# Laura L. Gust, M.A. Curriculum Vitae

Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Rd.
Boca Raton, FL 33431, USA
**Email:** Lgust2020@fau.edu

**Find Me @**
https://guest-qhip2xg.owlstown.net/

**Email:** Lauragust7@gmail.com

## EDUCATION

2028 Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology, Florida Atlantic University, *expected*
2026 M.A. in Psychology, Florida Atlantic University
2023 B.A. in Psychology with Honors, Summa Cum Laude, Florida Atlantic University
2020 A.A. in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude, Palm Beach State College

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Self-Concept Clarity and Self-Esteem Effects on Information Processing
- Computational Simulations of Self-Verification and Self-Reflection Mechanisms
- Implications of Personality on Current Opinions and Behaviors

## PUBLICATIONS

Nowak, A. K., Vallacher, R. R., & Gust, L. (2026). Social Tinkering as a Complex Dynamical System. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 49*, Article e406. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0140525X26106463

Fava, D., Zweben, D., & **Gust, L.** (2025). Romantic Functioning in the Aftermath of Adult Sexual Assault: A Scoping Review. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, *26*(4), 804-816. https://doi.org/10.1177/15248380241291078

## SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPT

Fava, D., **Gust, L.**, Gnall-McKinney, S., Thompson, J. L., & Doss, B. (*Accepted with Major Revision, Marriage & Family Review*). Making the Best of Breakups: A Scoping Review of Relationship Resilience and Well-Being in Adult Children of Divorce.

## MANUSCRIPT IN PREP

**Gust, L.**, Fava, D., De Araujo, M., Bruno, A., Conn, K., & Bowers, J. (*In Prep*). The Cost of Perfection: A Scoping Review of Dyadic Perfectionism in Romantic Relationships.

**Gust, L.**, & Bjorklund, D. (*In Prep*). From Survival to Social Cognition: Predator-Prey Pressures and the Emergence of Theory of Mind

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

(*undergraduate co-author)

**Gust, L.**, *Conn, K., *De Arajuo, M., Bruno, A., & Fava, D. (Submitted, Awaiting Decision). *It's Not You, It's My Perfectionism: A Scoping Review of Perfectionism in Romantic Relationships.* Poster for the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Toledo, A., **Gust, L.**, Karatuna, A., Madeira Borri, M., Nowak, A., & Vallacher, R. (Submitted, Awaiting Decision). *From Touching Grass to Taking Action: Nature, Political Identity, and Climate Change Attitudes*. Poster for the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Gust, L.**, Bowers, J., Fava, D., Karatuna, A., & Madeira-Borri, M. (2026, February 26-28). *You, Me, and My Impossible Standards: Dyadic Perfectionism Scoping Review.* Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Chicago, Illinois.

Karatuna, A., Madeira-Borri, M., **Gust, L.**, Nowak, A., & Vallacher, R. (2026, February 26-28). *Stay the Course or Make Amends: Consistency vs. Compensation in Decision Making.* Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Chicago, Illinois.

Madeira-Borri, M., Karatuna, A., **Gust, L.**, Nowak, A., & Vallacher, R. (2026, February 26-28). *Moral Judgment Pathways: Exploring the role of Locus of Control.* Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Chicago, Illinois.

**Gust, L.**, Karatuna, A., Madeira-Borri, M., Vallacher, R., Nowak, A., & Wetherell, G. (2025, November 7-8). *When the Message Fits, Change Clicks: The Role of Locus of Control and Temporal Framing in Fostering Climate Change Agency*. Poster presented at the Annual Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists Conference, in St. Petersburg, Florida.

**Gust, L.**, Rice, S., Karatuna, A., Wetherell, G., Nowak, A., & Vallacher, R. (2025, February 20-22). *Precision in persuasion: The power of tailored climate change communication.* Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Denver, Colorado.

*Kravec, H., **Gust, L.**, Forbes, C., & Vallacher, R. (2025, February 20-22). *Defying expectations: The role of ostracism and group identification on responses to stereotype-threat.* Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Denver, Colorado.

Fava, D., Szumowska, E., & **Gust, L.** (2025, February 20-22). *Beyond Trauma: Exploring the Roots of Extremism in Historical Context*. Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Denver, Colorado.

**Gust, L.**, Cope, M. A., & Maniaci, M. R. (2024, February 8-10). *Forgive-me-not: Individual differences in partner forgiveness in hypothetical relationship transgressions.* Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in San Diego, California.

Fava, D., Zweben, D., & **Gust, L.** (2024, February 8-10). *Romantic Functioning Following Adult Sexual Assault: A Scoping Review.* Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in San Diego, California.

**Gust, L.**, Cope, M. A., & Maniaci, M. R. (2023, April 14). *The role of Action Identification in reactions to romantic partner transgressions.* Poster presented at Science Fest, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

**Gust, L.**, Cope, M. A., & Maniaci, M. R. (2023, April 7). *The role of Action Identification in reactions to romantic partner transgressions.* Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

**Gust, L.**, Weser, E., Scott, K., Jean, J., Cope, M. A., & Maniaci, M. R. (2023, February 23-25). *Moment-to-moment evaluations of me: An investigation of the self using mouse-tracking data*. Poster presented at the Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, in Atlanta, Georgia.

**MENTORED PRESENTATIONS**

*Hakshur, G., *Toledo, A., *Ritter, B., *Bedouet, C., *De Araujo, M., *Campuzano, M., **Gust, L.**, Karatuna, A., Madeira Borri, M., Vallacher, R. R., & Nowak, A. (2026, April 3). *Is It the Journey or the Destination? Development of a Process-Outcome Motivation Scale*. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

*Toledo, A., *Hakshur, G., *Conn, K., *Rosenstein, M., *Minowitz, R., *Banks, K., *Comper, R., **Gust, L.**, Maderia Borri, M., Karatuna, A., Vallacher, R. R., & Nowak, A. (2026, April 3). *The Enjoyment of Task Engagement or Goal Attainment: Constructing a Process-Outcome Motivation Orientations Scale*. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

*De Araujo, M., *Bayliss, J., *Bell, M., *Minowitz, R., *King, Z., Maderia Borri, M., Karatuna, A., **Gust, L.**, Nowak, A., & Vallacher, R. R. (2026, April 3). *Beyond Party Lines: Demographic Moderation of Consistency and Compensation in Moral Judgment*. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

*Sutton, T., *Bruno, A., *Vittorini, M., *Martin, A., *Correia Santos, E., *Goodman, R., Karatuna, A., Madeira Borri, M., **Gust, L.**, Vallacher, R.R., & Nowak, A. (2026, April 3). *Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: Using Silicon Participants to Reflect Human Values*. Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

*Goodman, L., *Kravec, H., *Bruno, A., **Gust, L.**, Bowers, J., Nowak, A., Wetherell, G., & Vallacher, R. (2025, April 4). *Action Identification Level and Willingness to Perform Climate Friendly Behavior.* Poster presented at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

*Kravec, H., **Gust, L.**, Forbes, C., & Vallacher, R. (2025, April 4). *Defying expectations: The role of ostracism and group identification on responses to stereotype-threat.* Poster presented at Undergraduate Research Symposium, Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, Florida.

## GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

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| 2026-2027 | Andrew R. & Marjorie C. Buglione Endowed Scholarship |
| 2026-2027 | Graduate Access Fellowship |
| 2026-2027 | Newell Doctoral Fellowship |
| 2026 | Jack B. Walker Memorial Scholarship |
| 2025-2026 | Andrew R. & Marjorie C. Buglione Endowed Scholarship |
| 2025 | Psychology Graduate Student Professional Development Scholarship<br>ICPSR Statistics Summer Program, Topical Workshop |
| 2025 | Travel Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention |
| 2024 | Psychology Graduate Student Professional Development Scholarship<br>ICPSR Statistics Summer Program, General Session 1 |
| 2024 | Florida Atlantic University CARES Grant |
| 2024 | Travel Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention |
| 2023 | Travel Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention |
| 2023 | OURI Undergraduate Research Grant |
| 2019-2022 | Florida Turnpike Services LLC Scholarship |
| 2017-2020 | GED Merit Scholarship Award, Palm Beach State College |

### MENTORED GRANTS

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|---|---|
| 2025 | OURI Undergraduate Research Grant (Toledo, A., De Araujo, M., Banks, K., Conn, K., Rosenstein, M., Minowitz, R., Ritter, B.) |
| 2024 | OURI Undergraduate Research Grant (Kravec, H.) |

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2025 - Current **Collaborative Researcher**

Researchers: Destiny Fava, Jordan Thompson, Ph.D., & Samantha Gnall-McKinney, Ph.D., & Brian Doss, Ph.D.
Current Project: Making the Best of Breakups: A Scoping Review of Relationship Resilience and Well-Being in Adult Children of Divorce

- Wrote the Results section, which synthesized findings from six studies examining positive outcomes among adults who experienced parental divorce
- Analyzed and coded research articles during the final screening phase of the scoping review

2025 - Current **Collaborative Researcher**

Researchers: Destiny Fava, Mariana De Arajuo, Anaya Bruno, Kira Conn, & Jada Bowers, M.A.
Current Project: The Cost of Perfection: A Scoping Review of Perfectionism in Romantic Relationships

- Applied PRISMA-ScR guidelines to the development, conduct, and reporting of the scoping review
- Developed comprehensive coding schemes to systematically extract and organize study characteristics and findings
- Analyzed and synthesized findings from 35 studies examining perfectionism in adult romantic relationships

2024 - Current **Lab Manager**

Principal Investigators: Robin Vallacher, Ph.D. & Andrzej Nowak, Ph.D.
Current Project: Individual action orientations: Developing an individual differences scale

- Managed more than 35 research assistants across multiple research projects, overseeing research training, project responsibilities, and ongoing data collection
- Directly oversaw a scale development project examining individual differences in motivational orientations
- Increased undergraduate research engagement through research grant applications and poster presentations at local, regional, and international conferences
- Led weekly lab meetings focused on project progress, data collection, research training, and professional development opportunities

2023 - 2025 **Graduate Researcher, Thesis**

Principal Investigator: Andrzej Nowak, Ph.D.
Project: Think Small, Act Big: How Action Identification Shapes Responses to Scientific Messages.

- Cleaned and prepared a large experimental dataset containing two time points and more than 2,000 participants

- Conducted multilevel modeling to examine how individual differences in action identification interact with scientific message framing to influence attitudes and behavioral intentions

2023 – 2024 **Collaborative Researcher**
Principal Investigators: Robin Vallacher, Ph.D. & Chad Forbes, Ph.D.
Project: Defying Expectations: The Role of Ostracism and Group Identification on Reactions to Stereotype Threat

- Developed the Qualtrics survey and IRB materials
- Supervised three undergraduate research assistants in developing study materials examining learning behaviors in stereotyped academic domains
- Mentored the submission of a research grant, and two posters by one of the research assistants

2024 **Graduate Research Assistant, Paid**
Principal Investigators: Robin Vallacher, Ph.D. & Andrzej Nowak, Ph.D.
Project: Promoting Personal Commitment to Halt or Reverse Human-induced Climate Change

- Developed Qualtrics surveys and automated data-processing code to facilitate efficient data preparation following study completion
- Facilitated weekly research meetings focused on study design, implementation, and project updates following study launch
- Managed participant recruitment and data collection through a crowdsourcing platform

2022 – 2023 **Undergraduate Honor's Thesis Researcher**
Principal Investigator: Michael Maniaci, Ph.D.
Project: The role of Action Identification in reactions to romantic partner transgressions.

- Secured research funding to support participant recruitment and data collection through a crowdsourcing platform
- Developed the Qualtrics survey and independently processed and analyzed experimental data
- Presented research findings at three academic poster events and authored an honors thesis based on the project

2022 – 2023 **Undergraduate Researcher**
Principal Investigator: Michael Maniaci, Ph.D.
Project: Dynamic modeling of self and relationship evaluations using the mouse paradigm.

- Assisted with experimental data collection utilizing the mouse-tracking paradigm
- Identified opportunities to improve data quality and recommended procedural changes that were implemented in subsequent data collection

- Contributed to discussions of theoretical frameworks and study design for subsequent waves of data collection

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Instructor of Record**

Fall 2026 *STA 3163L Intermediate Statistics Lab*
Summer 2026 *PSY 3213 Research Methods in Psychology. Recitation Section*
Spring 2026 *STA 3163L Intermediate Statistics Lab*
Fall 2025 *STA 3163L Intermediate Statistics Lab*
Spring 2025 *PSY 3213 Research Methods in Psychology. Recitation Section*

**Teaching Assistant**

Summer 2025 *SOP 3004 Social Psychology*
Fall 2024 *SOP 3004 Social Psychology*
Spring 2024 *PSY 4810 Evolutionary Psychology*

**Guest Lectures**

Fall 2025 Process vs. Outcome in Motivation with Maderia Borri, M., and Karatuna, A. (*Honors Psychology Seminar; Instructor: Dr. David Bjorlund*)
Fall 2024 Social Interaction (*Social Psychology; Instructor: Dr. Robin Vallacher*)
Spring 2024 Social Dominance (*Evolutionary Psychology; Instructor: Dr. David Bjorklund*)

## SERVICE

**PEER REVIEW ACTIVITY**

2026 Journal of Interpersonal Violence
2026 Marriage & Family Review
2026 Cambridge Elements in Applied Evolutionary Sciences
2025 Journal of Interpersonal Violence

**POSITIONS HELD**

2024 - Current **Undergraduate Professional Development –** Founder, Lab Collaboration
Held weekly meetings each semester addressing topics of pathways to careers in psychology and related fields. Assisted up to twelve students at a time in selecting graduate schools, developing curriculum vitae, and creating personal statements. Improved student communication skills for interviews, emails, and conferences. Developed student skills in R Coding and SPSS Syntax.

2023 **Academic Integrity Council** – Graduate Student Council Member
Conferred with faculty members and students to affirm or void two suspected violations of academic integrity.

2023 **The Undergraduate Passion Expo** – Secretary
Paired student interests with faculty research aims, to aid students to find positions which aligned with their interests. This event promoted undergraduates to present their career goals, interests, and research ideas to students and staff, to facilitate students getting into research.

## SKILLS/CERTIFICATIONS

**Arduino** (Basic)
**Computer Building**
**Crowdsourcing Platforms**
**Excel** (Basic)
**Measurement, Scaling, and Dimensional Analysis**
**Multilevel Modeling**
**Processing** (Intermediate)
**Python** (Basic)
**R** (Intermediate)
**SPSS Syntax** (Intermediate)
**Qualtrics Programming**

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2022 Society for Personality and Social Psychology
2022 Phi Kappa Phi
2019 Phi Theta Kappa