

Abigail O'Brien

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390 Kent Hall, Department of Psychological Sciences, Kent State University

Education

M.A., Psychological Science, Kent State University	May 2023
B.A., Psychological Science, Kent State University	December 2019

Honors & Awards

Meritorious Abstract Award, Society for Behavioral Medicine	April 2022
Student/trainee Abstract Award, SBM's Health Decision Making Group	April 2022
3-Minute Thesis Undergraduate Competition: 2 nd place Award, Kent State University	Fall 2019
President's List, College of Arts & Sciences, Kent State University	Spring 2019
President's List, College of Arts & Sciences, Kent State University	Fall 2019
Dean's List, College of Arts & Sciences, Kent State University	Spring 2018

Fellowships & Scholarships

Domestic Travel Award, Kent State University (\$500 award)	Spring 2022
Judie Lasser Graduate Psychology Research Award, Kent State University (\$1000 award)	Fall 2021
Graduate Student Predoctoral Grant Award, Kent State University (\$500 award)	Fall 2021
Graduate Student COVID Award, Kent State University (\$500 award)	Spring 2021
Graduate Student Support Award, Kent State University (\$200 award)	Fall 2020
Undergraduate Student Research Travel Award (\$500 award)	Fall 2019
Summer Research Undergraduate Experience (SURE) Recipient (\$2,800 award and on-campus housing)	Summer 2019

Publications

O'Brien, A.G., Foust, J. L., & Taber, J. M. (In Prep). Effects of mindsets about the malleability of physical health on information avoidance

- Foust, J. L., **O'Brien, A. G.**, & Taber, J. M. (In Prep). Dispositional optimism and spontaneous self-affirmation as predictors of information avoidance and agreement with prediabetes risk information.
- Taber, J. M., Updegraff, J. A., Sidney, P. G., **O'Brien, A. G.**, & Thompson, C. A. (2023). Experimental tests of hypothetical lottery incentives on unvaccinated adults' COVID-19 vaccination intentions. *Health Psychology, 42*(1), 33–45.
- Capps, K. P., Updegraff, J. A., Foust, J. L., **O'Brien, A. G.**, & Taber, J. M. (2022). Field experiment of signs promoting hand hygiene during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Health Psychology, 41*(11), 826–832.
- Dunlosky, J., & **O'Brien, A.** (2020). The power of successive relearning and how to implement it with fidelity using pencil and paper and web-based programs. *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/stl0000233>
- Taber, J. M., Simonovic, N., Foust, J. L., & **O'Brien, A.** (2020). Beliefs and health. In R. Gurung (Ed.), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Psychology in the Real World*. Routledge.

Presentations

- O'Brien, A.G.**, & Taber, J.M. (February 2023). *Who trusts their gut? Exploring health-related characteristics of people with an intuitive thinking style*. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- Coward, C., **O'Brien, A.G.**, & Taber, J.M. (February 2023). *Associations of personality characteristics with medical care avoidance and health information avoidance*. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.
- O'Brien, A.G.**, Foust, J.L., & Taber, J.M. (April 2022). *“It would be very scary to learn I had it”: Self-reported reasons for avoiding and rejecting personalized risk information*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Medicine, Baltimore, MD.
- Taber, J.M., Simonovic, N., **O'Brien, A.G.**, Foust, J.L., Coifman, K.G., Thompson, C.A. (April, 2022). *Risk Beliefs and COVID-19 Vaccination Among U.S. Adults: A Prospective Study*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Baltimore, MD.
- Capps, K.P., Foust, J.L., **O'Brien, A.**, Updegraff, J.A., & Taber, J.M. (May 2021). *Emphasizing the positive: Gain-framed health messages preferred in the face of COVID-19*. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science annual conference, Virtual.
- O'Brien, A.**, Foust, J.L., & Taber, J.M. (February 2021). *Who Avoids Health Information? A look into individual differences in six control-related health beliefs*. Data blitz presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Health preconference, Virtual.

Foust, J. L., **O'Brien, A.**, & Taber, J. M. (2020, May). *Dispositional Optimism and Spontaneous Self-Affirmation As Predictors of Information Avoidance and Agreement with Prediabetes Risk Information*. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL. (Conference canceled).

O'Brien, A., Foust, J. L., & Taber, J. M. (February 2020). *Effects of Mindsets about the Malleability of Physical Health on Information Avoidance*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

O'Brien, A. *The Effects of Mindsets on Health Information Avoidance*. (October 2019). Presented at 3MT- Three-Minute Thesis Competition, Kent State University, Kent, OH.

O'Brien, A., Lambert, A., Janes, J. L., Dunlosky, J., Rawson, K. A., & Jasnow, A. (April 2019). *Successive Relearning Boosts Student Achievement in an Upper-level Science Course*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, Kent State University Spring 2022
Course: Social Psychology

Course Instructor, Kent State University Fall 2022
Course: Research Methods in Psychology

Course Instructor, Kent State University Spring 2023
Course: Research Methods in Psychology

Training and Continuing Education

Trans 101 Training, Kent State University Spring 2023

- Attended a training workshop to learn about the basics of transgender issues and identities
- Discussed topics surrounding privilege, language, and assumptions in relation to trans communities.

A.L.I.C.E Training, Kent State University Spring 2023

- Attended a training on how to respond when encountering a crisis situation in the classroom

Teaching Tuesday: Inclusive Teaching, Kent State University Fall 2022

- Attended a workshop through the Center for Teaching and Learning at Kent State University to learn inclusive teaching strategies

Teaching Graduate Seminars, Kent State University Fall 2022

- Attended a workshop through the Center for Teaching and Learning at Kent State University to learn effective strategies to teach graduate level seminars

Safe Space Ally Training, Kent State University Summer 2022

- Attended a training workshop to learn about ways to create safe spaces and welcoming environments for LGBTQ+ students.

Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling, Center for Statistical Teaching Summer 2021

- Attended a virtual workshop on the basics of structural equation modeling.

Service

Health Psychology Graduate Student Representative Fall 2022 – Present
Kent State University

Graduate Student Campus Representative Fall 2022 - Present
APA, Society for Health Psychology

Student/Trainee Member Spring 2022 - Present
Society for Behavioral Medicine, Health Decision Making SIG

Mentorship

Psychology Peer Mentor Program, Kent State University- Mentor January 2019-December 2019

Professional Affiliations:

2019-Present	Student member of the American Psychological Association
2019-Present	Student member of the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students
2019-Present	Student member of the Society for Health Psychology, APA Division 38
2019-Present	Student member of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology
2019-Present	Student member of the Social, Personality, and Health Network
2020-Present	Student member of the Society of Behavioral Medicine

Manuscript Reviewing Experience:

European Journal of Public Health