

Maria Casteigne

(Formerly Maria Musumeci)

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Education

Tulane University | New Orleans, LA **2022 – Present**
Social Psychology, Ph.D.

University of Dayton | Dayton, OH **2019 – 2021**
Experimental Psychology, M.A.

Le Moyne College | Syracuse, NY **2015 – 2019**
Psychology, B.A., with Minors in Applied Statistics and Philosophy
Summa cum laude

Teaching Experience

Tulane University **2022 – Present**
Lab Instructor for Experimental Psychology (S23, S25, F25)
Instructor of Record for Psychology Beyond the Classroom (F23, S24)
Teaching Assistant for Social Psychology (F22)

University of Dayton **2019 – 2021**
Teaching Assistant for Cognition (F20, S21)
Teaching Assistant for Research Methods (F20, S21)
Teaching Assistant for Lifespan and Development (F19, S20)
Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Statistics (F19, S20)

Le Moyne College **2017 – 2019**
Peer Tutor for Psychology and Philosophy (all semesters)

Professional Development and Training

Practical Course Design and Teaching Skills (CELT7020)
Tulane University,
Instructor: Eunice Ofori
Fall 2025 (currently enrolled)

The Essentials of Learning and Teaching (CELT7010)
Tulane University,
Instructors: Toni Weiss, Liv Newman, and Donata Henry
Spring 2024

Assessment in the Era of AI Workshop

Tulane University, Center for Engaged Learning and Teaching
April 19, 2024

Equity-Minded Grading Workshop

Tulane University, Center for Engaged Learning and Teaching
February 1, 2024

College Reading and Learning Association Certification

International Tutor Training
Le Moyne College, Student Success Center
August 2017 and August 2018

Peer-Reviewed Publications

O'Brien L. T., **Casteigne, M.**, Bivins-Sanchez, Y., Waldon-Lee, T. (in press). The prototype model of attributions to discrimination. In T. D. Nelson (Ed.), *Advances in Prejudice Research*. Taylor & Francis.

Airington, Z., **Casteigne, M.**, Mitchell, J., Moran, J. B., Kerry, N., & Murray, D. R., (2025). Dinner (and disease) is served: Examining the relationship between disease avoidance motivations and food neophobia. *Adaptive Human Behavior and Physiology* 11(6), 1-20.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40750-025-00259-4>

O'Brien, L. T., **Casteigne, M.**, Waldon-Lee, T., Lowe, C., & Simon, S. (2024). Attributions to discrimination in multiracial contexts: Isolating the effect of target group membership. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 153(11), 2751–2770.
<https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0001475>

Casteigne, M., O'Mara Kunz, E. M., Losee, J., & Kerner, L. (2023). COVID-19-related threat perceptions, political identity, and voting in the 2020 presidential election. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass*, 17(12) e12893. <https://doi.org/10.1111/spc3.12893>

Musumeci, M. D., Cunningham, C. M., & White, T. L. (2022). Disgustingly perfect: An examination of disgust, perfectionism, and gender. *Motivation and Emotion*, 46. 336-349.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11031-022-09931-8>

Manuscripts in Progress

O'Brien, L. T., Bivins-Sanchez, Y., **Casteigne, M.**, Lowe, C., Wilson, J. (2025a). Understanding attributions to discrimination against Black Americans following zero-sum hiring decisions. [Manuscript submitted for publication]. Department of Psychology, Tulane University.

Casteigne, M., O'Brien, L.T., Moss, A. J. (2025b). Partisanship and perceptions of discrimination against Asian, Black, Latino, and White targets. [Manuscript in preparation]. Department of Psychology, Tulane University.

Presentations (*student mentees)

Casteigne, M. (2025, March). *Parent Stereotypes: Descriptions of Parents, Moms, and Dads*. [Invited Talk]. Robert E. Flowerree Research Roundup, Tulane Department of Psychology, New Orleans, L.A.

*Wilson, J., Bivins-Sanchez, Y., **Casteigne, M.**, O'Brien, L. T. (2024, April). *Unpacking Discrimination attributions in hiring contexts: How do people understand preferential treatment?* [Conference Session]. 20th Annual Georgia Undergraduate Research in Psychology Conference, Kennesaw, G.A.
– first author awarded best oral presentation.

*Wilson, J., Bivins-Sanchez, Y., **Casteigne, M.**, O'Brien, L. T. (2024, February). *Unpacking Discrimination attributions in hiring contexts: How do people understand preferential treatment?* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, C.A.

*Derose, N., **Casteigne, M.**, Airington, Z., & Murray, D. R. (2024, February). *Attachment Patterns Varying with Gender and Parental Care Motivations*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, C.A.

*Mitchell, J., **Casteigne, M.**, Airington, Z., Moran, J., & Murray, D. R. (2024, February). *Dinner with a Side of Disease: Associations Between Food Neophobia, Germ Aversion, and Disease Threat*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, C.A.

*Foley, C., *Derose, N., **Casteigne, M.**, Airington, Z., Fan, Q., & Murray, D. R. (2024, February). *Stereotypes of Parents*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, C.A.

Musumeci, M. D., O'Mara Kunz, E. M., Losee, J. E., & Kerner, L. (2023, February). *COVID-19 Threat Perceptions and the 2020 Presidential Election*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Atlanta, G.A.

Musumeci, M. D. (2022, November). *Pathogens, Politics, and PhDs*. [Invited talk]. Le Moyne College's Social Science Series, Syracuse, N,Y, (virtual).

Weatherbie, K., **Musumeci, M. D.**, & Bauer, J. J. (2020, February). *How gender affects me: Narrative gender recognition and meaning making in relation to well-being*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, New Orleans, L.A.

Musumeci, M. D., & Day, W. (2019, April). *Event evolution: The becoming of the past, present, and future*. [Oral presentation]. Rochester Institute of Technology's Annual Undergraduate Philosophy Conference, Rochester, N.Y.

Musumeci, M. D., White, T. L., & Cunningham, C. (2019, February) *Disgustingly perfect: Perfectionists' reactions to disgust scenarios*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Portland, O.R.

Service

Graduate Studies Student Association Department of Psychology Representative Tulane University	2023 – 2024
Graduate Student Training Committee Student Representative Tulane University, Department of Psychology	2023 – 2024
Girls in STEM at Tulane (GiST) & Boys at Tulane in STEM (BATS) Program Evaluation Statistical Consultant Tulane University	2022
Psi-Chi National Honors Society Chapter President Le Moyne College	2017 – 2019
Contact Community Services Crisis Hotline Volunteer Syracuse NY	2017
Big Brother/ Big Sister Mentoring Program Volunteer Syracuse NY	2017

Related Work and Internship Experiences

Regulatory Submissions Coordinator **2021 – 2022**
Medpace, Cincinnati OH

I managed the regulatory and ethical requirements for 12 clinical trials across 109 research locations. As the liaison between the research locations and the trail sponsors (pharmaceutical or biotech companies), I organized weekly update reports, projected important long- and short-term timelines, reviewed and provided feedback for essential trial documents, and mentored/trained new hires.

Intern **2018**
Dalai Lama Center of Ethics and Transformative Values at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

I created written explanations that outlined the newly designed courses in the transformative ethics teaching program. I also compiled and made visualizations of data assessing values and emotions of the people partaking in their ethics programs. Lastly, I drafted a letter of intent for a grant request to initiate an international partnership.

Intern**2017 – 2018***Hutchings Psychiatric Center, Syracuse NY*

I facilitated group programs for patients, interacted in weekly therapeutic groups (e.g., art therapy, substance abuse support groups), and helped design a research experiment to test an assessment tool for analyzing child behaviors.

Awards and Honors

Graduate Student Service Award, 2024

Tulane University, Department of Psychology

Pamela Johnson Prize in Ethics, 2019

Le Moyne College, Department of Philosophy
2nd place prize in an essay contest

Philosophy Essay Contest Winner, 2019

Le Moyne College, Department of Philosophy
1st place prize for the best philosophy essay for any other course

McDevitt Center Internship Grant (\$3,000), 2018

Le Moyne College, McDevitt Center
Grant awarded to support summer internships

Research Grants (\$2,000), 2019 and 2018

Le Moyne College, Student Research Committee
Grants awarded to conduct undergraduate research

The Monsignor David J. Dooling Medal in Junior Social Science, 2017

Le Moyne College
Award for academic excellence

The Marnie A. McCluskey Medal in Sophomore Social Science, 2016

Le Moyne College
Award for academic excellence