Name: **Shimrit Fisher**   Date: August 2025
CURRICULUM VITAE

1. **Personal Details**
    Permanent Home Address: 21 Sapir St, Harish
    Cellular Phone: +972 052-6484818
    Electronic Address: shimrit.shahar@gmail.com

2. **Higher Education**
    A. **Undergraduate and Graduate Studies**

Period of study	Name of institution / department	Degree	Year of approval of degree
2020 - 2024	University of Haifa, Clinical Psychology	Ph.D.	2025
2019 - 2020	University of Haifa, supplementary track	Leading to Ph.D. studies	2020
2007-2009	The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo, Clinical Psychology (focus on children and youths)	MA	2009
2002-2005	Ruppin Academic Center, Behavior Sciences (Psychology track), (Summa cum laude)	B.A.	2005

    B. **Post-Doctoral Studies**

Period of study	Name of institution / department	Degree	Year of approval of degree
2025 - today	University of Haifa, Clinical Psychology) Psychotherapy Research Lab, Prof. Sigal Zilcha-Mano); University College London (Prof. Peter Fonagy)	Ph.D.	

3. **Academic Ranks and Tenure in Institutes of Higher Education**

Dates	Name of Institute and Department	Rank/Position
2025-present	Ruppin Academic Center, Faculty of Social & Community Sciences, Behavioral Sciences Department	Senior Lecturer
2024 - present	University of Haifa, Clinical Psychology	Adjunct Lecturer
2023 - present	Ruppin Academic Center, Clinical Psychology	Teaching Fellow
2010 - present	Ruppin Academic Center, Behavioral Sciences	Teaching Fellow

2012 - 2016	The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo	Adjunct lecturer

4. Offices in Academic Administration
N/A

5. Scholarly Positions and Activities outside the Institution

(a) Roles in International Associations
N/A

(b) Membership in professional/scientific societies

2020-today	Member of Society for Psychotherapy Research

(c) Ad-Hoc reviewer in journals

Year	Name of Journal
2025	Journal of Psychotherapy Integration
2025	Current Psychology
2025	Journal of Psychotherapy Integration
2024	Frontiers in Psychology
2023	Journal of Psychotherapy Integration
2021	Clinical Psychology & Psychotherapy
2019	Journal of Consulting Psychology

6. Participation in Scholarly Conferences

a. Active Participation, International Conferences

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Lecture/Discussion	Role
2025	SPR 56th International Annual Meeting (Accepted)	Krarow, Poland	Exploring Epistemic Trust in therapeutic relationships: A hands-on workshop with an innovative coding tool	Pre-conference workshop – presenter
2025	SPR 56th International Annual Meeting (Accepted)	Krarow, Poland	Epistemic Trust at the core: Connecting key clinical constructs in therapy	Panel organizer, moderator, and speaker – presenter
2025	SPR 56th International Annual Meeting (Accepted)	Krarow, Poland	Methodological approaches to Epistemic Trust	Panel organizer, moderator, and speaker – presenter
2025	SPR 56th International Annual Meeting (Accepted)	Krarow, Poland	Building trust, relieving depression: Epistemic Trust in therapy for MDD	Presenter

2025	Hocus Focus: A Multi-Lens Perspective of Epistemic Trust in Psychotherapy	London, England	Epistemic Trust in psychotherapy: The first decade	Presenter
2024	European Society for the Study of Personality Disorders 7th Congress	Antwerp, Belgium	Mistrusting others and deceiving the self: Pretend-we-mode in psychotherapy	Presenter
2024	SPR 55th International Annual Meeting	Ottawa, Canada	Distinctive types of Epistemic Trust in psychotherapy: Trust, mistrust and credulity	Co-Presenter
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Dublin, Ireland	Epistemic Trust Rating System (ETRS) in psychotherapy: Development and validation	Panel organizer, moderator, and speaker – presenter
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Dublin, Ireland	Transdiagnostic and personalized psychotherapy: Complementary or opposite approaches?	Presenter
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Dublin, Ireland	Theoretical, empirical, and clinical applications of Epistemic Trust	Presenter
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Dublin, Ireland	The relationship between Epistemic Trust and interpersonal problems in psychotherapy: Disentangling trait and state components.	Presenter
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Dublin, Ireland	Can state-like changes in epistemic trust predict improvement in symptoms of major depressive disorder?	Presenter
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Dublin, Ireland	Does attachment orientation predict changes in Epistemic Trust?	Presenter
2022	SPR 53rd International Annual Meeting	Denver, Colorado	The ability of rupture-resolutions to mediate the association between Epistemic Trust and treatment outcome	Co-Presenter
2021	SPR 52nd International Annual Meeting Online	Heidelberg, Germany	Epistemic Trust Rating System (ETRS) in psychotherapy: Development and validation	Panel organizer, moderator and speaker
2021	SPR 52nd International Annual Meeting Online	Heidelberg, Germany	The prediction of epistemic trust by personality disorder symptoms and attachment style	Presenter

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Lecture/Discussion	Role
2021	SPR 52nd International Annual Meeting Online	Heidelberg, Germany	Sharing is caring? Higher expectations of alliance predict less sharing in real-life	Presenter
2020	SPR 51nd International Annual Meeting (canceled due to Covid-19)	Amherst, MA, USA	Understanding epistemic trust in the context of attachment styles	Presenter

b. **Organization of Conferences or Sessions**

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Conference/ Role at Conference/ Comments	Role
2025	SPR 56th International Annual Meeting (Accepted)	Krarow, Poland	Conference theme: Psychotherapy research-practice integration: Who are the voices we need to hear?."	Organizer & moderator of two panels & preconference workshop leader
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Dublin, Ireland	Conference theme: Rephrasing the social representation of psychotherapy: An engagement with public mental health	Organizer and moderator of two panels

c. **Active Participation, National Conferences**

Date	Name of Conference	Place of Conference	Subject of Lecture/Discussion	Role
2023	SPR 4th Israeli Annual Meeting	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Two roles diverge in psychotherapy: Epistemic Trust as a Common and specific factor	Presenter
2022	SPR 3rd Israeli Annual Meeting	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Social navigation: Epistemic Trust as a compass for effective psychotherapy	Presenter
2021	SPR 2nd Israeli Annual Meeting Online	Tel-Aviv, Israel	The use of new technologies for measuring processes in psychotherapy: Epistemic Trust Rating System (ETRS) in psychotherapy: Development and validation	Presenter

d. **Participation in workshops**

Date	Name of workshop	Place of workshop	Subject of workshop

2025	General Linear Modeling	Ruppin Academic Center	Statistics
2024	European Society for the Study of Personality Disorders 7th Congress	Antwerp, Belgium	Psychotherapy
2024	Mentalization-based therapy for stress, trauma, and complex trauma	Jerusalem, Israel	Psychotherapy Jerusalem, online course
2023	SPR 4th Israeli Annual Meeting	Mifrasim, MTA, Tel-Aviv, Isreal	Psychotherapy Research
2023	SPR 54th International Annual Meeting	Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland	Psychotherapy Research
2023	SPR UK-EU joint methods workshop for students and early career researchers	Metanoia Institute, London	Psychotherapy
2021	Essentials of Consensual Qualitative Research	American Psychological association	Psychotherapy Research
2021	SPR 3rd Israeli Annual Meeting	Mifrasim, MTA, via Virtual Conference Platform	Psychotherapy Research
2021	SPR's 52nd International Annual Meeting	Heidelberg, Germany via Virtual Conference Platform	Psychotherapy Research
2021	Constructing Typologies in Qualitative Research Using Ideal-Type Analysis	SPR UK Chapter	Psychotherapy Research
2020	Longitudinal Data Analysis Using SAS	Statistical Horizons, online course	Statistics
2020	Reflective Functioning Scale Coding	Bar-Ilan University, Israel	Psychotherapy
2020	Qualitative Research in Psychotherapy: Online Workshop	The Hebrew University of Jerusalem	Psychotherapy Research
2019	Mentalization Based Therapy	Anna Freud Center, London	Psychotherapy
2019	The Development of Epistemic Trust: Systematic Reviews and Experimental Findings	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Psychotherapy Research
2018	Applied Training in Diagnostics - Implementing the Core Document	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Psychodiagnosis
2016	Understanding the Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS)	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Psychodiagnostics (personality evaluation)
2015	The Rorschach Comprehensive System (C.S.) in the 21st Century	Be'er-Sheva, Israel	Psychodiagnostics (personality evaluation)
2015	The Annual Conference of Clinical Psychology	Genosar, Israel	Clinical workshop
2014	Therapeutic Work with Parents	Hadera, Israel	Psychotherapy

2014	Advanced Mediated Moderation and Moderated Mediation Models	Ruppin Academic Center, Israel	Statistics
2014	Clinical Psychoanalysis Today: Contrasting the Relational and Post-Bionian Approaches	Herzelia, Israel	Psychotherapy
2013	Mentalization Based Therapy	Hadera, Israel	Psychotherapy
2013	Borderline Personality Disorder - Directions for Dynamic Psychotherapy	Haifa, Israel	Psychotherapy
2013	Recent Advances in DSM-5 criteria and text	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Psychotherapy
2013	WISC-IV Clinical Use and Interpretation	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Psychodiagnostics
2012	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Learning Disabilities	Hadera, Israel	Psychotherapy
2012	Envy, jealousy, and shame	Ra'anana, Israel	Psychotherapy
2011	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)	Hadera, Israel	Psychotherapy
2010	MMPI-2: Objective psychology test	Jerusalem, Israel	Psychodiagnostics

7. **Invited lectures**
   Colloquium Talks

Date	Name of Lecture	Place of Lecture	Subject
2025	The Epistemic Trust Rating System: A comprehensive training workshop for clinicians and researchers	Haifa University Online	Workshop
2025	Epistemic Trust in Psychotherapy: The first decade	Psychoanalysis Unit, UCL, London, UK	Psychotherapy Research
2024	Introduction to Psychotherapy research and Epistemic Trust	Tel-Aviv	Seminar for medical staff at Tel-Hashomer Hospital
2024	Short-Term Psychodynamic Psychotherapy	Netanya	Annual training for clinicians in the outpatient unit of Lev-Hasharon hospital
2023	Personality Disorders	Ruppin Academic Center	Undergrad lecture
2023	Mentalization-Based Treatment	Ruppin Academic Center	Undergrad lecture
2023	Epistemic Trust in The Therapeutic Relationship	Haifa	Clinical psychology M.A and Ph.D. students

2022	Building trust: Development of the epistemic trust rating scale	Denver, Colorado	Co-presentation at the panel: "Patients' interpersonal problems and the therapeutic alliance: Theoretical and empirical developments."
2022	Measuring epistemic trust in therapeutic relationships (cancelled)	Lausanne, Switzerland	Building trust in the therapeutic relationship in different therapeutic approaches and settings.
2022	Epistemic Trust in The Therapeutic Relationship	Ruppin Academic Center	Clinical psychology M.A students
2022	Short-term psychodynamic psychotherapy	Ruppin Academic Center	Clinical psychology M.A students
2021	The importance of Epistemic Trust in videoconferencing psychotherapy	Ruppin Academic Center	Conference of clinical studies in Ruppin: The roles of clinical psychology in coping with the Corona Virus crisis and its consequences.
2020	Clinical interview - children and adolescents	Ruppin Academic Center	Clinical psychology M.A students
2020	Clinical interview - children and adolescents	Tel Aviv	Clinical psychology M.A students
2019	Forensic psychiatry: The Maximum-security ward	Ruppin Academic Center	Undergrad lecture
2019	Mentalization-Based treatment	Haifa	Clinical psychology M.A and Ph.D. students
2016	Psychodynamic formulation	Ruppin Academic Center	Clinical psychology M.A students
2017	Psychodynamic formulation	Ruppin Academic Center	Clinical psychology M.A students

2015	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth edition-administration and interpretation	Tel Aviv	Clinical psychology M.A students
2014	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth edition-administration and interpretation	Tel Aviv	Clinical psychology M.A students
2014	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth edition-administration and interpretation	Ruppin Academic Center	Clinical psychology M.A students
2014	From a reflected baby to reflective adult	Ruppin Academic Center	Clinical psychology M.A students
2013	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth edition-administration and interpretation	Tel Aviv	Clinical psychology M.A students
2012	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth edition-administration and interpretation	Tel Aviv	Clinical psychology M.A students
2011	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, Fourth edition-administration and interpretation	Tel Aviv	Clinical psychology M.A students

8. Research Grants
a. Grants Awarded

Role in Research	Co-Researchers	Topic	Funded by/ Amount	Year
PI		Single Small Research Awards	Society for Psychotherapy Research 2500$	2024

b. Submission of Research Proposals – Pending

Role in Research	Co-Researchers	Topic	Funded by/ Amount	Year
Co-PI	Dr. Maayan Shorer, Dr. Bar Lambez, Dr. Iris Shachar Lavie, Dr. Lilac Lev-Ari	Let's talk about war: Parent–child dialogues about negative experiences during continuous traumatic stress	Israeli Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs, $40,540	2025

c. Submission of Research Proposals – Not Funded

Role in Research	Co-Researchers	Topic	Funded by/ Amount	Year
PI	Sigal Zilcha-Mano Peter Fonagy	Epistemic Trust in Psychotherapy: Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Empirical Evidence	APA Division 39/10,000$	2023

9. Scholarships, Awards, and Prizes

Year	Scholarship, award, prize	Awarded by
2025	Bergin and Garfield Emerging Scholars Program	Society for Psychotherapy Research
2024	The Galit Armon and Einat Fainsky Memorial Award for an Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation	University of Haifa
2024	Society for Psychotherapy Research Small Grant Award	Society for Psychotherapy Research
2024	Summa cum laude Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2023	Summa cum laude Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2022	Summa cum laude Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2021	Summa cum laude Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2021	Institutional Honors Scholarship for Ph.D. studies	University of Haifa
2019	Summa cum laude Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2018	Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2017	Summa cum laude Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2016	Summa cum laude Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2015	Rector Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2014	Rector Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2013	Dean Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center
2012	Dean Excellence in Teaching Award	Ruppin Academic Center

10. Teaching
a. Courses Taught in Recent Years

Year	Name of course	Type of course (lecture, seminar, workshop)	Degree	Number of students
2024-present	Advanced Clinical Work (University of Haifa)	Lecture	M.A	8
2024-present	Short-term Psychodynamic Psychotherapy (Ruppin Academic Center)	Lecture	M.A	28
2024-present	Psychopathology of Infancy, Childhood, and Adolescence (Ruppin Academic Center)	Lecture	M.A	28
2023 - present	Clinical Practicum (Ruppin Academic Center)	Lecture	M.A	6
2022-2024	Research Seminar	seminar	B.A.	20
2022-present	Attachment, Mentalization, and Epistemic Trust (Ruppin Academic Center)	Lecture	B.A.	71
2022-present	A psychological view of psychiatric disorders (Ruppin Academic Center)	Lecture	B.A.	42
2022-present	In-Patient Clinical Practicum (Ruppin Academic Center)	Lecture	B.A.	19
2017- present	Field work (Ruppin Academic Center)	Lecture	B.A.	54
2015-2017	Interviewing and Observation (Ruppin Academic Center)	Exercise	MA	24
2013-2016	Personality Assessment (The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo)	Lecture	MA	14
2013-2016	Advanced Research Methods (Ruppin Academic Center)	Exercise	MA	35
2012-2015	Personality Assessment; Social-emotional development in infants and preschoolers (The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo)	Exercise	MA MA	42 21
2010-2017	Personality Assessment (Ruppin Academic Center)	Exercise	MA	21
2012	Developmental Psychology (Nursing Dept, Hillel Yaffe Medical Center)	Lecture	B.A.	60
2010-2012	Computer Implementations in Quantity Research. Introduction to Psychology (Ruppin Academic Center)	Exercise	BA BA	18 71
2006-2007	Statistics 1. Developmental Psychology. Abnormal Psychology.	Exercise	BA	123 117 75

	Physiology of Behavior (Ruppin Academic Center)			124

b. Supervision of Graduate Students

11. Miscellaneous

12. Professional Experience

Period	Name of Institution	Position
April 2019 - present	Haifa University, Israel	Psychotherapy research lab - Short-term psychodynamic therapy for depression for adults
July 2016 – present	Harish, Israel	Private clinic – Individual psychotherapy of children, adolescents, and adults
2016 – 2019	'Shaar Menashe' Mental Health Center, Israel	Practicum supervisor of Clinical Psychology students and Psychiatry residents
2015 – 2019	'Shaar Menashe' Mental Health Center, Israel	Psychologist in charge – Maximum Security Department
2014 - 2015	'Shaar Menashe' Mental Health Center, Israel	Residency in clinical psychology – Maximum Security Department
2013 – present	Ruppin Academic Center and Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo	Admissions interviewer for undergraduate psychology students
2011-2014	Hillel Yafe Medical Center, Child and adolescent's clinic	Residency in clinical psychology
2009-2011	Regional council Lev Hasharon	Psychological Educational public services

PUBLICATIONS

A. Ph.D. Dissertation

Fisher, S. (2024). *Development and Validation of the Epistemic Trust Rating System in Therapeutic Relationships*. University of Haifa.

B. Scientific Books (Refereed)
None

C. Other Scientific Publications:

D. Articles in Refereed Journals

Published

10. ימיני, ח. **ופישר, ש**. (2025). השפעת טיפול במשחק בחול על תנועתיות מערכת העיכול בקרב ילדים צעירים עם קשיי גמילה מחיתולים והפרעות הפרשה. *בין המילים, 24,* 1-19.

9. **Fisher, S**., Guralnik, T., Fonagy, P. & Zilcha-Mano, S. (2024). The development of the Epistemic Trust Rating System (ETRS). *Psychotherapy Research*, 1-12. https://doi.org/10.1080/10503307.2023.2299213

   H Index=198, SJR=.81, Q1 Clinical Psychology, IF=4.07.

   Contribution: conceptualization, methodological design, data collection and analysis, writing the first draft of the manuscript, editing revisions, project administration.

8. **Fisher, S.,** Fonagy, P. & Zilcha-Mano, S. (2024). More than meets The "I": a panoramic view on epistemic trust in psychotherapy, *Psychopathology*, 1-14. https://dx.doi.org/10.1037/pst0000501

   H-index=77, SJR=0.86, Q2 Clinical Psychology, IF=1.9.

   Contribution: conceptualization, methodological design, data collection and analysis, writing the first draft of the manuscript, editing revisions, project administration.

7. **Fisher, S.,** Fonagy, P., Wiseman, H. & Zilcha-Mano, S. (2023). I see you as recognizing me; therefore, I trust you: Operationalizing epistemic trust in psychotherapy. *Psychotherapy*, *60*(4), 560-572 https://doi.org/10.1037/pst0000501

   H-index=97, SJR=1.15, Q1 Clinical Psychology, IF=2.6.

   Contribution: conceptualization, methodological design, data collection and analysis, writing the first draft of the manuscript, editing revisions, and visualization.

6. **פישר, ש**., פונגי, פ., וזלכה-מנו, ס. (2022). אמון אפיסטמי בפסיכותרפיה: תיאוריה, מחקר ויישומים קליניים, *שיחות: כתב עת ישראלי לפסיכותרפיה, לז* (1), 80-75.

5. Kramer, U., **Fisher, S.** & Zilcha-Mano, S. (2022). How plan analysis can inform the construction of a therapeutic relationship, *Journal of Clinical Psychology,78,* 422-435. DOI: 10.1002/jclp.23300

   H-index=149, SJR=1.13, Q1 Clinical Psychology, IF=3.0.

   Contribution: Writing the methods section and the clinical case illustration (including selec of the case and integration with theoretical model); substantial contribution to the conceptu framing of the manuscript; editing revisions and responding to peer review.

4. **Fisher, S.**, Guralnik, T., Fonagy, P. & Zilcha-Mano, S. (2020) Let's face it: Video conferencing psychotherapy requires the extensive use of ostensive cues, *Counselling Psychology Quarterly,34*, 1-17. https://doi.org/10.1080/09515070.2020.1777535

   H-index=48, SJR=1.01, Q2 Clinical Psychology, IF=1.6.

Contribution: conceptualization, methodological design, data collection and analysis, writing the first draft of the manuscript, editing revisions, and visualization.

3. Handelzalts, J. E., Geller, S., Levy, S., Vered, T., & **Fisher, S.** (2017). Body image among three denominations of Jewish women in Israel. *International Journal of Culture and Mental Health*, *10*(2), 206-216. DOI: 10.1080/17542863.2017.1290126

   H-index=22, SJR=0.18, Q4 Psychiatry and Mental Health, IF=0.57.

   Contribution: data analysis, writing and editing of the results section, and creation of visualizations.

2. Handelzalts, J. E., **Fisher, S.**, Sadan, O., & Goldzweig, G. (2017). Object relations, unconscious defenses, and fear of childbirth, as reflected in maternal-request cesarean section. *Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology, 35*(1), 91-102. DOI: 10.1080/02646838.2016.1253832

   H-index=61, SJR=.056, Q3 Psychology (miscellaneous), IF=1.25

   Contribution: data analysis, writing and editing of the results section, and creation of visualizations.

1. Handelzalts, J. E., **Fisher, S.**, & Naot, R. (2014). Object relations and real-life relationships: A cross-method assessment. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology, 55*(2), 160-167. DOI: 10.1111/sjop.12102

   H-index=92, SJR=.060, Q2 Psychology (miscellaneous), IF=1.06

   Contribution: data analysis, writing and editing of the results section, and creation of visualizations.

   a. **Work in Progress**

3. **Fisher, S.,** Lev-Ari, L., Fonagy, P., & Campbell, C. (In preparation). Cross-cultural adaptation and validation of the etmcq: insights from the hebrew version.

2. **Fisher, S.,** Lev-Ari, L., Müller, S., Zimmermann, J., & Zilcha-Mano, S. (In preparation). Validating the hebrew version of the certainty about mental state questionnaire.

1. **Fisher, S.,** Hauschild, S., Taubner, S., & Zilcha-Mano, S. (In preperation). Disentangling trait and state components of epistemic trust in psychotherapy.

   E. **Articles or Chapters in Scientific Books (which are not Conference Proceedings)**
   None
   F. **Articles in Conference Proceedings**
   None
   G. **Entries in Encyclopedias**
   None

H. Other Scientific Publications
    None
I. Other Publications
    Fisher, S., Zilcha-Mano, S. & Fonagy, P. (2022). Conceptualizing epistemic trust in psychotherapy: A triadic model, *Psychotherapy Bulletin, 57(2),* 29-35.

    Other Works Connected with my Scholarly Field
    None
J. Submitted Publications

K. Summary of my Activities and Future Plans

My journey as a clinician-researcher began during my undergraduate studies at Ruppin Academic Center when I worked as a research assistant in Prof. Eyal Gamliel's lab and later as the lab manager for Prof. Ada Zohar. Back then, I was captivated by the fascinating integration of a clinical perspective on human complexity with rigorous methodological and research-oriented thinking. When I was accepted into a master's program in clinical psychology, I joined a large field study in a general hospital. This experience deepened my understanding of the intricate nature of research in clinical populations, reinforcing how essential it is to grasp human complexity in order to provide the help that people truly need.
After completing my master's degree, I began my clinical internship—an intensive and demanding training that I approached with great dedication. My passion for working with complex populations led me to a senior position in public mental health services, where I could contribute meaningfully to vulnerable and underserved communities. Throughout this time, I maintained a strong connection with academia through both teaching and research, further shaping my identity as a clinician-researcher.

During these years, the concept of epistemic trust was beginning to gain recognition within the field of psychotherapy, and it immediately captured my interest. From the very first conference I attended and through my deep engagement with the literature, I found my intellectual and professional home. This passion led me to join a large psychotherapy research lab conducting RCT as a PhD candidate at the University of Haifa. I was fortunate to be mentored by two exceptional supervisors, each representing an ideal combination of clinical and research expertise. One is a leading researcher with profound knowledge of psychotherapy research methodologies, and the other is a pioneering clinician whose work has shaped interventions for complex populations worldwide. Both have been role models for me, embodying the integration of clinical practice and research, and their guidance has served as a beacon in shaping my professional identity.

Carrying their internalized mentorship with me, I now embark on my independent path, where I see myself continuing to bridge clinical practice and research. Training both therapists and researchers remains a guiding principle in my work, as I strive to contribute to the field in a way that fosters both scientific advancement and clinical impact.