
Sattvik Basarkod

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<https://www.sattvik-basarkod.com/>

Education

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Neuroscience Honors

September 2020- December 2023

Minor in Health Psychology

Irvin D Reid Honors University College

Wayne State University

42 W Warren Ave

Detroit, MI, 48202

GPA: 3.96

Honors Research Thesis: Corticolimbic Structural Changes Following Trauma Exposure in Preadolescent Children

Doctor of Osteopathy (DO)

July 2026- May 2030

California Health Sciences University (CHSU)

120 N Clovis Ave,

Clovis, CA 93612

GPA:

Self-Published Book

1. Basarkod, Sattvik. Nature of Reality: A personal reflection on several epistemological concepts. Paperback and Kindle, May 8, 2022, Amazon Publishing: <https://a.co/d/elw3XYU>.

Awards

CHSU Scholarship by Central Valley Community Foundation

2026-2028

Received \$10,000 scholarship for first 2 years of medical school

17th Annual Amygdala, Stress, and PTSD Conference Poster Award

April 2024

Selected for Best Clinical Poster Award: <https://amygdalaptsdconference.org/posters/virtual-poster-awards-winners>

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) Warriors Scholars Award

March 2023

Received \$250 for placing Top 8 Poster Presenters at UROP conference.

Abstract: Mobile Skin Conductance Response is a Biomarker for Future PTSD and Anxiety Symptoms in Children with Trauma Exposure

Warriors Scholarship Award from Irvin D Reid Honors College

2020 – 2023

Received \$3000 every Fall and Winter semester for getting accepted into Honors College

Wayne State University Dean's List

2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Senior Year Departmental Award in Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

2020

Selected as top student in the class of 2020 for TOK class award. Presented slides on social psychology of confirmation bias and cognitive dissonance in education systems and students.

Certifications

1. Basic Life Support (BLS): <https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/qrcode?certnumber=022E2C5> (Expiring 9/2027)
2. Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA): <https://npscerts.com/verify/?code=3128264574SB> (Expiring 9/2027)
3. Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT): Phlebotomy Training Specialists (Issued October 2025)

Manuscripts in Press

1. France, J.M., Valbrun S., Grasser L.R., Wiltshire, C.N., **Basarkod, S.**, Davie, W.M., Reda, M., George, S., Winters, S., Bradley-Davino, B., Stenson, A., van Rooij, S., Stevens, J., Daugherty, A.M., Jovanovic, T. (September 2025). *Trauma from the Eye of the Beholder: Reporter Discordance in Child's Trauma, Psychopathology, and Neurobiology*, Journal of Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging.
2. **Basarkod, S.**, Valbrun, S., Wiltshire, C.N., France, J.M., Davie, W., Winters, S., George, S., and Jovanovic, T. (January 2024). *Prospective measurement of skin conductance response during trauma interview predicts future PTSD severity in trauma exposed children*. Journal of Mood and Anxiety Disorders

Manuscripts in Review

1. **Basarkod, S.**, Lipshutz R., Valbrun, S., Wiltshire, C.N., Reda, M., France, J.M., Ely, T., Minton, S., Winters, S., George, S., van roij, S., Stevens, J., Jovanovic, T. (In Review). *Amygdala volume as a risk and resiliency factor for PTSD symptoms in trauma-exposed youth: cross-sectional and longitudinal replication*. Neuroimaging of Human Emotion Book.

Oral Presentations

1. **Basarkod, S.**, Wiltshire, C.N., France, J., Valbrun S., Davie, W., Winters, S., George, S., Jovanovic, T. (2024, May). *Sex-Specific Associations between Brain Structures and Anxiety Symptoms in Preadolescent Children*. Society for Biological Psychiatry (SOBP), Austin, TX.
2. **Basarkod S.**, Wiltshire CN., Davie W., Burnette T., Reda M., France J., Wanna CP., Winters S., Minton S., Hinrichs., George S., Stenson A., Jovanovic T. (2023, May). *Amygdala Reactivity is Associated with Skin Conductance Response in Predicting Future PTSD and Anxiety Symptoms in Children with Trauma Exposure*. Translational Neuroscience Program Annual Symposium, Detroit, MI.

National/ International Conference Poster Presentations

1. **Basarkod, S.**, France, J., Valbrun S., Wiltshire, C.N., Poplin, T., Winters, S., George, S., Jovanovic, T. (2025, April). *Childhood Trauma Affects Rostral Anterior Cingulate Cortex (rACC) Development During Preadolescence*. Society of Biological Psychiatry (SOBP) Conference, Toronto, CA.
2. France, J.M., Khatib, D., Valbrun, S.A., **Basarkod, S.**, Davie, W.M., Diwadkar, V.A., Stanley, J.A., Jovanovic, T. (2025, April). *Altered Cortical Glutamatergic Neurotransmission in Trauma-Exposed Adolescents During an Emotional Inhibitory Control Task*. Anxiety and Depression Association of America Conference, Las Vegas, NV.
3. **Basarkod, S.**, Wiltshire, C.N., France, J., Valbrun S., Winters, S., George, S., Jovanovic, T. (2024, October). *Why some, but not all trauma leads to future PTSD: Structural factors that moderate the positive association between trauma exposure and future PTSD symptoms in preadolescents*. International Society of Developmental Psychobiology (ISDP) Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
4. **Basarkod, S.**, Wiltshire, C.N., France, J., Valbrun S., Jovanovic, T. (2024, May). *Sex-Specific Associations Between Brain Structures and Anxiety Symptoms in Preadolescent Children*. National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), Long Beach, CA.
5. **Basarkod, S.**, Wiltshire, C.N., France, J., Valbrun S., Winters, S., George, S., Jovanovic, T. (2024, April). *Right Amygdala Volume Predicts Future PTSD Severity in Children with Trauma Exposure*. Center for Study of Traumatic Stress (CSTS), Virtual Conference. BEST CLINICAL POSTER AWARD

Clinical Experience

1. Neurology Medical Scribe/ Assistant (Full Time)

November 2025 - April 2026

Michigan Neurology Associates and Pain Consultants

34025 Harper Ave, Clinton Township, MI 48035

<https://www.michiganneurologyassociates.com>

- Triage patients into room with height, weight, vitals (blood pressure, pulse)
- Take comprehensive medical history, review of systems (ROS) and update medication list on Advanced MD.
- Administer Epworth Sleepiness Scale, PHQ9, Fall Risk Assessment and Motor Vehicle Accident
- Prep neuroimaging and radiology reports for the attending neurologist and/or neurosurgeon
- Scribe history of present illness (HPI), and report case with prep to attending physician
- Scribe doctor's assessment, physical exam, and care plan into Advanced MD (EMR)

Updated March 29, 2026

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- Send testing orders (EMG, EEG, MRI, blood panels, and DME) for checkout
- Send non-controlled prescriptions to pharmacy, and communicate with doctor about controlled medications
- Discuss/ Scribe diagnosis and billing codes for new/existing patients
- Communicate over intercom and messages with front desk, prior auth, and billing department

2. Clinical Research Assistant (Full Time)

August 2024- June 2025

Wayne State University School of Medicine
3901 Chrysler Service Dr, Detroit, MI
<https://www.detroittraumaproject.com/>

- Collected blood, saliva, urine from research participants
- Collected medical and medications history for A2CPS Pain Research Study
- Centrifuged and processed participant blood
- Administered Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MOCA) for neurocognitive deficits for noninvasive brain stimulation.

3. Clinical Interviewer at Detroit Trauma Project (Part and Full Time)

May 2022- June 2025

Wayne State University School of Medicine
3901 Chrysler Service Dr, Detroit, MI

- Administered UCLA Child/Adolescent PTSD Reaction Index (UCLA RI) to assess PTSD symptoms in children and adults for Critical Periods Study.
- Administered Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI) to screen for psychiatric illness in kids for Critical Periods Study.
- Attended biweekly trauma case conferences and suicide safety training.

4. Crisis Text Line Counselor (Part Time)

April 2021- June 2022

NPO Mental Health texting service
225 West, 34th Street, Floor 9- PMB# 9135, New York, NY 10122

- Completed a 30-hour intensive training learning about self-harm crises and mental disorders.
- Developed active listening skills and good contact techniques to support people at elevated risk for suicide.
- Responded to texts from people in a mental crisis using active listening, a warm tone, and nonjudgmental stance to deescalate and aid relaxation.
- Experienced and trained in first aid mental health questioning and support. Crises included trauma, abuse, self-harm, suicidal ideation, depression, anxiety, bullying, and grief.
- Referred individuals to proper agencies and provided additional resources such as mindfulness, antidepressant workbooks, grounding techniques, and coping skills.
- Responded to a total of 500 texters and served 200 hours on the text line.

5. Behavioral Technician (Part Time)

May 2021- January 2022

Comprehensive Early Autism Services (EAS)
38219 Mound Rd #102, Sterling Heights, MI 48313

- Trained in 1 on 1 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) therapy and worked with children on the autism spectrum.
- Recorded learning progress, maladaptive behavioral reduction, and target acquisition data for Board Certified Behavioral Analysis (BCBA). Collaborated with team members, including BCBA therapists, behavioral technicians, and guardians to discuss child's strengths and weaknesses and appropriately modify child's ABA session.
- Administered individual ABA protocols with high fidelity to improve child's receptive, expressive, social, emotional, cognitive, and motor skills using positive reinforcement strategies.

Research Experience

1. Clinical Research Assistant (Full Time)

Wayne State School of Medicine
Detroit Trauma Project
PI: Dr. Tanja Jovanovic, PhD

a. Acute to Chronic Pain Study (A2CPS)

August 2024- June 2025

NIH Funding: 5U54DA049115

<https://a2cps.org/about/biomarkers/>

Served as a research assistant on a large multisite clinical research study, assessing putative biomarkers for chronic pain in patients with total knee arthroplasty (TKA) and thoracic surgery. The goal of this study was to determine biopsychosocial factors that increase vulnerability of acute pain turning into chronic pain in patients with surgery. Certified in collecting several sensory test measures including pressure-pain threshold using a pressure algometer, temporal summation using a neuropen, and conditioned pain modulation using cold water bath.

- Processed blood using centrifuge and separated plasma and red blood cells (RBC) for genomic testing.
- Responsible for asking medical history and medications questions to patients following surgery
- Responsible for finding and marking index sites for pain testing. Sites included deltoid muscle, patellofemoral joint for TKA patients, thoracic cavity and intercostal space between T5-T6 ribs for thoracic surgery patients.
- Responsible for setting the patient in MRI with a calf cuff algometer and assessing pain during cuff inflation.

b. Trans auricular Vagus Nerve Stimulation Study (taVNS)

August 2024- June 2025

Pilot Study

<https://www.detroittraumaproject.com/tavns>

Served as a primary research assistant to recruit and survey patients with PTSD symptoms. The goal of the study was to assess physiological and psychological effects of noninvasive vagus nerve stimulation in patients with PTSD symptoms.

- Screened patients for medical contraindications (including hypertension, arrhythmia, and substance abuse disorder).
- Administered Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) for screening cognitive impairment.
- Collected sympathetic arousal data (skin conductance, heart rate, and eye blink) while participant went through a fear potentiated startle paradigm.
- Administered noninvasive vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) to cymba conche and tragus parts of the auditory system.
- Analyzed sympathetic-parasympathetic ratio prior to and post vagus nerve stimulation.

2. Research Assistant and Project Coordinator (Part Time Honors Student)

Wayne State School of Medicine

Detroit Trauma Project

PI: Dr. Tanja Jovanovic PhD

a. Critical Periods Longitudinal Study

May 2022- May 2024

NIH Funding: R01-MH111682

Project lead position on Critical Periods longitudinal study, which investigates brain development and fear learning/ extinction in children with trauma. Responsible for all parts of the study starting from participant recruitment and scheduling to data collection, data analysis, oral presentation and manuscript publication.

- Conducted kids' mock and actual MRI scans. Trained participants on using button box in mock scanner and coordinated fMRI tasks on computer in the scanner room while giving instructions to participants through microphone. Post data collection led the role of processing structural MRI data using Free Surfer.
- Conducted child psychiatric interviews regarding post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety symptoms, violence exposure and measured mobile SCR while participants answered subjective questions about trauma. Led the role of processing mobile SCR data and analyzing its association with trauma report and PTSD sys.
- Created eSense mobile skin conductance standard operating procedures and shared with other collaborators across Wayne State as well as associate Ukrainian researchers.
- For honors thesis, analyzed kids' structural MRI data using FreeSurfer application. White-grey matter segmentation was checked using ENIGMA scripts, and MATLAB was used to obtain cortical thickness and surface area stats for rACC, vmPFC and volume for amygdala and insula.

Volunteering and Community Outreach

1. Brains Day Volunteer Coordinator

March 2022, March 2023

Michigan Science Center

- Organized and coordinated Brain's Day demonstration at Michigan Science Center for two years as part of a recruitment plan for the lab's research study. Demonstrated mobile skin conductance and mindfulness strategies to reduce stress at kid-friendly science fair.

2. Neuroscience Summer Middle School Outreach

July 2023- September 2023

Metro Detroit schools: Crowell Recreation Center, Heilmann Recreation Center, Butzel Family Center, Kemeny Recreation Center, Brennan Recreation Center

- Volunteered at Detroit Public schools' summer camps and lead hands-on activities involving human brain specimens, EEG devices, and SCR demonstrations that increased learning about neuroscience, research, and the brain.

3. Neuroscience Brains 101 Summer Camp Coordinator

July 2022, July 2023

Wayne State University Summer Camp

C2Pipeline and WSU NuRhoPsi (Honors National Society of Neuroscience)

- Coordinated a neuroscience camp schedule for high school students and invited guest faculty members to talk about their research/ demonstrate their equipment.
- Assisted in demonstrating TMS and motor twitches, Human Brain Anatomy, Psychophysiology measures EMG, electroencephalography (EEG), and SCR, and sheep brain dissections to high school students.
- Demonstrated and lead a research project on rubber hand illusion and emotional processing with skin conductance.

Professional Service

MindMeditate WSU Founder and President

December 2020- December 2023

Wayne State University Student Organization

www.mindmeditatewsu.webnode.page

- Initiated new WSU organization that provides students with mindfulness and relaxation techniques to balance with busy school life.
- Lead an informal online (Palouse) mindfulness-based stress reduction course (MBSR) for 2 semesters where members did yoga, body scan, mindfulness exercises while eating and walking.
- Conducted weekly meditation sessions teaching breathing exercises, introspective awareness meditation, and guided meditations with positive affirmations.
- Oversee administrative roles and assign board members assignments.
- Raised over \$1000 in charity for the EGBP (essential gift bag project). Funds were used to make a total of 70 bags with daily essential items (i.e., hygiene/ menstrual products, ponchos, reusable bottle) to hand out to the homeless population in Detroit. Served as a main lead on the project and coordinated with NuRhoPsi (Honors neuroscience org), Dharma Gate Zen Center and Alumni Association of Wayne State. Event Details [here](#)
- Other events include thanksgiving loving kindness meditation, reading, and watching documentaries on Buddhist and Stoic philosophy, and engaging in conversations where students talk about application of mindfulness, gratitude, awareness, and daily schedule.

NuRhoPsi Director of Research

September 2022- December 2023

Wayne State University Student Organization

www.wsunurhopsi.org

Advisor: Dr. Tom Fischer

- Developed plans for students to get involved with research opportunities and developed professional competencies.
- Coordinated outreach to WSU professors to create a directory of faculty research for students to match with professors with similar research interests. Coordinated with students to improve professional email writing.
- Conducted several journal club meetings where faculty discussed their research in neuroscience.

- Coordinated a graduate PhD student panel that presented translational neuroscience research