

Lora Connor

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SUMMARY

Eight years hands-on experience using statistics and data analytics to design, implement, and analyze quantitative and qualitative research projects and surveys for large data sets.

SKILLS

- Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Statistical Analysis System (SAS)
- Bivariate / Multivariate statistics such as ANOVA, Regression, SEM, Factor Analysis
- SQL, VBA, HTML5, CSS3, MS Office, SurveyMonkey, Social Networking recruitment
- Deliver engaging oral presentations and written reports about complex research findings
- Mobilize customers, stakeholders, and team members to support cross-functional projects

EXPERIENCE

2016 – Present Research Analyst IV, Orange County Social Services Agency

Serving in a lead capacity to design and implement research studies and surveys to collect data, establish facts and draw valid conclusions in order to evaluate SSA programs and services in a timely manner. Extracting large data sets from databases to create and manage complex analysis projects utilizing advanced computer programming, statistical techniques, and the principles of logic and scientific method to define problems involving several variables. Apply mathematical formulas and calculations to select appropriate statistical methods for collecting and summarizing data. Use tact and persuasion to elicit information to advocate research objectives.

2015 – Present Adjunct Professor, Orange Coast College

Teaching a 4-unit Experimental Psychology lecture and lab course that teaches students research methods, including research design, writing APA research proposals and reports, developing surveys, conducting experiments, statistically analyzing data, and presenting research results. Also taught a 3-unit Biopsychology course that teaches students the science of neuroanatomy.

2013 – 2015 Master's Thesis Research Project, Department of Psychology, CSULB

Conceived, designed, and conducted original research to test the relationship between the neurotic personality trait and menopausal symptoms with stress and exercise as moderators. Wrote and presented the research proposal for approval to proceed; presented the final results for approval by the thesis committee. Designed and coded a web page for survey participants to inform them about the study's details, to gain their consent to participate, and then to complete the embedded survey using SurveyMonkey. Recruited participants through Social Media, analyzed data using SPSS, and wrote and presented results of research data for publication.

2012 – 2014 Research Assistant, Department of Psychology, CSULB

Conducted research for Professor Amirkhan on the Stress Overload Scale (SOS), which connects the link between stress and health as a tool for health intervention and preventative healthcare. Participated in study design and completed literature reviews and survey construction. Recruited participants and recorded, cleaned, and analyzed data in SPSS.

2011 Research Assistant (Contract Work)

Called back by my last employer for freelance work. Consolidated participant data for the *Discovery Project*. Completed data entry, reconciliation and analysis. Managed the study give-away procedures for the conclusion of the study.

2008 – 2011 Research Assistant, Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF), Irvine CA

Leader of the operations, both on-site and in-office, for the *Discovery Project*, a longitudinal, multi-million dollar, research study for MSF involving a cross-functional team from UNC, NTSB, and DMV. Designed and developed motorcycle research studies. Recruited hundreds of participants, processed/organized data, and persuaded participants to return for further testing/training. Supervised participant return testing/training sessions. Modified recruiting procedures to increase participant rates. To save money, devised a system to reduce the number of required testing/training sessions by calculating participant return rates. Created original study materials and correspondence. Managed office staff, motorcycle training personnel and research study evaluators. Conducted literature reviews, created surveys using SurveyMonkey, statistically analyzed data using SPSS and wrote reports using colorful graphs displaying study outcomes. Co-authored a published research article.

EDUCATION

2015 M.A. Psychological Research (MAPR)

California State University, Long Beach; concentration in statistical analysis, quantitative methods, and research methodology. Worked as a Teaching Assistant and Graduate Assistant, grading student papers/tests, and assisting professors with undergraduate students by helping with statistical analysis, course assignments, and conducting mock research interviews; 3.7 GPA.

2007 B.A. Double Major Psychology & English (emphasis in creative writing)

California State University, Long Beach; Magna Cum Laude and President’s List; 3.9 GPA.

RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

Publication: T. Buche, S.L. Williams, and L. Connor, Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF), “*Assessing the Value and Effectiveness of the Honda Rider Trainer For Improving Hazard Perception*” (October 2008); 7th International Motorcycle Conference, Cologne, Germany.

Research Project: Completed research on correlation between drug and/or alcohol addiction and personality according to Big 5 Factor Personality Scale. Invited to present research poster paper at 9th Annual Southern California Psychology Conference for Community Colleges (2005).

Professional Development: 2016, completed 3 certificate courses in ArcGIS: Solving Spatial Problems, Referencing Data to Real-World Locations, & Finding Geographic Data in ArcGIS. 2015, completed 3 certificate courses in SQL: Advanced Querying, Fundamentals of Querying, & SQL Essential Training. 2014, completed Introduction to SAS. 2009, completed 4 SPSS courses: Survey Methodology, Survey Analysis, Introduction to Statistics, & SPSS Statistics. Member of American Psychological Association (APA) and American Statistical Association (ASA).