

# Zinah George

1101 E 10th St, Bloomington, IN 47405

Email: [zigeorge@iu.edu](mailto:zigeorge@iu.edu)

## ***EDUCATION***

---

***Indiana University Bloomington (2023-Present)***

*Ph.D. Candidate in Developmental Psychology*

*Expected Graduation: May 2028 Advisor:*

*Dr. Natasha Chaku*

*Research Interests: Adolescent development, effects of stress on academic achievement and mental health, parent-child relationships, challenges faced by minorities, especially refugees and immigrants.*

***Wayne State University (WSU) Detroit, MI (2018-2021)***

*Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Public Health with a Minor in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Fall 2021*

*GPA 3.93; Major GPA 3.96*

## ***RESEARCH***

## ***EXPERIENCE***

---

***Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Natasha Chaku, Indiana University Bloomington (August 2023 - Present)***

- *Engaged in developmental psychology research focusing on adolescent development, the impact of stress on academic achievement, and mental health.*
- *Conducting a detailed study on the socioemotional, psychobiological, and cognitive development of adolescents, with a special focus on the effects of early life stress and its implications for educational outcomes.*
- *Working on research with adolescents from diverse and disadvantaged backgrounds, including refugees and immigrants, to understand the unique challenges they face.*

**Research Coordinator & Assistant for Principal Investigator Dr. Dalia Khalil's lab College of Nursing, Wayne State University**

*Study: Family Stress, Coparenting, and Infant Development among Immigrant Arab American Families.*

*Study: Psychobiological Factors Affecting Mental Health among Immigrant and Refugee Parents and their Children.*

***Research coordinator responsibilities – June. 2021 – Aug.2023***

- *Recruiting and scheduling of participants for the research study home visits.*
- *Organizing of the study materials, overall data/ samples collected, and updating of the study's progress sheets after each visit.*
- *Assisting in communication between research assistants and Principal investigator.*
- *Providing help in the training of new Research Assistants.*
- *Entering data to SPSS.*

***Research Assistant responsibilities - June. 2021 – Aug.2023***

- *Organizes and leads data collection from parents and their children (10-18 years old) in the form of home visits.*
- *Creating surveys using Qualtrics.*
- *Demonstrates infant developmental assessment using the Bayley 4 scales of infant development.*
- *Trained to collect buccal swab samples for telomere length measurement and hair samples for the measurement of cortisol.*
- *Using skills learned during training to obtain informed consent from each participant depending on their age and IRB regulations.*
- *Coding of the videotaped interactions between parents and infants for co-parenting and parenting.*

**TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE**

---

***Student Lecturer, Developmental Psychology Course - Language Development Lecture  
Indiana University Bloomington, February 20, 2024***

- *Designed and delivered a lecture on Language Development to undergraduate students.*
- *Prepared educational slides and interactive activities to enhance student learning and engagement.*
- *Integrated personal experiences as an ESL student to enrich the lecture content and foster an open learning environment.*

***MENTORING &  
LEADERSHIP***

---

***Graduate Mentor, 2024 Groups Scholars STEM Summer Research Experience Program  
Indiana University Bloomington, Summer 2024***

- *Mentored a student transitioning from high school to undergraduate studies, guiding them through the design and execution of their own research project.*
- *Facilitated the development of a research question, hypothesis formulation, literature review, and data analysis.*
- *Conducted weekly meetings to provide guidance and ensure clarity on research goals.*
- *Coached on data presentation and visualization, culminating in a successful poster presentation.*
- *Promoted open communication, addressing all research-related queries and challenges.*

***FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS***

---

- ***The Julia R. Heiman Sexual Science Fellowship*** within the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. Indiana University 2024.
- ***The Sharon Stephens Brehm Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences Fellowship.*** Indiana University 2023. This fellowship is awarded based on outstanding scholarly merit and potential, with an emphasis on enhancing the diversity of the graduate student population.
- ***Summa cum laude Graduation honors*** at Wayne State University. Wayne State 2021.
- ***Honors achievement*** at Wayne State University for GPA. Wayne State 2019.

***PUBLICATIONS***

---

*Khalil D, George Z, Dannaway E, Hijawi J, ElFishawy S, Jenuwine E. Maternal stressors and maternal bonding among immigrant and Refugee Arab Americans resettled in the United*

*States. Res Nurs Health. 2023 Dec 27. doi: 10.1002/nur.22365. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38149856.*

Khalil, D., **George, Z.**, Templin, T., Jenuwine, E., Javanbakht, A. *Perceived Adversity and Psychological Distress in Refugee Married Couples Resettling in the United States.* International Journal of Social Psychiatry

## **PRESENTATIONS**

---

- April 2024. *Effects of Daily and Chronic Stress on Learning in Adolescence*  
Refereed — Poster presentation  
**George, Z.**
- April 2023 *Maternal Stressors, Coparenting, and Postpartum Infant Bonding Among Immigrant Arab American Mothers Resettled in the United States.*  
Refereed — Poster presentation  
Khalil, D., **George, Z.**, Dannawey, E., Hijawi, J., ElFishawy, S., & Jenuwine, E.  
Contemporary Issues in Urban Health Conference  
Detroit, MI
- March 2023 *Maternal Stressors, Coparenting, and Postpartum Infant Bonding Among Immigrant Arab American Mothers Resettled in the United States.*  
Refereed — Poster presentation  
Khalil, D., **George, Z.**, Dannawey, E., Hijawi, J., ElFishawy, S., & Jenuwine, E.  
Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) 47th Annual Research Conference  
Des Moines, IA
- April 2022 *Incorporating omics and biomarkers into research program, collecting biological data in urban health and stress research.*  
Invited — Workshop  
Khalil, D., **George, Z.**, Albdour, M., & Zilioli, S. Urban Health Research Conference Detroit, MI

## **VOLUNTEERING & COMMUNITY SERVICE**

---

- *Volunteered at Science Fest to help kids expand their scientific learning through a VR activity on risk-taking. April 2024 Science Fest at Indiana University-Bloomington*
- *Volunteered to prep and present a night of science and brain activities for young girls (Brain Night). Oct 2023 Girls Inc. of Monroe County, Bloomington, IN.*

- *Participated in a new school year project to donate school supplies for Iraqi and Lebanese children suffering from war. Augt 2022 Armenian Church in Farmington Hills, MI.*
- *Volunteered at Wayne State University to help with vaccination efforts as a general volunteer who input vaccinated individuals' data into the system. May 2021 at Wayne State University's student center in Detroit, MI.*
- *Initiated with three friends an effort to register individuals such as family and friends to vote with a total of about 58 first-time voters in the friend group. Sept to Nov. 2020. Mainly Farmington Hills, all over Oakland County, MI.*

## ***SKILLS***

---

- *The use of R, Stata, Excel, and SPSS to set up and run statistical analyses, and create graphs or charts.*
- *The assessment of infant development using the Bayley 4 scales of infant development.*
- *Video coding data for Co-parenting, Family, parent/ Child, and child using Likert scales.*
- *Fluent in English and Arabic with sufficient skills in Spanish.*

## ***REFERENCES***

---

*Dr. Natasha Chaku, Indiana University, E-mail: [nchaku@iu.edu](mailto:nchaku@iu.edu)*

*Dr. Dalia Khalil, Wayne State University, E-mail: [et1927@wayne.edu](mailto:et1927@wayne.edu)*

*Dr. Marjorie Beeghly, Wayne State University, E-mail: [beeghly@wayne.edu](mailto:beeghly@wayne.edu)*

*Dr. Elizabeth Jenuwine, Wayne State University, E-mail: [aa8696@wayne.edu](mailto:aa8696@wayne.edu)*