May 21-24, 2020\*.
- (10) Cepeda V, Colón X, Martinez C, de Vasconcelos C, Mazariegos D, **Jones-Goucher C**, Palumbo NP, DeHart GB. Latinx college students' concepts of sibling relationships. Association for Psychological Science Annual Conference. Washington, D.C., May 23-26, 2019\*.

\* also presented at SUNY Geneseo's GREAT Day Annual Research Symposium

## AWARDS & HONORS

### **Center for Addiction Research & Education Poster Award, University of Florida (2024)**

Award for top research poster presentation at annual conference.

### **Center for Addiction Research & Education Travel Award, University of Florida (2023)**

\$750 travel award to fund attendance at Society for Neuroscience Conference.

### **Psychology Department Travel Award, University of Florida (2023)**

\$750 travel award to fund attendance at Society for Neuroscience Conference.

### **Graduate Student Opportunity Award, University of Florida (2022-present)**

\$25,000 academic merit-based stipend, renewable for four years at 9-month appointments of rotating Teaching Assistant and Graduate Research Assistant positions yearly.

**SUNY Geneseo Summa Cum Laude, SUNY Geneseo (2022)**

Graduated with a GPA of 3.85 or above.

**Horylev-Tesch Outstanding Senior Award, SUNY Geneseo (2022)**

Most outstanding senior in Psychology Department of Class of 2022 based on excellence in academics, research, community service, and dedication to furthering the science of psychology. Awarded annually to one student.

**Outstanding Research Contribution Award, SUNY Geneseo (2022)**

Most outstanding senior in Psychology Department of Class of 2022 with regards to research contribution. Awarded annually to one student.

**Presidential Scholar, SUNY Geneseo (2021-2022)**

Selected as one of fourteen students graduating in 2022 who displayed academic excellence and extensive community engagement. Worked with provost to address college-wide educational policies and external community initiatives.

**Edgar Fellows Honors Program Student, SUNY Geneseo (2018-2022)**

One of approximately 25 incoming freshmen invited to join the college's honors program based on academic success and extracurricular involvement in high school, completing a minor for the program as well as a capstone project culminating in an APA-style research paper and poster presentation. \$2,000 yearly scholarship.

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE & AFFILIATIONS**

**2023-present** North Central Florida Society for Neuroscience, Outreach Coordinator

**2022-present** Center for Addiction Research and Education, Affiliate Member

**2022-present** McKnight Brain Institute, Affiliate Member

**2021-2022** Nu Rho Psi Neuroscience Honors Society, SUNY Geneseo Chapter Founder & President

**2021-2022** Psychology Department at SUNY Geneseo, Department Representative

**2021-2022** Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society, Member

**2021-2022** Phi Sigma Iota Foreign Language Honors Society, Member (Spanish)

**2021** Geneseo Brain Fair, Chair

**2020-2022** Neuroscience Club at SUNY Geneseo, Founding Member

**2020-2022** Psi Chi Psychology Honors Society, Member

**2019-2021** Sigma Gamma Phi Sorority, Secretary & Vice President

**2019** Pegasus Therapeutic Riding Center, Summer Intern

## **TEACHING & MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE**

**2023-present Undergraduate Student Mentor, University of Florida**

Knackstedt Laboratory Current Mentees: Gabriela Ospina, Claire Jenkins

**2022-present Teaching Assistant, University of Florida**

Courses: Behavioral Neuroscience, Dr. Lori Knackstedt (2022)

Laboratory in Sensory Processes, Dr. Ryan Mears (2023)

**2020-2022 Teaching Assistant, SUNY Geneseo**

Courses: Intro to Biopsychology, Dr. Vincent Markowski (2020-2022)

Child Development, Dr. Christine Merrilees (2020)

**2020-2022 Undergraduate Student Mentor, SUNY Geneseo**

Markowski Laboratory Mentees: Anna Hendricks, Zachary Rissman, Allyson Surowick, Joey Morgan, Lindsey Toole

DeHart Laboratory Mentees: Daniella Quiroz, Jillian DeMaria, Soleil Rivera, Annabella Vargas

## REFERENCES

**Lori Knackstedt, Ph.D.**, Graduate Advisor. [knack@ufl.edu](mailto:knack@ufl.edu)

**Vincent Markowski, Ph.D.**, Undergraduate Research & Academic Advisor. [markowski@geneseo.edu](mailto:markowski@geneseo.edu)

**Allison Bechard, Ph.D.**, Undergraduate Research Advisor. [bechard@geneseo.edu](mailto:bechard@geneseo.edu)

**Ganie DeHart, Ph.D.**, Undergraduate Research Advisor. [dehart@geneseo.edu](mailto:dehart@geneseo.edu)