

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

Amherst, MA

\$159,000 stipend and \$36,000 cost-of-education allowance awarded for graduate education and research

2025 – Present

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Papers

Zewail, A., Boghrati, R., Sepehri, A., & Atari, M. (2025). Public Speakers with Non-native Accents Garner Less Engagement. *Psychological Science*.

Atari, M., & Zewail, A. (2025). Morality Across Time and Space. *European Review of Social Psychology*.

Zewail, A., Figueiroa, A., Graham, J., & Atari, M. (*Revise & Resubmit*). Moral Stereotyping in Large Language Models. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Preprint available at https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/t9x8r_v1

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.

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*.

Manuscripts In Preparation

Setia, A., Zewail, A., & Atari, M. (*In Preparation; target: Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*) Psychological Effects of Annotations.

Hajian, A., Liu, G., Şeker, F., Zewail, A., Mohammadsadegh, R., Graham, J., Haidt, J., & Atari, M. (*In Preparation*) Developing the Short Version of the Moral Foundations Questionnaire-2 (MFQ-2-S).

Research Experience

Culture and Morality Lab (CaM-L)

Amherst, MA

Graduate Research Assistant

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

Edinburgh, Scotland

Selected Participant, University of Edinburgh

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

Summer Research Intern

Paris, France

June 2021 – August 2021

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

Learning Research & Development Center (LRDC)

Summer Research Intern, University of Pittsburgh

Virtual

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

Teaching Assistant, Methods of Inquiry in Psychology

Amherst, MA

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

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Positive Psychology

Austin, TX

Fall 2021

- Graded 113 students' biweekly journal entries

- Held weekly office hours to assist students in understanding course material

Conference Presentations

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].

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., & Atari, M. (Scheduled: 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].

Service

SPSP 2026 Historical Psychology Preconference

Co-Organizer

Chicago, IL

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

Co-Chair

Amherst, MA

August 2024 – Present

- 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

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

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

2023 - Present