

Amanda Lynn Davis

Assistant Professor

Elon University Department of Psychology

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Employment

Assistant Professor

August 2024-Present

Department of Psychology

Elon University, Elon, NC

Education

Doctor of Philosophy, Psychology; concentration in school/child psychology

August 2024

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

GPA: 4.0

Mentor: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.

Dissertation: Developing a Behavior-Based Measure of Teacher-Student
Relationship Quality

Committee Members: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D., Christine DiStefano, Ph.D.,
Kimberly Hills, Ph.D., & Sarah Edmunds, Ph.D.

Qualifying Exam Passed: 08/19/2022

Defense Passed: 06/27/2023

APA-Accredited Predoctoral Internship at Florida State University

Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Consulting Center (MDC), Tallahassee, FL

Master of Arts, Psychology; concentration in school/child psychology

July 2021

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

GPA: 4.0

Mentor: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.

Thesis: The Impact of the Teacher-Student Relationship on Students'
Educational Expectations

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology; minor in health and human services

May 2019

Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC

GPA: 3.96

Undergraduate Honors Thesis: "Is school yucky?"

Summa Cum Laude

Investigating Precursors to School Adjustment in Preschoolers

Publication Aggregators

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=1xamZm0AAAAJ>

ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Amanda-Davis-53>

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. Kornbluh, M., **Davis, A.**, Dunn, A. H., & Brezicha, K. (2024). Exploring the role of evidence-based educational resources and brokering in the wake of political trauma. *Evidence & Policy*, 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1332/17442648Y2024D0000000026>
2. **Davis, A.L.**, Yazdani, N., Kornbluh, M., & McQuillin, S.D. (2023). Exploring the impact of natural mentors on sociopolitical stress: Implications for educators and youth workers. *Global Journal of Community Psychology Practice*, 14(3), 1-23. https://www.gicpp.org/pdfs/DavisEtAl-Final_2.pdf
3. **Davis, A. L.**, & McQuillin, S. D. (2023). Exploring changes in the teacher-child relationship and children's educational expectations. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 87, 101564. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2023.101564>
4. Samuels, J., **Davis, A. L.**, & McQuillin, S. D. (2023). Assessing longitudinal impacts of mentor role on youth outcomes. *Youth & Society*, 55(5), 999–1025. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0044118X231168439>
5. Hope, E. C., Kornbluh, M., Hagan, M., **Davis, A. L.**, & Alexander, A. (2023). Validation of the Black Community Activism Orientation Scale with racially and ethnically diverse college students. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 71(1-2), 79– 89. <https://doi-org.pallas2.tcl.sc.edu/10.1002/ajcp.12633>
6. Hart, M. J., Averett, A., **Davis, A.L.**, Thompson, D., & Flitner, A. (2023). Uncovering hidden expectations and knowledge in school psychology doctoral admissions. *School Psychology Teaching and Pedagogy*. 39(2), 14-28.
7. Ballard, P.J., Hoyt, L.T., Yazdani, N., Kornbluh, M., Cohen, A.K., **Davis, A.L.**, & Hagan, M.J. (2022). Election-related sociopolitical stress and coping among college students in the United States. *Journal of American College Health*, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07448481.2022.2117556>
8. Kornbluh, M., **Davis, A. L.**, Hoyt, L. T., Simpson, S. B., Cohen, A. K., & Ballard, P. J. (2022). Exploring civic behaviors amongst college students in a year of national unrest. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 50(7), 2950-2972. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22808>
9. **Davis, A.L.**, & McQuillin, S.D. (2022). Supporting autonomy in youth mentoring relationships. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 50(1), 329-347. <http://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22567>
10. Hart, M. J., Flitner, A. M., Kornbluh, M. E., Thompson, D. C., **Davis, A. L.**, Lanza-Gregory, J., McQuillin, S. D., Gonzalez, J. E., & Strait, G. G. (2021). Combining MTSS and community-based mentoring programs. *School Psychology Review*, 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2372966X.2021.1922937>

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles Under Review & In Progress

1. Kornbluh, M., **Davis, A.L.**, Brezicha, K., & Dunn, A. (in preparation). Educators' perceptions of students' needs in the wake of political trauma.
2. **Davis, A.L.**, McQuillin, S.D., DiStefano, C.D., Hills, K.J., & Edmunds, S.R. (in preparation). Developing a behavior-based measure of teacher-student relationship quality.
3. **Davis, A.L.**, Koide, J., McQuillin, S.D., Lyons, M.D., & Simpson, S.B. (in preparation). A scoping review of mentoring for educational attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors.

Other Publications (Published & In Progress)

1. Lakind, D., Barry, J., **Davis, A.L.**, Mitchell Dove, L., McQuillin, S.D., & Pryce, J. (in press). The Friends of the Children Training and Supervision Model. In *The Handbook of Professional Youth Mentoring*. Springer Nature
2. McQuillin, S.D., **Davis, A.L.**, & Simpson, S.B. (2024). Just-in-Time Training. In *Scaling Effective School Mental Health Interventions and Practices* (pp. 105-120). Springer Nature.

3. **Davis, A. L.** (2023). *Relationship-Building Behaviors: An Antidote to Loneliness*. National Mentoring Resource Center. <https://nationalmentoringresourcecenter.org/blog/relationship-building-behaviors-an-antidote-to-loneliness/>
4. **Davis, A.L.** & Worley, T.N. (2022). *Positive relationships matter now more than ever: The role of school psychologists in promoting safe, stable, nurturing relationships*. Communiqué. National Association of School Psychologists.
5. Ballard, P. J., Kornbluh, M., Cohen, A. K., Hoyt, L. T., Hagan, M. J., & **Davis, A. L.** (2020, October 29). *What colleges can do to help students cope with sociopolitical stress (opinion) | Inside Higher Ed*. Inside Higher Ed.

Scholarly Presentations

Invited Talks and Workshops

1. **Davis, A.L.**, & McQuillin, S.D. (2023, May 3). Relationship-Building Behaviors. Teacher workshop presented in partnership with Richland School District One. Columbia, SC.
2. **Davis, A.L.**, & McQuillin, S.D. (2023, May 2). Relationship-Building Behaviors. Teacher workshop presented in partnership with Richland School District Two. Columbia, SC.
3. **Davis, A.L.** (2023, April 19). South Carolina School Mentoring Summit. Invited speaker at the Southeastern School Behavioral Health Pre-Conference Meeting. Myrtle Beach, SC.
4. **Davis, A.L.** (2023, March 21). Navigating the Special Education System: Teachers & Student Mental Health. Guest lecture presented at the University of South Carolina Department of Education. Columbia, SC.
5. **Davis, A. L.**, & McQuillin, S. D. (2022, February 11). Managing Up in Graduate School. Workshop presented at the University of South Carolina Presidential Fellowship Luncheon. Columbia, SC.
6. **Davis, A.L.**, & Simpson, S.B. (2022, January 28). Youth Mentoring: An Antidote to Social Isolation. Graduate Enhancement Training presented for the Behavioral Alliance of South Carolina in compliance with their Blue Cross Blue Shield “Enhancing Capacity in School Mental Health” Grant. Columbia, SC.
7. **Davis, A. L.**, & McQuillin, S. D. (2021, September 13). Managing Up in Graduate School. Workshop presented at the University of South Carolina School/Clinical-Community Program Colloquium. Columbia, SC.
8. **Davis, A. L.**, & McQuillin, S. D. (2021, March 22). Managing Up in Graduate School. Workshop presented at the University of South Carolina School/Clinical-Community Program Colloquium. Columbia, SC.

Peer-Reviewed Presentations

1. **Davis, A.L.**, & Samuels, J. (2025, February 18-21). *Relationship-Building Behaviors: Leveraging Teacher-Student Relationships as Social-Emotional Supports*. To be presented at the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention. Seattle, WA.
2. Simpson, S.B., Dow, B., **Davis, A.L.**, Chadwell, E., & McQuillin, S.D. (2024, April 18-20). *The association between mentor type and youth’s cultural connectedness: Does mentor engagement matter?* Presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
3. Kornbluh, M., **Davis, A.L.**, Dunn, A.H., & Brezicha, K. (2023, April 13-16). *Exploring the role of social media as a teaching resource and intermediary in the wake of political trauma*. Presented at the American Educational Research Association 2023 Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
4. Simpson, S.B., **Davis, A.L.**, Dow, B.R., & McQuillin, S.D. (2023, March 23-25). *Childhood abuse, life satisfaction, depression, and natural mentors: Findings from Add Health*. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development 2023 Biennial Meeting. Salt Lake City, UT.

5. Lanza-Gregory, J., **Davis, A.L.**, & Decker, S.D. (2023, February 7-10). *Neurocognitive constructs as a longitudinal predictor of reading fluency*. Presented at the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention. Denver, CO.
6. Simpson, S. B., **Davis, A. L.**, & McQuillin, S.D. (2023, January 25-27). *Just-in-time training for mentors: Considerations and recommendations*. Presented at the National Mentoring Summit. Washington, DC.
7. **Davis, A.L.** & Lanza-Gregory, J. (2022, August 4-6). *Teacher-student relationships and students' educational expectations*. Presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN.
8. Lanza-Gregory, J. & **Davis, A.L.** (2022, August 4-6). *Longitudinal impacts of mentor role on youth outcomes*. Presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN.
9. Worley, T.N. & **Davis, A.L.** (2022, April 15-16). *The role of school personnel in promoting positive relationships*. Presented at the Southeastern School Behavioral Health Conference. Myrtle Beach, SC.
10. Hoyt, L.T., Ballard, P.J., Yazdani, N., Kornbluh, M., Cohen, A.K., **Davis, A.L.**, Hagan, M. (2022, March 3-5). *College students' sociopolitical stress and well-being during the 2020 U.S. Election*. Presented at Society for Research in Adolescence Virtual Biennial Meeting. New Orleans, LA.
11. **Davis, A.L.**, Kornbluh, M., Cohen, A.K., Hoyt, L.T., Ballard, P.J., Croft, M., & Lassiter, R. (2021, June 16-19). *Exploring civic behaviors amongst college students in a year of national unrest*. Presented at Society for Community Research and Action Virtual Biennial Meeting.
12. **Davis, A.L.**, Lanza-Gregory, J., & McQuillin, S.D. (2020, March). *A framework for mentor-supported behavioral autonomy development*. Accepted for presentation at the 2020 Southeastern School Behavioral Health Conference (canceled due to COVID-19).
13. **Davis, A.L.**, Best, D.L., Cozzie, H., & Xie, F. (2020, February 27-29). *Comparing parent and teacher evaluations of children's behavior*. Presented at Society Cross-Cultural Research Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA.
14. **Davis, A.L.**, & Best, D.L. (2019, March 21-23). *Not just child's play: An analysis of parent-child interactions on playgrounds*. Presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Conference. Baltimore, MD.
15. **Davis, A.L.**, & Best, D.L. (2019, February 13-16). *The culture of play: Ethnic and cross-cultural differences in playground interactions*. Presented at the Society for Cross-Cultural Research Annual Meeting. Jacksonville, FL.
16. **Davis, A.L.**, & Best, D.L. (2018, September 28). *Not just child's play: An analysis of parent-child interactions on playgrounds*. Presented at Wake Forest Undergraduate Research Day. Winston-Salem NC.

Media

Media Features

1. Ervin, A. (2023, December 22). Navigating sociopolitical stress in informal mentorships: Insights for educators and youth workers. *The Chronicle of Evidence-Based Mentoring*.
<https://www.evidencebasedmentoring.org/navigating-sociopolitical-stress-in-informal-mentorships-insights-for-educators-and-youth-workers/>
2. Ervin, A. (2022, July 15). Supporting autonomy in youth mentoring relationships: A Q&A with Amanda Davis & Dr. Samuel McQuillin. *The Chronicle of Evidence-Based Mentoring*.
<https://www.evidencebasedmentoring.org/supporting-autonomy-in-youth-mentoring-relationships-a-qa-with-amanda-davis-dr-samuel-mcquillin/>

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Youth Empowerment in Schools and Systems Lab
University of South Carolina
Advisor: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.

August 2019- August 2024
Columbia, SC

Study Coordinator

Dissertation: "Developing a behavior-based measure of teacher-student relationship quality"

Youth Empowerment in Schools and Systems Lab, University of South Carolina
Advisor: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.

May 2022-July 2023
Columbia, SC

Study Coordinator

Master's Thesis: "The impact of the teacher-student relationship on students' educational expectations"

Youth Empowerment in Schools and Systems Lab, University of South Carolina
Advisor: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.

August 2020-July 2021
Columbia, SC

Study Coordinator

2020 Election Study

Youth Empowerment in Schools and Systems Lab, University of South Carolina
Advisor: Mariah Kornbluh, Ph.D.
Funded by the Society for Community Research and Action Scholars Program

August 2020-May 2021
Columbia, SC

Lead Researcher

"Is school yucky?": Investigating precursors to school adjustment in preschoolers

Department of Psychology, Wake Forest University
Advisor: Deborah Best, Ph.D.

January 2018-May 2019
Winston-Salem, NC

Lead Researcher

Not just child's play: An analysis of parent-child interactions on playgrounds

Department of Psychology, Wake Forest University
Advisor: Deborah Best, Ph.D.

January 2018-September 2018
Winston-Salem, NC

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Department of Psychology, Wake Forest University
Advisor: Deborah Best, Ph.D.

January 2018-May 2019
Winston-Salem, NC

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate

Lifespan Development, Elon University
Research Methods in Psychology, University of South Carolina

Clinical Experience

Post-Doctoral Trainee

Carolina Child Psychology
Supervisor: John Price, Ph.D.

August 2024-Present
Graham, NC

Pre-Doctoral Intern

Florida State University Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Consulting Center
Shadeville Elementary School, Wakulla High School
Supervisors: Lauren Hutto, Ph.D., Shannon Bennett, Ph.D., Anne Selvey, Ph.D.,
Amber Farrington, Ph.D., Kate Dickinson, Ph.D., Delaney Boss, Ph.D.

August 2023-August 2024
Tallahassee, FL

Child, Adolescent, and Family Assessment Clinician

Psychology Services Center (PSC), University of South Carolina
Supervisor: Kimberly, J. Hills, Ph.D.; Kate Flory, Ph.D.

August 2020-May 2023
Columbia, SC

Advanced School Psychology Practicum Student

Richland School District Two
Killian Elementary School
Summit Parkway Middle School
The Center for Inquiry
Supervisors: Sarah Bassin Bruton, Ph.D., NCSP; Sadé Tate, M.S., Ed.S., NCSP; Kimberly J. Hills, Ph.D.

August 2021- December 2022
Columbia, SC

Organizational Quality Improvement Consultant

Friends of the Children
Supervisor: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.
Funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

May 2020-May 2022
Columbia, SC

Group Therapy Clinician

Thriving in College with ADHD; Parenting Group; Social Skills Group
Psychology Services Center (PSC), University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC
Supervisors: Kate Flory, Ph.D.; Emily Neger, Ph.D.

August 2019-May 2023

Certifications and Additional Trainings

Motivational Interviewing (MI)

University of South Carolina
Training Director: Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.

January-May 2021
Columbia, SC

Advanced Autism Theory and Diagnosis

University of South Carolina
Training Directors: Abigail Hogan, Ph.D. and Kimberly J. Hills, Ph.D.

January-May 2021
Columbia, SC

Cultural Adaptations of TF-CBT for African American Youth

University of South Carolina
Training Director: Isha Metzger, Ph.D.

November 2020
Columbia, SC

Psychological Assessment Courses (4)

University of South Carolina
Training Directors: Kimberly J. Hills, Ph.D., Samuel D. McQuillin, Ph.D.,

August 2019- May 2021
Columbia, SC

Honors, Awards, & Funding

Laura Griffin Award for Research Excellence <i>University of South Carolina Department of Psychology, \$1,000</i>	May 2024 Columbia, SC
Tindall Award for Dissertation Research Excellence <i>University of South Carolina Department of Psychology, \$1,000</i>	May 2023 Columbia, SC
SPARC Graduate Research Grant <i>University of South Carolina Office of Research, \$4,919</i>	January 2023 Columbia, SC
APA Division 16 Student Poster Awards Grand Prize Winner <i>American Psychological Association Division 16</i>	August 2022 Minneapolis, MN
Graduate Student Travel Grant <i>University of South Carolina Graduate School, \$500</i>	June 2022 Columbia, SC
McCausland Innovation Fund Online Course Development Award <i>University of South Carolina, \$10,000</i> in collaboration with Drs. Levens and McQuillin	April 2022 Columbia, SC
Preparing Future Faculty Certificate <i>University of South Carolina Center for Teaching Excellence</i>	April 2022 Columbia, SC
Provost Thesis Award <i>University of South Carolina Graduate School, \$250</i>	December 2021 Columbia, SC
SCCR Student Travel Scholarship <i>Society for Cross-Cultural Research, \$150</i>	February 2020 Seattle, WA
Robert C. Beck Award for Excellence in Psychology <i>Wake Forest University Department of Psychology, \$250</i>	May 2019 Winston-Salem, NC
Wake Forest Research Fellowship <i>Wake Forest Undergraduate Research and Activities Center, \$4,000</i>	May 2018 Winston-Salem, NC

Memberships and Professional Service

Professional Associations and Service

National Mentoring Resource Center (NMRC)	Research Board Member
Journal of Community Psychology (Impact factor: 1.106; 2020)	Ad Hoc Reviewer
Psychology in the Schools (Impact factor: 1.923; 2021)	Ad Hoc Reviewer
American Psychological Association Division 16 (School Psychology)	Member
National Association of School Psychologists	Member
Society for Community Research and Action	Member
UofSC Department of Psychology Executive Committee	Graduate Student Representative
UofSC Psychology Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee	Graduate Student Representative
UofSC Department of Psychology Faculty Search Committee	Graduate Student Representative

Honor Societies

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology

Omicron Delta Kappa International Leadership Honor Society