

**Matthew A. Heller**  
Associate Professor of Psychology  
*Curriculum Vitae*

Wynn Hall  
Azusa Pacific University  
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**EDUCATION**

- 2005 Ph.D. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN**  
Department of Psychology  
Advisor: Dr. Ellen Berscheid  
Supporting Program: Statistics
- 1995 B.A. Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL**  
Psychology and Philosophy, *magna cum laude*

**EMPLOYMENT**

- 2016-present **Azusa Pacific University**  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology
- 2004-2016 **Trinity International University**  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PRINT**

- 2020 Heller, M. A., & Phillips, S. (2020). A new ethical beliefs scale. *Ethics & Behavior*, 30(7), 496-512. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10508422.2019.1668792>
- 2009 Heller, M. A. (2009). Psychological perspectives on peace: An evangelical analysis. *Sacred Tribes Journal*, 4, 126-139.
- 2005 Heller, M. A. (2005). Religious denominations and beliefs: The difference is in the denomination. *Dissertation Abstracts International B*. 66(03), 1783.
- 1999 Berscheid, E., & Heller, M. (1999) Desire. In *Encyclopedia of human emotions* (Vol. 1, pp. 184-188). New York: Macmillan Reference.

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

Heller, M. A. Against such things there is no law: Fruit of the Spirit development in Christian students. Manuscript in preparation. Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Heller, M. A. (March 12, 2020). *A New Approach to Measuring Christian Ethical Beliefs*. Paper presented at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies (CAPS) Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Heller, M. A. (May 14, 2019). *City on a Hill? Longitudinal Comparison of the Role of Christian Higher Education in Faith Development Among Emerging Adults*. Poster presented at Faculty Development Day at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.

Heller, M. A., & Amicangioli, D. (April 27, 2019). *Moral Morasses and Enigmatic Ethics: Psychometrics of the Ethical Thinking Scale*. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Annual Conference, Pasadena, CA.

Heller, M. A., Phillips, S., Bitz, C.J., Grosz, C.X., Rietkerk, L.R., & Zapata, J.M. (April 26, 2018). *Development of the Ethical Thinking Scale*. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Annual Conference, Portland, OR.

Heller, M. A., S., Rietkerk, L.R., Bitz, C.J., Grosz, C.X., & Zapata, J.M., (February 28, 2018). *The Fruit of Good Works*. Presentation at Common Day of Learning at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.

Lehmann, C. S., Heller, M. A., Jewe, K., & McDowell, M. (March 1, 2017). *Religiousness and Charitable Donations: A Multidimensional Approach for Identifying Pathways of Influence*. Poster presented at Common Day of Learning at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA.

Heller, M. A. (May 10, 2014). *Against Such Things There is No Law: Fruit of the Spirit Development in Christian Students*. Paper presented at the Psychology and Spiritual Formation: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Center for Christian Thought Conference, Biola University, La Mirada, CA.

Heller, M. A. (May 3, 2014). *Spiritual Disciplines Predict Spiritual Growth in Christian Students*. Paper presented at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

Heller, M. A. (March, 2006). *Teaching the Neuron Using a Class Drama*. Presentation at the Midwest Institute for Students and Teachers of Psychology, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Azusa Pacific University

Research Methods in Psychology	F 20, Sp 20, F19, Sum I 19, Sp 18, F 17, Sp 17, F 16
Social Psychology	F 19, Sp 19, F 18, S 18, Sp 17
Writing 2: Psychology Sub-disciplines and Career Trajectories	F 20, Sp 20, F19, F 18, F 17, Sum I 17
Senior Seminar: Psychology and Christian Integration	Sp 19, Sp 18
Data Analysis in Psychology	F 20
General Psychology	F 16
Experimental Research Methods (MS)	F 20, F 19, F 18
Theory, Methods, and Practice (MS)	Sp 19

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Psychology of religion: most recently the development of spiritual maturity as related to spiritual disciplines
- Close interpersonal relationships

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Active and current knowledge of *SPSS* and *AMOS* statistical software

- 2017-present Longitudinal survey of Religious and Spiritual Development across 3 national samples
- 2017-2019 Mentored and supervised undergraduate students developing the Christian Ethical Beliefs Scale (CEBS) through 3 different studies
- 2016-2017 Ongoing collaboration with Dr. Curtis Lehmann examining religious factors influencing charitable donations
- 2015-2016 Mentored and supervised undergraduate student in data collection and MPA conference presentation on “Determining Factors in Stress Mindset: Locus of Control and General Optimism”
- 2011 – 2014 Religious development in Christian students; Fall 2011 – Spring 2014; Trinity International University
  - Conducted longitudinal online survey research over the course of two semesters and mentored student research assistants

- 2006 – 2007 Gender differences in desire for affection or respect in the context of close relationships; Fall 06 – Fall 07; Trinity International University
- Developed original measurement scales and conducted multiple undergraduate and community pilot studies
  - Mentored and supervised three upper-level psychology majors
- 1997 – 2005 Research in collaboration with Dr. Ellen Berscheid, University of Minnesota
- Conducted community-based survey research on religious attitudes and beliefs between members of four Christian denominations.
  - Developed a computer-based experimental procedure to examine the interactions of attractiveness and similarity with later social outcomes in twins.
  - Extended an on-going research project examining the attributions offered by people for the quality of romantic relationships.
  - Experience with data analysis using SPSS, as well as computer-aided experimental design using MediaLab.
- 1999 – 2004 Mentored and supervised several undergraduate research assistants: Summer 1999; Summer 2003 - Spring 2004

#### ACADEMIC AWARDS

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| 2018-19    | Faith Integration Project Grant: Religious and Spiritual Development |
| 2018-19    | CREV Research Fellowship: Religious and Spiritual Development        |
| 2012, 2009 | Trinity College Summer Research Grant                                |
| 2011       | Trinity College Sabbatical   |
| 2006       | Trinity College Curriculum Development Grant                         |
| 2004       | Psi Chi Honor Society  |
| 2000       | Pew Younger Scholars Graduate Summer Seminar                         |
| 1997-1998  | Graduate School Fellowship, University of Minnesota                  |
| 1991-1995  | National Merit Scholarship   |

#### ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2019
- Article reviewer for *Ethics & Behavior*
- 2015
- Article reviewer for *Perspectives on Psychological Science*

**SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY**

2018 – present	General Education Curriculum Committee (Chair)
2016 – present	General Education Committee
2019 – 2020	Trustees' Scholarship Committee
2017 – 2019	Psychology Faculty Community Committee
2017 – 2018	Living- Learning Communities Committee

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

2004 – present	American Psychological Association
2016 – present	Western Psychological Association
2020 – present	Christian Association for Psychological Studies
2009 – 2016	Midwestern Psychological Association
2013 – 2016	National Collegiate Honors Council
2014 – 2016	Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
2004 – 2012	Society for Personality and Social Psychology