

Karyn Sprague McKenzie, Ph.D.

Department of Psychology
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Education

B.A. Yale University

M.A. University of Kentucky

Thesis Title: *Dysphoria and the negative memory bias: Moderating effects of attentional focus and self-concept structure*

Recipient, Sam Gunto Award for Outstanding Research in Social Psychology
(based on thesis)

Recipient, The Outstanding Teaching Assistant in Psychology Award

Ph.D. University of Kentucky

Dissertation Title: *The Self-Absorption Scale*

Recipient, Sam Gunto Award for Outstanding Research in Social Psychology
(based on dissertation)

Academic / Teaching Experience and Awards, 1996 - current

University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky:

August 2025 – present Senior Lecturer of Psychology

Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky:

August 2009 – May 2025 Professor of Psychology

August 2002 – May 2009 Associate Professor of Psychology

August 1998 – May 2002 Assistant Professor of Psychology

August 1996 – May 1998 Instructor of Psychology

College-Wide Honors and Awards:

2015 Recipient, Curry Award for Faculty Excellence

2013 Recipient, George Walker Redding Christian Service Award

2008 Recipient, Cawthorne Excellence in Teaching Award

2005 Recipient, Lindsey Apple Student Life Award

2002 Recipient, John Walker Manning Distinguished Teacher and Mentor Award

Courses Taught:

Currently (at University of Kentucky): Advanced Topics in Social Psychology: Relationships Capstone; Introduction to Forensics; Psychology in Business and Industry

Previously (at Georgetown College): Social Psychology; Industrial/Organizational Psychology; Psychology and the Law; Stereotypes & Prejudice; Interpersonal Relationships; Enhanced Internships. Additional individual offerings: Honors Element, Contract, and Research Increment options; Honors Thesis; Research-based Independent Study; General Psychology; Developmental Psychology; Statistics for the Social Sciences; Service Learning credits; Courses by Arrangement; Human Development, Behavior, and Learning (graduate course)

Recent Community Service

Chair, City of Georgetown Board of Ethics: 2018-2025; Member: 2013-2018

Board member, Law and Justice Village Advisory Council, Elkhorn Crossing School: 2015-2025

Member and Alumnae interviewer for Yale University applicants, Yale in Kentucky: 2015-present

Volunteer, Amen House (Scott County food bank): 2010-2025

Parent Volunteer, Scott County public school system: 2005-2020

Select Service for Georgetown College (since 2004)

Director, Teaching & Learning Center: 2024-2025

Advisor, Title IX Board, Georgetown College: 2021-2025

Co-founder, Faculty Fan Club: 2018-2025

Division representative, Curriculum Committee: 2024-2025

Faculty representative, Omicron Delta Kappa honorary society, 2001-2025

Faculty representative, Fulbright Committee: 2022-2025

Division representative, Academic Policy Committee: 2010-2012; 2002-2007; 2022-2024 (elected)

Academic advisor (average of 25-30 advisees every semester): 1997-2025

Mentor, New faculty in the psychology and sociology departments: 2024-2025

Alternate, Board of Trustees, Faculty representative: 2019-2025

Alternate, Social Sciences division committees: 2019-2025

Faculty speaker, *The perils of perfectionism and procrastination*, First Generation Academy: August 2024

Workshop co-leader, *Increasing retention again: More best teaching practices*, Faculty Orientation: August 2024

Co-chair, Student engagement and success working group, President's (Dr. Allen) strategic plan: 2022-2023

Workshop leader, *Practical strategies for an inclusive classroom*, Faculty Teaching & Learning Center series: October 2023

Workshop co-leader, *Increasing retention: Best teaching practices*, Faculty Orientation: August 2023

Faculty speaker, *The perils of perfectionism and procrastination*, First Generation Academy: August 2023

Workshop leader, *Prejudice and bias in the classroom: Detection and prevention of microaggression*, Faculty Teaching & Learning Center series: April 2023

Chair, Collier Lecture Series: 2020-2023; Faculty representative: 2013-2016

Creator and co-chair, Innovative Teaching Symposium: March 2020; February 2021; January 2023; March 2025; I also presented at each symposium.

Division representative, Honor Code Revision Task Force: 2022-2023

Speaker, Opening Convocation address, Georgetown College's Opening Convocation: 08/30/22

Faculty representative, COVID fall scenario planning group: 2022

Faculty representative, Campus-wide Retention Task Force: 2019-2022

Faculty representative, NEXUS Committee: 2021-2022

Faculty representative, President's (Dr. Jones) College Planning Council: 2020-2022

Co-chair, Georgetown College's Task Force on Inclusion and Kindness: 2020-2021

Division representative, Faculty Work Group: Teaching & Learning Scenario Planning: Summer 2020

Chair, Athletic/Academic/Retention Committee: 2019-2020

Division representative, Accountability Board: 2016-2017, 2018-2020

Chair, Social Sciences Division: 2006-2016, Spring 2020

Faculty representative, Calendar Committee, 2019-2020

Faculty representative, Presidential Search Committee: 2018-2019

Faculty representative, President's (Dr. Greene) College Planning Council: 2013-2019

Faculty representative, EAB Global workgroup: Summer 2018

Faculty representative, Creative Strategies: 2017-2019

Division representative, Honor Council: 2014-2016, 2017-2018

Faculty Chair: 2013-2016

Chair, Psychology Department: 2004-2005; Fall 2010; 2013-2016

Faculty coach or co-coach, Psychology Bowl team: 1998-2016

Department representative, Academic Council: 2004-2005; Fall 2010; 2013-2016

Faculty representative, Scott County High School & Admissions Committee: 2014-2015

Chair, Publications Committee: 2011-2013; Division representative: 2006-2007

Faculty representative, VP of Student Life search committee: 2013

Faculty representative, Strategic Enrollment Initiatives task force: Fall 2013

Division representative or alternate, Faculty Development Committee: 2008-2010, 2012-2013 (elected)

Faculty adviser, WOVEN group to support first-year students: 2012-2013

Faculty adviser, Order of Omega: 1998-2009, 2011

Faculty representative, Quality Enhancement Plan Committee: 2010

Chair, Admissions, Scholarship, and Financial Aid Committee: Spring 2009; Division representative: Spring 2008-Fall 2008

Committee A member, American Association of University Professors: 2002-2007; Vice President: 2008-2009

Division representative, General Education Revision Committee – Designated Issue Subcommittee, Oral Proficiency: 2008-2009

Division representative, General Education Revision Committee – Distribution Requirements: 2007-2008

Division representative, Institutional Review Board: 2006-2007

Faculty representative, Publications Board: 2006-2007

President, Georgetown Baptist Preschool Board: 2006-2007

Chair, Institutional Effectiveness Committee: 2005-2006 (elected)

Chair, Strategic Initiatives Team: 2005-2006 (appointed)

Member, Georgetown Baptist Preschool Board: 2004-2006

Faculty representative, Faculty Grievance Committee: 2005 (elected)

Alternate member, Board of Trustees Student Life Committee: 2004-2005 (elected)

Division representative, Core Curriculum Revision Committee: 2004 (appointed)

Faculty representative, Student Recognition Task Force: 2004 (appointed)

Invited Lectures and Presentations, off-campus (since 2004)
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McKenzie, K. S. (2024, October). *Women don't ask: Explanations why and strategies for change*. American Council on Education Women's Network, Kentucky.

McKenzie, K. S. (2024, May). *Forensic psychology*. Law & Justice Village, Elkhorn Crossing School, Georgetown.

McKenzie, K. S. (2023, April). *The psychology of mass murderers, spree killers, and serial killers*. Law & Justice Village, Elkhorn Crossing School, Georgetown.

McKenzie, K. S. (2021, October). *Unhealthy relationships and media depictions*. Programming for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, sponsored by Elizabeth's Village, Georgetown.

McKenzie, K. S. (2019, November). *Strong and confident*. Central Kentucky Girl Scouts of America, International Girls Day.

McKenzie, K. S. (2018, October). *Domestic violence awareness*, community panel speaker, City of Georgetown at large event.

McKenzie, K. S., & Bell, S. H. (2017, November). *The 4 C's: Challenge, confidence, completion, contribution*. Central Kentucky Girl Scouts of America.

McKenzie, K. S. (2017, May). *Forensic psychology*. Advanced Placement Psychology course, Scott County High School.

McKenzie, K. S. (2017, April). *How faculty combine their spiritual beliefs with their calling to teach*, Shine On! Ministry Festival.

McKenzie, K.S. (2016, May). Psychological aspects of *Tapestries of fortune*. City of Georgetown Women's Group.

McKenzie, K. S. (2016, May). *Potential pitfalls of eyewitness testimony*. Advanced Placement Psychology course, Scott County High School.

McKenzie, K. S. (2014, October). *Increasing student productivity, decreasing student guilt*. Transylvania University.

McKenzie, K.S. (2014, February). *The happiness project*. City of Georgetown Women's Group.

McKenzie, K.S. (2013, June). *Beyond the mind: Identity in adolescence*. Georgetown Public Library Speaker Program for Teenagers.

McKenzie, K. S. (2012, July). *Contemporary research related to personality and individual differences*. University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters.

McKenzie, K. S. (2011, October). *Experimental design considerations in dyadic research*. University of Kentucky.

McKenzie, K. S. (2011, July). *Stress: Causes, consequences, and coping*. Clark Material Handling Company, company-wide workshop.

McKenzie, K. S. (2010, August). *Individuation and deindividuation: Processes, theories, and applications*. University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters.

McKenzie, K. S. (2010, May). *Research paradigms in cognition, thinking, and creativity*. University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters.

McKenzie, K. S. (2010, April). *Like two peas in a pod, two humps on a camel, we sway together: Current research in initiation, composition, and maintenance of intimate relationships*. Transylvania University.

McKenzie, K. S. (2009, March). *Historical milestones in social psychology*. Transylvania University.

McKenzie, K. S. (2008, June). *Self-consciousness, self-presentation, and self-regulation*. University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters.

McKenzie, K. S. (2008, March). *Aggression and antisocial behavior*. University of Kentucky.

McKenzie, K. S. (2007, July). *Attitudes and adjustment styles: Theory and Research*. University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters.

McKenzie, K. S. (2007, April). *Social psychology*. Transylvania University.

McKenzie, K. S. (2007, March). *Current research studies relevant to interpersonal dynamics*. University of Kentucky, Social Sciences Honors Program.

McKenzie, K. S. (2005, October). *The ties that bind: Long-term maintenance of intimacy*. Transylvania University.

McKenzie, K. S. (2005, July). *Applied social psychology: Interpersonal processes*. University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters.

McKenzie, K. S. (2005, February). *Research in consumer psychology*. University of Cincinnati-Raymond Walters.

McKenzie, K. S. (2005, April). *Marriage enrichment*. Faith Baptist Church, Georgetown, Kentucky.

McKenzie, K. S. (2004, May). *Psychological aspects of effective presentations*. Stanford University, Palo Alto, California.

McKenzie, K. S. (2004, April). *Psychological aspects of violent crime investigation*. University of Louisville, Criminal evidence and procedures course.

McKenzie, K. S. (2004, March). *How to thrive in high school*. Fostering Unique and Energetic Leaders, Kentucky high school student program.

McKenzie, K. S. (2004, March). *Harm and conflict within families*. Bluegrass regional mental health/Mental retardation, Lexington, Kentucky.

Research Presentations and Publications

Please note: Due to current financial constraints of Georgetown College, I have not presented or travelled to conferences the past several years. I try to make up for this lack of opportunity by attending 15-20 zoom workshops, trainings, and seminars each year.

McKenzie, K. S. (2025). Chapter 02: Academics at Georgetown College: 1980-2005. In Roger Ward's (Ed.), *Finding our way: An institutional saga tracing the history of Georgetown College from 1985-2025*. Lilly Foundation. (In final revisions stage.) I also served on the editing board.

McKenzie, K. S., & Hunt, L. (2021, November). *The Innovative Teaching Symposium: Teachers teaching teachers*. Presentation given at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Sprague, M., Wilson, K. F., & McKenzie, K. S. (2019). Evaluating the quality of peer and self evaluations as measures of student contributions to group projects. *Higher Education Research & Development*, 38(5), 1061-1074. DOI: [10.1080/07294360.2019.1615417](https://doi.org/10.1080/07294360.2019.1615417)

McKenzie, K. S., & Eddy, L. (2019). Building students' critical thinking skills in one minute: Effort and engagement questions. In H. Blythe & C. Sweet (Eds.), *It works for me, with critical thinking*. New Forums Press.

McKenzie, K. S., & Eddy, L. (2019, May). *A businessman, a cash register, and the police: An in-class demonstration that shows students benefits of collaborative learning*. Poster presented at the Pedagogicon Teaching and Learning annual conference, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky.

McKenzie, K. S., & Eddy, L. (2018, November). *Use 1-minute Effort and Engagement questions to increase student learning*. Poster presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

McKenzie, K. S. (2018). Pairing high school and college students so they can learn from each other. In H. Blythe & C. Sweet (Eds.), *It works for me, with high impact practices*. New Forums Press.

McKenzie, K. S., & Sprague, M., & Sprague, L. (2017, November). *Understanding and alleviating stress levels among college students in the U.S. and Germany*. Poster presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

McKenzie, K. S. (2017). Faculty book group on the scholarship of teaching and learning. In H. Blythe & C. Sweet (Eds.), *It works for me, with the scholarship of teaching and learning*. New Forums Press.

McKenzie, K. S. (2017, March). *The burglar demonstration: An activity that shows students how working in groups can enhance problem-solving*. Poster presented at the 3T: Teaching, Techniques & Technology Conference, University of Cincinnati-Clermont, Batavia, Ohio.

McKenzie, K. S., & Sprague, M. (2016, November). *Increasing student engagement and critical thinking by decreasing students' hindsight bias*. Poster presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Received Best Poster Runner Up award.

McKenzie, K. S. (2016). Placing students' attitudes and behaviors in context to counter the false consensus effect. In H. Blythe & C. Sweet (Eds.), *It works for me, metacognitively*. New Forums Press.

McKenzie, K. S., & Sprague, M. (2016). Helping students understand what they are learning by addressing their hindsight bias. In H. Blythe & C. Sweet (Eds.), *It works for me, metacognitively*. New Forums Press.

McKenzie, K. S., & Sprague, M. (2015, November). *Assessing students' group projects: The usefulness of self- and peer-evaluations*. Paper presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Sprague, M., & McKenzie, K. S. (2015, April). *Using self and peer evaluations to help assess student performance*. Paper presented at the annual Western Political Science Association conference, Las Vegas, Nevada.

McKenzie, K. S., & Lightner, R. (2014, May). *Perfectionism, procrastination, and hostility: Using emotional intelligence variables to teach psychology content and improve students' lives*. Poster presented at the annual Midwestern Psychological Association conference, Chicago, Illinois.

McKenzie, K. S. (2013, May). *Building critical thinking skills through psycho-legal analysis*. Paper presented at the annual Midwestern Psychological Association conference, Chicago, Illinois.

McKenzie, K. S. (2012). Creative use of film. In H. Blythe & C. Sweet (Eds.), *It works for me creatively*. New Forums Press.

McKenzie, K. S. (2011, November). *Increasing critical thinking skills: Students as Hollywood consultants*. Paper presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

McKenzie, K. S. (2010, November). *Students as judge and jury: Developing critical thinking skills*. Paper presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Lightner, R. L., & McKenzie, K. S. (2009, November). *Envisioning working parenthood: Research results and classroom applications*. Paper presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

McKenzie, K. S., & Lightner, R. L. (2008, November). *Achieving successful work and family balance: Research results and activities for the classroom*. Paper presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

McKenzie, K. S., & Hoyle, R. H. (2008). The Self-Absorption Scale: Reliability and validity in non-clinical samples, *Personality and Individual Differences*, 45(8), 726-731.

McKenzie, K. S. (2007, November). *What's your style?: An ice-breaker that encourages course-relevant discussion*. Paper presented at the Lilly International Teaching annual conference, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Lookadoo, R., McKenzie, K. S., Price, J. L., & Bell, S. H. (2006, October). *The use of perspective-taking to enhance students' cultural competence*. Workshop presented at the annual conference of the Best Practices in Teaching, Atlanta, Georgia.

Bell, S., Lookadoo, R., Price, J., & McKenzie, K. S. (2006, March). *Using case illustrations to facilitate critical thinking across the psychology curriculum*. Faculty Forum Presentation, Georgetown College.

McKenzie, K. S. (2005, October). *Critical thinking in psychology content courses: Analysis of film*. Poster session presented at the annual conference of the Best Practices in Teaching, Atlanta, Georgia.

McKenzie, K. S. (2004, October). *Success in the business world: The importance of creativity*. Workshop presented at the Ohio Business Teachers Association annual conference, Cincinnati-Dayton.

McKenzie, K. S. (2004, October). *Unique class questionnaires: Weaving research methods into every psychology course*. Poster session presented at the annual conference of the Best Practices in Teaching Research Methods & Statistics in Psychology, Atlanta, Georgia.

Assessment co-chair (with Dr. Rick Hoyle, Duke University), Lilly grant. Together, we created survey instruments for five campus groups; each year, we distributed survey instruments, then input, analyzed, presented, and wrote up the gathered data. 2001-2010.