

# Dr. David Trexler Gatta

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## EDUCATION

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**Psy.D., Doctor of Clinical Psychology**, The Wright Institute, Berkeley, CA, 2016  
(*APA-accredited Psy.D. program*)

**M.A., Clinical Psychology**, The Wright Institute, Berkeley, CA, 2012

**B.A., Psychology** (*concentration in neuroscience*), Reed College, Portland, OR, 2006

## SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

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Over the past 12 years I have received training in psychoanalytic psychotherapy, integrative psychotherapy, group therapy, substance abuse counseling, couples counseling and psychological assessment. I have worked with multi-culturally diverse and low-income patient populations including individuals suffering from severe mental illnesses (e.g., schizophrenia) and those struggling with substance dependence. I have provided individual psychotherapy in a college counseling setting with students from diverse backgrounds. I have provided long-term psychoanalytic psychotherapy in community mental health. In addition to being in private practice I am also a part time staff clinician at Sonoma State University, an adjunct professor of counseling psychology and a clinical supervisor. Currently I am in full time private practice at Dynamic Change Psychotherapy Inc. a group practice I maintain with my spouse and business partner. As a clinical team we offer psychodynamic psychotherapy and integrative psychotherapy to our patients.

## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Dynamic Change Psychotherapy Inc.**

(*Group Private Practice*)

- Currently Provide individual psychoanalytic psychotherapy to adults, young adults and students from diverse backgrounds in a group practice setting that I run with my partner.

### **Psychiatric Alternatives and Wellness Center**

(*Group Private Practice*)

- Provided individual psychoanalytic psychotherapy to adults, young adults and students from diverse backgrounds in a group practice setting.

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**Registered Psychological Assistant PSB 37560, Oakland, CA & San Francisco, CA. 2013-2018.**

*(Private Practice)*

*Supervisor(s): Jed Sekoff Ph.D, PSY 8905*

- Provided individual psychoanalytic psychotherapy to adults, young adults and students from diverse backgrounds. Clinical issues include: mood disorders, severe personality disorders, substance abuse, relational problems, gender transition and sexuality.

**Staff Counselor Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA. December 2017-Present**

*(Counseling and Psychological Services)*

- Provided individual psychoanalytic and supportive interpersonal psychotherapy to young adults and students from diverse backgrounds. Clinical issues include: Stage of life transition, separation/individuation, sexual orientation, gender identity and academic stress, first generation college transitions, multicultural diversity issues.
- Weekly Grief and loss group psychotherapy
- Community outreach
- Interdisciplinary coordination of care

**Post-Doctoral Fellow Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA. January 2017-December 2017**

*(Counseling and Psychological Services)*

*Supervisor(s): Laura Williams Psy.D., Clinical Director*

- Provided individual psychoanalytic and supportive interpersonal psychotherapy to young adults and students from diverse backgrounds. Clinical issues include: Stage of life transition, separation/individuation, sexual orientation, gender identity and academic stress.
- Community outreach
- Interdisciplinary coordination of care

**Access Institute for Psychological Services, San Francisco, CA. 2014-2016**

*(Outpatient community mental health clinic)*

*Supervisor(s): Ruth Simon Ph.D.*

- Pre-doctoral internship in psychoanalytic psychology
- Provided analytic psychotherapy to the undeserved,
- Worked as an intake team member where I assessed acuity level, made referrals, and consulted on case assignment

**Baker Places INC. San Francisco, CA. 2013-2014.**

*(Residential Community Mental Health and Rehabilitation Services)*

- Provided supportive care and social service resources in a group home environment to formerly homeless and dual-diagnosed clients
- Conducted both process and psycho-educational groups

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**Mills College Counseling and Psychological Services, Oakland, CA. 2012-2013**

*(Outpatient campus clinic)*

*Supervisor(s): Dorian Newton Ph.D., John Spudich Psy.D. & Jennifer Panish, Psy.D.*

- Provided individual psychoanalytic psychotherapy to undergraduate and graduate students from diverse backgrounds. Clinical issues included: mood disorders, personality disorders, issues related to sexual identity, grief work, and life transitions.

**Wright Institute Clinic, Berkeley, CA. 2011-2012**

*(Outpatient private practice model community clinic)*

*Supervisor(s): Abby Wolfson, Ph.D. & Diane Kaplan, Ph.D.*

- Provided individual psychoanalytic/psychodynamic psychotherapy to a diverse low income high needs population.
- Provided couples counseling

**Options Recovery Clinic, Berkeley, CA. 2010-2011**

*(Outpatient community setting offers individual psychotherapy and group therapy to substance abusers from integrative and psychoanalytic perspectives)*

*Supervisor(s): Kevin Orzech, Psy.D.*

- Provided individual psychoanalytic and integrative psychotherapy
- Conducted process groups
- Conducted psycho-education groups in substance abuse and dependence

**Residential Services Coordinator, Mission Housing Development Corporation San Francisco, CA.2009-2010**

*(Social support services for adults in a low-income community housing)*

*Supervisor(s): Kim Coshnear, MFT & Jillian Clark, LCSW*

- Provided social and self-care resource access
- Conducted group meetings and provided milieu socialization events
- Provided and maintained a referral service

**Crisis Counselor, Crisis Support Services of Alameda County, Berkeley CA. 2008-2010**

*(Local and national suicide prevention hotline)*

*Supervisor(s): Tina Mornard, MFT*

- Offered phone counseling
- Provided suicide prevention interventions
- Provided referrals

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**Crisis Counselor, Oregon Partnership, Portland, OR. 2006-2007**

*(Local and national suicide prevention hotline)*

- Offered phone counseling
- Provided suicide prevention interventions
- Provided referrals

**Residential Counselor, Northwest Mental Health Management Services, Portland, OR. 2003-2004**

*(Social support services for adult schizophrenics in a group home setting)*

- Medication administration
- Milieu data collection
- Facilitated socialization
- Updated client charts and logs

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**The Wright Institute, Berkeley, CA. November 2017-Present**

*(Adjunct Clinical Faculty)*

- Provide supervision to doctoral level trainees

**Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont, CA. January 2017-Present**

*(Adjunct Professor of Counseling Psychology)*

- Trauma Crisis and Recovery: This course explores trauma theory and the treatment of trauma and traumatic loss.

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**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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**Dissertation Research: Applied Theoretical Psychoanalysis.**

Vertices of the Inner Eye: How Associational Imagery Communicates Distance in the Analytic Field.

- This work explores the intersection of psychoanalytic theory and practice.
- Posits a novel model to explain how associational imagery functions as an unconscious communication within the therapy relationship.
- The associational image is conceptualized as a communication about relational, intrapsychic and inter-psyche distance.

Dissertation Committee: Jed Sekoff Ph.D. (chair) and Diane Kaplan Ph.D. (second reader)

**Research Assistant, Oregon National Primate Research Center. Portland, OR. 2006-2007**

- Daily assessment of primate health
- Administration of medications and treatments
- Assisted with surgeries and experimental protocols
- Data management

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**Undergraduate Thesis: The Differential Effects of Oleoylethanolamide on Ingestive Behavior in Free-Feeding Rats. Reed College Psychobiology Lab. Portland, OR. 2005-2006**

- Behavioral neuroscience experiment that involved the use of various laboratory techniques such as micro-surgery, and drug administration.
- Use of a rodent model to explore the role of an endogenous gut peptide on differential feeding behavior.
- This experimental design used various psycho-physical measures to demonstrate that the palatability of high caloric stimuli are resistant to pharmacological attenuation.

**Sherman Fairchild Research Fellowship Reed College Psychobiology Lab. Portland, OR. 2005-2006**

- Planned and executed experiments
- Performed rodent microsurgery
- Research design and data analysis

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**PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS**

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**Presentation: The Use of Mind's Eye Imagery in the Analytic Field. Access Institute for Psychological Services San Francisco, CA. 2017**

*(Ground Rounds Presentation)*

- Presentation of the use of the mind's eye during the clinical encounter.
- Exploration of the use of 'associational imagery' during moments of reverie
- Discussion of the sensorial apprehension of unconscious process indicative of working with the oneiric field.
- Novel model presented as a way to think about the use and impact of visual themes within clinical work.

**Presentation: San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis Psychotherapy East Bay Forum, 2016**

*(Discussant: Forrest Hamer, Ph.D.)*

- Invitation to present my clinical work to a group of senior clinicians. This presentation involved providing an over-view of my work with a long-term patient including history, treatment history, and formulation. A clinical hour was presented followed by a collaborative discussion.
- Discussion of a bi-weekly multi-year treatment involving gender-queer issues, polyamory and complex mourning.

**Presentation: San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis Psychotherapy San Francisco Forum, 2015**

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*(Discussant: Sue Von Bayer, Ph.D.)*

- Invitation to present my clinical work to a group of senior clinicians. This presentation involved providing an over-view of my work with a long-term patient including history, treatment history, and formulation. A clinical hour was presented followed by a collaborative discussion.
- Discussion of a bi-weekly multi-year treatment involving gender identity, sexual orientation and infidelity.

### **APsaA Fellowship The American Psychoanalytic Association, 2015**

- Local fellowship awarded by the APsaA through the San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis (SFCP). This fellowship awarded for the purpose of mentorship for pre-doctoral interns who have demonstrated a dedication to psychoanalysis. The fellowship aims to assist in preparation for post-doctoral training in psychoanalysis.

### **Graduate Scholar Division 39, Division of Psychoanalysis of The American Psychological Association, 2014**

- Division scholars award for 2014. The award recognizes graduate students who are dedicated to the theory and practice of psychoanalytic psychology and psychoanalysis.

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## **MEMBERSHIPS and AFFILIATIONS**

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- Division of Psychoanalysis (39) of the American Psychological Association
- Northern California Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology (NCSPP).
- San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis (SFCP)
- Division of Psychoanalysis (39) Section (9) Psychoanalysis for Social Responsibility
- Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR)

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## **COMMITTEE EXPERIENCE**

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### **Northern California Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology Planning Committee, 2013-2014**

*(Committee member)*

- Events coordination
- Planning and facilitation of lecture series

### **Wright Institute Curriculum Committee, Berkeley, CA. 2010-2012**

*(Cohort representative and liaison)*

- Provide student feedback on curriculum design and development
- Facilitate conflict resolution between administration and the student body

- Represent cohort interests in elective development

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### SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, AND CONFERENCES

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- Dissociative States, Alter Worlds and the Vicissitudes of Perception with Peter Goldberg, Ph.D. San Francisco, CA. 2016
- Life in Psychoanalysis Division of Psychoanalysis (39) 38th Annual Spring Meeting. San Francisco, CA. 2014.
- Conflict in Psychoanalysis Division of Psychoanalysis (39) 37th Annual Spring Meeting. New York, NY. 2013.
- The Post-Bionian Model of the Analytic Field with Giuseppe Civitarese, M.D., Berkeley, CA 2013
- The Aesthetic Field in the Analytic Process: on beauty, perversion and evasion - Henry Markman, M.D., San Francisco, CA 2013
- Love and Melancholia in the Analysis of Women with Rosine Jozef Perelberg, Ph.D., San Francisco, CA 2012
- The Leading Edge of Creativity Division of Psychoanalysis (39) 32nd Annual Spring Meeting. Santa Fe, NM. 2012.
- How Do We Reconstruct the Past? A Close Reading of Freud's Essay *Screen Memories*. With John Fletcher Ph.D., San Francisco, CA 2011
- *The Patient as Discussant*. With Michael Feldman, M.D., San Francisco, CA 2011
- The Nature and Function of Unconscious Phantasy: A Close reading of the Work of Susan Issacs. With Georgine Marott, Ph.D., Berkeley, CA 2011
- First Meetings: Thinking Critically About The Initial Clinical Encounter. With Susan Kolodny, DMH., Berkeley, CA 2011
- How We Matter: Psychoanalysis in the 21st Century. Division of Psychoanalysis (39) 31st Annual Spring Meeting. New York, NY 2011
- The Symbolic Function of Cutting. With Dorian Newton Ph.D. Oakland, CA 2010
- Beyond Alpha to Sigma: The Intuitive Function in Bion's Psychoanalysis. With Enid Young, Ph.D., and Jeffrey Eaton, Ph.D., San Francisco, CA 2010

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### REFERENCES

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Jed Sekoff, Ph.D. (*Professor, Supervisor and Dissertation Chair*)  
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 (510) 526-0158  
[jsekoff@wi.edu](mailto:jsekoff@wi.edu)

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