

CURRICULUM VITAE

Beth Gerace

(Formerly LeBreton)

1422 Linn Street
State College, PA 16803

Phone (cell): 765-430-2256
E-mail: bal27@psu.edu

Education

Ph.D. Human Development and Family Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN,
2015

M.S. Counseling Psychology, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, 1997

B.S. Psychology, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, 1995

Affiliations and Awards

2021 Recipient of The College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Teaching Award for Teaching Faculty

2020 Nominee for the George W. Atherton Award for Excellence in Teaching
Rated #3, "Top 10 Best Instructors at Penn State":

<https://www.collegemagazine.com/top-10-penn-state-instructors/>

Nominated by Purdue students to be inducted into the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society and the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society in 2011

Member of the American Psychological Association

Graduated Cum Laude, Illinois State University

Graduated with Departmental Honors in Psychology, Illinois State University

Member: Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership and Scholarship Society

Teaching Experience

The Pennsylvania State University

08 / 2014 – present

Assistant Teaching Professor, Psychology

- Teach three Psychology courses each semester
- Courses: Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Positive Psychology and Well-Being, Introduction to Abnormal Psychology, Introduction to Developmental Psychology
- Teach online via Penn State's World Campus
- Mentor undergraduate students via Honor's Options and Undergraduate Teaching Assistant assignments
- Coordinate the Psychology Subject Pool each semester
- Serve on various University committees as assigned

Purdue University

08 / 2009 – 05 / 2013

Continuous Term Lecturer, Psychology

- Taught large lecture hall classes (450 students) of Psychology 120 (Introductory Psychology)
- Taught an Honor's section of Psychology 120 (Introductory Psychology) in the Fall of 2012
- Co-developed a "hybrid" version of Psychology 120
 - This hybrid course integrates traditional classroom instruction with online instruction
 - Assisted both the Department Head (Dr. Chris Agnew) and the Director of Undergraduate Studies (Dr. George Hollich) in developing this course from its inception through its successful rollout in the fall of 2011
 - Contributed original material to and edited this publication for use with the "hybrid" psychology course: This 241 page document includes supplemental material and study exercises for introductory psychology students
 - Served as the lead instructor for the hybrid course for both the fall of 2011 and the spring of 2012 (each semester there were 700-1000 students enrolled in the hybrid course)
 - Supervised approximately 5 Graduate Teaching Assistants each semester

Ivy Tech Community College, Lafayette, IN

01 / 2007 – 05 / 2009

Faculty Fellow, Psychology

- Taught 4-5 classes each semester and participated in administrative duties as assigned
- Prepared all lectures and class materials for the following courses: *Introduction to Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Lifespan Development, and Human Sexuality*
- Nominated for "**Excellence in Teaching**" for both 2007 and 2008

Macomb Community College, Warren, MI

08 / 2004 – 08 / 2006

Tenure Track Faculty, Psychology

- Taught 4-5 classes each semester and participated in administrative duties as assigned
- Prepared all lectures and class materials for the following courses: *Introduction to Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, and Psychological Statistics*

Oakland University, Rochester, MI

09 / 2001 – 07/2004

Lecturer, College of Education, Counseling Department

- Prepared all lectures and class materials for: *Career Development and Exploration*
- Supervised graduate students in learning career counseling

Research Experience

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Doctoral Dissertation (Supervisor: Dr. Elliot Friedman)

06 / 2013 – 06 / 2015

- Dissertation defended, June, 19, 2015: *The longitudinal effects of multimorbidity on functional limitations and psychological well-being: Do age and control beliefs matter?*

Research Assistant, Family Physiology Project
(Supervisor: Dr. Leah Hibel)

01 / 2011 – 12 / 2011

- Recruited participants at birth classes throughout the community
- Assisted in data collection during two hour lab visits with parents and infant
- Collected and stored saliva samples from parents and infant
- Collected attachment narrative data from parents
- Coded infant behavior during infant stress task

HDFS 590 Student (Supervisor: Dr. Dan Mroczek)

08 / 2010 – 12 / 2011

- Assisted in data analysis using SAS software and the MIDUS data set
- Project Title: *Child abuse, personality and body mass index: A longitudinal perspective*

Illinois State University, Normal, IL

1994 – 1997

Master's Student (Supervisor: Dr. James J. Johnson)

- Collected analyzed survey data from undergraduate students
- Master's thesis: *The Effects of Parenting Style and Family Structure on the Development of Late Adolescent Autonomy*

Honors Psychology Student (Supervisor: Dr. James J. Johnson)

- Collected and analyzed survey data at a juvenile detention facility
- Senior Thesis: *The Effects of Self-Esteem and Coping Style on Juvenile Delinquents*

Presentations

Gerace, B.A. (1995, April). *The Effects of Self-Esteem and Coping Style on Juvenile Delinquents*. Paper presented at the Psychology Department Honors Colloquium, Illinois State University, Normal, IL.

LeBreton, B.A. & Mroczek, D.K. (2012, March). *Child abuse, personality and body mass index: A longitudinal perspective*. Paper presented at the International Conference on Health, Wellness and Society, Chicago, IL.

Hollich, G.J., **LeBreton, B.A.**, Wesselmann, E., Guidry, B.W., Schneid, E.D., Scherer, K.T., Suhr, L.L., Ekanayake, V.K., & Vanderdrift, L. (2012, May). *Benefits of hybrid course revision for introductory psychology*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.

LeBreton, B.A. (2013, April). *Latent variable models investigating childhood abuse, personality and adult weight*. Poster presented at the symposium on Health Communication and Family Dynamics: Beyond the Patient-Provider Relationship. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.

LeBreton, B.A. & Friedman, E.M. (2014, November). *Control beliefs moderate the longitudinal impact of multimorbidity on functional impairments and negative affect*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA). Washington, D.C.

Publications

Gerace, B.A. (2021). Positive psychology: The science of well-being. Great River Learning. Dubuque, IA.

Friedman, E., **LeBreton, B.**, Fuzzell, L. & Wehrspann, E. (2018). Biopsychosocial patterning of multimorbidity and its consequences. In C.D. Ryff & R.F. Krueger (Eds.), *Oxford Handbook of Integrative Health Science*, Oxford University Press.

LeBreton, B.A. (Ed.) (2012). Purdue university psy 120-00 course packet: Elementary psychology (2nd ed.). Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.

Other Professional Experience

Oakland University, Rochester, MI **09 / 2001 – 07 / 2004**

Career Development Coordinator, Advising Resource Center

- Assisted undergraduate students in choosing a college major and career path
- Proficient in administering and interpreting the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and the Strong Interest Inventory
- Supervised graduate student interns
- Performed all administrative tasks related to the operation of the Advising Resource Center and served on committees as assigned

Pellissippi State Community College, Knoxville, TN **10 / 1998 – 07 / 2001**

Counselor, Student Development Center

- Served as a crisis counselor for students who were in immediate need of mental health assistance
- Provided academic advising for incoming students, including interpreting entrance exam scores and advising students on course selection and planning
- Served as Interim Dean of Students for approximately 4 months (handled student complaints and disciplinary issues and reported directly to the Vice President of the college)

Overlook Center Incorporated, Knoxville, TN **02 / 1998 – 10 / 1998**

Psychiatric Clinician, Mobile Crisis Unit

- Provided emergency psychiatric assessment to individuals in acute need
- Coordinated services for the individuals in need, including involuntary commitment to psychiatric facilities when needed
- Traveled in a 5 county area and conducted assessments at numerous facilities including emergency rooms, jails, medical clinics, and homes