

Mackenzie L. McDonald, PhD

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intergroupbiaslab.com

EDUCATION

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| PhD
2023 | Syracuse University, Social Psychology
<i>Advisor:</i> Sara E. Burke, PhD
<i>Dissertation:</i> The stereotype content of intersecting race, class, and gender groups |
| MS
2020 | Syracuse University, Psychology
<i>Thesis:</i> Class attitudes and endorsement of the Protestant work ethic |
| BS
2018 | Purdue University, Psychological Sciences (with Distinction)
<i>Honors Thesis:</i> Teaching inclusivity: Can a diversity intervention impact social media behavior? |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology	Fall 2023-Present
University of Southern Maine	

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES & CHAPTERS

- Ess, M.,** Burke, S.E., & LaFrance, M. (2023). Gendered anti-bisexual bias: Heterosexual, bisexual, and gay/lesbian people's willingness to date sexual orientation ingroup and outgroup members. *Journal of Homosexuality*, 70(8) 1461–1478.
- Ess, M.** & Burke, S.E. (2022). Class attitudes and the American work ethic: Praise for the hardworking poor and derogation of the lazy rich. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 100, 104301.
- Houck, S.C., Huber, K.J., **Ess, M.**, & Proulx, M.L. (2020). Cognitive complexity in political contexts. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

*Denotes undergraduate mentee

Bergen, D.* & **McDonald, M. L.** The impact of political news sources on mental health attitudes and policy support during the 2020 US election. Under review at *The Journal of Emerging Investigators*.

Burke, S.E., Jaurique, A., Valen, B.M., Wittlin, N.M., **Ess, M.**, & LaFrance, M. Forms of psychological bias against transgender women and men and people with nonbinary gender identities. Revise and resubmit at *Personality and Social Psychology Review*.

Ess, M., Burke, S. E., & Lott, M. S.* Attributional framing predicts explicit socioeconomic class attitudes and hiring decisions for low-SES and high-SES groups. Under review at *Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*.

Quinn-Jensen, E.A., **Ess, M.**, & Burke, S.E. Gaining advantage and avoiding stigma: Perceptions of bisexual people and contextual passing. Under review at *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

*Denotes undergraduate mentee

Symposium Presentations

Valen, B.M., Burke, S.E., & **Ess, M.** (2024, February). *Do labels affect evaluations of transgender and non-binary people?* Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2021, February). *Investigating class attitudes: Derogation of the lazy rich and praise for the hardworking poor.* Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (conference held virtually).

Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2019, May). *A rose by any other name? Labels versus descriptions yield inconsistent evaluations of some sexual minority groups.* Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the Social Psychologists Around Western New York, Syracuse, NY.

Poster Presentations

Bennett, J.*, Goldstein, H., & **Ess, M.** (2024, April). *Sexual minority attitudes in response to ingroup threat: Intraminority relations among cisgender lesbian, gay, bisexual, and pansexual individuals.* Poster presented at the USM Annual Thinking Matters Symposium, Portland, ME.

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- Bennett, J.*, Goldstein, H., & Ess, M. (2024, March). *Sexual minority attitudes in response to ingroup threat: Intraminority relations among cisgender lesbian, gay, bisexual, and pansexual individuals*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Eastern Psychological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Bennett, J. *, Goldstein, H., & Ess, M. (2024, February). *Sexual minority attitudes in response to ingroup threat: Intraminority relations among cisgender lesbian, gay, bisexual, and pansexual individuals*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.
- Ess, M. & Burke, S. E. (2023, February). *Student names, racial disparities, and classroom belonging*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- Lott, M. S.*, Ess, M., Burke, S. E., & Valen, B. (2023, February). *Labeling effects for economically disadvantaged groups*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2022, February). *Gendered prejudice and stability perceptions of bisexual and pansexual targets*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.
- Lott, M. S.*, Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2022, February). *The “lazy poor” or the “unlucky poor”? Manipulating class-based attributions at the group level and in a hiring context*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.
- *Note:* Undergraduate mentee, Mason Lott, awarded the SPSP Undergraduate Poster Award
- Ramdass, J. V., Jaurique, A., Marsden, A. D., Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2022, February). *Morality, uncertainty, and group identification influence candidate support, voting behavior, and reactions to the 2020 US elections*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.
- Quinn, E. A., Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2021, August). *Contextual passing and the stigmatization of bisexual individuals*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association (conference held virtually).

- Lott, M. S.*, Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2021, February). *Lazy or unlucky? Investigating class attitudes and attribution theory*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (conference held virtually).
- Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2020, June). *Class attitudes and endorsement of the Protestant work ethic*. Poster accepted for presentation at the Annual Convention of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Denver, CO. (Convention canceled).
- Ess, M., & Burke, S. E. (2020, February). *A rose by any other name? Labels versus descriptions yield inconsistent evaluations of some sexual minority groups*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- Ess, M., & Monteith, M. J. (2018, April). *Teaching inclusivity: Can a diversity intervention impact social media behavior?* Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Ess, M., & Monteith, M. J. (2018, April). *Teaching inclusivity: Can a diversity intervention impact social media behavior?* Poster presented at the Annual Purdue Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, West Lafayette, IN.
- Ess, M., & Monteith, M. J. (2018, March). *Teaching inclusivity: Can a diversity intervention impact social media behavior?* Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

MENTORSHIP

Undergraduate Student Mentorship

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (USM)

McBreairty, Ashley. *Spirituality, religiosity, and coping*.
Spring 2024-Present

Dominguez, Yoely. *Race and age bias in adoption*.
Spring 2024-Present

Independent Projects in Undergraduate Research (USM)

Bennett, Jasper. *Sexual minority attitudes in response to ingroup threat*.
Fall 2023-Present

Coyne, Tatiana. *Intersecting gender and sexual orientation stereotypes for transgender women.*
Spring 2024-Present

Intergroup Bias Lab at USM

Active members: Jasper Bennett, Tatiana Coyne, Yoely Dominguez, MJ Friedman, Makayla Hartsgrove, Ashley McBreairty

Summer 2024: Helena Rieger, Danica Bergen

Mentor to Undergraduate Research, Syracuse University, current collaborations

Lott, Mason S. *The “lazy poor” or the “unlucky poor”? Manipulating class-based attributions at the group level and in a hiring context.*
Spring 2020-Present

Kennedy, Frankie. *The lineup of love: Negative judgments of dating profiles that disclose a history of incarceration.*
Fall 2018

Mentor to Undergraduate Research Assistants – *Syracuse University Intergroup Bias Lab*

Fall 2018-Summer 2023

Graduate Student Mentorship

Teaching Mentor – *Syracuse University Teaching Assistant Orientation Program*

Summer 2021

Mentor to introductory psychology teaching assistants – *Syracuse University*
Spring 2021

First-Year Graduate Student Mentor – *Syracuse University*
2020–2023

GRANTS

Diversity Graduate Travel Award, \$500
Society for Personality and Social Psychology, 2021

Graduate Travel Award, \$300
Graduate Student Organization – Syracuse University, 2019

Undergraduate Research Grant, \$500
Purdue University, 2017

Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Grant, \$500
Purdue University, 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

PSY 230: Social Psychology – *University of Southern Maine*
Fall 2024 (current), 31 students

PSY 100: Introduction to Psychology – *University of Southern Maine*
Fall 2024 (current), 99 students
Spring 2024, 73 students
Fall 2023, 97 students

PSY 201: Statistics in Psychology – *University of Southern Maine*
Fall 2024 (current), 30 students
Spring 2024, 2 sections totaling 60 students
Fall 2023, 30 students

PSY 274: Social Psychology – *Syracuse University*
Summer 2020, 23 students

Recitation Instructor (Syracuse University)

PSY 205: Foundations of Human Behavior
Spring 2021, 48 students; Fall 2020, 98 students; Spring 2020, 68 students; Fall 2019, 71 students; Spring 2019, 66 students; Fall 2018, 95 students

SEM 100: First Year Experience Course
Fall 2020, 19 students

Teaching Assistant (Syracuse University)

PSY 395: Abnormal Psychology
Fall 2022, 239 students

PSY 474: Forensic Psychology
Fall 2022, 120 students

PSY 274: Social Psychology
Fall 2022, 120 students

Other Teaching Positions

Teaching Assistant Coordinator, PSY 205: Foundations of Human Behavior
Syracuse University, Spring 2021, number of teaching assistants = 15

GUEST LECTURES

University of Southern Maine

ECO/SWO 399: Poverty: Movies vs Reality
May 2024

Purdue University

PSY 392: Psychology of Gender
August 2022 (online)

Syracuse University

PSY 205: Foundations of Human Behavior
April 2021 (online), June 2019

PSY 393: Personality Psychology
March 2019, February 2019, November 2018

HONORS & AWARDS

Research Excellence Doctoral Funding Fellowship – *Syracuse University 2021–2022*

Certificate in University Teaching – *Syracuse University, 2020*

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award – *Syracuse University, 2020*

Hadley Outstanding Senior in Psychological Sciences – *Purdue University, 2018*

Summer Stay Scholar Recipient – *Purdue University, 2017*

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member, Women and Gender Studies Faculty Council, Women and Gender Studies Program (2023-present)

Member, Curriculum Committee, Women and Gender Studies Program (2023-present)

Member, Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee, Women and Gender Studies Program (2023-present)

Member, Communications and Resources Committee, Intercultural Diversity and Equity Council (2023-present)

Member, Personnel Committee, Department of Psychology (2023-present)

Psi Chi Advisor, University of Southern Maine Chapter

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

R Training and Statistics Workshops – <i>Syracuse University</i>	2018-2023
Scientific Writing Workshop – <i>Syracuse University</i>	2020, 2021
Managing Bias Training – <i>Syracuse University</i>	2020
Women in Science and Engineering Program – <i>Syracuse University</i>	2019-2021
Future Professoriate Program – <i>Syracuse University</i>	2018-2020
Safer People, Safer Spaces Training – <i>Syracuse University</i>	2018

MEMBERSHIPS & SERVICE TO THE FIELD

Memberships

American Psychological Association

APA Division 8, Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

Eastern Psychological Association

Society for the Teaching of Psychology

Service to the Field

Reviewer, *Self & Identity*

Reviewer, *Journal of Emerging Investigators*

Abstract Reviewer, *USM Thinking Matters Symposium*