

SASHA R. SIONI, DBH, MBA, MPH, LMHC-QS

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

AI-assisted medical and academic workflows; quantitative analysis; implementation and outcomes of integrated care; psychosomatic medicine.

EDUCATION

University of Miami, Miami Herbert Business School, Coral Gables, FL

Master of Business Administration — Health Management and Policy

Yale University, School of Public Health, New Haven, CT

Master of Public Health — Environmental Health and Health Policy Analysis

Arizona State University, College of Health Solutions, Phoenix, AZ

Doctorate in Behavioral Health (Clinical Management)

Master of Science in Psychology (Experimental)

Master of Arts in Sociology

Midwestern University, Department of Behavioral Medicine, Downers Grove, IL

Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; Minor in Philosophy

SELECTED RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

- Contributed to study design, data curation, formal analysis, and writing for the cost-utility and implementation/outcomes manuscripts.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Sioni, S. R.,** Butner, J. L., Carroll, N. A., Al-Hashimi, J., & Vermund, S. H. (2026). Digital behavioral addictions in adolescents and young adults: Protocol for a scoping review of definitions, measurement, epidemiology, determinants, harms, interventions, and equity. *PLOS ONE*, 21(9), Article e0348860. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0348860>
- López Díaz, T., Shah, N., Santoscoy, R., Velez Torres, J. M., Garcia-Buitrago, M., Ruiz Cordero, R., **Sioni, S. R.,** Punnen, S., Kava, B. R., Parekh, D. J., Gonzalgo, M. L., Jorda, M., & Kryvenko, O.

N. (in press). Clinical significance of extensive urothelial denudation: Association with high-grade urothelial carcinoma in contemporary cohort. *Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine*.

Sioni, S. R., Al-Hashimi, J., Butner, J. L., & Manson, L. (in press). Embedded psychological services and lower 60-day acute-care utilization in high-need, high-cost adults: A target trial emulation. *The Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research*.

Sioni, S. R., Manson, L., Arledge, N., Yanez, J., & Al Mouslmani, M. (2026). Acute-care utilization and cost offsets associated with language-concordant, pharmacist-integrated care management among high-need, high-cost adults. *Health Services Research*, 61(3), Article e70127. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6773.70127>

Iakymenko, O. A., Khosravaniardakani, S., Menendez, A., **Sioni**, S. R., Jorda, M., Punnen, S., Parekh, D. J., Gonzalgo, M. L., & Kryvenko, O. N. (2026). Risk factors for lymph node metastasis in a contemporary radical prostatectomy cohort. *American Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 166(2), aqag095. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcp/aqag095>. PMID: 42601052.

Sioni, S. R., Jakkidi, N., Morales, C., Clarke, R. D., & Lage, O. G. (2026). Household basic-needs support and insufficient sleep among United States high school students: Evidence from the 2023 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey. *Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13591045261462247>

Sioni, S. R., Carroll, N., Al-Hashimi, J., & Manson, L. (2025). Thirty minutes to transform care: A mixed-methods study on brief psychosomatic education for unexplained symptoms. *Cureus*, 17(5), e84091. <https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.84091>

Roller, B. A., & **Sioni**, S. R. (2025). GNOME logic: Evidence-based strategies for high-impact medical education pathways. *Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education*, 17(2), Article 10. <https://scholars.indianastate.edu/jcehe/vol17/iss2/10/>

Sioni, S. R., Manson, L., & Arledge, N. (2025). Short-term gains, enduring potential: An integrated SDOH-focused care model delivers cost savings and patient-reported benefits. *Population Health Management*, 28(3), 161–172. <https://doi.org/10.1089/pop.2024.0245>

Burleson, M. H., Roberts, N. A., Munson, A. A., Duncan, C. J., Randall, A. K., Ha, T., **Sioni**, S. R., & Mickelson, K. D. (2022). Feeling the absence of touch: Distancing, distress, regulation, and relationships in the context of COVID-19. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 39(1), 56–79. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02654075211052696>

Sioni, S. R., Burleson, M. H., & Bekerian, D. A. (2017). Internet gaming disorder: Social phobia and identifying with your virtual self. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 71, 11–15.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2017.01.044>

Books

Sioni, S. R. (2026). *The psychosomatic connection*. [Book manuscript in preparation.]

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW AND IN PREPARATION

Under Review

Sioni, S. R., Al-Hashimi, J., Al Mouslmani, M., & Manson, L. (2026). Early attendance at embedded psychological services for high-need, high-cost adults in safety-net primary care: A cost-utility analysis using target trial emulation. [Manuscript under review, *MDM Policy & Practice*.]

Sioni, S. R., Butner, J. L., Carroll, N. A., Al-Hashimi, J., & Potenza, M. N. (2026). Are controlled interventions for gaming disorder ready for implementation? A systematic review with dual-validity appraisal. [Manuscript under review, *Addictive Behaviors*.]

Sioni, S. R., & Al-Hashimi, J. (2026). Ta'ārof as a relational economy of esteem: Witnessed recognition in Iranian interaction. [Manuscript under review, *Symbolic Interaction*.]

Al-Hashimi, J., & Sioni, S. R. (2026). Family preservation as disaster governance: A structured policy-content analysis of humanitarian child-protection guidance. [Manuscript under review, *Child Abuse Review*.]

Sioni, S. R., Butner, J. L., Carroll, N. A., Al-Hashimi, J., & Vermund, S. H. (2026). Digital behavioral addictions in adolescents and young adults: A scoping review of construct labels, measurement, epidemiologic reporting, and determinants. [Manuscript under review, *Current Addiction Reports*.]

Sioni, S. R., Al-Hashimi, J., Butner, J. L., & Carroll, N. A. (2026). Comparing DSM-5 and ICD-11-like decision rules for disordered gaming on a shared nine-criterion set in U.S. adults. [Manuscript under review, *Assessment*.]

Sioni, S. R., Al-Hashimi, J., Al Mouslmani, M., & Manson, L. (2026). Implementation features and acute-care outcomes among high-need, high-cost adults engaged in embedded behavioral health: A preregistered observational study. [Manuscript under review, *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*.]

In Preparation

Sioni, S. R., Butner, J. L., Carroll, N. A., Al-Hashimi, J., & Vermund, S. H. (2026). Companion scoping review of harms, interventions, and equity in digital behavioral addictions among adolescents and young adults. [Manuscript in preparation.]

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Collaborator 2025 – Present
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Research Assistant & RA Supervisor 2016 – 2024
BioSocial Psychology Lab and Emotion, Culture & Psychophysiology Lab — Arizona State University

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Faculty, Department of Psychology 2018 – 2021
Arizona State University — Phoenix, AZ

Adjunct Faculty, Social Sciences 2018 – 2019
Estrella Mountain Community College — Avondale, AZ

Faculty Research Support Manager 2024 – 2025
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Florida International University — Miami, FL

- Guided medical-education faculty and students through grant proposal development, budget preparation, and manuscript submission.
- Co-led structured faculty-development sessions on research methods, manuscript preparation, and IRB navigation.
- Served as liaison to the FIU Institutional Review Board for human-subjects protocols and HIPAA documentation.
- Maintained a research-metrics dashboard used for LCME and internal reporting.

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- Irene Trowell-Harris Scholarship — Yale University (\$10,000, 2022).
- First Place, Poster — ASU Institute for Social Science Research (\$3,000, 2018).
- Study Abroad Office Diversity Scholarship — Arizona State University (\$1,500, 2017).
- Research Protocol Grant — Rorschach Performance Assessment System (\$1,100, 2016).
- Second Place, Poster — Health Sciences Colloquium, Midwestern University (\$200, 2012).

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Contreras, E. M., Newton, N. N., Roberts, N. A., **Sioni**, S. R., & Burleson, M. H. (2024, March). What do “non-emotional behaviors” say about emotion? Flash talk, Society for Affective Science Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Durka, M. K., Newton, N. N., **Sioni**, S. R., Roberts, N. A., & Burleson, M. H. (2024, March). Avoidant attachment style and cognitive behavioral avoidance: Association with touch dissatisfaction in romantic relationships. Poster, Society for Affective Science Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Verdugo, K., **Sioni**, S. R., Roberts, N. A., & Burleson, M. H. (2024, March). Guilt, shame, individualism, and collectivism: Associations with affectionate touch in romantic relationships. Poster, Society for Affective Science Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- **Sioni**, S. R. (2023, November). Psychosomatic medicine: Educating primary care providers. Poster, American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo, Atlanta, GA.
- **Sioni**, S. R., Aubrey, L., Thibault, S., Duncan, C. J., Burleson, M. H., & Roberts, N. A. (2018, May). Emotion regulation, physical affection, and depression: Does my denomination matter? Poster, Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- Thibault, S., Schmitt, M., **Sioni**, S. R., Leviyev, S., Roberts, N. A., Burleson, M. H., Brewer, G. A., & Cohen, A. B. (2018, May). The influence of costly signaling and religious ingroup on trust decisions. Poster, Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.
- **Sioni**, S. R., Miller, S. C., Aubrey, L., & Burleson, M. H. (2018, March). Physical affection, emotion regulation, and depression: The role of religion. Poster, SPSP Cultural Psychology Preconference, Atlanta, GA.
- **Sioni**, S. R., Miller, S. C., Mitchell, L. N., & Burleson, M. H. (2017, October). Trauma, shame, and culture: Does the cultural punishment fit the criminal behavior? Poster, Institute for Social Science Research Graduate Student Poster Competition, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.
- **Sioni**, S. R., Hurd, J. A., & Burleson, M. H. (2017, January). Social phobia and identifying with your virtual avatar. Poster, SPSP Media Psychology Preconference, San Antonio, TX.
- **Sioni**, S. R., Burleson, M. H., & Bekerian, D. A. (2016, November). Internet gaming disorder: Avatars in the brain. Paper, Society for Social Neuroscience Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

TEACHING

Teaching Competence and Approach

Primary: Health Psychology; Psychopathology / Abnormal Psychology; Introduction to Psychology.

Secondary: Behavioral Neuroscience and Brain–Behavior Relationships; Social Psychology; Personality; Forensic and Correctional Psychology; Behavioral and Digital Addictions; Integrated Behavioral Health.

Pedagogical orientation: Case-based and active-learning methods; clinical exemplars paired with empirical research; assessment of learning outcomes with established measures; trauma-informed and culturally responsive classroom practice.

Teaching Experience

Associate Faculty, Department of Psychology

2018 – 2021

Arizona State University — Phoenix, AZ

- Designed and taught undergraduate and graduate psychology courses across clinical, social, and applied domains.
- **Courses taught:** PSY 366 Abnormal Psychology; PSY 350 Social Psychology; PSY 315 Personality Theory and Research; PSY 368 Forensic Psychology; PSY 474 Correctional Psychology; PSY 547 Advanced Correctional Psychology (graduate; co-instructor); SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology.
- Mentored undergraduate capstone and research projects, some of which yielded conference presentations.
- Used active learning, case-formulation exercises, and structured peer review of student writing.
- **Selected teaching evaluation — SOC 101 Introductory Sociology (Fall 2020):** overall instructor rating 4.6/5.0 on the ASU UOEEE A–E scale (mode = A; 81.3% top rating; n = 32).

Adjunct Faculty, Social Sciences

2018 – 2019

Estrella Mountain Community College — Avondale, AZ

- Taught PSY 132 Psychology and Culture (Fall 2018) and SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (Spring 2019) in person to a diverse, first-generation student population.
- Ran student learning communities built around scaffolded writing and applied skill development.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND INVITED TEACHING

Psychosomatic Medicine Didactic — Curriculum Designer and Instructor

2023 – 2024

Developed as the Yale MPH capstone; delivered at Banner Health, Mayo Clinic, and Arizona State University

- Designed and taught a brief curriculum for physicians and residents on persistent somatic symptoms, biopsychosocial assessment, and primary-care management.

- Presented as a poster at the APHA 2023 Annual Meeting; the curriculum yielded a peer-reviewed publication (*Cureus*, 2025) and a linked three-month follow-up study.

Selected Invited Lectures

- **Rewiring After Impact: How Neuroplasticity Drives Recovery from Facial, Brain, and Neck Damage.** Recurring invited lecture, PSY 598 Brain Damage and Recovery of Function, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ (four invitations, 2019 – 2025).
- **Empowering Academic Writing with AI: A Practical Guide to LLM-Driven Research.** Invited lecture, Pathology Education and Trainee Mentoring Division, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL. April 2025.

CLINICAL AND INTEGRATED HEALTH LEADERSHIP

Owner and Clinical Consultant, Clinical Sioni Services, LLC 2021 – Present

- Consult on research workflows and conduct quantitative analyses with clinical teams.
- Advise hospital and substance-use/behavioral-health programs on program design, policies and procedures, EHR documentation standards, HIPAA and quality assurance, staff training, payer readiness, and integrated primary-and-behavioral-health workflows.
- Engagements include Merit Health River Region (Vicksburg, MS); Carlsbad Medical Center (Carlsbad, NM); Advance Care Health (Mesa, AZ); and a confidential ambulatory hospital system (Miami, FL).

Supervising Therapist, Outpatient Therapy Services 2022 – 2024

State 48 Counseling — Mesa, AZ

- Provided weekly individual and group supervision to associates and interns; led multidisciplinary case consultations; standardized risk-assessment workflows including the C-SSRS.
- Built measurement-based care into routine practice using the PHQ-9, GAD-7, PCL-5, and SDOH/SBIRT instruments.

Clinical Director of Psychological Services 2022 – 2024

Advance Care Health — Mesa, AZ

- Directed an outpatient behavioral-health program; supervised multidisciplinary clinicians and trainees; oversaw clinical quality assurance, EHR documentation, and HIPAA compliance.

Director of Utilization Management & Integrated Health 2021 – 2024

Jewish Family & Children's Services — Phoenix, AZ

- Built and ran an integrated primary-and-behavioral-health care model across four clinics serving medically underserved adults and families.
- Led population-health quality initiatives focused on SDOH screening and patient-engagement metrics.

Behavioral Health Doctoral Intern

2019 – 2020

Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health Clinics, Arrowhead Health Centers at Redirect Health — Scottsdale, AZ

Clinical Psychoanalytic Therapist

2017 – 2022

Private Practice of Craydon McDonald, PhD, ABPP — Phoenix, AZ

Intake Counselor and Utilization Clinician

2019 – 2020

Aurora Behavioral Health Psychiatric Hospital — Glendale, AZ

EDITORIAL AND PEER-REVIEW SERVICE

- **Lead and Submission Editor, *Yale Journal of Health Policy, Law, and Ethics* (2022 – 2024).**
- Reviewed submissions and prepared revision guidance for authors.
- **Journal Reviewer:** Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking (2017 – Present); Frontiers in Medicine — Healthcare Professions Education (2024 – Present); Journal of Graduate Medical Education (2025 – Present); Medical Science Educator (2024 – Present).
- **Abstract Reviewer:** American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (2023); American Psychological Association (2017, 2019, 2020 – 2023); American Psychiatric Association (2019 – Present).

LICENSURE AND CREDENTIALS

- Licensed Mental Health Counselor — Qualified Supervisor (MH24469), State of Florida — Active.
- Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC-25045), State of Arizona — Active.
- Professional Program in Neuropsychological Assessment (continuing education), UC Berkeley Extension.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Psychological Association (APA) · APA Division 39 (Society for Psychoanalysis and Psychoanalytic Psychology) · Association for Psychological Science (APS) · American Public Health Association (APHA) · Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP).

TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH SKILLS

Research and data: SPSS, SAS, R, Python, structural equation modeling, REDCap, Qualtrics, Covidence, Claude Code, OpenAI Codex.

Teaching technologies: Canvas, Blackboard, Moodle.

Productivity: Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Creative Suite.