

Elsie Cheng, Ph.D., Q.M.E.
Licensed Forensic Neuropsychologist
PSY#24344
Curriculum Vita

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Academic Affiliation:
Stanford University- Palo Alto University
Consortium

EDUCATION:

- 2004-2009 **Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology**
Stanford University- Palo Alto University Consortium, Palo Alto, CA.
Pacific Graduate School of Psychology (APA Accredited)
- 2004-2007 **Master of Science in Clinical Psychology**
Palo Alto University, Palo Alto, CA. (APA Accredited)
- 2000-2003 **Bachelor of Art in Psychology**
California Polytechnic State University, Pomona, CA.

DOCTORAL TRAINING:

- 09/08- 08/09 **Clinical Trainee, Neuropsychology Track, Patton State Hospital**
Trainee in an inpatient psychiatric hospital setting; conducting neuropsychological evaluations for patients deemed not guilty by reason of insanity, incompetent to stand trial, mentally disordered offenders, or insane prisoners. Referral questions include questions of malingering, recommendations for treatment planning, diagnostic clarification, extent of neurocognitive deficits, and risk assessments for those up for discharge. Cognitive remediation is also provided for those in need of rehabilitation prior to re-entry to the community. Duties include neuropsychological testing, personality assessment, malingering testing, forensic evaluations, full battery write-ups, court report preparation, treatment planning and implementation, cognitive remediation, individual psychotherapy, and attendance and presentations in weekly case conferences and didactic seminars. (40 hours/week)
Supervisor: David Glassmire, Ph.D., ABPP, Licensed Forensic Psychologist and Director of Clinical Training,

- 08/07- 07/08 **Advanced Practicum Trainee, Palo Alto Veterans Affairs Health System, Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center and Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit**
Extern in a VA outpatient setting; conducting neuropsychological test batteries for veterans and active-duty members, including returning IRAQ soldiers suffering from TBI, providing treatment recommendations, and conducting individual/family/couple's therapy. Duties include neuropsychological testing, full battery write-ups, including treatment recommendations, providing psychoeducation to patients about neuropsychological conditions, conducting group classes/therapy in the Brain Injury Rehab Unit, and attendance and presentations in weekly case conferences. (20 hours/week, 1000 hours total).
Supervisor: John Poole, Ph.D., Licensed Neuropsychologist, and Director of Neuropsychology.
- 07/06- 06/07 **Practicum Trainee, San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Nursing Home Care Unit**
Extern in a VA inpatient setting; conducting individual psychotherapy and providing neuropsychological test batteries. Duties include intake assessment, neuropsychological batteries, behavioral management, treatment planning and implementation, educating staff and patients' families, brain cutting and autopsy seminars, and case conference presentations. (20 hours/week, 1000 hours total).
Supervisor: Michael Drexler, Ph.D., Supervising Neuro/Geropsychologist.
- 09/05- 06/06 **Psychological Trainee, Gronowski Clinic**
Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, Palo Alto, CA.
Student therapist in a community-based outpatient clinic; conducting individual and couple's psychotherapy. Duties include intake assessment, treatment planning and implementation, DSM-IV diagnosis, progress reports, psychological assessment, and case conference presentations. Theoretical orientation: cognitive behavioral therapy. (8-10 hours/week. 300 total).
Supervisor: Robert Reiser, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist, and Clinic Director.
- 02/04-08/04 **Skills Trainer for Autistic Children, Applied Behavior Analysis trained, Southern California Region**
Skills trainer in an in-home setting for children diagnosed with Autism. Duties included: evaluating children's behavior using the Applied Behavioral Analysis model, treatment planning and implementation, training children with Autism in basic functioning skills, and progress

reports. Theoretical orientation: behavioral psychology. (15 hours/week. 600 total).

Supervisor: Auzadae Famili, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist.

POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING:

- 2012-2013 **Forensic Postdoctoral Training in Landmark Cases**
Patton State Hospital, Patton, CA.
This is an additional postdoctoral fellowship seminar in the study and briefing of landmark cases pertinent to California. The seminar meets weekly for 2 hours, not including work outside of seminar, i.e. reading and briefing of case laws, for a total of 52 weeks.
Facilitator: Craig Lareau, Ph.D., J.D., Forensic Psychology Fellowship Director.
- 09/09-08/11 **Neuropsychology and Forensic Psychology Specialization Postdoctorally, Patton State Hospital**
Staffed and supervised in an inpatient psychiatric hospital setting, conducting neuropsychological evaluations and forensic evaluations for patients with psychotic disorders and/or cognitive disorders. Referral questions include questions of malingering, identifying neurocognitive impairments, determining severity of neurocognitive impairments, diagnostic clarification, and providing cognitive remediation. Duties include: neuropsychological testing, forensic evaluations, full battery write-ups, court report preparation, and attendance and course conceptualization in weekly conferences, supervision and caselaw seminars. (40 hours/week).
Supervisor: Craig Lareau, Ph.D., J.D., ABPP,
- 2007 **Certificate Program in Neuropsychological Assessments**
Palo Alto University, Palo Alto, CA.
This is a certificate program in compliance with Division 40 of the American Psychological Association guidelines in which administration, scoring and interpretation of neuropsychological batteries are learned. Totaling 5 courses/15 units.
Professor: Amy Wisniewski, Ph.D., Program Director.

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION TRAINING:

- 2019 **Juvenile Competency to Stand Trial Evaluation**
4-hour course in the case laws associated with juvenile competency, review of best practice, and new standards and legislation beginning January, 2019.

Instructor: Marjorie Graham-Howard, Ph.D., Chair of Child Development and Child Psychology, Azusa Pacific University

- 2017 **Principles of Psychiatric-Legal Report Writing**
2-hour course in the principles, format, and content of report writing for the legal system.
Instructor: Philip Resnick, M.D., Director of the Division of Forensic Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University
- 2017 **Insanity Defense**
2-hour course in the history of Insanity Defense in the U.S., case laws related to Insanity Defense, how to evaluate for such, and California's legal standards.
Instructor: Philip Resnick, M.D., Director of the Division of Forensic Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University
- 2017 **Psychiatric Expert Witnesses and Testimonies**
4-hour course in preparing and testifying in court as an expert witness.
Instructor: Philip Resnick, M.D., Director of the Division of Forensic Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University
- 2016 **Forensic Conference by Dr. Philip Resnick**
This is a 1-day intensive training on various topics in Forensic Psychiatry including Infanticide and a Case Study: The Colorado Batman Movie Massacre.
Instructor: Philip Resnick, M.D., Director of the Division of Forensic Psychiatry, Case Western Reserve University
- 2016 **Assessment of Psychopathy**
Patton State Hospital, Patton, CA
This is an intensive 2-day training on the assessment of psychopathy using the Hare Scales (PCL-R and PCL-SV).
Instructor: Kevin Douglas, Ph.D.
- 2015 **Violence Risk Assessments**
Patton State Hospital, Patton, CA
This is an intensive 2-day training on violence risk assessments using the HCR-20, version 3.
Instructor: Stephan Hart, Ph.D.
- 2013 **Prolonged Exposure Therapy Training**
Center for Deployment Psychology, Naval Med Center, San Diego, CA
This intensive 2-day module provides training in PE, an evidence-based

treatment for PTSD described in the manual, Prolonged Exposure Therapy for PTSD - Therapist Guide, by Foa et al., 2007. It covers the theoretical underpinnings and research behind PE, and reviews the main clinical techniques used in this structured protocol. Step-by-step instructions for conducting PE therapy sessions are shared, including in-vivo and imaginal exposure, along with strategies for working with over- and under-engaged patients and other difficult cases.

Instructors: Dave Riggs, Ph.D. and Libby Parins, Ph.D.

2011

PCL-R/PCL-SV Certification Training

Embassy Suites Grand Room, Seaside, CA.

This is 2-day training on the administration, scoring, and interpretation of the PCL-R and PCL-SV. Additionally, the training discussed the 10 various subtypes of psychopathy, each of the 20 items on the PCL-R and each of the 12 items on the PCL-SV, and the treatment of psychopathy.

Instructor: Stacey D. Berardino, Ph.D., Licensed Forensic Psychologist for CONREP

2009

PC 1370, Incompetent to Stand Trial, Certification Training

Patton State Hospital, Patton, CA

This is a certification training course geared towards working with individuals committed under PC 1370, Incompetent to Stand Trial.

Training included court proceedings, assessments of competency, and treatment for individuals that are incompetent to stand trial.

Instructor: Michael Ehlers, LCSW, Court Preparation Director

MILITARY EXPERIENCE:

7/28/2012- 9/28/2017 **Administrative Officer, Captain Rank**

Army Reserves, Medical Specialty Unit

Commissioned into the Medical Corps under the 73B branch, Clinical Psychologist. Duties include: pre and post assignment evaluations of soldiers, briefing and debriefing of suicides/substance abuse/trauma, and administrative review of soldiers on their practices and fitness for assignments.

Commander: LTC William Mitchell, Commanding Officer

WORK EXPERIENCE:

1/18- present **Agreed Medical Evaluator/Independent Medical Evaluator**

In private practice completing evaluations in the field of worker's compensation, civil litigation and personal injury, specifically in the areas of neuropsychology and psychology. Duties include: evaluating

individuals to assess the presence and severity of neurocognitive deficits related to brain injury, catastrophic injury or other medical conditions. Special contracts with LA County Fire Department, LA County Sheriff's Department, and National Football League.

- 1/17- present **Qualified Medical Evaluator**
 State of California, Department of Workers Compensation
 Duties include: evaluating injured workers to assess for severity of neuropsychological and/or psychological injury(ies), prognosis, and level of connectedness to the employment in order to advise the Board on causation and apportionment of injury(ies) to work.
- 7/13- present **Independent Medical Evaluator (contracted)**
 State of California
 Duties include: evaluating individuals with neurocognitive and/or psychiatric disorders that render them incompetent as it relates to making decisions for their medical care and/or estate, i.e. LPS and Probate conservatorship.
- 7/13- present **Court-Appointed Medical Examiner (contracted)**
 Riverside County Criminal Justice System
 Duties include evaluating adults charged with crimes; specifically, pursuant to PC1368, PC1026, and PC288.
- 12/11- present **Court-Appointed Medical Examiner (contracted)**
 San Bernardino Criminal Justice System
 Duties include evaluating adults charged with crimes; specifically, pursuant to PC1368, PC1026, and PC288.
- 11/11- present **Court-Appointed Psychologist (contracted)**
 San Bernardino Juvenile Justice System
 Duties include assessment of juvenile commitments in and out of custody for the purpose of diagnostic clarification, placement needs, and/or treatment planning.
- 08/11- 05/18 **Admissions Psychologist, EB 02**
 Patton State Hospital, Program VI, Unit EB02
 Duties include admitting, assessing, diagnosing, and triaging of newly admitted individuals at Patton State Hospital. Admission process includes cognitive screening, reading achievement testing, clinical interview, and risk assessments for violence and suicide.
 Supervisor: Jette Warka, Ph.D., Program Senior Psychologist/Chief of Psychology (Acting).

08/13- 08/15 **Consulting Neuropsychologist**

St. Jude Medical Center, Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury Unit
Duties include conducting neuropsychological assessments, diagnosing, and treating patients with injuries to brain, i.e. stroke and trauma, and/or spinal cord. Treatments provided include individual/group/family interventions, psychoeducation, i.e. compensatory strategies, behavior modifications and, motivational interviewing for lifestyle changes.
Supervisor: Margaret Slaven, Ph.D., Director of Neuropsychological Services.

10/05- 04/06 **Research Assistant, Depression Research Clinic**

Stanford University, Department of Psychiatry and Behavior Sciences, School of Medicine, Palo Alto, CA.
Duties included: coding, creating database, and data-entry.
Supervisor: Jennifer Keller, Ph.D., Research Associate.

PROFESSIONAL LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS:

PTSD in Worker's Compensation: Is the diagnosis accurate or is a simpler diagnosis being overlooked? (2026)

COSIPA, North and South Sessions

Dates: 30-April- 2026, 7-May- 2026

Location: Hilton, Concord and Westin, Costa Mesa

Ratings in Traumatic Brain Injury (2025)

California Applicants Attorney Association, Ratings Seminar

Dates: 7-December-2025

Location: Hyatt Regency, Monterey

The Pained Brain: Exploring the Effects of Acute and Chronic Pain on the Brain
Worker's Compensation Forum (2025)

Dates: 10-June-2025

Location: Double Tree Hotel, San Bernardino

Mild Traumatic Brain Injuries and Neurocognitive Disorders (2025)

California Applicants Attorney Association, Winter Convention

Dates: 24-January-2025

Location: Paris Hotel, Las Vegas

Neurocognition in the Time of Covid-19 (2020)

Armstrong & Sigel, LLP Law Group

Date: 10- September-2020

Location: Via Zoom

Neurocognitive Deficits: How to Distinguish Embellished or Exaggerated Claims from Bona Fide Impairments

Los Angeles County Counsel

Date: 7-June-2019

Location: Los Angeles County Defense Department

Neurocognitive Deficits: How to Distinguish Embellished or Exaggerated Claims from Bona Fide Impairments

Hanna Brophy Academy, Orange County

Date: 15-March-2019

Location: 701 S. Parker St. Suite 6000 Orange CA 92868

Neuropsychology: Applications in Testing, Evaluating and Diagnosing Brain Injury
Orange County Bar Association

Date: 2-April-2018

Location: Grand Catered Events, 300 S. Flower St., Orange, CA 92868

DOCTORAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

06/15-09/15 **Multifactorial Approach on Risks for PTSD**

Army Reserves, Medical Specialty Unit, Garden Grove, CA.

This is a research project looking at multiple variables when assessing soldiers' risks in having PTSD during vigilant assignments, i.e. combat. Variables studied included social support, religious practices, premorbid conditions, sleep patterns, and substance use.

08/07-06/08 **The Effects of Cognitive Deficits and Symptoms of Schizophrenia on Daily Life Functioning in a Geriatric Schizophrenic Sample**

Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, Palo Alto, CA.

This is a dissertation looking at the effects and roles that cognitive deficits and symptoms of schizophrenia have on daily life functioning, including activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living. Specifically, in a geriatric sample.

09/06-09/07 **Subcortical vs. Cortical Damage: difference in presentation on the RBANS.**

Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, Palo Alto, CA.

San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center, CA.

This study looks at the difference in presentation on the RBANS based on patient's diagnosis. Whether patients have subcortical damage, cortical damage or mixed. Specifically, which subtests are more challenging for

patients with subcortical damage, which for patients with cortical damage, and for those with mixed cortical damage.

- 09/05-09/06 **Aging, Neuropsychology, and Depression Group**
Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, Palo Alto, CA.
Developing research skills such as writing research proposals, conducting studies, presenting posters and papers, writing manuscripts, etc.
Supervisor: Rowena Gomez, Ph.D., Assistant Professor.
- 10/06-08/07 **RBANS and TMT: Improvement in rate of diagnostic classification amongst the geriatric population.**
San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center, CA.
This study compares classification rates for "normal" versus "brain-impaired" groups in one set of subjects using RBANS alone, versus in another set using RBANS with the TMT.
- 10/06-02/07 **A preliminary study of the incremental validity of quantified process-related features from the RBANS to diagnostic classification of cognitive disorder in a geriatric sample.**
San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center, CA.
This study compares the diagnostic classification rates using age and education corrected indices (AECI's) vs. classification rates when process-related features (PRF's) are also examined in a clinical geriatric sample presenting with mixed cognitive disorder vs. non-cognitive psychiatric disorder.
- 02/06-05/06 **Is COGNISTAT a better neuropsychological screen than the RBANS in older adults?**
Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, Palo Alto, CA.
This study compares the COGNISTAT and RBANS among the elderly population. This study looks at the correlation between the two screening measures in both total scores and matching cognitive domains.
- 09/02-06/03 **Senior Project, Infidelity: Gender Differences in Views of Infidelity**
Cal Poly, Pomona.
This study looked at the differences between females and males in their views of infidelity.
Duties included: designing the project, administering the surveys, analyzing the data and making inferences from the data drawn.
Supervisor: Jim W. Sturges, Ph.D., Professor.
- 01/03-06/03 **The Difference in Reaction Time Based on the Stimuli, Type of Presentation and The Response Required**

Cal Poly, Pomona.

This study looked at the reaction time difference based on the stimuli presented via a computer monitor; how the location of the stimuli on the monitor and the responses asked for affect the reaction time.

Duties included: administering the tests and analyzing the data.

Supervisor: Jim W. Sturges, Ph.D., Professor.