

Leah N. McMahon

Department of Psychology
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EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology** 2021-2027
The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
Advisor: Dr. Cindy Meston
- Bachelor of Science and Arts in Human Development and Family Sciences** 2016-2020
The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
Special Departmental Honors
Concentration in Psychology

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Meston, C., Freihart, B., McMahon, L. (Chapter under review). Female orgasmic disorder. *Encyclopedia of Sexuality and Gender*.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Kilimnik, C. D., **McMahon, L. N.**, & Meston, C. M. (2020, March). A randomized, active placebo-controlled trial of an online writing intervention for the sexual well-being of women with childhood sexual abuse histories. Podium presentation to the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH), Orlando, FL.
2. Kilimnik, C. D., **McMahon, L. N.**, & Meston, C. M. (2020, October). Online expressive writing intervention and sexual schema change in women with childhood sexual abuse histories. Presentation to the annual meeting of the Canadian Sex Research Forum (CSRF), Virtual Conference.
3. **McMahon, L.N.**, & Lavoie, H.A. (2021, February). [Review of the article *Multidimensional Elements of Impulsivity as Shared and Unique Risk Factors for Food Addiction and Alcohol Misuse*, by M. Minhasa, C.M. Murphy, I.M. Balodis, S.F. Acuff, J. Buscemi, J.G. Murphy, & J. MacKillop]. Paper presented at the Department of Health Education and Behavior's Brown Bag Seminar, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. [First authors contributed equally].
4. **McMahon, L.N.**, Hone, L. S. E., Freihart, B.K., Kilimnik, C.D., & Meston, C. M. (2021, August). Identifying motivational and personality predictors of women's sociosexual desire. Poster presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology*, Virtual Conference.
5. **McMahon, L.N.**, Hone, L. S. E., Freihart, B.K., Kilimnik, C.D., & Meston, C. M. (2021, November). Exploratory analyses of personality and motivational predictors of women's sociosexual desire. Poster presented at the *Annual Conference of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality*, Virtual Conference.

6. **McMahon, L.N.,** Freihart, B.K., & Meston, C.M. (2022, March). The role of anxiety and depression in heart rate variability during sexual activity. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH), Dallas, TX.
7. **McMahon, L.N.,** Freihart, B.K., & Meston, C.M. (2022, June). The role of anxiety and depression in heart rate variability during sexual activity. Poster to be presented at the *European Congress of Psychiatry*, Budapest, Hungary.

AWARDS & ACADEMIC HONORS

Research Assistant Excellence Award May 2020
The Sexual Psychophysiology Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin

University Honors Fall 2016-Spring 2020
The University of Texas at Austin

Excellence in French May 2019
Department of French and Italian, The University of Texas at Austin

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

EDGE Laboratory February 2021-July 2021
Department of Health Education and Behavior, The University of Florida

Title: Game Time Decision/Cognitive Task App Study

Aim: To test an app providing in-the-moment feedback on impaired inhibitory control as an adjunct to an existing, M.I.-based, brief web-based intervention to reduce drinking among young adults.

Role: Research Assistant; Supervisor: Robert Leeman, Ph.D.

RESIST Laboratories October 2020-July 2021
Department of Health Education and Behavior, The University of Florida

Title: The Sexual Communication and Consent Program

Aim: To test the acceptability and feasibility of a sexual assault prevention curriculum aiming to reduce the risk of sexual assault victimization, re-victimization, and perpetration among cadets at the US Air Force Academy.

Role: Research Assistant, Peer Mentor; Supervisor: Nichole Scaglione, Ph.D.

Title: Improving Alcohol Administration Study Generalizability

Aim: To develop a method and process for creating sample weights, enabling researchers to generate population estimates of alcohol effects from alcohol administration study samples.

Role: Research Assistant, Peer Mentor; Supervisor: Liana Hone, Ph.D.

The Weight Management Laboratory October 2020-July 2021
Department of Health Education and Behavior, The University of Florida

Title: Engaging Primary Care Patients in Online Weight Management Tools: A Pilot Study

Aim: To investigate the efficacy and engagement of an online behavioral weight loss intervention in primary care patients aiming to lose weight.

Role: Research Assistant; Supervisors: Megan McVay, Ph.D., & Danielle Jake-Schoffman, Ph.D.

The Sexual Psychophysiology Laboratory January 2019-May 2020
Department of Psychology, The University of Texas at Austin

Title: Randomized Clinical Trial of an Online Expressive Writing Treatment

Aim: To examine the efficacy of using an online expressive writing prompt as an intervention for women with Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA) histories, and to evaluate changes in sexual self-schemas and CSA identification.

Role: Undergraduate Research Assistant, Conference presentation Co-author; Supervisors: Chelsea Kilimnik, M.S., & Cindy Meston, Ph.D.

Title: The Attraction of Risky Behaviors

Aim: To investigate how sexual arousal affects decision-making in males versus females and assess the adaptational relevance of sexual strategies in males versus females within the context of sexual arousal.

Role: Undergraduate Research Assistant; Supervisors: Courtney Crosby, M.A., David Buss, Ph.D., & Cindy Meston, Ph.D.

Title: Hormones and Sexuality Study

Aim: To examine physiological and subjective sexual arousal in women taking low-dose androgenic and anti-androgenic oral contraceptive pills, as well as in naturally cycling women.

Role: Undergraduate Research Assistant; Supervisors: Ariel Handy, B.A., & Cindy Meston, Ph.D.

Imagination and Cognition Laboratory

May 2017-August 2017

Department of Psychology, The University of Texas at Austin

Title: Illusion of Omniscience: Awareness of Ignorance, Explicit Belief

Aim: To investigate how children's beliefs about their own knowledge impacts their judgments about the existence of novel entities.

Role: Undergraduate Research Assistant; Supervisors: Kelsey Kelley, B.A., & Jacqueline Woolley, Ph.D.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Psychology

The University of Texas at Austin

Graduate Teaching Assistantships

Introduction to Human Sexuality

Fall 2021

Behavioral Problems of Children

Spring 2022

Undergraduate Teaching Assistantships

Introduction to Human Sexuality

Spring 2020

GUEST LECTURES

Sexual Arousal and its Measurement

Fall 2021

Sex Education

The University of Florida

Professor: Liana S. E. Hone, Ph.D.

- Co-presented a 50-minute lecture on clinical and evolutionary perspectives of sexual arousal to undergraduates in a sex education course. Co-presenters discussed the various methodology for measuring both subjective and physiological sexual arousal in a laboratory setting.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Alachua County Crisis Center

September 2020-July 2021

Telephone Crisis Counselor

- Participated in a 40-hour clinical training program
- Counseled a wide range of callers on the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and the local crisis hotline using a crisis intervention model

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Psychological Association

2020-present