
CURRICULUM VITAE



Lia D. Falco
Associate Professor
Educational Psychology
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721
Email: ldf@email.arizona.edu

CHRONOLOGY OF EDUCATION

Ph.D., Educational Psychology, May 2008
University of Arizona
Dissertation – Skill-Builders: Enhancing middle school students’ self-efficacy and adaptive learning strategies in mathematics
Director: Dr. Sheri Bauman

M.Ed., School Counseling and Guidance, May 2002
University of Arizona

B.S., Psychology, May 1998
University of Arizona

CHRONOLOGY OF EMPLOYMENT

University of Arizona
Associate Professor, Department of Educational Psychology, Fall 2024-present

University of Arizona
Associate Professor, Department of Disability & Psychoeducational Studies, Fall 2021-Spring 2024

University of Arizona
Assistant Professor, Department of Disability & Psychoeducational Studies, Fall 2015-Spring 2021

University of Arizona
Associate Professor of Practice, Department of Disability & Psychoeducational Studies, Fall 2014 – Spring 2015

University of Arizona
Assistant Professor of Practice, Department of Disability & Psychoeducational Studies,
Fall 2009 – Spring 2014
University of Arizona
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Psychology, Fall 2008- Spring
2009

Amphitheater School District, Tucson, AZ
School Counselor, Richard B. Wilson K-8, 2004-2008

HONORS AND AWARDS

2024 Maria Urquides Laureate
2022-2023 COE Outstanding Faculty Service & Outreach Award
2019 Erasmus Circle Fellow
2015 Smith Junior Faculty Award

SERVICE/OUTREACH

Local/State:

- Arizona School Counselor Association, Research Committee Member, 2009-2012
- Arizona School Counselor Association, Executive Board Member, 2012-2015
- Established “Talk it Out” partnership with Tucson Unified School District to provide free and accessible counseling services to students and families in the communities as well as practicum training sites for Master’s Counseling students. 2018-present.

National:

- National Career Development Association (NCDA) Research Committee Chair, 2018-2023

Departmental:

- Faculty search committee member for Counseling Program Director, 2015
- Faculty search committee for member for DPS career-track faculty, Counseling Program 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022
- CACREP accreditation liaison for the Counseling program 2015-2019
- Faculty search committee chair for DPS open rank tenure-track faculty, Counseling Program, 2019
- Faculty search committee chair for DPS career-track faculty, Counseling Program, 2022
- Faculty search committee member for DPS tenure-track faculty, Special Education, 2022
- Faculty representative, DPS Promotion & Tenure committee, 2022-2023

College:

- College of Education College Council, 2011-2012, 2012-2013.

- College of Education Academic Programs Committee, 2015-2017
- Faculty search committee member for STEM learning center (SLC) director, 2018

University:

- University of Arizona Hearing Board member (2017-present)

Professional:

- Middle Grades Research Journal, Review Board Member 2008-2014
- School Counseling Research & Practice, Review Board Member 2010-2013
- Professional School Counseling Journal, Editorial Board Member 2010-2013
- Editorial Assistant, Journal for Specialists in Group Work, 2008-2023
- Journal of Counseling & Development, Editorial Board Member 2018-present
- Career Development Quarterly, Editorial Board Member 2023-present

PUBLICATIONS

Chapters (peer-reviewed):

- Mayes, R.D., **Falco, L.D.**, & Hirdes, C. (2024). "We need support Too": College and career readiness needs of gifted students. In Hines, E. M., & Owen, L. (Eds.). *Equity-Based Career Development Postsecondary Transitions: An American Imperative*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Falco, L.D.**, & Steen, S. (2024). Post-secondary opportunities. In Wines, L. A., & Nelson, J. A. (Eds.). *Counselors as Practitioners: Building on Theory, Standards, and Experience for Optimal Performance* (2nd Ed), pp. 203-301. Alexandria, VA: American School Counselor Association.
- Falco, L.D.** (2023). Gender Issues. In S.B. Dermer & J.R. Abdullah (Eds.) *Handbook of Multicultural Counseling, Social Justice, and Advocacy*, pp. 629-632. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Falco, L.D.** (2023). Help-seeking Behaviors. In S.B. Dermer & J.R. Abdullah (Eds.) *Handbook of Multicultural Counseling, Social Justice, and Advocacy*, pp.706-710. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Falco, L.D.** (2023). Mental Health Needs of Youth. In S.B. Dermer & J.R. Abdullah (Eds.) *Handbook of Multicultural Counseling, Social Justice, and Advocacy*, pp. 1010-1014. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Falco, L.D.** (2016). Diversity issues. In Bauman, S., & Shaw, L. (Eds). *Group Work With Individuals with Disabilities*, pp.53-65. Alexandria, VA: American Counseling Association.

Falco, L.D., & Bauman, S. (2014). Group work in schools. In Gerrity, D. A., Calodner, C. R., Delucia-Waack, J. L., & Riva, M. (Eds.) *Handbook of Group Counseling and Psychotherapy*, pp. 318-328. Washington, D.C.: Sage.

Refereed journal articles:

*denotes student co-author

Falco, L.D., Mayes, R.D., & *Hirdes, C.L. (2025). Content analysis of the Professional School Counseling Journal: A fifteen-year reflection. *Professional School Counseling*, 29(1). doi: 10.1177/2156759X251316560

Goodrich, K. M., Bartlett, G. T., *Hirdes, C.L., & **Falco, L. D.** (2022). How to Review for the Journal for Specialists in Group Work (JSGW) Editorial Board Member Basics. *The Journal for Specialists in Group Work*, 47(3-4), 169-175. doi: 10.1080/01933922.2022.2129940

Summers, J. J., & **Falco, L.D.** (2022). Evaluating the construct validity of the Middle School Self-Efficacy Scale with high school adolescents. *Journal of Career Development*, 49(4), 735-752. doi: 10.1177/0894845318773383

Falco, L.D & *Shaheed, C. (2021). Theory into Practice: A Conceptual Framework for Career Group Counseling in School Settings. *Journal for Specialists in Group Work*, 46(1), 6-19.

Falco, L.D., & Summers, J.J. (2021). Social persuasions in math and their prediction of STEM courses self-efficacy in middle school. *Journal of Experimental Education*, 89 (2). 326-343. doi: 10.1080/00220973.2019.1681350.

Summers, J. J., & **Falco, L.D.** (2020). The development and validation of a new measure of adolescent purpose. *Journal of Experimental Education*, 88(1), 47-71. doi: 10.1080/00220973.2019.1575178

*Chavez German, V., & **Falco, L.D.** (2019). Process evaluation of a training model for school-based mental health. *Journal for Social Action in Counseling and Psychology*, 11(2), 54-66.

Falco, L.D. (2019). An intervention to support mathematics self-efficacy in middle school. *Middle School Journal*, 50(2), 28-44. doi:10.1080/00940771.2019.1576580

Falco, L.D., & Summers, J.J. (2019). Improving career decision-making self-efficacy and STEM self-efficacy in high school girls: Evaluation of an intervention. *Journal of Career Development*, 46(1), 62-76. doi: 10.1177/0894845317721651

Falco, L.D., & Steen, S. (2018). Using school-based career development to support college and career readiness: An integrative review. *Journal of School-based Counseling Policy and Evaluation* 1(1), 51-67. doi: 10.25774/vItv4-c816

Falco, L.D. (2017). The School Counselor and STEM Career Development. *Journal of Career Development, 44*(4), 359-374. doi:10.1177/0894845316656445

McCarthy, C., **Falco, L.D.**, & Villalba, J.A. (2014). Ethical and professional issues in experiential growth groups: Moving forward. *Journal for Specialists in Group Work, 39*(3), 186-193.

Falco, L.D., & McCarthy, C. (2013). Writing for publication: A guide for counseling practice articles. *Journal of Counseling & Development, 91*(3), 343-348. doi:10.1002/j.1556-6676.2013.00103.x

Falco, L.D. (2011). Why groups? The importance of group counseling in schools. *School Counseling Research & Practice, 3*, 17-24.

Falco, L.D., Bauman, S., *Sumnicht, Z., & *Engelstad, A. (2011). Content analysis of the *Professional School Counseling* journal: The first ten years. *Professional School Counseling, 14*, 271-277.

Falco, L.D. (2010). A model for school counseling curriculum design and effective intervention planning. *School Counseling Research & Practice, 2*, 7-10.

Nasta, P., **Falco, L.D.**, & *Hirdes, C. (2010). Fostering advocacy: Addressing the needs of foster children in the public school system. *School Counseling Research & Practice, 2*, 31-38.

Falco, L.D., Summers, J.J., & Bauman, S. (2010). Encouraging mathematics participation through improved self-efficacy: A school counseling outcomes study. *Educational Research and Evaluation, 16*, 529-549. doi: 10.1080/13803611.2011.555101

Falco, L.D., Crethar, H., & Bauman, S. (2008). "Skill-Builders": Improving middle-school students' self-beliefs for learning mathematics. *Professional School Counseling, 11*, 22-235.

D'Agostino, J.V., Welsh, M.E., Cimetta, A.D., **Falco, L.D.**, Hester, W.S., Smith, S., & Powers, S.J. (2008). The rating and matching item-objective alignment methods. *Applied Measurement in Education, 22*, 1-21.

Falco, L.D., & Bauman, S. (2004). The use of process notes in the experiential component of training group workers. *Journal for Specialists in Group Work, 2*, 1-8.

Bauman, S., Siegel, J.T., **Falco, L.D.**, Davis, A., Seabolt, K., & Szymanski, G. (2003). Trends in school counseling journals: the first fifty years. *Professional School Counseling, 7*, 79-90.

Bauman, S., Siegel, J.T., Davis, A., **Falco, L.D.**, Seabolt, K., & Szymanski, G. (2002). School counselors' interest in professional literature and research. *Professional School Counseling*, 5, 346-352.

Other publications:

*denotes student co-author

Falco, L.D., Wheeler, M., & Chan, C. (in press). Advocacy in career counseling and development. *NCD A Counselor Educator Academy Practice Brief*. Broken Arrow, OK: NCDA

Falco, L.D., Summers, J.J., *Iturralde, S., *Wang, Q., & *Bhukya, Y. (February 2025). Using 'preflection' to improve STEM career development for K-12 students. *Career Convergence Magazine*.

Falco, L.D., & Calhoun, B. (November 2022). Supporting college and career readiness in the wake of COVID-19. *Career Convergence Magazine*.

*Hirdes, C., & **Falco, L.D.** (May 2021). The intersection of mental health and career support: The roles of counselor educators. *Career Convergence Magazine*.

Falco, L.D. (February 2020). Purpose as a framework for post-secondary planning and career development. *Career Convergence Magazine*.

Falco, L.D. (Winter 2018). How much is enough? Balancing work and life as a school counselor. *Career Developments Magazine* 35(1), 16-17.

Goodrich, K.M. Villalba, J.A., Steen, S., & **Falco, L.D.** (2018). Looking back, looking forward. Editorial appearing in the *Journal for Specialists in Group Work*, 43(4), 297-299.

Falco, L.D., *Conner, K., & *Williams, T. (2015). Getting help: The art of asking questions. In Delucia-Waack, J., Zawadzski, L., Mercurio, M., Korta, S., Martin, E., Colvin, F., & Maertin, K., (Eds.). *School Counselors Share Their Favorite Classroom Guidance Activities: A Guide to Choosing, Planning, Conducting, and Processing*. Association for Specialists in Group Work.

McCarthy, C. & **Falco, L. D.** (2012). Finishing strong. Editorial appearing in the *Journal for Specialists in Group Work*, 38(1), 275.

Falco, L.D., *Hatfield, A., *Hirdes, C., & *Tatum, T. (2011). Career constellation. In T.M. Lara, M. Pope, & C.W. Minor (Eds.) *Experiential Activities for Teaching Career Counseling and for Facilitating Career Groups (Volume III)*. Broken Arrow, OK, NCDA Press.

*Hatfield, A., & **Falco L.D.** (2010). First-generation college-bound students: A small group intervention. In G. Walz, J.D. Bleuer, and R.K. Yep (Eds.) *VISTAS 2010 -Ideas and Research You Can Use*. Alexandria, VA: American Counseling Association.

Falco, L.D. (March 2010). ACA journal spotlight: highlights of recently-published research in ACA journals. *Counseling Today*.

Falco, L.D. (Summer/Fall 2010). A guide to group membership: A review of “On *Becoming a Group Member: Personal Growth and Effectiveness in Group Counseling*” by Muhyiddin Shakoor. *ASGW Newsletter*.

In Process:

*Jean, K., & **Falco, L.D.** (under review). Understanding school-based mental health frameworks, contexts, and outcomes: An integrative review for the 21st century. *Children and Youth Services Review*.

Summers, J.J., Turner, J., **Falco, L.D.** (under review). Group processes in college classrooms: A control value theory framework. *Journal of Experimental Education*.

*Castro, S., *Ekstrom, H., **Falco, L.D.**, Summers, J.J., & Octreyvian, K. (draft). Contextualizing youth purpose and exploring underlying relationships: A mixed-methods study.

Mayes, R.D., **Falco, L.D.**, & Barnhart, L. (draft). Talk it Out: A Collaborative Approach to School-Based Mental Health. Invited manuscript for a special issue of *Teaching and Supervision in Counseling*.

CONFERENCES/SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Conferences (peer-reviewed proposals):

*denotes student co-presenter

*Castro, S., *Ekstrom, H., **Falco, L.D.**, Summers, J.J., & Octreyvian, K. (2024). Contextualizing youth purpose and exploring underlying relationships: A mixed-methods study. Poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association. Seattle, WA.

Wheeler, M., **Falco, L.D.**, & Calhoun, B. (2024) Before burnout: How career practitioners can support client wellness in their career journeys. Roundtable presentation at the National Career Development Global Conference. San Diego, CA.

Summers, J.J., **Falco, L.D.**, *Ekstrom W.H., & *Castro, S. (2023, October). Examining youth purpose: A mixed methods approach. Paper presentation at the Biennial meeting of the Scholarly Consortium of Innovative Psychology in Education. Portland, OR.

- Summers, J.J., **Falco, L.D.**, & *Ekstrom, H. (2022, August). Youth purpose and interest development: A middle school science intervention strategy. Presentation at the Network Gender and STEM Conference. Munich, Germany.
- Falco, L.D.**, *Kendzora, C., *Guida, A., & Tashjian, A. (2022, March). Using telehealth to support K-12 student mental health. Paper session at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence. New Orleans, LA.
- *Oguilve, V., Castek, J., Summers, J.J., & **Falco, L.D.** (2021, December). Language learners become filmmakers: Connecting STEM, digital literacies, and Language. Webinar for the Center for Educational Resources in Culture, Language, and Literacy. University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.
- *Guida, A., & **Falco, L.D.** (2020, November). Career theory in counselor education: Student perception of relevance and usefulness. Western Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference. Tucson, AZ (conference canceled).
- Falco, L. D.**, *Chavez German, V., Tashjian, A., & Hartley, M. T. (2020, March). Evaluation of A School District-University Partnership for Student Mental Health. Poster presentation at the Evidence-Based School Counseling Conference. Florida Atlantic University: Boca Raton, FL (conference canceled).
- Falco, L.D.**, & *Chavez German, V. (2020, March). Process Evaluation of an Innovative Model for School-Based Mental Health. Poster presentation at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence. San Diego, CA (conference canceled).
- Falco, L.D.** (2020, April). The professional counselor's guide to writing for publication. Education Session at the American Counseling Association Conference & Expo. San Diego, CA (conference canceled).
- Chan, C.D., Szepe, A., Keller-Dupree, B., **Falco, L.D.**, Childs, J., Wheeler, M., Haynes, L., Shivy, V., Owen, L., Cerrito, J., Armstrong, S., & Fickling, M. (2020, June). Intersections in Career Education Practice Briefs: A NCDA Counselor Educator Academy Presentation. National Career Development Association Global Conference. Minneapolis, MN (conference canceled).
- Calhoun, B., Wheeler, M., & **Falco, L.D.** (2020, June). K-12 career interventions: Research as partnerships. National Career Development Association Global Conference. Minneapolis, MN (conference canceled).
- Summers, J.J., Castek, J., *Oguilve, V., & **Falco, L. D.** (2019, October). Filmschool for global scientists: Teaching students to make meaning in multimodal ways. Biennial meeting of the Scholarly Consortium of Innovative Psychology in Education. Savannah, GA.

Summers, J.S., **Falco, L.D.**, & *Batchelor, A. (2019, August). Youth purpose and interest development: A middle school science intervention strategy. European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction Conference. Aachen, Germany.

Calhoun, B., Wheeler, M., & **Falco, L.D.** (2019, June). Designing and evaluating K-12 career interventions that impact practice. Presentation at the National Career Development Association Global Conference. Houston, TX.

Summers, J.S., Aly, G., & **Falco, L.D.** (2019, April). Group-efficacy beliefs in cooperative learning contexts. Roundtable presentation at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association. Toronto, Canada.

Falco, L.D. (2019, March). Designing and implementing career development groups in K-12 settings. Poster presentation at the American Counseling Association Conference & Expo. New Orleans, LA.

Falco, L.D. (2018, September). How school-based career development activities support college and career readiness. Poster presentation at the International Association of Counseling Conference. Rome, Italy.

Falco, L.D., Summers, J.J., & *Metzger, S. (2017, April) Social Persuasions: Sources and relation to STEM self-efficacy. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association. San Antonio, TX.

Falco, L.D., & Summers, J.J. (2016, March). Supporting STEM career development among high school girls: A small group intervention. Poster presentation at the American Counseling Association Conference & Expo, Montréal, QC.

Falco, L.D., & Summers, J.J. (2016, April). A MAP to purpose: A model of youth purpose, motivation, and civic engagement in adolescence. Paper presentation at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, D.C.

MEDIA

March 11, 2022. Arizona Public Media, “The Buzz With Christopher Conover: Mental Health in the Classroom.” <https://education.azpm.org/p/schoolcovid/2022/3/11/207888-mental-health-in-the-classroom/>

February 18, 2022. Arizona Public Media, “School in the Time of COVID: Community Expert Voices.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5n3b6XC8wCI>

June 9, 2019. The Chronicle UA.”UA and TUSD Team Up so Students Can ‘Talk it Out,’” <https://thechronicleua.weebly.com/home/ua-and-tusd-team-up-so-students-can-talk-it-out>

April 26, 2019. Arizona Public Media, “Arizona 360: Understanding the Role of School Counselors” <https://www.azpm.org/p/video/2019/4/26/150525-school-counselors-lacking-in-arizonas-schools/>

GRANT ACTIVITY

Federal:

- 2024 **United States Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant Program:** Southern Arizona Mental Health Collaborative (SAMHC) (co-PI: 2,740,238.00 – unfunded).
- 2023 **Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Education Research Grants Programs:** STEMing the Loss: Enhancing Middle School Students’ Self-Efficacy, Attitudes, and Achievement in Mathematics (PI: \$1,258, 776.00 – unfunded).
- 2022 **United States Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant Program:** Counselor Education, HSIs, and School-Based Mental Health: Creating Structures to Expand Capacity Through Innovative Partnerships (PI: \$1,669,260.00 – unfunded).
- 2022 **National Science Foundation Discovery Research K12 (DRK12):** FILMSCHOOL: Development and research of evidence-based pedagogical techniques to enhance TPACK and student digital literacy/learning in 7th grade PBL science curriculum (Co-PI: \$449,910.00 – unfunded)

Private Foundation:

- 2025 **Louise T. Marshall Foundation:** School-Based Mental Health. (PI: \$47,070.00 – funded)
- 2021 **David and Lura Lovell Foundation:** “Talk it Out:” School-Based Mental Health Counseling Initiative. (PI: \$43,481.00 – funded).
- 2020 **Community Foundation of Southern Arizona:** School-Based Mental Health: Expanding Access During COVID-19. (PI: \$20,000.00 - funded)
- 2020 **Arizona Community Foundation:** “Talk it Out”: School-Based Mental Health Counseling Initiative. (PI: \$13,906.00 – funded)
- 2020 **David and Lura Lovell Foundation:** “Talk it Out:” School-Based Mental Health Counseling Initiative. (PI: \$87,228.00 – funded)

2020 **Louise T. Marshall Foundation:** School-Based Mental Health. (PI: \$50,000.00 – funded)

2019 **David and Lura Lovell Foundation:** “Talk it Out”: School-Based Mental Health Counseling Initiative. (PI: \$63,423.00 – funded)

University of Arizona:

2023 **University of Arizona Research, Innovation, & Impact Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Faculty Seed Grant:** *Social Justice, Counselor Education, and School-Based Mental Health: Creating Structures for Serving* (PI: \$9304.00-funded).

2019 **U.S. Department of Education Title VI Language Resource Center Grant (University of Arizona CECRL):** Filmschool for Global Scientists (Co-PI: \$40,913.00 – funded)

2017 **College of Education Smith Junior Faculty Award:** Youth Purpose as a Framework for Supporting STEM Engagement in Adolescence (PI: \$4,994.00 – funded)