

# KATHERINE MUENKS

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## APPOINTMENTS

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| 2018-present | Assistant Professor<br>Department of Educational Psychology<br>The University of Texas at Austin        |
| 2016-2018    | Postdoctoral Research Associate<br>Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences<br>Indiana University |

## EDUCATION

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| 2016 | Ph.D., Human Development and Quantitative Methodology,<br>University of Maryland<br><i>Specialization:</i> Educational Psychology<br><i>Certificate:</i> Measurement, Statistics, and Evaluation |
| 2010 | B.S., Psychology, The Ohio State University<br><i>Magna cum laude, with research distinction in psychology</i>   |

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Ponnock, A., **Muenks, K.**, Morell, M., Gladstone, J. R., Yang, J. S., & Wigfield, A. (In press). Grit and conscientiousness: Another jangle fallacy. *Journal of Research in Personality*.
2. **Muenks, K.**, Canning, E. A., LaCosse, J., Green, D. J., Zirkel, S., Garcia, J. A., & Murphy, M. C. (In press). Does my professor think my ability can change? Students' perceptions of their STEM professors' mindset predict in-class psychological experiences. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*.

3. **Muenks, K.**, Peterson, E. G., Green, A., Kolvoord, R., & Uttal, D. (2020). Parents' beliefs about high school students' spatial abilities: Gender differences and associations with parent behavior and students' STEM career intentions. *Sex Roles, 82*, 570-583.
4. Kroeper, K. M., **Muenks, K.**, & Murphy, M. C. (2019). Marriage equality: On the books and on the ground? A social psychological investigation of discrimination against same-sex and interracial couples. *Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy, 19*, 50-77.
5. Canning, E. A., **Muenks, K.**, Green, D. J., & Murphy, M. C. (2019). STEM faculty who believe ability is innate have larger racial achievement gaps and inspire less student motivation in their classes. *Science Advances, 5*.
6. Gladstone, J. G., Häfner, I., Turci, L., Kneissler, H., & **Muenks, K.** (2018). Associations between parents' and students' motivational beliefs in mathematics and mathematical performance: The role of gender. *Contemporary Educational Psychology, 54*, 221-234.
7. **Muenks, K.**, Wigfield, A., & Eccles, J. S. (2018). I can do this! The development and calibration of children's expectations for success and competence beliefs. *Developmental Review, 48*, 24-39.
8. Wentzel, K. R., **Muenks, K.**, McNeish, D. M., & Russell, S. L. (2018). Emotional support, social goals, and classroom behavior: A multi-level, multi-site study. *Journal of Educational Psychology, 110*, 611-627.
9. **Muenks, K.**, Yang, J. S., & Wigfield, A. (2018). Associations between grit, motivation, and achievement in high school students. *Motivation Science, 4*, 158-176.
10. **Muenks, K.**, & Miele, D. B. (2017). Students' thinking about effort and ability: The role of developmental, contextual, and individual difference factors. *Review of Educational Research, 87*, 707-735.
11. **Muenks, K.**, Wigfield, A., Yang, J. S., & O'Neal, C. (2017). How true is grit? Assessing its relations to high school and college students' personality characteristics, self-regulation, engagement, and achievement. *Journal of Educational Psychology, 109*, 599-620.
12. Wentzel, K. R., **Muenks, K.**, McNeish, D. M., & Russell, S. L. (2017). Peer and teacher supports in relation to motivation and effort: A multi-level study. *Contemporary Educational Psychology, 49*, 32-45.
13. **Muenks, K.**, Miele, D. B., & Wigfield, A. (2016). How students' perceptions of the source of effort influence their ability evaluations of other students. *Journal of Educational Psychology, 108*, 438-454.

14. **Muenks, K.**, Miele, D. B., Ramani, G. B., Stapleton, L. M., & Rowe, M. L. (2015). Parental beliefs about the fixedness of children's math and verbal abilities. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 41*, 78-89.

### **Book Chapters**

Wigfield, A., **Muenks, K.**, & Rosenzweig, E. Q. (2015a). Achievement motivation. In H. Miller (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of theory in psychology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.

Wigfield, A., **Muenks, K.**, & Rosenzweig, E. Q. (2015b). Students' motivation in the classroom. In C. Davies (Ed.), *The social psychology of the classroom international handbook*. New York, NY: Routledge.

Wentzel, K. R., & **Muenks, K.** (2015). Peer influence on students' motivation, academic achievement, and social behavior. In K. R. Wentzel & G. B. Ramani (Eds.), *Social influences on social-emotional, motivation, and cognitive outcomes in school contexts*. New York, NY: Taylor Francis.

### **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS**

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2018	Review of Research Award, American Educational Research Association (for the paper <i>Students' thinking about effort and ability: The role of developmental, contextual, and individual difference factors</i> )
2015-2016	NAEd/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship, National Academy of Education
2015	Paul Pintrich Memorial Award (Outstanding graduate student poster), American Educational Research Association Motivation in Education Special Interest Group
2014	Graduate Summer Research Fellowship (\$5,000), University of Maryland
2014	Nominee for Division C Poster Award, American Educational Research Association
2013-2014	First place winner at Graduate Research Interaction Day, University of Maryland
2010-2012	Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland

### **RESEARCH GRANT EXPERIENCE**

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**Funded:**

**Principal Investigator.** (2020, \$16,000). *Undergraduate STEM students' and instructors' beliefs about intelligence, difficulty, and failure.* Summer Research Assignment, University of Texas at Austin.

**Principal Investigator.** (2016, \$120,000). *"Does working hard mean I'm not smart?" Students' beliefs about effort and ability in mathematics.* SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (SPRF), National Science Foundation. **Declined due to other opportunities.**

**Principal Investigator.** (2014, \$1,000). *The role of college students' perceptions of effort source on self-evaluations of academic ability.* College of Education SPARC Grant, University of Maryland.

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**INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Kroeper, K. M., **Muenks, K.**, Canning, E. A., Fried, A. C., & Murphy, M. C. (2020, May). *How do students know their professors' mindset beliefs? Examining the behaviors that communicate faculty mindset beliefs in college.* Paper to be presented at the Association for Psychological Science Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. (Conference canceled)

Canning, E. A., **Muenks, K.**, LaCosse, J., Green, D. J., & Murphy, M. C. (2020, April). *Faculty mindsets: How professors' beliefs about ability relate to students' psychological experiences and performance.* Paper to be presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference canceled)

Wang, L., **Muenks, K.**, & Yan, V. X. (2020, April). *Lack of knowledge and lack of will: Why don't students use effective strategies?* Poster to be presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference canceled)

**Muenks, K.**, & Rosenzweig, E. Q. (2020, April). *What's my biggest challenge? Exploring students' open-ended, self-generated challenges in science and associations with motivation.* Poster to be presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference canceled)

**Muenks, K.**, Canning, E. A., Green, D. J., & Murphy, M. C. (2020, February). *Faculty who believe intelligence is fixed exacerbate racial achievement gaps in STEM.* Paper presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, New Orleans, LA.

**Muenks, K.** (2020, February). *Active learning practices and students' perceptions of science professors' beliefs about intelligence.* Talk presented at the Human Development, Culture, and Learning Sciences Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

Wang, L., Yan, V. X., **Muenks, K.**, & Rosenzweig, E. Q. (2019, November). *Barriers to motivating effective study strategy use*. Poster to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

**Muenks, K.**, Canning, E. A., Kroeper, K. M., & Murphy, M. C. (2019, April). *What do fixed and growth mindset college professors actually do and say in the classroom?* Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.

Morell, M., Yang, J. S., Liu, Y., Gladstone, J. R., Ponnock, A., Turci (Faust), L., **Muenks, K.**, & Wigfield, A. (2019, April). *Validation of grit scales across multiple samples: Restricted recalibration and multiple group analysis*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada.

**Muenks, K.** (2019, January; 2018, September, October). *Motivation in school: The role of students', parents', and teachers' beliefs about academic ability*. Talk presented at the Developmental Psychology, Social Psychology, and STEM Center Meetings at the University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX.

Canning, E. A., **Muenks, K.**, Green, D. J., Ozier, E., & Murphy, M. C. (2018, October). *Faculty mindsets: How professor's beliefs about ability trigger stereotype threat*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Society of Experimental Social Psychology, Seattle, WA.

**Muenks, K.**, Peterson, E. G., Green, A., Kolvoord, R., & Uttal, D. (2018, August). *Parents' beliefs about students' spatial abilities predict students' intentions to major in STEM*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Motivation, Aarhus, Denmark.

Gladstone, J., **Muenks, K.**, Yang, J. S., & Wigfield, A. (2018, August). *Clarifying grit's predictive role: Exploring mechanisms of the relation between grit and achievement*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Motivation, Aarhus, Denmark.

Kroeper, K. M., **Muenks, K.**, & Murphy, M. C. (2018, July). *Marriage equality: On the books and on the ground?* Paper presented at the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Gladstone, J., **Muenks, K.**, Yang, J. S., Wigfield, A., Lim, H. J., & Hwang, M. H. (2018, July). *Clarifying grit's predictive role: Mediators help explain the relation between grit and achievement among U.S. and Korean students*. Poster presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development Biennial Meeting, Queensland, Australia.

Canning, E. A., **Muenks, K.**, Green, D. J., & Murphy, M. C. (2018, April). *Faculty mindsets: How professors' beliefs about ability relate to students' experiences and achievement in*

STEM. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

**Muenks, K.**, Canning, E. A., Green, D. J., & Murphy, M. C. (2018, April). *Does my professor think my ability can change? Students' perceptions of their STEM professors' mindset predict in-class psychological experiences*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

**Muenks, K.**, & Murphy, M. C. (2018, April). *Students' perceptions of faculty fixed-growth mindset beliefs in STEM and non-STEM classrooms*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

Canning, E. A., **Muenks, K.**, Green, D. J., & Murphy, M. C. (2018, March). *Faculty mindsets: How professors' beliefs about ability relate to student experiences and the racial achievement gap in STEM*. Poster presented at the Illinois Summit on Diversity in Psychological Science, Champaign, IL.

Kroeper, K. M., **Muenks, K.**, & Murphy, M. C. (2018, March). *Marriage equality: On the books and on the ground? Beliefs and behavior towards same-sex and interracial couples in the wedding industry*. Poster presented at the Illinois Summit on Diversity in Psychological Science, Champaign, IL.

**Muenks, K.**, Emerson, K. T. U., & Murphy, M. C. (2018, March). *Promoting change at work: How organizational and personal mindsets predict employees' motivation and developmental willingness*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Ozier, E., **Muenks, K.**, Zirkel, S., Garcia, J., & Murphy, M. C. (2018, March). *How faculty mindsets affect experiences of identity threat and motivation in STEM classes*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

Yang, J. S., Morell, M., Lim, H., Wigfield, A., & **Muenks, K.** (2017, July). *Small-sample MIRT calibration and model selection using the grit data*. Paper presented at the 2017 International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Zurich, Switzerland.

**Muenks, K.** (2017, May). *Does my professor think my ability can change? Perceptions of STEM professor mindsets predict college students' in-the-moment classroom experiences*. Data blitz talk presented at the 2017 Weary Symposium, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

**Muenks, K.** (2017, April). *Mom, dad, teacher, peer: Who influences students' STEM motivation? An expectancy value perspective*. Chaired symposium conducted at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

- Muenks, K.,** McNeish, D. M., & Wentzel, K. R. (2017, April). *Social support, goal pursuit, and classroom behavior of adolescents: A multi-level study*. Poster presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- Gladstone, J. R., Häfner, I., Turci, L. A., **Muenks, K.,** Kneissler, H., Nagengast, B., & Trautwein, U. (2017, April). *Associations between parents' and students' motivational beliefs: The role of gender*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- Miele, D. B., Vasilyeva, M., Shen, C., & **Muenks, K.** (2017, April). *Individual differences in perceived effort source influence students' judgments of ability*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- Muenks, K.,** Wigfield, A., & Yang, J. S. (2017, April). *Relations between grit, motivation, and achievement in high school students*. Poster presented at the Midwestern Psychology Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Kroeper, K. M., **Muenks, K.,** & Murphy, M. C. (2017, April). *"I do's" to "You don'ts": Discrimination in the wedding industry*. Paper presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Levy (Green), D. J., **Muenks, K.,** Kroeper, K. M., & Murphy, M. C. (2017, April). *Faculty mindsets in STEM vs. non-STEM fields*. Paper presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Muenks, K.,** McNeish, D. M., & Wentzel, K. R. (2017, April). *Adolescents' social support at school: Relations with goal pursuit and prosocial and responsible behavior*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Gladstone, J., Häfner, I., Turci, L., **Muenks, K.,** Kneissler, H., Nagengast, B., & Trautwein, U. (2017, April). *Associations between parents' and students' motivational beliefs: The role of gender and age*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Muenks, K.** (2017, January). *Students' beliefs about effort and ability*. Talk presented at the Social Seminar at the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.
- Muenks, K.,** Wigfield, A., & Yang, J. S. (2016, August). *Grit's relation to motivation and achievement outcomes*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Motivation, Thessaloniki, Greece.

- Muenks, K.,** McNeish, D. M., & Wentzel, K. R. (2016, August). *Relations between peer and teacher supports, motivation, and engagement in adolescent students*. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Denver, Colorado.
- Muenks, K.,** Wigfield, A., Yang, J. S., & O'Neal, C. (2016, April). *The factor structure of grit in two age groups and its relations with self-regulation and engagement*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- Muenks, K.** (2016, April). *Why am I working hard? Perceptions of effort source and students' self-evaluations of ability*. Poster presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
- Muenks, K.,** Wigfield, A., & Miele, D. B. (2016, April). *The role of students' perceptions of effort source on perceived relations between effort and ability*. Poster presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, Baltimore, MD.
- Muenks, K.** (2016, February). *Students' beliefs about effort and ability*. Talk presented at the Proseminar at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY.
- Muenks, K.,** Miele, D. B., & Wigfield, A. (2015, April). *Perceived sources of effort influence students' ability judgments*. Poster presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Eason, S., **Muenks, K.,** Ramani, G. B., Rowe, M. L., & Miele, D. B. (2015, March). *Parents' domain-specific ability mindsets influence support during reading and math tasks with preschoolers*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- Muenks, K.** (2014, September). *Students' perceptions of the source of effort*. Talk presented at the Educational Psychology Colloquium Series, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
- Muenks, K.,** & Miele, D. B. (2014, April). *Parental beliefs about math and verbal ability predict self-reported behavior: The role of child competence*. Poster presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- Muenks, K.,** & Miele, D. B. (2014, February). *Parental beliefs about math and verbal ability predict self-reported behavior: The role of child competence*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Muenks, K.** (2013, October). *Do beliefs about the source of effort affect judgments of ability?* Talk presented at the Educational Psychology Colloquium Series, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.



**Muenks, K., Miele, D. B., Rowe, M. L., & Ramani, G. B. (2013, April).** *Parental beliefs about children's math and reading abilities predict self-reported parenting behavior.* Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Seattle, WA.

**Muenks, K. (2012, April).** *Parents' beliefs about effort and ability in mathematics and reading.* Talk presented at the Educational Psychology Colloquium Series, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

**Muenks, K., & Guthrie, J. (2012, April).** *Cognitive and motivational mediators of behavioral engagement and reading comprehension.* Poster presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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2020-present	Instructor, Current Issues in Motivation (EDP 382D), University of Texas at Austin <i>Enrollment: 11 students (graduate)</i>
2019-present	Instructor, Motivation and Emotion (EDP 382D), University of Texas at Austin <i>Enrollment: 20 students (graduate)</i>
2018-present	Instructor, Cognition, Human Learning, and Motivation (ALD 320), University of Texas at Austin <i>Enrollment: 60 students (undergraduate)</i>
2015	Instructor, Educational Psychology (EDHD 460), University of Maryland <i>Enrollment: 11 students (undergraduate and graduate)</i>
2012-2014	Instructor, Research Methods in Human Development (EDHD 306), University of Maryland <i>Enrollment: 45 students (undergraduate)</i>

## **STUDENT THESES AND DISSERTATIONS**

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### **Dissertations**

Lisi Wang (Co-chair) (2020)	University of Texas at Austin, Educational Psychology
Allison Zengilowski (Committee) (2020)	
Shengjie Lin (Committee) (2020)	

Jennifer Archer (Committee) (2020)  
Derek Hanson (Committee) (2020)  
Amanda Bowling (Committee) (2020)  
Ashely Kuchar (Committee) (2020)  
Oliver Davidson (Committee) (2019-2020)

Rebecca Maymon (Committee) (2019)

McGill University, Educational Psychology

### **Doctoral Qualifying Process (QP) Exams**

Kristen Mosley (Committee) (2020)  
Erin Morpeth (Committee) (2020)  
Yi Shi (Committee) (2020)  
Ashley Kuchar (Chair) (2020)  
Jendayi Dillard (Committee) (2020)  
Caroline Carberry (Committee) (2019)

University of Texas at Austin, Educational Psychology

### **Master's Reports or Portfolios**

Lori Healey (Advisor) (2020)  
Noura Wakim (Second Reader) (2019)  
Ella Meisner (Second Reader) (2019)

University of Texas at Austin, Educational Psychology

Melanie Gonzalez (Committee) (2018)

University of Texas at Austin, Psychology

### **EDITORIAL AND REVIEW EXPERIENCE**

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2020-present

Editorial Board, *Journal of Educational Psychology*

2019-present

Editorial Board, *Contemporary Educational Psychology*

2017-present

Program Reviewer, American Educational Research Association  
Motivation in Education Special Interest Group

2018

Program Reviewer, European Association for Research on Learning  
and Instruction Special Interest Group 8 International Conference on  
Motivation

2016

Editorial Assistant, *Educational Psychologist*

2015-2016	Program Reviewer, American Educational Research Association Division C
2011-present	Ad Hoc Reviewer:  <i>AERA Open</i> <i>British Journal of Educational Psychology</i> <i>Child Development</i> <i>Contemporary Educational Psychology</i> <i>Developmental Psychology</i> <i>European Journal of Psychology of Education</i> <i>Infant and Child Development</i> <i>Journal of Adolescence</i> <i>Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology</i> <i>Journal of Early Adolescence</i> <i>Journal of Educational Psychology</i> <i>Journal of Experimental Education</i> <i>Journal of Personality</i> <i>Learning and Individual Differences</i> <i>Learning and Instruction</i> <i>Motivation Science</i> <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences</i> <i>Social Psychological and Personality Science</i>

## **SERVICE**

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2020-present	Treasurer, AERA Motivation in Education Special Interest Group
2020-present	Organizer, Human Development, Culture, and Learning Sciences (HDCLS) Recruitment Day, University of Texas at Austin
2019-present	Organizer, Human Development, Culture, and Learning Sciences (HDCLS) Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin
2019-present	Member, AERA Motivation Special Interest Group Early Career Researcher Leadership Committee
2017-2018	Organizer, Psychology Postdoc Organization (P-PoDs), Indiana University
2010-2014	Board member, Human Development Graduate Student Organization (HDGSO), University of Maryland

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Educational Research Association (AERA)  
    Division C: Learning and Instruction  
    Division E: Counseling and Human Development  
    Motivation in Education SIG  
Psychonomic Society  
Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)  
Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)

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