

CHRISTINA M. LECKFOR

Curriculum Vitae
cmleckfor@uga.edu

EDUCATION

- 2024 **Ph.D. in Social Psychology**, University of Georgia
Quantitative Methods in Family and Social Sciences Certificate
Effective College Teaching Certificate
- 2020 **M.S. in Social Psychology**, University of Pittsburgh
- 2017 **B.A. in Psychology**, *summa cum laude*, Youngstown State University

EMPLOYMENT

- 2025 **Teaching Assistant Professor**
Department of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh

NOTABLE HONORS

TEACHING & MENTORING

- 2024 **Graduate Diversity Leadership Award**, Behavior & Brain Sciences Program, UGA (\$250)
- 2024 **Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**, Center for Teaching and Learning, UGA
- 2023 **Future Faculty Fellow**, Center for Teaching and Learning, UGA (\$600)
- 2022 **Marsh Research Mentoring Award**, Psychology Department, UGA (\$200)

RESEARCH

- 2024 **A. S. Edwards Outstanding Graduate Accomplishment Award**, Psi Chi, UGA (\$2,000)
- 2024 **Smock Outstanding Research Award**, Behavior & Brain Sciences Program, UGA (\$1,000)
- 2023 **Outstanding Publication Award**, Behavior & Brain Sciences Program, UGA
- 2022 **Walker Johnson Social Psychology Award**, Behavior & Brain Sciences, UGA (\$500)
- 2022 **Kernis Research Talk Award**, Behavior & Brain Sciences Program, UGA
- 2022 **Graduate Poster Award**, Society of Personality and Social Psychology (\$100)
- 2021 **Graduate Summe Research Grant**, University of Georgia Graduate School (\$1,500)
- 2020 **Graduate Research Grant**, Psi Chi: The International Honor Society of Psychology (\$1,500)

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT

Introductory Psychology, Athens Technical College (Adjunct), Athens, GA

- Fall 2024, in-person, 26 dual-enrolled high school students
- Spring 2024, in-person, 24 dual-enrolled high school students

Social Psychology (upper division, supervised a graduate TA), University of Georgia

- Fall 2023, in-person, 140 students, 4.77/5 evaluation

Research Design in Psychology (writing intensive, supervised a graduate TA), University of Georgia

- Spring 2023, in-person, 35 students, 4.88/5 evaluation
- Fall 2022, in-person, 33 students, 4.70/5 evaluation
- Spring 2022, in-person, 35 students, 4.70/5 evaluation

Introduction to Psychology, University of Pittsburgh

- Summer 2020, asynchronous online, 19 students, 4.60/5 evaluation

Learning and Motivation Lab (writing intensive), University of Pittsburgh

- Spring 2020, in-person then online due to COVID-19, 2 sections, 46 students, 4.53/5 evaluation
- Fall 2019, in-person, 23 students, 4.56/5 evaluation

COURSES ASSISTED

Introduction to Psychology, University of Georgia

- Fall 2021, in-person, 179 students, IOR: Dr. Trina Cyterski

Research Analysis in Psychology, University of Georgia

- Summer 2021, asynchronous online, 35 students, IOR: Dr. Michelle vanDellen

Human Sexuality, University of Georgia

- Spring 2021, synchronous online, 140 students, IOR: Dr. Kacy Morris

Psychology of Intimate Relationships, University of Georgia

- Fall 2020, hybrid, 134 students, IOR: Dr. Richard Slatcher

Learning and Motivation, University of Pittsburgh

- Fall 2019, in-person, 69 students, IOR: Dr. Barbara Kucinski

Introduction to Social Psychology, 4 sections, University of Pittsburgh

- Spring 2019, in-person, 2 sections, 299 students, IOR: Drs. Amanda Forest & Karina Schumann
- Fall 2018, in-person, 2 sections, 300 students, IOR: Drs. Amanda Forest & Karina Schumann

TEACHING SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS

“A global classroom: Welcome international students in our teaching” with María González-Ferrer, Tara Kraft-Ainsworth, & Yixuan Wang (2023, November 2). *TA Café, Center for Teaching and Learning, UGA*.

- “Teaching Resources at UGA” (2023, October 2). *Seminar for Psychology Graduate Teaching Assistants, UGA* (invited speaker).
- “What I wish I knew as a new TA” (2023, August 15). *Teaching Assistant Orientation, UGA* (invited panelist).
- “Feedback over failure: An exploration of three feedback-based grading strategies” (2023, April 5). [Poster]. *Spring Teaching Symposium, UGA*.
- “Minding your words: Communicating effectively with students” with Samantha Day, María González-Ferrer, Justine Rojas, & Christina Wood (2023, March 1). *TA Café, Center for Teaching and Learning, UGA*.
- “Pursuing a teaching-focused career in academia” with Andrew Farkas, Josh McMains, & Tes Reilly (2022, October 12). *Behavior and Brain Sciences Program, UGA*.
- “How to write a teaching philosophy statement” (asynchronous, self-paced modules developed in 2022). *Center for Teaching and Learning, UGA*.

TEACHING & PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

- 2024 **Generative AI 101 for TAs**, Center for Teaching and Learning, UGA
- 2024 **Dawg Ally: LGBTQIA+ Support Training**, UGA
- 2024 **Classroom Etiquette: Managing Incivility, Disruption, and Distress**, Workshop, UGA
- 2024 **Making Sense of Student Experience Surveys**, Workshop, UGA
- 2023 **Future Faculty Fellow Program**, Center for Teaching and Learning, UGA
- 2022-23 **Mentee** (Mentor: Kate Thorson), Predominantly Undergraduate Institutions Committee Mentoring Program, Society for Personality and Social Psychology
- 2022 **Center for Teaching and Learning Summer Intern**, UGA
- 2022 **College Teaching**, Course, UGA
- 2022 **Balancing Act: Teaching as Part of a Larger Whole**, Workshop, UGA
- 2021 **Applying a Trauma-Informed Lens to Teaching**, Workshop, UGA
- 2021 **Psychology of Race and Racism**, Coourse, University of Georgia
- 2020 **Graduate Teaching Seminar**, Course, UGA
- 2020 **Effective and Efficient Grading Strategies**, Workshop, UGA
- 2020 **Why Failure is Essential for Student Learning**, Workshop, UGA
- 2019 **Teaching in Psychology**, Course, University of Pittsburgh

MENTORING

STUDENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS († indicates mentored student)

- †Hernandez, A., †Hu, H., Brand, D. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Slatcher, R. B. (2024, February). *Do our parents live rent-free in our relationships? Examining the association between perceptions of interparental relationships and partner relationship quality*. [Poster]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA, USA.

- †Matthews, K., Brand, D. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Slatcher, R. B. (2023, July). *Correlating family communication patterns in childhood to conflict resolution styles in close relationships in adulthood*. [Poster]. Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Symposium, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, USA.
- †Holyoke, D., **Leckfor, C.M.**, Zoppolat, G., Slatcher, R. B., & Balzarini, R. N. (2022, February). *Trapped inside: The roles of attachment and relationship boredom on sexual and relationship quality during COVID-19*. [Data blitz]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Sexuality Preconference, San Francisco, CA, USA.
- †Badejoh, O., **Leckfor, C. M.**, Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2022, February). *The harmful effects of COVID-19 information consumption on distress and the buffering role of social support*. [Poster]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA, USA.
- Undergraduate Poster Award Finalist
- †Brand, D. R., **Leckfor, C.M.**, Zoppolat, G., Slatcher, R. B., & Balzarini, R. N. (2022, February). *“What do we do now?”: Examining the interactive effects of time with partner and self-expansion on relational boredom during COVID-19*. [Poster]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Virtual.

RESEARCH MENTORING

- 2023-24 **Andrea Hernandez**, Close Relationships Lab, UGA
 2023-24 **Hannah Hu**, Close Relationships Lab, UGA
 2023 **Katherine Queen**, High School Research Program, Close Relationships Lab, UGA
 2022-23 **Sriya Chatterjee**, High School Research Program, Close Relationships Lab, UGA
 2021-22 **Oreoluwa “Ore” Badejoh**, Close Relationships Lab, UGA
 2021-22 **Danielle Alexis Holyoke**, Close Relationships Lab, UGA
 2021 **Meredith Bennett Camp**, Undergraduate Thesis, UGA

SERVICE MENTORING

- 2023-24 **Peer Mentor in Statistics and Research Methodology**, Quant Family Collective
 2022-24 **Graduate Co-Advisor**, Psi Chi Chapter, UGA
 2021-23 **Mentor**, Psychology Undergraduate Mentoring Program, UGA
 2021, 23 **Session Leader**, Summer Undergraduate Research Education Program, UGA
 2020-21 **Mentor**, Psi Chi Chapter Undergraduate Mentoring Program, UGA
 2019-20 **Peer Mentor**, Psychology Department, Pitt

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- “Learning about applying to and studying in Ph.D. programs in psychology” (2024, March 21).
Psychology Professional Development Series, Youngstown State University (invited speaker)
- “Visualizing data with graphs” with Christopher Bell (2023, June 20). *Summer Undergraduate Research Education Program (SUREP), UGA*

- “The CV: Is it just a résumé?” with Kayla Brown (2023, June 1). *SUREP, UGA*
- “What is open science?” with Christopher Bell (2023, May 30). *SUREP, UGA*
- “Conducting literature reviews & developing research questions” with Kayla Brown (2023, May 23). *SUREP, UGA*
- “Selecting a graduate program and how to apply” with Dominique La Barrie (2023, May 16). *SUREP, UGA*
- “All about open science” with Brinkley Sharpe (2023, March 21). *Psychology Undergraduate Mentoring Program, UGA* (invited speaker)

RESEARCH

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (* indicates shared first authorship)

- Leckfor, C. M.**, Wood, N. R., Kwiatek, S. M., & Orehek, E. (2024). Expectations and experiences of screen time, social interaction, and solitude. *Journal of Social Psychology, 164*(6), 1008-1023. [DOI](#)
- [Study Finds, UGA Today](#)
- Wood, N. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, Wicks, S. G., & Hales, A. H. (2023). Ghosting from the workplace: The impact of feedback (or lack thereof) on applicants’ psychological needs satisfaction. *Routledge Open Research, 2*(3). [DOI](#)
- ***Leckfor, C. M.**, *Wood, N. R., Slatcher, R. B., & Hales, A. H. (2023). From close to ghost: Examining the relationship between the need for closure, intentions to ghost, and reactions to being ghosted. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 40*(8), 2422-2444. [DOI](#)
- [Discover Magazine](#), [El País](#), [HuffPost](#), [New York Times](#), [PsyPost](#), [StudyFinds](#), [UGA Today](#), [WUGA](#)
- Juergensen, J., & **Leckfor, C.** (2019). Stop pushing me away: Facebook addiction relates to automatic approach motivation for Facebook stimuli. *Psychological Reports, 122*(6), 2012-2025. [DOI](#)

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- Leckfor, C. M.**, vanDellen, M. R., Wright, J. W. C., Slatcher, R. B., & Lipkus, I. M. (under review). Responsive Support for Smoking Scale: Development and validation for provided and received support in single- and dual-smoker couples.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Wood, N. R., Slatcher, R. B., & Orehek, E. (under review). Not such fast friends? The effect of intimate conversation on social connection in getting acquainted texting interactions.
- Brand, D. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Slatcher, R. B. (under review) “Is it (un)romantic in here or is it just me?”: Examining the effects of physical settings on relationship initiation processes.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Leckfor, C. M., vanDellen, M. R., & Slatcher, R. B. (in prep.). Why do people (not) talk to strangers? A review of instigating, impelling, and inhibiting factors.

Leckfor, C. M., Bierstetel, S. J., Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (in prep.). Is more really merrier? Examining the effect of group size on closeness in face-to-face and video chat interactions.

Wood, N. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Orehek, E. (in prep.). Social isolation increases implicit, but not explicit, extremism.

Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., **Leckfor, C. M.**, Brand, D. R., & Slatcher, R. B. (in prep.). Making the most of your time together: Can self-expansion help buffer couples' boredom and promote sexual and relationship quality?

INVITED TALKS

“From close to ghost: Examining the relationship between need for closure and ghosting” (2022, March 31). *GradSPRI, Arizona State University (virtual)*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Leckfor, C. M., Bierstetel, S. J., Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2024, November). *Two is company, three (or more) is a crowd: Interpersonal closeness is diminished in group conversations, especially for video chats*. [Symposium talk]. Southeastern Society of Social Psychologists Conference, Memphis, TN, USA.

Leckfor, C. M., Bierstetel, S. J., Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2024, July). *Fighting to feel seen: Perceived responsiveness is diminished in group conversations, especially for video chats*. [Symposium talk]. International Association for Relationship Research Conference, Boston, MA, USA.

Balzarini, R. N., **Leckfor, C. M.**, Brand, D. R., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2022, November). *Making the most of your time together: Can self-expansion help buffer couples' boredom and promote sexual and relationship quality?* [Symposium talk]. Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, Virtual.

Leckfor, C. M., Wood, N. R., Hales, A. H., & Slatcher, R. B. (2022, February). *From close to ghost: The effects of ghosting and need for closure on psychological needs satisfaction*. [Data blitz]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Close Relationships Preconference, San Francisco, CA, USA

Leckfor, C. M., Bierstetel, S. J., Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2021, February). *Feeling gloom after Zoom: The psychological effects of video chat vs. face-to-face interactions*. [Data blitz]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Psychology of Media and Technology Preconference, Virtual.

CONFERENCE POSTERS

- Brand, D. R., Cloonan, S. A., **Leckfor, C. M.**, Zoppolat, G., Balzarini, R. B., & Slatcher, R. B. (2024, May). *Compensatory connection: Examining the buffering role of romantic connection on social disconnection and well-being during COVID-19*. The Love Consortium, Chapel-Hill, NC, USA.
- Cloonan, S. A., Brand, D. R., Zoppolat, G., Balzarini, R. B., **Leckfor, C. M.**, Alonso-Ferres, M., & Slatcher, R. B. (2024, May). *Associations between communal strength, motivation, and well-being across the COVID-19 pandemic*. The Love Consortium, Chapel-Hill, NC, USA.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Bierstetel, S. J., Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2024, February). *Is more really merrier? Examining the influence of group size on closeness in face-to-face and video chat interactions*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA, USA.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Brand, D. R., & Slatcher, R. B. (2023, February). *Unmasking the effects of mask wearing on social connection*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- Wood, N. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, Slatcher, R. B., & Hales, A. H. (2023, February). *The need for closure and ghosting intentions: Individual differences in emerging adults' relationship dissolution strategies*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Wood, N. R., Hales, A. H., & Slatcher, R. B. (2022, February). *From close to ghost: The effects of ghosting and need for closure on psychological needs satisfaction*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA, USA.
- **Graduate Poster Award Winner**
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Bierstetel, S. J., Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2021, November). *Do extraverts feel more gloom after Zoom? The interactive effects of personality and communication channel*. Technology, Mind, and Society, Virtual.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Wood, N. R., & Orehek, E. (2021, February). *"Tell me about it:" Intimate conversation promotes social connection in texting exchanges*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Virtual.
- Wood, N. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Orehek, E. (2021, February). *Social isolation increases violent extremism* [Conference poster]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Extremism Preconference, Virtual.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Wood, N. R., Orehek, E. (2020, February). *Home alone: Investigating the motives that drive social isolation*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Motivation Preconference, New Orleans, LA, USA.
- Wood, N. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Orehek, E. (2020, February). *Adventures in solitude: The association between social isolation and extremism*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Motivation Preconference, New Orleans, LA, USA.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, Wood, N. R., Kwiatek, S. M., & Orehek, E. (2019, May). *Mistakenly seeking smartphones? Forecasted and experienced affect when alone, talking to a stranger, and using a smartphone*. Association for Psychological Science, Washington, DC, USA.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, & Juergensen, J. (2017, May). *Self-reported Facebook addiction is related to implicit approach behavior*. Association for Psychological Science, Boston, MA, USA.

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2024 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Social Psychology of Research Experiences and Education Lab, University of Georgia
Principal Investigator: Erin L. Dolan
- 2021-24 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Motivation and Behavior Lab, University of Georgia
Principal Investigator: Michelle R. vanDellen

SKILLS & PROFICIENCIES

Methods Behavioral Coding, Experimental Design, Intensive Longitudinal Designs, Self-Report
Analysis General Linear Model, Linear Regression, Multilevel Modeling, Structural Equation Modeling
Software Mplus, Prolific.co, Qualtrics, R (programming language), SONA, SPSS

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

AD HOC REVIEWING

Deviant Behavior
Journal of Personality and Social Psychology (with mentor, Richard B. Slatcher)
Personal Relationships (3 manuscripts)
Scandinavian Journal of Psychology
Society of Personality and Social Psychology Graduate Student Poster Award (2022)
Society of Personality and Social Psychology Graduate Student Travel Award (2022)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2023-24 **Graduate Student Representative**, Behavior and Brain Sciences Program, UGA
2021-23 **Graduate Applicant Visit Day Committee**, Behavior and Brain Sciences, UGA
2020 **Graduate Pre-Application Event Co-Facilitator**, Behavior and Brain Sciences, UGA
2019-20 **Social Psychology Program Bulletin Manager**, Pitt
2018-20 **Psychology Committee on Equity, Inclusion, & Community Member**, Pitt
2016-17 **Psi Chi Chapter President**, Youngstown State University
2015-16 **Psi Chi Chapter Treasurer**, Youngstown State University

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

“As online dating grows, why is ghosting on the rise as well? What are the effects?” by River Gracey (2023, October 28). [WUGA](#)

“Socializing boosts mood more than screentime” by Erica Techo (2023, September 12). [UGA Today](#)

- “What does being ‘ghosted’ mean and why does it make us feel so bad?” by Sara Novak (2023, July 26). [Discover Magazine](#)
- “What to do if a friend ghosts you” by Catherine Pearson (2023, April 12). [The New York Times](#)
- “What science knows about ghosting: It’s worse than direct rejection” by Karelia Vázquez. (2023, March 7). *El País* ([Spanish](#) and [English](#) versions)
- “People with a high need for closure are more likely to ghost, yet also feel more distressed when they are ghosted” by Eric. W. Dolan (2023, February 19). [PsyPost](#)
- “The relationship between ghosting and closure” by Erica Techo. (2023, February 13). [UGA Today](#)
- “Healthy Relationships 101: Advice from the UGA community” by Maddy Franklin (2021, August 19). [The Red & Black](#), pp. 14-15

ADDITIONAL GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2022 **Graduate Travel Award**, Society of Personality and Social Psychology (\$500)
- 2019 **Travel Grant**, Konstanz International School on Motivation Science (\$1,554)
- 2013-17 **Dean’s Scholarship of Excellence**, Youngstown State University (\$11,000)
- 2017 **Guterba Outstanding Psychology Student Award**, Youngstown State University (\$100)
- 2016 **Jones Scholarship in Psychology**, Youngstown State University (\$1,625)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- International Association for Relationship Research (IARR)
- Psi Chi: The International Honor Society in Psychology
- Psychology of Technology Institute
- Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)
- Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP; APA Division 2)