

Karen C. Levush

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Department of Human Development & Quantitative Methodology
3942 Campus Drive, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742

EDUCATION

Ph.D. <i>Human Development</i> , University of Maryland	Expected 08/2023; College Park, MD
Master of Arts, <i>Human Development</i> , University of Maryland	2018; College Park, MD
Bachelor of Science, <i>Elementary/Middle Special Education</i> , Towson University	2013; Baltimore, MD

AWARDS & FUNDING

Richard L. Matteson Endowed Scholarship, University of Maryland	2021
Graduate School Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland	2020-2022
Student Travel Award, University of Maryland	2019
Dean's List, Towson University	2011-2012

PUBLICATIONS

Butler, L. P., Gibbs, H. M., & **Levush, K. C.** (2020). Look again: Pedagogical demonstration facilitates children's use of counterevidence. *Child Development*, 91(6). doi: 10.1111/cdev.13414

Taboada Barber, A., **Levush, K. C.**, & Lutz Klauda, S. (2018). The role of motivation theory in literacy instruction. In D. E. Alvermann, N. J. Unrau, M. Sailors, & R. B. Ruddell (Eds.), *Theoretical Models and Processes of Literacy*. New York: Routledge

Levush, K. C., Alton, J & Butler, L. P. (in prep). Agreement is not enough: Children's understanding that the power of consensus stems from group composition.

Levush, K. C. & Butler, L. P. (in prep). Children's developing ability to detect deceptive use of accurate information.

Gibbs, H. M., **Levush, K. C.**, Li, R., & Butler, L. P. (in prep). You sound like you know, but did you check? Children's understanding of calibrating evidence to claims.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Levush, K. C. & Butler, L. P. (2021, June). Children's reasoning about composition of sampled evidence and deception detection. Poster presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy, Virtual.

Levush, K. C., Alton, J. & Butler, L. P. (2021, April). Agreement is not enough: Children's understanding that the power of consensus stems from group composition. Poster presented at the 2021 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Virtual.

Levush, K. C. & Butler, L. P. (2021, April). Who's playing a trick? Children's ability to detect when evidence is being used deceptively. Poster presented at the 2021 Society for Research in Child Development Virtual Biennial Meeting.

Levush, K. C. & Butler, L. P. (2020, June – cancelled due to COVID-19). Children's reasoning about evidence selection and communicative intent. Poster presentation accepted for the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Princeton, NY.

Gibbs, H. M., Butler, L. P., & **Levush, K. C.** (2019, October). You sound like you know, but did you check? Children's Evaluations of other's calibrated evidence-based claims. Poster presented at the 2019 Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.

Gibbs, H. M., Butler, L. P. & **Levush, K. C.** (2019, May). You sound like you know, but did you check? Children's understanding that generic claims require sufficient verification. Poster presented at the 2019 Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, D.C.

Levush, K. C., Solinsky, J., & Butler, L. P. (2019, March). Investigating the relationship between children's social judgements and expectations about others' empirical practices. Poster presented at the 2019 Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher, Cognition & Development Lab, *University of Maryland* 2018-Present; College Park, MD

Develop independent research projects, managing all aspects of research lifecycle. Work with behavioral methods using clear and simple behavioral experiments to answer complex questions across range of populations. Supervise 4-8 undergraduate Research Assistants per semester.

Projects:

- “Developing the ability to detect deceptive use of accurate information.” Investigated cognitive underpinnings of the ability to detect paltering, in which truthful information is conveyed to lead others to a false conclusion.
- “More than just agreement: Developing an understanding that the power of consensus stems from group composition.” Examined reasoning about reliability of contradictory perspectives shared by different consensus groups, and how may change over course of development.
- “Who will verify their claims? Investigating the influence of group membership on children's expectations of others' empirical practices.”

Research For Intelligence & Security Challenges Summer Intern 2021: College Park, MD

Applied Research Lab for Intelligence & Security, *University of Maryland*

Project and Results:

- Co-managed project “Developing Strategies for Evaluating & Optimizing Security Training” sponsored by Defense Counterintelligence Security Agency. Focused on improving evaluation measures of training transfer to job performance & return on investment of training programs for Dept. of Defense. Formed project approach, conducted interviews with training leaders, and facilitated key stakeholder focus groups. Formulated recommendations and provided final report briefing to Senior Executive Service (SES) leadership.

Graduate Researcher 2020; College Park, MD

Center for Early Childhood Education & Intervention, *University of Maryland*

PI: Dr. Christy Tirrell-Corbin

Project and Results:

- Engaged in project, “Elevating Fully Inclusive Early Education Experiences”. Designed and managed execution of statewide survey for Maryland State Department of Education. Created dataset on early childhood program funding & enrollment from state government sources. Created comprehensive review of early childhood education opportunities for children with and without disabilities in MD. Produced 26 infographic reports used by Maryland State Department of Education for internal evaluation and training.

Graduate Researcher 2017-2018; College Park, MD

Language & Literacy Research Center, *University of Maryland*

PIs: Dr. Rebecca Silverman & Dr. Ana Taboada Barber

Project and Results:

- Supported research-practice partnership project between Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) and research center. Examined facilitators and barriers to implementing early literacy curriculum in schools with high population of English language learners or low socioeconomic students. Designed and applied focus group protocol and conducted observations. Assisted with final report and presented findings and recommendations to AACPS Deputy Superintendent and leadership team.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate Assistant & Coordinator, *University of Maryland* 2020-2021; College Park, MD

Operated semester colloquia series for the Department of Human Development & Quantitative Methodology. Focused on research in developmental science, educational psychology, and graduate student professional development.

Graduate Administrative Assistant, *University of Maryland* 2018-2020; College Park, MD

Worked in early childhood & special education undergraduate program within the Department of Human Development & Quantitative Methodology. Coordinated student field placements across five jurisdictions. Managed student document submissions. Assisted in assessment development for program accreditation. Compiled student data for reporting programmatic performance.

Graduate Assistant & Coordinator, 2017-2018; College Park, MD
 Language & Literacy Research Center, *University of Maryland*
 Oversaw and coordinated semester colloquia on research in language and literacy development as well as instruction. Developed and maintained content for website. Assisted in bylaw and organizational structure development. Collected data and budget information for five-year grant annual performance report.

Graduate Administrative Assistant, *University of Maryland* 2016-2017; College Park, MD
 Assisted in managing daily operations in testing office in the Counseling Center. Supported office organization and logistics with continuous improvement. Coordinated national testing program exams and managed correspondence with external international education organizations.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *University of Maryland* 2021-Present; College Park, MD
 Assisted with teaching EDHD 200 Paradigms & Perspectives in Human Development course with 40 students in Fall 2021 and 35 students in Spring 2022.

Elementary Special Education Teacher, *District of Columbia Public Schools* 2014-2016; Washington, D.C.
 Provided specialized instruction and remediation. Developed Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). Advised general education teachers in using specific instructional strategies for children with and without disabilities. Acted as extended-day intervention teacher and professional development facilitator. Created and led school-wide professional development sessions on educational implications of student emotional self-regulation.

8th Grade Math Inclusion Special Education Teacher, *Paul Public Charter School* 2013-2014; Washington, D.C.
 Co-taught with general education teacher in inclusive classroom. Provided small group intervention to students with and without disabilities. Developed Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). Organized student government initiative to promote leadership and involvement in policy development.

SERVICE

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer

Journal of Cognition and Development

Human Development Graduate Student Organization, University of Maryland

Senior Executive Board	2019-present
Graduate Recruitment Committee	2018-2020
Treasurer	2018-2019
Secretary	2017-2018

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEER WORK

STEP-UP Internship Program Student Mentor, *University of Maryland* 2019; College Park, MD
 Federally funded program focused on increasing the participation of students from backgrounds underrepresented in biomedical, behavioral, clinical, and social science research on a national basis

Family Engagement Fellow, *Flamboyant Foundation* 2015- 2016; Washington, D.C.
 Conduct home-visits and semi-structured parent-interviews; serve as family-engagement liaison for District of Columbia Public Elementary School

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Cognitive Development Society
 Society for Philosophy & Psychology
 Society for Research in Child Development