

Curriculum Vitae

Luke Galen, Ph.D.

Address: Grand Valley State University
 2220 Ausable Hall
 1 Campus Drive
 Allendale, MI 49401-9403
 galenl@gvsu.edu
 (616) 331-2904 (office)
 (616) 331-2480 (fax)

Professional Positions and Education

Grand Valley State University

Professor of Psychology	2014 - Present
Associate Professor of Psychology	2006 – 2014
Assistant Professor of Psychology	1999 – 2006

University of Michigan – Department of Psychiatry

Post-doctoral fellowship	1996 – 1999
--------------------------	-------------

Wayne State University

APA Approved Program. Major: Clinical Psychology. Minor: Biopsychology.

Ph. D.	1993 – 1996
M. A.	1989 – 1993

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

B.A. <i>Psychology/English</i> ,	1984 - 1989
----------------------------------	-------------

Research Interests

My main research focus is the psychology of religion and secularity. I have studied patterns of mental well-being and prosociality as a function of religiosity as opposed to secularity. I focus on identifying and distinguishing dispositional influences on prosociality and well-being (personality, moral character) from situational influences (group participation, social support). Several of my other projects have investigated religiosity and fundamentalism using the social cognition concepts of Just World Belief and Terror Management Theory. I have also published research on alcohol and drug use and abuse.

Publications

Journal Articles

- Galen, L., & Speed, D. (2025). Testing the religion/spirituality-mental health curvilinear hypothesis using data from many-analysts religion project. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*, 15(3), 312-329. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2024.2378992>
- Galen, L. W., Kurby, C. A., & Fles, E. H. (2022). Religiosity, shared identity, trust, and punishment of norm violations: No evidence of generalized prosociality. *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*, 14(2), 260–272. doi: [10.1037/rel0000320](https://doi.org/10.1037/rel0000320)
- Galen, L.W., Gore, R., & Shults, F.L. (2021). Modeling the effects of religious belief and affiliation on prosociality. *Secularism and Nonreligion*, 10, 6, 1–21. doi: 10.5334/snr.128
- Galen, L. W. (2018). Focusing on the nonreligious reveals secular mechanisms underlying well-being and prosociality. *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*, 10, 296-306.
- Galen, L. W. (2017). Overlapping mental magisteria: Implications of empirical psychology for religious belief. *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, 29, 221-267.
- Galen, L.W., Sharp, M., & McNulty, A. (2015). The role of nonreligious group factors versus religious belief in the prediction of prosociality. *Social Indicators Research*, 122, 411-432.
- Galen, L.W. (2015). Atheism, wellbeing, and the wager: Why not believing in God (with others) is good for you. *Science, Religion and Culture*, 2, 54-69.
- Galen, L.W., Williams, T., & Ver Wey, A. (2014). Personality ratings are influenced by religious stereotype and group identity bias. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 24, 282-297.
- Galen, L.W. (2012). Does religious belief promote prosociality?: A critical examination. *Psychological Bulletin*, 138, 876-906.
- Galen, L.W. (2012). The complex and elusive nature of religious prosociality: Reply to Myers (2012) and Saroglou (2012). *Psychological Bulletin*, 138, 918-923.
- Galen, L.W., & Kloet, J. (2011). Personality and social integration factors distinguishing non-religious from religious groups: The importance of controlling for attendance and demographics. *Archive for the Psychology of Religion*, 33, 205-228.
- Galen, L.W., & Kloet, J. (2011). Mental well-being in the religious and the non-religious: evidence for a curvilinear relationship. *Mental Health, Religion, & Culture*, 14, 673-689.

- Galen, L.W., Smith, C., Knapp, N., Wyngarden, N. (2011). Perceptions of religious and nonreligious targets: Exploring the effects of perceivers' religious fundamentalism. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology, 41*, 2123-2143.
- Galen, L.W., & Miller, T.R. (2011). Perceived deservingness of outcomes as a function of religious fundamentalism and target responsibility. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology, 41*, 2144-2164.
- Galen, L.W., Wolfe, M.B.W., Deleeuw, J., & Wyngarden, N. (2009). Religious fundamentalism as schema: Influences on memory for religious information. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology, 39*, 1163-1190.
- DeLeeuw, J., Galen, L.W., Aebersold, C., & Stanton, V. (2007). Support for animal rights as a function of belief in evolution and religious fundamentalism. *Animals and Society, 15*, 353-363.
- Galen, L.W., & Rogers, W.M. (2004). Religiosity, alcohol expectancies, drinking motives and their interaction in the prediction of drinking among college students. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol, 65*, 469-476.
- Henderson, M.J., Saules, K.K., & Galen, L.W. (2004). The predictive validity of the University of Rhode Island Change Assessment Questionnaire in a heroin – addicted polysubstance abuse population. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors, 18*, 106-112
- Strobbe, S., Brower, K.J., & Galen, L.W. (2004) Patient satisfaction with outpatient detoxification from alcohol. *Journal of Addictions Nursing, 15*, 23-29.
- Strobbe, S., Brower, K.J., & Galen, L.W. (2003). Gender and outpatient detoxification from alcohol. *Journal of Addictions Nursing, 14*, 19-25..
- Strobbe, S., Brower, K.J., & Galen, L.W. (2003) Predicting completion of outpatient opioid detoxification with clonidine. *American Journal of Addictions. 12*, 260-269.
- Henderson, M.J. & Galen, L.W. (2003) A classification of substance dependent men on temperament and severity variables. *Addictive Behaviors. 28*, 741-760.
- Galen, L.W. Henderson, M.J. & Covert, M.D. (2001) Alcohol expectancies and motives in a substance abusing male treatment sample. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 62*, 205-214.
- Galen, L.W., Winebarger, A., Harper, N., & Yee, M. A. (2000). Relationship between drinking and perceived social norms in college freshmen. *Michigan Journal of College Student Development, 5*, 4-6.
- Galen, L.W., Brower, K.J., Gillespie, B.W., & Zucker, R.A. (2000). Sociopathy, gender, and treatment outcome among outpatient substance abusers. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 61*, 23-33.

- Galen, L.W., & Henderson, M.J. (1999). Validation of alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine effect expectancies in a treatment setting. *Addictive Behaviors*, 24, (5), 719-724.
- Henderson, M.J., Galen, L.W., & DeLuca, J.D. (1998). Temperament style and patterns of substance use. *Substance Abuse*, 19 (2) 61-70
- Galen, L.W., Henderson, M.J., & Whitman, R.D. (1997). The role of novelty seeking and expectancies in the prediction of alcohol consumption. *Addictive Behaviors*, 22 ,93-106.

Books and Book Chapters

- Galen, L. W. (in press). Nonreligious paths to existential fulfillment. In K. Vail, D. Van Tongeren, B. Schegel, J. Greenberg, L. King, & R. Ryan (Eds.) *The Handbook of the Science of Existential Psychology*. Guilford.
- Galen, L. W. (2025). Nonreligion, Well-Being, and Mental Health. In D. Abbott (Ed.) *Culturally Responsive Mental Health Care for Secular Clients*. (pp. 87 – 108). London: Bloomsbury Academic.
- Galen, L. W. (2024). Morality, Prosociality, and Nonreligion. In J. M. Smith & R. T. Cragun (Eds.) *Secularity and Nonreligion in North America: An Introduction*. (pp. 135-151). London: Bloomsbury Academic. doi:10.5040/9781350971059.003
- Galen, L.W. (2023). A Social Cognition Perspective of the Psychology of Religion: “Why God Thinks like You.” London: Bloomsbury.
- Galen, L. W. (2017). Secular prosociality and well-being. In P. Zuckerman & J. R. Shook (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Secularism*. (pp. 533-553). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Zuckerman, P., Galen, L.W., & Pasquale, F. (2016). *The Non-Religious: Understanding Secular People and Societies*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Galen, L.W. (2016). Beyond prosocial (Commentary on Martin and Weibe, 2014). In L. H. Martin & D. Wiebe (Eds.), *Conversations and controversies in the scientific study of religion*. (pp. 145 – 150). Leiden: Brill.
- Galen, L.W. (2014). Nonreligious and atheist emerging adults. In C. Berry & M. Abo-Zena (Eds.), *Emerging adults’ religiousness and spirituality: Meaning-making in an age of transition* (pp. 237-252). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Commentaries, Reviews, and Other Publications

- Speed, D., Hwang, K., Galen, L. W., & Coleman, T. J. (2022). In Doubt and Disbelief: How Mrdjenovich 2018 Misunderstands the (Non) Religion–Health Relationship. *Journal of Religion and Health*, 61, 2319–2322. Doi: 10.1007/s10943-020-01109-1

- Galen, L.W. (2020). "God's not my type": The Pew religious typology from a secular studies perspective. Commentary on the Pew religious typology report. *Secular Studies*, 2, 1-13. doi: 10.1163/25892525-bja10004
- Galen, L. W. (2017). Which functions assumed to be religious and spiritual in nature are ultimately attributable or reducible to purely secular mechanisms? *Religion, Brain, and Behavior*, 7, 293-295.
- Galen, L.W. (2016). Commentary on Norenzayan et al.: The cultural evolution of prosocial religions. Big Gods: Extended prosociality or group binding? *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 39, 29-30.
- Galen, L.W. (2014). Beyond prosocial (Commentary on Martin and Weibe, 2014). *Journal for the Cognitive Science of Religion*, 2, 13-18.
- Galen, L.W. & Beahan, J. (2013). A skeptical review of religious prosociality research. *Free Inquiry*, 33, 14-24. [Winner – Forkosch Award for best Free Inquiry article of 2013].
- Galen, L. W. (2011). [Review of the book *The Fundamentalist Mindset*]. *International Journal for the Psychology of Religion*, 21, 237-241.
- Galen, L.W. (2009). Psychology of religious extremism. [Review of the book *Bad Faith: The danger of religious extremism*]. *Analysis of Social Issues and Public Policy*, 9, 327-330.
- Galen, L.W. (2009). Profiles of the Godless: Results from a survey of the non-religious. *Free Inquiry*, 29, 41-45.

Manuscripts in Preparation and Under Review

- Galen, L. W. (Under review). What do we mean by Agnosticism?: Self-identification, belief uncertainty, and the unknowability of God.
- Galen, L. W. (In press). Assumption of unique religious and spiritual effects 10 years later: "Nevertheless, it persists". *Religion, Brain, & Behavior*.

Abstracts and Presentations

- Galen, L.W., Hosep, M., & Mucciante, B. (April, 2024). Religious Framing, Moral Foundations and Identity: A Replication and Extension. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L. W. (2023, August). Agnosticism as Self-Identity and as Belief: Predictors of Convergence and Divergence. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion, Groningen, The Netherlands (online presentation).

- Galen, L.W., Fles, E., & Dunlap, L. (2023, May). Binding Moral Foundations and Moral Self-Image Ratings Are Attenuated By Religious Framing Effects. Poster presented at the Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, Washington, D. C., USA
- Galen, L. W., Bechtel, J., Dunlap, L., Masters, J., & Coleman, T. J. III. (2020, May). Those High in Binding Morality Foundations Self-Enhance and Make Religious Attributions When Given High Bogus Moral Feedback. Poster presented at the 32nd APS Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, USA. (Conference canceled).
- Galen, L.W. (March, 2019). Religious morality worsens the character gap. Symposium presented at the annual Grand Dialogue in Science and Religion conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Galen, L.W. (May, 2018). Activating a religious prosociality stereotype affects attributions of moral motivation. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, San Francisco, CA.
- Galen, L.W., Maley, M., & Skubick, S. (April, 2018). Endorsement of religious prosociality stereotype predicts attributions of religious moral motivation. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L.W. (October, 2017). Implications of religious stereotypes for explaining religious attributions (including moral motivation). Supernatural Attribution Conference. Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Galen, L.W., Kurby, C., Flynn, M., Leahy, K., & McElroy, M. (May, 2017). Religiosity and the preference for punishment versus compensation. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago IL.
- Galen, L. W., Kurby, C., Dopheide, L., Guthrie, A., & Leahy, K. (May, 2016). Religiosity is inversely related to trust in a controlled economic interaction. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L. W. (February, 2016). The Cognitive Sciences of Religion. Flash symposium presented at the annual Darwin Day. Grand Valley State University.
- Williams, T., Galen, L. & Ver Wey, A (February, 2014). Ratings of prosocial personality traits are contaminated by religious stereotype bias. Poster presented at the 14th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Research Conference, Austin, TX.
- Galen, L.W. (May, 2013). Religiosity, prosocial behavior, and the relationship between religion and psychological science. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington D.C.

- Galen, L.W. (May, 2013). Religious and conservative charitable giving reflects ingroup preferences. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington D.C.
- Galen, L.W., Sharp, M., & McNulty, A. (May, 2013). Nonreligious group factors versus religious belief in predicting prosociality. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago IL.
- Galen, L.W. (July, 2012). *Unpacking Religious Prosociality: Stereotypic and Group Effects on Agreeableness and Conscientiousness*. Symposium presented at the 16th meeting of the European Conference on Personality, Trieste, Italy.
- Walker, R., Koutouzos, C., & Galen, L.W. (May, 2011). *Terror Management Theory and the Just World Belief as a Cultural Worldview*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Anderson, B., Ellis, L., Nguyen, L., VerWey, A., & Galen, L.W. (May, 2011). *Just World Belief, Religiosity, and Attributions of Responsibility for Misfortune*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L.W., & Kloet, J. (May, 2009). *An Investigation of the Factors Contributing to Life Satisfaction in a Non-Religious Sample*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L.W., & Hampshire, G.D. (May, 2009). *Attributions for Good and Bad Outcomes as a Function of Religious Fundamentalism*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L.W., Lord, J., Toman, B.J., McDonald, M., & Smith, C. M. (May, 2008). *The Effects of Religious Fundamentalism on Just World Belief*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Smith, C. M., McDonald, M., Lord, J., Hampshire, G., Bisset, M., & Galen, L. (May, 2008). *The effects of message framing on minority influence impact*. Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Smith, C. M., McDonald, M., Lord, J., & Galen, L. (May, 2008). *The effects of message framing on minority influence impact*. Paper submitted for presentation at the International Congress of Psychology. Berlin, Germany.
- Galen, L.W. & Smith, C.M., & Miller, T.R. (September, 2007). *Attributions regarding good and bad outcomes: The effects of just world belief and religious fundamentalism*. Poster presented at the International Conference on Spirituality; Prague, Czech Republic.

- Galen, L.W., Wolfe, M.B.W., DeLeeuw, J. & Resseguie, N. (May, 2006) Memory for religious stimuli as a function of fundamentalism. Poster presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association; Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L.W., Napieralski, N., & Rogers, W.M. (June, 2003) Religiosity, alcohol expectancies, drinking motives and their interaction in the prediction of drinking among college students. Poster presented at the 26th annual conference for the Research Society on Alcoholism; Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- Strobbe, S., Brower, K.J., & Galen, L.W. (March, 2000) Patient satisfaction with outpatient detoxification from alcohol in a day treatment program. Paper presented at the National Nurses Society on Addictions 25th Annual Educational Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L.W., Yee, M., Winebarger, A.A., & Harper, N. (June, 2000) Relationship between drinking in college freshmen and perceived social norms. Presented at the annual conference for the Research Society on Alcoholism; Denver, CO.
- Galen, L.W., Brower, K.J., Gillespie, B.W., Hill, E.M., & Zucker, R.A. (1999) Treatment outcome of alcoholic subtypes in an outpatient substance-abusing population. (Abstract) *Alcohol Clin Exp Res*, 23 (5, suppl). 83A
- Hegedus, A.M., Brower, K.J., Galen, L.W., Gillespie, B., Snedecor, S., & Zucker, R.A. (1999) Patient characteristics predictive of outpatient substance abuse treatment costs. (Abstract) *Alcohol Clin Exp Res*, 23 (5 suppl). 133A.
- Strobbe, S., Brower, K.J., & Galen, L.W. (1998, September) A model to predict completion of outpatient detoxification from opioids using a clonidine-based protocol Abstract presented at the National Nurses Society on Addictions 23rd Annual Educational Conference, Colorado Springs, CO.
- Galen, L.W., Stoltenberg, S.F., Brower, K.J., Hill, E.M., Zucker, R.A. (1998) Identification of alcoholic subtypes using cluster analysis in an outpatient substance-abusing population. (Abstract) *Alcohol Clin Exp Res*, 22 (3, suppl): 75A
- Brower, K.J., Galen, L.W., & Zucker, R.A. (1998) Psychiatric severity, co-morbidity, and relapse among outpatient problem drinkers. (Abstract) *Alcohol Clin Exp Res*, 22 (3, suppl): 80A
- Karam-Hage, M., Brower, K.J., Galen, L.W. (1998) Persistent sleep disturbance in problem drinkers in relation to psychiatric severity and depression. (Abstract) *Alcohol Clin Exp Res*, 22 (3, suppl): 34A
- Strobbe, S., Brower, K.J., & Galen, L.W. (1997, September) Outpatient detoxification from alcohol: Gender, clinical characteristics, and completion rates Abstract presented at the National Nurses Society on Addictions 22nd Annual Educational Conference, Des Moines, IA.

- Galen, L.W., & Henderson, M.J. (1997, August) Validation of Alcohol, Marijuana, and Cocaine Effect Expectancies. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Galen, L.W., Brower, K.J., Hill, E.M., & Zucker, R.A. (1997). Sociopathy, psychiatric severity, and gender among outpatient substance abusers. (Abstract) *Alcohol Clin Exp Res*, 21 (3, suppl): 132A
- Henderson, M.J., Galen, L.W., & DeLuca, J.D. (1996, November). Temperament style and patterns of substance use. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Medical Education and Research on Substance Abuse, Reston, VA.
- Galen, L.W., Henderson, M.J., Schwartz, C.J., & Whitman, R.D. (1993, August). Relationship of temperament to alcohol expectancies and drinking patterns. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Editorial Positions

- 2024 - 2025 Guest editor. International Journal for the Psychology of Religion: Special Issue on Agnosticism
- 2018 – Present. Consulting Editor: Psychology of Religion and Spirituality (APA Division 36 Journal).

Ad Hoc Reviewing

Archives for the Psychology of Religion
 Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics
 Current Biology
 Evolutionary Psychology
 International Journal for the Psychology of Religion
 Journal of Applied Social Psychology
 Journal for the Cognitive Science of Religion
 Journal of Contemporary Religion
 Journal of Happiness Studies
 Journal of Personality
 Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
 Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion
 Mental Health, Religion, and Culture
 Psychology of Consciousness
 Personality and Individual Differences
 Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin
 PLOS One
 Psychological Bulletin
 Psychological Review
 Religion, Brain, and Behavior

Research on Aging
Scientific Reports
Secularism and Nonreligion
Social Forces
Social and Personality Psychology Compass
Social Psychological and Personality Science
Trends in Cognitive Science
Voluntas: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations

Teaching Experience

Grand Valley State University

Aug. 1999 – Present

Course Instructor:

Controversial Issues in Psychology (PSY 311)
Human Intimacy and Sexuality (PSY 316)
Introductory Psychology (PSY 101)
Psychology of Religion (PSY 385)
Psychopathology (PSY 303)
Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy (PSY 452)