

**Andrew A. Abeyta**  
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## **Academic Appointments**

Rutgers University Camden 2017-Present  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology

## **Education**

North Dakota State University 2012-2017  
Doctor of Philosophy: Social/Health Psychology  
Dissertation: Awakening the Social Self: Nostalgia Regulates Loneliness by Energizing  
Approach-Related Social Motivation

The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs 2009- 2012  
Masters of Arts: Experimental Psychology  
Thesis: The Impact of Existential Threat on the Existentially Indifferent

The Colorado College 2005- 2009  
Bachelors of Arts: Psychology  
Thesis: Extending Stereotype Threat to Low Income Parents: Impact on Parenting Styles

## **Teaching Experience**

### Rutgers University Camden

Instructor: Psych 365 Cultural Psychology F19, S22  
Instructor: Psych 674 Special Topics in Psych: Existential Social Psych F18  
Instructor: Psych 256/255 Research Methods in Psych F17, S18, S19, F19, S20, F20, F21  
Instructor: Psych 135 Introduction to Social Psychology F17, F18, S20, F20, F21, S22

### North Dakota State University

Instructor: Psych 470 Experimental Social Psychology F15  
Instructor: Psych 350 Stats and Research Methods I Summer15  
Instructor: Psych 350 Stats and Research Methods I F14

### The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

Lab Instructor: Psych 2110 Research Methods laboratory section 2009-2012  
Guest Lecture: Psych 2110 Lecture on sampling methods November 3, 2011  
Guest Lecture: The terror management perspective of aggression April 13, 2011

Colorado College

Paraprofessional: PSY 202 Psychology Research Methods and Statistics May-July 2012  
Guest Lecture: The terror management perspective of aggression March 7, 2011  
for Dr. Emily Chan's undergraduate Social Psychology class.

**Publications**

- 1) Nelson, T. A., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2021). Religion, paranormal beliefs, and meaning in life. *Religion, Brain, and Behavior, 11*, 139-149.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2020.1824938>
- 2) Routledge, C., FioRito, T. A., Bitzan, J. D., & Abeyta, A. A. (2021). Does existential well-being promote positive attitudes about entrepreneurs? *Journal of Consumer Satisfaction, Dissatisfaction and Complaining Behavior, 34*, 1-5
- 3) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Kaslon, S. (2020). Combatting loneliness with nostalgia: Nostalgic feelings attenuate negative thoughts and motivations associated with loneliness. *Frontiers in Psychology, 11*, Article 1219. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.01219>
- 4) **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Blake, E. (2020). The Existential implications of individual differences in religious defensive and growth orientations: Fundamentalism, quest religiosity, and intrinsic/extrinsic. In C. Routledge & K, Vail (Eds.), *The science of religion, spirituality, and existentialism*. New York, NY: Elsevier.
- 5) Fetterman, A. K., Juhl, J. T., Meier, B. P., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Robinson, M. D. (2020). The path to God is through the heart: Metaphoric self-location as a robust predictor of religiosity. *Self and Identity, 19*, 650-672.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15298868.2019.1651389>
- 6) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Nelson, T. A., & Routledge, C. (2019). The pushes and pulls of the past: The effects of attachment-related avoidance on approach-oriented social goals. *Personality and Individual Differences, 149*, 200-208. doi: 10.1016/j.paid.2019.06.008
- 7) Nelson, T. A., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2019). What makes life meaningful for theists and atheists? *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*. Advance online publication.  
<https://doi.org/10.1037/rel0000282>
- 8) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Nelson, T. A., & Routledge, C. (2019). Precious time: The role of time and temporal thought in managing death awareness. In C. Routledge, & M. Vess, (Eds). *The handbook of terror management theory* (pp. 209-221). New York, NY: Elsevier.
- 9) Nelson, T. A., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2019). Does meaning motivate magical thinking among theists and atheists? *Social Psychological and Personality Science, 11*, 176-184. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550619829063>

- 10) **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2018). The need for meaning and religiosity: An individual differences approach to assessing existential needs. *Personality and Individual Differences, 123*, 6-13. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2017.10.038>
- 11) Routledge, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C. & (2018). Death and end times: The effects of religious fundamentalism and mortality salience on apocalyptic beliefs. *Religion, Brain & Behavior, 8*, 21-30. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2153599X.2016.1238840>
- 12) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., Kersten, M., & Cox, C. R. (2017). The existential cost of financial insecurity: Financial insecurity undermines perceptions of meaning in life. *The Journal of Social Psychology, 157*, 692-702. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00224545.2016.1270892>
- 13) **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2017). Nostalgia as a psychological resource for a meaningful life: Nostalgia affirms perceptions of meaning in life, fortifies meaning, and mobilizes meaningful pursuits. In M. Robinson & M. Eid (Eds.), *The happy mind: Cognitive contributions to well-being* (427-442). New York: Springer.
- 14) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Sedikides, C. (2017). Material meaning: Narcissists gain greater existential benefits from extrinsic than intrinsic goals. *Social Psychological and Personality Science, 8*, 219-228. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550616667618>
- 15) Routledge, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Roylance, C. (2017). We are not alone: meaning motive, religiosity, and belief in extraterrestrial intelligence. *Motivation and Emotion, 41*, 135-146. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11031-017-9605-y>
- 16) Routledge, C., Roylance, C., & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2017). Miraculous meaning: Threatened meaning increases belief in miracles. *Journal of Religion and Health, 56*, 776-783. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-015-0124-4>
- 17) Routledge, C., Roylance, C., & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2017). Further exploring the link between religion and existential health? The effects of religiosity and trait differences in mentalizing on indicators of meaning in life. *Journal of Religion and Health, 56*, 604-613. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-016-0274-z>
- 18) **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2016). Fountain of youth: The impact of nostalgia on subjective age and implications for health. *Self and Identity, 15*, 356-369. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-015-0124-4>
- 19) **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2016). Sentimentality. In V. Zeigler-Hill & T. K. Shackelford (Eds). *Encyclopaedia of Personality and Individual Differences*. New York: Springer.
- 20) Routledge, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C. (2016). An existential function of evil: The effects of religiosity and compromised meaning on belief in magical forces. *Motivation and Emotion, 40*, 681-688. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11031-016-9571-9>

- 21) Roylance, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2016). I am not an animal, but I am a sexist: Beliefs in human distinctiveness predicts sexist attitudes toward women and perceptions of meaning in life. *Feminism and Psychology, 26*, 368-377. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0959353516636906>
- 22) Routledge, C., Roylance, C., & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2016). Nostalgia as an existential intervention: Using the past to secure meaning in the present and the future. In P. Russo-Netzer, S. E. Schulenberg, & A. Batthyany (Eds.), *To thrive, to cope, to understand – Meaning in positive and existential psychotherapy* (343-362). New York: Springer.
- 23) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Juhl, J. (2015). Looking back to move forward: Nostalgia as a psychological resource for promoting relationship aspirations and overcoming relationship challenges. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 109*, 1029-1044. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pspi0000036>
- 24) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., Juhl, J., & Robinson, M. D. (2015). Finding meaning through emotional understanding: Emotional clarity predicts meaning in life and adjustment to existential threat. *Motivation and Emotion, 39*, 973-983. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11031-015-9500-3>
- 25) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., Roylance, C., Wildschut, T., & Sedikides, C. (2015). The relationship between attachment-related avoidance and the social and agentic content of nostalgia. *Journal of Personal and Social Relationships, 32*, 406-413. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0265407514533770>
- 26) Smith, A. J., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Hughes, M., & Jones, R. T. (2015). Persistent grief in the aftermath of mass violence: The predictive roles of posttraumatic stress symptoms, self-efficacy, and disrupted worldview. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice and Policy, 7*, 179-186. <https://doi.org/10.1037/tra0000002>
- 27) **Abeyta, A. A.**, Juhl, J., & Routledge, C. (2014). Exploring the effects of self-esteem and mortality salience on proximally and distally measured death-anxiety: A further test of the dual defense model of terror management. *Motivation and Emotion, 38*, 523-528. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11031-014-9400-y>
- 28) Maxfield, M., Greenberg, J., Pyszczynski, T., Weise, D., Kosloff, S., Soenke, M., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Blatter J. (2014). Increases in generative concern among older adults following reminders of mortality. *International Journal of Aging, 79*, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.2190/AG.79.1.a>
- 29) Routledge, C., Juhl, J., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Roylance, C. (2014). Using the past to promote a peaceful future: Nostalgia proneness mitigates existential threat induced nationalistic self-sacrifice. *Journal of Social Psychology, 45*, 339-346. <https://doi.org/10.1027/1864-9335/a000172>

- 30) Roylance, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Juhl, J. (2014). The existential consequences of an unjust world: The effects of individual differences in belief in a just world and just world threats on death-thought accessibility. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology*, 36, 452-460. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01973533.2014.944312>
- 31) **Abeyta, A. A.** & Pyszczynski, T. (2012). Maintaining a free and open society in the face of existential threat. In H. Gander, W. Perron, R. Poscher, G. Riescher, & T. Würtenberger (Eds.), *Resilienz in der offenen Gesellschaft* [Resilience in the open society] (pp. 211-227). Nomos-Verlag: Baden-Baden.

### **Papers Under Review/ In Preparation**

- Abeyta, A. A.**, & Juhl, J.T. (2022). *Nostalgia mitigates the association between loneliness and meaning in life deficits*. Manuscript under review
- Blake, E., & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2022). *Nostalgic reflection eases fear of negative evaluation*. Manuscript under review.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, Minuche, L., & Blake, E. (2022). *Nostalgia promotes a sense of campus belonging Among First-Generation College Students*. Manuscript under review.
- FioRito, T., **Abeyta A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Bitzan, J. (2021). *Existential entrepreneurship: How meaning in life connects entrepreneurial motivation and attitudes toward entrepreneurship*. Manuscript under review
- Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C. (2022). *Existential agency: Measuring and testing the psychological implications of peoples' beliefs about their ability to maintain meaning in life*. Manuscript in preparation.
- Blake E., & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2022). *Individual differences in attachment orientation, social goal orientation, and meaning in life*. Manuscript in preparation.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, (2022). *Finding meaning in goals promotes efficacy beliefs*. Manuscript in preparation
- Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2022). Explaining religion's path to a meaningful life: The role of meta-emotional competencies. *Manuscript in preparation*.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, & Fried, N. T. (2022). The meaningful struggle: Seeing education as contributing to one's sense of meaning in life is associated college belonging and identity among underrepresented college students. Manuscript in preparation

### **Grant Submissions**

*Increasing the retention and graduation of Bridging-the-Gap students in STEM by building a resilient purpose for learning*, submitted to the National Science Foundation, not funded but graded "Highly Competitive"

### **Conference Posters/Presentations**

**Abeyta, A. A.** (2022). Existential agency and implications for psychological health and human progress. Presented at the 2022 Eastern Psychological Association Meeting in New York, NY.

\*Collier, K. & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2021). The role of purpose for learning in achieving educational goals. Presented at the 2021 Eastern Psychological Association Meeting.

- \*Ketcham, J., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & \*Collier, K. (2021). Religiosity, meaning in life, and meta-emotional competencies. Poster to be presented at the 2021 Eastern Psychological Association Meeting.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, Minuche, L., & Blake, E. (2020). Nostalgia promotes a sense of campus belonging Among First-Generation College Students. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in New Orleans, LA.
- \*\*Blake, E., & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2020). Nostalgia reduces the fear of negative evaluation. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in New Orleans, LA.
- \*\*Blake, E., & **Abeyta, A. A.** (2020). Attachment, Social Goals, and Meaning. Poster to be presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Happiness and Well-Being preconference of the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in New Orleans, LA.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2019). Explaining religion's path to a meaningful life: The role of meta-emotional competencies. Symposium talk presented at annual American Psychological Association convention in Chicago, IL.
- Abeyta, A. A.** (2019). The meaningful struggle: First-generation college students benefit from finding a sense of meaning and purpose in their academic efforts. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Portland, OR.
- \*\*Kaslon, S., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2019). An existential function of doomsday: The effects of existential vulnerability and meaning threat on apocalyptic beliefs. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Portland, OR.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C. (2018). Narcissists gain existential benefit from extrinsic goals. Symposium talk presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association in Chicago, IL.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge C. (2018). The need for meaning and religiosity: An individual differences approach. Data blitz talk given at the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Preconference to the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in Atlanta, GA.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2018). Nostalgia regulates loneliness by energizing approach-related social motivation. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Atlanta, GA.
- Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2017). On religion and the need for existential meaning: Differences in the need for meaning in life predict religiosity. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in San Antonio, TX.

Roylance, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2017). An existential function of evil: The effects of religiosity and compromised meaning on belief in magical evil forces. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in San Antonio, TX.

**Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Sedikides, C. (2016). *Material meaning: Narcissists gain greater existential benefits from extrinsic than intrinsic goals*. Talk given at the 28th annual Association for Psychological Science (APS) conference in Chicago, IL

\*Weber, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C., & Routledge, C. (2016). *Mentalizing, religion, and meaning*. Poster presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Fargo, ND.

**Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2015). *Fountain of youth: The impact of nostalgia on subjective age and implications for health*. Data blitz talk given at the Subjective Time and Mental Time Travel Preconference to the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in Long Beach, CA.

**Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2015). *The past pushes you forward: Nostalgia inspires social goal pursuit*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Long Beach, CA.

\*Erickson, H., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C., & Routledge, C. (2015). *Narcissists derive meaning in life from extrinsic goals*. Poster presented at the 29<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Moorhead, MN.

Roylance, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, & Routledge, C. (2015). *I am not an animal but I am a sexist: Belief in human distinctiveness predicts sexist attitudes towards women and perceptions of meaning in life*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Long Beach, CA.

**Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Juhl, J. (2014). *The existential benefits of emotional understanding: Exploring the relationship between trait meta-mood and personal meaning in life*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Austin, TX.

\*Boe, L., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C., & Routledge, C. (2014). *Looking back to move forward: Nostalgia as a psychological resource for promoting relationship aspirations and overcoming relationship challenges*. Poster presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Moorhead, MN.

\*MacDonald, A., Roylance, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C. (2014). *We are not alone: The motive for meaning contributes to the belief in extraterrestrial life*. Poster presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Moorhead, MN.

\*Malone, D., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C. (2014). *Fountain of youth: The impact of nostalgia on subjective age and implications for health*. Poster presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Moorhead, MN.

Roylance, C., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Routledge, C., & Juhl, J. (2014). *The existential consequences of an unjust world: The effects of individual differences in belief in a just world and death-thought accessibility*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in Austin, TX.

Smith, A. J., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Hughes, M., & Jones, R. T. (2014). *Self-regulatory cognitive mechanisms linking posttraumatic stress and persistent grief following a school shooting*. Oral paper presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Conference of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies.

**Abeyta, A. A.** & Pyszczynski, T. (2013). *Finding comfort in meaninglessness? The impact of existential threat on the existentially indifferent*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in New Orleans, LA.

\*Field, K. E., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C., & Routledge, C. (2013). *A moment of clarity in the face of existential terror: The effects of emotional intelligence and mortality salience on psychological well-being*. Poster presented at the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Fargo, ND.

\*Kramer, M., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C., & Routledge, C. (2013). *When the past promotes the future: The effects of nostalgia and attachment-related avoidance on relationship seeking*. Poster presented at the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Fargo, ND.

\*Nguyen, T., **Abeyta, A. A.**, Roylance, C., & Routledge, C. (2013). *The existential function of the apocalypse: End of the world narratives increases meaning amongst individuals high in intrinsic religiosity*. Poster presented at the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Red River Psychology Conference in Fargo, ND.

**Abeyta, A. A.**, Pyszczynski, T., & Chan, E. (2012). *Clarifying the role of uncertainty in terror management processes: The impact of the uncertain aspects of death on ingroup bias*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology in San Diego, CA.

**Abeyta, A. A.** & Chan, E. (2009). The impact of positive racial attitudes on campus climate. Talk given at the 2009 Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Conference in Albuquerque, NM.

**Abeyta, A. A.**, Chan, E., & Bennet, J., (2009). *Extending stereotype threat to low-income parents: Impact on parenting styles*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social in Tampa, FL.

\*Indicates undergraduate mentee, \*\*Indicates graduate advisee



## Honors and Awards

North Dakota State University Graduate Student Council Research Symposium Poster Award	2017
North Dakota State University Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship	2016
North Dakota State University Graduate Student Council Travel Award	2016
North Dakota State University College of Math and Science Outstanding Research Award	2015
Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference Graduate Student Poster Runner-up Award	2015
Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship- Honorable Mention	2013
Cinco de Mayo Inc. Academic Scholarship	2010
Esperanza Education Foundation Academic Scholarship	2009
Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference Undergraduate Diversity Award	2009

## Academic and Professional Service

Editorial Board Service: *Social Psychology and Personality Science* (2020-present)

Ad-hoc Reviewer: *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, Health Psychology, Political Psychology, British Journal of Psychology, Personality and Individual Differences, Self and Identity, Basic and Applied Social Psychology, Death Studies, Motivation and Emotion, SAGE Open, Religion Brain & Behavior, Religions, Journal of Creative Behavior, Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, Current Psychology, Frontiers in Psychology, Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy*

Rutgers University-Camden Dean of Arts and Sciences Search Committee	2022-present
Rutgers University-Camden Committee on Diversity Equity and Inclusion	2020-present
Rutgers University-Camden Driving Change Committee	2020-2021
Rutgers University-Camden Psi-chi and Psychology Club faculty co-adviser	2019-present
Rutgers University-Camden Psychology Department undergraduate committee	2019-present

Rutgers University-Camden Faculty Senator	2017-present
Rutgers University-Camden Psychology Department graduate committee	2017-2019
Grad Research Award Reviewer: Society for Personality and Social Psychology	2012
Student Poster Award Reviewer: Society for Personality and Social Psychology	2011
UCCS graduate peer mentor	2011

## **Professional Affiliations**

Eastern Psychological Association  
 Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
 American Psychological Association

## **References**

Clay Routledge, PhD  
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