

Sammy F. Ahmed, Ph.D.

Human Development and Family Science
College of Health Sciences, University of Rhode Island
2 Lower College Rd, Kingston, RI 02881

EDUCATION

- 2019 Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology, University of Michigan
- 2016 Master of Science in Psychology, University of Michigan
- 2012 Bachelor of Science in Applied Psychology, New York University

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2022 – Assistant Professor, University of Rhode Island
Department of Human Development and Family Science
- 2020–2022 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Michigan State University
Department of Human Development and Family Studies
- 2019–2020 Research Fellow, University of Michigan
Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research

GRANT FUNDING

- 2016-2018 **National Institutes of Health**
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (T32 HD007109-36)
The effects of schooling on children's executive function development
Role: Principal Investigator, Awarded \$176,000

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

*Graduate trainees; **Undergraduate trainees

- Ahmed, S. F., Ellis, A., Ward*, K., Chaku, N., & Davis-Kean, P. (2022). Working memory development from early childhood to adolescence using two nationally representative samples. *Developmental Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001396>
- Ahmed, S. F., Skibbe, L. E., McRoy*, K., Tatar*, B. H., & Scharphorn, L. (2022). Strategies, recommendations, and validation of remote executive function tasks for use with young children. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* 60(3), 336–347. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecresq.2022.03.002>
- Ahmed, S. F., Kuhfeld, M., Watts, T.W., Davis-Kean, P., & Vandell, D. L. (2021). Preschool executive function and adult outcomes: A developmental cascade model. *Developmental Psychology*, 57(12), 2234–2249. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001270>

- Kim, M, Bousselot, T., & Ahmed, S. F. (2021). Executive functions and science achievement during the five-to-seven-year shift. *Developmental Psychology*, 57(12), 2119–2133. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001261>
- Ellis, A., Ahmed, S. F., Zeytinoglu, S., Isbell, A., Calkins S. D., Leerkes E. M, Grammer, J. K., Gehring, W., Morrison, F. J. & Davis-Kean, P. (2021). Reciprocal associations between executive function and math achievement: A conceptual replication of Schmitt et al., 2017. *Journal of Numerical Cognition* 7(3), 453–472. <https://doi.org/10.5964/jnc.7047>
- Ahmed, S. F., Grammer, J. K., & Morrison, F. J. (2021). Cognition in context: Validating group-based executive function assessments in young children. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 208:105131. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2021.105131>
- Kim, M., Ahmed, S. F., & Morrison, F. J. (2021). Kindergarten and first grade schooling effects on executive function and academic skill development: Evidence from a school cutoff design. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11:607973. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.607973>
- Waters*, N. E., Ahmed, S. F., Tang, S., Morrison, F. J., & Davis-Kean, P. (2021). Pathways from socioeconomic status to early academic achievement: The role of specific executive functions. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* 54(1), 321–331. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecresq.2020.09.008>
- Woods, A., Ahmed, S. F., Katz, B., & Morrison, F. J. (2020). How stable is early academic performance? Using cluster analysis to classify low achievement and EF. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*. 52(7). <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022219419881632>
- Ahmed*, S. F., Tang, S., Waters*, N. E., & Davis-Kean, P. (2019). Executive function and academic achievement: Longitudinal relations from early childhood to adolescence. *Journal of Educational Psychology*. 111(3), 446-458. <https://doi.org/10.1037/edu0000296>
- Sirin, S. R., Rogers-Sirin, L., Cressen*, J., Gupta*, T., Ahmed**, S. F., & Novoa**, A. D. (2015). Discrimination-related stress effects on the development of internalizing symptoms among Latino adolescents, *Child Development*. 86(3), 709-725. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.12343>

INVITED BOOK CHAPTERS

*Graduate trainees; **Undergraduate trainees

- Ahmed, S. F., Chaku, N., Ellis, A., Waters, N. E., & Davis-Kean, P. (2022). Developmental cascades and educational attainment. In J. J. Lockman & C. Tamis-LeMonda (Eds.), *Advances in Child Development and Behavior*, 64.

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

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|------|--|
| 2017 | Clyde H. Coombs Award in Mathematical Psychology; University of Michigan |
| 2017 | Cognitive Development Society Conference Award; National Science Foundation |
| 2016 | Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA Predoctoral Fellowship; National Institutes of Health |

2016 Institute for Social Science Genomics Fellowship; Russell Sage Foundation
 2016 Rackham Graduate Student Research Award; University of Michigan
 2015 Rackham International Research Award; University of Michigan
 2014 Rackham Merit Fellowship; University of Michigan
 2012 Summa Cum Laude with Honors in Applied Psychology; New York University
 2012 Founder's Day Award; New York University
 2012 Outstanding Research Contribution; New York University
 2012 Dean's Grant for Student Research; New York University
 2012 David & Clara Rothman Research Fellowship; New York University
 2010 Steinhardt Scholars Fellowship; New York University

INVITED TALKS, GUEST LECTURES, & COLLOQUIA

Ahmed, S. F. (2022, February). *Child Development in Early Classroom Contexts*. Invited talk at the department of Human Development and Family Sciences, University of Rhode Island

Ahmed, S. F. (2022, February). *Cognitive Development in Early Classroom Contexts*. Invited talk at the department of Psychology, Fordham University

Ahmed, S. F. (2021, November). *Child Development in Early Classroom Contexts*. Invited talk at the department of Family and Consumer Studies, University of Utah

Ahmed, S. F. (2021, April). *Schooling and Child Development*. Invited talk at the department of Human Development and Family Sciences, Syracuse University

Ahmed, S. F. (2020, November). *Missing data analysis for developmental scientists: Modern techniques and best practices*. Invited talk at the HDFFS Quantitative Methods Group, Michigan State University

Ahmed, S. F. (2020, September). *Introduction to secondary data analysis of archived data*. Invited talk at the HDFFS Quantitative Methods Group, Michigan State University

Kelly, D. P., & Ahmed, S. F., (2019, February). *Meta-Analyses in the replication crisis era: Steps, challenges and best practices*. Invited talk at the Department of Psychology Methods Hour, University of Michigan

Ahmed, S. F. (2018, November). *Cognitive development in the school context*. Invited talk at the Developmental Psychology Area Brown Bag, University of Michigan

Ahmed, S. F., (2018, October). *Executive function during early childhood: Measurement, design and research methods*. Invited guest lecture at an undergraduate seminar in Social Development. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan

Ahmed, S. F. (2018, May). *Preschool executive function skills predict high school GPA and college enrollment*. Presented at the Interdisciplinary Collaborative on Development and Context (ICDC), University of Texas at Austin

Tighe, L. A., & Ahmed, S. F., (2017, April). *Alternatives to Regression Discontinuity in national, longitudinal data sets*. Invited talk at the department of psychology Methods Hour, University of Michigan

Ahmed, S. F. (2017, January). *Using Regression Discontinuity in education and developmental research*. Invited guest lecture at a graduate training seminar in developmental science, University of Michigan

Ahmed, S. F. (2015, November). *Genetic susceptibility to household income: Differential effects on executive function and academic achievement*. Invited talk at the Developmental Psychology Area Brown Bag, University of Michigan

Ahmed, S. F. (2014, November). *Experimental methodology in developmental science. Guest lecture at an undergraduate seminar in research methods*. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan

Ahmed, S. F. (2014, May). *The relevance of population neuroscience for understanding human development*. Invited discussant at the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD) Special Topic Meeting on Population Neuroscience, Ann Arbor, MI

CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

* = Graduate trainees; ** = Undergraduate trainees

Ahmed, S. F., Grammer, J. K., & Morrison, F. J. (2021). *Cognition in context: Validating group-based executive function assessments in young children*. In I. Korocu (Chair). The influence of peers on children cognitive and academic development. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Twin Cities, MN

Ellis, A., Ahmed, S. F., Zeytinoglu, S., Isbell, A., Calkins S. D., Leerkes E. M., Grammer, J. K., Gehring, W., Morrison, F. J. & Davis-Kean, P. (2021). *Reciprocal associations between executive function and math achievement: A conceptual replication of Schmitt et al. (2017)*. In J. Finch (Chair). The role of executive functions in supporting math achievement across early development. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Twin Cities, MN

Ahmed, S. F., Wang, Y., Kelly*, D., & Morrison, F. J. (2019, June). *Sex and socioeconomic differences in early executive function components vary by measurement type*. Paper presented at the 2nd Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society Conference (MCLS), Ottawa, CA

Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J. (2019, March). *Understanding executive function during early childhood: The utility of direct assessments, group-based tasks, and teacher reports*. In F.J. Morrison (Chair). An integrative approach to understanding executive function development in young children. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Baltimore, MD

Ahmed*, S. F., Tang, S., Waters*, N. E., & Davis-Kean, P. (2018, October). *Executive function and academic achievement: Longitudinal relations from early childhood to adolescence*. Paper

presented at the SRCD Conference on the Use of Secondary and Open Source Data in Developmental Science, Phoenix, AZ

Ahmed*, S. F. Grammer, J. K., & Morrison, F. J. (2018, September). *The development and validation of group-based executive function assessments in school-aged children*. In F.J. Morrison (Chair). Executive function development: Bridging psychological, neurological, and educational perspectives. Paper presented at the International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES), Los Angeles, California

Woods*, A., Ahmed*, S. F., Katz*, B., Waters, N. E., & Morrison, F. J. (2017, April). *Utilizing ERP and behavioral data to identify persistent low academic performance across the K-1 transition*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA), San Antonio, TX

Wang, Y., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J. (2017, April) *The development of executive function and relations to emergent academic skills: Exploring early sex differences*. In H. Konishi (Chair). *Self-regulation in early childhood and relations to emergent academic skills*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Austin, TX

Ahmed*, S. F. (2015, October). *The interactive effect of dopaminergic polymorphisms and home environment in predicting academic achievement*. In A. Woods (Chair). Longitudinal interactions between psychopathological precursors and contextual factors on education outcomes for at risk children. Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Human Development's scientific meeting (SSHHD), Austin, TX

Woods*, A., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J. (2015, October). *The Impact of chronic poverty on academic achievement and special education placement*. In A. Sullivan (Chair). *Educational Inequality*. Paper presented at the Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (SLLS), Dublin, Ireland

CONFERENCE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

* = Graduate trainees; ** = Undergraduate trainees

Ahmed, S. F., Skibbe, L. E., McRoy*, K., Ozkum*, B., & Scharphorn, L. (2021). Strategies, recommendations, and validation of virtual executive function tasks for use with young children. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Twin Cities, MN

Waters*, N. E., Ahmed, S. F., Tang, S., Morrison, F. J., & Davis-Kean, P. (2020, May). *Pathways from socioeconomic status to early academic achievement: The role of preschool executive functions*. Poster accepted at the 32th Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science (APS), Chicago, Illinois

Ellis*, A., Ahmed*, S. F., Davis-Kean, P. & Morrison, F. J. (2018, September) *Which comes first? Examining causal relations between early executive function skills and math achievement*. Poster presented at the International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES), Los Angeles, California

- Waters*, N. E., Ahmed*, S. F., Davis-Kean, P. & Morrison, F. J. (2018, September) *Socioeconomic differences in children's performance monitoring: An ERP investigation*. Poster presented at the International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES), Los Angeles, California
- Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J. (2018, April). *Classroom-based executive function assessments predict kindergarten children's math achievement*. Poster presented at the 1st Mathematical Cognition and Learning Society Conference (MCLS), Oxford, UK
- Ahmed*, S. F., Ellis*, A. G., Waters*, N. E., Wang, Y., & Morrison, F. J. (2017, October). *Understanding the structure of executive function in young children using lab, classroom-based, and electrophysiological assessments*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society (CDS), Portland, OR
- Ahmed*, S. F., Remer**, S., Sheppard**, N., & Morrison, F. J. (2017, October). *The development and validation of classroom-based executive function assessments in school-aged children*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society (CDS), Portland, OR
- Shintani**, M., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J., (2017, October). *Executive function and academic achievement: Differential relations across socioeconomic status*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society (CDS), Portland, OR
- Goldberg**, J., Waters*, N. E., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J. (2017, October). *Do teacher's ratings of self-regulation predict children's executive function and academic achievement?* Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society (CDS), Portland, OR
- Gappy**, D., Dennis, B. S., Waters, N. E., Ahmed*, S. F., Grammer, J. K., & Morrison, F. J., (2017, April). *The utility of coding child behavior in EEG studies*. Poster presented at the University of Michigan annual UROP conference, Ann Arbor, MI
- Barron**, J., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J., (2017, April). *Examining links between children's self-regulation and academic achievement: Does context matter?* Poster presented at the University of Michigan annual UROP conference, Ann Arbor, MI - Blue Ribbon Award for Best Undergraduate Presentation
- Shintani**, M., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J., (2017, April). *Executive function and academic achievement: Differential relations across socioeconomic status*. Poster presented at the University of Michigan annual UROP conference, Ann Arbor, MI
- Ahmed*, S. F., Salander, Z., Waters, N. E., Grammer, J. K., Gehring, W., & Morrison, F. J. (2017, April). *Self-regulation during the early school transition: An ERP exploration*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, (SRCD) Austin, TX

- Dennis, B. S., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J. (2017, April). *Working memory mediates the relation between SES and academic achievement*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Austin, TX
- Ahmed*, S. F., Wang, Y. & Morrison, F. J. (2016, September) *Gender and SES differences in subcomponents of executive function in kindergarten and first grade*. Poster presented at the International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES), Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Ahmed*, S. F., Wang, Y. & Morrison, F. J. (2016, September) *The relative importance of executive function components for young children's academic achievement*. Poster presented at the International Mind, Brain and Education Society (IMBES), Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Barron**, J., Dennis, B., Waters, N. E., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J., (2016, June). *Do experimental assessments of children's executive function predict classroom-based behavior*. Poster presented at the University of Michigan annual SROP conference - Blue Ribbon Award for Best Undergraduate Presentation
- Waters, N. E., Ahmed*, S. F., & Davis-Kean, P. (2016, May). *Early parental dialogue predicts children's self-regulation: Evidence from digital audio recordings*. Poster presented at the 28th Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science (APS), Chicago, Illinois
- Ahmed*, S. F., & Mitchell, C. (2016, May). *Genetic susceptibility to household income: Differential effects on executive function and math achievement*. Poster presented at the 28th Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science (APS), Chicago, Illinois
- Ahmed*, S. F., Katz*, B., Waters, N. E., Stilwell, S. M., Grammer, J. K., & Morrison, F. J. (2015, October) *Classroom-based measures of executive function in young children: Evidence for a new ecologically valid measure of executive function*. Poster presented at the 9th biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society (CDS), Columbus, OH
- Ahmed*, S. F., Waters, N. E., Stilwell, S. M., Salander, Z. B., Kats*, B., Grammer, J. K., & Morrison, F. J. (2015, October). *The relation between lab-based and classroom-based measures of executive function in kindergarten students*. Poster presented at the 9th biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society (CDS), Columbus, OH
- Ahmed*, S. F., Waters, N., Mitchell, C. (2015, May). *Dopaminergic polymorphisms moderate the relation between home environment and attention regulation*. Poster presented at the 27th Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science (APS), New York, NY
- Johnson**, M. E., Stilwell, S. M., Ahmed*, S. F., & Morrison, F. J., (2015, April). *The relation between attention control and academic achievement*. Poster presented at the University of Michigan annual UROP conference, Ann Arbor, MI
- Woods*, A., & Ahmed*, S. F. (2015, March) *The risk factors of special education placement among fragile families*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Philadelphia, PA

Ahmed**, S. F., Sirin, S. R., & Gupta, T., & Novoa**, A. D. (2013, April). *Urban adolescents' school engagement: Exploring the immigrant paradox and the protective influence of community connection*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Seattle, WA

Gupta, T. Sirin, S. R., Rogers-Sirin, L., Ahmed**, S. F., Palmeri**, J. M, & Duca**, K. (2013, April). *Gender and Generation status variations in the role of bicultural identification on cognitive engagement*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Seattle, WA

Ahmed**, S. F., Gupta, T., Palmeri**, J. M., & Rogers-Sirin, L. (2012, August). *The role of community connection for immigrant youth's school engagement*. Poster presented at the 120th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association (APA), Orlando, FL

Ahmed**, S. F. (2012, May). *The role of community connection for immigrant youth's school engagement*. Poster presented at the Annual New York University Undergraduate Research Conference, NY

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Undergraduate Courses:

Early Childhood Development (HDF 308; University of Rhode Island)

Methods Lab in Developmental Psychology (Psych 351; University of Michigan)

Introduction to Psychology as a Natural Science (Psych 111; University of Michigan)

Advanced Research Methods in Psychology (Psych 304; University of Michigan)

Research Methods in Psychology (Psych 303; University of Michigan)

Graduate Courses:

Applied Structural Equation Modeling (HDFS 961; Michigan State University)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Conference Reviewer:

Society for Research in Child Development (Panel #1 Attention, Learning, Memory; Panel #4 Cognitive Processes; Panel #12 Methods, History, Theory); Association for Psychological Science (General and Methodology Sections); American Educational Research Association; Cognitive Development Society

Ad-Hoc Journal Reviewer:

Child Development; Journal of Educational Psychology; Developmental Psychology; Cognitive Development; Intelligence; Learning and Instruction; Infant and Child Development; Journal of Early Adolescence; Journal of Experimental Child Psychology; Children and Youth Services Review; Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology; Frontiers in Psychology; Mind, Brain, and Education; Developmental Science; Early Childhood Research Quarterly; Computers and Education; Educational Psychology Review, Scientific Reports, Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2020 Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum Judge; Michigan State University
- 2016 Tenure-Track Faculty Search Committee Member; University of Michigan
- 2015 Diversity Weekend Recruitment Representative; University of Michigan
- 2014 Curriculum Committee, Department of Psychology; University of Michigan
- 2010 Staff Writer, Online Publication of Undergraduate Studies; New York University

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2017 Belleville Tech Science and Biology Representative; Belleville High School, MI
- 2016 Math and Science Fair Representative; Romulus Elementary School, MI
- 2014 Athletic Learning Services Mentor; University of Michigan Athletic Department
- 2010 Community Health Researcher; Academy of Medical & Public Health Services, NY

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- 2019 Graduate Teaching Certificate; Center for Research on Learning and Teaching
- 2017 Graduate Degree Certificate in Data Science; Michigan Institute for Data Science
- 2016 Institute for Social Science Genomics; Russell Sage Foundation
- 2015 Multilevel Modeling; ICPSR Summer Institute Workshop