LORA CONNOR

Curriculum Vitae | Psychology & Statistics Instructor
Costa Mesa, CA | 657-203-1639 | loraconnor@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/loraconnor
Portfolio: loraconnor.com – full CV, experience, education, and professional development

TEACHING PROFILE

Community college psychology and statistics instructor since 2015, teaching in person, hybrid, and online at Orange Coast College. I teach research methods and statistics through hands-on projects, adapt instruction for students with disabilities and diverse backgrounds, and bring real-world examples from my work in applied research since 2008, including leading a research team that evaluates safety-net programs at the County of Orange Social Services Agency.

EDUCATION

- **M.A., Psychological Research** — California State University, Long Beach (2015)
  - GPA 3.70; concentration in statistics, quantitative methods, and research methodology. Thesis: The Neuroticism Personality Trait and Its Relationship to Menopausal Symptoms.
- **B.A., Psychology & English (Double Major)** — California State University, Long Beach (2007)
  - Magna Cum Laude, GPA 3.88; President's Honor List; Outstanding Graduate of the Year nominee; Golden Key Honor Society.

COLLEGE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Orange Coast College | Costa Mesa, CA

- **Adjunct Professor, Psychology** *(Aug 2015 – Present)*
  - Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (PSYC A160), 4 units, hybrid and online: descriptive and inferential statistics, hypothesis testing, t-tests, ANOVA, correlation and regression, and non-parametric tests.
  - Experimental Psychology (PSYC A280), 4 units, in-person lecture and lab: experimental design, survey development, data collection and SPSS analysis, APA-style proposals and reports, and oral presentations.
  - Psychology of Personality (PSYC A220), 3 units, online: classical and contemporary theories, research designs, and cross-cultural applications.
  - Psychobiology (PSYC A250), 3 units, in person: large-format lectures (75+ students) on neuroanatomy and brain-behavior relationships.
  - Introduction to Psychology (PSYC A100), 3 units, online: at OCC's request during COVID-19, taught live online to international students in their home countries across multiple time zones, using live captions to bridge language barriers.
  - Assess student learning outcomes (SLOs) in my courses as part of OCC's assessment process.
  - Adapted instruction and materials for students with significant challenges, including students with autism and students who are blind.
  - Built and maintain a companion course website (loraconnor.com/psych-instruction) with lectures, lab materials, datasets, and accessibility resources; teach in Canvas, MindTap, and Blackboard.

TEACHING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ORANGE COAST COLLEGE)

- **Online teaching:** Strategies for Teaching and Learning Online (2021, 15–18 hours, CVC-OEI rubric); Strengthening Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI) in Online Courses (2025); Emergency Remote Teaching Workshop (2020); Canvas Quiz (2023); Active Learning with Panopto (2023).
- **Accessibility and course design:** Accessibility for Online Education (2025); Beauty's Not a Beast with Accessibility (2021).
- **Supporting students:** Supporting Students, CalFresh application assistance with OCC Basic Needs (2025); You Are (Not) Welcome Here: International Students' Experience (2020); Verbal De-escalation Training (2023); Artificial Intelligence (2026).

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

County of Orange Social Services Agency | Orange, CA

- **Research, Policy, and Quality Assurance Administrator** *(Jul 2024 – Present)*
  - Lead a research team of 3 evaluating Medi-Cal, CalFresh, General Relief, In-Home Supportive Services, and Adult Protective Services; conduct quality assurance reviews of agency programs.
  - Build caseload forecasts with multiple regression and time-series models in SPSS and Excel; present findings to agency directors and executive leadership.
  - Set work priorities, delegate projects, and evaluate performance; manage, train, and coach professional staff; work hands-on in every phase from research design through final presentation.
- **Research Analyst IV** *(Apr 2016 – Jul 2024)*
  - Analyzed multi-million-record program data; produced survey studies, a staff focus group, and caseload projections for foster youth programs; built Power BI and ArcGIS dashboards; trained staff in statistical analysis and reporting.
  - Led major evaluation projects independently and served as project lead and technical resource for other analysts; developed standard methods informed by research literature.

California State University, Long Beach | Long Beach, CA

- **Graduate Researcher and Research Assistant, Department of Psychology** *(Aug 2012 – May 2015)*
  - Designed and conducted original thesis research; supported validation research on the Stress Overload Scale and helped lead Dr. Amirkhan's research group during data collection and analysis.

Motorcycle Safety Foundation | Irvine, CA

- **Research Assistant** *(Feb 2008 – Nov 2011)*
  - Managed operations for a $1.3M longitudinal study with UNC, NHTSA, and the DMV; designed and analyzed surveys; co-authored a conference paper.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Buche, T., Williams, S. L., & Connor, L. (2008). *Assessing the value and effectiveness of the Honda Rider Trainer for improving hazard perception* [Paper presentation]. 7th International Motorcycle Conference, Cologne, Germany.
- Connor, L. (2015). *The neuroticism personality trait and its relationship to menopausal symptoms* [Master's thesis, California State University, Long Beach].

TECHNOLOGY

- **Teaching:** Canvas, MindTap, Blackboard, HTML5 and CSS3 course websites.
- **Research and statistics:** IBM SPSS, Excel, Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey, Power BI, ArcGIS, SQL for data extraction.