

# ERIC N. SMITH

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## CURRENT POSITION

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**Research Associate, University of Texas at Austin** April 2023 – present  
Texas Behavioral Science and Policy Institute & Office of STEM Education Excellence

## EDUCATION

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**Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Texas at Austin** July 2020 – April 2023  
Texas Behavioral Science and Policy Institute  
Primary Investigator: David Yeager

**Ph.D. in Psychology, Stanford University** June 2020  
Primary Advisor: Greg Walton  
Dissertation Committee: Greg Walton, Carol Dweck, Alia Crum, & Claude Steele

**B.A. in Psychology & Biology, Northwestern University** June 2012  
Magna Cum Laude; Departmental Honors in Psychology  
Thesis Advisor: William Revelle

## PUBLICATIONS

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Bernuy Z. A., Ye R., Sibia, N., Nalluri R., Williams J. J., Petersen A., **Smith, E.N.**, Simion B., & Liut M. (2024; in press). Student interaction with instructor emails in introductory and upper-year computing courses. In *SIGCSE 2024: Proceedings of the 55th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education*.

Crum, A., Santoro, E., Handley-Minor, I., **Smith, E.N.**, Evans, K., Moraveji, N., Achor, S., & Salovey, P. (2023). Evaluation of the “rethink stress” mindset intervention: A metacognitive approach to changing mindsets. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. Advance online publication.

Walton, G.M., et al. [37 authors including **Smith, E.N.**] (2023). Where and with whom does a brief social-belonging intervention promote progress in college? *Science*, *380*, 499-505.

**Smith, E.N.**, Yeager, D.S., Dweck, C.S., & Walton, G.M. (2022). An organizing framework for teaching practices that can “expand” the self and address social identity concerns. *Educational Psychology Review* *34*, 2197–2219.

**Smith, E.N.\***, Rozek, C.S.\*, Manke, K.J., Dweck, C.S., & Walton, G.M. (2021). Teacher- versus researcher-provided affirmation effects on students’ task engagement and positive perceptions of teachers. *Journal of Social Issues*, *77*(3), 751-768. \*Co-authored

Crum, A., Handley-Minor, I., & **Smith, E.N.** (2020). Stress mindset interventions. In G. M. Walton & A. Crum (Eds.), *Handbook of wise interventions: How social-psychological insights can help solve problems*, Guilford Press: New York.

**Smith, E.N.**, Santoro, E., Moraveji, N., Susi, M., & Crum, A. (2020). Integrating wearables in stress management interventions: Promising evidence from a randomized trial. *International Journal of Stress Management*, *27*(2), 172-182.

**Smith, E.N.**, Young, M.D., & Crum, A. (2020). Stress, mindsets, and success in Navy SEALs special warfare training. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *10*(2962).

**Smith, E.N.**, Romero, C., Donovan, B., Paunesku, D., Herter, R., Cohen, G., Dweck, C., & Gross, J. (2018). Emotion theories and adolescent well-being: Results of an online intervention. *Emotion, 18*(6), 781-788.

Hawkins, R.X.D.\*, **Smith, E.N.\***, ... & Frank, M.C. (2018). Improving the replicability of psychological science through pedagogy. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science, 1*(1), 7-18. \*Co-authored

Paunesku, D., Walton, G.M., Romero, C., **Smith, E.N.**, Yeager, D., & Dweck, C. (2015). Mindset interventions are a scalable treatment for academic underachievement. *Psychological Science, 75*(1), 33-52.

## WORKING PAPERS AND IN PREPARATION

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**Smith, E.N.**, Helwig, J., Huk, J., Hendren, K., & Gordon, V. (under review). Initial evidence that peer instruction is less effective for physics students with lower quantitative preparation

Meyer, K., Page, L.C., **Smith, E.N.**, Walsh, B.T., Fifield, C.L., & Evans, M. (2022). Let's chat: chatbot nudging for improved course performance. (EdWorkingPaper: 22-564). Retrieved from Annenberg Institute at Brown University: <https://doi.org/10.26300/es6b-sm82>

**Smith, E.N.**, Weeks, M.S., Clapper, M.V., Dinin, A.J., Rabiner, D. (in prep). Broad topics of conversation enhance advising relationships and the benefits derived by advisees.

Zavaleta Bernuy, A., Ye, R., Sibia, N., Nalluri, R., Williams, J.J., Petersen, A., **Smith, E.N.**, Simion, B., & Liut, M. (submitted). Student Interaction with Instructor Emails in Introductory and Upper-Year Computing Courses.

**Smith, E.N.**, Sparks, S.C., Jones, M., & Yeager, D.S. (in prep). Leveraging undergraduate instructors to promote STEM equity.

**Smith, E.N.**, Crosby, J.R., Walton, G.M., Dweck, C.S., & Hard, B.M. (in prep). Messages that communicate broad regard improve course grades for underrepresented college students.

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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### National Science Foundation

October 2022 – September 2025

*Principal Investigator*

*Austin, TX*

Awarded \$1,298,725 for proposal: *Developing a scalable measure of inclusive STEM teaching practices for diverse institutions*. NSF award #2201928.

### National Science Foundation

April 2022 – March 2025

*Co-Investigator*

*Austin, TX*

Awarded \$548,102 for proposal: *Understanding how bacteria sense mechanics upon attaching to surfaces* under PI Vernita Gordan. Responsible for creating training program to improve peer culture and group discussion in undergraduate Physics courses. NSF award #2150878.

### Spencer Foundation Large Research Grant

2019 Finalist (Not Awarded)

*Postdoctoral Researcher*

*Stanford, CA*

Led submission of \$499,337 proposal: *Messages of broad care: Testing the robustness of a light-touch intervention in college STEM contexts*.

### Institute for Research in the Social Sciences

September 2019 – June 2020

*Dissertation Fellow*

*Stanford, CA*

Awarded \$10,000 for proposal: *Broadening the scope: Messages of broad care drive academic investment.*

**Norman H. Anderson Research Fund**  
*Graduate Awardee*

June 2019  
Stanford, CA

Awarded \$1,959 for proposal: *Values affirmation interventions as cues of instructor care.*

**National Science Foundation**  
*Graduate Research Fellow*

September 2016 – August 2019  
Stanford, CA

Awarded \$138,000 for proposal: *How do students' beliefs about dependability affect self-control?*

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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**Smith, E.N.** (2022, January 27). *Growth mindset and inclusive practices workshop.* Workshop provided to Trinity University psychology faculty: San Antonio, Texas.

**Smith, E.N.,** & Sparks, S.C. (2021, November 6). *Leveraging undergraduate learning assistants to promote STEM equity.* Talk given at American Association of Colleges and Universities Annual Meeting: Virtual.

**Smith, E.N.,** Manke, K.J, Crosby, J.R., Hard, B.M., Dweck, C.S., & Walton, G.M. (2020, October 30). *Interventions targeting students' uncertainty of instructor care.* Talk given at Western Psychological Association Convention: Virtual.

**Smith, E.N.** (2019, July 26). *Conveying broad care in values affirmations.* Talk given at the Self-Affirmation: Mechanisms and Theory Conference: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**Smith, E.N.** (2019, February 8). *Broadening the purpose of office hours increases student investment and grades.* Talk given at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology: Portland, Oregon.

**Smith, E.N.,** Romero, C., Donovan, B., Lee, I., Paunesku, D., Herter, R., Cohen, G., Dweck, C., & Gross, J. (2016, April 12). *A theories of emotion intervention for adolescents.* Talk given at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting: Washington DC.

**Smith, E.N.\*,** Romero, C., Donovan, B., Lee, I., Paunesku, D., Herter, R., Cohen, G., Dweck, C., & Gross, J. (2016, April 12). *Declines in adaptive emotion regulation beliefs and strategies across middle school.* Talk given at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting: Washington DC. \*Co-chaired symposium on *Recursive and Reinforcing Antecedents of Emotions in the Classroom.*

**Smith, E.N.,** Paunesku, D., & Romero, C. (2014, April 5). *Mindsets matter most when classes are challenging.* Talk given at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

## TEACHING

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**San Jose State University - Primary Instructor**

August 2018 – December 2018

Introduction to Psychology (Psyc 1)

Fall 2018

**Stanford University - Teaching Assistant**

September 2015 – June 2020

Advanced Research / Senior Honors Research (Psych 197/198)

Fall 2019 - Spring 2020

Cultural Psychology (Psych 75)

Winter 2020

Self and Society: Introduction to Social Psychology (Psych 70)

Spring 2017

Lab in Experimental Methods (Psych 254)

Winter 2016; Winter 2017

**SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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**TxBSPI Post-baccalaurate Fellowship**

January 2021 – May 2021

*Fellowship Coordinator**Austin, TX*

Led two-year fellowship to provide training in social science research for admission into PhD programs

**STEM Inclusive Practices Fellowship**

January 2021 – May 2021

*Training Instructor**Austin, TX*

Provided weekly supplemental training for undergraduate learning assistants in Chemistry

**Stanford Psychology Graduate Committee**

September 2018 – June 2020

*Committee Member**Stanford, CA*

Created individual development plan templates to structure discussions between students and advisors

**Stanford Psychology Diversity Committee**

September 2019 – December 2019

*Committee Member**Stanford, CA*

Organized 3rd annual Paths to PhD workshop for underrepresented students pursuing psychology

**Stanford Psychology Department**

November 2018 – September 2019

*Graduate Statistics Consultant**Stanford, CA*

Supported researchers through statistical challenges, including mixed effect modeling and pre-registration

**Psychological Interventions in Educational Settings**

September 2015 – June 2019

*President / Board Member**Stanford, CA*

Secured funding for a lecture series and workshops with experts in psychological interventions

**Adhoc Reviewer**

November 2016 – present

ACM Transactions on Computing Education

Educational Psychology Review

Emotion

Games for Health Journal

Group Processes &amp; Intergroup Relations

International Journal of Psychology

Journal of Experimental Psychology: General

Journal of Experimental Social Psychology

Journal of Medical Internet Research \*Co-Reviewed

Sage Open

Teaching and Teaching Education

Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS) \*Proposal Review

What Works Clearinghouse (IES) \*Report Reviews (Social Belonging &amp; Growth Mindset)