

Jasmaine Ataga Ph.D., LPC, RPT-S, ACS, NCC

Assistant Clinical Professor
Online Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Seattle University

Education

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Gainesville, Florida
Counseling and Counselor Education-University of Florida, (*CACREP Accredited*) August 2022

Dissertation Title: Poetic Lens of Trauma Counseling: A Workshop Exploration into Narrative Expressive Poetry Interventions for BIPOC Counselors-in-Training (Successful Defense 6.6.22; Chair: Ana Puig, Ph.D.)

Master of Science (M.S.) Atlanta, Georgia
Clinical Mental Health Counseling-Georgia State University, (*CACREP Accredited*) May 2017

Bachelor of Arts & Sciences (B.A.) Valdosta, Georgia
Psychology-Valdosta State University May 2015

Professional Licensure and Certifications

Registered Play Therapist-Supervisor™ (RPT-S™) 2023-Active
RPT-S-3329
Association for Play Therapy

Approved Clinical Supervisor (ACS) 2023-Active
ACS-4663
Center for Credentialing & Education

Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) 2020-Active
LPC-011869
Georgia Licensure Board

National Certified Counselor (NCC) 2017-Active
NCC-886376
National Board for Certified Counselors

Professional Faculty

University & Position

Fulltime Faculty Seattle University
Online Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program September 2024-Present

Professional Recognition

Expertise

Mental Health Academy Expert (MHA-Expert)

April 2021

Distinguished as a renowned Mental Health Expert in providing race-based and sexual trauma expertise during the *2020 Mental Health Academy: Bridging the Gap Virtual Summit*. Efforts raised \$71,900.00
Expert Bio-page-<https://www.mentalhealthacademy.net/team>

Mental Health Facilitator Master Trainer

August 2017

Qualified to provide trauma training for mental health advocates. Specifically, it focused on training people in mental health first aid locally, nationally, and internationally to help in aiding the crisis and lack of mental health care epidemic. NBCC-International provides this program. <https://www.mentalhealthfacilitator.org/>

Fellowships

NBCC Fellow-Mental Health Counselors-Doctoral (MHC-D)

April 2021

Awards Doctoral-level counselor education students committed to teaching, training, and counseling students, clients, and clinicians. Awarded amount: \$20,000.00 <https://bit.ly/3BhCLJ9>

BOE-Board of Education Summer Fellowship Program

March 2019

This program is designed to acclimate and transition incoming Ph.D. students to the University of Florida and Gainesville. Awarded amount: \$1,200.00

NBCC Fellow- Minority Fellowship Program-Youth (MFP-Y)

March 2016

Recognizes Master-level counseling students who are committed to counseling and serving underserved youth through direct care and advocacy. Awarded amount: \$8,000.00. <https://bit.ly/3BivuIQ>

Grant and Scholarship Awards

UF Counseling and Wellness Center

July 2021

Awards Black women who share approaches to “Reframe & Reclaim” through poetry, prose, and/or storytelling. Awarded amount: \$150.00

Dr. Anne Davies Vicino Endowed Scholarship

March 2021

Acknowledges a doctoral student committed to teaching and training underserved students. Awarded amount: \$1500.00

New Student and Family Programs Instructor Travel Grant

August 2020

Awards Ph.D. students who provide teaching services to first-generation students. Awarded amount: \$500.00

Dr. Anne Davies Vicino Endowed Scholarship

March 2020

Acknowledges college of education doctoral students focused on local research for underserved student populations. Awarded amount: \$2000.00

SHDOSE Travel Grant

November 2019

Acknowledges primary conference presenters by providing funds to support travel to a national conference. Awarded amount: \$220.00

SREB-Institute on Teaching and Mentoring Travel Award

October 2019

Recognizes minority doctoral students dedicated to teaching and advocating for underserved student populations as professors. Awarded amount: \$1063.00

Awards

2020-2021 Doctoral Student Award- Association for Creativity in Counseling (ACC)

September 2020

Recognizes doctoral students who are emerging leaders in the Association for Creativity in Counseling Recipients demonstrate a commitment to advancing creative counseling modalities and research.

AACTE Holmes Scholar-University of Florida Chapter

September 2019

Recognizes doctoral education students who are committed to scholarship, mentorship, advancing multicultural research, and investing in academia as a faculty member.

University of Florida Diversity Enhancement Award

August 2019

Awards minority students with supplemental funding for their graduate program. The University of Florida Graduate School sponsors the award

Scholarly Work

Research Agenda

Meaning-Making for Survivors of Sexual Trauma

Multicultural Play Therapy and Expressive Arts Approaches

Cultural Immersion and Clinical Outreach through International Partnerships

Holistic Trauma Model Development- **Inclusive Trauma Model™**

Publications in Refereed Journals

Zeligman, M., Jones, J. J., **Ataga, J.**, & McNiece, Z. P. (2022). Discrimination, Social Media Use, and Chronic Stress in Black Americans. *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*. <https://doi.org/10.17744/mehc.44.4.04>

Ataga, J., Swank, J. M., McNiece, Z. P., Rabess, A., & Gay, J. L. (2021). Year of Return: Black Clinicians Connecting across the West-African Diaspora. *International Journal for the Advancement of Counseling*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10447-021-09444-y>

Bayne, H., Pufhal, J., McNiece, Z. P., **Ataga, J.** (2021). Optimizing Dual Learning Through a Counseling and Applied Theatre Collaboration. *Journal of Counselor Education and Supervision*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/ceas.12218>

Zeligman, M., **Ataga, J.**, & Shaw, Z. (2020) Posttraumatic growth in trauma survivors: Associations with attachment to God and God representation. *Journal of Counseling and Values*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cvj.12135>

Non-Refereed Publications

Huffstead, H., & **Ataga, J.** (2021). TelePlay Through a Multicultural Lens. *CSI Exemplar Play Therapy Newsletter* https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.csi-net.org/resource/resmgr/publications_exemplar/spring_2021_exemplar.pdf

Ataga, J., & McNiece, Z. P. (2020). Poetic Meaning-Making: A New Path to Trauma Work. *July 2020 NBCC Newsletter* <https://www.nbcc.org/resources/nccs/newsletter/poetic-meaning-making>

Articles Submitted for Publication in Refereed Journals

McNiece, Z. P., **Ataga, J.**, & Puig, A. (In Press). The Web Model of Soul Healing: Intergenerational Wellness Among Indigenous Peoples. *The Professional Counselor*. (Submitted, March 2021)

Book in Preparation

Ataga, J. (In-progress). *Black Voices: Impact of COVID-19 and the Black Lives Matter Movement on Black Therapists*.

Model Development

Ataga, J. (2020-Present). The Inclusive Trauma Model™ (ITM): Development and validity. The Inclusive Trauma Model™ is designed for practicing clinicians working with trauma survivors and counselor educators teaching

traumatology work to counselors-in-training. This inclusive model actively considers the role various intersecting identities play in the risk of exposure to trauma and post-traumatic responses. We include a multidisciplinary, atheoretical approach to recovery and healing.

Professional Teaching Experience

Counseling Courses Taught - University of Phoenix

- CCMH 5410CA-Multicultural Issues in Mental Health Counseling** **Course Lead (12X)**
 Provided an in-depth study of counseling from a multicultural perspective. Emphasized the unique features and concerns in working with culturally different clients in mental health settings. Teach this course each term.
- CNSL-503R-Residency I** **Fall, 2024 (1X)**
 Cultivated an immersive learning experience focused on mastering basic counseling skills. Students were equipped with a nuanced comprehension of the counselor's pivotal role and responsibility with empathy.
- CCMH 597A- Internship II** **Fall, 2023 (1X)**
 Supervised clinical mental health master-level counseling students providing clinical services to clients in various community agencies. Covered weekly topics on the NCE, ethics, and clinical trauma responsiveness.
- CCMH 597A- Internship I** **Summer, 2023 (2X)**
 Supervised Master level counseling students providing clinical services to clients in various community agencies. Covered weekly topics from the 8 CACREP core competencies and clinical trauma responsiveness.
- CCMH 502- Graduate Portfolio** **Summer, 2023 (1X)**
 Assessed students' cognitive and behavioral skills in critical areas of the counselor education process. Guided students in basic counseling skills to help them evaluate their aptitude for the counseling program.
- CNSL-513R-Residency II** **Summer, 2023 (3X)**
 Facilitated the opportunity for students to observe, practice, and demonstrate counseling skills and couples counseling concepts utilizing historic, modern, and postmodern counseling theories.
- CCMH 592- Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling** **Spring, 2023 (2X)**
 Supervised Master's level counseling students in their practicum fieldwork. Focused on assessing and continuing to develop student counseling skills, theoretical orientation, intake, and treatment care.
- CCMH 551- Individual Counseling** **Fall, 2022 (1X)**
 Focused on helping students in skill building in individual counseling. Specifically, teaching the relationship between assessment, theory, application of strategy and intervention, and setting goals with clients.
- CCMH 525- Research Methods for Mental Health Counselors** **Fall, 2022 (6X)**
 Delivered an overview of the fundamentals of research and evaluation in counseling. Course topics included a critical analysis of research literature, qualitative and quantitative research methods, and program evaluation.

Counseling Courses Taught – Seattle University

- COUN 5400- Diagnosis and Assessment** **Spring, 2024 (1X)**
 Fostered an engaging virtual learning environment to equip students to understand the assessment and diagnosis process. Students gained insight into the role of assessment in counseling.

Counseling Courses Taught – Saybrook University

- COUN 2532- Career Development and Counseling** **Summer, 2023 (2X)**
 Provided students with the necessary skills to assist clients in their career development. Students were taught to assess clients' abilities, interests, and values to guide them toward fulfilling careers.

- COUN 2010-Structure & Dynamics of the Family** **Spring, 2023**
Taught an overview of theoretical and phenomenological family structures and dynamics through lifespan and intergenerational perspectives, focusing on processes in system adaptation and integrative approaches.
- COUN 2025-Counseling Theories** **Fall, 2022**
Taught the Counseling Theories course through an asynchronous format with synchronous meetings offered. Counseling students were trained in traditional, modern, and postmodern theories.
- COUN 2561-Substance Abuse and Behavioral Addictions** **Fall, 2022**
Students were taught how to facilitate holistic, trauma-informed substance abuse counseling. This course was taught in an asynchronous format with synchronous meetings.

Doctoral Student Teaching Experience

Master Level Courses Taught - *University of Florida*

- MHS 6466-Trauma & Crisis Intervention (Teaching Intern)** **Spring, 2021**
Provided theory and practice models related to trauma and crisis intervention. Counseling students were also trained in expressive modalities used to navigate clients through counseling trauma work
- MHS 6500-Group Counseling, Theory & Process (Growth Group Facilitator)** **Spring, 2021**
Facilitated a growth group for Master-level counseling students. This group was designed to provide students with the experience of participating in a support group process to facilitate their counseling development further
- MHS 6938 -Advanced Play Counseling (Teaching Intern)** **Fall, 2020**
Advanced level of Play Therapy approaches and techniques. Topics covered include integrating field knowledge of play, development, and theory into the advanced play therapist's knowledge
- MHS 6471 -Sexuality and Mental Health (Teaching Intern)** **Summer, 2020**
Encouraged master students of self-awareness on biases, values, and attitudes on sexuality and sexual behavior through the perspective of mental health
- MHS 6420-Play Counseling and Play Process with Children (Teaching Intern)** **Spring, 2020**
An introduction to Play Therapy and the use of play and expressive arts in counseling. Theoretical orientations to play counseling, foundations of play counseling, the practice of play counseling, and assessments
- MHS 5005-Introduction to Counseling (Teaching Intern)** **Fall, 2019**
Supportive training course to help Clinical Mental Health students develop, identify, and practice basic counseling skills. Assistance in helping the students establish a theoretical framework in counseling

Guest Lectures

- COU 5500-Crisis and Trauma Counseling** **Summer, 2021**
Provided a presentation on crisis care in schools and clinical settings. While also covering the main trauma treatment stages and basic trauma competency. - *University of Colorado Colorado Springs*
- THE 6950- Applied Theatre** **Fall, 2020**
Lecturing and demonstrating therapeutic modalities for advanced theater students. Provided basic instruction on counseling skills and client issues-*University of Florida*

Professional Supervision Experience

Telemental Health Supervision- University of Florida

Practicum Supervisor- Clinical Mental Health Counseling Student- <i>Individual</i>	Spring, 2021
Practicum Supervisor- School Counseling Student- <i>Individual</i>	Spring, 2020
Practicum Supervisor- Marriage and Family Therapy Students- <i>Triad</i>	Spring, 2020
Practicum Supervisor- Clinical Mental Health Counseling Students- <i>Triad</i>	Spring, 2020

Face-to-Face Supervision- University of Florida

Internship I Supervisor- Marriage and Family Therapy Students- <i>Triad</i>	Summer, 2020
Internship II Supervisor- Clinical Mental Health Counseling Student- <i>Individual</i>	Fall, 2019

Outreach Initiative

International Outreach

Black Pride in South America Historical passage into the first Black town in South America Cultural Immersion into the village and outreach of the community efforts	Palenque, Colombia January 2024
<u>Year of Return for African Diaspora Clinicians</u> Exploration of injury and healing post-Transatlantic African Kidnapping Clinical meetings with Ghanaian social workers and community advocates	Accra, Ghana December 2019
The Cabin Cultural and Clinical Immersion Clinical Interviews in Bangkok, Phuket, and Chiang Mai, Thailand	Chiang Mai, Thailand July 2018
University of Botswana Collaborated with School Counselors at a Botswana Middle School Facilitated an expressive school grief group for orphaned teenagers	Gaborone, Botswana August 2017
Robben Island Interviewed Millennials on Post-Apartheid Experiences Observation of The Philani Maternal, Child Health, and Nutrition Project	Cape Town, South Africa August 2017
University College London Coursework-Cultural & Global Awareness in Counseling Exploration of the African Immigrant narrative in Paris, France and Rome, Italy	United Kingdom July, 2015

National Outreach

JASMYN Selected to volunteer in the ASGW conference day of service Provided outreach service to LGBTQIA+ youth care staff	Jacksonville, Florida February 2022
All Hands and Hearts Participation in the ASGW Rebuilding Service Day in Puerto Rico Efforts focused on serving individuals impacted by a natural disaster	Yabucoa, Puerto Rico January 2020

Conference Presentations

Invited: International Presentations

- Ataga, J. & McNiece, Z.** (2020). *Nkonsonkonson: Nourishment for the Survivor's Soul*. Presented at the 2020 Mental Health Academy: Bridging the Gap Virtual Summit
- Ataga, J. & McNiece, Z.** (2020). *Brief Poetry Therapy Interventions for Black Survivors of Sexual Trauma*. Presented at the 2020 Mental Health Academy: Bridging the Gap Virtual Summit
- Ataga, J., Shaw, Z., Jones, J. J., Bradfield, B.** (2017). *Play Therapy Modalities and International Basics in Play*. Presentation at the Botswana Counseling Association International Conference, Gaborone, Botswana

Invited: National Presentations

- Ataga, J., et al.** (2024). *Diversity, Equality, or Inclusion Faculty Panel*. Invited to speak at the University of Phoenix Counseling Clinical Mental Health Research Symposium-Virtual
- Ataga, J., McNiece, Z.** (2022). *Creative Approaches to Trauma-Informed Care with Rural Youth*. Invited to present at the 2022 Positive Youth Development Summer Sessions- Pre-recorded sessions
- Ataga, J.** (2021). *Her Woven Story: Three Generations of Poetic Meaning Making*. Presented through a short story at the UF CWC "Reframe & Reclaim" Black Womxn Healing Space

National Presentations

- Ataga, J.** (2024). *Guiding Generations: Empowering Families on the Path to Healing and Resilience*. Presentation at the 2024 NBCCF Bridging the Gap Symposium in DC
- Ataga, J.** (2023). *Nkonsonkonson: Nourishment for the Soul a Race-based Trauma Intervention Approach*. Presentation at the 2023 NBCCF Bridging the Gap Symposium in Atlanta, GA
- Ataga, J.** (2023). *Poetic Lens of Trauma Counseling: An Exploration into Narrative into Narrative Expressive Poetry*. Presentation at ACA 2023 Conference & Expo in Toronto, Canada
- Ford, D., Duggan, J., Spann, R., Gooden, S., Heather, M., & **Ataga, J.** (2022). *Decolonizing Counselor Education Programs: Social Justice and Advocacy in Academia*. Presentation at 2022 SACES in Baltimore, MD
- Ataga, J.** (2022). *Expressive Arts Therapy for Trauma*. Presentation at the 2022 Black Mental Health Symposium-Virtual
- Ataga, J.** (2022). *Intergenerational Resilience and Cross-Trauma: Honoring the Stories of Black Queer Womxn*. Presentation at the 2022 Black Mental Health Symposium-Virtual
- Ataga, J.** (2022). *Final Fellowship Project-NEP Workshop*. Presentation at 2022 Bridging the Gap Symposium in Arlington, VA
- Ataga, J., McNiece, Z.** (2022). *Narrative Expressive Poetry in Trauma Counseling*. Presentation at the 2022 Association for Specialists in Group Work Conference in Atlantic Beach, FL
- McNiece, Z. & **Ataga, J.** (2022). *Connection: International Group Work Training in Counselor Education*. Presentation at the 2022 Association for Specialists in Group Work Conference in Atlantic Beach, FL
- Ataga, J., McNiece, Z.** (2022). *Expressive Gestalt Therapy for Culturally-Responsive Addictions Treatment*. Presentation at the Intersection of Diversity and Addiction Conference-Virtual
- Ataga, J., McNiece, Z., & Rabess, A.** (2021). *Year of Return: Black Counselors Connecting across the West-African*

Diaspora. Presentation at the 2021 ACES Conference in Atlanta, GA

- Huffstead, M., **Ataga, J.**, & Tiana Pharaoh (2021). *TelePlay Through A Multicultural Lens*. Presentation at the 2021 ACES Conference in Atlanta, GA
- McNiece, Z. & **Ataga, J.** (2021). *Poetic Justice: Supervision as Liberation*. Presentation at the 2021 ACES Conference in Atlanta, GA
- Ataga, J.** & McNiece, Z. (2021). *Nkonsonkonson: Nourishment for the Survivor's Soul*. Presentation at the 2021 Online Black Mental Health Symposium
- McNiece, Z. & **Ataga, J.** (2021). *Y'all Think I'm Playing: Play Therapy for Positive Black Masculinity*. Presentation at the 2021 Online Black Mental Health Symposium
- Ataga, J.** & McNiece, Z. (2021). *Seeking Justice in the Sand*. Presentation at the Online Social Justice Symposium
- Ataga, J.** & McNiece, Z. (2020). *The Delta Model: Teaching Trauma Work with Black Americans through Intersectionality*. Presented at the 5th annual Black Mental Health Virtual Symposium
- Ataga, J.**, & McNiece, Z. (2020). *The Delta Model: Teaching Trauma through Intersectionality*. Presented at the 2020 RMACES Virtual Conference
- Ataga, J.** & McNiece, Z. (2020). *Her Woven Story: Three Generations of Poetic Meaning Making*. Presented at the 2020 NBCC Bridging the Gap Digital Experience
- Ataga, J.** (2020). *Nature-based Play Therapy for Mental Health School-based Counselors*. Presented at the 2020 AACTE Holmes Conference, Atlanta, Georgia
- Medyk, N, Swank, J, **Ataga, J.** & McNiece, Z. (2020). *Nature-based Group Activities with Children Coping with Life's Storms*. Presented at the ASGW Groups Work: Lighting Trails of Hope after the Storm, Dorado, Puerto Rico
- Ataga, J.** & Jones, J. (2018). *MHF ASAP! Impact on Trauma-Informed School Care for At-Risk Youth*. Presented at the NBCC Symposium, Washington, D.C.

Clinical Experience

LCS Integrative Counseling and Consulting

Gainesville, FL

Advanced Doctoral Practicum Intern

May 2020-August 2020

Supervised master-level counseling students during the Resilient Children's camp

Provided consultation for parents and caregivers of children with special cognitive and psychological needs

Developed psychoeducational and expressive curriculums for a resilient children's camp

Comprehensive Care Associates

Atlanta, GA

Telemental Health Counselor

August 2019- January 2021

Evaluated clients based on mental and physical parameters discovered through standardized assessment

Identified risk and resiliency factors within individuals and families and developed strategies for intervention

Devised and enhanced treatment strategies to promote continued progress

LiveSafe Resources

Marietta, GA

Sexual Assault Counselor

August 2016- August 2019

Established an annual Expressive Art Teen Retreat for sexual assault survivors at liveSAFE Resources

Developed psychoeducational curriculums for sexual assault art therapy support groups

Assisted in the research stage for a Sexual Assault Expressive Therapies (SAET) grant proposal

Professional Service

Scholarship Investment

National Board of Certified Counselors Foundation: Mentor

Dedicated to giving back to the counseling community as a volunteer mentor for Master-level counseling fellows with the National Board of Certified Counselors. Guiding and supporting future practitioners, and committed to nurturing growth, instilling confidence, and fostering excellence in their professional journeys.

Mental Health Academy and National Board of Certified Counselors Foundation (NBCC)

Provided expert trauma training in working with sexual assault survivors. The presentations were offered as an investment for underserved communities. A total of \$71,900 in scholarships and fellowships were raised for NBCC. <https://www.nbcc.org/resources/nccs/newsletter/mha-bridging-the-gap-summit-is-a-success>

International Committees

European Branch of ACA (EB-ACA)

International Graduate Student Committee

2020-Present

National Committees

Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW)

Products Committee and Conference Committee

2019-2022

University of Florida Faculty Policy Council

Ad Hoc Committee- Diversity Support

2019-2022

Conference Proposal Reviewer (Western Mountain ACES)

Reviewed and rated proposals for the 2020 Western ACES Conference

May 2020

Institutional Committees/Service

UF Doctoral Interview Day

Assisted prospective students during their Zoom interviews for the UF counselor education program. Also participated in a current doctoral student panel

January 2021

UF Doctoral Open House

Provided insight and application tips for prospective students interested in the UF Counselor Education doctoral program

September 2020

UF Counselor Education Diversity Recruitment Committee

Updated and proposed universities and colleges for counseling program recruitment

June 2020

UF Master Interview Day

Co-interviewed perspective clinical mental health counseling students for the UF Counselor Education program

January 2020

Graduate Travel Grant Reviewer

Appointed to conduct 10-12 travel grant reviews of graduate students providing scholarly presentations

August 2019- 2021

Conference Volunteer Service

ASGW Groups Work: Lighting Trails of Hope after the Storm Conference

January 2020

EB-ACA Conference: Holistic Wellness: Strengthening Clients and Counselors Around the Work

September 2020

Professional Training

International Facilitated Workshops

Mental Health Facilitator Master Trainer **August 2017**
Lead the Mental Health Facilitator ASAP! Training for counselors and teachers in the Botswana Counseling Association <https://bit.ly/3GPb8YZ>

National Facilitated Workshops

Crisis Care Trainer **August 2018**
Facilitated the first responders' Trauma-Informed Crisis Care-Cobb Continuum of Care

Mental Health Facilitator Master ASAP! Trainer **January 2018**
Conducted the Mental Health Facilitator ASAP! Training for DeKalb County Ga, Campus Supervisors

Professional Development

Motivational Interviewing with Transition-Aged Youth: Advanced Training **October 2017**
Advanced skills workshop practicing the OARS of MI: Engaging, Focusing, Evoking, and Planning. Emphasis on resolving ambivalence, building confidence, and strengthening commitment

Mental Health Facilitator Master Trainer, National Board-Certified Counselors-International **July 2017**
Mastered training techniques to assist others in learning about basic helping and referral skills to promote global mental health. Qualified to train others in MHF and MHFASAP!

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) **March 2016**
Suicide intervention model to identify people with suicidal thoughts, how to develop a safety plan based upon a review of risks, follow-up preparation, and increased involvement in suicide-safer community networks

Trauma-Focused Skills Intervention with Group Supervision **December 2016**
Dr. Melinda Paige trained clinicians on understanding and working through the 3 primary trauma work stages

Professional Affiliations

International

European Branch, American Counseling Association (EB-ACA) 2020-2022

National

American Counseling Association (ACA) 2019-Present

Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW) 2019-Present

Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES) 2019-Present

Association for Play Therapy (APT) 2019-Present

Georgia Association for Play Therapy (APT) 2019-Present