

# Aliah Zewail

135 Hicks Way, Amherst, MA 01003 | azewail@umass.edu

## Education

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|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 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

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| National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship<br>\$159,000 stipend and \$36,000 cost-of-education allowance awarded for graduate education and research | Amherst, MA<br>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: *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. (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

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Culture and Morality Lab (CaM-L)<br>Graduate Research Assistant | Amherst, MA<br>September 2023 – Present |
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- 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

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science<br>Selected Participant, University of Edinburgh | Edinburgh, Scotland<br>May 2025 – June 2025 |
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- 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**

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#### **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**

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**Zewail, A., Figueroa, A., Graham, J., & Atari, M.** (Scheduled: 2026, September). Do AI Systems Accurately Estimate Moral Diversity Around the Globe? International Society of Moral Psychology Conference, Ithaca, NY. [Poster].

**Zewail, A., Figueroa, A., Graham, J., & Atari, M.** (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

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**Zewail, A.,** Figueroa, A., Graham, J., & Atari, M. (2026, July). Research Brief: Large language models often prioritize Western moral values, overlooking other cultures. *The Conversation*.

**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

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### **SPSP Historical Psychology Preconference**

*Co-Organizer*

Chicago, IL; Philadelphia, PA

June 2025 – Present

- Curate a program of research talks exploring how societal phenomena and psychological processes influence on another across time for both the SPSP 2026 and 2027 Historical Psychology Preconference.

### **Graduate Student Diversity Committee**

*Co-Chair*

Amherst, MA

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**

*Co-Organizer*

Amherst, MA

June 2024 – May 2025

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

### **The Coding School**

*Mentor*

Virtual

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

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### **Society for Personality and Social Psychology Graduate Stipend**

*Recipient*

Fall 2025

### **Graduate Student Government Research and Travel Grant**

*Recipient*

Spring 2025

### **Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture**

*Travel Honorarium*

Spring 2025

### **Edna M. Dahlquist Scholarship**

*Recipient*

Fall 2024

## Ad-Hoc Reviewer

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*PNAS Nexus*

2026

*PLOS ONE*

2025

*Communications Psychology*

2024

*Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology*

2024

## Professional Affiliations

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International Society of Moral Psychology (ISMP)

2026 - Present

Centre for Cultural Evolution and Historical Psychology (CEHP)

2026 - Present

Association for Psychological Science (APS)

2026 - Present

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

2023 - Present