

CURRICULUM VITAE

KYLE J. MESSICK, PhD

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Secular & music cultures, compulsive buying behaviors, nonbelief, group functions & dynamics, prejudice/bias, the processing of violent media, psychological impact of COVID-19

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of South Carolina Beaufort, Bluffton, South Carolina (USCB) Assistant Professor, Psychology	2021-current
Ivy Tech Community College, South Bend, Indiana (IT) Adjunct Professor, Psychology	2020-2021
Coventry University, Coventry, United Kingdom (CU) Lecturer, Psychology	2016-2019

COURSES TAUGHT

PSYCB101 Introduction to Psychology (USCB)
 PSYCB200 Research Methods in Psychology (USCB)
 PSY101 Introduction to Psychology (IT)
 PSYC205 Abnormal Psychology (IT)
 116PY Introducing Psychology (CU)
 M137PY Research Methods in Psychology 1 (CU)
 255PY Quantitative Methods for Psychologists (CU)
 256PY Qualitative Techniques and Research Design for Psychologists (CU)
 1003PY Research in Human Behaviour (CU)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Coventry University, Coventry, United Kingdom Researcher, Brain, Belief, & Behaviour Lab Advisors: Dr. Miguel Farias, Dr. Jonathan Jong, Dr. Valerie van Mulukom Project: A Psychological Study of the Sacred in Metal Music Culture	2016-2020
Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, IN Research Associate, Social Psychology of Religion Lab Advisor: Dr. Kevin Ladd Project: Prayer Vision: How Spiritual Practices Determine the World You See	2015-2016
Ball State University, Muncie, IN Research Assistant, Social Psychology Lab Advisor: Dr. Brooke Wilken Project: The Experience of Mixed Emotions through Visual Stimuli	2013-2014
Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, IN Research Assistant, Social Psychology of Religion Lab Advisor: Dr. Kevin Ladd Project: Inward, Outward, Upward Prayer: Programmatic Research Development	2007-2011

EDUCATION

- Coventry University, Coventry, United Kingdom
PhD in Psychology **2016-2020**
 Areas of Concentration: Metal Studies, Sacredness, Unbelief
 Advisors: Dr. Miguel Farias, Dr. Jonathan Jong, Dr. Valerie van Mulukom
 Examiners: Dr. Fraser Watts, Dr. Vassilis Saroglou, Dr. Hugh Turpin
- Ball State University, Muncie, IN
M.A. in Social Psychology **2012-2013**
 Areas of Concentration: Mixed Emotions, Humor, Personality, Attitudes
 Advisor: Dr. Brooke Wilken
- Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, IN
B.A. in Psychology **2005-2010**
 Areas of Concentration: Prayer, Forgiveness, Humor
 Advisor: Dr. Kevin Ladd

ORGANIZATIONS

- International Association for the Psychology of Religion
Member & Website Creator/Manager **2015-current**
 iaprweb.org
- The Religious Studies Project
Website Manager **2016-current**
 religiousstudiesproject.com
- American Psychological Association – Division 36
Member & Website Creator/Manager **2016-2017**
- Indiana University South Bend
 Social Psychology of Religion Laboratory
Website Manager **2007-2011**
- Indiana University South Bend
 Women's Studies Department
Website Manager, Graphic Design **2009-2010**

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Coleman III, T. J., Messick, K. J., & van Mulukom, V. (in press). New cognitive and cultural evolutionary approaches to atheism. In J. Lane & Y. Lior, *The Routledge Handbook of Evolutionary Approaches to Religion*. Routledge.
- Messick, K.J. (in press). The psychology of metal music, culture, & dis/ability. In *Heavy Metal Music and Dis/Ability: Crips, Crowds, and Cacophony*.
 Preprint available via *OSF Preprints*. DOI: 10.31219/osf.io/u3htj
- Messick, K. J. (2021). Music industry in crisis: The impact of a novel coronavirus on touring metal bands, promoters, and venues. In *The societal impacts of Covid-19: A transnational perspective*, edited by Veysel Bozkurt, Glenn Dawes, Hakan Gülerce, and Patricia Westenbroek (pp. 93-108). Istanbul University Press. DOI: :10.26650/B/SS49.2021.006.07
- Messick, K. J. (2021). Metal for the masses: how indie metal labels have adapted for the digital era. In Sarafian, V. (Eds.), *The Road to Independence: the Independent Record Industry in Transition*.

Presses de l'Université Toulouse 1 Capitole.

Preprint available via OSF Preprints. DOI: 10.31219/osf.io/a758b

Messick, K. J., Aranda, B., & Day, C. (2020). The experiences of metal fans with mental and developmental disorders in the metal music community. *Metal Music Studies*, 6(2), pp. 193-214. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1386/mms_00013_1
Preprint available via OSF Preprints. DOI: 10.31219/osf.io/tz7gh

Messick, K. J. & Aranda, B. E. (2020). The role of moral reasoning & personality in explaining lyrical preferences. *PLOS ONE*, 15(1): e0228057. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0228057>

Scozik, K. & Messick, K. J. (2020). Breaking the spell: Reconsidering cognitive and evolutionary approaches to atheism, *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, 1-29. DOI: 10.1163/15700682-12341501

Coleman III, T. J., & Messick, K. J. (2019). Keeping the secular deck intact [peer commentary on The Religious Studies Project: Podcast transcription of Donovan Schaefer's "Is secularism a world religion?"]. *Implicit Religion*, 22(1), 58-65. DOI: 10.1558/imre.40119

Messick, K., Szocik, K., & Langston, J. (2019). Evolutionary perspectives on unbelief [Special issue]. *Studia Humana*, 8(3).

Messick, K. (2019). Evolutionary perspectives on unbelief: An introduction from the guest editor. *Studia Humana*, 8(3), 1-8. DOI: 10.2478/sh-2019-0021

Charles, S. J., Bartlett, J. E., Messick, K. J., Coleman III, T. J., & Uzdavines, A. (2019). Researcher Degrees of Freedom in the Psychology of Religion. *The International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 29(4), 230-245. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10508619.2019.1660573>
Preprint available via OSF Preprints. DOI: 10.31234/osf.io/tx5gd

Messick, K., & Farias, M. (2019). The psychology of leaving religion. *Brill Handbook of Leaving Religion*, edited by Daniel Enstedt, Göran Larsson, and Teemu T. Mantsinen (pp. 307-322). Leiden: Brill.

Ladd, K. L., & Messick, K. J. (2016). A brief history of the psychological study of the role(s) of religion. In W. Woody, R. Miller, & W. Wozniak (Eds.), *Psychological Specialties in Historical Context: Enriching the Classroom Experience for Teachers and Students* (pp. 204-216). Division 2, American Psychological Association. Retrieved from <https://teachpsych.org/ebooks/psychspec>

INTERVIEWS IN POPULAR MEDIA

Statharas, L. (2021, March 1). Lefteris asks science - Edition 22 - The psychology of heavy metal (with Dr. Kyle J. Messick) [Academic podcast based in Singapore]. *Lefteris Asks Science*. <https://www.lefterisasks.com/episode/lefteris-asks-science-edition-22-the-psychology-of-heavy-metal-w-dr-kyle-j-messick>

Jean, R. & Giard, S. (2021, February 10). *L'ascension metal* [Quebec radio broadcast]. NIKY Radio.

Thayer, S. (2020, July 3). 'I'm like a plant without water': why metal bands are suffering during coronavirus. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from [theguardian.com/music/2020/jul/03/im-like-a-plant-without-water-why-metal-bands-are-suffering-during-coronavirus](https://www.theguardian.com/music/2020/jul/03/im-like-a-plant-without-water-why-metal-bands-are-suffering-during-coronavirus)

OTHER EXPERIENCES & VOLUNTEER WORK

Reviewer for the Archive for the Psychology of Religion (2019-present) and The International Journal for the Psychology of Religion (2019-present).

Served as Chair of the Behavioral Sciences judges for the 2020 Northern Indiana Regional Science & Engineering Fair which took place at the University of Notre Dame on February 29th, 2020.

Served as chief editor for *Studia Humana's* special issue on Evolutionary Perspectives on Atheism (2019).

SKILLS

SR Research Experiment Builder & eyetracking hardware/software
Experience with electroencephalogram (EEG) and physiological measurements
Experience with using a mock fMRI machine
SPSS Statistical analysis software
Adobe Creative Suite: Photoshop, Premiere (video), Audition (sound editing), Dreamweaver (web development), Encore (building DVDs and menus), etc.
Wordpress
Microsoft Office
Members Database Software for Websites (Restrict Content Pro)
Familiarity with hardware and software for video and music recording
Survey creation tools: Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey
Uploading / Capturing video and streaming it live
Open science research practices
Transcribing
Freelance illustration / art commission

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

- Messick, K. J. & Aranda, B. (August, 2021). Milgram revisited: The role of belief in science. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Virtual Conference; Istanbul, Turkey.
- Messick, K. J., Aranda, B., Farias, M. & Jong, J. (August, 2019). Finding the sanctity in the secular: the case of heavy metal music culture. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Gdańsk, Poland.
- Ladd, K. L., Messick, K. J., Aranda, B. (Sept, 2017). Directing motivated beholders: Eye tracking studies of magician's patter. Inaugural conference of the Science of Magic Association, Goldsmiths University, London, UK.
- Messick, K., Aranda, B., Jong, J., van Mulukom, V., & Farias, M. (August, 2017). Belief replacement: creating a theoretical framework from the literature. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Hamar, Norway.
- Ladd, K., Messick, K., Aranda, B., Fuhrman, R., & Geist, R. (April, 2017). Labyrinths. Video presented at the APA Division 36 mid-year conference, Chattanooga, TN.
- Ladd, K., Rocco, J., Messick, K., Aranda, B., & Kuzdas, A. (April, 2017). Workplace spirituality. Video presented at the APA Division 36 mid-year conference, Chattanooga, TN.
- Messick, K. J., Aranda, B., & Geist, G. (March, 2016). When the religious and non-religious debate the topic of God. Paper presented at the APA Division 36 mid-year conference, Brooklyn, NY.
- Ladd, K. L., Nyhof, M., Messick, K., Aranda, B., Fuhrman, R. & Geist, R. (March, 2016). Viewing sacred space: Patterns of looking and praying. Paper presented at the midyear conference of the Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality (APA, Division 36), Brooklyn, NY.
- Ladd, K. L. & Messick, K. J. (October, 2015). Watching with your eyes: Using technology to enhance performance. Paper presented at the Magic and Meaning conference, Las Vegas, NV.

- Messick, K. J., Rodriguez, D., Ladd, K. L., Brown, W., Bunkelman, C. M. (March, 2010). Predicting forgiveness using spirituality, moral identity, and humor styles. Paper presented at the Division 36, American Psychological Association Mid-Winter conference on Religion and Spirituality, Columbia, MD.
- Cook, C. A., Messick, K. J., Ritter, E. A., & Ladd, K. L. (March, 2010). Postcritical belief scale, prayer, and attachment. Paper presented at the Division 36, American Psychological Association Mid-Winter conference on Religion and Spirituality, Columbia, MD.
- Ladd, K. L., Cook, C. A., Messick, K. J., & Brown, W. (October, 2010). Experimentally induced influences of motion and posture on prayer's objective content and subjective experience. Paper presented at the meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Baltimore, MD.
- Messick, K.J., Cook, C.A., Brown, W., Ritter, E., & Ladd, K. L. (August, 2009). General and Specific Evaluation of the Post-Critical Belief Scale: Learning Styles and Forgiveness. Poster presented at the International Association for the Psychology of Religion Conference, Vienna, Austria.
- Messick, K. J., Brown, W., Ritter, E. A., & Ladd, K. L. (April, 2009). Forgiveness and Beliefs: Insights from the Post-Critical Belief Scale. Paper presented at the Division 36, American Psychological Association Mid-Winter conference on Religion and Spirituality, Columbia, MD.
- Cora, J. A., Messick, K., Foreman, K. M., Sinnott, A., & Ladd, K. L. (August, 2009). Data collection strategies in the psychology of prayer. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Vienna, Austria.