

Ziwei Zhang

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Educational Psychology Quantitative Methods in Education (QME) University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	2025
M.A.	Educational Psychology Quantitative Methodology (QM) University of Georgia	2020
B.S.	Psychology East China Normal University	2017

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Associate	Mechanisms of Disinhibition (MoD) Lab Lab Director: Arielle Baskin-Sommers, Ph.D. Department of Psychology Yale University	Since 2025
Research Assistant	Sexual Health Research at the University of Minnesota (SHRUM) Lab Lab Director: B.R. Simon Rosser, Ph.D., MPH Division of Epidemiology & Community Health School of Public Health University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	2021-2025
Lab Member	Longitudinal Methods Development (LMD) Lab Lab Director: Nidhi Kohli, Ph.D. Department of Educational Psychology University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	2020-2025
Lab Member	NewGen Psychometrics and Data Science Analytics (NPDA) Lab Lab Director: Shiyu Wang Department of Educational Psychology University of Georgia	2019-2020

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Intrinsically nonlinear random effects models
Longitudinal mediation models
Growth mixture models
Model fit evaluation
Bayesian inference

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Programming Skills: R and R Markdown
Experience with Statistical Software: SPSS, SAS, JAGS, MPLUS, flexMIRT
Word Process: Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Psychometric Society	Since 2023
American Educational Research Association (AERA) Educational Statisticians SIG	Since 2020

AWARDS AND HONORS

<i>Student Paper Award</i> (\$250) Educational Statisticians SIG American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting (AERA)	2025
<i>Student Research Award</i> (\$100) Quantitative Methods in Education Program Department of Educational Psychology University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	2024
<i>Council of Grad Students (COGS) Conference Grant</i> (\$900) Graduate School University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	2024
<i>Professional Development Funding Award</i> (\$250) Department of Educational Psychology University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	2020
<i>Third Prize Scholarship</i> (¥1000) East China Normal University	2016
<i>Third Prize</i> Daxia College Students Extracurricular Academic Science and Technology Competition East China Normal University	2016

<i>Third Prize Scholarship</i> (¥1000) East China Normal University	2015
<i>Third Prize</i> Daxia College Students Extracurricular Academic Science and Technology Competition East China Normal University	2015
<i>Daxia Students Innovation Program Grant</i> (¥3000) East China Normal University	2015-2016
<i>Shanghai College Students Innovation Program Grant</i> (¥8000) Shanghai Municipal Education Commission	2014-2015

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE ON SPONSORED GRANTS

<i>Graduate Research Assistant</i> (20 hrs/week) Evaluating the Effects of Reproductive Health Training on Provider Behavior NIH/NICHD Grant: # 1R01 HD092655-01A1// PI: Dr. B.R. Simon Rosser, and Dr. Dickson Ally Mkoka Supervisor: Dr. Nidhi Kohli University of Minnesota- Twin Cities // Minneapolis, MN <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted data analysis, generated technical reports, contributed to peer-reviewed manuscripts	2024-2025
<i>Graduate Research Assistant</i> (10 hrs/week) Restore: Improving Sexual Outcomes of Gay and Bisexual Prostate Cancer Survivors NIH/NCI Grant: # R01 CA218657-01 // PI: Dr. B.R. Simon Rosser Supervisor: Dr. Nidhi Kohli University of Minnesota- Twin Cities // Minneapolis, MN <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted data analysis, generated technical reports, contributed to peer-reviewed manuscripts	2022-2024
<i>Graduate Research Assistant</i> (10 hrs/week) Training the Long Term Support and Services Workforce in Sexual and Gender Minority Competent Provision of Care NIH/NIA Grant: # 1R01AG075734-01A1 // PI: Dr. B. R. Simon Rosser, and Dr. Tetyana Shippee Supervisor: Dr. Nidhi Kohli University of Minnesota- Twin Cities // Minneapolis, MN <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted data analysis, generated technical reports, contributed to data analysis plan and peer-reviewed manuscripts	2022-2024

Graduate Research Assistant (10 hrs/week)

2021-2022

Training for Health Professionals in Tanzania

NIH/NICHHD Grant: # 1R01 HD092655-01A1 // PI: Dr. B.R. Simon

Rosser

Supervisor: Dr. Nidhi Kohli

University of Minnesota- Twin Cities // Minneapolis, MN

- Conducted data analysis, generated technical reports, contributed to peer-reviewed manuscripts

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- [8] Rosser, B.R.S., Mkoka, D.A., Trent, M., Kohli, N., Mgopa L.R., Rohloff, C.T., Mkonyi, E., Ross, M.W., Mushy, S.E., Mohammed, I., Massae, A.F., **Zhang, Z.**, Mwakawanga, D.L., Lukumay, G.G. (2025). Effects of an Afrocentric Sexual Health Education Curriculum for Medical, Nursing and Midwifery Students in Tanzania: A Single Blinded Randomized Controlled Phase 3 Trial. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, *in press*.
- [7] Mkoka, D. A., Ross, M. W., Mkonyi, E., Trent, M., Lukumay, G. G., Kohli, N., Mgopa, L. R., Rohloff, C. T., Mwakawanga, D. L., Mohammed, I., Mushy, S. E., Massae, A. F., **Zhang, Z.**, & Rosser, B. R. S. (2025). Evaluation of an Afrocentric Sexual Health Education Curriculum for Medical, Nursing and Midwifery Students in Tanzania. *East African Journal of Health and Science*, 8(1).
<https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.37284/2707-3920>
- [6] **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., & Lock, E. F. (2024). Bayesian (Non)Linear Random Effects Mediation Models: Evaluating the Impact of Omitting Confounders. *Psychological Methods*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/met0000721>
- [5] Rosser, B. R. S., Kohli, N., Bates, A. J., Talley, K. M. C., Wright, M. M., Polter, E. J., Wheldon, C. W., Haggart, R., Dickstein, D., Ross, M. W., **Zhang, Z.**, West, W., & Konety, B. R. (2024). Does Sexual Rehabilitation Work for Gay and Bisexual Prostate Cancer Patients? Acceptability, Feasibility, And Efficacy Results from the Restore-2 Randomized Controlled Trial. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*, 1-15.
- [4] **Zhang, Z.**, Rohloff, C. T., & Kohli, N. (2023). Model Fit Indices for Random Effects Models: Translating Model Fit Ideas from Latent Growth Curve Models. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 30(5), 822-830.
- [3] **Zhang, Z.**, Rohloff, C. T., & Kohli, N. (2023). Commentary on “Obtaining interpretable parameters from reparameterized longitudinal models: Transformation Matrices Between Growth Factors in Two Parameter Spaces.” *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 48(2), 262–268.

- [2] Bennis, S. L., Rohloff, C.T., **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., Zoschke, I. N., Rosser, B. R. S., Nyitray, A. G., Wilkerson, J. M., Stull, C. L., Khariwala, S. S., & Ross, M. W. (2023) Sexual Behavior and Perceived Risk for Oropharyngeal Cancer Among Men Who Have Sex With Men: A Psychometric Scale Validation. *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, 10-1097.
- [1] Tatum, A., Rosser, B. R. S., Wheldon, C. W., Torres, M. B., Bates, A. J., Haggart, R., Konety, B. R., Mitteldorf, D., Polter, E. J., Ross, M. W., Talley, K. M. C., West, W., Wright, M. M., & **Zhang, Z.** (2023). The Effects of Prostate Cancer Treatment on Role-In-Sex in Gay and Bisexual Men: Mixed Methods Results from the Restore-1 and Restore-2 Studies. *The Journal of Sex Research*, 60(5), 752-761.

MANUSCRIPTS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW

- [2] **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., & Lock, E. F. Assessing Heterogeneous Treatment Effects Using Bayesian (Non)Linear Growth Mixture Mediation Models. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*
- [1] Shippee, T. P., Alberth, A., Moone, R., Flatt, J., **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., Wright, M., Henning-Smith, C., Cahill, S., & Rosser, B. R. S. Prevalence of Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Affirmative Policies in Long-Term Care Facilities in Minnesota. *The Gerontologist*

PRESENTATIONS

REFEREED

- [8] **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., & Lock, E. F. (2025, April 23-27). *Assessing heterogeneous treatment effects in Bayesian growth mixture mediation models*. [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2025 Annual Meeting. Denver, CO, United States.
- [7] **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., & Lock, E. F. (2024, July 16-19). *Assessing heterogeneous treatment effects in Bayesian longitudinal mediation models*. [Paper presentation]. International Meeting of the Psychometric Society (IMPS) 2024 Annual Meeting. Prague, Czech Republic.
- [6] **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., & Lock, E. F. (2024, April 11-14). *Bayesian (non)linear random effects mediation models: Evaluating the impact of omitting confounders*. [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2023 Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA, United States.
- [5] Bennis S. L., Rohloff C. T., **Zhang Z.**, Kohli N., Zoschke I. N., Rosser B. R. S., & Ross M. W. (2023, October 5-7). *Measuring the impact of sexual risk on the perception of HPV-associated oropharyngeal cancer risk in men who have sex with men*. [Poster presentation]. The Science of Cancer Health Equity in Sexual and Gender Minority Communities. New York, NY, United States.

- [4] Dickstein, D.R., Bates, A.J., Wheldon, C.W., Haggart, R., Wright, M., **Zhang, Z.**, Talley, K.M.C., Kohli, N., West, W., Mitteldorf, D., Ross, M.W., Konety, B.R., Marshall, D.C., & Rosser, B.R.S. *Association between choice of radical prostatectomy or external beam radiotherapy and sexual health outcomes in gay and bisexual men with early-stage prostate cancer*. [Poster presentation]. The Science of Cancer Health Equity in Sexual and Gender Minority Communities. New York, NY, United States.
- [3] Wheldon, C.W., Bates, A.J., Dickstein, D.R., Haggart, R., Wright, M., **Zhang, Z.**, Polter, E.J., Talley, K.M.C., Kohli, N., West, W., Mitteldorf, D. Ross, M.W., Konety, B.R., & Rosser, B.R.S. (2023, October 5-7). *Widening horizons: Anal dilation as a potential therapy to enhance sexual function in gay and bisexual men treated for prostate cancer*. [Poster presentation]. The Science of Cancer Health Equity in Sexual and Gender Minority Communities. New York, NY, United States.
- [2] **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., & Lock, E. F. (2023, July 24-28). *longitudinal mediation models: Understanding the impact of confounders*. [Paper presentation]. International Meeting of the Psychometric Society (IMPS) 2023 Annual Meeting. College Park, MD, United States.
- [1] **Zhang, Z.**, Rohloff, C. T., & Kohli, N. (2023, April 13-17). *Model fit indices for random effects models: Translating model fit from latent growth curve models*. [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) 2023 Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL, United States.

NON-REFEREED

- [3] **Zhang, Z.**, Kohli, N., & Lock, E. F. (2024, March 01). *Longitudinal Mediation Models: Understanding the Impact of Confounders*. [Poster presentation]. Graduate Student Research Day, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, United States.
- [2] **Zhang, Z.**, Rohloff, C. T., & Kohli, N. (2023, January 27). *Model fit indices for random effects models: Translating model fit ideas from latent growth curve models*. [Paper presentation]. Graduate Student Research Day, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, United States.
- [1] Ferster, A., Wang, B., & **Zhang, Z.** (2018, October 19). *The impact of a negligible penalty on students' inclination to use cognitive supports during assessment*. [Poster presentation] Innovation in Teaching Conference, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, United States.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<i>Guest Lecturer</i> GRAD 8200 - Practicum for Future Faculty // Preparing Future Faculty Program // Supervisor: Dr. Bill Rozaitis University of Minnesota, Twin Cities // Minneapolis, MN	Spring 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Teach three 75-minute sessions for EPSY 5261 <i>Introductory Statistical Methods</i> and EPSY 5262 <i>Intermediate Statistical Methods</i> // Mentor: Dr. Andrew Zieffler	
<i>Guest Lecturer</i> GRAD 8101 - Teaching in Higher Education // Preparing Future Faculty Program // Supervisor: Dr. Deborah Wingert University of Minnesota, Twin Cities // Minneapolis, MN	Fall 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed syllabus and lesson plansDeveloped and implemented two 10-minute sessions and a 20-minute session using active learning strategies	
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> EPSY 3264 - Basics and Applied Statistics Department of Educational Psychology University of Minnesota, Twin Cities // Minneapolis, MN	2020-2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Graded assignments, held office hours	
<i>Volunteered Teacher</i> Primary School Students Growth Camp // Shanghai & Fujian, China	2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed and implemented curriculum and activities, communicated with parents	

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Psychometric Society Graduate Student Committee // <i>Member</i>	Since 2024
Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics // <i>Ad-hoc Reviewer</i>	Since 2023
AERA Division D Graduate Student Committee // <i>Leslie</i>	2023
AERA SEM SIG // <i>Conference Reviewer</i>	2022

SERVICE TO THE PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY

Diversity in Psychology Support (DIPS) Mentorship Program // <i>Mentor</i>	2024-2025
QME Faculty Search Committee // <i>Student Representative</i>	2024-2025
Ed Psych Council of Graduate Students (COGS) // <i>Representative</i>	2024-2025
Council of Graduate Students (COGS) // <i>Grants Reviewer</i>	2022-2023
QME Faculty Search Committee // <i>Student Representative</i>	2022-2023
Educational Psychology Student Diversity Committee // <i>Member</i>	2021-2022