

CHRISTOPHER E. DIAZ

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

Master's Degree: *Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA*
Masters of Science, Clinical Psychology, 2016
Thesis Title: Investigating the Relationship Between Combat Exposure, Social Problem Solving and Suicide
Research Advisor: Drs. Arthur and Christine Nezu
GPA 3.80

Bachelor's Degree: *Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA*
Bachelor of Science in Psychology, 2014
Summa Cum Laude GPA 3.88

EXPERIENCE

Executive Director, Action Tank
November 2016 – Present

Mission Statement:

Action Tank solves tough problems aimed at improving the social conditions of their community by harnessing the experiences, skills and relationships of service-minded citizens. In this role I managed an annual budget of \$75,000 and a team of 20.

CEO, Performa, LLC
June 2017 – Present

Mental Skills Professional, The Milwaukee Brewers
June 2019 – May 2020

High Performance Coordinator, Jefferson University, Men's Soccer Team
August 2016 – November 2018
Supervisor: Ptah Meyers, Head Coach

High Performance Coordinator, Drexel Performance Center, Drexel University, Drexel Athletics Department
January 2016 – December 2016
Supervisor: Eric Zillmer, Ph.D., Athletic Director

Mission Statement:

The Drexel Performance Center (DPC) is a multidisciplinary organization, combining knowledge, skills, and expertise from psychology, nutrition, medicine and exercise science to provide comprehensive and individualized performance enhancement for the Drexel student-athlete beyond academic and athletic success.

I was responsible for coordinating and leading meetings of this multidisciplinary team.

Research Assistant, Stress and Coping Research Laboratory, Drexel University, Department of Psychology
 March 2013 – June 2019
 Supervisors: Arthur M. Nezu, Ph.D., ABPP & Christine Maguth Nezu, Ph.D., ABPP

Projects:

Social Problem Solving and Posttraumatic Growth Among U.S. Military Veterans - Survey-based study assessing how dimensions of Social Problem-Solving relate to symptoms of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Posttraumatic Growth in a mixed sample of United States Military Veterans.

Suicide Ideation, Emotional Reactivity and Problem Solving Among Undergraduate Students and Student Veterans - Survey-based study assessing if Social Problem-Solving moderates the relationship between Emotional Reactivity and Suicidality in both an undergraduate and veteran sample

Sociotropic Versus Autonomous Social Problem Solving: Interactions with Sex Differences - Survey-based study assessing differences in Social Problem-Solving as a function of gender and problem type (sociotropic vs. autonomic problems) in undergraduates

Problem-Solving Therapy (PST) for Depressed Heart Failure Patients - Randomized Controlled Trial comparing in-person Problem-Solving Therapy to telephone Problem-Solving Therapy for Hahnemann Hospital patients diagnosed with heart failure who are also depressed to reduce stress and alleviate depression

Fostering Resilience among Veterans Study - Randomized Controlled Trial of Problem-Solving Therapy for Veterans to increase psychological resilience and reduce life stress

A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing the Efficacy of Problem-Solving Therapy to Enhanced Treatment-as-Usual for Reducing High Blood Pressure - Randomized Controlled Trial comparing Problem-Solving Therapy to Enhanced Treatment-As-Usual for Hahnemann Hospital patients with persistent, uncontrolled high blood pressure to reduce general life stress and blood pressure

Social Problem Solving as a Predictor of Attitudes Towards Seeking Mental Health Care and Medical Care Among Veterans – Survey-based study assessing if Social Problem-Solving plays a role in perception of stigma and attitudes towards seeking both mental health care and medical health care among veterans

Moving Forward Web-based Program for Veterans – Joint Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs survey-based study assessing the effectiveness of Moving Forward

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Practicum Student, Equilibria Leadership Consulting

May 2018 – June 2019

Supervisor: Nicole Lipkin, Ph.D.

Clinician, New Beginnings, Drexel University

August 2017 – June 2019

Supervisors: Arthur M. Nezu, Ph.D., ABPP & Christine Maguth Nezu, Ph.D., ABPP

Practicum Student, Penn Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center

July 2017 – June 2018

Supervisor: Kelli Williams, Ph.D.

Clinician, Psychological Services Center, Drexel University

June 2016 – July 2017

Supervisor: Jennifer Swartz, Ph.D.

Assessor, Stress and Coping Research Laboratory, Drexel University, Department of Psychology

March 2013 – June 2019

Supervisors: Arthur M. Nezu, Ph.D., ABPP & Christine Maguth Nezu, Ph.D., ABPP

Projects:*Problem Solving as a Predictor of Self-Harm Thoughts and Behavior*

I conducted psychodiagnostic and neuropsychological assessments as part of a dissertation project. This project requires that I screen and assess suicidal behaviors.

Problem-Solving Therapy (PST) for Depressed Heart Failure Patients

I conducted psychodiagnostic assessments for screening and follow up visits of individuals enrolled in a study comparing telephone and in-person Problem Solving Therapy (PST) counseling programs to reduce depressive symptoms in heart failure patients

A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing the Efficacy of Problem-Solving Therapy to Enhanced Treatment-as-Usual for Reducing High Blood Pressure

I conducted psychological and medical (blood pressure) assessments as part of a dissertation project comparing Problem Solving Therapy (PST) telephone-based health coaching for the reduction of stress and high blood pressure. I measure blood pressure and administer clinician and self-report assessments evaluating lifestyle and health behaviors, treatment adherence and psychosocial stress

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Petty Officer (Fleet Marine Force), United States Navy

December 2010 – September 2012

Responsibilities included serving on the command suicide prevention team, maintaining 1,200 medical records, and assisting Medical Officer with supervision of daily battalion sick call, including triage, vital signs stations and readiness of examination rooms

PUBLICATIONS

- Nezu, A. M., Nezu, C. M., Stern, J. B., Greenfield, A. P., **Diaz, C.**, & Hays, A. M. (2017). Social Problem Solving Moderates Emotion Reactivity in Predicting Suicide Ideation Among US Veterans. *Military Behavioral Health*, (just-accepted), 00-00.
- Zillmer, E., O'Brian, K., **Diaz, C.E.** (2016, December). Mental Health Issues Among Student Athletes: 10 Practical Steps for Athletic Directors. *Athletics Administration*, 51(4), 15-16.
- Segal, A. G., **Diaz, C. E.**, Nezu, C. M., & Nezu, A. M. (2014). Social Problem Solving as a Predictor of Attitudes Towards Seeking Mental Health Care and Medical Care Among Veterans. *Military Behavioral Health*

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Diaz, C.E.**, (2018, May). *Present Moment Focus: The utility of mindfulness training in military and professional sport*. Oral presentation at Special Operations Medical Conference. Charlotte, NC.
- Gunter, K., Chew, K., Alexander, A., Dorpfeld, L., Miller, K., Sappington, R., & **Diaz, C.E.**, (2018, January). *Athlete protest: The power of having a voice*. Presentation at the 14th Annual Big Sky Sport Psychology Conference. Big Sky, Montana.
- Giannone, D. A., **Diaz, C.E.**, Nezu, A. M., Nezu, C. M., Greenfield, A. P. & Hays, A. M. (2017, April). *The Importance of Clinical Psychological Research in Supporting the United States Military Veteran Population*. Oral presentation to be presented at the Drexel Emerging Scholars Conference at Drexel University, Philadelphia PA.
- Giannone, D. A., Nezu, A. M., Nezu, C. M., **Diaz, C.E.**, Damico, J. (2017, August). *Social Problem Solving and Posttraumatic Growth Among U.S. Military Veterans*. Poster to be presented at the 125th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.
- Diaz, C.E.**, Winter, S. (2017, April). *BPS Model of Performance: A Conceptual Framework for Enhancing Athletic Performance*. Oral Paper to be presented at the 19th Annual Northeast Atlantic Sport Psychology Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Winter, S., **Diaz, C.E.**, Galvin, E., Giunta, T. (2017, January). *Using Machine Learning to Predict Season-Long Soccer Performance*. Workshop presented at the National University Performance Psychology Conference, La Jolla, CA.
- Galvin, E., **Diaz, C.E.**, Winter, S., Giunta, T. (2017, January). *Implementation of a Performance Psychology Program in the Sport of Soccer*. Workshop presented at the National University Performance Psychology Conference, La Jolla, CA.
- Greenfield, A. P., Nezu, A. M., Nezu, C. M., Stern, J. B., **Diaz, C. E.** (2016, October). *Posttraumatic Stress Symptomatology and Suicidal Ideation in Military Veterans: Global and Specific Symptom Relationships*. Poster presentation at the 50th Annual Meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, New York, NY.

- Nezu, A. M., Nezu, C. M., Stern, J. B., Greenfield, A. P., **Diaz, C. E.**, & Hays, A. M. (2016, August). *Social problem solving as a moderator of the relationship between emotional reactivity and suicidal ideation among U.S. military veterans*. Presented at the DoD Military Health System Research Symposium conference. Kissimmee, FL.
- Stern, J.B., Nezu, A.M., Nezu, C.M., Greenfield, A.P., **Diaz, C. E.**, Hayes, A. (2015, November). *Social Problem Solving, Emotional Reactivity, Suicidal Ideation, and Self-Harm Among College Students*. Poster presented at the 49th Annual Meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, IL.
- Nezu, A.M., Stern, J.B., Nezu, C.M., Greenfield, A.P., **Diaz, C.E.**, Hayes, A. (2015, November). *Social Problem Solving, Emotional Reactivity, Suicidal Ideation, and Self-Harm Among Veteran Populations*. Poster presented at the 49th Annual Meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, IL.
- Greenfield, A.P., Nezu, A.M., Nezu, C.M., Stern, J.B., & **Diaz, C.E.** (2015, August). *Social Problem Solving and Posttraumatic Stress Symptomatology in Veterans*. Poster presented at the 123rd Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Canada.
- Diaz, C.E.**, Stern, J.B., Greenfield, A.P., Hayes, A., Nezu, A.M., Nezu, C.M. (2015, May). *Investigating the Relationship Between Combat Exposure, Social Problem Solving and Self-Harm in an OEF/OIF Veteran Sample*. Poster presented at International Applied Military Psychology Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Nezu, A. M., Ricelli, S. E., Nezu, C. M., Greenfield, A. P., Stern, J. B., **Diaz, C. E.**, Colosimo, M. M. (November, 2014). *Telephone-Based Problem-Solving Therapy to Increase Accessibility of Mental Health Treatment for Depressed Heart Failure Patients*. Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- Nezu, A. M., Nezu, C. M., Stern, J. B., Greenfield, A. P., **Diaz C. E.** (November, 2014). *Social Problem Solving, Emotional Reactivity, Suicidal Ideation, and Self-Harm Among College Student and Veteran Populations*. Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- Segal, A. G., **Diaz, C. E.**, Nezu, C. M., Nezu, A. M. (November, 2014). *Social Problem Solving as a Predictor of Veterans' Attitudes Toward Seeking Health Care*. Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.
- Colosimo, M., Patel, K., Greenberg, L., **Diaz, C. E.**, Greenfield, A., Ricelli, S., Stern, J., Salber, K., Bonacquisti, A., & Basilovecchio, A. Advisors: Dr. Arthur Nezu, Dr. Christine Nezu (February, 2014). *Health Disparities and Treatment Barriers in Hypertensive African Americans: A Synthesis of Empirical Evidence and Real-World Implementation*. Oral presentation to be presented at Drexel University's 14th Annual College of Arts and Sciences Research Days, Philadelphia, PA.
- Greene, C., Nezu, A. Nezu, C., Stern, J., **Diaz, C. E.**, Tenhula, W. (November, 2013). *Moving Forward: A Web Based Self-Help Program for Veterans and Service Members*. Symposium presented at the 29th annual convention for the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Philadelphia, PA.
- Segal, A., **Diaz, C. E.**, Greenberg, L.M., Nezu, C.M., Nezu, A.M. (April, 2013) *Predictors of Attitudes Towards Seeking Medical Care and Psychological Care Among Veterans*. Poster presented at Drexel University's College of Arts and Sciences Research Day, Philadelphia, PA.

Segal, A., **Diaz, C. E.**, Greenberg, L., Nezu, C.M., & Nezu, A.M. (April, 2013). *Predictors of healthcare attitudes among Veterans*. Poster presented at Drexel University Research Day, Philadelphia, PA.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

ExCite Center Seed Grant, Food for Thought: Decision-Making and Promotion of Healthy Eating Choices. **Research Coordinator**. Total Award: \$5,000. 7/1/2016 – 7/1/2017.

AD HOC REVIEWER

Grants:

Defense Medical Research and Development Program – Consumer reviewer for subject matter expertise in trauma medicine. Screened 16 applications for awards totaling 38 million dollars. (September, 2017)

Pat Tillman Foundation – Initial reviewer. Screened 137 applications for 37 spots. Scholarships worth a total of 1.1 million dollars. (February, 2016)

Pat Tillman Foundation – Final reviewer. (February, 2017)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

Neuroscience of Performance (graduate) - Develop independent study, lead lessons, lecture slides, administered and graded exams and papers.

Rise of ISIS – The Psychology of Terrorism (Honors undergraduate) – Develop course, lead lessons, lecture slides, administered and graded exams. Spring, 2017

Introduction to Psychology (undergraduate) – Lead lessons, lecture slides, administered and graded exams. Spring, 2016

Experimental Psychology (undergraduate) - Lead weekly lab sections, developed syllabus, lectures slides and assignments. Fall, 2016

Military Psychology (undergraduate) - Lead weekly lab sections, developed syllabus, lectures slides and assignments. Spring, 2013

Research Methods (undergraduate) - Lead weekly lab sections, developed syllabus, lectures slides and assignments. Winter, 2013

Invited Guest Lecturer, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA

Veteran Health in America. November, 2017.

Invited Guest Lecturer, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY

Behavioral Sciences and Leadership Department, Engineering Psychology. October, 2017.

Invited Guest Lecturer, Department of Psychology, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

PSY 140, Approaches to Personality (undergraduate). February, 2014.

Combat Life Support Instructor, United States Navy

Responsibilities included training command and attached units in basic and advanced combat life support skills. January 2011 – September 2012

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Aspen Ideas Festival Scholar, 2019
- Drexel University Young Alumni Distinguished Service Award, 2019
- Association for Applied Sport Psychology, Student Diversity Travel Grant, 2018
- South by South West, Community Service Award, 2018
- University of Pennsylvania, Penn Program for Mindfulness, Person of Color Scholarship, 2018
- Wisdom 2.0 Conference, Scholarship recipient, 2018
- Student Veterans of America, Leadership Institute, Top 100 Student Veterans Award, 2017
- Northeast Atlantic Sport Psychology MVP Award, 2017
- American Psychological Association, Division 19, Military Psychology, Student Travel Award, 2017
- Northeast Atlantic Sport Psychology Conference Diversity Grant, 2017
- Union League Veteran Fellow, 2016
- American Psychological Association, Division 19, Military Psychology, Campus Representative, 2014
- American Psychological Association, Division 19, Military Psychology, Student Travel Award, 2014
- Student Veterans of America, Chapter of the Month, 2014
- Drexel University, College of Arts and Sciences, Senior Second Honors, 2014
- Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges, 2014
- Pat Tillman Scholar, 2013
- Simone D. Lightfoot Scholarship, 2013
- Drexel University, 1st Place Graduate Humanities/ Social Sciences Award, College of Arts and Sciences Research Day (\$100), 2013
- Drexel University Dean's List, 2012-2014
- United States Navy, Achievement Medal 2X, 2010, 2012
- United States Navy, Fleet Marine Force Medal, 2011
- United States Navy, Good Conduct Medal, 2010
- United States Navy, Aviation Warfare Specialist, 2008

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Psychological Association

- American Psychological Association of Graduate Students
- Division 19 (Military Psychology)
- Division 47 (Society for Sport, Exercise and Performance Psychology)
- Association for Applied Sport Psychology
- Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
- International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies
- Team Rubicon
- Drexel Veterans Association
- Psi Chi Honor Society
- Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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| • Action Tank | 2016 – Present |
| • Smart City PHL Mayor’s Task Force | 2019 - Present |
| • Birds Nest Foundation- Military Consultant | 2016 - 2019 |
| • Department of Veterans Affairs, Philadelphia Veterans Advisory Commission | 2014 - 2019 |
| • Hispanic Clergy of Philadelphia | 2014 - 2015 |
| • President, Drexel University, Student Veteran Association | 2013 - 2014 |
| • Dean’s Advisory Council, Drexel University | 2013 - 2014 |
| • Volunteer, Team Rubicon | 2013 – Present |
| • Drexel Veterans Task Force | 2012 - 2015 |

Skills

Fluent in Spanish

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Black belt