

# Haleh Kanani

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## EDUCATION

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### PhD Program in Clinical Psychology

Drexel University – Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences  
Philadelphia, PA

September 2021 – Present

### Master of Arts in Forensic Psychology

University of Denver – Graduate School of Professional Psychology  
Denver, Colorado

June 2021

### Bachelor of Arts in English, *magna cum laude*

Kenyon College  
Gambier, Ohio

May 2016

## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

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### Psychology Extern

#### Federal Correctional Institution Englewood

Littleton, CO

September 2020 – May 2021

*Rotation 1:* Federal Detention Center (September 2020 – November 2020)

- Assisted forensic psychologists with court-ordered assessments for competency to stand trial and not guilty by reason of insanity pleas
- Aided in the administration, scoring, and interpretation of various assessment instruments, including tests of cognitive ability (WAIS-IV, WASI-II, and California Verbal Learning Test, Third Edition), knowledge related to competency to stand trial (Revised Competency Assessment Inventory), and response style/effort (the Dot Counting Test, Validity Indicator Profile, Comprehensive Trail-Making Test, Test of Memory Malingering, Miller Forensic Assessment of Symptoms Test, and Inventory of Legal Knowledge)
- Collaborated with supervisors on report writing

*Rotation 2:* Residential Drug Abuse Program (December 2020 – February 2021)

- Facilitated process therapy groups and CBT-based interactive journaling groups focused on understanding and changing patterns of drug abuse and criminal activity
- Conducted psychosocial evaluations with program participants to inform treatment planning
- Completed screenings to determine eligibility for program participation
- Assisted with operating the prison's less intensive non-residential drug abuse program and drug education program

*Rotation 3:* Sex Offender Management Program (March 2021 – May 2021)

- Co-facilitated CBT-based interactive journaling groups with individuals convicted of sex offenses focused on understanding and changing patterns of harmful sexual behavior
- Scored Static-99R and Stable-2007 risk assessments for program participants to inform treatment planning
- Completed intake screenings and initial risk assessments for program participants integrating the Static-99R, knowledge of dynamic risk factors, and information from presentence investigation reports
- Reviewed group participants' completed journals and provided written feedback
- Assisted program staff with conducting psychosexual evaluations

- Screened incoming mail for risk-relevant material according to Bureau of Prisons policy

*Minor Rotation: General Population (September 2020 – May 2021)*

- Provided brief solution-focused therapy to individuals in general population at the low security prison and the satellite prison camp
- Conducted long-term therapy with individuals in general population requiring at least monthly contact due to their designated care level
- Co-facilitated weekly groups for individuals in general population (topics included anger management, trauma, and criminal thinking)
- Completed intake screenings with new arrivals to assess for immediate mental health needs and inform mental health care level designation
- Assisted staff psychologist with risk management responsibilities such as suicide watch contacts, suicide risk assessments, risk of sexual victimization assessments, and SHU (Solitary Housing Unit) duties

**Psychology Extern**

**October 2019 – April 2020**

**Denver County Jail, Downtown Detention Center**

Denver, CO

- Provided weekly individual therapy to clients who were incarcerated, utilizing various therapeutic orientations, including CBT and ACT, to best address client issues (maintained a case load of up to six clients at a time)
- Facilitated two weekly groups for participants of the High Acuity Treatment program
- Conducted triage screenings to assess for imminent suicidal and homicidal risk and to determine clients' eligibility for individual therapy while incarcerated
- Maintained written documentation for all client contact, adhering to the DAP (Data, Assessment, Plan) format
- Participated in biweekly group supervision sessions, which included case presentations and didactic training on relevant clinical topics

**Senior Forensic Case Manager**

**January 2017 – July 2019**

**Brooklyn Community Reentry Assistance Network (CRAN)**

Brooklyn, NY

- Provided long term case management for individuals diagnosed with a serious mental illness who were either court mandated to mental health treatment as an alternative to incarceration, or recently released after serving a jail sentence (maintained a case load of approximately 35 clients at a time)
- Conducted comprehensive clinical screenings and worked with clinical supervisors to determine client eligibility for diversion and to create an individualized treatment plan for each client
- Monitored clients' participation in treatment and provided appropriate referrals for additional services
- Served as an in-person liaison to the courts, communicating with legal personnel and providing periodic updates for mandated clients
- Collaborated with staff at correctional facilities to assist in discharge planning and clients' reintegration into the community
- Supervised day-to-day tasks of two master's student interns, assisting with training, providing feedback, and delegation of tasks

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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**DeMatteo Lab, Drexel University**

**September 2021 – Present**

**Research Assistant** | Supervisor: David DeMatteo, JD, PhD, ABPP (Forensic)

- Research projects investigate the intersection of psychology, law, and the criminal justice system
- Assist with development and coordination of research projects, including preparing IRB submissions and developing study measures, and scholarly publications

### **Denver FIRST Research Lab**

**September 2019 – June 2021**

Research seminar as part of the Master's Program in Forensic Psychology

- Collaborated with peers and professors to develop and design research projects and analyze data
- Assisted professors in grant writing
- Received instruction in literature reviews, article writing, the journal submission process, and other research related topics

### **American Psychology-Law Society Student Reviewer**

**2020**

- Reviewed paper and poster proposals to recommend them for inclusion in the annual conference

### **Predicting Outcomes of a Wellness Court Program**

**September 2019 – June 2020**

**Research Assistant** | Principal Investigator: W. Neil Gowensmith, Ph.D.

Project examining the outcomes of the Denver Wellness Court program and analyzing data from the Criminal Court Assessment Tool (CCAT)

- Assisted in the coding and analysis of participant assessment and outcome data
- Paper presented at the American Psychology and Law Society Conference 2020 in New Orleans, LA
- Will conduct participant interviews and assist in the coding and analysis of data for the next phase of this project, to be completed in 2021

### **The Understudied Relationship Between Traumatic Brain Injury and Homelessness**

**March 2020**

Traumatic Brain Injury in Criminal Justice Lab at the University of Denver

**Research Assistant** | Principal Investigators: Daniel Brisson, Ph.D. and Kim Gorgens, Ph.D.

Project exploring the relationship between traumatic brain injury (TBI) and homelessness to identify effective interventions for this population

- Collected quantitative and qualitative data with individuals experiencing homelessness at a data collection site in Fort Collins, CO
- Data collection included completing the Ohio State TBI measure and VI-SPDAT with participants

### **Brooklyn CRAN Recidivism Tracking Project**

**March 2018 – May 2019**

**Research Assistant** | Principal Investigators: Merrill Rotter, M.D. and Melodie Foellmi, Ph.D.

Project tracking recidivism rates for individuals with serious mental illness who participated in the CRAN program

- Tracked rearrests of approximately 90 clients by searching online systems of New York City jails, New York State prisons, and court system monthly and inputting data to spreadsheet

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Klukoff, H., **Kanani, H.**, Gaglione, C., & Alexander, A. (2021). Toward an abolitionist practice of psychology: Reimagining psychology's relationship to the criminal justice system. *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, 61(4), 451-469. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00221678211015755>

Klukoff, H., & **Kanani, H.** (2020). A better world is possible: Psychology's responsibility to abolition. *Psychotherapy Bulletin*, 55(4), 8-13. <https://societyforpsychotherapy.org/a-better-world-is-possible-psychologys-responsibility-to-abolition-554/>

Brown, S., **Kanani, H.**, & Thorsen, T. (2020). Language problems. In K. Gorgens, J. Dettmer, & K. McAvoy (Eds.), *Cognitive strategies for juvenile clients, parents/caregivers, community mental health & criminal justice professionals* (pp. 53-60). Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado.

## PRESENTATIONS

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Chaparro Rucobo, S. J., **Kanani, H.**, Alexander, A. (2021, March). *Media portrayals of feminicides and the feminist movement in Mexico*. Poster session presented at the 2021 annual conference of the American Psychology-Law Society, online.

**Kanani, H.**, McCarver, K., Unger, L., & Gowensmith, W. N. (2021, March). *Participant outcomes and experiences in a wellness court program during COVID-19*. Poster session presented at the 2021 annual conference of the American Psychology-Law Society, online.

**Kanani, H.** & Klukoff, H. (2020, November 7). *A better world is possible: Psychology's responsibility to abolition*. Poster session presented at the annual conference of the Rocky Mountain Humanistic Counseling and Psychological Association, online.

Azama, C., Roberts, H., Unger, L., **Kanani, H.**, & Gowensmith, W. N. (2020, March 5-7). *Predicting outcomes of a wellness court program*. Paper presented at the 2020 annual conference of the American Psychology-Law Society, New Orleans, LA.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Graduate Teaching Fellow

Drexel University – Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences

- Experimental Psychology, undergraduate-level course, Fall 2021

### Graduate Teaching Assistant

University of Denver – Graduate School of Professional Psychology

- Introductory Statistics for Clinicians, Master's-level course, Fall 2020

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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### Dean's Fellowship

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Drexel University

Award value: \$5,000

2021

### Master's in Forensic Psychology Program Scholarship

Graduate School of Professional Psychology at the University of Denver

Award value: \$5,000

2021

### Graduate Student Poster Award

Fourth Annual Rocky Mountain Humanistic Counseling and Psychological Association Conference

Award value: \$50

2020

### Conference Travel Grant

Denver Forensic Institute for Research and Training (Denver FIRST)

Award value: \$200

2020

**Master's in Forensic Psychology Program Scholarship**  
Graduate School of Professional Psychology at the University of Denver  
Award value: \$25,000

**2019**

**James P. Storer Scholarship**  
Kenyon College

**2014 – 2016**

## **LEADERSHIP**

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**Leadership Education to Advance Diversity (LEAD) Fellow**  
**Society for Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology**

**2021**

- Selected to take part in a two-day virtual institute focused on providing professional development and leadership skills to graduate students and early career psychologists from diverse backgrounds

**Student Representative**  
**Dean's Diversity Advisory Committee**  
University of Denver

**July 2020 – June 2021**

- Selected to represent students of the Master's in Forensic Psychology program on this Dean's committee comprised of student and faculty representatives from all Graduate School of Professional Psychology programs, focused on diversity issues

**Program Representative**  
**Graduate Student Association of Professional Psychology**  
University of Denver

**October 2019 – June 2021**

- Elected to represent the Master's in Forensic Psychology program in the student body government of the Graduate School of Professional Psychology
- Served as conduit of communication between faculty and students, and assist with event planning
- Managed mentorship program between second- and first-year forensic psychology master's students

**President**  
**Stagefemmes Theatre Group**  
Kenyon College

**June 2015 – May 2016**

- Produced 4 on-campus theatre events annually, highlighting the underrepresented talents of women and non-binary artists
- Coordinated budget, scheduling, staffing, casting, and publicity of productions

## **TRAININGS & CERTIFICATIONS**

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Static-99 Scoring Refresher Training (2 hours) conducted by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Englewood, CO, October 2020.

Queer & Ally (Q&A) two-part training series conducted by the University of Denver Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Denver, CO, July 2020.

Motivational Interviewing Training (14 hours) conducted by the Center for Urban Community Services. New York, NY, June 2019.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Psychology-Law Society (APA Division 41), student member  
Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (APA Division 53), student member

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Instructor** **October 2019 – July 2021**

**Mindfish Test Prep**

Denver, CO

- Provide one-on-one SAT and ACT tutoring to high school students preparing to apply to college
- Create an individualized test prep plan for each student
- Proctor practice tests for groups of students to help acclimate them to a timed testing environment

**Program Assistant** **April 2016 – January 2017**

**The Kenyon Institute**

Gambier, OH

- Supervised technology systems for 200 participants of 4 professional writing workshops and provided on-site support
- Managed operations including registration, scheduling, and travel arrangements
- Executed aspects of marketing strategy, including social media campaigns and growing relationships with writing communities and institutions

**Writing Consultant** **September 2013 – May 2016**

**Kenyon College Writing Center**

Gambier, OH

- Conducted one-on-one sessions to assist students with writing in any subject
- Completed training course "Philosophy of Peer Editing"
- Specialized in close reading analysis, argument structure, and grammar
- Selected to work as Writing Liaison for upper level English course "Writing American Fear"

**Assistant Editor and Social Media Manager** **June 2015 – August 2015**

**Elaine Lipworth Production**

Los Angeles, CA

- Transcribed Ms. Lipworth's journalistic interviews
- Proofread and fact-checked articles to be published in major print and online publications, such as *Marie Claire* and *The Guardian*
- Crafted customized social media plan and increased Ms. Lipworth's social media impact by 200%

**MSNBC Social Media & Community Intern** **June 2014 – August 2014**

**NBCUniversal**

New York, NY

- Authored Twitter and Facebook posts publicizing MSNBC content to over 1.5 million followers
- Orchestrated msnbc.com Q&A's with reporters on topics including campus sexual assault and police brutality
- Crafted msnbc.com's first themed news quiz attracting over 2,000 users
- Conducted an audit of community activity on msnbc.com content and presented a proposal to increase and improve user engagement

## **LANGUAGES**

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Fluent in conversational Farsi (speaking), proficient in conversational Spanish

## REFERENCES

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Available upon request