

VEDANT A. DESAI

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Ball State University TC 505
Educational Psychology
2000 W University Avenue
Muncie, Indiana 47303, USA

ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

- JUL '28 (expected) ***Doctor of Philosophy in School Psychology***
JUL '28 (expected) ***Graduate Certificate in Institutional Research***
Ball State University, Muncie, IN
DISSERTATION: *Executive Function and Circadian Rhythms: The Cognitive Role of Temporal Memory and Cognitive Flexibility [As of Now]*.
CHAIR: Eric Pierson, PhD
STATUS: PLANNED TO PROPOSE 08/2026
- DEC '23 ***Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology***
DEC '23 ***Master of Science in Quantitative Psychology***
Ball State University, Muncie, IN
THESIS: *College Adaptation and Depressive Symptomatology: The Mediating Role of the Self-Efficacy and Stress Dyad*
CHAIR: Niloufar Lueke, Ph.D
- MAY '21 ***Bachelor of Science in Psychological Sciences***
Concentration in Developmental Neuroscience
HONOR(S): 5 Consecutive Semester Honors; Graduated *Cum Laude*

SCHOLARLY EXPERIENCE

- 08/24 - 08/25 **Department of Educational Psychology - Ball State University, IN**
Graduate Research Assistant
Faculty Supervisor: Eric Pierson, Ph.D
Engaged in scholarly research on professional issues in school psychology, and contemporary assessment methods. Developed IRB protocols, designed the lab webpage, and carried a managerial role for scheduling lab events.
- 08/23 - 05/24 ***Graduate Research Assistant***
Faculty Supervisor: Theresa Kruczek, Ph.D
Co-authored peer-reviewed articles and presented a paper talk on implementing MTSS systems in resource-constrained and rural school districts.
- 08/22 - 05/23 **Department of Psychological Sciences - Ball State University, IN**
Graduate Research Assistant
Faculty Supervisor: Niloufar Lueke, Ph.D
Collaborated on a scholarly article investigating adolescent health and ecological stress. Created a novel script for efficiently scoring rating scale data. Conducted literature reviews and contributed to health psychology research.
- 08/21 - 05/22 **Department of Early Childhood Education - Ball State University, IN**
Graduate Research Assistant
Faculty Supervisor: Scott Hall, Ph.D
Conducted literature reviews and curated chapter layouts for a scholarly book focusing on ecological-systems and stressors experienced by families.
- 08/21 - 05/23 ***Graduate Research Assistant***

Faculty Supervisor: Jill K. Walls, Ph.D

Co-authored a manuscript on adolescent transitions and social experiences in college. Conducted literature searches and compiled reference lists for early childhood education and pedagogy.

05/21 - 08/21 **Autism Research Center - Purdue University Discovery Park, IN**

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Faculty Supervisor: Carolyn McCormick, Ph.D

Collaborated on a meta-analytical review for an interdisciplinary research project to develop biosensors for neurological disorders.

08/20 - 08/21 **Department of Psychological Sciences - Purdue University, IN**

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Faculty Supervisor: Bridgette Kelleher, Ph.D

Recruited participants for an R01 project on neurodevelopmental disorders. Conducted research on heart rate variability defined attentional problems in children with developmental disabilities.

INDEXED AND SCHOLARLY WORK

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

1. Desai, V. A., & Lueke, N. A. (2026). The mediating roles of perceived stress and college adaptation in the relationship between self-efficacy and depressive symptoms among first year college students. *Current Psychology*, 45(17), 1475. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-026-09300-5>
2. Lueke, N. A., Assar, A., Desai, V. A., Diaz, K., Jung, A., LeBlanc, I., & Lueke, A. (2025). Perceived Stress and Worry Mediate the Link Between Sleep Quality and Immune Function. *Sleep*, 47(1), 415. <https://doi.org/10.1093/sleep/zsae067.0968>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPERATION

3. Detrich, A., Desai, V., Gonzalez, G., & Lueke, N. (2025). COVID-19 Anxiety and Sleep Quality: The Parallel Mediating Role of Stress, Worry, and Catastrophizing. *Conditional acceptance at Health Psychology*.
4. Desai, V. A. (in review). Self-Efficacy and Sleep Quality: The Mediating Role of Stress in Undergraduate College Students. *Journal of American College Health*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

5. Fields, L., Desai, V., & Pierson, E. E. (April 2026). *Sleep Chronotype and Social Experience: The Role of Personality*. Poster accepted at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference – Chicago, IL.
6. Desai, V. (February 2026). *Tier 3 Multiplication Math Interventions*. Poster presented at the National Association for School Psychologists (NASP) Annual Convention – Chicago, IL.
7. Desai, V. (February 2026). *Assessing and Mitigating Inattendance due to Transportation Needs*. Poster presented at the National Association for School Psychologists (NASP) Annual Convention – Chicago, IL.
8. Lueke, N., Assar, A., Desai, V., Diaz, K., Jung, A., LeBlanc, I., & Lueke, A. (May 2024). *Perceived Stress and Ruminative Worry Mediate the Relationship Between Sleep Quality and Immune Functioning*. Poster presented at the Associated Professional Sleep Societies Annual Conference - Houston, TX.

9. Desai V. (April 2024). *Sleep and Self-Efficacy: The Mediating Role of Stress Across College Years*. Paper Presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference 2024 – Chicago, IL.
10. Desai, V., Nashisako, D., Bonsu, A., & Kruczek, T. (April 2024). *Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) in Rural Schools*. Symposium Presented at the Great Lakes Conference 2024 – Muncie, IN.
11. Desai, V., & Lueke, N. (April 2023). *College Adaptation and Depressive Symptomatology: The Mediating Role of the Self-Efficacy and Stress Dyad*. Paper Presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference 2023 – Chicago, IL.
12. Desai, V., & Holtgraves, T. (April 2022). *Self-Efficacy and Sleep Quality: The Mediating Role of Stress in Undergraduate College Students*. Poster presented at the Ball State University 27th Annual Student Symposium – Muncie, IN.
13. Schrader, K., Butler, G., Desai, V., Mathis, K., Tummala, R., Zhang, S., Neo, W. S., & Kelleher, B. (April 2021). *Relationship between microcephaly severity with behavior and heart rate-defined sustained attention in children with congenital Zika syndrome*. Presented at the 19th Annual Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference at Purdue University – West Lafayette, IN.

GRANTS AND FUNDING AWARDED

14. **Principal Investigator:** “*College Adaptation and Depressive Symptomatology: The Mediating Role of the Self-Efficacy and Stress Dyad*”, Internal, January 2023. Funded Amount: \$600 USD, Ball State University, Sponsored Projects Administration Aspire Graduate Student Research Grant

SOFTWARE AND PATENTS

15. Desai, V. A., (2026). *MyPsychTime - Secured Report Writing and Case Planning for Professional Psychology* (Version v1.0.0-alpha) [Computer Software]. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2295141>
16. Desai, V. A., (2026). *TypeNBash - An Integrated Data and Development Workspace* (Version v1.0.1-beta) [Computer Software]. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.22950041>
17. Desai, V. A., (2026). *WriterTex - Academic Writing Simplified* (Version v1.1.0) [Computer Software]. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.22952141>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 08/21 - 05/23 **Department of Early Childhood Education - Ball State University, IN**
Graduate Teaching Assistant
 Faculty Supervisor: Jill K. Walls, Ph.D
 Course: ECYF 380: *Parenting*
 Served as a teaching assistant for ECYF 380, an upper-level course on parenting methods. Assigned student groups and facilitated discussions on Canvas.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- 01/26 - 5/26 **Muncie School Corporation - Educational District Office, IN**

Institutional Research and Data Accountability Intern

Site Supervisor: Phil Boltz, Ph.D

Managed data files across the Federal Department of Education, National Clearinghouse, and local response-to-intervention data for various needs assessments and district initiatives.

08/24 - 08/25 **Psychoeducational Intervention/Diagnostic Clinic - Ball State University, IN**
Front Desk Administrative Staff

Supervisor: Renee Nevins, Ph.D., HSPP

Managed the front desk at the department clinic for 5 hours weekly. Attended phone calls, inventory, filing, stocking cabinets, and referrals.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

8/26 - **Muncie Community Schools, IN**

Advanced Practicum Interventionist

Supervisor: Bob Hatfield, Ph.D., HSPP

Provided small group and individual socioemotional counseling to elementary school students within the multi-tiered systems of support framework.

8/26 - **Psychoeducational Intervention/Diagnostic Clinic - Ball State University, IN**
Advanced Student Supervisor

Supervisor: Eric Pierson, Ph.D., HSPP, NCSP

Provided individual peer-to-peer supervision to two junior doctoral student supervisees for their first-year clinical practicum.

05/26 - 8/26 **Psychoeducational Intervention/Diagnostic Clinic - Ball State University, IN**
Advanced Student Supervisor

Supervisor: Brittany Dale, Ph.D., HSPP, NCSP

Provided individual peer-to-peer supervision to three junior student supervisees for their first-year summer clinical practicum. A total of three comprehensive diagnostic evaluations (one for each supervisee) for school-aged children.

05/25 - 08/25 ***Advanced Student Supervisor***

Supervisor: Brittany Dale, Ph.D., HSPP, NCSP

Provided individual supervision to two peer supervisees over their diagnostic case loads for pediatric neuropsychological evaluations and assessed their competencies with a supervisee-centered approach.

08/25 - 5/26 **Blue River Valley Schools, IN**

Intern School Psychologist

Supervisor: Beth Trammell, Ph.D., HSPP

Managed special education caseloads, consulted with staff to enhance the learning environment, collaborated with case committees on evaluations, supported academic intervention planning, and provided individual counseling to a secondary student.

05/24 - 05/25 **Psychoeducational Intervention/Diagnostic Clinic - Ball State University, IN**
Practicum Student Clinician

Supervisor: Renee Nevins, Ph.D., HSPP

Completed five comprehensive evaluations (two young adults, two adolescents, and one child) and conducted two ADHD neuropsychological screeners for adults. My experience included administering various assessments, conducting diagnostic interviews, and providing clients with feedback and evidence based recommendations.

08/24 - 05/25 **Muncie Community Schools, IN**

School Psychology Practicum Student

Supervisor: Cheryl Peresie, Ph.D., NCSP

Conducted five special education evaluations under supervision using various psychoeducational assessments. Formulated a prevention manual, conducted an academic intervention, and provided group-based socio-emotional interventions.

PSYCHOMETRIC SKILLS

Neurocognitive WASI-II, WISC-V, WAIS-IV, WAIS-V, WPPSI-IV, WJ-IV:COG, CAS-2, D-KEFS, NEPSY-II, ACS-Social Cognition, Conners CPT-3, WMS-IV, KABC-II NU

Achievement KTEA-3, WIAT-4, WJ-IV:ACH, WRAT5

Developmental BBCS-4:R (Bracken Receptive), BBCS-4:E (Bracken Expressive)

Motor-Sensory Beery-Buktenica Developmental Test of Visual Motor Integration (VMI-6)

Rating Scales ABAS-3, ASRS, BASC-3, Conners 4, CAARS 2, MMPI-A/3, PAI-2, SRS-2, VABS-3, BRIEF-II

TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS

Quantitative SPSS, Jamovi, Stata, Tableau, IBM Amos, Mplus, MATLAB

Programming R, JAVA, Python, C, HTML/CSS, SQL, TypeScript, PowerQuery, Swift, React

Other Qualtrics, ExpilWell, QRSTool, Adobe Suite, Microsoft Office Suite, Canva, X-BASS 3.0 (plus 2.1)

LANGUAGES

ENGLISH Full/Conversational and Written Fluency

GUJARATI Full Conversational Fluency/Limited Written Proficiency (**Home Language**)

HINDI Full Conversational Fluency/Limited Written Proficiency

FRENCH Intermediate Oral Fluency and Written Proficiency

GERMAN Elementary Written and Oral Proficiency

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

AUG 2023 National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)

AUG 2023 Student Affiliates in School Psychology (SASP)

MAY 2022 Association for Psychological Sciences (APS)

AUG 2021 American Psychological Association (APA): *Div 3, 6, 12, 15, 53, 55*

AUG 2020 Psi Chi International Honors Society (ΨΧ)

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Institutional Leadership

- AY25-26 **Proxy Senator** *from* The Graduate School
AY25-26 **Proxy Congressional Member** *of the* Non-Tenure Faculty Sub-Committee
AY25-26 **Proxy Congressional Member** *of the* Teaching Evaluation Sub-Committee

Professional Leadership-Mentorship

- 9/25 - **Graduate Student Representative** *for* APA-Div 16 (local chapter)
8/24 - 5/25 **Doctoral Student Representative** *for* School Psychology Core Committee
8/24 - **Student Mentor** *for* Student Affiliates in School Psychology (local chapter)
7/22 - 7/24 **Student Ambassador** *for* Ball State University International Programs

Scholarly/Editorial Service

- 09/26 - **Ad-Hoc Reviewer** *for* Current Psychology
11/23 - **Ad-Hoc Reviewer** *for* The Journal of American College Health