

# Kyla Rankin, M.A.

University of California, Riverside | Department of Psychology  
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## EDUCATION

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University of California, Riverside, *expected*: 2020  
Ph.D. Social/Personality Psychology

University of California, Riverside, 2017  
M.A. Social/Personality Psychology  
Thesis: "Divided We Stand, United We Worry: Exploring the Role of Uncertainty in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election"

California State University, Fresno, 2015  
B.A. Psychology, Summa Cum Laude, Psychology Honors Program

## PUBLICATIONS

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(\*co-authorship with an undergraduate student)

**Rankin, K.**, Walsh, L. C., & Sweeny, K. (2018). A Better Distraction: Exploring the Benefits of Flow During Uncertain Waiting Periods. *Emotion*.

Sweeny, K. & **Rankin, K.** (2018). The role of attitudes in cancer. In D. Albarracin & B. T. Johnson, (Eds.), *Handbook of Attitudes* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.).

*Under review*

**Rankin, K.**, Andrews, S., Sweeny, K. (invited resubmission). Awe-Full Uncertainty: Easing Discomfort During Waiting Periods.

**Rankin, K.** & Sweeny, K. (invited resubmission). Divided we stand, united we worry: Predictors of worry during the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election.

**Rankin, K.**, \*Le, D., & Sweeny, K. (under review). Preemptively Finding Benefit in a Cancer Diagnosis: A Qualitative Analysis.

**Rankin, K.**, Sweeny, K., & \*Xu, S. (under review). Distorted Time Perception During Stressful Waiting Periods.

## PRESENTATIONS

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*Talks*

**Rankin, K.** & Sweeny, K. (under review). *Seeking silver linings in bad news*. Under review at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

**Rankin, K.** (2019, April). *Life as a graduate student*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

Sweeny, K., **Rankin, K.**, & Walsh, L. (2018, October). *Finding flow during life transitions*. Symposium presentation at the Annual Conference for the Society of Experimental Social Psychology, Seattle, WA.

**Rankin, K.** & Sweeny, K. (2018, April). *Divided we stand, united we worry: Coping with uncertainty in the 2016 U.S. presidential election*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Portland, OR.

**Rankin, K.** (2018, April). *Life as a graduate student*. Presented at the Annual Western Psychological Association, Portland, OR.

**Rankin, K.**, Le, D., & Sweeny, K. (2018, March). *Finding benefit in a breast cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis*. Data blitz presented at Health Preconference at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA.

**Rankin, K.** (2018, February). *Finding benefit in a breast cancer diagnosis: A qualitative analysis*. Presented at brown bag series at University of California, Riverside.

Sweeny, K., & **Rankin, K.** (2017, May). *The role of attitudes in cancer*. Invited presentation at the conference for the *Handbook of Attitudes*, Philadelphia, PA.

**Rankin, K.** (2017, March). *The relationship between flow and well-being while waiting for bar exam results*. Presented at University of California Well-Being Conference, University of California, Riverside.

**Rankin, K.** (2014, May). *The effects of virtual eye-height on memories of object size*. Presented at the California State University Student Research Competition, California State University, East Bay, *placed second*.

#### *Posters*

**Rankin, K.**, Andrews, S., & Sweeny, K. (2019, February). *Awe-full uncertainty: Easing discomfort during waiting periods*. To be presented at the 2019 Happiness and Well-Being Preconference at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Portland, OR.

**Rankin, K.**, Xu, S., Sweeny, K. (2019, February). *Distorted time perception during stressful waiting periods*. To be presented at 2019 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Portland, OR.

**Rankin, K.** & Sweeny, K. (2018, March). *The benefits of flow while awaiting uncertain news*. Presented at 2018 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Rankin, K.**, & Sweeny, K. (2017, July). *Individual differences in managing uncertainty during the 2016 U.S. presidential election*. Presented at 2017 Association for Research in Personality Psychology, Sacramento, California.

**Rankin, K.**, & Sweeny, K. (2017, January). *The complex dynamics of subjective time perception while waiting for uncertain news*. Presented at 2017 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, San Antonio, Texas.

Hilliard, S., **Rankin, K.**, & Lachs, L. (2015, April). *Embodied perception: The effect of optical flow on embodied reaching in virtual reality*. Presented at 2015 Annual Western Psychological Association, Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Rankin, K.**, & Lachs, L. (2014, April). *The effects of virtual eye-height on memories of object size*. Presented at 2014 Annual Western Psychological Association, Portland, Oregon.

#### **AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, & HONORS**

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Society for Personality and Social Psychologists Conference Graduate Travel Award, 2018  
Award amount: \$500

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, 2018

Psi Chi Steering Committee Travel Grant, 2018  
Award amount: \$750

Eugene Cota Robles Award, UC, Riverside, 2015-2016  
Award amount: \$24,000

California State University Pre-Doctoral Scholarship, Honorable Mention, 2015  
Award amount: \$3,000

Golden Key International Honour Society, California State University, Fresno, 2015

McNair Summer Research Project Award, CSU, Fresno, 2014  
Award amount: \$2,700

Faculty Sponsored Student Research Award, CSU, Fresno, 2014  
Award amount: \$1,000

Edward V. Tenney Memorial, CSU, Fresno, 2014  
Award amount: \$200

McNair Honors Scholars Program, CSU, Fresno, 2013-2015

Psychology Honors Program, CSU, Fresno, 2013-2014

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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Associate Instructor—University of California, Riverside

- Psychological Research Methods: Summer 2018

Teaching Assistant—University of California, Riverside

- Health Psychology: Fall 2018
- Health and Behavior Change: Spring 2018
- Social Psychology: Fall 2016, Winter 2019
- Psychological Research Methods: Summer 2016, Summer 2017, Winter 2018
- General Psychology: Fall 2017

Extending the Class Leader—Fresno City College, Fresno, California

- Introduction to Psychology: Spring 2015, Fall 2015
- Psychological Research Methods: Fall 2014

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE & SERVICE**

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Graduate Student Representative, 2017-2018

Psychology Department, University of California, Riverside

Graduate Representative Steering Committee Member, 2017-Present

Psi Chi National Honors Society

Chair for Psi Chi President and Career Speaker, Eric Landrum, 2018

2018 Annual Western Psychological Association Conference

Reviewer for SPSP Outstanding Research Award, 2018

2018 Society for Personality and Social Psychology

Reviewer for Psi Chi Travel Award to regional conference, 2018

2018 Western Psychological Association

Reviewer for Psi Chi Undergraduate Research Award, 2018

2018 Western Psychological Association

Graduate Student Peer Mentor (university), 2016-Present

Graduate Student Mentorship Program, UC, Riverside

Graduate Student Peer Mentor (department only), 2017-Present

Psychology Department, UC, Riverside

Reoccurring Graduate Student Panelist, 2016-Present  
CHASS F1RST and Transfer Outreach Program, UC, Riverside

Psychology Outreach Board Member, 2016-2017  
Graduate Student Association, UC, Riverside

Transfer Student Summer Program Lead Mentor, Summer 2015  
Student Support Services Program, Fresno City College, Fresno

President and Vice President, 2013-2015  
Psi Chi National Honors Society, California State University, Fresno

## **UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING**

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### *Research*

- Sandra Xu—Paper in progress; Spring 2017-Fall 2018  
Project focuses on subjective time perception. Paper is currently under review.
- Dakota Le—Paper under review; Fall 2016-Spring 2017  
Project focused on preemptive benefit finding while women await breast biopsy results. Paper is currently under review.
- Kaitlyn Spillane—Published in UCR undergraduate journal; Winter 2017  
Spillane, K., **Rankin, K.**, & Sweeny, K. (2017). Predicting political engagement from moral values during the 2016 U.S. presidential election. *University of California, Riverside: Undergraduate Research Journal*.

### *Teaching*

- Kyle Kester—Introduction to American Sign Language R'Course; Winter 2018  
Mentored undergraduate student instructor; assisted in developing the course, managing students, and ensuring course instruction was completed in a professional manner.

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

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[\*Can't stop worrying? Try Tetris to ease your mind.\*](#)  
NPR, November 2018.

[\*Researching Flow to Cope with Stress\*](#)  
BTR Today, November 2018

[\*Classic video games can help people achieve flow state.\*](#)  
KQED Morning Report, October, 2018.

[\*For dreamers, fear of deportation is scary – but waiting is even worse.\*](#)

Washington Post, April 2018.

## **TRAINING & WORKSHOPS**

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Health Psychology Summer Workshop, Summer (2016 & 2017)

Intercampus Consortium on Health Psychology at University of California, Los Angeles

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Society for Personality and Social Psychology

Association for Psychological Science

Western Psychological Association

Social Personality Health Network

Association for Research in Personality