

SARA JANE FINNEY
Anthony Seeger Hall, MSC 6806
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
(540) 568-6757
finneysj@jmu.edu

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

- Ph.D. University of Nebraska-Lincoln, May 2001
Educational Psychology (Quantitative and Qualitative Methods)
- M. A. University of Nebraska-Lincoln, May 1997
Educational Psychology (Quantitative and Qualitative Methods)
- B. A. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, May 1994
Psychology

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Instructor for Structural Equation Modeling	James Madison University
Instructor for Multivariate Statistics	James Madison University
Instructor for Doctoral Seminar: Statistics and Measurement Consulting	James Madison University
Instructor for Doctoral-Level Practicum in Assessment and Measurement	James Madison University
Instructor for Masters-Level Practicum in Assessment and Measurement	James Madison University.
Instructor for Independent Study: Mixture Modeling	James Madison University
Instructor for Independent Study: Structured Means Modeling	James Madison University
Instructor for Independent Study: Latent Growth Modeling	James Madison University
Instructor for Independent Study: Interactions s in Multiple Regression	James Madison University
Instructor for Quantitative Survey Methods	Doane College
Instructor for Computer-Assisted Data Analysis	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Instructor for Introductory Statistical Methods	University of Nebraska-Lincoln

STATISTICAL AND PSYCHOMETRIC CONSULTING EXPERIENCE:

2001 – present	Assistant Assessment Specialist for the Center of Assessment and Research Studies This involves providing expertise in the areas of assessment, instrument development, and data analysis to programs within the division of Student Affairs.
1999- 2001	Director of Nebraska Evaluation and Research (NEAR) Center Duties included consulting with clients, training new consultants, serving as a consultant for other consultants at the NEAR Center, creating instructional materials, and completing administrative activities such as documenting the NEAR Center's activity and demand.
1996 – 2001	Consultant for Nebraska Evaluation and Research (NEAR) Center Duties included providing assistance in the area of statistics, measurement, and research design to individuals of varying backgrounds. This assistance ranged from providing information and advice to generating technical reports. Clients were from academic institutions (both faculty and staff from UNL and surrounding institutions), public schools, and other organizations (e.g., Nebraska Health and Human Services).
1999- 2001	University of Nebraska Medical Center Served as a statistical consultant for researchers in the area of speech and language pathology. This involved assisting with instrument development, research design, statistical analyses, and interpretation of statistical results.
1996	Papillion Public Schools Served as a statistical consultant for public school officials interested in investigating the predictors of standardized test performance. This involved meeting with district officials, conducting the data analyses, and generating a technical report.

PUBLICATIONS:

- Horst, S. J., Finney, S. J., & Barron, K. E. (in press). Moving beyond academic achievement goal measures: A study of social achievement goals. *Contemporary Educational Psychology*.
- Baranik, L. E., Barron, K.E., & Finney, S. J. (2007). Measuring goal orientation in a work domain: Construct validity evidence for the 2 x 2 framework. *Educational and Psychological Measurement, 67*, 697-718.
- Finney, S. J. (2007). [Review of the book *Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis: Understanding concepts and applications*.] *Applied Psychological Measurement, 31*, 245-248
- Nietfeld, J. L., Finney, S. J., Schraw, G. & McCrudden, M. T. (2007). A test of theoretical models that account for information processing demands. *Contemporary Educational Psychology, 32*, 499 – 515.
- Davis, S. L., & Finney, S. J. (2006). Examining the psychometric properties of the Cross Cultural Adaptability Inventory. *Educational and Psychological Measurement, 66*, 318-330.
- Finney, S. J., & DiStefano, C. (2006). Nonnormal and categorical data in structural equation models. In G.R. Hancock & R.O. Mueller (Eds.). *A second course in structural equation modeling* (pp. 269 - 314). Greenwich, CT: Information Age.
- Fairchild, A., & Finney, S. J. (2006). Investigating validity evidence for the Experience in Close Relationships-Revised Questionnaire. *Educational and Psychological Measurement, 66*, 116 – 135.
- Fairchild, A., Horst, S. J., Finney, S. J., & Barron, K. E. (2005). Evaluating existing and new validity evidence for the Academic Motivation Scale. *Contemporary Educational Psychology, 30*, 331 -358.
- Finney, S. J., Pieper, S., L.. & Barron, K. E. (2004). Examining the psychometric properties of the Achievement Goal Questionnaire in a general academic context. *Educational and Psychological Measurement, 64*, 365-382.
- Bandalos, D. L., Finney, S. J., & Geske, J. A. (2003). A model of statistics achievement based on achievement goal theory. *Journal of Educational Psychology, 95*, 604-616.
- Finney, S. J., & Schraw, G. J. (2003). Self-efficacy beliefs in college statistics courses. *Contemporary Educational Psychology, 28*, 161 – 186.
- Bandalos, D. L., & Finney, S. J. (2001). Item parceling issues in structural equation modeling. In G. A. Marcoulides & R. E. Shumaker (Eds.) *Advanced structural equation modeling: New developments and techniques*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Wise, S. L., Finney, S. J., Enders, C. K., Freeman, S. A., & Severance, D. D. (1999). Examinee judgments of changes in item difficulty: Implications for item review in computerized adaptive testing. *Applied Measurement in Education, 12*, 185 -198.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS OF RESEARCH:

- Barron, K. E., Brown, A., Kaliski, P.K., & Finney, S.J. (2007, August). *Achievement Goal Orientations and Well-Being*. Paper presented at the European Conference for Research on Learning and Instruction, Budapest, Hungary.
- Grande, S., France, M., & Finney, S. J. (2007, June). *Does Orientation Promote Learning and Development? An Assessment Plan Unearths the Answers*. Paper presented at the International Assessment & Retention Conference, St. Louis.
- Swerdzewski, P., Finney, S. J., & Bell, A. L. (2007, June). *Assessing the Impact of Faculty Advising: Implications for a Peer Advising Program*. Paper presented at the International Assessment & Retention Conference, St. Louis.
- Young, W., Finney, S. J., & Bacon, J. (2007, June). *Mentoring as a Judicial Sanction: Assessing Sense of Belonging*. Paper presented at the International Assessment & Retention Conference, St. Louis.
- Barry, C. L. & Finney, S. J. (2007, May). *A Confirmatory Factor Analysis of the College Self-Efficacy Inventory*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Sciences, Washington DC.
- Brown, A. R., Barron, K. E., Kaliski, P. K., & Finney, S. J. (2007, May). *Moving Beyond Academic Outcomes: Linking Theories of Student Motivation With Psychological Well-Being*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Sciences, Washington DC.
- Kaliski, P. K. & Finney, S. J. (2007, May). *Profiles of Psychological Well-Being in Sophomore College Students: An Application of Mixture Modeling*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Sciences, Washington DC.
- Swerdzewski, P. & Finney, S. J. (2007, May). *Should We Worry About How We Measure Worry? Analysis of the Student Worry Questionnaire-30*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Sciences, Washington DC.
- Barry, C. L, Joe, J.N., Kissel, H. & Finney, S. J. (2007, April). *Do African American and White Students Conceptualize Achievement Goals the Same: A Measurement Invariance Study*. Paper presented at meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago.

- Kaliski, P. K. & Finney, S. J. (2007, April). *Do the Latent Profiles of College Students' Psychological Well-Being Change? An Application of Latent Transition Analysis*. Paper presented at meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago.
- Lau, A.R., Finney, S. J., & Meyer, J. P. (2007, April). *Measuring Diversity Orientation: The Miville-Guzman Universality-Diversity Scale*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago.
- Swerdzewski, P., Danis, M., Finney, S. J., & Harmes, J. C. (2007, April). *Skipping the Test: Using Evidence to Inform Policy Related to Those Students Who Avoid Taking Low-Stakes Assessments in College*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Council of Measurement in Education, Chicago.
- Barron, K. E., Baranik, L. E., Finney, S. J. (2006, April). *Mastery-avoidance at work: Discriminant and construct validity*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco.
- Finney, S. J. & DiStefano, C. (2006, April). *NonNormal and Categorical Data in Structural Equation Modeling*. Invited training session at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco
- Kaliski, P. K. & Finney, S. J. (2006, May). *Uncovering the Dimensionality and Item-Wording Effect of the Scales of Psychological Well-Being*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Sciences, New York.
- Kaliski, P. K., Finney, S. J. & Horst, S. J. (2006, April). *Does Socioeconomic Status Influence Achievement Goal Adoption? An Investigation of Group Differences using Structured Means Modeling*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco.
- Kissel, H. & Finney, S. J. (2006, March). *Establishing an Effective Assessment Plan: An Example for Self-Advocacy Programs*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, Washington DC.
- Lau, A. R. & Finney, S. J. (2006, May). *Measuring Diversity Orientation: An Examination of the Miville-Guzman Universality-Diversity Scale Short Form*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Sciences, New York.
- Swerdzewski, P. & Finney, S. J. (2006, May). *A Factor Analytic Study of the Scale of Perceived Social Self-Efficacy*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Sciences, New York
- Grove, A. B., Evans, S. W., Finney, S. J., & Thompson, J. M. (2005, March). *Predicting Barriers to Children's Mental Health Care: A Path Model*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Boston.
- Baranik, L.E., Barron, K.E., Finney, S.J., & Sundre, D.A. (2005, April). *A comparison of general vs. specific measures of achievement goal orientation*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Montreal, Canada.
- Horst, S.J., Finney, S.J., & Barron, K.E. (2005, April). *Validity Evidence for a Measure of Social Goal Orientation*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Montreal, Canada.
- Miller, B. K., & Finney, S. J. (2005, April). *Confirmatory Factor Analyses of the Equity Preference Questionnaire*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Los Angeles, CA.
- Masse, C., Finney, S. J. & Schraw, G. (2005, August). *Components of the Test Anxiety Inventory: A Confirmatory Factor Analysis*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association.
- Baranik, L., Barron, K.E., Finney, S.J., & Sundre, D.A. (2004). *Specificity of Achievement Goal Measures: An Empirical Investigation Comparing General vs. Specific Measures*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Virginia Psychological Association, Roanoke, VA.
- Fairchild, A.J., Horst, S. J., Finney, S. J., & Barron, K. E. (2004, April). *Evaluating Validity Evidence for the Academic Motivation Scale: Investigating Both New and Existing Data*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego.
- Enders, C. E., & Finney, S. J. (2003, April). *Examining the Sensitivity of Fit Indices to Model Misspecification and Complexity when Modeling Likert Data: An Examination of Recommended Cutoffs*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago.
- Davis, S. L., & Finney, S. J. (2003, April). *Examining the Psychometric Properties of the Cross Cultural Adaptability Inventory*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago.
- Finney, S. J. & Davis, S. L. (2003, April). *Examining the Invariance of the Achievement Goal Questionnaire Across Gender*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago..
- Barron, K. E., Finney, S. J., Davis, S. L., & Owens, K. M. (2003, April). *Achievement Goal Pursuits: Are Different Goals Activated and More Beneficial in Different Types of Academic Situations?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago.
- Sundre, D. L. & Finney, S. J. (2002, April). *Enhancing the Validity and Value of Learning Assessment: Furthering the Development of a Motivation Scale*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans.
- Finney, S. J., & Schraw, G. J. (2001, April). *Measuring Statistics Self-Efficacy*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Seattle.

HONORS OR AWARDS:

- Spring 2007: Awarded "Outstanding Faculty in Graduate Psychology Award" by the Psychology Graduate Student Organization (PGSA), James Madison University
- Spring 2007: Awarded the ACPA (American College Personnel Association) Emerging Best Practice in Student Affairs Assessment National Award for the assessment plan for the Civic Responsibility program at JMU.
- Sept. 2006: Awarded "Outstanding Teaching in Graduate Psychology Department" by Graduate Psychology Department, James Madison University
- August 2005: Awarded "First Year, Second Mile Award" by the Division of Orientation and First Year Experience at James Madison University for "Unparalleled and Selfless Contributions to the Success of First Year Students"
- October 2003: Awarded "Outstanding Junior Faculty in Graduate Psychology Department" by Graduate Psychology Department, James Madison University
- Spring 2003: Awarded "Outstanding Faculty in Psychology Award" by the Psychology Graduate Student Organization (PGSA), James Madison University

SERVICE:

Editorial Board of *Educational and Psychological Measurement*
Coordinator of the Quantitative Methods Concentration of Psychological Sciences M.A. program
Member of Psychological Sciences M.A. steering committee
Member of Assessment and Measurement Ph.D. and Psychological Sciences M.A. program committees
Assessment liaison for divisions of Student Affairs at JMU

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION:

National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME)
American Educational Research Association (AERA)
 AERA Division D: Measurement & Research Methodology
 AERA Division C: Learning and Instruction
 AERA Special Interest Group--Educational Statisticians
 AERA Special Interest Group--Structural Equation Modeling
 AERA Special Interest Group—Motivation in Education
Association of Psychological Sciences (APS)