

ELIZABETH A. OTTO

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EDUCATION

- B.A.** University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Graduated May 2019 (*cum laude*)
Major: Psychology
Minors: Ethnic Studies and Women and Gender Studies
Major GPA: 3.88
Senior Thesis: “*She got a big booty, so I call her big booty*”: Examining relations between African American women’s perceived sexuality and hip-hop music’s sexualization of African American women
Advisors: David DiLillo, Ph.D. & Sarah Gervais, Ph.D.

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Otto, E. A.,** Kumar, S. A., & DiLillo, D. (2022). Music’s impact on the sexualization of Black bodies: Examining links between hip-hop and sexualization of Black women. *Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research*, 27(2), 145–153. <https://doi.org/10.24839/2325-7342.JN27.2.145>

IN PREPARATION

2. Andrews, A.R., **Otto, E.A.,** & Bridges, A.J. (in preparation). Microaggressions are not Misidentified Negative Social Interactions: Evidence from a Latinx Sample in the Mid-South.
3. Willis-Esqueda, C., **Otto, E.A.,** & Ruiz, K. (in preparation). Basis in culpability assignment for minor infractions.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

1. **Otto, E.A.,** Andrews, A.R., (2022, April). *The kids are not alright: Examining links between polyvictimization, delinquency, and academic suspension.* Poster presented at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Salt Lake City, UT.
2. Boohar, E.L., **Otto, E.A.,** Grandgenett, H.M., Kumar, S.A., & DiLillo, D. (2020, November). *Bystander attitudes and efficacy: Links to PTSD symptoms and type of trauma exposure.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Trauma and PTSD SIG, Virtual Convention.
3. Bizal, K., Lytle, B., Brumbaugh, T., Hansmeier, H., Carlson, H., **Otto, E.A.,** Kumar, S.A., Gervais, S., & DiLillo, D. (2020, April). *Barriers to sexual assault bystander intervention: Predicting bystander behavior, attitude, and efficacy across sex.* Poster presented at the Nebraska Student Research Expo, Lincoln, NE.
4. **Otto, E.A.,** Kumar, S.A., & DiLillo, D. (2019, November). *Does attitude matter?: Examining links between general attitudes towards women and societal perceptions of women.* Poster

presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Black American SIG, Atlanta, GA.

5. Gilbert, K.L., **Otto E.A.**, & Esqueda, C.W. (2019, April). *Ideology and inherent culpability for exonerees as a function of race and SES*. Poster presented at the Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
6. Haikalis, M., Kumar, S.A., Meyer, C.L., **Otto, E.A.**, & DiLillo, D. (2018, November). *Examining the impact of bystander training and acute alcohol intoxication on bystander behavior to prevent sexual aggression*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Black American SIG, Washington D.C., US.
7. Kumar, S.A., Meyer, C.L., **Otto, E.A.**, Jaffe, A.E., Brock, R.L., & DiLillo, D. (2018, November). *PTSD and suicidal ideation among sexual assault survivors: The buffering effects of optimism and gratitude*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Trauma and PTSD SIG, Washington D.C., USA.
8. **Otto, E.A.**, Kumar, S.A., Meyer, C.L., & DiLillo, D. (2018, November). *Music's impact on Black bodies: Examining links between hip-hop music and sexualization of African American women*. Poster presented at annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Black American SIG, Washington D.C., US.
9. **Otto, E.A.**, Haikalis, M., & DiLillo, D. (2018, July). *Examining African American women's sexualization in hip-hop through testing implicit biases*. Oral presentation at the National McNair Scholars Conference, University of California–Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA.
10. **Otto, E.A.**, Haikalis, M., & DiLillo, D. (2018, July). *Examining African American women's sexualization in hip-hop through testing implicit biases*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Undergraduate Research Fair, Lincoln, NE.
11. **Otto, E.A.**, Haikalis, M., & DiLillo, D. (2018, July). *Examining links between sexualization of African American women and sexualization in music*. Oral presentation at the McNair Summer Research Colloquium, Lincoln, NE.
12. **Otto, E.A.**, Wang, Y., Bandel, L., Haikalis, M., & DiLillo, D. (2018, April). *Act like a man: Examining predictors of male role norms*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Undergraduate Research Fair, Lincoln, NE.
13. Wang, Y., Bandel, L., **Otto, E.A.**, Haikalis, M., & DiLillo, D. (2018, April). *The investigation of sexual perpetration in people with and without sexual trauma using a mediation analysis*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Undergraduate Research Fair, Lincoln, NE.

14. **Otto, E.A.,** Haikalis, M., & DiLillo, D. (2018, March). *Can I buy a model?: Examining predictors of male role norms*. Poster presented at the 38th Annual Great Plains Student Psychology Convention, Topeka, KS.
15. **Otto, E.A.,** Xue, D., & Stains, M. (2015, August). *Using the Draw a Chemist Test to examine first-year chemistry students' perception of chemists*. Poster presented at the Department of Chemistry Annual Summer Poster Session, Lincoln, NE.
16. **Otto, E.A.,** & Stains, M. (2015, July). *Understanding how college students perceive chemists through the Draw a Chemist Test*. Oral presentation at the Project SEED Summer Research Program Colloquium, Lincoln, NE.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Undergraduate Creative Activities and Research Experience (UCARE) Grant

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

August 2018–May 2019

- \$2,400 award
- The UCARE program is a paid opportunity for undergraduate students to work one-on-one with a faculty research advisor. This award provides students with the opportunity to engage in the complete research process by developing research hypotheses, analyzing data, and presenting research findings.

Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

May 2017–May 2019

- \$2,800 award
- The McNair Scholars Program is a national program funded by the U.S. Department of Education to offer underrepresented groups the opportunity to engage in the research process throughout a ten-week period. Scholars are expected to facilitate their own project and then present it at a national McNair Scholars conference.

American Chemical Society (ACS) Project SEED Program

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

June 2015–August 2015

- \$5,000 award
- The ACS SEED Project Summer Research Program provides economically disadvantaged high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to participate in research. Students are paired with a research faculty advisor to develop and facilitate an independent research project over an eight-to-ten-week period.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Levine Diversity Enhancement Award

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

May 2019

- \$50 award
- The Levine Diversity Enhancement Award is presented to one student each year who has made contributions to the advancement of psychological knowledge concerning diversity-related topics.

Dell Scholarship

The Michael and Susan Dell Foundation

May 2015–May 2019

- \$20,000 award
- The Dell Scholarship is awarded to underprivileged, low-income students who participate in an approved college readiness program and plan to enroll full-time in an accredited four-year university.

Susan Thompson Buffett Scholarship

The Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation

August 2015–May 2019

- \$34,000 award
- The Susan Thompson Buffett Scholarship is a Nebraska, need-based, merit scholarship. Individuals who demonstrate exemplary academic achievement and a strong motivation to obtain higher educational goals are awarded this scholarship.

Nebraska Achievement Scholarship

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

August 2015–May 2019

- \$30,000 award
- The Nebraska Achievement Scholarship is awarded to high school graduates in Nebraska who demonstrate high motivation and academic achievement.

Department of Chemistry’s Annual Summer Poster Session Top Poster Award

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

August 2015

- \$250 award
- The Top Poster Award is presented to students who demonstrate exemplary research preparation and presentation skills during the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chemistry Department’s annual Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Field Staff

Rural Drug Addiction Research Center.

September 2021–August 2022

Project: Rural Health Cohort (RHC) Study

Overseeing Supervisors: Rick Bevins, Ph.D.; Tim Nelson, Ph.D.; Devan Crawford, M.A.

- The RHC study is a three-year longitudinal study that uses Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) and Computer Assisted Self Interviewing (CASI) to better understand what social interactions and behaviors are related to drug use, how drug use impacts health and relationships, and reasons why people begin and/or continue using drugs.
- Responsibilities: Administered CASI and CAPI, conducted various data collection and data verification tasks, provided community support resources to participants, and collaborated with other field staff to revise and review IRB change report and submissions.

Research Coordinator

Latinx Mental Health and outcomes Lab

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

September 2021–May 2022

Overseeing Supervisors: Arthur Andrews, Ph.D.

- As a research Coordinator, I worked on various project that utilizes interviewing, ecological momentary assessment (EMA) methods, and cortisol tests to examine how stress dysregulation, discrimination, and violence exposure contribute to drug use.
- Responsibilities: Ran lab sessions, scheduled participants, performed various record keeping tasks, collected and recorded cortisol tests, collected urinary samples, cleaned, coded, and transcribed data.

Research Assistant

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

February 2019–Present

Project: Ideology and Culpability Assignment for Exonerees

Overseeing Supervisors: Cynthia Willis-Esqueda, Ph.D.

- This study examines how ideology and participants' race and ethnicity can influence inherent notions of criminality for exonerees who differ by race (Non-Latino White, Black, and Latino).
- Responsibilities: Created manipulation tasks and surveys using an online data collection site, provisioned payment to participants in an online format, assisted with data file downloads, analyzed preliminary data, collaborated on posters for presentations, and assisted with writing manuscripts.

Research Assistant

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

June 2020–April 2021

Project: Motivate the Bystander

Overseeing Supervisors: Hanna Grandgenett, M.A. & David DiLillo, Ph.D.

- This project explores how intervention programs can be promoted as a means of sexual assault prevention. More specifically, this project examines individual trauma symptoms and type of exposure in relation to bystander attitudes (intent to intervene) and efficacy (confidence in their ability to intervene).
- Responsibilities: Created a data dictionary, coded survey data, collaborated on posters for presentation, and prepared manuscripts for publication.

Research Assistant

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

August 2018–May 2020

Project: Bystander Sexual Assault in Virtual Environments (BSAVE)

Overseeing Supervisors: David DiLillo, Ph.D. & Sarah Gervais, Ph.D.

- The bystander intervention project utilizes virtual reality (VR) technology to investigate relationships between various sexual attitudes and bystander behaviors to study behavioral responses to risky sexual scenarios in real-time.
- Responsibilities: Scheduled participants for lab sessions, ran experimental lab sessions, interviewed participants to gauge their attitudes towards sexually risky events, and worked with VR technology.

Primary Investigator

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology August 2017–Present

Project: Hip-Hop Music and the Sexualization of African American Women

Overseeing Supervisors: David DiLillo, Ph.D.

- Senior thesis project investigating links between sexualization of African American women and sexualization in hip-hop music.
- Responsibilities: Conducted literature reviews, developed hypotheses, prepared study for IRB submission, designed surveys using Qualtrics, built Implicit Association Tests (IAT), recruited study participants, gathered and analyzed data, developed posters presentations, and collaborated with mentors to write manuscripts.

Research Assistant

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, College of Education

January 2018–August 2019

Project: Project Spark

Overseeing Supervisors: Meredith Martin, Ph.D.

- This project used Cyberball, IAT, and parent-child interviews to understand how families cope with and intervene during instances of child peer victimization.
- Responsibilities: Reviewed literature, prepared IRB submissions, built surveys in Qualtrics, created and edited scripts for familial interviews, ran sessions, conducted clinical interviews to assess familial functioning and reaction towards instances of bullying, administered various interactive tasks to teenage children, and managed technology used to videotape familial interactions.

Transcriber

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

April 2019–June 2019

Project: Relational Objectification Between Men and Women

Overseeing Supervisors: Sarah Gervais, Ph.D. & Gemma Saez Diaz, Ph.D.

- The goal of this project was to examine objectification experiences between men and women. The project utilized questionnaires and videoed conversations between romantic partners to assess how couples perceived each other and their expected roles in heterosexual relationships.
- Responsibilities: Created a data dictionary and transcribed and coded video data.

Research Assistant

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

March 2017–May 2018

Project: Alcohol and Bystander Behaviors Study

Overseeing Supervisors: Michelle Haikalis, Ph.D. & David DiLillo, Ph.D.

- This study utilized alcohol to investigate men's sexual attitudes toward sexual risk situations and their ability to engage in bystander intervention behavior.
- Responsibilities: Instructed participants on how to complete specific tasks, completed post-session interviews, created a data dictionary, transcribed and coded video data, transcribed and coded survey data, analyzed data, and collaborated on manuscripts and posters for presentations.

Research Assistant

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Chemistry August 2015–August 2016

Project: First-Year versus Graduate Students' Perceptions of Chemists

Overseeing Supervisors: Marilyne Stains, Ph.D.

- This study utilized the Draw a Scientist Test (DAST) to examine differences in undergraduate and graduate Chemistry majors' perceptions of chemists. Additionally, the project assessed differences between graduate and undergraduate students' perceptions of chemists.
- Responsibilities: Recruited participants, ran study participants, transcribed and coded drawings of scientists, and transcribed and coded survey data.

Primary Investigator

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Chemistry June 2015–August 2015

Project: Undergraduate Chemist Student's Perceptions of Chemists

Overseeing Supervisors: Marilyne Stains, Ph.D.

- This project utilized the Draw a Scientist Test (DAST) to investigate changes in first-year chemistry majors' attitudes and perceptions of chemists at the beginning and end of their freshmen year.
- Responsibilities: Conducted an extensive literature review on the DAST, created a data dictionary, transcribed and coded drawings of scientists, transcribed and coded survey data, and collaborated with graduate students to develop manuscripts and posters for presentations.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Behavioral Health Technician

CenterPointe Adult Residential Center, Lincoln, Nebraska October 2017–October 2019

Overseeing Program Director: Mary Jane Gruba, LMHP

- Created individualized treatment plans for clients and implemented them accordingly.
- Worked alongside therapists and nurses to provide treatment that ensured long-term recovery of patients.
- Recorded patient behavior while providing a safe and supportive environment.

Clinical Conduct Associate

Celerion, Lincoln, Nebraska

May 2017–November 2017

- Monitored activities of study participants, handle human biological samples, and record participant data.
- Assisted in dosing participants to ensure the study medication was administered on time.
- Recorded vital signs and height/weight, performed EKGs, assisted with phlebotomy, and monitored meals to ensure study participants were up to par with specific study requirements.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

New Employee Trainer

Department of Health and Human Services, Lincoln, Nebraska August 2021–September 2021

Overseeing Supervisor: Emily Burch, B.A.

- Created training strategies and lesson plans to ensure new employees could successfully fulfill their roles.
- Conducted a thorough analyses of training needs and altered lessons to cater to individual learning styles.
- Worked alongside trainers and supervisors to monitor the progress of new employees.

Teacher Assistant

Human Sexuality and Society (PSYC/CYAF 471)

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

Fall 2018, Fall 2019

Overseeing Supervisor: Rosemary Esseks, Ph.D.

- Assisted professor with lesson preparations by updating lesson plans, creating learning materials, and setting up weekly meetings.
- Created rubrics for student assignments and graded weekly assignments.
- Facilitated student learning through individual meetings and group tutoring sessions.

Teacher Assistant

Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 181)

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Department of Psychology

Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Overseeing Supervisor: Manda Williamson, Ph.D.

- Assisted students with course questions, graded weekly assignments, and proctored student testing.
- Encouraged student attendance in tutoring centers by using a point system that counted towards their grade at the end of the semester.
- Reinforced lessons taught in class by tutoring students one-on-one or in small groups.

Teacher Assistant

Community Action K Street Head Start Center, Lincoln, Nebraska November 2016–April 2017

- Assisted in preparing classroom materials to provide quality learning experiences for young children.
- Worked alongside teachers and families of children to promote safe and positive learning environments for students.
- Promoted the development of independence, decision making, and problem-solving skills in students through structured games and activities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Dialectical Behavioral Therapy Training

CenterPointe Adult Residential Center

November 2017

- CenterPointe Adult Residential Center is a long-term dual diagnosis treatment facility. Staff are taught how to use Dialectical Behavioral Therapy to help patients learn and use healthy skills and strategies to cope with life stressors.

Crisis Intervention Training

CenterPointe Adult Residential Center

November 2017

- CenterPointe provides crisis intervention training to all of its employees. Staff learn how to advocate for individuals in short-term and long-term crises and how to assist trauma victims in finding necessary resources. Staff are prepared to assist patients in managing the social, emotional, and legal aspects of crises such as victimization.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

BSAVE Mentor

Department of Psychology, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

September 2019–May 2020

- Worked alongside graduate students to provide guidance, feedback and share experiences and expertise to undergraduate students interested in research.
- Identified and provided resources to help mentees with educational and career growth and development, such as providing assistance with CVs and resumes.

Faculty Search Committee

Department of Psychology, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

August 2018–April 2019

- Helped conduct an initial screening of applicants looking to become professors of practice at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in order to recommend a shortlist of candidates to invite for an on-campus interview.

HONORS

Dell Scholars Program

August 2015–May 2019

- Scholars who are awarded the Dell Scholarship participate in an online learning community that offers classes on various topics such as financial literacy and healthy mental health management skills.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s List

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Fall 2015; Fall 2017–Spring 2019

- Full-time students who complete at least nine hours of graded course work by the end of the semester while maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.7 are recognized for their academic achievement.

William H. Thompson Scholars

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

August 2015–May 2019

- Scholars who receive the Susan Buffett Scholarship are offered an opportunity to expand their network through community-based activities and classes with various university professors.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Psychological Association

Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT)

Black Americans in Behavior Therapy Special Interest Group (ABCT SIG)

Psi Chi Honor Society