

Marisa Franco, M.S.

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CURRENT POSITION:

Assistant Professor
Department of Counseling and Psychological Services
Georgia State University

EDUCATION:

- (2011-2017) **Doctorate of Philosophy, Counseling Psychology**
University of Maryland (UMD), College Park, MD
Doctoral Candidate
APA Accredited Program
Advisor: Dr. Karen O'Brien, Ph.D.
GPA: 3.9
Internship: University of Maryland Counseling Center, APA Accredited, July 2016-June 2017
- (2011-2013) **Masters of Science, Counseling Psychology**
University of Maryland, College Park, MD
GPA: 3.9
- (2008-2011) **Bachelors of Science, Applied Psychology; Minor in Sociology**
New York University (NYU), New York, NY
GPA: 3.9, Magna Cum Laude
- Studied abroad in Florence, Italy during Fall of 2009

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

- (08/17) **2017 Section on Ethnic and Racial Minorities (SERD) Student Award**
- (05/17) **Division 45 (Ethnic Minorities) Distinguished Student Research Award**
- (3/16 & 3/17) **1st place Research Presentation in Graduate Research Appreciation Day Conference**
(Awarded: \$500)
- (07/16) **APA Travel Mentoring Program for U.S. Scholars** (Awarded: \$2600): Matched with a mentor to foster international collaborations during the International Congress in Psychology Conference
- (10/15) **Outstanding Graduate Student Award**
- (05/15) **University of Maryland ALL-S.T.A.R Award** (Awarded: \$10,000): Granted to 16 graduate students across the university who demonstrate significant research scholarship and departmental service
- (04/14) **Ethnic Minority Achievement Award:** Granted to graduate students demonstrating commitment to the enhancement of ethnic minorities students on campus and within the community
- (04/13) **University of Maryland Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award**
- (09/12-Present) **Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Fellow:** National fellows program for minority doctoral students on the path to the professoriate
- (05/11-05/16) **Flagship Fellowship** (Awarded: \$40,000): Prestigious five-year fellowship offered to graduate students who display the highest level of intellectual leadership
- (05/11-05/12) **McNair Alumni Fellowship** (Awarded: \$18,000)
- (05/11-05/16) **Diversity Fellowship** (Awarded: \$15,000)
- (05/11-05/16) **Deans Fellowship** (Awarded: \$10,000)
- (04/10-Present) **Psi Chi**
- (01/09-05/11) **Deans List**

(09/08-05/11) **Martin Luther King Scholars Program** (Awarded: \$76, 500)

TRAVEL GRANTS:

(05/15) **Caribbean Studies Association Travel Award** (Awarded: \$200)
 (05/15) **University of Maryland Goldhaber Award** (Awarded: \$1600)
 (10/14) **Mid-Atlantic Group Psychotherapy Society Student Award** (Awarded: \$180)
 (05/14) **University of Maryland Goldhaber Award** (Awarded: \$1600)
 (08/12) **Association of Black Psychologists Travel Grant** (Awarded: \$200)

GRANTS:

(06/15) **University of Maryland Dean's Dissertation Research Initiative** (Awarded: \$500)
 (04/14) **University of Maryland International Research Grant for Graduate Students** (Awarded: \$6000): Awarded to fund participatory action research on conduct disorder interventions in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti
 (07/13) **Association of Black Psychologists Graduate Student Research Award** (Awarded: \$400)
 (04/12) **Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship** (Awarded: \$500)

Grant Finalist:

(04/15) **Fulbright Fellowship Alternate**
 (04/15) **Ford Foundation Fellowship Alternate**

RESEARCH

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Franco, M. G., & O'Brien, K. M.** (2017, June 26). Racial Identity Invalidation With Multiracial Individuals: An Instrument Development Study. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/cdp0000170>
- Franco, M. G., Judith, M. J., & Douyon, D.** (in press). The participatory action research paradigm in Haiti. *Caribbean Journal of Social Work*.
- Franco, M. G., & Smith-Bynum, M. S.** (2016). The relationship between racial identity and perceived significance of the election of President Barack Obama among African American mothers. *Identity, 16*, 182-189. doi: 10.1080/15283488.2016.1190728
- Franco, M. G., & Louis Holmes, O.** (2016). Biracial Group Membership Scale. *Journal of Black Psychology, 1-16*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0095798416657260>
- Smith Bynum, M., Davis, B., Anderson, R., **Franco, M. G., & English, D.** (2016). Observed racial socialization and maternal warmth in African American mother-adolescent dyadic discussions about racial discrimination. *Child Development*. Advance online publication. doi: 10.1111/cdev.12562
- Franco, M. G., Katz, R., & O'Brien, K. M.** (2016). Forbidden identities: A qualitative examination of racial identity invalidation for Black/White Biracial individuals. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations, 50*, 96-109. doi: 10.1016/j.ijintrel.2015.12.004
- Franco, M. G., & Franco, S. A.** (2015). Impact of identity invalidation for Black Multiracial people: The importance of race of perpetrator. *Journal of Black Psychology, 42*, 530-548. doi: 10.1177/0095798415604796

BOOK CHAPTERS:

- O'Brien, K. M., **Franco, M. G., & Dunn, M. G.** (2014). Women of color in the workplace: Supports, barriers and interventions. In M.L. Miville and A.D. Ferguson (Eds.), *Handbook of race-ethnicity and gender in psychology* (pp. 247-270). New York: Springer.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW:

- Franco, M. G.**, Katz, R., Pickens, J., & Brunsmas, D (revise and resubmit). Discrimination from family members and its impact on Black/White Multiracial individuals. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*
- English, D., Smith Bynum, M. & **Franco, M. G.** (revise and resubmit). Understanding racial discrimination experiences among African American youth in light of low reports: Methodological issues and future directions. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*
- Franco, M. G.** & Castilow, D. (revise and resubmit). The dougla identity in Trinidad. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*
- Franco, M. G.**, & O'Brien, K. M. (submitted). Taking racism to heart: The effects of race-related stressors on cardiovascular reactivity for Black/White Biracial people. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*
- Franco, M. G.** & Louis Holmes, O. (submitted). When there is not enough to go around: Competition for Black mates and Forced Black identity for Multiracial people. *Manuscript submitted for publication.*

PRESENTATIONS:

- Franco, M. G.** (2017, March). *The Dougla identity in Trinidad*. Paper presented at the University of Maryland Graduate Research Appreciation Day, College Park, MD.
- Gale, M., **Franco, M. G.**, Hutman, H., & Reese, E. (2017, February). Demographic variables and referral outcomes. Poster presented at Big 10 Counseling Centers Conference, Urbana-Champaign, IL.
- Franco, M. G.**, O'Brien, K. M. (2016, July). *Racial Identity Invalidation: An Overview*. Paper presented at International Congress in Psychology, Yokohama, Japan.
- Franco, M.G.** (2016, July). The relationship between Black people's racial identity and their acceptance of Black/White Biracial people. In **M.G. Franco** (Chair), *Being Black enough: Race relations between Black and Multiracial communities*. Symposium accepted for APA Division 45 Research Conference, Palo Alto, California.
- Franco, M. G.** (2016, July). Impact of identity invalidation for Black Multiracial people: The importance of race of perpetrator. In **M.G. Franco** (Chair), *Being Black enough: Race relations between Black and Multiracial communities*. Symposium accepted for APA Division 45 Research Conference, Palo Alto, California.
- Holmes, O., & **Franco, M. G.** (2016, July). Development of The Biracial Group Membership Scale. In **M.G. Franco** (Chair), *Being Black enough: Race relations between Black and Multiracial communities*. Symposium accepted for APA Division 45 Research Conference, Palo Alto, California.
- Franco, M. G.** (2016, April). *How does racial identity invalidation affect psychological well-being?* Paper presented at the University of Maryland Graduate Research Appreciation Day, College Park, MD.
- Franco, M. G.**, Douyon, D., Roody, J., Coris, R., Judith, T. M., & Leonne, M. (2015, May). *Empowering communities through a parent management training intervention using a participatory action approach*. Paper presented at the Caribbean Studies Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Franco, M. G.** & Franco, S. A. (2015, May). *Social invalidation: An instrument development study*. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science Convention, New York, NY.
- Franco, M. G.** (2015, February). *Forbidden Identities: Social invalidation in the lives of Black/White Multiracial individuals*. Paper presented at the University of Maryland College Park PROMISE Program Research Symposium and Professional Development Conference, College Park, MD.
- Smith-Bynum, M., Deleon, G., **Franco, M.**, Anyiwo, N., Davis, B., & English, D. (2015, March). Observed maternal support, conflict, and adolescent respect for elders in the context of racial socialization with Black adolescents. In L. Juang (Chair), *Racial socialization among Asian American, Latino, and African American youth: Measurement and links to identity and attitudes*. Symposium conducted at The Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia, PA.
- Franco, M. J.**, & Katz, R. (2014, November). Forbidden identity: An investigation of Black/White Multiracial peoples' experiences of identity denial. In S. Roberts (Chair), *Multiracial identity invalidation: Origins, consequences, and negotiation strategies*. Symposium conducted at the Depaul University Critical Mixed Race Studies Conference, Chicago, IL.

- Franco, M. G.,** Katz, R., Brent, T., & Utley, J. (2014, June). *Social invalidation in the lives of Black/White Multiracial individuals*. Paper presented at the Howard University Black Graduate Conference in Psychology, Washington, DC.
- Franco, M. G.,** O'Brien, K. M., & Kim, Y. (2014, May). *Taking racism to heart: The effects of race-related stressors on cardiovascular reactivity for Black/White Biracial people*. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Franco, M. G.,** Katz, R., Brent, T., & Utley, J. (2014, February). Social invalidation in the lives of Black/White Multiracial individuals. In S. Jackson (Chair), *Diverse barriers to identity actualization*. Symposium conducted at the Columbia University Winter Roundtable, New York, NY.
- Franco, M. G.,** Smith-Bynum, M., & Anyiwo, N. (2013, July). *Racial identity and endorsement of President Barack Obama*. Poster presented at The Association of Black Psychologists Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Franco, M. G.,** Smith-Bynum, M., & Anyiwo, N. (2013, June). *Racial identity and endorsement of President Barack Obama*. Poster presented at the Black Graduate Conference in Psychology, Chapel Hill, NC.
- Franco, M. G.** (2012, November). Race-related stress for Multiracial individuals. In **M. G. Franco** (Chair), *Science, stress, and mixed race*. Symposium conducted at the Critical Mixed Race Studies Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Franco, M. G.,** & Simmons, A. (2010, August). *Complications of privilege: Investigating the effects of stereotype threat on Black/White Biracial people*. Poster presented and paper presented at the CIC/SROP Conference at The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.
- Franco, M. G.,** & Simmons, A. (2010, August) *Complications of privilege: Investigating the effects of stereotype threat on Black/White Biracial people*. Poster presented at the Summer Undergraduate Research Conference at The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.

AD- HOC REVIEWER :

Journal of Counseling Psychology, 2013-2014
Caribbean Journal of Psychology, 2015-2016
International Journal of Intercultural Relations, 2017-2018
The Open Family Studies Journal, 2017-2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES:

Parent Management Training Project, Principal Investigator

- Supervisor: Athena Koble, Enstiti De Travay Sosyal Ak Syans Sosyal, Port-au-Prince, Haiti
- Collected interviews and focus group data on children's behavior in a poor community in Port-au-Prince Haiti
- Trained research team on running focus groups, interviews, and participatory action research approach
- Collaborated with participants on designing an intervention to improve children's behavior
- Wrote up report suggesting improvement for intervention based on feedback
- Dates: 05/14-08/14

Black Parenting Project, Researcher

- Supervisor: Dr. Mia Smith Bynum, University of Maryland
- Collected census data on Black families to assist with larger study on Black family socialization patterns.
- Performed data analysis investigating the relationship between racial identity and endorsement of President Barack Obama
- Wrote up research for publication
- Dates: 02/12-Present

Racial Stress for Biracial People, Independent Research

- Supervisor: Dr. Karen O'Brien, University of Maryland
- Conducted extensive literature review on experiences for Black/White Biracial people
- Received grant to fund thesis on race-related stressors.
- Designed within-groups study examining racial stress and cardiovascular response
- Set up experiment using stimulus presentations software and BIOPAC blood pressure equipment
- Dates: 08/11-12/13

Project PEARLS, Researcher Assistant

- Supervisor: Dr. Jacqueline Mattis, New York University
- Recruited Black parents from Head Start Centers to do self-report surveys on their subjective definitions of positive parenting
- Entered and cleaned self-report data
- Transcribed videos of parent-child play dyads
- Dates: 08/10-05/11

Domestic Violence Empowerment Project, Research Assistant

- Supervisor: Dr. Alisha Ali, New York University
- Performed observational assessment of victims of domestic violence who attend financial support workshops
- Coded field notes of domestic violence victims for moments of empowerment according to feminist theory
- Conducted neighborhood ethnographies
- Transcribed interviews with domestic violence victims
- Dates: 08/10-5/11

Dean's Research Travel Colloquium at New York University, Researcher

- Awarded funds for International research to design novel qualitative research study on food, music, and culture in Lima, Peru (January of 2011)
- Interviewed famous Afro-Peruvian musicians to examine intersections between music, culture, and race
- Dates: 08/11-02/11

Mcnair Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP), Researcher

- Supervisor: Dr. Mary Campbell, University of Iowa
- Designed study examining effects of stereotype threat on Black/White Biracial people
- Research conclusions demonstrated a suggestive trend that knowledge of stereotype threat negates threat effect
- Conducted SPSS data analysis
- Presented poster at SROP conference in Ohio, and Summer Research Conference at The University of Iowa
- Dates: 06/10-08/10

Stereotype Threat Lab, Research Assistant

- Supervisor: Dr. Joshua Aronson, New York University
- Ran participants for "Self-Handicapping Study," a one hour phone study that examined stereotype threat and self handicapping tendencies of minority youth
- Transcribed, coded, and cleaned raw data
- Analyzed data for anxiety and intelligence measures
- Dates: 02/10-01/11

RESEARCH TRAININGS:

Biopac Training for Physiological Research Equipment

- Attended orientation on physiological equipment: EEG, respiration monitor, galvanic skin response, blood pressure monitor
- Aided in blood pressure software installation and usage
- Reviewed drafts of troubleshooting guide for future researchers to use blood pressure software
- Dates: 07/12

Quantitative Training for Underrepresented Groups Conference, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

- Nationally selected to participate in quantitative training conference on moderation/mediation, multilevel modeling, and regression.
- Dates: 07/12

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Science Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

- Received university award to participate in statistics development program
- Coursework: Regression 1, Math for Social Scientists 1, Basic Statistics
- Date: 06/11-07/11

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

INSTRUCTOR:

Words of Engagement Race Dialogue, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, UMD

- Designed curriculum which aimed to bring together faculty and staff from various social/cultural identity groups to explore the complexities of race, culture, marginalization, and privilege
- Facilitated dialogue on race and privilege
- Met weekly with co-facilitators and with Office of Diversity and Inclusion staff to refine and adapt curriculum to dialogue participants
- Topics Included: Self-awareness around Racial Identity, The Cycle of Racial Socialization, Exploring Conflict Between Racial Groups, and Racial Liberation
- Dates: 08/16-03/17

Helping Skills, UMD

- Designed curriculum to introduce students to theory and practice of helping skills
- Oversaw team of teaching assistants
- Created grading rubrics and exams
- Lectured weekly on theory and practice of helping skills
- Dates: 09/14-05/15

Women's Health, Enstiti De Travay Sosyal Ak Syans Sosyal, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

- Presented culturally relevant lessons on women's health in Haitian Creole
- Led class discussions
- Administered in class practice-based activities, including counseling role plays, and intervention design
- Graded reflection papers
- Dates: 08/14-09/14

Intervention Research, Enstiti De Travay Sosyal Ak Syans Sosyal, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

- Trained students in qualitative research methods, and participatory action research approach
- Visited camps for internally displaced people and conducted focus groups and interviews
- Collaborated on designing intervention to aid community
- Dates: 08/14-09/14

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP:

Online Introduction to Psychology Course, UMD

- Graded papers and quizzes
- Consulted to establish grading rubrics
- Communicated with students to review course material
- Dates: 06/15- 09/15

Social Psychology, UMD

- Graded papers and quizzes
- Consulted to determine grading rubrics
- Met with students to review course material
- Dates: 06/14

Helping Skills, UMD

- Graded assignments and tests
- Met with students to review course material
- Ran interactive lab that instructed students on how to employ counseling techniques: exploration, insight, action, immediacy, dream work, termination
- Dates: 08/13-06/16 for three semesters

Social Psychology Young Scholars Program, UMD

- Reviewed and edited course curriculum
- Helped adapt college course curriculum for high school students
- Met with exceptional students to discuss college preparedness
- Graded research papers and quizzes
- Dates: 07/13

The Psychology of Evil, UMD

- Helped develop case studies that integrate course curriculum
- Graded weekly assignments and tests

- Presented lesson on aversive racism
- Dates: 07/12-12/12

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:

Doctoral Intern, University of Maryland Counseling Center

- Providing individual, group, and couples therapy
- Attending didactic seminars: Professional Development, Multiculturalism, Supervision Training, Consultation and Outreach, Assessment, Career Counseling, Case Conceptualization
- Supervising doctoral-level students
- Providing regular psychoeducational outreach programs
- Dates: 07/16-05/16

Assessment Extern, Neuropsychology Associates of Fairfax

- Learned a neuropsychology assessment battery: WAIS, WMS, clock drawing, WRAT, verbal fluency, Boston naming, HVL, Connors CPT
- Administered assessment battery to clients with issues related to dementia, traumatic brain injury, and intellectual disability
- Dates: 05/14-07/14

Mental Health Extern, Howard University Counseling Services

- Provided individual therapy to up to eight clients per week
- Facilitated general concerns therapy group
- Took coursework on psychodynamic theory and group therapy
- Regularly attended workshops on mental health issues
- Dates: 08/14-05/15

Mental Health Practitioner, University of Maryland Health Center

- Provided individual therapy to up to four clients per week
- Attended orientation on writing case notes, performing triage sessions, and developing empathy
- Consulted with psychiatrists regarding mental health concerns
- Regularly attended workshops on mental health issues
- Dates: 08/13-5/14

Group Facilitator, Family Crisis Center of Prince George's County

- Ran focus groups for children who experienced domestic violence in the home.
- Helped construct weekly group agendas focusing on physical health, enhancing self esteem, and positive release of emotions
- Dates: 08/11-12/11

Practicum Student, University of Maryland Counseling Center

- Provided individual therapy, group therapy, and career counseling to undergraduate and graduate students
- Presented client cases for consultation with colleagues
- Dates: 01/12-12/13

Recreation Counselor, The Rivington House

- Organized therapeutic recreation activities for residents with HIV/AIDS
- Provided "friendly visits" to bedridden AIDS patients
- Dates: 06/09-01/11

CONSULTATION EXPERIENCE

Invited Speaker, How to Secure an Academic Position, Counseling Psychology Student Association, University of Maryland, 2017

Presenter, Work Life Harmony Workshop, Governmental Emerson Hunger Fellows, 2017

Presenter, Stress and Procrastination Workshop, University of Maryland McNair Fellows, 2017

Discussant, The Psychology of the Military Online Course, University of Southern California, 2017

Discussant, Multiculturalism and Counseling Psychology, New York University, 2016

Presenter and Panel Member, Getting into Graduate School, University of Maryland McNair Fellows, 2014

SERVICE AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

Conference Organizer, Critical Mixed Race Studies Conference

- Served on Community and Engagement Committee; developed day trips for conference attendees
- Served on Eateries and Engagement Committee; developed list of local eateries for conference attendees
- Served as judge for Student Award for contributions to Multiracial communities.
- Dates: 05/17-03/18

Outreach Committee Member, University of Maryland Counseling Center

- Met with committee to develop strategies for outreach
- Applied for and received grant on behalf of Outreach committee: funding for Self-Care Fest
- Implemented various outreach workshops: Procrastination and Managing Stress workshops, Depression Screening, tabling at Maryland Day etc.
- Dates: 08/16-06/17

Chief Diversity Officer, Counseling Psychology Students Association

- Ensured program wide accountability for fostering multicultural-affirming environment
- Submitted grants to UMD to support increased diversity initiatives and programming. Received: Maryland Diversity Dialogues Grant (\$750)
- Supervised and collaborate on monthly social justice brownbag dialogues for UMD counseling psychology PhD program
- Dates: 01/16-07/16

Financial Consultant, GSI Haiti

- Chaired fundraising events to help build and support a school in the village of Fond Des Blanc Haiti: Haitian party, picnic, network solicitations, auction etc.
- Total amount solicited: \$1200
- Dates: 08/12-05/16

Graduate representative, University of Maryland Graduate Diversity Committee

- Devised initiatives to recruit minority professors and students
- Participated in search committee meetings
- Dates: 08/12-05/16

Graduate representative, Faculty Search Committee

- Read and assessed applicants for a faculty position in the department of psychology at The University of Maryland
- Participated in search committee meetings
- Attended diversity and equity in hiring meeting
- Dates: 08/12-12/12

Eastern Graduate Representative, Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi)

- Developed workshops for Black graduate students in psychology
- Employed recruitment and retention strategies for Black graduate students
- Built scholarships for research in Black psychology
- Started Washington, DC chapter of the Student Association of Black Psychologists
- Dates: 05/12-07/13

Vice President, Applied Psychology Club of New York University

- Managed club's online presence (facebook, listserv, website)
- Designed informational events for career and academic planning
- Dates: 06/10-05/11

MEMBERSHIPS: MENSA, American Psychological Association (Division 17 Counseling Psychology, Division 45 Ethnic Minorities), Association of Black Psychologists

LANGUAGES: Italian, Haitian-Creole