

Mackenzie A. Sears-Greer

Department of Psychology, The University of Texas at Austin
VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System, Mental Health Services

Contact:

Email: searsgreerpsychology@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Clinical Psychology, University of Texas at Austin

Degree anticipated in May of 2025

Lab Affiliation: The Sexual Psychophysiology Laboratory

Advisor: Dr. Cindy Meston

Dissertation Title: *Increasing Intimate Interactions as an Intervention for Improving Relational and Sexual Satisfaction in Couples*

Master of Arts, Psychology, The University of Texas at Austin

Thesis Title: *An Evaluation of the Effects of Title IX Mandatory Reporting Policies on Undergraduate Students' Likelihood of Disclosing Sexual Violence.*

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, The University of Texas at Austin

Departmental Special Honors, University High Honors

Thesis Title: *Evaluating the Role of Shared Environment in the Etiology of Depression as a Function of Similarity in Monozygotic and Dizygotic Twin Pairs*

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Sears-Greer, M. A., Freihart, B. K., & Meston, C. M. (2022). A Review of Undergraduate Student Disclosures of Sexual Violence. *Sexual Medicine Reviews*.

Freihart, B.K., **Sears, M.A.** & Meston, C.M. (2020). Interpersonal and relational predictors of sexual satisfaction. *Current Sexual Health Reports*, 12, 136–142.

In Press:

Sears-Greer, M.A., & Meston, C.M.. An Evaluation of the Effects of Title IX Mandatory Reporting Policies and Alcohol on Undergraduate Students' Likelihood of Disclosing Sexual Violence. *Violence Against Women (In Press)*

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters:

Meston, C.M., Stanton, A.M., Freihart, B.K., **Sears-Greer, M.A.** (2023). The Effects of Acute Exercise on Physiological Sexual Arousal in Women. In: Hackney, A.C. (eds) *Sex Hormones, Exercise and Women*. Springer, Cham.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

*denotes undergraduate supervisee co-author

Podium Presentations:

Sears-Greer, M.A., & Meston, C.M. (2024, February). *Title IX Mandatory Reporting Policy, Alcohol Consumption, and Undergraduate Students' Likelihood of Disclosing Sexual Violence*. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Sears, M.A., Price, S.*, Sharp, R.*, & Meston, C.M. (2021, March). *A Preliminary Analysis of the Effects of Title IX Mandatory Reporting Policies on Undergraduate Students' Likelihood of Disclosing Sexual Violence*. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Sears, M.A., Kilimnik, C.D., & Meston, C.M. (2020, March). *Evaluating the role of relationship status in the sexual well-being of women with and without histories of nonconsensual sexual experiences*. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Kilimnik, C. D., **Sears, M. A.,** & Meston, C. M. (October, 2019). *Undergraduates' understanding of sexual violence labels: The role of nonconsensual sexual experience histories*. Presented at the Canadian Sex Research Forum (CSRF) annual meeting. Victoria, British Columbia.

Sears, M. A., Kilimnik, C. D., & Meston, C. M. (2019, March). *The language of sexual violence: Undergraduates' understanding of sexual violence labels and the role of previous sexual experiences*. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Freihart, B., **Sears, M.,** & Meston, C. M. (2019, March). *Preliminary evidence for a relationship between physiological synchrony and sexual satisfaction in adult romantic relationships*. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Invited Talks and Professional Presentations:

Spring 2024 **Caring for Sexual Health and Well-Being**, Durham VA Health Care System Training (90 mins.) in providing care for Veterans' sexual health and well-being

Summer 2024 **Self-Care and Stress Management in Healthcare Professions**. VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System, Training (60 mins.) for Pharmacy Residents on stress management and self-care to prevent burnout

Fall 2022 **Life of a TA Training**, UT Austin
Orientation for incoming Psychology Department Ph.D. students

- Fall 2021 **Sexual Satisfaction, Intimacy, & Sex in Romantic Relationships**, *PRESENCE Wellness*, Directors and Clinical Staff
- Spring 2021 **Title IX Mandatory Reporting Policy Effects on Undergraduate Students' Likelihood of Disclosing Sexual Violence**, *UT Austin, Psychology Department*
- 2020, 2019 **Professional Development**, *UT Austin, Honors Thesis Program*
- Spring 2018 **Youth Problem Behavior and Interparental Conflict in the Family System**, *Austin Family Institute*

Poster Presentations:

Sears-Greer, M.A., McMahon, L.N., Meston, C.M. (2023, November). *Increasing Intimate Interactions as an Intervention for Improving Relational and Sexual Satisfaction*. Accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality.

Sears-Greer, M.A., Crosby, C.N., Freihart, B.K., McMahon, L.N., & Meston, C.M. (2023). *The Elicitors of Intimacy: A Behavioral Checklist*. Presented at the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Sears-Greer, M.A., Kilimnik, C.D., & Meston, C.M. (2023). *Assessing Women's Sexual Well-being in the Context of Relationship Status and Nonconsensual Sexual Experience History*. Presented at the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Sears, M.A., Crosby, C.N., McMahon, L., Freihart, B.K., & Meston, C.M. (2022, November). *A Multidimensional Evaluation of Intimacy*. Accepted for presentation at the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality.

Sears, M.A., McMahon, L.N., Crosby, C.N., Freihart, B.K., & Meston, C.M. (2022, July). *A Multidimensional Evaluation of Intimacy*. Accepted for presentation at the European Congress of Psychiatry (EPA).

Sears, M.A., Crosby, C.N., Freihart, B.K., McMahon, L.N., & Meston, C.M. (2022, March). *A Multidimensional Evaluation of Intimacy*. Presented at the annual meeting for the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

Sears, M.A., Price, S.*, Sharp, R.*, Meston, C.M., (2021, November). *A Preliminary Analysis of the Effects of Title IX Mandatory Reporting Policies on Undergraduate Students' Likelihood of Disclosing Sexual Violence*. Presented at the annual conference for the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality.

Sears, M.A., Malanchini, M., & Tucker-Drob, E., (2019, April). *Evaluating the Role of Shared Environment in the Etiology of Depression as a Function of Similarity in*

Monozygotic and Dizygotic Twin Pairs. Presented at the University of Texas at Austin's undergraduate research week poster session.

Sears, M.A., Malanchini, M., & Tucker-Drob, E., (2018, December). *Evaluating the Role of Shared Environment in the Etiology of Depression as a Function of Similarity in Monozygotic and Dizygotic Twin Pairs*. Presented at the poster presentation for the Psychology Departmental Honors Program.

Ahmed, S.* , Kilimnik, C. D., **Sears, M. A.**, & Meston, C. M. (March, 2020). *Undergraduates' definitions of sexual consent: The role of rape myth acceptance*. Presented at the International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH) annual meeting in Orlando, Florida.

Media Appearances and Coverage

Opinion Piece on Title IX Mandatory Reporting at UT Austin
The Daily Texan, Interview

Fall 2021

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2023- 2024	Integrated Behavioral Health Scholars Program Fellowship <i>Department of Health and Human Services GRE Grant</i>
Summer 2024	College of Liberal Arts Research Fellowship <i>College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin</i>
Fall 2023	College of Liberal Arts Graduate Student Award <i>College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin</i>
Summer 2023	AEDP Institute Seminar Scholarship <i>Accelerated Experiential Dynamic Psychotherapy Institute</i>
Summer 2020, '23	Rick and Paula Short Professional Development Award <i>The Short Fellowship</i>
Summer 2023	Grammer Fellowship for Mental Health <i>Grammer Excellence Fund for Mental Health Research</i>
Fall 2021	Psychology Research Fellowship <i>The University of Texas at Austin</i>
Spring 2021	Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award Nominee <i>The University of Texas at Austin</i>
Fall 2020	Graduate School Continuing Fellowship <i>The University of Texas at Austin</i>
Spring 2018, '19	The University of Texas at Austin College Scholar <i>The University of Texas at Austin</i>
Spring 2018	Eva Stevenson Woods Endowed Presidential Scholarship <i>The University of Texas at Austin</i>

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Central Texas VA, Outpatient Mental Health Clinic, Fall 2023-Spring 2024; Austin, TX
Supervisor: Shanna Murray, Ph.D.

PRESENCE Wellness, Fall 2021- Spring 2023; Austin, TX
Supervisor: Amber Crable, Ph.D.

Laboratory for the Study of Anxiety Disorders, Summer 2022- Present; Austin, TX
Director: Michael Telch, Ph.D.

Psychology Training Clinic, University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2020- Spring 2021
Supervisor: Catherine Panzarella, Ph.D.

Austin Family Psychiatry, Administrative Assistant, Spring 2019; Austin, Texas

The Austin Family Institute (AFI), Intern, Summer 2018; Austin, Texas

Clinical Trainings, Seminars, & Consultation Groups:

Integrated Behavioral Health Scholars Training & Seminars, Dell Medical School, Fall 2023
Department of Health Resources and Services Administrations (HRSA) Grant, Department of Health and Human Services

- Participation in UT Austin/Dell Medical School's competitive Integrated Behavioral Health Scholars (IBHS) Program. I was selected as one of eight trainees in their addiction and recovery concentration and, as part of this program, my training and education were funded for the year through a HRSA Psychology Graduate Education Grant. As an IBH scholar, I received unique training specifically designed to prepare me for working effectively in interprofessional teams in fast-paced health service centers. In this program, I was part of an interdisciplinary cohort with psychiatric nursing, psychiatry, and social work trainees. I attended seminars to develop interprofessional skills (e.g., "warm hand-offs," reading medical charts) and received specific training in administering EBPs like MI and providing culturally-responsive or trauma-informed care for substance use treatment and intervention.
 - Motivational Interviewing Workshop (14 hrs.)
 - Trust-Based Relational Intervention Training (14 hrs.)
 - Addiction and Recovery Education Seminars (4.5)
 - Alcohol Detox Simulation (collaborative with School of Nursing)

Assessment of Sexual Concerns in Dyadic Therapies, Department of Veteran Affairs
Fall 2023

- Advanced Family Topics Seminar; covering assessment of sexual concerns in dyadic therapies with the objective of increasing clinician comfort with discussing and addressing dyadic sexual concerns.

Couples' Therapy Training Group, PRESENCE Wellness

Fall 2021- Fall 2023

Instructor: John Howard, LMFT

- Bi-weekly training series focusing on experiential therapeutic methods for couples therapy

Imagery Beyond Portrayals: Right Brain Communication, Play, & the Neurobiology of Emergent Imagery, AEDP Institute

Summer 2023

Instructor: Mary Androff, MD

- Discussing the neurobiology of imagery, learn about neuroscience of affect regulation, communication, and healing; discuss imagery as method for treatment

Management of Sexual Health,

Summer 2023

ISSWSH and National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health (NPWH)

- Sessions included: Neurobiology of Trauma and Sexual Dysfunction, Female Sexual Arousal Disorder and Female Orgasmic Disorder, Case-Based Management of Sexual Health, and Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder

Peer-to-Peer Psychodynamic & Psychoanalytic Discussion and Consultation Group

Summer 2023- Present; UT Austin

Clinical Psychology Doctoral Students

- Student led bi-weekly meeting to discuss the history, theory, and administration of Psychodynamic and Psychoanalytic treatments to supplement education received from the department and practicum sites.

Conceptualizing Complex Case Formulation, Deep Eddy Psychotherapy

Fall 2022; Austin, TX

Instructor: McKenna Hereford, PhD

- 1 hour training in complex case conceptualization

Minding the Heart, Deep Eddy Psychotherapy

Spring 2022- Summer 2022; Austin, TX

Instructor: Tori Olds, PhD

- Weekly training series focusing on experiential therapies including IFS, AEDP, and Coherence Therapy

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistantships:

Department of Psychology

The University of Texas at Austin

2019, Fall Emotion

2020, Spring Emotion

2020, Summer	Abnormal Psychology
2020-2021	Introduction to Human Sexuality
2021- Spring 2022	Introduction to Human Sexuality, Lead Teaching Assistant
2022 Summer	SURE Program Graduate Coordinator
2022- 2023	Honors Research I & II

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

SURE Program Coordinator, University of Texas at Austin

Spring 2022- Fall 2023

- Mentor and supervise 5-7 students from underrepresented racial or ethnic backgrounds interested in pursuing careers in psychological research
- Teach seminars twice a week on: professional development, research methods, scientific writing, and creating professional presentations
- Plan and execute end of summer Poster Presentation session for the students to display their projects

The Sexual Psychophysiology Laboratory, University of Texas at Austin

Fall 2019- Present

- Direct supervisor to ~15 undergraduate research assistants (RAs) in conducting research
- Train RAs to use sophisticated research methods, namely assessments using vaginal photoplethysmograph and heart rate variability data
- Responsible for daily operation of the Sexual Psychophysiology Laboratory, leading weekly lab meetings, and interviewing and hiring RAs
- Responsible for maintaining compliance with IRB standards, updating the laboratory procedure and instruction manuals, and lab compliance with safety standards

The Diverse Psychology Mentorship Program, University of Texas at Austin,

Fall 2019- Fall 2021

- Mentor undergraduate psychology students from historically underrepresented and/or minoritized groups by assisting with students' graduate school applications and interviews as needed

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

The Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy

Fall 2021

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

Violence Against Women

Fall 2022,
Spring 2024

Membership Outreach Committee, International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health (ISSWSH), Member

Spring 2023- 2024

- Membership Committee focuses on member experience, new member outreach, cultivating involvement of trainees, students, or young professionals

Membership

2023- Present	International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health
2023- Present	Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality
2023- Present	International Society for Sexual Medicine
2023- Present	Austin Psychoanalytic
2021-Present	Capital Area Psychological Association
2019- Present	Phi Beta Kappa