

Aliah Zewail

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Education

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Ph.D., Social Psychology	Expected May 2028
University of Massachusetts, M.A., Social Psychology	Expected Spring 2026
University of Texas at Austin, B.A., Psychology	December 2022

Funding

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship \$159,000 stipend and \$36,000 cost-of-education allowance awarded for graduate education and research	Amherst, MA 2025 – Present
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Publications

Peer-Reviewed Papers

Zewail, A., Figueroa, A., Graham, J., & Atari, M. (2026) Moral Stereotyping in Large Language Models. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. <https://www.pnas.org/doi/full/10.1073/pnas.2519941123>

Zewail, A., Sepehri, A., Boghrati, R., & Atari, M. (2025) Public Speakers with Non-native Accents Garner Less Engagement. *Psychological Science*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/09567976251398471>

Atari, M., & Zewail, A. (2025). Morality Across Time and Space. *European Review of Social Psychology*. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10463283.2025.2500839>

Zewail, A., Setia, A., Mohammadsadegh, R., Şeker, F., Hajian, A., Sosa, H., Morhayim, L., Reddy, S., & Atari, M. (Under Review: *Behavior Research Methods*). The Cultural and Moral Expressions in Language (CAMEL) corpus.

Setia, A., Zewail, A., & Atari, M. (Under Review: *Association for Computational Linguistics*) Psychological Effects of Annotations.

Hajian, A., Liu, G., Şeker, F., Zewail, A., Mohammadsadegh, R., Graham, J., Haidt, J., & Atari, M. (Under Review: *Journal of Research in Personality*) Developing the Short Version of the Moral Foundations Questionnaire-2 (MFQ-2-S).

Book Chapters

Atari, M., Şeker, F., & Zewail, A. (In Press). Is Empathic AI Possible? In C.D. Cameron & A. Perry (Eds.), *Empathy and AI: Challenges, Advances, and Ethical Considerations*. Cambridge University Press.

Research Experience

Culture and Morality Lab (CaM-L) Graduate Research Assistant	Amherst, MA September 2023 – Present
- Performing historical text-analysis to track changes in kinship intensity and moral values in the Middle East and North Africa region - Conducted an empirical study to examine whether large language models can accurately estimate diverse societies' moral values - Mentored 20 Undergraduate RAs for the Culture and Moral Expressions in Language Annotation Project - Ran multi-modal analyses to assess whether non-native accents garner less online engagement using computational methods	
Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science Selected Participant, University of Edinburgh	Edinburgh, Scotland May 2025 – June 2025
Attended lectures and workshops on computational methods, including data carpentry natural language processing (NLP), machine learning, and network analysis	

- Performed Structural Topic Modeling to quantify types of grievances during the Highland Clearances

Paris Artificial Intelligence Research Institute

Paris, France

Summer Research Intern

June 2021 – August 2021

- Annotated conversational strategies and nonverbal behaviors in virtual-teen corpus

Learning Research & Development Center (LRDC)

Virtual

Summer Research Intern, University of Pittsburgh

June 2021 – August 2021

- Created psychological measures to quantitatively describe and analyze psychological threat in physics courses
- Transcribed and analyzed interviews of student experiences in physics courses to explore the role of psychological framing and perceived threat

Teaching Experience

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Amherst, MA

Teaching Assistant, *Methods of Inquiry in Psychology*

Fall 2024

- Instructed and assessed 42 undergraduate students on formulating research questions and hypotheses, conducting statistical analyses, and mastering scientific writing techniques

Teaching Assistant, *Introductory Psychology*

Fall 2023, Spring 2024

- Oversaw the curriculum, course's email, and grade administration for a 400-person class

Teaching Assistant, *Cooperation and Conflict*

Spring 2024, Spring 2025

- Prepare and grade exam materials and hold weekly office hours to assist students in understanding course materials

Guest Lecturer, *Cultural Diversity Around the Globe*

April 2024

- Presented a lecture on “Public Speakers with Non-Native Accents Garner Less Engagement”

University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, *Positive Psychology*

Fall 2021

- Graded 113 students' biweekly journal entries
- Held weekly office hours to assist students in understanding course material

Conference Presentations

Zewail, A., Figueroa, A., Graham, J., & Atari, M. (Scheduled: 2026, May). Do AI Systems Accurately Estimate Moral Diversity Around the Globe? Association for Psychological Science, Barcelona, Spain. [Flash Talk].

Zewail, A., & Atari, M. (2026, February). A Call for Better Data: Advancing Psychological Science through Expert-Annotated Corpora. Annual Conference of The Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Computational Psychology Pre-conference, Chicago, IL. [Data Blitz].

Zewail, A. & Atari, M. (2025, February). Tracing Kinship Across Time in the Middle East and North Africa. Annual Conference of The Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Historical Psychology Pre-conference, Denver, CO. [Poster Presentation].

Schultz, E., **Zewail, A., & Atari, M.** (2025, February). The Moral Language of U.S. Political Parties Through Time. Annual Conference of The Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Historical Psychology Pre-conference, Denver, CO. [Poster Presentation].

Zewail, A., Sepehri, A., Boghrati, R., & Atari, M. (2024, February). Accentism on Stage: Accent Bias in Public Discourse. Annual Conference of The Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA. [Poster Presentation].

Media Coverage

Zewail, A., Sepehri, A., Boghrati, R., & Atari, M. (2026, March). Research: How the “Accent Penalty” Determines Who Gets Heard. *Harvard Business Review*.

Zewail, A., Sepehri, A., Boghrati, R., & Atari, M. (2026, January). Does an Accent Cost You an Audience? *Character and Context Blog, Society for Personality and Social Psychology*.

Service

SPSP 2026 Historical Psychology Preconference

Chicago, IL

Co-Organizer

June 2025 – Present

- Curate a program of research talks exploring how societal phenomena and psychological processes influence on another across time for the SPSP 2026 Historical Psychology Preconference.

Graduate Student Diversity Committee

Amherst, MA

Co-Chair

August 2024 – 2025

- Oversee seven subcommittees aimed at academically and financially support underrepresented undergraduate and graduate students
- Represent PBS in the BRiDGE program by inviting early career social scientists from underrepresented groups to give talks on their research

Brownbag/SPAM Committee

Amherst, MA

Co-Organizer

June 2024 – May 2025

- Organize calendar visiting speakers and schedule their travel and visitation itinerary

The Coding School

Virtual

Mentor

June 2024 – July 2024

- Mentored five high school students in investigating the consequences of using AI versus human text annotations of cultural and moral expressions

Honors & Awards

Society for Personality and Social Psychology Graduate Stipend

Fall 2025

Recipient

Graduate Student Government Research and Travel Grant

Spring 2025

Recipient

Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture

Spring 2025

Travel Honorarium

Edna M. Dahlquist Scholarship

Fall 2024

Recipient

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

Communications Psychology

2024

Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology

2024

PLOS ONE

2025

Professional Affiliations

Association for Psychological Science (APS)

2026 - Present

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

2023 - Present