

Kaylee Litson, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, University of Houston

Director, Interdisciplinary Quantitative Research Methods Lab

Contact Information:

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 Kaylee-Litson

🏠 <https://sites.google.com/view/litsonlab>

Education

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| 2019, June | Ph.D. in Quantitative Psychology , Utah State University (USU), Logan, UT
<i>Dissertation: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach Combining Multitrait-Multimethod Designs with Moderated Mediation Analysis</i>
Committee: Christian Geiser, Jamison Fargo, Ginger Lockhart, Thomas Ledermann, Elizabeth Fauth |
| 2012, December | B.S. in Psychology , Utah Tech University (UTU), St. George, UT
Honors: Summa Cum Laude, Valedictorian |

Professional Positions

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| 2023 – current | Assistant Professor , Department of Psychology, University of Houston (UH), Houston, TX |
| 2020 – 2023 | Postdoctoral Research Fellow , Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences, USU, Logan, UT. Mentor: David F. Feldon |
| 2019 – 2020 | Postdoctoral Fellow , Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. Mentor: Donna L. Coffman |
| 2018 – 2019 | Graduate Research Assistant , Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences, USU, Logan, UT. Mentor: David F. Feldon |
| 2016 – 2018 | Instructor , Department of Psychology, USU, Logan, UT |
| 2013 – 2017 | Presidential Doctoral Research Fellow , Department of Psychology, USU, Logan, UT. Advisor: Christian Geiser |

Research Interests

As an interdisciplinary quantitative psychologist with expertise in multimethod longitudinal statistical methods, I construct and apply statistical and theoretical methods relevant for evaluating psychological, educational, and health constructs across situations and methods. My research interests include:

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| • Multitrait-multimethod analysis | • Latent state-trait theory |
| • Latent moderation | • Measurement validity |
| • Statistical model fit indices | • Measurement invariance |
| • Finite mixture modeling | • Measuring cognitive skill development |
| • Structural equation modeling | • Skill to career trajectories |

Publications

*Graduate Student Co-Author; **Undergraduate Student Co-Author

Books

Peugh, J. L., & **Litson, K.** (under contract). *Monte Carlo Power Analyses Using Mplus and R*. Guilford Press.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Lindahl, J., Danell, R., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (accepted for publication). The sex gap is larger among top performers: On modelling sex differences in research productivity and impact. *Journal of Informetrics*.

Ng, V., & **Litson, K.** (accepted for publication). Vagueness as Imprecision is a Bug to Be Mitigated: Commentary on Hutmacher and Franz (2024). *American Psychologist*.

Jeong, S., *Rague, J., **Litson, K.**, Feldon, D. F., Lawler, M. J., & Plummer, K. (2024). Effects of decision-based learning on student performance in introductory physics: The mediating roles of cognitive load and self-testing. *Education and Information Technology*.

Blaney, J. M., Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2024). Tapping into early PhD aspirations to advance gender equity in computing: Predicting PhD interest among upward transfer students. *Studies in Graduate and Postdoctoral Education*.

Feldon, D. F., **Litson, K.**, **Cahoon, B., Tofel-Grehl, C., Walker, A., & *Zhang, F. (2024). The predictive validity of the GRE across graduate outcomes: A meta-analysis of trends over time. *The Journal of Higher Education*, 95(1), 120-148. **16 citations**

Feldon, D. F., *Brockbank, R., & **Litson, K.** (2024). Direct effects of cognitive load on self-efficacy during instruction. *Journal of Educational Psychology*. **8 citations**

Coffman, D. L., Dziak, J. J., **Litson, K.**, *Chakraborti, Y., Piper, M. E., & Li, R. (2023). A causal approach to functional mediation analysis with application to a smoking cessation intervention. *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, 58(5), 859-876. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00273171.2022.2149449>. **2 citations**

Peugh, J. L., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2023). Equivalence testing to judge model fit: A Monte Carlo simulation. *Psychological Methods*. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/yf3qz/>. **2 citations**

Blaney, J., Feldon, D. F. & **Litson, K.** (2022). Student and advisor gender identity in STEM doctoral programs: Examining longitudinal and mediating effects with latent growth models. *Journal of Research in Science Teaching*, 59, 1416-1446. <https://doi.org/10.1002/tea.21761>. **9 citations**

Domenech Rodríguez, M. M., Reveles, A. K., **Litson, K.**, Patterson, C. A., & Vázquez, A. L. (2022). Development of the awareness, skills, knowledge: general (ASK-G) scale for measuring cultural competence in the general population. *PLOS One*. Current version archived on Open Science Framework. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/H5UEB>. **16 citations**

*Zhang, F., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2022). Social predictors of mental health and well-being among doctoral students. *PLOS One*. Current version archived on Open Science Framework. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/P7VJE>. **19 citations**

- Feldon, D., & **Litson, K.** (2021). Modeling theories and theorizing models: An attempted replication of Miller-Cotto & Byrnes' (2019) comparison of working memory models using ECLS-K data. *Educational Psychology Review*, 33, 1907-1934. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10648-021-09596-8>. **9 citations**
- Litson, K.**, Blaney, J., & Feldon, D. (2021). Understanding the transient nature of doctoral students' research self-efficacy across time: Considering the role of gender, race, and first-generation college status. *Frontiers in Psychology: Educational Psychology*, 12, 28. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.617060>. **22 citations**
- Olson, K. J., Huffman, A. H., & **Litson, K.** (2020). The relationship between mentor support experiences and STEM graduate student career optimism. *Career Development International*, 26(1), 44-64. <https://doi.org/10.1108/CDI-07-2019-0171>. **25 citations**
- Jeong, S., **Litson, K.**, Blaney, J., & Feldon, D. F. (2020). Shifting gears: Characteristics and consequences of latent class transitions in doctoral socialization. *Research in Higher Education*, 60, 1027-1053. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11162-019-09583-7>. **13 citations**
- Litson, K.**, Thornhill, C., Geiser, C., Burns, G. L., & Servera, M. (2019). Applying and interpreting mixture distribution latent state-trait models. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 26(6), 931-947. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2019.1575741>. **6 citations**
- ^aFeldon, D. F., ^a**Litson, K.**, Jeong, S., Blaney, J., Kang, J., Miller, C., Griffin, K., & Roksa, J. (2019). Postdocs' lab engagement predicts trajectories of Ph.D. students' skill development. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 116(42), 20910-6. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1912488116>. **73 citations**
- ^a authors contributed equally to this publication
- Seijas, R., Servera, M., García-Banda, G., Burns, G. L., Preszler, J., Barry, C. T., **Litson, K.**, & Geiser, C. (2019). Consistency of limited prosocial emotions across occasions, sources, and settings: Trait- or state-like construct in a young community sample? *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 47(1), 47-58. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10802-018-0415-9>. **14 citations**
- Preszler, J., Burns, G. L., **Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., Servera, M., & Becker, S. P. (2019). How consistent is sluggish cognitive tempo across occasions, sources, and settings? Evidence from latent state-trait modeling. *Assessment*, 26(1), 99-110. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1073191116686178>. **30 citations**
- Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., Burns, G. L., & Servera, M. (2018). Trait and state variance in multi-informant assessments of ADHD and academic impairment in first-grade children. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 47(5), 699-712. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15374416.2015.1118693>. **23 citations**
- Preszler, J., Burns, G. L., **Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., & Servera, M. (2017). Trait and state variance in oppositional defiant disorder symptoms: A multi-source investigation with Spanish children. *Psychological Assessment*, 29, 135-147. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pas0000313>. **20 citations**
- Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., Burns, G. L., & Servera, M. (2017). Examining trait × method interactions using mixture distribution multitrait-multimethod models. *Structural Equation Modeling: A*

Multidisciplinary Journal, 24(1), 31-51. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2016.1238307>. **13 citations**

Papa, L., **Litson, K.**, Lockhart, G., Chassin, L., & Geiser, C. (2015). Analyzing statistical mediation with multiple informants: A new approach with an application in clinical psychology. *Frontiers in Psychology: Psychology for Clinical Settings*, 6, 1674. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01674>. **14 citations**

Geiser, C., **Litson, K.**, Bishop, J., Keller, B. T., Burns, G. L., Servera, M., & Shiffman, S. (2015). Analyzing person, situation, and person \times situation interaction effects: Latent state-trait models for the combination of random and fixed situations. *Psychological Methods*, 20(2), 165-192. <https://doi.org/10.1037/met0000026>. **65 citations**

Pre-Registrations

*Penheiro, R., **Litson, K.**, Kordovski, V., Tierney, S. M., Rahman, S., & Woods, S. P. (2025, May 7). The Impact of Cognitive Dispersion on Creativity across Younger and Older Adults. Preregistration.

Journal Articles under Review

*Wall, J., **Litson, K.**, Pavlidas, I., Cirino, P. T. (revise and resubmit). Intraindividual Variability, How do I Measure Thee? Let Me Count the Ways. *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*.

Griffin, J., Gerber, A., **Litson, K.**, Faja, S., Jeste, S., Kleinhans, N., Dawson, G., Naples, A., Levin, A., Webb, S., Shic, F., Sugar, C., Dziura, J., & McPartland, J. (in review). Decoding the temporal dynamics of face-specific neural representations in autism. *Nature Neuroscience*.

Book Chapters

Feldon, D. F., **Litson, K.**, Fields, D., Clark, H., Jessop, L., *Brockbank, R., & **Cahoon, B. (2024). Idiographic Measures. In *Mixed Methods for Psychological Measurement: Using Critical Realism to Reframe Incommensurability: Ed. 1* (pp. 69-100). Routledge.

Feldon, D. F., Kim, Y. M., **Litson, K.**, *Ramadan, N., Fields, D., & *Brockbank, R. (2024). Idiographic Moderation in Measurement Models. In *Mixed Methods for Psychological Measurement: Using Critical Realism to Reframe Incommensurability: Ed. 1* (pp. 69-100). Routledge.

Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2024). Quantitative Member Checking. In *Mixed Methods for Psychological Measurement: Using Critical Realism to Reframe Incommensurability: Ed. 1* (pp. 69-100). Routledge.

Litson, K., & Feldon, D. F. (2022). Considering comparability and change over time: Measurement invariance as an essential consideration in theory development and testing. In J. Huisman & M. Tight (Eds.). *Theory and Method in Higher Education Vol. 7* (pp. 93-111). Emerald Publishing Limited. **2 citations**

CRAN R Packages

Dziak, J. J., Coffman, D. L., **Litson, K.**, *Chakraborti, Y. & Li, R. (2021). funmediation: Functional Mediation for a Distal Outcome. URL: <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/funmediation/index.html>. R package version 1.0.1.

Dziak, J. J., Coffman, D. L., Li, R., **Litson, K.**, & *Chakraborti, Y. (2023). TVEM. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=tvem>. R package version 1.4.1.

Research Support

Current/Funded Support

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| 2025 – 2030 | THE NIH PRECISION BRAIN HEALTH NETWORK: Open and Inclusive Measurement of Neuropsychological Change for AD/ADRD Primary Prevention Trials (RFA-AG-25-005; PI Sliwinski)
Role: Co-I
National Institutes of Health: \$40,000,000 (UH Subcontract: US\$805,522)
Location of Project: Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA |
| 2024 – 2026 | Collaborative Research: Impacts of Hard/Soft Skills on STEM Workforce Trajectories (DGE 1956114; PI Feldon, 2020-2026)
Role: Co-PI
National Science Foundation: US\$1,476,490 (UH subcontract: US\$196,953)
<i>Moved to Co-PI in last years of grant.</i> |
| 2024 – 2025 | Math Learning Disabilities among Young Adults in College: Structure, Identification, and Validation (DUE 1760760; PI Cirino, 2020-2025)
Role: Co-PI
National Science Foundation: US\$2,473,793
<i>Added as collaborator in the final years of the grant.</i> |

Pending Decision

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| 2025 – 2030 | Development of a Community Engaged Translational Research Network to Advance Spanish-Language Neuropsychological Assessment in Cognitive Aging Research; ECHAR-TR (R61/R33 PAR-25-218; PI Medina)
Role: Co-I
National Institutes of Health: US \$4,003,361
Location of Project: UH, Houston, TX |
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Past Support

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| 2022 - 2023 | Exploring Computational Thinking: Applying Psychometric Analysis to Assess Relationships with Primary Cognitive Abilities and Malleability (R305A220116; PI Feldon, 2022-2025)
Role: Senior Personnel
Institute of Education Sciences |
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	Location of Project: USU, Logan, UT
2020 – 2023	<p>Collaborative Research: Impacts of Hard/Soft Skills on STEM Workforce Trajectories (DGE 1956114; PI Feldon, 2020-2025)</p> <p>Role: Postdoctoral Research Associate</p> <p>National Science Foundation</p> <p>Location of Project: USU, Logan, Utah</p>
2020 – 2023	<p>Community College to PhD: Developing Graduate Aspirations among Upward Transfer Students in Computing and Technology (DGE 1953525; PI Blaney)</p> <p>Role: Postdoctoral Research Associate</p> <p>National Science Foundation</p> <p>Location of Project: Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ</p>
2018 – 2022	<p>Trajectories into Early Career Research (DGE 1760894; PI Feldon)</p> <p>Role: Postdoctoral Research Associate</p> <p>National Science Foundation</p> <p>Location of Project: USU, Logan, UT</p>
2019 – 2020	<p>Developing Methodology to examine Causal Mediation of Time-Varying Effects in Smoking Cessation Treatments (NIH 5R01CA229542-02; PI Coffman)</p> <p>Role: Postdoctoral Research Fellow</p> <p>National Institutes of Health</p> <p>Location of Project: Temple University, Philadelphia, PA</p>
2017 – 2020	<p>“Safe Passages”: Development and Application of a Cultural Competence Training Program</p> <p>Role: Co-I</p> <p>USU Long-Term Diversity Grant: US\$15,000</p> <p>Location of Project: USU, Logan, UT</p> <p><i>Funds used to develop & administer cultural competence trainings at USU.</i></p>
Not Funded	
2025 – 2029	<p>Texas Summer School on Multimodal Behavior (R25)</p> <p>Role: Co-I</p> <p>National Institutes of Health: \$200,000</p> <p>Location of Project: University of Houston, Houston, TX</p>
2024 – 2029	<p>Center for Rural Opportunities through Postsecondary Schooling (CROPS)</p> <p>Role: Co-PD/PI</p> <p>Institute of Education Sciences: US\$9,999,975 (UH subcontract: US\$357,200)</p>

2024 – 2027

Cognitive Load Theory 2.0: Revisiting CLT through New Measurement Approaches

Role: Co-PI

National Science Foundation: US\$500,000 (UH subcontract: US\$73,997)

Contracts

March 2023

Gentrification Measure Validation

Role: Contracted Data Analyst

University of Miami: US\$9,375

Work included evaluating missingness, univariate and multivariate mixture distribution modeling, predictive analyses, and interpreting findings.

Invited Talks

Litson, K., (2024, December). Modern Approaches to Latent Moderation: Insights and Future Directions. UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

Litson, K. (2024, September). Interdisciplinary Quantitative Research Methods (IQRM) Collaboratory Overview. UH IO Brown Bag, Houston, TX.

Litson, K. (2022, May). Early Career Spotlight: Increasing Diversity in the Quant Pipeline [Invited Symposium]. The 2022 Association for Psychological Sciences (APS) Convention, Chicago, IL.

Workshops

Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2024, July). Mixed Methods for Psychological Measurement: Using Critical Realism to Reframe Incommensurability. Mixed Methods International Research Association's (MMIRA) Global Hybrid Conference 2024, Montego Bay, Jamaica. Cancelled.

Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2023, November). 2023 Research Workshop: Access to and Use of the Trajectories into Early Career Research Data Set: An 8-Year Longitudinal Mixed Methods Data Set of Biological Sciences Ph.D. Students. The 48th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), Minneapolis, MN. Sponsored by Stata.

Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2023, April). Professional Development and Training Series: Access to and Use of the Trajectories into Early Career Research Data Set: An 8-Year Longitudinal Mixed Methods Data Set of Biological Sciences Ph.D. Students. The 2023 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting [online]. <https://aera.elevate.commpartners.com/products/rl2023-2-access-to-and-use-of-the-trajectories-into-early-career-research-data-set-an-8-year-longitudinal-mixed-methods-data-set-of-biological-sciences-phd-students>

Scholarly Presentations

*Krause, C. A., Woods, S. P., **Litson, K.**, Ledoux, T., & Medina, L. D. (2026, February). Carotenoids, inflammation, and neurocognitive performance in Hispanic/Latin American adults in the United

- States. Submitted for presentation at the 54th Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- *Pruyser, A., Williams, M., & **Litson, K.** (2025, October). *Help-seeking Behavior on Psychosocial Outcomes Amongst Veterans with and Without Traumatic Brain Injury*. Poster accepted for presentation at the ACRM 2025 102nd Annual Conference, Progress in Rehabilitation Research, Chicago, IL, USA.
- Litson, K.** (2025, August). (Mis)Modeling Method Effects in Moderated Mediation impacts Structural Parameter Estimates. Poster presented in the Division 5 (Quantitative and Qualitative Methods) program at the 2025 Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- *Bajwa, N., & **Litson, K.** (2025, August). Understanding Networking Behaviors in Ph.D. Students: A Longitudinal Perspective. Poster presented in the Division 15 (Educational Psychology) program at the 2025 Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- Litson, K.** (2025, July). *Assumptions in Latent Moderation: The Role of Measurement (Non)-Invariance*. Paper presented at the 2025 International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. Twin Cities, MN, USA.
- *Penheiro, R., & **Litson, K.** (2025, July). *What Do Web-Based Memory Assessments Measure? A Convergent Validity Analysis*. Poster presented at the 2025 International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. Twin Cities, MN, USA.
- *Bajwa, N., *Snyder, A., & **Litson, K.** (2025, July). *The Creativity Conundrum: Examining the Gap between Concept and Measurement*. Poster presented at the 2025 International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. Twin Cities, MN, USA.
- *Snyder, A., *Bajwa, N., & **Litson, K.** (2025, June). *Measuring a Creative Person: Implications from the Incommensurability Problem*. Data blitz presentation at the 2025 Association for Research in Personality Biennial Pre-Conference. Evanston, IL, U.S.A.
- *Ranum, R., Williams, M. W., & **Litson, K.** (2025, June). Investigation of Acquired Brain Injury on Rule Violation in Prison. Poster presented the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology Conference, Chicago, IL.
- *Rague, J., Zhang, F., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2025, April). Dynamic Interactions Between Cognitive Load and Self-Efficacy Drive Goal Setting within a Self-Regulation Framework. Paper accepted for presentation at the 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver, CO.
- Feldon, D. F., Kim, Y. M., **Litson, K.**, Ramadan, N., Fields, D., Brockbank, R. (2024, November). Moderating Measurement Models with Mixed Methods: Situating Measurement in Relational Contexts. Paper accepted for presentation at the 49th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education, Minneapolis, MN.
- Litson, K.**, Montoya, A. K., & **Wang, Y. (2024, June). Comparing approaches to examine multiple binary moderators in latent variable models. Paper presented at the 2024 Modern Modeling Methods Conference, Storrs, CT.

- *Zhang, F., **Litson, K.**, Feldon, D. F., Wofford, A. M., & Blaney, J. M. (2024, April). How gendered values interact with principal investigator gender to impact doctoral students' sense of belonging. Paper presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Blaney, J. M., Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2024, April). *Intervening to foster upward transfer student interest in computer science Ph.D.s*. Poster presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- Feldon, D. F., **Litson, K.**, Fields, D., & Clark, H. (2023). *A new mixed method approach to modeling longitudinal change from interview data*. Paper presented at the 48th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education, Minneapolis, MN.
- *Cahoon, B., Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2023) *Critiques of the GRE: Discourse following the publication of a meta-analysis*. Paper presented at the 48th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education, Minneapolis, MN.
- Litson, K.**, *Zhang, F., & Feldon, D. F. (2023, April). *Socialization impacts self-report research skill accuracy in comparison to performance-based research skill assessment*. Paper presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2023, April). *Timing makes a difference: Differential influences of doctoral experiences on postdoctoral career attainment as a function of year in program*. Paper presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Blaney, J. M., Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2023, April). *Predicting PhD interest among upward transfer STEM students: Gender, campus involvement, and exposure to industry*. Paper presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Litson, K.** & Feldon, D. F. (2022, December). *Different processes unfold among different facets of cognitive load and motivation over time*. Paper presented at the 14th International Cognitive Load Theory Conference, Santiago, Chile.
- Zhang, F., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2022, December). *Evaluating relationships among cognitive load and motivation over time*. Paper presented at the 14th International Cognitive Load Theory Conference, Santiago, Chile.
- Feldon, D. F. & **Litson, K.** (2022, November). *"Soft Skills" Profiles of Ph.D. Graduates across Disciplines*. Paper presented at the 47th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education, Las Vegas, NV.
- Litson, K.**, West, R. B., Cahoon, B. & Feldon, D. F. (2022, April). *The time-dependent impact of research self-efficacy, value, and hours on research career goals*. Paper presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.
- Zhang, F., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2022, April). *Publishing (in)consistently as a doctoral student: Difference in publication as a function of mentorship*. Paper presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

- Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2022, April). *Quantified “member checking” as an assessment of item-level validity*. Paper presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.
- Chakraborti, Y., Coffman, D., **Litson, K.**, & Piper, M. (2022, March). *Using mixture models to identify smoking cessation profiles based on self-efficacy, positive expectancy, motivation, and cessation fatigue: An exploratory latent profile and latent transition analysis*. Paper presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Society for Nicotine and Tobacco Research, Baltimore, MD.
- Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2021, November). *Comparability and change: Measurement invariance as an essential consideration in theory development and testing*. Roundtable paper presented at the 46th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education, San Juan, PR.
- Feldon, D. F., **Litson, K.**, & Cahoon, B. (2021, November). *The predictive validity of the GRE across graduate outcomes: A meta-analysis of trends over time*. Paper presented at the 46th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education, San Juan, PR.
- Litson, K.**, Jeong, S., Feldon, D. F. (2021, September). *Measurement invariance of cognitive load across time and instructional conditions*. Paper presented at the 13th International Cognitive Load Theory Conference, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.
- West, R., **Litson, K.**, Feldon, D. F. (2021, September). *Direct effects of cognitive load on self-efficacy over time*. Paper presented at the 13th International Cognitive Load Theory Conference, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.
- Lawler, M. J., Plummer, K., **Litson, K.**, Feldon, D. F., & Jeong, S. (2021, August). *Decision-based learning in conceptual Newtonian mechanics*. Paper presented at the virtual summer meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) [online].
- Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2021, April). *The impacts and outcomes of doctoral mentorship over time*. Paper presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association [online].
- Zhang, F., Wofford, A. M., **Litson, K.**, Blaney, J. M., & Feldon, D. F. (2021, April). *To compete or collaborate: Effects of gendered values on STEM doctoral students’ sense of belonging*. Paper presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association [online].
- Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2020, November). *Measuring doctoral mentorship: A moving target*. Paper presented at the 45th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education [online].
- Zhang, F., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2020, November). *Social predictors of mental health of graduate students*. Paper presented at the 45th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education [online].
- Feldon, D. F., **Litson, K.**, & Blaney, J. (2020, April). *Contribution versus recognition: The tenuous role of postdocs in Ph.D. training*. [Symposium]. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, <http://tinyurl.com/vnzned> (Conference Canceled).

- Litson, K., & Feldon, D. F.** (2019, November). *Divergent patterns of doctoral student skill development across time*. Paper presented at the 44th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education Conference, Portland, OR.
- Blaney, J., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2019, November). *Deconstructing the role of advisor gender in developing STEM students: A longitudinal study of doctoral students in biology*. Paper presented at the 44th Annual Association for the Study of Higher Education Conference, Portland, OR.
- Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2019, August). *Controlling for state variability in performance-based measures of Ph.D. research skill development*. Poster presented in the Division 15 (Educational Psychology) program at the 2019 Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Litson, K.**, Blaney, J., & Feldon, D. F. (2019, April). *Identifying critical points for research self-efficacy stability: Considering the experiences of underrepresented minority, women, and first-generation doctoral students over time*. Roundtable paper presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Jeong, S., **Litson, K.**, & Feldon, D. F. (2019, April). *Role of doctoral training environments in scholarly productivity: Moderation from sense of belonging and research self-efficacy*. Paper presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Speed, E., **Litson, K.**, Covington, B., Nield, T., Henrie, T., & Jordan, K. (2019, April). *Automaticity of place value processing in dual language immersion second graders*. Poster presented at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- Jeong, S., Blaney, J., Feldon, D. F., & **Litson, K.** (2018, November). *Profiling students' faculty and peer interactions during the first three years of doctoral study: Associations with student demographics, sense of belonging, and research productivity*. Paper presented at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Tampa, FL.
- Domenech-Rodríguez, M. M., Reveles, A. K., & **Litson, K.** (2018, October). *Development of a measure to assess cultural competence in the general population*. Poster presented at the biennial conference of the National Latina/o Psychological Association. La Jolla, CA.
- Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., & Burns, G. L. (2017, May). *Multimethod moderated mediation analysis using a categorical multigroup design*. Paper presented at the 2017 Modern Modeling Methods Conference, Storrs, CT.
- Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., Burns, G. L., & Servera, M. (2016, July). *A multitrait-multimethod factor mixture model to assess trait \times method interactions*. Poster presented at the 81st International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Asheville, NC.
- Preszler, J., Burns, G. L., **Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., & Servera, M. (2016, August). *Trait and state variance in oppositional defiant disorder symptoms: A multi-source investigation with Spanish children*. Paper presented at the 124th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Denver, CO.

- Litson, K., & Geiser, C.** (2015, April). *Using mixture distribution multitrait-multimethod analysis to assess trait \times method interaction effects: An application in ADHD research*. Paper presented at the 2015 USU Student Research Symposium, Logan, UT.
- Geiser, C., **Litson, K.**, Bishop, J., & Burns, G. L. (2014, July). *Latent state-trait models for a combination of random and fixed situations*. Paper presented at the 79th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Madison, WI.
- Litson, K.**, Papa, L., Geiser, C., Lockhart, G., & Eid, M. (2014, July). *Mediation analysis using multimethod designs with structurally different and interchangeable methods: An application in personality psychology*. Paper presented at the 79th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Madison, WI.
- Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., Burns, G. L., & Servera, M. (2014, May). *An extended multimethod latent state-trait approach to assess consistency, occasion-specificity, and method effects of ADHD inattention, hyperactivity, and academic impairment*. Poster presented at the 2014 Modern Modeling Methods Conference, Storrs, CT.
- Papa, L. A., **Litson, K.**, Geiser, C., & Lockhart, G. (2014, May). *A proposed model for mediation analysis with structurally different raters*. Poster presented at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Prevention Research, Washington, D.C.
- Olson, K. J., Larsen-Rife, D., **Litson, K.**, Fossand, S., Mokiao, A., Oliver, D., & Abdollah, H. (2013, August). *The mediating effect of multicultural programming on diversity climate*. Poster presented in the Division 14 (I/O Psychology) program at the 121st Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.
- Litson, K.**, & Jones, J. (2013, April). *Increased levels of self-compassion correlates with reduced levels of aggression*. Paper presented at the 82nd Annual Convention of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Denver, CO.
- Litson, K.**, & Larsen-Rife, D. (2012, April). *The effects of mindful awareness practices on affect regulation*. Poster presented at the 26th National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Ogden, UT.

Teaching Experience

Courses Taught

Fall 2024, Spring 2025	PSY 6302: Experimental Design University of Houston Enrollment: 30, 22
Spring 2024	PSY 2317: Introduction to Psychology Statistics University of Houston Enrollment: 78
Fall 2018, Summer 2018	PSY 5330/PSY 6330 (online): Principles of Psychological Measurement and Test Theory

	Utah State University Enrollment: 20, 42
Spring 2018, Fall 2017	PSY 3010: Psychological Statistics Utah State University Enrollment: 66, 111
Spring 2017 (3 lab sections)	PSY 3460: Neuroscience I Lab Utah State University (Lab Instructor) Enrollment: 15, 11, 12
Fall 2016 (4 lab sections)	PSY 3010: Psychological Statistics Lab Utah State University (Lab Instructor) Enrollment: 15, 19, 17, 14
Fall 2014, 2015, 2016	USU 1010: University Connections Utah State University Enrollment: 29, 23, 27
<i>Other Teaching Experience</i>	
Fall 2021	Pro-Seminar in Instructional Technology: Ethics in Measurement Guest Instructor, ITLS 7000, USU
Fall 2020	Introduction to Cleaning, Manipulating, and Analyzing Data in R Developed for Feldon Lab, USU
July 2015	Psychological Statistics: Correlation, Regression, & Chi-Square Analysis Guest Lecturer, PSY 3010, USU
2011 – 2013	Psychology, Mathematics, and Statistics Public Tutor, UTU
2008 – 2013	Introductory Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, & Statistics Private Tutor, Washington, UT

Community & Professional Service

2025	Mentor Match Program , APA Division 5
2025	Mentoring Program , Psychometric Society
2025	Committee Member , Post-Tenure Review Policy Committee, Department of Psychology, UH
2024 – 2025	Committee Member , Social/Personality Hiring Committee, Department of Psychology, UH
2024	Committee Member , Annual Performance Rating Revision Committee, Department of Psychology, UH
2022 – 2023	Committee Member , Dissertation Award Committee, Division D, AERA
2022	Reviewer , Graduate Research & Creative Opportunities Grant, USU

2020	Committee Member , ITLS Postdoc Hiring Committee, ITLS, USU
2017 – 2019	Co-Founder & Student Leader , Safe Passages 4 U, USU <i>Description: Program designed to increase self-awareness, knowledge, and skills about cultural competence.</i> https://osf.io/zh5t2/
2016 – 2019	LGBTQA Mentor , Access & Diversity Center, USU
2016 – 2017	Co-Organizer and Committee Member , Logan Pride
2016 – 2017	Outreach Presenter , Advancing Civility Interventions https://osf.io/p2a6s/
2015	Student Representative , Hiring Committee, USU Psychology
2011 – 2012	President , Psychology Club, UTU
2012	Founder & Committee Member , Passport to College, UTU <i>Description: After school program designed to help low SES elementary students develop skills to succeed in high school and college.</i>

Honors & Awards

2021	Outstanding Paper Award for <i>Shifting gears: Characteristics and consequences of latent class transitions in doctoral socialization</i> , AERA Graduate and Post-Doctoral Education SIG 168
2015	Honorable Mention , National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP)
2013-2017	Presidential Doctoral Research Fellow , Department of Psychology, USU
2013	Valedictorian , College of Humanities & Social Sciences, UTU
2013	Outstanding Research Award , Rocky Mountain Psychological Association
2012	Student of the Semester in Psychology , UTU
2012	Student of the Year in Psychology , UTU
2010 – 2012	Utah New Century Scholarship , UTU
2010 – 2012	Chancellor Academic Scholarship , UTU

Professional Development

2023	Special Sworn Status (SSS) Census Training
2023	CITI Training Recertification
2019	Responsible Conduct of Research CITI Training
2018	Safe Passages 4 U Leader Training
2016	Getting Started as a Successful Proposal Writer and Academician
2016	Advancing Civility Interventions Trainer Training
2016	Love Your Data Workshop: Learn to create a data management plan
2015	Interfaith Initiative Training
2015	Effect Size & Power Analysis using G*Power Workshop
2014	LGBTQ+ Allies Training
2014	Research Scholars Certification Program
2012	Bacchus Gamma Certified Peer Educator Workshop

Ad Hoc Journal Reviewer

- PLOS ONE
- SAGE Open
- European Journal of Psychological Assessment
- Assessment
- Journal of Personality Assessment
- Journal of the Royal Statistical Society
- CBE—Life Sciences Education
- Frontiers in Psychology
- AERA Open
- Instructional Science
- Personality and Individual Differences
- Psychological Methods

Statistical Skills & Software Expertise

- *Mplus* (SEM, mixture distribution models, mediation, moderation, Monte Carlo simulation)
- R (data management, data analysis, graphics & figures, function development)
- SPSS (data management, descriptive statistics, introductory statistical analysis)
- JASP (descriptive statistics, introductory statistical analysis)
- Large-scale latent variable analysis using R & *Mplus* via MplusAutomation

Mentorship

- Primary Mentorship
 - Penheiro, R. (research assistant), 2024 – present
 - Bajwa, N. (PhD student), 2024 – present
- Dissertation Committee Member
 - Mustafa, A., 2025 – present; proposed
 - Salentine, C., 2025 – present
 - St. Aubin, A., 2025 – present; proposed
 - Schoolfield, L., 2025 – present
 - Grossberg, I., 2025 – present
 - Jaramillo, K., 2025 – present
 - Garcia, J., 2025 – present
- Thesis Committee Member
 - Wall, J., 2024 – present; proposed
 - Krause, C., 2024 – present; proposed
 - Boone, K., 2024 – present; proposed
 - LaRocca, J. C., 2025 – present; proposed
 - Sahoo, M., 2025 – present; proposed
- Other Noted Mentorship
 - Grossberg, I., 2024 (support on thesis analysis)
 - Ortega, A., 2024 (support on NSF GRFP)

- Snyder, A., 2024 – present (lab member; support on NSF GRFP, co-mentor on F31)
- St. Aubin, A., 2025 – present (lab member/Practicum student)
- Hsu, C., 2025 – present (lab member/Practicum student)

COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Bailey, Zinzi D., University of Minnesota
- Bispo, Jordan B., American Cancer Center
- Blaney, Jennifer, Northern Arizona University
- Cirino, Paul, University of Houston
- Coffman, Donna L., University of South Carolina
- Dziak, John J., Pennsylvania State University
- Feldon, David F., Utah State University
- Griffin, Jason, University of Houston
- Medina, Luis, University of Houston
- Montoya, Amanda K., University of California Los Angeles
- Ng, Vincent, University of Houston
- Owen-Smith, Jason, Institute for Research on Innovation & Science (IRIS), University of Michigan
- Papa, Lesther A., California State University San Juan
- Peugh, James L., Cincinnati Children's Hospital
- Van Eseltine, Matthew, IRIS, University of Michigan
- Zhang, Feng, Binzhou Medical University, China