

Dr. Kelly A. Kane

Department of Psychology, Elmira College
206 McGraw Hall | Elmira College | One Park Place, Elmira, NY
Email: kkane@elmira.edu
Office: 607-735-1889 | Cell: 443-797-2972

Education

- 2020** Ph.D., Social Psychology
Certificate in Quantitative Psychology
Iowa State University, Ames, IA
Mentor: Kevin L. Blankenship
- 2017** M.S., Social Psychology
Iowa State University, Ames, IA
Mentor: Kevin L. Blankenship
- 2014** B.A., Psychology, summa cum laude
B.A., Writing, summa cum laude
Concentration in Developmental Psychology
Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY
Research Advisor: Leigh Ann Vaughn

Research and Teaching Experience

- 2021 – present** Assistant Professor of Psychology
Elmira College
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Faculty Mentor: Stephanie Herzig Johnson
- 2020 – 2021** Assistant Professor of Psychology
Glennville State College
Department of Social Science
Faculty Mentor: Fred S. Walborn
- 2014 – 2020** Graduate Research Assistant
Iowa State University
Attitudes and Social Cognition Lab
Research Mentor: Kevin L. Blankenship
- 2013 – 2014** Undergraduate Research Assistant
Ithaca College
Development and Education Lab
Research Mentor: Judith Pena-Shaff

Teaching Interests

I am interested in teaching lecture-based courses as well as advanced seminars with special topics. I have experience teaching Media Psychology and other special topics within social psychology, as well as statistical courses including Psychological Measurement and Research Methods in Psychology. The content areas that hold the greatest interest for me include General Psychology, Social Psychology, and special-topics seminars.

Research Interests

My program of research uses theories of persuasion and narrative transportation to examine the influences of media and communication on individuals' attitudes. Specifically, I examine the ways that public narratives influence individuals' attitudes through processes such as character identification and belief perseverance. My applied research has examined the bases that individuals use to judge narrative-structured news items as likely to be true or fake news, the ways that individuals resist narrative persuasion, and the role of narrative structure in learning and memory. I strive to develop ways to inform our understanding of persuasive misinformation in order to design interventions to lessen the impact of fake news.

Publications

Articles and Chapters

Kane, K.A. (2020). Don't let the truth get in the way of a good story: Narrative processing in fake news. (Doctoral dissertation, Iowa State University; defended April 2020).

Kane, K.A. (2020). Hypernormative heroes, othered villains: Differential treatment of disability in Marvel movies and shows. George, A., & Schatz, J., eds. *Superheroes and Disability: Unmasking Ableism in the Media*.

Blankenship, K. L., Allen, J. A., Kane, K. A., & Anderson, C. A. (2019). The role of attitudes in aggression and violence. Albarracin, D. & Johnson, B. T. *The Handbook of Attitudes* (2nd ed.).

Kane, K.A., Kane, C.R., & (2018). Humans as aliens: Home rule and morality in K.A. Applegate's *Animorphs*. Eds. Levy, M.M. & Mendlesohn, F. *Aliens in Popular Culture*.

Kane, K.A. (2017). Don't judge a book by its author: Central and peripheral processing in narrative persuasion. (Master's thesis, Iowa State University).

Blankenship, K. L., Kane, K. A., & Hewitt, C. R. (2021). The self-validating role of political ideology on political attitudes. *Social Cognition, 39*(4), 437-456.

Blankenship, K. L., Kane, K. A., & Machacek, M. (2021). Think unique: Perceptions of uniqueness increases resistance to persuasion and attitude-intention relations. *Frontiers in Psychology, 12*, 1730.

Blankenship, K. L., Kane, K. A., and Machacek, M. (2022). Values and attitude certainty: The case for attitude clarity and correctness. *Frontiers on Social Psychology, 41*.

Manuscripts in Preparation (data collected)

Kane, K.A. & Blankenship, K.L. (under review). Narrative misinformation: Source credibility effects in fake news. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*.

Kane, K.A. & Blankenship, K.L. (under review). Resistance to narrative persuasion: Character derogation and other strategies. *Communication Reports*.

Current Projects

- Are certain strategies more effective for resisting narrative persuasion? If so, which ones?
- What interventions for media literacy are most effective at increasing accuracy in judging the veracity of narrative news items?
- Does narrative structure of scientific information improve gist over verbatim recall?
- Does narrative transportation hamper effective judgment of news items' veracity?
- How do source credibility judgments differ between narrative and rhetorical persuasion?

Conference Presentations

Blair, J. & Kane, K.A. (2023). Media and altruism. Presented at the Elmira College Student Research Conference, Elmira, NY, 2023.

Blair, J. & Kane, K.A. (2023). The effects of reacting to altruism. Presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 2023.

Kane, K.A., Carpenter, S. & Witherby, A. (2022). Instructor fluency, but not gender, affects students' judgements of learning and perceived teaching quality. Presented at the Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 2022.

Kane, K.A., Carpenter, S. & Toftness, A. (2021). Instructor gender and fluency influence perceived but not actual learning. Presented remotely at the Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, 2021.

Kane, K.A. (2020). Misinformation and persuasion: Media psychology and fake news. Presented remotely at the American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association Annual Meeting, 2020.

Kane, K.A. & Grundy, J. (2019). Misinformation and persuasion: Source judgments in fake news perception. Presented at the Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, Montreal, QC.

- Kane, K.A. (2019). Post-narrative thought confidence: Transportation feedback validates narrative persuasion. Presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Portland, OR.
- Kane, K.A. & Blankenship, K.L. (2018). Does bogus feedback influence narrative persuasion? Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Kane, K.A. (2018). Resistance to narrative persuasion. Presented at the Psychology and Law Research Group, Ames, IA.
- Kane, K.A. (2018). Narrative persuasion research: Ethics and validity. Presented at the Social Cognition Research Group, Ames, IA.
- Kane, K.A. & Blankenship, K.L. (2018). Elaborative processing in narrative persuasion. Presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- Kane, K.A. (2018). Disability, dehumanization, and disappearance: A content analysis of disabled Marvel superheroes. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts, Orlando, FL.
- Kane, K.A. (2017). Narrative persuasion: Beyond narrative transportation. Presented at the Iowa State Writers' Guild, Ames, IA.
- Kane, K.A. & Blankenship, K.L. (2017). Not my story: Resistance to narrative persuasion. Presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.
- Kane, K.A. (2016). White rabbits, blue pills, vanilla skies: Depictions of psychosomatic phenomena in science fiction. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts, Orlando, FL.
- Kane, K.A., Lewis, A., & Blankenship, K.L. (2016). Eye of the beholder: Narrative persuasion outcomes depend on character identification. Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Kane, K.A., & Blankenship, K.L. (2016). Predictors of attitude commitment: Sticking by one's guns where capital punishment is concerned. Presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Kane, K.A. (2015). Holy water cannot help you now: Nihilism and deism in modern conceptions of the living dead. Presented at the annual meeting of the American Culture Association, Boston, MA.

Blankenship, K. L., Kane, K. A., & Burke, K. (2015). Think unique: The role of uniqueness in self-validation processes and persuasion. Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

Kane, K.A. (2014). The effectiveness of after-school enrichment: One school's story. Presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Boston, MA.

Kane, K.A. (2014). Academic Plus: After-school enrichment. Presented at the Ithaca College Whalen Symposium, Ithaca, NY

Outreach

Elmira College Student Research Conference (2022 - 2023)

Student presentation of posters and projects for semester
Participated in planning, logistics, and advertising
Helped with documentation and judging

How to Get Into Graduate School in Psychology (2019)

Invited panel talk at the Psi Chi Honors Society for Iowa State psychology students
Information for undergraduate students on how to apply to graduate programs
Mentorship for students interested in research in psychology

Fake News and Its Impact (2019)

Panel talk for community and students at Iowa State University Parks Library
Discussion of research applications and impacts
Demonstration of characteristics of real and fake news stories

Psychology in Everyday Life: Fake News (2019)

Community outreach presentation through Ames Public Library
Discussion of how to spot fake news, how to combat it, and how to prevent its spread
Question and answer session with community members about misinformation

Writing and the Psychology of Narrative (2018)

Presentation at the Iowa State Writers' Guild meeting
Explanation of narrative transportation, character identification, and emotional flow
Application of social psychology to popular culture analysis

Kitty Genovese, Bystander Nonintervention, and Media Bias (2018)

Invited panel talk following a screening of *The Witness* documentary about Kitty Genovese
Event by Green Dot chapter of Iowa State University to discuss bystander training
Discussion of narratives around bystander apathy, bystander nonintervention, and crime

Persuasion Research: Ethics and Validity (2017)

Presented at the Social Cognition research group of Iowa State University
Emphasis on attitude change research as requiring unique attention to impact on participants
Discussion of balancing ethics and validity concerns

Making the Case for Organizational Change (2015)

Presented to Constellation Brands, Inc. Human Resources department
Formal application of persuasion principles to intraorganizational change management
Emphasis on data-informed analysis of employee engagement metrics

Academic Plus (A+) Program Review (2014)

Program review of after-school program at local elementary school as applied research
Analysis of focus groups, surveys, student records, and other data sources
Justification of program budget for local and regional funding sources

Funding

Not Awarded

National Science Foundation – Postdoctoral Research Fellowship – 2020 (\$15,000)
National Science Foundation - Graduate Student Research Fellowship – 2015 (\$138,000)
National Science Foundation - Graduate Student Research Fellowship – 2014 (\$120,000)
Rita Allen Foundation Grant for Research in Misinformation – 2019 (\$2,000)
Society for Personality and Social Psychology Student Research Grant – 2018 (\$1,500)

Awarded

Iowa State Honors College Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant – 2020 (\$500)
Iowa State Honors College Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant – 2019 (\$500)
Baumann Foundation Research Grant – 2016 (\$2,000)
National Merit Scholarship – 2010 (\$2,500)

Mentoring

Undergraduate Research Opportunities

During my time at Elmira College, I have worked with undergraduate students to develop research internships on two occasions. In each case, the student has proposed an original research study that I have supervised through the process of data collection and analysis, then helped to craft into a poster for presentation at a conference. At Glenville State, I also mentored two students in research-based internships with a similar scope and focus.

Research Assistants

During my time at Iowa State University I have had the chance to mentor undergraduate students in our research lab. Through this mentorship I have helped students develop skills in data collection, research paradigm shifts, data coding, and data analysis. I have discussed principles

of research design and presentation with the students, and provided references for graduate school applications.

Senior Seminar

Through my position at Glenville State College, I have worked with undergraduate students to design and collect data for a senior capstone project that applies knowledge of social sciences to unique survey-based research projects that explore areas of interest to students themselves.

Honors Committee

As an assistant professor at Glenville State College, I have had the opportunity to serve as the representative for the Department of Social Sciences to the Honors Committee. This has involved interviewing prospective honors students, helping plan fundraising events, reviewing program bylaws, and planning the recruitment efforts for the program.

Honors & Awards

Graduate

Teaching Excellence Award, Department of Social Psychology – 2020
Certificate in Quantitative Psychology – 2020

Undergraduate

Dean's List, Ithaca College – 2010-2014
Outstanding Undergraduate Poster (5th Place), Eastern Psychological Association – 2014
Psi Chi Psychology Honors Society induction – 2013
Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society induction – 2012
Ithaca College Writing Department Essay Contest (2nd Place) – 2011

Service Activities

Equity Committee, Elmira College, 2022 – present
Faculty Development Committee, Elmira College, 2022 – present
Provost's Assessment Committee, Elmira College, 2021 – present
Graduate Students in Psychology Social Psychology Representative, 2016-2020
Graduate Students in Psychology Secretary, 2015-2016
TWLOHA Suicide Prevention Initiative Secretary, 2010-2011
Harry Potter Alliance Treasurer & Events Coordinator, 2011-2013

Teaching Experience

Courses Taught as Instructor of Record

Psychological Statistics

Lecture with Lab – Elmira College
Fall 2021 – Winter 2024

This class gave students experience with the most important statistical concepts for scientific literacy and data analysis in psychology. Students practiced applying concepts such as scales of data, descriptive statistics (variability and central tendency), inferential statistics (mean tests and correlation-based tests), and null hypothesis statistical testing. They performed analyses by hand and with JASP statistical software.

Digital Activism

Lecture – Elmira College

Winter 2024

This class covers issues of equity, justice, and privacy through a lens of examining contemporary uses of Big Data and statistical methods by businesses, governments, and other systems. Students examine how “moneyballification” (the use of formal statistical analyses in processes that were previously casual human relationships) has affected everything from education and hiring to policing and health care. Understanding the statistics that underpin our systems, and the ways in which they are abused by bad actors, is increasingly important for navigating U.S. society.

Psychology of Gender and Women

Lecture – Elmira College

Winter 2023

An interdisciplinary class in Women’s Studies and Psychology, this class exposed students to major theories of how gender develops and how its stereotypes affect individuals as they interact with groups and societies. Students conducted in-class discussions of major issues such as changes to gendered language and the gender dysphoria diagnostic criteria, and each wrote a final paper proposing a societal change that would improve one or more areas of gender equality.

Psychology as a Science and Profession

Lecture – Elmira College

Winter 2022, Winter 2023, Winter 2024

Designed as an orientation to the applications of a degree in Psychology, this course allowed students to practice a variety of practical skills useful for psychologists (creating an APA references list, sending a professional email, assessing research) in both academic and professional settings. Students also developed out their own career aspirations through interviewing professional psychologists and locating job ads that match their own expertise.

Conversations with Dead People

Seminar – Elmira College

Spring 2022, Spring 2023

This special topics seminar involved a high-immersion experience into the subject of dying and mourning in the contemporary U.S., including the settings for such experiences and the ways that the 21st century American experience is distinct from that of other nations or time periods. Students visited cemeteries, memorials, and funeral homes; the final project involved logistical and financial planning for one’s own death and final interment.

Personality

Lecture – Elmira College

Winter 2022

This class gave students exposure to major theories of human variability across persons, from the Five-Factor Model to the more essential situation-person interactions like the Realistic Accuracy Model and CAPS. Students not only completed low-stakes personality measures (both self- and other-report) in class, but learned to critique the psychometric properties of those measures.

Social Psychology

Lecture – Elmira College

Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023

This class provided an introduction to social psychology (the empirical study of human interaction and influence) and covered major topics within the field including social cognition, self-perception, attribution, cognitive dissonance, attitude change, compliance, group decision-making, attraction, altruism, aggression, and prejudice.

Advanced Seminar

Seminar – Elmira College

Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023

During this class, students read and discussed articles about major topics in mediated communication (media) and social/cognitive psychology. They conducted structured debates about topics such as scientific literacy, fake news, rumor on social media, narrative persuasion, social cognitive learning theory, and advertising.

Drugs and Human Behavior

Lecture – Glenville State College

Spring 2021

This class discussed the specific uses and mechanisms of action for various commonly used substances, from the specific pharmacology of each substance in its action on neurotransmitters to the broad implications of regulation around the use of each substance. Students were asked to complete writing activities about the current role of drugs in society and drug legislation.

Death and Dying

Seminar – Glenville State College

Spring 2021

This class provided several perspectives on the end of life and its role in society, using frames from various social sciences including psychology, sociology, physiology, economics, and cultural anthropology. Students discussed unique ethical problems related to hospice, care rationing, euthanasia, and other dying-related conflicts.

Social Psychology

Lecture – Glenville State College

Spring 2021

This class introduced students to major topics in social psychology such as social cognition, self-perception, attribution, cognitive dissonance, and attitude change. Students completed a brief activity each week applying a principle of social psychology to their own lives and experiences.

General Psychology

Lecture – Glenville State College

Fall 2020, Spring 2021

This class gave students an overview of the most important areas of research in psychology, including not only findings but methodologies and the means to critique those findings. Assignments were online and asynchronous, and focused heavily on assessing the quality of information about psychology.

Social Problems

Seminar – Glenville State College

Fall 2020

This class focused on major social problems in the United States in the 21st century, including social divisions and their implications for identity. Students conducted guided discussions in small groups, and each completed four essays applying major theories of social psychology and sociology to social trends and media analyses.

Lifespan Development

Lecture – Glenville State College

Fall 2020

This class focused on the fundamental theories of human development, and how they affect our understanding of the individual throughout the lifespan. Students completed open responses and reading through the Learning Management System for this asynchronous online class.

Senior Seminar Capstone

Seminar – Glenville State College

Fall 2020

This seminar gave students the opportunity to translate their experience and education in psychology and sociology into internships, research projects, and materials for entering the job market with their degrees. Each student completed a semester-long project with my guidance.

Superheroes and Psychology

Seminar – Iowa State University

Spring 2020

In this course, I taught honors students fundamental concepts in media psychology such as attribution theory, narrative transportation, dehumanization, cognitive dissonance,

moral disengagement, and parasocial relationships. All concepts were discussed through a lens of popular culture and superheroes as reflections of the culture that made them.

Misinformation and Persuasion: The Science of Fake News

Seminar – Iowa State University

Spring 2019

In this course, I guided students through a series of activities designed to develop media literacy using our knowledge of social psychology and communication to understand and interrogate fake news phenomena. Students learned about and applied processes of stereotyping and cognitive bias through examining internet content.

Media Psychology

Online Lecture – Iowa State University

Summer 2019, Summer 2018, Summer 2017

In this class, I presented students with a series of readings and discussions of psychology concepts as they explain our interaction with mass media. I assigned students a series of writing exercises that applied psychology to their experiences with media, and helped them develop formal but unique writing voices.

Labs Taught as Graduate Co-Instructor

Psychological Measurement

Lab – Iowa State University

Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016

In this lab, I taught students about principles of psychometric analysis including reliability and validity analysis, item construction, and error measurement. Over the course of the semester, students completed five lab assignments that involved analyzing the statistical soundness of various existing psychological measures.

Introduction to Research in Psychology

Lab – Ithaca College

Spring 2014, Fall 2013

In this lab, I helped students replicate classic experiments in Social and Cognitive Psychology. Additionally, I taught students about the experimental process including how to design experiments, analyze data, and write-up results in APA format. Over the course of the semester, each student completed five projects using all of these skills.

Teaching Assistantships

Research Methods in Communication Studies

Iowa State University, Spring 2020

Research Methods in Psychology: II, IV
Iowa State University, Fall 2018 – Fall 2019

Drugs and Behavior
Iowa State University, Fall 2018 – Spring 2019

Brain and Behavior
Iowa State University, Fall 2018 – Spring 2019

Research Methods in Psychology: I, III
Iowa State University, Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

Introduction to Communication Research Methods
Iowa State University, Spring 2017

Social Cognition
Iowa State University, Spring 2016

Research Design and Methodology
Iowa State University, Fall 2016

Introduction to Communication Studies
Iowa State University, Spring 2015 – Spring 2016

Introduction to Communication Research Methods
Iowa State University, Fall 2014 – Spring 2015

Guest Lectures and Substitute Teaching

Human Subjects Spring 2023
“Misinformation and source judgment: Don’t let the truth get in the way of a good story”

Research Methods in Psychology: II Fall 2019
“How to Present Results in Psychology”
“Conducting ANOVAs, t-Tests, Correlations, and Regressions in SPSS”

Research Methods in Psychology: III Fall 2019
“Operationalization and Other Measurement Considerations”
“Designing and Modifying Psychological Measures”

Brain and Behavior Fall 2018
“Reproduction and Human Sexuality”

Drugs and Human Behavior Fall 2018

“Serotonin”
“LSD”

Research Design and Methodology
“Introduction to Statistics”

Spring 2018

Introduction to Communication Studies
“Theories of Classic Mass Media Communication”

Spring 2017

Professional Affiliations and Service

Elmira College Faculty Development Committee (2021 – present)
Elmira College Equity Committee (2021 – present)
Elmira College A.I. Task Force (2023 – present)
Elmira College Provost’s Assessment Committee (2021 – present)
Glennville State College Honors Society (2020 – 2021)
Psychonomic Society (2019 – present)
Society for Personality and Social Psychology (2016 – present)
American Psychological Association (2014 – present)
Psi Chi Honor Society (2013 – present)

Ad hoc reviewer:

Aggressive Behavior
Journal of Communication
Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin
Psychology of Popular Media
Behavior Research Methods
Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy
Psychology of Popular Media

Industry Experience

Intern, Talent Engagement

Constellation Brands Department of Human Resources
Summer 2015

This position entailed training and support for the business’s transition to new talent management system, making the data-driven business case for feedback system in company-wide communications, developing profiles for job postings during succession planning, and presenting results of internal metric analyses to the business.

Intern, Change Management

Constellation Brands Department of Human Resources

Summer 2014

This position entailed developing employee engagement metrics based on psychometric principles of survey design, analyzing results of the company-wide surveys and communicating the findings to the business, creating internal communication about change management and transitions, and using item validation to edit internal metrics.