

Loukia Tsami, M.A., BCBA, LBA

Contact Information

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Education

Master of Arts, Psychology
Northcentral University, 2014

Certification Program, Leadership Education in Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities
University of Texas Health Science Center, 2014

Certification Program, Behavior Analysis
Florida Institute of Technology, 2012

Bachelor of Arts, Graphic Design
The American University of Athens, 1996

Certifications and Licensure

Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), 2014-present
Licensed Behavior Analyst, Texas, 2018-present

Professional Experience

2014-present Research Associate, Manager of the Vocational Clinic, University of Houston, Clear Lake (UHCL) Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities

Coordinate grant activities at UHCL site, serve as primary behavior therapist, and supervise research assistants for federally funded grant “Comparing Behavioral Assessments Using Telehealth for Children with Autism.
Supervisor: Dorothea C. Lerman, Professor, UHCL.

2014-present Family Faculty, LoneStar Leadership Education in Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program, University of Texas Health Science

Deliver seminar sessions, participate in all aspects of the LEND curriculum, develop research projects, provide supervision and serve as a mentor to LEND trainees.

Supervisor: Pauline A. Filipek, MD, Pediatric Neurology, UTH.

- 2019-2024 Faculty, Baylor College of Medicine
Coordinate grant activities at BCM site, develop and implement behavioral interventions for dental patients in vivo and via telehealth, train residents and conduct research.
Supervisor: Dorothea C. Lerman, Professor, UHCL and Cynthia Peacock, MD, BCM
- 2013-2014 Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst, Behavior TLC, Houston TX
Conducted assessments and developed acquisition and behavior reduction treatment plans for children with autism. Trained and supervised behavioral technicians and therapists.
Supervisor: John Pugh, M.A., BCBA, LBA
- 2012-2013 Behavior Therapist & Research Assistant, UHCL
Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities
Conducted behavioral assessments, developed and implemented behavior interventions, collected and analyzed data.
Supervisors: Dorothea C. Lerman, Professor, UHCL; Jennifer Fritz, Assistant Professor, UHCL
- 2012 Behavior Therapist, Texas Young Autism Project, Houston, TX
Implemented behavior treatment plans to young children with Autism and Down syndrome.
Supervisor: Dr. Catriona Cullum
- 2011 Behavior Therapist, Tangible Difference Learning Center, Houston, TX
Implemented behavior treatment plans to young children with Autism.
Supervisor: Michael Conteh, MA. BCBA

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Bamise, M. E., Lerman, D. C., & Tsami, L. (under review). Computer-based instruction to teach professionals in Nigeria to conduct pairwise functional analyses. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*.
- Call, N. A., Bernstein, A. M., O'Brien, M. J., Schieltz, K. M., Tsami, L., Lerman, D. C., Berg, W. K., Lindgren, S. D., Connelly, M. A., & Wacker, D. P. (2024). A comparative effectiveness trial of functional behavioral assessment methods. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 57(1), 166–183.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.1045>
- Kelly M. Schieltz, Matthew J. O'Brien, Loukia Tsami, Chapter 12 - Telehealth-delivered family support☆, Editor(s): James K. Luiselli, *Applied Behavior Analysis Advanced Guidebook (Second Edition)*, Academic Press, 2023, Pages

285-318, ISBN 9780323995948, <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-99594-8.00012-X>.

- Tsami, L., Nguyen, J.T., Alphonso, N., Lerman, D.C., Matteucci, M., & Chen J. (2022). Outcomes and Acceptability of Telehealth-Based Coaching for Caregivers in Asian Countries. *Behavior Modification*
- Matteucci, M., Lerman, D.C, Tsami, L., (2022). Remote Training of Dental Students and Professionals to Promote Cooperative Behavior in Patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. *Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities*
- Berens, L., Tsami, L., Lerman, D.C, Matteucci, M., Fray, D. F., Warner, B. F., Keehan, L.A., Staggers, K., & Peacock, C (2022). Preliminary Results of An Interdisciplinary Behavioral Program to Improve Access to Preventative Dental Care for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. *American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*
- Schieltz, K. M., O'Brien, M. J., Tsami, L., Call, N. A., & Lerman, D. C. (2022). Behavioral assessment and treatment via telehealth for children with autism: From local to global clinical applications. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(4), 2190. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19042190>
- Neely, L., Tsami, L., Graber, J., & Lerman, D.C (2022). Towards the Development of a Curriculum to Train Behavior Analysts to Provide Services via telehealth. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*
- O'Brien, M. J., Pelzel, K. E., Hendrix, N. M., Schieltz, K. M., Miller, K., Call, N. A., Tsami, L., Lerman, D. C., Berg, W. K., Kopelman, T. G., Wacker, D. P., & Lindgren, S. D. (2021). Parent Ratings of Generalized and Indirect Effects of Functional Communication Training for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Behavior Modification*
- Lerman, D.C., O'Brien, M.J., Neely, L., Call, N.A., Tsami, L., Schieltz, K.M., Berg, W.K., Graber, J., Huang, P., Kopelman, T., & Cooper-Brown, L.J. (2020). Remote coaching of caregivers via telehealth: Challenges and potential solutions. *Journal of Behavioral Education*
- Tsami, L., & Lerman, D.C. (2019). Transfer of Treatment Effects from Combined to Isolated Conditions During Functional Communication Training for Multiply Controlled Problem Behavior. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*
- Tsami, L., Lerman, D.C., & Toper-Korkmaz, O. (2019). Effectiveness and acceptability of parent training via telehealth among families around the world. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*
- Toper-Korkmaz, O., Lerman, D.C., & Tsami, L. (2018). Effects of toy removal and number of demands on vocal stereotypy during response interruption and

redirection. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 51, 757–768.
doi:10.1002/jaba.497

Richardson, A. R., Lerman, D. C., Nissen, M. A., Luck, K. M., Neal, A. E., Bao, S. and Tsami, L. (2017). Can pictures promote the acquisition of sight-word reading? An evaluation of two potential instructional strategies. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 50, 67-86. doi:10.1002/jaba.354

Dupuis, D.L., Lerman, D.C., Tsami, L., & Shireman, M.L. (2015). Reduction of aggression evoked by sounds using noncontingent reinforcement and time-out. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 48, 669-674. doi:10.1002/jaba.220

Professional Activities and Projects

Behavior Analysis for Inclusive Vaccine Administration (BAIVA)
2021-present Member of the founding team, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at the University of Houston, Clear Lake
The BAIVA project aims to provide training for healthcare professionals who work with children and adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. More specifically, the training focuses on behavioral strategies that promote cooperation, comfort, and safety during vaccine administration and healthcare visits.

Presentations

Conference Presentations, Webinars, and Group Trainings via Telehealth from UHCL

- 11/2/2024 Understanding Autism: Early Signs and Support Tips, Webinar, Lagos, Nigeria, Telehealth ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL & Telvida
- 09/15/2024 Challenging Behavior in School, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria, ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL & Telvida
- 08/31/2024 Identifying Autism: Screening, Diagnosis and Interventions, Workshop, Port Harcourt, Nigeria, Telehealth ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL & Telvida
- 05/15/2024 -05/18/2024 Enhancing ABA Practices: A Comprehensive Three-Day Evaluation and Training at The Zeebah Foundation, Abuja, Nigeria, ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL
- 04/02/2024 World Autism Awareness Day Symposiu, Webinar, Abuja, Nigeria, ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL & The Zeebah Foundation

- 8/20/2023 Empowering Parents & Individuals with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities, Webinar, Kaduna, Nigeria, Telehealth ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL, MADDSI NGO
- 5/20/2023 Autism: 10 Useful Tips, Port Harcourt Nigeria, Webinar, Telehealth ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL
- 4/7/2023 - 4/15/2023 Autism Seminar Series, Hopeworks Ghana, Webinar, Telehealth ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL
- 3/26/2022 SABA International Development Grant: Introduction to ABA: Strategies to Support Inclusive Classrooms in Liberia, Webinar, Session One
- 3/26/2022 Functional Assessments for Challenging Behaviors, Webinar, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
- 3/5/2022 Inclusion Systems in Public Schools, Webinar, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
- 2/19/2022 Ber Zawadi: Increasing Cultural Humility in Behavior Analytic Practice, Webinar, Telehealth ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL
- 1/29/2022 Activity Schedules for Children with Autism, Webinar, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
- 9/5/2022 Intervention Strategies for Problem Behavior in the School Environment: Session One, Webinar, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
- 7/31/22 Interdisciplinary Collaborations during Therapies for Children with Autism, Webinar, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
10/25/2021 Behavior Strategies to Prevent Problem Behavior in the Classroom: Session Two, Webinar, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
- 10/16/2021 SABA International Development Grant, Autism and Children with Disabilities, Sinje Youth Center Sinje Town, Liberia
- 10/2/2021 SABA International Development Grant, Autism: Making a Difference with 5 Simple Tips, Chat Field Learners Intervention Center, Nairobi, Kenya
- 6/20/2021 A Model for Providing Behavioral Services to Families in Africa via Telehealth, First Annual BABA Conference

- 6/16/2021 Using Systems Analysis to Improve Cultural Humility in Clinical Practice: Guidelines and Recommendations, Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis
- Evaluations of Telehealth-Delivered, Culturally Adapted, and Caregiver-Implemented Functional Analysis and Functional Communication Training Around the World, A Telehealth Model for Delivering Behavior Analytic Services to Families in Africa, ABAI 47TH Annual Convention 2021
- 5/30/2021 Assessment of Challenging Behavior in School, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
- 4/29/2021 Social Behavior and Young Adults with Autism Diagnosis, Greek Scientists ABA Educational Association
- 4/20/2021 Updates of An Interdisciplinary Behavior Program to Improve Preventative Care for Adults With IDD, Transition Medicine Dental Conference
- 4/8/2021 Getting the Most Out of A Healthcare Visit, UHCL, Baylor College of Medicine Webinar
- 3/30/2021 Interventions for Early Learners with Autism via Telehealth, 12th Annual Forum National de Handicap, Troubles du Spectre Autistique : Etat des lieux et méthodes universelles de prise en charge, Morocco
- 3/1/2021 Functional Analyses via Telehealth: The Inside Scoop, Alma Behavioral Consulting Webinar
- 2/27/2021 Using a Systems Approach to Improve Cultural Humility Practices Across Staff: Guidelines & Recommendations, Alma Behavioral Consulting
- 2/6/2021 Towards Contextualization of Behavior Analysis in Southern Africa, Webinar, Telehealth ABA World Project, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, UHCL
- 1/9/2021 Functional Analyses via Telehealth: Trainings for BCBAs, Webinar, Alma Behavioral Consulting
- 12/19/2020 Autism & ABA: Applications to Assist Syrian Refugees in Turkey, Bursa University & Harran University
- 12/5/2020 Problem Behavior for Children with Autism, The Ray of Hope Academy, Douala, Cameroon
- 10/27/2020 Cultural Awareness for Practitioners in America Webinar, Cultivate Behavioral Health and Education
- 10/24/2020 ABA & Schools: Strategies That Work. Autism Global Training, Chatfield Learners' Intervention Center Nairobi, Kenya
- 9/11/2020 Promoting Compliance to Dental Exams for Adults with IDD In-

Vivo and via Telehealth, UHCL Webinar

- 8/8/2020 ABA via Telehealth: A Model for Providing Services in Africa, Webinar for BCBA's, Telehealth ABA World Project, UHCL
- 7/11/2020 ABA: Promoting Compliance in Medical Environments, Webinar for Medical Professionals in Liberia and Rwanda
- 6/27/2020 Effective Interventions for Individuals with Autism, Talk Autism Parent Group and Frank Hilton Organization, Suva Fiji
- 6/24/2020 Coaching Caregiver through the Internet to Implement Toilet training, Behavior Development Solutions
- 5/1/2020 Practical Issues in Delivering Telehealth Services to Children with Developmental Disabilities. Western Michigan University, Department of Psychology
- 4/28/2020 Using Telehealth to Train Parents of Children with Autism Across the Globe, Webinar ALPINE with Bridget Taylor
- 4/25/2020 Using Telehealth in ABA, Webinar for BCBA's located in Middle East, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at UHCL
- 4/24/2020 Toilet Training via Telehealth, 34th Annual TxABA Conference
- 4/11/2020 Using Telehealth in ABA, Webinar for professionals located in Africa, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at UHCL
- 3/30/2020 Adults with Autism: Inside Stories Part II, Action for Autism Support Parent Group
- 3/27/2020 Telehealth ABA Services in Texas, Texas Association for Behavior Analysis and Texas Association for Behavior Analysis Public Policy Group
- 3/20/2020 Telehealth in ABA 101, Behavior TCL Behavior Analysis Center
- 3/13/2020 Problem Behavior at School, 10 KESY A Thessaloniki's, Greece
- 2/24/2020 Adults with Autism: Inside Stories, Action for Autism Parent Support Group, CHI Saint Joseph Health, Saint Joseph, London, Kentucky
- 2/15/2020 How to Teach New Skills to Individuals with Autism, AUG 7th Memorial Park, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2/7/2020 Teaching New Skills to Children with Autism, Center Recourse Center, Gaborone, Botswana
- 1/18/2020 Autism: Evidence-Based Interventions, UNESCO Commission in Cocody Mermoz in Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 11/23/2019 Autism: Evidence-Based Interventions, PFDA – Vocational Training Center, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 11/16/2019 Introduction to ABA, Autism Jewel Center, Peshawar, Pakistan
- 10/21/19 Autism: Successful Interventions, Talk Love Africa Foundation, Port Harcourt, Nigeria
- 9/29/2019 An Application for Delivering Functional Communication Training Internationally, ABAI 10th International Conference, Stockholm, Sweden
- 9/21/2019 Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, International Preparatory High School, Monrovia, Liberia

- 9/14/19 Evidence - Based Interventions for Children and Adults with Autism, El Mansoura University, El Mansoura, Egypt
- 9/7/2019 Autism: Effective Interventions, Stepping Stone School, Swakopmund, Namibia
- 8/31/2019 Evidence - Based Interventions for Autism, International Conference on Neuro-Developmental Disorders, Kaduna, Nigeria
- 7/27/2019 Understanding and Managing Problem Behavior, Autism Society Philippines, Manila, Philippines
- 7/20/2019 Understanding and Managing Problem Behavior, Part 2, PFDA – Vocational Training Center, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 7/13/2019 Autism Evidence Based Treatments, Webinar in Vietnam
- 7/6/2019 Understanding and Managing Problem Behavior, PFDA – Vocational Training Center, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 7/3/2019 Understanding and Managing Challenging Behavior, Children’s Hospital Lahore, Pakistan
- 6/29/2019 Understanding and Managing Challenging Behavior, Kaduna, Nigeria
- 6/22/2019 Autism Evidence Based Treatments, Mitchell’s Plain District Hospital Cape Town, South Africa
- 6/1/2019 Applied Behavior Analysis and Autism, with TalkLove Africa Foundation in Port Harcourt, Nigeria
- 5/18/2019 Applied Behavior Analysis and Autism, Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast
- 5/4/2019 Teaching Language and Learning Skills, Autisme, Ambition & Avenir, Lyon, France
- 5/4/2019 Managing Problem Behavior at School, Learning House School, Karachi, Pakistan
- 5/3/2019 Understanding & Managing Challenging Behavior, Savana-la-Mar Institute Infant Academy, Jamaica
- 4/27/2019 Bridging Gaps in Autism & Management of Challenging Behavior through ABA, University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Pakistan
- 4/23/2019 Challenging Behavior and Autism, Psychology Department, Foundation University, Rawalpindi Campus, Pakistan
- 4/21/2019 Autism Q&A Webinar in Vietnam
- 4/20/2019 Applied Behavior Analysis & Autism, Accra, Ghana
- 4/13/2019 Understanding & Managing Challenging Behavior, Naoussa, Greece
- 4/6/2019 Evidence-Based Treatment for Autism: Case Examples of Success, Veroia, Greece
- 3/26/2019 Behavioral Assessments: Introduction to Functional Analysis, National Institute of Psychology Quid-i-Azam University Islamabad, Pakistan
- 3/8/2019 Understanding & Managing Problem Behavior, University of

Karachi, Pakistan

- 2/23/2019 Autism & ABA, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2/9/2019 Teaching Language and Learning Skills, Swakopmund, Namibia
- 2/2/2019 Prompting Strategies: How to Teach New Skills to Children with Autism, Kathmandu, Nepal
- 2/2/2019 Management of Challenging Behavior with ABA, Lyon, France
- 1/26/2019, Managing Problem Behavior at School, Swakopmund, Namibia
- 1/26/2019, Teaching Methods for Children with Learning Difficulties, Naoussa, Greece
- 1/26/2018, Managing Challenging Behavior at School, Swakopmund, Namibia
- 1/12/2019, Bridging Gaps in Autism & Management of Challenging Behavior Through ABA, Peshawar, Pakistan
- 12/21/2018, Introduction to ABA, Hanoi, Vietnam
- 12/8/2018, Understanding & Managing Challenging Behavior at School, Karachi, Pakistan
- 11/24/2018, Introduction to ABA, Asaba, Nigeria
- 11/16/2018, Prompting Strategies, Karachi, Pakistan
- 11/10/2018, Autism and ABA, Swakopmund, Namibia
- 11/2/2018, Disruptive Behavior: Assessment & Treatment, Katmandu, Nepal
- 10/30/2018, Introduction to Verbal Behavior, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- 10/27/2018, How to Manage Problem Behavior in the Classroom, Karachi, Pakistan
- 10/20/2018, Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, Rabat, Morocco
- 10/13/2018, Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, Kaduna, Nigeria
- 10/5/2018, Skinner's Analysis of Verbal Behavior, Katmandu, Nepal
- 9/1/2018, Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, Katmandu, Nepal
- 9/1/2018, Basic Principles of ABA, Yaoundé, Cameroon
- 7/6/2018, Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, Yaoundé, Cameroon
- 6/22/2018, Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, Monrovia, Liberia
- 5/11/2018, Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis, Natural Environment training, Karachi, Pakistan
- 2/2/2018, Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis, Natural Environment training, Ryazan, Russia
- 7/10/2017, Introduction to Verbal Behavior, ABLLS, Mexico City, Mexico
- 4/12/2017, Dealing with Problem Behavior: Assessment and Treatment, Veroia, Greece
- 2/12/2017, Preference Assessments and Token Economies, Veroia Greece
- 3/19/2017, Natural Environment Training, Veroia Greece
- 1/22/2017, Introduction to Verbal Behavior, Veroia Greece

- 11/5/2016, Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis, Veroia, Greece

Presentations on site

- 11/9/2019 Improving Access to Care for Adults with IDD, Transition Medicine Dental Conference, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas.
- 5/25/2019 Outcomes of a Global Telehealth Parent Training Project, 45TH Annual ABAI 2019 Convention, Chicago
- 5/10/2019 Using Telehealth to Train Parents of Children with Autism, American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry (AADMD) Annual Conference, Rochester, New York
- 3/1/2019 Cultural Responsiveness in Behavior Analytic Practice, Women in Behavior Analysis (WIBA) Conference, Nashville, Tennessee
- 11/13/2018 Empowering Parents of Children with Problem Behavior Around the World, World Autism Organization Congress in Houston, Texas
- 9/8/2018 Telehealth ABA World Project: Africa, Association of Black Psychologists in Houston, Texas
- 9/3/2018 Effectiveness and Acceptability of Parent Training via Telehealth Among Families in the US and around the world, Texas Association for Behavior Analysis Annual Conference, Houston, Texas
- 6/5/2017 Introduction to Verbal Behavior, Light and Salt Association, Houston, Texas
- 5/29/2017 Effectiveness and Acceptability of Parent Training via Telehealth Among Families in Greece and Turkey, Annual ABAI 2017 International Conference, Chicago
- 4/11/2-17 Language and Learning Skills: Assessment & Training, Light and Salt Association, Houston, Texas
- 4/28/2017 Behavior Analysis via Telehealth, TEXANA Center, Houston, Texas
- 4/15/2017 Assessment and Intervention for Problem Behavior, Light and Salt Association, Houston, Texas
- 4/4/2017 Telehealth Current Advances, Harris County Early Childhood Intervention Center, Houston, Texas
- 3/23/2017 Telehealth: Research and Practice, UH Speech Pathology Grad Program, Houston, Texas

Service to the Profession

2018-2024 TxABA Public Policy Telehealth Task Force

Contribute in the development of the Telehealth ABA Taskforce Report, provide educational presentations

2016 – 2021 Reviewer by invitation at the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders and Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis

2021 Summer AUCD 2021 Conference Reviewer

Other Professional Activities

Director and Founder of Telehealth ABA World Project

The Telehealth ABA World Project aims to empower parents and professionals who work with children with autism and other developmental disabilities in countries around the world. It aims to improve the quality of life for families in communities that don't have access to behavioral services. Therapists at University of Houston-Clear Lake provide training services and educational presentations via the internet by establishing two-way interactive video connections with families and professionals who reside in other countries. Interpreters are available to assist with some sessions. All services are free.

Professional Memberships

- European Association for Behaviour Analysis (EABA), 2014-present
- Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA), 2014-present
- Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI), 2013-present
- Texas Association for Behavior Analysis (TxABA), 2012-present
- American Psychological Association (APA), 2014-present

Languages

Greek (mother tongue)

English (excellent - proficiency)

French (basic knowledge)