

Maura M.K. Austin
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2023 - **Postdoctoral Researcher**
University of Virginia
Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy

EDUCATION

2023 **Ph.D. Social Psychology**
University of Virginia
Primary Advisor: Ben Converse, Ph.D.
Secondary Advisor: Gabrielle Adams, Ph.D.

2020 **M.S. Psychology**
University of Virginia
Advisor: Ben Converse, Ph.D.

2015 **M.A. Educational Psychology & Cognitive Science**
University of Central Florida
Major advisor: Michele Gill, Ph.D.
Minor advisor: Valerie Sims, Ph.D.

2012 **B.S. Psychology**
University of Central Florida

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interpersonal dynamics, moral cognition, judgment & decision making

AWARDS AND FUNDING

Fetzer Grant - Research Assistantship - \$7,000	August 2019
Double Hoo Grant - \$4,800	March 2019
Fetzer Grant - \$4,000	January 2019
SPSP Diversity Award - \$500	October 2018
SPSP Travel Award - \$500	October 2018

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Kim, T., **Austin, M.M.K.**, Cian, L., & Adams, G. (*in principle accepted*). Effects of Ancestral Information on Social Connectedness and Life Meaning. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*.
- Converse, B. A., & **Austin, M. M.** (2022). People-watching and the environment: Looking for signs of hope while concern outpaces action. *Current opinion in psychology*, 43, 249-253.
- Austin, M.M.** & Converse, B.A. (2021). In search of weakened resolve: Does climate-engineering awareness decrease individuals' commitment to mitigation? *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 78, 101690.
- Converse, B. A., Reinhard, D. A., & **Austin, M. M.** Psychology of Rivalry: A social-cognitive approach to competitive relationships. In *The Oxford Handbook of the Psychology of Competition*.
- Nisa, C. F., Bélanger, J. J., Faller, D. G., Buttrick, N. R., Mierau, J. O., **Austin, M. M.**, ... & Leander, N. P. (2021). Lives versus Livelihoods? Perceived economic risk has a stronger association with support for COVID-19 preventive measures than perceived health risk. *Scientific reports*, 11(1), 1-12.
- Neale, C., **Austin, M.M.K.**, Converse, B., & Roe, J. (*under review*). Making People Aware of Eco-Innovations Can Decrease Climate Despair.

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Austin, M.M.K.**, Harris, K., Caluori, N., & Wood, A. Gossip differentially moderates prosocial behavior depending on group membership. (*in prep: manuscript*)

prepared for submission)

Austin, M.M.K. & Bart-Plange, D.J. Colorism and gendered bias as undifferentiated trait impressions of faces. *(in prep: all data collected)*

Austin, M.M.K., Adams, G., & Converse, B. Inferences about moral character from incidental changes in appearance. *(in prep: ongoing dissertation project)*

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Austin, M.M.K., & Bart-Plange, D.J. (2023, February). *Colorism and gendered bias*. Poster selected for presentation at SPSP national annual conference, Atlanta, GA.

Austin, M.M.K. & Converse, B. (2023, February). *Eco-innovations can decrease climate despair without posing a moral hazard*. Talk selected for presentation at SPSP national annual conference, Atlanta, GA.

Converse, B., Neale, C., & **Austin, M.M.K.** (2022, May). *Behavioral climate action: Cognitive, Environmental, Political and Social Psychological Perspectives*. Talk presented at APS national annual convention, Chicago, IL.

Austin, M.M.K., Adams, G., & Converse, B. (2020, August). *Inferences about moral character from incidental changes in appearance*. Talk presented at University of Florida departmental seminar series, Gainesville, FL.

Austin, M.M.K., Adams, G., & Converse, B. (2019, August). “*You look like a new person*”: *Inferences about moral character from incidental changes in appearance*. Talk presented at Academy of Management, Boston, MA.

**Designated as showcase symposium*

Austin, M.M.K., Adams, G., & Converse, B. (2018, November). *Appearance change and redemption: Looking different implies remorse in past-offenders*. Talk presented at Diversifying Psychology Conference, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

Austin, M.M.K. & Converse, B. (2018, May). *Ambivalence in rivalrous relationships: An investigation of responses to rivals’ failures*. Talk presented at Social Psychology departmental lunch meeting, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

Austin, M.M.K., & Converse, B. (2018, March) *When do we revel in our competitor’s failures? An investigation of rivalry, status and schadenfreude*. Poster presented at

the Graduate Huskey Research Forum, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

Austin, M.M.K., Gill, M., & Sims, V. (2015, March) *Gestures and mental models: A triple coding hypothesis*. Poster presented at the Graduate Research Forum, U. of Central Florida, Orlando, FL.

Austin, M.M.K. (2014, September) *Emotions as scaffolds for moral development*, Poster presented at the International Academic Forum – North American Conference, Providence, RI.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of record	<i>Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, UVA</i>	
	LPPL 3210 - Civic Leadership	Fall 2021
Lab instructor	<i>Psychology Department, University of Virginia</i>	
	PSYC 3006 - Research Methods & Statistics	Spring 2020
Lecturer	<i>Admissions department, University of Virginia</i>	
	“Intro to Implicit Bias: Anti-bias strategies in college admissions”	Oct 2019
Lecturer	<i>Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, UVA</i>	
	“Speaking up against bias in the policy world”	Aug 2019
Lecturer	<i>Resident Staff Program, University of Virginia</i>	
	“Implicit Bias 101: Anti-bias strategies”	Aug 2019
	“Implicit Bias 101: Anti-bias strategies”	Aug 2020
Graduate teaching assistant	<i>Psychology Department, University of Virginia</i>	
	PSYC 2600 - Social Psychology	Spring 2021
	PSYC 3240 - Animal Cognition	Fall 2020
	PSYC 2005 - Research Methods in Psychology	Spring 2019
	PSYC 2600 - Social Psychology	Spring 2018
	PSYC 2600 - Social Psychology	Fall 2017
Graduate teaching assistant	<i>College of Education, University of Central Florida</i>	

EDF 4467 - Learning theories and assessment

Fall 2014

EDF 4467 - Learning theories and assessment

Spring 2015

SERVICE

Psychology Department Participant Pool Coordinator

2020 - present

Social Area Representative and Prospective Student Coordinator

2019-present

Social Talk Series Coordinator

2019

REVIEWING

Grant proposal reviewer - *Fetzer Grant Fund for Metascience***Guest reviewer - *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology***