

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Nestor L. Lopez-Duran, assistant professor of psychology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2005	University of Michigan
M.A.	2000	Appalachian State University
B.A.	1997	University of South Florida

Professional Record:

2009 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2007 – 2009	Post-doctoral Scholar, Department of Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh
2006	Consultant, Emotion Regulation Project, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Lopez-Duran is undoubtedly one of the best and highly valued teachers in the Department of Psychology. He regularly teaches a wide variety of courses, including the large Introduction to Clinical Psychology course and an upper-level graduate course. He has repeatedly taught two graduate courses that are critical to the clinical science graduate program. Student evaluations for all levels are in the upper quartile. Professor Lopez-Duran is also an outstanding mentor to a large number of students, including five Ph.D. students, twelve undergraduate students working on honors theses, and fourteen undergraduates working on independent study projects. All of these students have communicated their enthusiasm for the excellent mentoring they have received.

Research – Professor Lopez-Duran’s main research focus is on the role of stress in the development of depression and other psychopathologies in youth. He showed that youth with depression exhibit abnormal physiological responses to stress (many scientists believed that an abnormal stress response was only relevant to adult depression). He also developed a rigorous methodology for teasing apart the specific aspects of the stress response that become dysregulated in depression and demonstrated that the HPA axis (the body’s main stress response system) remains active for an unusually long time in depressed youth. Professor Lopez-Duran has been extremely productive, publishing 31 scholarly articles in top-tier journals.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Modeling neuroendocrine stress reactivity in salivary cortisol: Adjusting for peak latency variability,” with S. E. Mayer and J. L. Abelson, *Stress*, 17(4), 2014, pp. 285-295.
“Facial expression recognition in children at familial risk for depression: Evidence for oversensitivity to sadness in high risk boys,” with K. R. Kuhlman, et al., *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 54(5), 2013, pp. 565-574.

“Frontal EEG asymmetry moderates the effects of stressful life events on internalizing symptoms in children at familial risk for depression,” with R. Nusslock, et al., *Psychophysiology*, 49(4), 2012, pp. 510-521.

“Hypothalamic pituitary adrenal axis dysregulation in depressed children and adolescents: A meta-analysis,” with M. Kovacs and C. George, *Psychoneuroendocrinology*, 34(9), 2009, pp. 1272-1283.

Service – Professor Lopez-Duran has served in many service capacities, both internally and externally. He has served on the departmental Awards, Clinical Curriculum, Clinical Practicum, and Executive committees. In addition, he chaired the Clinical Admissions, Brown Bag, and Clinical Awards committees. Professor Lopez-Duran has played a vital role in the area’s recent shift towards the Clinical Science model, emphasizing evidence based, science-centered education and training. To the wider community, Professor Lopez-Duran has reviewed grant applications for a national foundation and numerous manuscripts for top journals in his field. He was invited to serve as guest editor for a special issue of the *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

“I consider Dr. Lopez-Duran one of the top scholars [of his cohort] working on issues related to the role of the HPA axis in depression. Several of Dr. Lopez-Duran’s publications would be on my list of the most significant articles or books to appear recently in our field.”

Reviewer (B)

“Dr. Lopez-Duran is to be commended for his contributions to this literature, and in particular for his role in helping to improve methods and interpretation of findings. ...he has encouraged and supported his students in the development of their own research programs. In my experience, the faculty who mentor well and have productive students are the most likely to influence the field both directly and indirectly over time.”

Reviewer (C)

“Dr. Lopez-Duran ranks as an emerging leader in the area of stress and depression broadly construed, and an established leader in the more specific area of biological approaches to stress... Dr. Lopez-Duran has established an international reputation for his work in stress and depression. His research is clear, sophisticated, and programmatic. I think he is an outstanding scholar and will continue to make influential contributions to the field of clinical psychology broadly, and stress and psychopathology more specifically.”

Reviewer (D)

“...Dr. Lopez-Duran provides an exceptionally strong example of the power of bringing multiple methodologies to converge on a deeper understanding of developmental psychopathology.”

Reviewer (E)

“Dr. Lopez-Duran has made important contributions to the field in the area of stress regulation and its influence on psychopathology. ... His work has been published in reputed scientific journals... His articles also are well cited by others scientists. ...his work has made great impact on the field.”

Reviewer (F)

“His work has been in the area of mood disorders and the effects of trauma and stress. This is an important and rich field for exploration and Dr. Lopez-Duran is doing super work... Nestor would easily fit our criteria for promotion to associate professor.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Lopez-Duran’s many contributions in research, teaching, and service reflect very well on the Department of Psychology, the college, and the university. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Nestor L. Lopez-Duran be promoted to the rank of associate professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Andrew D. Martin, Dean
Professor of Political Science and Statistics
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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