

# CURRICULUM VITAE

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Dept. of Psychological Science  
University of North Georgia  
3820 Mundy Mill Rd  
Oakwood, GA 30566

## EDUCATION

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<b>Ph.D.</b>	<b>Purdue University</b> , West Lafayette, IN Counseling Psychology   APA Accredited	2017
<b>M.S.Ed.</b>	<b>Purdue University</b> , West Lafayette, IN Educational Studies, Counseling Psychology	2013
<b>B.A.</b>	<b>Brigham Young University</b> , Provo, UT Philosophy   Psychology (minor) <i>Cum Laude, Academic Honors</i>	2010

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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<b>Assistant Professor—University of North Georgia</b> Department of Psychological Science, Gainesville, GA	2022-present
<b>Adjunct Assistant Professor—University of Missouri</b> Department of Educational School & Counseling Psychology, Colombia, MO	2020-2022
<b>Staff Psychologist—University of North Carolina Charlotte</b> Counseling & Psychological Services, Charlotte, NC	2018-2022
<b>Postdoctoral Psychology Fellow, Adjunct Associate Professor</b> <b>University of Delaware</b> Center for Counseling & Student Development (APA-accredited) Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, Newark, DE	2017-2018

## LICENSURE

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Licensed Psychologist, #PSY4719	Georgia	2023-present
APIT, #7887	PSYPACT, ASPPB	2020-2023
Licensed Psychologist, #5496	North Carolina	2019-2022

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Sept 2023

## SELECTED AWARDS & HONORS

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Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) Mentor Award, Nominee	2025
SEPA Early Career Research Award, Finalist	2024
Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship	2016-2017
Graduate Student Travel Award (3 awards)	2012-2015
Bruce Shertzer Graduate Scholarship in Counseling Psychology	2014
APA (Div 17) Society of Counseling Psychology Video Award	2014
Short film: <i>Perspectives in Counseling Psychology</i>	
American Psychology Association Student Travel Award	2014
Sponsored Attendee of the 2014 Counseling Psychology Conference	2014

## GRANTS

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- Kimari, J.\*, **Elison, Z. M.** (2023). Testing weight-based stereotype threat on health behaviors in women. Funded by UNG's Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities, \$916.
- Miller A.\*, & **Elison, Z. M.** (2023). Emotional intelligence, belonging, and substance use in college students. Funded by UNG's McNair Scholars Program, \$100.
- Bolton, J.\*, & **Elison, Z. M.** (2023). Examining a model of student veteran substance use: Belonging, academic self-efficacy, stress. Funded by UNG's McNair Scholars Program, \$250.
- Nutt, C.\*, **Elison, Z. M.** (2023). The Study of the relationship between emotional intelligence, sexual satisfaction, and risky sexual behaviors. Funded by UNG's Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities, \$497.
- Elison, Z. M.** (2016). Testing a model of psychological well-being in overweight adults. Funded by Purdue University Graduate Student Government, \$250.
- Elison, Z. M.** (2014). Development and validation of a scale measuring university belonging. Funded by Purdue University Graduate Student Government, \$644.
- Slaten, C. D. & **Elison, Z. M.** (2013). The impact of university belonging on student wellness. Funded by the Purdue Research Foundation—Research Grant, \$16,750.
- Pedersen, T. R., Thompson, K. C., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2010). *The effect of experience on therapist effectiveness*. Funded by the Division of Student Life, Brigham Young University, \$540.
- Pedersen, T. R., Brooks, M., **Elison, Z. M.**, Griner, D., & Call, J. (2009). *Mindfulness practice and ADHD*. Funded by the Division of Student Life, Brigham Young University, \$1,100.

## SCHOLARSHIP

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### Peer-Reviewed Publications

11. Sebastian, B. S., Slaten, C. D., Williams, M. S., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2021). College student exercise motivation: The role of belongingness and college self-efficacy. *International Journal of Contemporary Education*, 4(2). doi:10.11114/ijce.v4i2.5221
10. Shah, C., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Konkini, K. (2020). Inclusive circles of conversation: Implementing an innovative diversity program amongst engineering faculty & staff. *Journal of Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering*, 26(3). doi:10.1615/JWomenMinorScienEng.2020029124
9. Slaten, C. D., Rose, C. A., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Chiu, M (2019). Understanding the connection between youths belonging, resilience, and self-regulatory learning. *Educational & Child Psychology*, 36(2), 91-105.
8. Slaten, C. D., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Deemer, E. (2017). The development and validation of the university belonging questionnaire. *Journal of Experimental Education*. doi: 10.1080/00220973.2017.1339009
7. Slaten, C. D., **Elison, Z. M.**, Lee, J. Y., Yough, M., & Scalise, D. (2016). Belonging on Campus A Qualitative Inquiry of Asian International Students. *The Counseling Psychologist*, 44(3), 383-410.
6. Slaten, C. D., Rivera, R. C., Shemwell, D., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2016). Fulfilling their dreams: Marginalized urban youths' perspectives on a culturally sensitive social and emotional learning program. *Journal of Education for Students Placed At Risk*, 21(2), 129-142, doi:10.1080/10824669.2015.1134331
5. Slaten, C. D., Zalzal, A., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Watcher-Morris, C. (2016). Person-centered educational practices in an urban alternative high school: The Black male perspective. *Person Centered & Experiential Psychotherapies*, 15(1), 19-36. doi:10.1080/14779757.2016.1139501
4. Slaten, C. D., **Elison, Z. M.**, Hughes, H., Yough, M. S., & Shemwell, D (2015). Hearing the voices of youth at risk for academic failure: What professional school counselors need to know. *Journal of Humanistic Counseling*, 54(3), 203-220. doi: 10.1002/johc.12012
3. Slaten, C. D., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2015). Interpersonal process group counseling for educationally marginalized youth: The MAGNIFY Program. *Journal of School Counseling*, 13(17). Retrieved from <http://www.jsc.montana.edu/articles/v13n17.pdf>
2. **Elison, Z. M.**, & Çiftçi, A. (2015). Digesting antifat attitudes: Weight Locus of Control and social dominance orientation. *Translational Issues in Psychological Science*, 1(3), 262-270. doi:10.1037/tps0000029

1. Slaten, C. D., Yough, M. S., Shemwell, D., Scalise, D. A., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Hughes, H. (2014). "Eat. Sleep. Breathe. Study.": Understanding what it means to belong at a university from the student perspective. *Excellence in Higher Education*, 5, 1-5. doi:10.5195/ehe.2014.117

### Manuscripts Under Review

\*Indicates undergraduate collaborator

Gautam, R. S., O'Sullivan, J., Daling, K., **Elison, Z. M.**, Mitchem, J, & Griffin, J.\* (under review). Social conditions and social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. *Sociology of Health and Illness*.

### Manuscripts In Preparation

\*Indicates undergraduate collaborator

**Elison, Z. M.** (in preparation). The effects of weight discrimination, internalized weight stigma, and coping on psychological well-being, 2<sup>nd</sup> draft completed.

Ranjha, L.\*, **Elison, Z. M.**, Nutt, C., & Ringer, C. (in preparation). Under the covers: Emotional intelligence, sexual satisfaction, and sexual behaviors, 1<sup>st</sup> draft.

Slaten, C.D., Meng, A., Lee, J., **Elison, Z.**, & Wang, Z. (in preparation). The impact of campus racial climate, faculty relationships, and belonging on college student psychosocial and academic outcomes, 2<sup>nd</sup> draft completed.

**Elison, Z. M.**, Allan, B. A., & Portillo, B.\* (in preparation). Comparing subjective and objective predictors of classism and social dominance orientation, 1st draft.

### Referred Conference Presentations

\*Indicates undergraduate collaborator

26. Ranjha, L.\*, **Elison, Z. M.**, Nutt, C., & Ringer, C. (2025, April 9-12). *Sexually Satisfied: The role of emotional intelligence & sexual motivation* [Poster presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, United States.

25. Guereca, R.\*, Lopez, C.\*, Reyes, A.,\* & **Elison, Z. M.** (2025, April 9-12). *Testing the effectiveness of the social-emotional belongingness intervention* [Poster presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, United States.

24. Alexis, M.\*, & **Elison, Z. M.** (2025, April 9-12). *Exploring how university belonging mediates emotional intelligence and substance use* [Poster presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, United States.

23. Kimari, J.\*, **Elison, Z. M.**, & Miller, J. (2025, April 9-12). *Weight of expectations: Weight-based stereotype threat & health behaviors* [Poster presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, United States.

22. Alexis, M.\*, & **Elison, Z. M.** (2024, June 27-30). *Emotional intelligence, belonging, and substance use* [Poster presentation]. SAEOPP McNair / SSS Scholars Research Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.
21. Bolton, J.\*, & **Elison, Z. M.** (2024, June 27-30). *From boots to books: The role of academic self-efficacy & university belonging in student veterans' well-being* [Poster presentation]. SAEOPP McNair / SSS Scholars Research Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.
20. **Elison, Z. M.**, & Ranjha, L.\* (2024, March 13-16). *Belonging on campus: Voices of Muslim student wearing hijab* [Paper presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, United States.
19. Nutt, C.\*, Ranjha, L.\*, & **Elison, Z. M.** (2024, March 13-16). *Under the covers: Emotional intelligence, sexual satisfaction, and sexual behaviors* [Poster presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, United States.
18. **Elison, Z. M.**, Pendse, A., & Lei, Y. (2019, January). *Client empowerment in the face of discrimination: A clinical perspective* [Roundtable presentation]. 2017 National Multicultural Conference and Summit, Denver, CO, United States.
17. **Elison, Z. M.** & Allan, B. A. (2017, January). *Workplace Weight Discrimination and Access to Decent Work* [Poster presentation]. 2017 National Multicultural Conference and Summit, Portland, OR, United States.
16. **Elison, Z. M.** & Çiftçi, A. (2017, January). *Clarifying the Relationship Between BMI and Psychological Well-Being: Perceived Weight Discrimination and Internalized Weight Stigma* [Poster presentation]. 2017 National Multicultural Conference and Summit, Portland, OR, United States.
15. **Elison, Z. M.** & Çiftçi, A. (2016, August). *Testing a model of psychological well-being in overweight adults*. [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association 2016 Convention, Denver, CO, United States.
14. Slaten, C. D., Rose, C. A. **Elison, Z. M.**, & Chiu, M., & (2016, April). *Understanding the connection between belonging, resilience, and self-regulatory learning among urban youth: An SEM model* [Poster presentation]. Education Research Association 2016 Convention, Washington D.C., United States.
13. Çiftçi, A., **Elison, Z. M.**, Azmat A., Khalid, S., Sinclair, I., Thornhill, C., & Wright, B. (2016, April). *The role of integrated health care and cultural competency in reducing health disparities* [Report presentation]. Congressional Research Service, Washington D.C., United States.
12. Slaten, C. D., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Yough, M. (2015, April). *Understanding university*

- belongingness: Domestic and international student perspectives* [Paper presentation]. American Education Research Association convention, Chicago, IL, United States.
11. **Elison, Z. M.** & Slaten, C. D. (2014, August). *Developing a scale to measure university belonging* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association 2014 Convention, Washington D.C., United States.
  10. Slaten, C. D., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Whipple, M. (2014, August). *The impact of yoga group participation on college student's perceived level of belonging* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association 2014 Convention, Washington D.C. , United States.
  9. **Elison, Z. M.** & Cross-Cultural Research Team (2014, March). *Unification through diversity: Embracing complexities in training* [Roundtable]. 2014 Counseling Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.
  8. **Elison, Z. M.** & Çiftçi, A. (2014, March). *Digesting antifat attitudes: Locus of control and social dominance orientation* [Poster presentation]. 2014 Counseling Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.
  7. Pedersen, T. R., Cattani, K., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2013, August). *Tracking outcomes as therapists mature from trainee to professional* [Paper presentation]. American Psychological Association 2013 Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States.
  6. **Elison, Z. M.** & Slaten, C. D. (2013, August). *Group psychotherapy with marginalized youth: Counseling psychology in K-12 schools* [Poster presentation]. American Psychological Association 2013 Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States.
  5. Slaten, C. D., Yough, M., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2013, April). *"Eat. Sleep. Breathe. Study." Understanding what it means to belong to a university from the student perspective.* Poster presentation]. American Education Research Association 2013 Convention, San Francisco, CA, United States.
  4. Hughes, H., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Slaten, C. D. (2013, March). *From the students' perspective: Insights and advocacy for school counselors in alternative education* [Poster presentation]. 2013 American Counseling Association Conference and Expo, Cincinnati, OH, United States.
  3. Çiftçi, A., Shawahin, L., Marks, L. R., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2013, January). *Campus experience for Muslim women wearing hijab* [Roundtable]. 2013 National Multicultural Conference and Summit, Houston, TX, United States.
  2. Brooks, M., Pedersen, T. R., **Elison, Z. M.**, & Griner, D. (2012, July). *Eastern practice at western universities: Can mindfulness training treat ADHD?* [Paper presentation]. 2012 Association on Higher Education & Disability Conference, New Orleans, LA, United States.

1. Pedersen, T. R., Thompson, K. C., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2011, July). *The effect of experience on therapist effectiveness* [Paper presentation]. International Meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research, Bern, Switzerland.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *Undergraduate Courses*

#### **University of North Georgia** 2022-present

- Introduction of Psychology
- Psychopathology / Abnormal Psychology
- Psychopathology Lab / Abnormal Psychology Lab
- Personality & Individual Differences
- Honors Personality & Individual Differences
- Counseling and Clinical Theories & Interventions
- Psychological Reading and Research (independent study)

#### **The University of Delaware** 2017-2018

- Research Methods in Psychology

#### **Purdue University** 2011-2013

- Fundamentals of Speech Communication

### *Master's-Level Courses*

#### **University of Missouri** 2020-2022

- Theories and Techniques of Counseling

## SELECT UNIVERSITY & DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS

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Hale, R.G., & **Elison, Z. M.** (2024, November). *Grad School: What Is It & How Do I Get There?* Presentation given to UNG's Psi Chi Honors Society & Student Organization in Psychology, Oakwood, GA.

**Elison, Z. M.** (2024, September). *Transgender identity & gender identity.* Guest lecture for PSYC 3520 – Human Sexuality, Oakwood, GA.

**Elison, Z. M., & Gautam, R.** (2023, August). *Classroom practices that promote student belonging.* Presentation given at UNG's 2023 LEADS Day, Oakwood, GA.

**Elison, Z. M. & Burton, A.** (2023, February). *Updates to the DSM-5TR* [Presentation]. Department of Psychological Science Brown Bag Series, Oakwood, GA, USA.

**Elison, Z. M.** (2023, September). *A day in the life of a clinical psychologist.* Presentation and clinical demonstration given to UNG's Psi Chi Honors Society & Student Organization in Psychology, Oakwood, GA.

**Elison, Z. M.,** Rhodes, L. R., & Cordery, S. (2022, November). *Career conversations with clinicians*. Panel discussion given to member of UNG Counselors, Clinicians, & Co, Dahlonga, GA.

Elison, Z. M. (2022, October). *Jobs in clinical & counseling psychology*. Presentation given to members of UNG Psi Chi & Psychology Club, Oakwood, GA.

## **PRE-DOCTORAL CLINICAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Pre-Doctoral Psychology Intern—University of Delaware** 2016-2017  
Center for Counseling & Student Development (APA-accredited), Newark, DE

**Advanced Practicum Counselor—Wabash Valley Alliance** 2014-2015  
Community Mental Health Outpatient Services, Lafayette, IN

**Advanced Practicum Counselor —Butler University** 2013-2014  
Counseling and Consultation Services (APA-accredited), Indianapolis, IN

**Practicum Counselor—Purdue University** 2012-2013  
Purdue Counseling & Guidance Center, West Lafayette, IN

**Co-Facilitator—By Remembering I Develop and Grow (BRIDGE)** 2012-2012  
Adolescent Group, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

**Adolescent Specialist—Adolescent Residential Treatment Center** 2010-2011  
Discovery Ranch Adolescent Residential Treatment Center, Mapleton, UT

**Outreach Specialist—Brigham Young University** 2008-2010  
Psychological & Counseling Services, Provo, UT

### *Clinical Supervision Experience*

**Clinic Director—Purdue University** 2015-2016  
Purdue Counseling & Guidance Center, West Lafayette, IN

**Graduate Supervisor—MAGNIFY Program** 2013-2015  
Purdue University & Lafayette School Corporation, West Lafayette, IN

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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**Committee Member—APA Division 29 Early Career Psychologist** 2023-present

**Reviewer—National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)** 2022-2025

**Ad Hoc Reviewer—Journal of Rural Mental Health** 2024

**Reviewer—UNG Undergraduate Research Conference** 2023, 2024

**Ad Hoc Reviewer—Interdisciplinary Journal of Undergraduate Research** 2023-2024

**Student Affiliate—American Psychological Association** 2011-2018

- Division 17, Society of Counseling Psychology
- Division 15, Society of Educational Psychology



<b>Student Affiliate</b> —The Obesity Society	2016-2018
<b>Reviewer</b> — Awards Selection Committee and Proposal Reviewer (AERA)	2016-2017
<b>Reviewer</b> — Great Lakes Regional Counseling Psychology Conference	2014-2016

**SELECTED TRAININGS/CERTIFICATIONS**

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<b>Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing</b> —Basic Training EMDR Institute, Austin, TX	2022
<b>Quality Matters Online Teaching Certification</b> University of Missouri, Columbia, MO	2021
<b>Telepsychology Best Practice 101</b> —American Psychological Association	2020