

# KAITLYN G. FITZGERALD

December 2025

Department of Mathematics & Statistics  
Villanova University  
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[katie-fitzgerald.netlify.app](https://katie-fitzgerald.netlify.app)

## APPOINTMENTS

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- 2025 - **Assistant Professor**, Department of Mathematics & Statistics,  
Villanova University, Villanova, PA
- 2021 – 2025 **Assistant Professor**, Department of Mathematics, Physics, & Statistics,  
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

## EDUCATION

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- 2021 **Ph.D. Statistics**, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
Dissertation: *Methods for Synthesizing and Translating Statistical Evidence in Education*  
Committee: Elizabeth Tipton (*chair*), Larry Hedges, Steven Franconeri  
Certificate in Teaching, Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching
- 2018 **M.S. Statistics**, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- 2015 **B.S. Mathematics**, Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL  
*Summa cum laude*, University Honors Program Graduate

## FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS & AWARDS

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- 2023 Dex Whittinghill III Award for the Best Contributed Paper on Statistics and  
Data Science Education, Mathematical Association of America, MathFest
- 2023 – 2024 Faculty Fellow, Jr. Faculty Mentoring Program, Azusa Pacific University
- 2022 – 2023 Project NExT Fellow, Mathematical Association of America
- 2021 Young Alumni Award, Olivet Nazarene University
- 2020 – 2021; University Fellowship, Northwestern University  
2016 – 2017
- 2017 – 2020 Multi-disciplinary Program in Education Sciences (MPES) Fellowship,  
U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences.

## TEACHING

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### **Villanova University**, Department of Mathematics & Statistics

2025 - Courses taught:  
 STAT 4380: Data Science (S26)  
 STAT 5700: Probability (F25, S26)  
 STAT 7500: Statistical Programming (F25)

### **Azusa Pacific University**, Department of Mathematics, Physics, & Statistics

2021 - 2025 Courses taught:  
 MATH 130: Introduction to Statistics (F21, S22, F22, S23, F23, F24, S25)  
 MATH 250: Data Analysis (F22, F23, F24)  
 MATH 350: Statistical Models (S24)  
 MATH 361: Probability & Statistics I (F21, S22, S23, S24, S25)  
 MATH 362: Mathematical Statistics (F22)  
 PRMA 130: Introduction to Statistics (F21, F23)  
 STAT 511: Applied Regression Analysis (S22, S23)  
 STAT 551: Data Visualization (S24, S25)

### **Northwestern University**

2018 – 2020 **Instructor & Course Designer**, Northwestern Prison Education Program, Cook County Department of Corrections  
 Introduction to Social Statistics and Data Literacy (*Summer 2019*)  
**Curriculum Development Graduate Assistant**, Department of Statistics  
 STAT 202: Introduction to Statistics (*Summer, Fall 2019*)  
**Coordinated Learning Team (CLT) Instructor**, Department of Athletics  
 MATH 220: Differential Calculus of One Variable Functions (*Winter 2019*)  
 PSYCH 201: Statistical Methods in Psychology (*Summer 2019*)  
 STAT 202: Introduction to Statistics (*Winter, Spring, Summer 2019*)  
**Teaching Assistant**, Department of Statistics  
 STAT 202: Introduction to Statistics (*Fall 2019*)  
 STAT 330: Applied Statistics for Research (*Fall 2018*)

## GRANT FUNDING

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### *External Grants*

2024 - 2027 **Co-Principal Investigator**, Developing and evaluating tools for communicating statistical evidence to education decision-makers. Institute of Education Sciences, with Elizabeth Tipton (PI, Northwestern University) and Alexander Kale (Co-PI, University of Chicago). Award Number: R305D240023. Funding: \$899,973.

2023 – 2025 **Co-Principal Investigator**, HSI Pilot Project: Impact of Learning Assistants on STEM Identity for Students Historically Underrepresented in STEM. National

Science Foundation, with Bradley McCoy (PI) and Elijah Roth (Co-PI). Award Number: 2247670. Funding: \$199,991.

### Internal Grants

- 2025 Faculty Research & Development Grant, Villanova University, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Travel to present research at International Conference on Teaching Statistics. Funding: \$3,500.
- 2024 **Co-Principal Investigator**, NSF IUSE HSI Planning Grant: Impact of Learning Assistants on STEM Identity for Students Historically Underrepresented in STEM. Faculty Research Council Planning Grant, Azusa Pacific University, with Bradley McCoy (PI) and Elijah Roth (Co-PI). Funding: \$3,687.
- 2023 – 2024 **Principal Investigator**, Statistical cognition and visualization of meta-analytic data for education research. Faculty Research Council Grant, Azusa Pacific University. Funding: \$6,000.

### PUBLICATIONS

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- 2025 **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, \*Khella, D., \*Charles, A., & Tipton, E. Meta-Analytic Rain Cloud Plots: Improving Evidence Communication Through Data Visualization Design Principles. *Research Synthesis Methods*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/rsm.2025.4>
- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** & Tipton, E. Using Extant Data to Improve Estimation of the Standardized Mean Difference. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*. <https://doi.org/10.3102/10769986241238478>
- 2023 **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, & Tipton, E. A knowledge mobilization framework: Towards more evidence-based statistical communication practices in education research. *Journal for Research on Educational Effectiveness*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/19345747.2023.2209082>
- 2022 **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, & Tipton, E. The Meta-Analytic Rain Cloud Plot: A New Approach to Visualizing Clearinghouse Data. *Journal for Research on Educational Effectiveness*, 15:4, 848-875
- 2021 Schauer, J.M., **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, Peko-Spicer, S., Whalen, M.C.R., Zejnullahi, R., & Hedges, L.V. An evaluation of statistical methods for aggregate patterns of replication failure. *Annals of Applied Statistics*, 15(1), 208-229.

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\* denotes student co-author

- 2020 Tipton, E., Spybrook, J., **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, Wang, Q., Davidson, C. Towards a System of Evidence for All: Current Practices and Future Opportunities in 37 Randomized Trials. *Educational Researcher*, 50(3), 145 – 156.
- 2019 Miller, J.D., **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, Smith, A.L., & Young, S.L. Geophagy among a cohort of Kenyan women with mixed HIV status: a longitudinal analysis. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene*, 101(3), 654 – 660.

## WORKING PAPERS AND BOOKS

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- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, \*Gurrola, J., \*Hsieh, J., & \*Tran, T. [SCORE Module](#): What's the prime age of an MLB baseball player? Under review.
- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, \*Gurrola, J., \*Hsieh, J., & \*Tran, T. [SCORE Module](#): Volleyball NCAA Division I. Under review.
- 2019 Ismay, C., Kim, A.Y., Kuyper, A.M., Tipton, E. & **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Introduction to Statistics and Data Science: A modern dive into R and the tidyverse. <https://nustat.github.io/intro-stat-ds/>

## PRESENTATIONS

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### Conference Presentations (Refereed)

- 2025 **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, \*Knee, E., \*Walker, C., \*Dupont, K., Roth, E., McCoy, B. Learning Assistants: A useful model of student support and curricular change in statistics classrooms. Poster presentation at the United States Conference on Teaching Statistics, Ames, IA, July 2025.
- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.**, Glebova, O., & Obeling, A. Inquiry Based Learning / POGIL Activities for Teaching Bayesian Statistics. Oral presentation at the Joint Statistical Meetings, Portland, OR, August 2024.
- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** & Tipton, E. Synthesis of sample variance estimates to improve estimation of the standardized mean difference. Oral presentation at Society for Research Synthesis Methods annual meeting, Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 2024.
- 2023 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** & Tipton, E. Knowledge Mobilization & Evidence-Based Statistical Communication Practices. Oral presentation at Women in Statistics & Data Science annual conference, Bellevue, WA, October 2023.
- 2023 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** & Tipton, E. A knowledge mobilization framework: Towards more evidence-based statistical communication practices in education research. Oral presentation at Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE) annual conference, Arlington, VA, September 2023.

- 2023 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Data visualization activities to illuminate cognitive pitfalls and help students become better communicators of data. Oral presentation at MathFest, Tampa, FL, August 2023. *Won Dex Whittinghill III Award for the Best Contributed Paper on Statistics and Data Science Education.*
- 2022 **Fitzgerald, K.G. & Tipton, E.** The Meta-Analytic Rain Cloud Plot: A New Approach to Visualizing Clearinghouse Data. Paper presentation at Society for Research Synthesis Methodology Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, July 2022.
- 2022 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Data visualization tips and tricks: Teaching and learning how to be better communicators of data. Oral presentation at Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences bi-annual conference, Azusa Pacific University, June 2022.
- 2021 **Fitzgerald, K.G. & Tipton, E.** Communicating clearinghouse data: A statistical cognition experiment on education practitioners' understanding of forest plots. Paper presentation at the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE) annual conference, virtual, September 2021.
- 2020 **Fitzgerald, K.** Adjusting standard deviations for homogeneity of samples. Poster presentation at the Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE) annual conference, March 2020. (Canceled due to COVID-19).
- 2019 **Fitzgerald, K.** What are we 95% confident about anyway? A software-embedded curriculum for learning statistical inference. Presentation at Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences bi-annual conference, Indiana Wesleyan University, May 2019.

#### ***Invited Talks, Panels, & Lectures (External)***

- 2024 Gould, R., **Fitzgerald, K.** Flores, A., & Jaynes, J. What's next at four-year institutions? Invited panelist, Electronic Conference on Teaching Statistics, University of California Irvine, June 2024.
- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Knowledge mobilization and evidence communication: lessons learned. Invited talk, HEDCO Institute for Evidence-Based Educational Practice, University of Oregon, February 2024.
- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Data visualization for meta-analysis. Invited lecture, Northwestern University, STAT 439: Meta-analysis, February 2024.
- 2023 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Knowledge mobilization and lessons for communicating meta-analytic results. Invited talk, American Educational Research Association (AERA) Systematic Review & Meta-Analysis Special Interest Group (SRMA SIG), December 2023.

- 2021 **Fitzgerald, K.** Young Alumni Award Recipient Address, Presidential Prayer Breakfast, Olivet Nazarene University, October 2021.
- 2021 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** How statistics helps us be better stewards of information: Applications from social policy & global development. Invited talk, Olivet Nazarene University, Department of Mathematics, October 2021.
- 2020 Hill, A., Kolak, M., **Fitzgerald, K.** InspiRing InstRuction: A panel on teaching #rstats for all audiences. Invited panelist, R-Ladies Chicago event, November 2020.
- 2018 **Fitzgerald, K.** Statistics for Social Good: Why your math degree is in demand in social policy and international development. Invited talk, Olivet Nazarene University, Department of Mathematics, October 2018.

### ***Internal / Other Presentations***

- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Workshop on Culturally Responsive Pedagogy. Department of Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Physics, & Statistics, Azusa Pacific University, November 2024.
- 2024 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Data visualization activities to illuminate cognitive pitfalls and enhance students' data communication. Invited talk, Azusa Pacific University, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Scholarship Jubilee, April 2024.
- 2023 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Data visualizations, optical illusions, and the curse of expertise. Azusa Pacific University, Department of Mathematics, Physics, & Statistics research seminar, November, 2023.
- 2021 **Fitzgerald, K.G.** Effective communication of meta-analytic data in education: Evidence from a statistical cognition experiment on data visualizations. Poster presentation at STEM Research Symposium, Azusa Pacific University, October 2021.

### **MENTORING & ADVISING**

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- 2025 **Co-MaSTeR Research Mentor**, Villanova University  
*Fall – Spring 2026 (2 undergraduates + 1 graduate student):* Designing & Implementing Randomized Survey Experiments to Evaluate Data Visualizations
- 2022 – 2025 **Undergraduate Research Mentor**, Azusa Pacific University (APU)  
*Spring – Summer 2025 (2 students):* Developing and evaluating tools for communicating statistical evidence to education decision-makers.

*Summer 2024, 2025 (2 students):* Impact of Learning Assistants on STEM Identity for Students Historically Underrepresented in STEM.

- Poster presentation by Evan Knee & Caylee Walker, APU STEM Research Symposium, September 2024.
- Poster presentation by Evan Knee & Caylee Walker, MAA SoCal Section Meeting, March 2025.

*Summer 2024, 2025 (6 students):* Sports Content for Outreach, Research, and Education (SCORE) in data science.

- Two poster presentations by Joseph Hsieh & Jazmine Gurrola at APU STEM Research Symposium, September 2024
- Two poster presentations by Joseph Hsieh<sup>†</sup> & Jazmine Gurrola<sup>†</sup> at Annual Biomedical Conference for Minoritized Students (ABRCMS), Pittsburgh, PA, November 2024.
- Two poster presentations by Grace Nguyen & Madey Sule at Annual Biomedical Conference for Minoritized Students (ABRCMS), San Antonio, TX, November 2025.

*Summer – Fall 2023 Project (2 students):* Statistical cognition and visualization of meta-analytic data for education research.

- Oral presentation by David Khella<sup>†</sup> at Joint Statistical Meetings, Portland, OR, August 2024.
- Panel presentation by Avery Charles at APU Board of Trustees Dinner, November 2023.
- Poster presentation by Avery Charles & David Khella at APU STEM Research Symposium, September 2023.
- Poster presentation by Avery Charles & David Khella at the Electronic Undergraduate Statistics Research annual conference, Consortium for Undergraduate Statistics Education, November 2023.

*Fall 2022 – Spring 2023 Project (2 students):* APU STEM Retention & Student Performance.

- Poster presentation by Alex dePillis-Lindheim and Emily Gottry at Mathematical Association of America SoCal-Nev Section Meeting, University of La Verne, April 2023.
- Oral presentation by Alex dePillis-Lindheim and Emily Gottry to APU stakeholders (faculty & dean), December 2022.
- Poster presentation by Alex dePillis-Lindheim and Emily Gottry at The Undergraduate Student Project Competition, Consortium for Undergraduate Statistics Education, November 2022.

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<sup>†</sup> Student received competitive external travel award to present

2021 –	<b>Learning Assistant Mentor</b> , Azusa Pacific University Introduction to Statistics (6 LAs; F21, F22, S23, F23, F24) Introduction to Modeling with Probability (2 LAs; S24, S25)
2023 – 2024	<b>Capstone Thesis Advisor</b> , Valor Christian High School. Topic: Meta-analysis of effectiveness of fetal endoscopic tracheal occlusion in treating severe and moderate cognitive diaphragmatic hernias.
2020 – 2021	<b>Graduate Teaching Mentor</b> , Teaching Certificate Program, Northwestern University Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching
2019 – 2020	<b>AP Research Expert Advisor</b> , James B. Conant High School

## RESEARCH & CONSULTING

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2024 – 2025	<b>Project Lead</b> , Sports Content for Outreach, Research, and Education in data science, Azusa Pacific University hub. Sub-contract of NSF grant number 2142705 awarded to Carnegie Mellon University and Baylor University.
2019 – 2021	<b>Lab member</b> , Statistics for Evidence-Based Policy and Practice (STEPP) Center, Northwestern University
2019	<b>Graduate Assistant</b> , Meta-Analysis Training Institute, Loyola University
2018 – 2019	<b>Consultant / Facilitator</b> , IES Summer Training Institute: Cluster Randomized Trials, Northwestern University
2018 – 2019	<b>Statistical Consultant</b> , Young Research Group, Northwestern University
2017 – 2021	<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> , Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University
2015 – 2016	<b>Research Analyst</b> , Barna Group, Ventura, CA

## LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

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### Departmental Leadership & Service

2025 -	<b>UNITAS: Inclusive Education Committee</b> , Villanova
2025 -	<b>DataFest Philly Committee</b> , Villanova
2025 -	<b>Center for Statistics and Data Science Education Committee</b> , Villanova
2025 -	<b>Applied Statistics and Data Sciences Graduate Committee</b> , Villanova



2025 – 2026	<b>Statistics Retreat Committee</b> , Villanova
2025 - 2026	<b>Search Committee</b> , Continuing non-tenure track positions in Mathematics & Statistics, Villanova
2024 - 2025	<b>Curriculum Working Group, Mathematics Coordinator</b> , APU
2022 - 2025	<b>Data Science Minor Coordinator</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2021 - 2025	<b>Introduction to Statistics Coordinator</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2022 – 2023	<b>Math &amp; Physics Fellowship Task Force</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2022 – 2023	<b>Recruitment Task Force</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2019 – 2020	<b>Speaker Series Coordinator</b> , STEPP Center, Northwestern University

### University Leadership & Service

2024 – 2025	<b>Diversity Council</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2024 – 2025	<b>General Education Council</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2024	<b>General Education Course Development Team</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2023 – 2024	<b>GE Course (Re-)Development Fellowship on Culturally Responsive Pedagogy</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2023	<b>Invited panelist</b> , Board of Trustees Dinner on R2 status and faculty research, Azusa Pacific University, October 2023
2022 – 2023	<b>General Education Assessment Committee</b> , Azusa Pacific University
2022 – 2023	<b>Faculty Learning Community: Faith Integration &amp; Race/Ethnicity</b> , Azusa Pacific University

### Referee service

Journals:	<i>British Journal of Educational Psychology</i> <i>Journal of the Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences</i> <i>Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness</i> <i>Journal of Statistics and Data Science Education</i> <i>Learning and Instruction</i> <i>Problems, Resources, and Issues in Mathematics Undergraduate Studies</i>
Conferences:	<i>Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences</i> <i>Research Methods Section, Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness</i>
Funders:	<i>National Science Foundation, ECR</i>
Other:	<i>SCORE Network (Sports Content for Outreach, Research, and Education for data science)</i> <i>Policy Advice and Policy Making in Education: Perspectives on Past and Present Procedures (book)</i>

### Volunteer judging & consulting

2026	<b>Judge</b> , Falvey Data Visualization Competition, Villanova
2024 - 2025	<b>Judge</b> , Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Students
2023	<b>Judge</b> , Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) virtual middle school science fair
2022 - 2024	<b>Judge</b> , STEM Research Symposium, Azusa Pacific University
2022, 2023	<b>Judge</b> , Undergraduate Student Project Competition (USPROC), Consortium

for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE) &  
The American Statistical Association (ASA)  
2018 **Volunteer Statistical Consultant**, First Presbyterian Church of Evanston

### **Other Service to the Profession**

2025 - ASA Section for Statistics and Data Science Education Mentoring Committee

### **Professional Society Membership**

American Statistical Association (ASA)  
Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences (ACMS)  
Mathematical Association of America (MAA)  
Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (SREE)  
Society for Research Synthesis Methodology (SRSM)

### **Community Leadership & Service**

2023 – 2025 **Usher & Greeter**, Church of the Resurrection Los Angeles  
2022 – 2025 **Homeless Count Volunteer**, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
2020 – 2021 **Correspondence Tutor**, Northwestern Prison Education Program  
2018 – 2020 **Small Group Leader**, NU Graduate Christian Fellowship  
2017 – 2019 **Small Group Coordinator**, NU Graduate Christian Fellowship  
2019 **Stewardship Task Force**, First Presbyterian Church of Evanston  
2018 **Panelist**, InterVarsity Ethnic Reconciliation and Justice National Consultation, University of Chicago, May 2018