

CURRICULUM VITAE

MARY MERLA-RAMOS, Ph.D.

NJ Licensed Psychologist # 35SI00485800

OFFICE: 560 Main Street, Suite 1G
Loch Arbour, NJ 07711
(732) 775 6500
Fax: (732) 775 6511
mmerlaramosphd@gmail.com

EDUCATION: Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus
Ph.D., APA-approved Clinical Psychology Program, 1999
M.A., Psychology, 1995

Boston University
B.A., Psychology major, Biology minor, 1989

LICENSES: New Jersey Licensed Psychologist

CURRENTLY:

Clinical Practice: Mary Merla-Ramos, Ph.D., LLC, Loch Arbour, NJ, 12/11-present
Clinical Psychologist

- Provide psychological services in a private practice setting.
- Conduct psychological, forensic, and court-ordered custody evaluations.
- Provide cognitive-behavioral, supportive, and insight-oriented psychotherapy to adults, couples, families, and children.
- Coordinate treatment with other professionals and the court system.
- Facilitate parenting coordination and divorce mediation.

Forensic Practice: Dr. Edwin A. Rosenberg & Associates, Summit, NJ, 8/13-present
Clinical/Forensic Psychologist

- Conduct child custody, best interest, and parenting time evaluations.
- Meet and confer with attorneys and other referral sources.
- Prepare forensic reports.
- Conduct mediation.
- Function as a parenting coordinator.
- Conduct court-ordered therapy and therapeutic supervision.
- Appear for depositions.
- Provide testimony at trials.

PAST EXPERIENCE:

Shore Neuropsychology and Behavioral Health, Brick, NJ, 6/07-11/13

Clinical Psychologist

- Work in a multidisciplinary private practice specializing in the treatment of patients with diagnoses including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, personality disorders, traumatic brain injury, dementia, ADHD, and bereavement.

Mary Merla-Ramos, Ph.D.

Page 2

- Conduct initial intake evaluations and develop treatment plans and recommendations.
- Conduct psychological and forensic evaluations.
- Provide cognitive-behavioral, supportive, and insight-oriented psychotherapy to adults, couples, families and children.
- Coordinate treatment with physicians and other professionals.
- Attend continuing education seminars.

Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, NY, 7/97-6/98

Psychology Intern

- Provided psychiatric consultation and liaison services for diverse patient population with primary medical diagnoses including AIDS, cancer, dementia, substance abuse, autoimmune and neurological disorders.
- Performed emergency room consultations.
- Performed admission and discharge evaluations.
- Served as primary therapist for adults on inpatient psychiatric unit.
- Co-led inpatient and outpatient psychotherapy groups.
- Conducted psychological and neuropsychological testing with inpatient and outpatient adults.
- Conducted psychological, neuropsychological, projective, and academic testing with children.
- Communicated assessment findings and made recommendations to parents, teachers, and CSE teams.
- Conducted ongoing psychotherapy with adults, children, and families in outpatient clinic.
- Received intensive individual and group supervision by licensed clinical psychologists and board certified psychiatrists.
- Participated in rounds and psychotherapy case conferences.
- Attended seminars on varied topics including psychopharmacology, neuropsychology, hypnosis, and legal/ethical issues.

Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune, NJ, 11/96-6/97

Community Care Clinical Coordinator

- Oversaw clinical aspects of a partial hospital program serving a diverse adult population.
- Provided individual and group psychotherapy to chronically mentally ill and MICA clients.
- Assisted staff in evaluating the quality of treatment plans.
- Consulted with program staff around problematic cases and management of crises.

Lenox Hill Hospital, New York, NY, 9/95-6/96

Psychology Extern

- Conducted individual and brief family therapy with adults and adolescents in an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse outpatient population.
- Engaged in play therapy with child patients.
- Provided insight-oriented and supportive treatment to patients with AIDS, schizophrenia, dementia, affective, anxiety, conduct, and personality disorders.
- Conducted intake assessments and mental status examinations.
- Administered and interpreted psychological, neuropsychological, and academic assessments.
- Developed treatment plans with a multi-disciplinary treatment team.
- Arranged collateral visits and facilitated meetings with parents, teachers, and counselors of child and adolescent patients.

Mary Merla-Ramos, Ph.D.

Page 3

- Provided assessment feedback and made recommendations to parents and school personnel.
- Received intensive supervision by licensed clinical psychologists and board certified psychiatrists.

Long Island University Psychological Services, Brooklyn, NY, 9/95-12/95

Senior Clinic Assistant

- Consulted with clinic assistants in the development of patient attendance, staff, and referral procedures.
- Advised staff therapists of clinic policies.
- Served as liaison between clinic director and assistants.

Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, 1/95-5/95

Neuropsychological Tester

- Conducted adult and child evaluations in conjunction with Neuropsychological Assessment course.
- Administered comprehensive batteries, presented cases, prepared reports and provided feedback to patients, parents, and therapists.

Long Island University Psychological Services, Brooklyn, NY, 9/94-9/95

Therapist and Psychological Tester

- Provided psychodynamically-oriented individual therapy to diverse population of late adolescent and adult patients in a university-based outpatient clinic.
- Conducted intake interviews and made recommendations for follow-up treatment.
- Administered comprehensive psychological test batteries, interpreted results, and provided feedback.
- Prepared initial intake, assessment, and case summary reports.
- Presented and participated in weekly intake conferences, practicum, and group testing supervision.
- Received intensive supervision by clinical faculty and licensed clinical psychologists.

Long Island University Psychological Services, Brooklyn, NY, 9/94-5/95

Clinic Assistant

- Assisted clinic director with overseeing daily operations of a university-based outpatient clinic.
- Maintained attendance records.
- Developed and coordinated referral process.
- Facilitated communication between clinic director and therapists.

Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune, NJ, 11/90-8/93

Human Service Specialist

- Provided counseling and case management to a diverse, low income population of chronically mentally ill and dually diagnosed adults with the goal of avoiding re-hospitalization.
- Maintained a caseload of 12-15 clients.
- Developed and co-led psychotherapy and psychoeducation groups.
- Monitored level of functioning and implemented crisis intervention.
- Conducted intake interviews and delivered case presentations at intake conferences.
- Monitored medication compliance and made referrals for psychiatric consultations.

Mary Merla-Ramos, Ph.D.

Page 4

- Coordinated client orientation process.
- Developed client goal plans and evaluated progress.
- Provided community outreach and client advocacy.
- Served as a liaison with families, residential placements, and outside agencies.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, 5/96-2/99

Belief and reasoning: The effects of rationality on syllogistic reasoning. (dissertation)

- Conducted dissertation research, supervised by Gary Kose, Ph.D., exploring the influence of religious and paranormal beliefs on reasoning ability.

Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, 1/94-9/95

Paranormal beliefs, reasoning, and meaning in life.

- Conducted independent research project, supervised by Gary Kose, Ph.D., investigating the relationship between belief in paranormal phenomena, reasoning skills, and life fulfillment.

Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, 9/93-5/94

Research Assistant

- Assisted in studies of personality characteristics using the Rorschach and Exner's Comprehensive System.
- Scored research protocols.

Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, 1/89-8/90

Research Assistant/Project Coordinator

- Coordinated a federally-funded research project entitled Twin Study of Drug Abuse and Dependence under the direction of principal investigators Ming Tsuang, M.D., Ph.D. and Michael J. Lyons, Ph.D.
- Assisted in the development of structured interview.
- Performed preliminary data analysis.
- Served as liaison among investigators and staff located throughout the United States.
- Prepared manuscripts and correspondence.
- Assisted in the preparation of grant applications and periodic funding reports.
- Oversaw budget activities.

Boston University, Boston, MA, 9/87-5/88

Research Assistant

- Assisted in a pilot study examining schizotypal personality disorder.
- Contacted subjects, scheduled interviews, and prepared protocols.
- Assisted with writing grant application and manuscripts, library research, and data analysis.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, 9/96-5/97

Instructor

- Taught undergraduate courses in child and adult development.

Mary Merla-Ramos, Ph.D.

Page 5

- Developed curriculum and prepared lectures, demonstrations, and exams.
- Evaluated student progress and offered feedback.
- Supervised teaching assistants.

Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY, 1/96-5/96

Assessment Lab Instructor

- Led weekly discussion section for doctoral-level course in psychological assessment.
- Taught administration, scoring, and interpretation of the Rorschach, TAT, and MMPI.

Boston University School of Education, Boston, MA, 2/89-4/89

Saturday Scholars Instructor

- Taught psychology topics to advanced fifth and sixth graders from Boston public school system.
- Devised age-appropriate lectures, engaging demonstrations, and interactive projects.

Boston University, Boston, MA, 9/87-5/88

Teaching Assistant

- Supervised and coordinated student presentation of clinical phenomena for Abnormal Psychology.
- Led discussion and review sessions.
- Assisted in exam preparation.
- Graded papers and exams.

PUBLICATIONS

Merla-Ramos, M. (1999). Belief and Reasoning: The effects of rationality on syllogistic reasoning. Unpublished dissertation, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY.

Lyons, M.J., Goldberg, J., Eisen, S., True, W., Boyd, J., Merla, M., Tsuang, M.T., & Henderson, W. (1991). Twin study of combat experience. Behavior Genetics Association Abstracts, 577-578.

Lyons, M.J., Merla, M. E., Young, L., & Kremen, W.S. (1991). Impaired neuropsychological functioning in symptomatic volunteers with schizotypy: Preliminary Findings. Biological Psychiatry, 30, 424-426.

Merla-Ramos, M., & Kose, G. (1996). Paranormal beliefs, reasoning, and meaning in life. Unpublished manuscript, Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY.

PRESENTATIONS

Coonerty, S., Ritzler, B., Simpao, E., Merla-Ramos, M., & Mangiello, F. (1995, March). High functioning adults: A dual perspective. Presented at: Society for Personality Assessment Midwinter Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Mary Merla-Ramos, Ph.D.

Page 6

Lyons, M.J., Goldberg, J., Eisen, S., True, W., Boyd, J., Merla, M., Tsuang, M.T., & Henderson, W. (1991, June). Twin study of combat experience. Presented at: Behavior Genetics Association Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO.

Lyons, M.J., Goldberg, J., Eisen, S., True, W., Boyd, J., Merla, M., Tsuang, M.T., & Henderson, W. (1991, August). Genetic and family influences on Vietnam combat experience in twins. Presented at: American Psychological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Lyons, M.J., Merla, M.E., Ozer, D.J., & Hyler, S. (1990, August). Relationship of the "Big-Five" factors to DSM-III personality disorders. Presented at: American Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

Lyons, M.J., Merla, M.E., Young, L., & Kremen, W.S. (1991, August). Impaired Wisconsin Card Sorting Test performance in volunteers with schizotypy. Presented at: American Psychological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

Merla, M.E. Opinions about the etiology of mental disorders. (1989, April). Presented at: Greater Boston Undergraduate Research Conference, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.

Merla-Ramos, M. (1996, December). Paranormal beliefs, reasoning, and meaning in life. Presented at: Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY.

RECOGNIZED CONTRIBUTOR

Lyons, M.J., Kremen, W.S., Tsuang, M.T., & Faraone, S.V. (1989). Investigating putative genetic and environmental forms of schizophrenia: Methods and findings. *International Review of Psychiatry*, 1, 259-276.

Tsuang, M.T., Kendler, K.S., & Lyons, M.J. (eds.) (1991). *Genetic issues in psychosocial epidemiology*, New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

POST-DOCTORAL COURSES, CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

The Model Standards and Beyond: Custody Evaluations and Risk Management: Presented by: David Martindale, PhD, ABPP December 2-3, 2013.

Understanding the Neurobiology and Symptoms of Chemical and Other Addictions: Implications for Children, Families, & Custody: Presented by: Mark Gold, M.D. October 12, 2013.

Flens, J.R. Advanced Psychological Testing in Custody Cases: What Experts Need to Know. (Invited Presentation) New Jersey Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Livingston. New Jersey, June 27, 2013.

New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators, 40 Hour Divorce Mediation Training

Mary Merla-Ramos, Ph.D.
Page 7

Course, October 2011.

Depression, Heart Disease, & Stroke: Presented by: Donna Israel, PhD RD May 16, 2008

Psychology and Spirituality: How to Help Your Clients and Heal the Human Psyche:
Written and Presented by: Albert LaChance, PhD, LADC, CAS. May 1, 2008.

Psychopharmacology Update: What You Must Know About Your Client's Medications!
Written and Presented by: Robert Julien, MD, PhD. April 8, 2008.

Professional Associations:

American Psychological Association
Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
New Jersey Psychological Association
New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators