

CHRISTINA M. LECKFOR

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

- 2025 **Ph.D. in Social Psychology (ABD)**, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
Quantitative Methods in Family and Social Sciences Certificate (completed)
Effective College Teaching Certificate (in progress)
Advisor: Richard B. Slatcher
- 2020 **M.S. in Social Psychology**, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
Advisor: Edward Orehek
- 2017 **B.A. in Psychology**, *summa cum laude*, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH

HONORS

RESEARCH

- 2023 **Outstanding Publication Award**, Behavior and Brain Sciences Program, Univ. of Georgia
- 2022 **Walker Johnson Social Psychology Research Award**, University of Georgia (\$500)
- 2022 **Kernis Research Talk Award**, Behavior and Brain Sciences Program, University of Georgia
- 2022 **Graduate Poster Award**, Society of Personality and Social Psychology (\$100)

TEACHING AND MENTORING

- 2024 **Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**, Center for Teaching and Learning, Univ. of GA
- 2023 **Future Faculty Fellow**, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Georgia (\$600)
- 2022 **Marsh Research Mentoring Award**, Psychology Department, University of Georgia (\$200)

ADDITIONAL GRANTS AND 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)

RESEARCH

RESEARCH FUNDING

- 2021 “From close to ghost: The effects of ghosting and need for closure on need satisfaction and coping behaviors”
University of Georgia Graduate School
Total: \$1,500. Role: Principal Investigator
- 2020 “Feeling gloom after Zoom: The psychological effects of video chat vs. face-to-face interactions”
Psi Chi: The International Honor Society of Psychology
Total: \$1,500. Role: Principal Investigator

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (* indicates shared first authorship)

- Leckfor, C. M.**, Wood, N. R., Kwiatek, S. M., & Orehek, E. (in press). Expectations and experiences of screen time, social interaction, and solitude. *Journal of Social Psychology*. [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

- Wood, N. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Orehek, E. (invited resubmission). Social isolation increases implicit, but not explicit, extremism. *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression*.
- 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.
- Leckfor, C. M.**, vanDellen, M. R., & Slatcher, R. B. (submitted). Why do people (not) talk to strangers? A review of instigating, impelling, and inhibiting factors.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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.

Leckfor, C. M., Wright, J. W. C., vanDellen, M. R., & Lipkus, I. M. (in prep.). Responsive Support for Smoking Scale: Development and validation for provided and received support in single- and dual-smoker couples.

Brand, D. R., **Leckfor, C. M.**, & Slatcher, R. B. (in prep.). “Is it (un)romantic in here or is it just me?” Examining the effects of physical environment on relationship initiation processes.

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 († indicates mentored student)

Leckfor, C. M., Bierstetel, S. J., Balzarini, R. N., Zoppolat, G., & Slatcher, R. B. (2024, July). *Is more really merrier? Examining the influence of group size on closeness in face-to-face and video chat interactions*. [Symposium talk]. International Association for Relationship Research Conference, Boston, MA, 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*. [Data blitz]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Close Relationships Preconference, San Francisco, CA, 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.

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.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS († indicates mentored student)

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.

†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*. 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.

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**

†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*. 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*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Virtual.

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.

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.

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
Projects:
- “Momentary Assessments of Research Learning Environments” (NSF Standard Grant, Division of Undergraduate Education, 1920407)
 - “Collaborative Research: Examining the Nature and Impacts of Instructors' Communication with Students in Classroom-based Undergraduate Research Experiences” (NSF Standard Grant, Division of Undergraduate Education, 2021138)
- 2021- **Graduate Research Assistant**, Motivation and Behavior Lab, University of Georgia
Principal Investigator: Michelle R. vanDellen
Projects:
- “Developing a Measure of Responsive Support for Smoking Cessation in Single- and Dual-Smoker Couples”
 - “A Meta-analysis of Social Support and Smoking Cessation in Single- and Dual-Smoker Couples”

TEACHING AND MENTORING

COURSES TAUGHT (average student evaluation: **4.67/5**)

Introductory Psychology, 23 students (in progress), Athens Technical College, Athens, GA

Social Psychology, 140 students (4.77/5), University of Georgia

Research Design in Psychology, 3 sections, 103 total students (4.79/5), University of Georgia

Introduction to Psychology (asynchronous online), 19 students, (4.56/5), University of Pittsburgh

Learning and Motivation Lab, 3 sections, 71 total students (4.54/5), University of Pittsburgh

COURSES ASSISTED

Introduction to Psychology, University of Georgia

Research Analysis in Psychology (asynchronous online), University of Georgia

Human Sexuality (synchronous online), University of Georgia

Psychology of Intimate Relationships (hybrid), University of Georgia

Learning and Motivation, University of Pittsburgh

Introduction to Social Psychology, 4 sections, University of Pittsburgh

RESEARCH MENTORSHIP

- 2023-24 **Andrea Hernandez**, Close Relationships Lab, University of Georgia
2023-24 **Hannah Hu**, Close Relationships Lab, University of Georgia
2023 **Katherine Queen**, High School Research Program, Close Relationships Lab, Univ. of GA
2022-23 **Sriya Chatterjee**, High School Research Program, Close Relationships Lab, Univ. of Georgia
2021-22 **Oreoluwa “Ore” Badejoh**, Close Relationships Lab, University of Georgia
2021-22 **Danielle Alexis Holyoke**, Close Relationships Lab, University of Georgia
2021 **Meredith Bennett Camp**, University of Georgia

GUEST LECTURES AND STUDENT WORKSHOPS

- “Learning about applying to and studying in Ph.D. programs in psychology” (2024, March 21). *Psychology Professional Development Series, Youngstown State University* (invited panelist)
“Visualizing data with graphs” with Christopher Bell (2023, June 20). *Summer Undergraduate Research Education Program (SUREP), University of Georgia*
“The CV: Is it just a résumé?” with Kayla Brown (2023, June 1). *SUREP, University of Georgia*
“What is open science?” with Christopher Bell (2023, May 30). *SUREP, University of Georgia*
“Conducting literature reviews & developing research questions” with Kayla Brown (2023, May 23). *SUREP, University of Georgia*
“Selecting a graduate program and how to apply” with Dominique La Barrie (2023, May 16). *SUREP, University of Georgia*
“All about open science” with Brinkley Sharpe (2023, March 21). *Psychology Undergraduate Mentoring Program, University of Georgia* (invited speaker)
“How choosing screen time affects well-being and social isolation” (2018, Spring). *Guest lecture, Introduction to Social Psychology, University of Pittsburgh.*
“Aspects of Motivation” (2017, Spring). *Guest lecture, Motivation, Youngstown State University*

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, University of Georgia*
“Teaching Resources at UGA” (2023, October 2). *Seminar for Psychology Graduate Teaching Assistants, University of Georgia* (invited speaker).
“What I wish I knew as a new TA” (2023, August 15). *Teaching Assistant Orientation, University of Georgia* (invited panelist)
“Feedback over failure: An exploration of three feedback-based grading strategies” (2023, April 5). *Poster at the Spring Teaching Symposium, University of Georgia*

“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, University of Georgia*

“Pursuing a teaching-focused career in academia” with Andrew Farkas, Josh McMains, & Tes Reilly (2022, October 12). *Behavior and Brain Sciences Program, University of Georgia*

“How to write a teaching philosophy statement” (asynchronous, self-paced modules developed in 2022). *Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Georgia.*

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

AD HOC REVIEWING

Personal Relationships [2]

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology (with mentor, Richard B. Slatcher)

Graduate Student Poster Award (2022), Society of Personality and Social Psychology

Graduate Student Travel Award (2022), Society of Personality and Social Psychology

SERVICE

2023- **Peer Mentor in Statistics and Research Methodology**, Quant Family Collective

2023- **Graduate Student Representative**, Behavior and Brain Sciences Program, Univ. of Georgia

2022- **Graduate Co-Advisor**, Psi Chi Chapter, University of Georgia

2020-23 **Mentor**, Psychology Undergraduate Mentoring Program, University of Georgia

2021, 23 **Session Leader**, Summer Undergraduate Research Education Program, University of Georgia

2021-23 **Graduate Applicant Visit Day Committee**, Behavior and Brain Sciences, Univ. of Georgia

2020-21 **Mentor**, Psi Chi Chapter Undergraduate Mentoring Program, University of Georgia

2020 **Graduate Pre-Application Event Co-Facilitator**, Behavior and Brain Sciences, Univ. of GA

2019-20 **Social Psychology Program Bulletin Manager**, University of Pittsburgh

2019-20 **Peer Mentor**, Psychology Department, University of Pittsburgh

2018-20 **Psychology Committee on Equity, Inclusion, & Community Member**, Univ. of Pittsburgh

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

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)

SKILLS AND PROFICIENCIES

Designs Experience Sampling • Laboratory Experiment • Online Experiment • Existing Data
Methods Recall Paradigm • Behavioral Measures • Fast Friends Paradigm • Self-Report Measures
Statistics ANOVA • Longitudinal • MLM • Regression • Quantitative • SEM
Software MPlus • Prolific.co • Qualtrics • R (programming language) • SONA • SPSS
Pedagogy Active Learning • Inclusive Teaching • Formative & Summative Assessment
Ed. Tech. Blackboard • Canvas • D2L Brightspace • Kaltura • Panopto

METHODOLOGICAL AND STATISTICAL TRAINING

2022 **Introduction to Multilevel and Growth Curve Modeling**, Course, HDFS, Univ. of Georgia
 2022 **Categorical Data Analysis**, Course, Sociology, University of Georgia
 2022 **Advanced Longitudinal Analysis**, Course, HDFS, University of Georgia
 2021 **Structural Equation Modeling for Social Science**, Course, HDFS, University of Georgia
 2019 **Konstanz International Summer School on Motivation Science**

TEACHING AND PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

2024 **Dawg Ally: LGBTQIA+ Support Training**, University of Georgia (scheduled for April 10)
 2024 **Making Sense of Student Experience Surveys**, Workshop, University of Georgia
 2023 **Future Faculty Fellow Program**, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Georgia

2022 **Center for Teaching and Learning Summer Intern**, University of Georgia
2022 **College Teaching**, Course, University of Georgia
2022 **Balancing Act: Teaching as Part of a Larger Whole**, Workshop, University of Georgia
2021 **Applying a Trauma-Informed Lens to Teaching**, Workshop, University of Georgia
2020 **Graduate Teaching Seminar**, Course, University of Georgia
2020 **Effective and Efficient Grading Strategies**, Workshop, University of Georgia
2020 **Why Failure is Essential for Student Learning**, Workshop, University of Georgia
2019 **Teaching in Psychology**, Course, University of Pittsburgh