

# SEAN CHANDLER RIFE, PHD

Professor of Psychology, Murray State University  
Co-founder, scite.ai / Head of Academic Relations, Research Solutions, Inc.

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### **Murray State University, Murray, KY**

Professor of Psychology (2025-present)  
Associate Professor of Psychology (2020-2025)  
Assistant Professor of Psychology (2014-2020)

### **Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, Arlington, VA**

Adjunct Program Officer, Psychology (2015-2018)

## EDUCATION

### **Kent State University, Kent, Ohio**

Ph.D. in Experimental/Social Psychology (2014)  
Minor emphasis in Quantitative Methods

### **East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tennessee**

M.A. in Sociology (2009)  
M.A. in Experimental Psychology (2008)

### **North Georgia College and State University, Dahlonega, Georgia**

B.S. in Psychology, minor in Sociology (2005)

### **Gainesville State College, Gainesville, Georgia**

A.A. in Psychology (2003)

## EMPLOYMENT AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

### **Head of Academic Relations, Research Solutions, Inc. (2023-present)**

### **Co-Founder and Chief Research Officer, Scite, Inc. (2018-2023)**

### **Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Verum Analytics, LLC (2017-2018)**

### **Kent State University, Kent, OH**

Graduate Teaching Fellow (2011-2014)  
Predoctoral Assistantship (2009-2011)

### **East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN**

Research Assistant, Department of Sociology and Anthropology (2008-2009)  
Coordinator, Social Issues and Relationships Laboratory (2006-2008)  
Predoctoral Fellow (2006-2009)

### **Rife IT Services (2003-2009)**

Sole proprietor of IT consulting firm

### **Sunbelt Surveys / Political Connections, LLC, Cumming, GA (2000)**

Data collection and analytics assistant

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

I named my lab the “Social and Personality Analytics Lab” because the “Sean Gets to Research Whatever He Wants and You Can’t Tell Him What to Do Lab” seemed too informal.

These days, my interests fall into two broad categories: First, I am interested in moral and political psychology; specifically, ideology and personality, as well as moral expression over social media. Second, I am interested in metascience and the sociology of science, focusing on how scientific progress can be quantified by leveraging new advancements in AI. The two intersect in a third area of interest, ideology and science, and how the former often influences the latter.

I am an advocate of the open science movement and methodological reform in the psychological sciences and have been involved in multiple replication efforts. In this vein, I have been involved in bibliometric projects and the development of new tools to aid research discovery and evaluation.

## PUBLICATIONS

Underlined surnames  
indicate student authors

Wann, D. L., Grieve, F. G., Peetz, T. B., Zapalac, R. K., & **Rife, S. C.** (in press). Doing my part: Understanding attempts by sport fans to influence the outcome of sporting events involving a favorite team. Forthcoming in *Journal of Sport Behavior*.

King, I. & **Rife, S.C.** (in press). Identity Politics as Secular Religion. Forthcoming in *Secular Studies*.

**Rife, S.C.**, Nicholson, J.N, Uppala, A., & Rosati, D. (in press). Reply to Bakker et al.: Assessing the accuracy of the scite citation classification system requires the same definitions to be used for training as for testing. Forthcoming in *Hypothesis*.

**Rife, S.C.**, Lambert, Q., Calin-Jageman, R., ... (2025). Registered Replication Report: Study 3 from Trafimow and Hughes (2012). *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, 8(2).  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/25152459251328334>

Dodd, B., & **Rife, S.C.** (2023). Trust in information mediates the relationship between political orientation and perceptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 54(1), 18-29.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/jasp.13012>

Nicholson, J.M., Mordaunt, M., Lopez, P., Uppala, A., Rosati, D., Rodrigues, N.P., Grabitz, P., & **Rife, S.C.** (2021). scite: a smart citation index that displays the context of citations and classifies their intent using deep learning. *Quantitative Science Studies*, 2(3), 882–898.  
[https://doi.org/10.1162/qss\\_a\\_00146](https://doi.org/10.1162/qss_a_00146)

DeRossett, T., Wann, D. L., Hackathorn, J., **Rife, S. C.**, Owens, M., Hollingsworth, B. C., Noel, K., Settler, K., Lambert, Q., & Beckerson, M. (2021). Is there really no crying in baseball? Examining the acceptance of crying in sport. *Findings in Sport, Hospitality, Entertainment, and Event Management*, 1, 46-55.

**Rife, S.C.**, Rosati, D. and Nicholson, J.M. (2021), scite: The next generation of citations. *Learned Publishing*, 34, 454-456.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/leap.1379>

- Nicholson, J. M., Uppala, A., Sieber, M., Grabitz, P., Mordaunt, M., & **Rife, S.C.** (2020). Measuring the quality of scientific references in Wikipedia: an analysis of more than 115M citations to over 800,000 scientific articles. *The FEBS Journal*, 288, 4242-4248. <https://doi.org/10.1111/febs.15608>
- Baranski, E., Baskin, E., Coary, S., Ebersole, C. R., Krueger, L. E., Lazarević, L. B., Miller, J. K., Orlić, A., Penner, M. R., Purić, D., **Rife, S. C.**, Vaughn, L. A., Wichman, A. L., & Žeželj, I. (2020). Many Labs 5: Registered Replication of Shnabel and Nadler (2008), Study 4. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, 3(3), 405–417. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2515245920917334>
- Ebersole, C. R., ... **Rife, S. C.**, ... Nosek, B. A. (2020). Many Labs 5: Testing Pre-Data-Collection Peer Review as an Intervention to Increase Replicability. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, 3(3), 309–331. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2515245920958687>
- Rife, S.C.** (2019). Recruiting Participants Through Facebook. In P. Atkinson, S. Delamont, A. Cernat, J.W. Sakshaug, & R.A. Williams (Eds.), *SAGE Research Methods Foundations*. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781526421036862237>
- Cushen, P., **Rife, S.C.**, & Wann, D.L. (2019). The Emergence of a New Type of Sport Fan: Understanding the Fandom, Motivational Profile, and Identification of eSports Fans. *Journal of Sport Behavior*, 42, 127-141
- Cushen, P., Hackathorn, J., Brown, M. D. V., **Rife, S. C.**, Joyce, A. W., Smith, E., Bordieri, M., Anderson, P., Karlsson, M., & Daniels, J. (2019). "What's on the test?" The impact of giving students a concept-list study guide. *Teaching of Psychology*, 46(2), 109-114. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0098628319834171>
- Rife, S.C.** (2017). Four Datasets Derived from an Archive of Personal Homepages (1995–2009). *Data*, 2(2), 19. <https://doi.org/10.3390/data2020019>
- Hackathorn, J., Ashdown, B. K., & **Rife, S.C.** (2017). From fear and guilt: negative perceptions of Ashley Madison users. *Psychology & Sexuality*, 8(1-2), 41-54. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19419899.2017.1316767>
- Hackathorn, J., Ashdown, B. K., & **Rife, S.C.** (2016). Statistics that Stick: Embedding Humor in Statistics Related Teaching Materials. *Society for Teaching of Psychology: Instructional Resource Awards (OTRP)*.
- Rife, S.C.**, Kerns, K.A., & Updegraff, J.A. (2016) Seeking emotional and instrumental support in response to social and achievement stressors: a multi-venue analysis. *Personal Relationships*, 23(2), 364-379. <https://doi.org/10.1111/pere.12130>
- Hackathorn, J., Ashdown, B., & **Rife, S.C.** (2016). The Sacred Bed: Sex Guilt Mediates Religiosity and Satisfaction for Unmarried People. *Sexuality & Culture*, 20(1), 153-172. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12119-015-9315-0>
- Rife, S.C.**, Cate, K.L., Kosinski, M., & Stillwell, D. (2016). Participant recruitment and data collection through Facebook: the role of personality factors. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, 19(1), 69-83. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13645579.2014.957069>

**PRESENTATIONS**

Underlined surnames  
indicate student authors

- Deitz, M.F., Williams, S., **Rife, S.C.**, & Cantrell, P. (2015). Examining Cultural, Social, and Self-Related Aspects of Stigma in Relation to Sexual Assault and Trauma Symptoms. *Violence Against Women*, 21(5), 598-615. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801215573330>
- Hutson, S.P., Han, P.K., Hamilton, J.D., **Rife, S.C.**, Al-Rahawan, M.M., Moser, R.P., Duty, S.P., Anand, S., & Alter, B.P. (2013). The use of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation in Fanconi Anemia Patients: a Survey of Decision-Making Among Families in the United States And Canada. *Health Expectations*, 18(5), 929-941. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.12066>
- Rife, S.C.** (2012). Is there a Natural Right to Healthcare? *Human Affairs*, 22(4), 613-622. <https://doi.org/10.2478/s13374-012-0049-5>
- Rife, S.C.** (2025, April 10). *New Avenues of Research in Moral Psychology*. [Paper presentation]. 96th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago, IL.
- Rife, S.C.** (2025, April 12). *Social Media and Sexism in the 2016 Presidential Election*. [Poster presentation]. 96th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Chicago, IL.
- Rife, S.C.** (2025, April 7). *Using AI to Produce Content-Aware Rankings*. [Paper presentation]. 2025 Research Analytics Summit, Albuquerque, NM.
- Rife, S.C.** (2024, May 30). *Scite: A New Approach to Rankings*. [Conference presentation]. 2024 OpenAlex Virtual User Conference.
- Rife, S.C.** (2023, May 10). *scite: Identifying highly replicated research through citation analysis* [Conference presentation]. MetaScience 2023, Washington, DC, USA. <https://youtu.be/5Prc3sBne6o?si=3va1Ge3Q2U1UYZ6C>
- Nicholson, J. & **Rife, S.C.** (2023, March 6). *scite: A smart citation index that displays the context of citations and classifies their intent using deep learning*. [Poster presentation]. Electronic Resources and Libraries, Austin, TX, USA.
- Copeland, H. & **Rife, S.C.** (2023). *Examining the Social Motivations of Conspiracy Thinking*. [Poster presentation]. 93th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Crabtree, W. & **Rife, S.C.** (2021). *Personal Technology Use, Social Media, and Daily Affect in Emerging Adults*. Poster presented virtually (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) at the annual meeting of the Association for Contextual Behavioral Science.
- Dodd, E. & **Rife, S.C.** (2021). *COVID-19, Political Orientation, and Selective Exposure*. Poster presented virtually (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) at the 91st Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Crabtree, W. & **Rife, S.C.** (2020). *Disaggregating Social Media Behaviors*. Poster accepted but not presented (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) at the 90th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.

- Dodd, E. & **Rife, S.C.** (2020). *Identification with Dark Fandoms*. Poster presented virtually (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) at the 90th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Kennedy, K. & **Rife, S.C.** (2020). *Personality and Serial Killers in Popular Culture*. Poster accepted but not presented (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) at the 90th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Hays, H. & **Rife, S.C.** (2020). *Dating Apps: Quick Sex on the Maps*. Poster accepted but not presented (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) at the 90th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Link, K. & **Rife, S.C.** (2020). *Personality and social media use patterns*. Poster accepted but not presented (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) at the 90th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Crittendon, D., Roberts, A., Hackathorn, J., & **Rife, S.C.** (2018, April). Peer review-fear review: *Discussing problems in the publication process*. Paper presented at the 89th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Smith, E. D., Erbacher, M. K., Cushen, P. J., Vazquez Brow, M. D., Hackathorn, J., **Rife, S. C.**, Joyce, A. W., Bordieri, M. J., Anderson, P. W., Karlsson, M., & Daniels, J. (2020, February). *Effectively Intervening on Academic Entitlement by Using Student-Created Study Guides*. Talk presented at the Conference on Academic Research in Education, Las Vegas, NV.
- Lambert, Q., & **Rife, S.C.** (2018, April). *I'm with US, but not with them: A study of in-group bias and political party*. Poster presented at the 89th Annual Midwestern Psychological Association Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Elliott, K., & **Rife, S.C.** (2018, March). Development and validation of a social media envy scale. Poster presented at the 18th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Roberts, A., & **Rife, S.C.** (2018, March). *The development of the Offense Sensitivity Scale (OSS)*. Presented at the 18th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Rife, S.C.** (2017, July). *The R-factor: harnessing crowdsourcing and machine learning to improve science*. Lightning talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Improvement of the Psychological Sciences, Charlottesville, VA.
- Harris, H. & **Rife, S.C.** (2017, March). *Predictors of Dating Application Use: A Preliminary Study*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- Roberts, A., Chamberlain, P., & **Rife, S.C.** (2017, March). *The Intersection of Tumblr Fandoms and Social Justice Activism*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- Sherman, S., Wann, D., **Rife, S.C.** (2017, March). *Romance in the Stands*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, GA.

- Bernier, R., Owens, M., & Rife, S.C. (2017, March). *Right in the Feels: Fandom's Implications in the Digital Age*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- Rife, S.C.**, Kosinski, M., & Stillwell, D. (2017, January). *An examination of Moral Foundations Theory using Facebook status updates*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.
- Sherman, S., Ross, K., & Rife, S.C. (2017). *Are self-criticism and Imposter Phenomenon separate constructs?* Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.
- Hackathorn, J., Vazquez Brown, M., Joyce, A.W., Cushen, P., **Rife, S.C.**, Karlsson, M., Anderson, P., & Bordieri, M. (2016, October). *How do I learn what I don't know? Students' preference and use of study guides*. Poster presented at Society for the Teaching of Psychology's Annual Conference on Teaching, Decatur, GA.
- Hackathorn, J., Ashdown, B. K., **Rife, S.C.**, & Daniels, J. (2016, July). *Anger and demonization: Perceptions of Ashley Madison users*. Presented at the International Association for Relationship Research (IARR) annual conference, Toronto, ON.
- Roberts, A. & **Rife, S.C.** (March, 2016). *The prevalence of sexism in online venues: a comparative analysis*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Wild, M. & **Rife, S.C.** (March, 2016). *It's Only Weird If You're Ugly: Online Flirtation and Physical Attractiveness*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Daniels, J. & **Rife, S.C.** (March, 2016). *A shifting of standards: Evidence against the sexual double standard*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Crittendon, D., **Rife, S.C.**, & Hackathorn, J. (March, 2016). *Whiskey Tango Foxtrot: The impact of militaristic video games on nationalistic attitudes and violence*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Rife, S.C.**, Kosinski, M., & Stillwell, D. (2016, January). *"I hate this heat:" a test of the heat-aggression hypothesis using 10 million Facebook status updates*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.
- Taylor, L.A. & **Rife, S.C.** (2016, January). *"I'm sorry, what did you just say?!" : an examination of how personality traits impact self-disclosure on social media sites*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.
- Smith, E. D., Cushen, P. J., Erbacher, M. K., Bordieri, M., Daniels, J., Hackathorn, J., Watson Joyce, A., & **Rife, S.C.** (2016, January). *The longitudinal impact of student-created study guides on academic entitlement*. Presentation given at the Society of Teaching Psychology Preconference at the meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

- Hackathorn, J., **Rife, S.C.**, Watson, A.J., Smith, E.D., Cushen, P.J., Bordieri, M. (2015, October). *"Your notes are your study guide": An examination of study guide efficacy*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference on Teaching, Atlanta, GA.
- Rife, S.C.**, Hackathorn, J., Stillwell, D., & Kosinski, M. (2015, March). *Personal expression in electronic media: a linguistic analysis of home pages and social media*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Hilton Head, SC.
- Rife, S.C.**, Cate, K.L., Kosinski, M., & Stillwell, D. (2014, March) *Research in the Social Technology Era: New Opportunities and Methodologies*. Talk given at the 60th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association. Nashville, TN.
- Rife, S.C.**, Kerns, K.A., & Updegraff, J.A. (2014, February). *Support seeking in response to stress: Person-level moderators, contextual factors, and the role of online venues*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.
- Rife, S.C.**, Kerns, K.A., & Updegraff, J.A. (2013, October). *Rejection sensitivity and social support seeking in-person and over the Internet*. Poster session presented at the International Association for Relationship Research New Scholars Pre-Conference, Louisville, KY.
- Rife, S.C.**, Mickelson, K.D., Kosinski, M., & Stillwell, D. (2012, July). *Facebook Networks and Local Population Parameters*. Poster session presented at the biennial meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.
- Rife, S.C.** & Mickelson, K.D. (2012, July). *Stress and Support Seeking in a Sample of Low-Income Women*. Talk given at the biennial meeting of the International Association for Relationship Research, Chicago, IL.
- Hamilton, J.G., Han, P. K.J., Hutson, S.P., **Rife, S.C.**, Kobrin, S.C., Moser, R.P., & Alter, B.P. (2012). *Responses to ambiguity are not universal: The moderating role of need for cognitive closure*. Symposium; abstract published in *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 43, S167.
- Hamilton, J.G., Han, P.K., Hutson, S.P., **Rife, S.C.**, Moser, R.P., & Alter, B.P. (2011, April). *Worry Mediates the Relationship between Perceived Ambiguity and Decision-Making Difficulty about Stem Cell Transplantation in Fanconi Anemia*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington, D.C.
- Rife, S.C.** & Williams, S.L. (2008, June). *Sexual Assault, Perceived Stigma, and Religiosity: Implications for Help-Seeking*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Chicago, IL.
- Cate, K.L., Strickland, S.E., **Rife, S.C.**, Cini, C.J. (2008, March). *Affirmations and test performance*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Charlotte, NC.
- Cate, K.L., Strickland, S.E., **Rife, S.C.**, Cini, C.J. (2008, March). *Gender, religion, and perception: A study of attributions*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Charlotte, NC.

**INVITED TALKS,  
SEMINARS, &  
SYMPOSIA**

- Williams, S.L. & **Rife, S.C.** (2008, February). *Perceived Stigma and Control: A Mediation Model*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.
- Strickland, S.E., **Rife, S.C.** & Cini, C.J. (2007, April). *Testosterone and Risky Behaviors in College Students*. Poster session presented at the Georgia Undergraduate Research in Psychology conference, Kennesaw, GA.
- Cate, K.L., **Rife, S.C.**, Strickland, S.E., & Cini, C.J. (2007, February). *Testosterone level and sexual behavior*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Cate, K.L., **Rife, S.C.**, Cini, C.J., & Strickland, S.E. (2007, February). *Testosterone level and group membership: Military and religion*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Williams, S.L. & **Rife, S.C.** (2006, November). *Perceived Stigma: Explaining Common Effects of Abuse*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists, Knoxville, TN.
- Rife, S.C.**, (2006, April). *The impact of intoxication on allocation of responsibility for rape across substance and gender*. Poster session presented at the Georgia Undergraduate Research in Psychology conference, Kennesaw, GA.
- Rife, S.C.**, Robertson, C.L., & McDonald, P. (2004, April). *Intoxication: An "excuse" for date rape?* Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association, Nashville, TN.
- Boston, A.J., Hayes, M., & **Rife, S.C.** (April, 2025). *Riding the Wave of Retractions: Can we trust scholarship in 2025?* [Panel discussion]. Electronic Resources and Libraries, Austin, TX, USA.
- Misra, A., Streeter, M., Pritting, S., **Rife, S.C.**, & Ahlberg, S. (November, 2024). *Raising the Curtain on Retractions: what do librarians need to know about the research integrity landscape*. [Panel discussion]. Charleston Conference. Charleston, SC.
- Ferguson, C., **Rife, S.C.**, Dunham, J., & Cox, C. (November, 2023). *The impact of AI and LLM services on libraries, publishers, and vendors*. (Neapolitan session) [Panel discussion]. Charleston Conference. Charleston, SC.
- Lammy, R. & **Rife, S.C.** (April, 2023). *Retractions – What have we learned and what do you think?* Technology from Sage Insight 2023. Birmingham, UK.
- Hayes, M., Richards, T., **Rife, S.C.**, & Bentley, J. (April, 2023). *Emerging Technologies*. Technology from Sage Insight 2023. Birmingham, UK.
- Rife, S.C.** (April, 2020). Discussion Leader for seminar: *Liberty, Responsibility, and Mental Health*. Institute for Humane Studies. Arlington, VA.
- Rife, S.C.** (October, 2019). *scite: using machine learning to make sense of citations*. Invited talk at METAxDATA, Charité – Universitätsmedizin, Berlin, Germany.



- Rife, S.C.** (October, 2019). *New Tools in Visibility and Findability of Research*. Panelist at the Society for Scholarly Publishing's seminar *New Directions in Scholarly Publishing Models*.
- Rife, S.C.** (October, 2017). *The Impact of Social Technology: Knowns and Unknowns*. Invited talk for the 8th annual Dr. Loman C. Trover Symposium, Plugged In: The Digital Age of Healthcare, Baptist Health, Madisonville, KY.
- Rife, S.C.** (October, 2016). *Science 2.0: Research in a post-replication crisis era*. Presentation for professional development seminar, Murray State University Department of Psychology, Murray, KY.
- Rife, S.C.** (February, 2016). *Using Lyceum Survey for online data collection*. Presentation for professional development seminar, Murray State University Department of Psychology, Murray, KY.
- Rife, S.C.** (February, 2016). *Why people reject science and reason (and a few things we can do about it)*. Invited talk for the Murray State Student Organization for Reason and Science, Murray, KY.
- Hackathorn, J., **Rife, S.C.**, & Gilbert, T. (2014, November). *The in's & out's of sex: Modern society's view on sex, sexual relationships, and booty calls*. Invited presentation for the White College Speaker Series, Murray, KY.
- The state of civil liberties in 2014. Invited symposium for Richmond College, Murray, KY.
- Institute for Humane Studies / Liberty Fund. (2011, November). *Property Rights and Freedom*. Washington, DC.
- Rife, S.C.** (2010, December). *Techniques for computer-based interviewing*. Meeting of the Kent State University / Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy Community Mental Health Initiative, Kent, OH.
- Rife, S.C.** (2008, September). *Using Checkbox Internet survey software for data collection in telephone interviews*. Presentation for professional development seminar, East Tennessee State University Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Johnson City, TN.
- Institute for Humane Studies / Liberty Fund. (2007, November). *Sociology and the Liberal Tradition*. Washington, DC.
- Rife, S.C.** & Copeland, H. (working paper). Author diversity and scholarly output.
- Rife, S.C.**, Roehrig, K., & Stalions, S. (working paper). Social media and sexism in the 2016 presidential election.
- Rife, S. C.**, Nicholson, J. M., Bosques, B., Rosati, D., Uppala, A., & Osipov, I. A. (2025). Content-aware rankings: a new approach to rankings in scholarship. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2504.05206>
- Dodd, B. & **Rife, S.C.** (2022). Identification with Dark TV and Movie Fandoms.

#### PREPRINTS & WORKING PAPERS

Underlined surnames indicate student authors

Uppala, A., Rosati, D., Nicholson, J.N., Mordaunt, M., & **Rife, S.C.** Title detection: a novel approach to finding editorial notices in the scholarly literature. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.09553>

**Rife, S. C.**, Kerns, K. A., & Updegraff, J. (2018). Support seeking in response to stress: Person-level moderators, contextual factors, and the role of online venues. Retrieved from <https://psyarxiv.com/sw4zf>

Grabitz, P., Lazebnik, Y., Nicholson, J., & **Rife, S.C.** (2017). Science with no fiction: measuring the veracity of scientific reports by citation analysis. *bioRxiv*, 172940.

**Rife, S.C.**, Kosinski, M., & Stillwell, D. (2017). Higher temperatures and negative emotionality: data from 12 million Facebook status postings.

Settler, K. & **Rife, S.C.** (2016). The impact of social media postings on personnel evaluation.

Harris, H. & **Rife, S.C.** (2016). Personality predictors of dating app use.

## TEACHING

*Teaching interests include quantitative methods, research methods, social psychology, moral psychology, and personality psychology.*

### **Murray State University, Murray, KY**

- Instructor: The Psychology of Politics and Morality (PSY 323)
- Instructor: Personality (PSY 406)
- Instructor: Senior Seminar: Thinking Critically about Psychological Science (PSY 402)
- Instructor: Social Bases of Behavior (PSY 623)
- Instructor: Topical Seminar in Research Design and Analysis: Structural Equation Modeling (PSY 655)
- Instructor: Correlational Research Design and Statistics (PSY 651)
- Instructor: Univariate Research Design and Statistics (PSY 652)
- Instructor: Honors Seminar in Psychology (HON 180)
- Instructor: General Psychology (PSY 180)
- Instructor: Principles and Methods of Statistical Analysis (PSY 300)

### **Kent State University, Kent, OH**

- Instructor: Research Methods (PSYC 31574)
- Instructor: Honors General Psychology (PSYC 11762)
- Instructor: Social Psychology (PSYC 41532)
- Instructor: Writing in Psychology (PSYC 41990)
- Instructor: Personality (PSYC 41282)
- Teaching Assistant: Graduate Quantitative Methods I and II (PSYC61651/61654)

### **East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN**

- Instructor: Social Statistics (SOAA 3350)
- Instructor: Research Methods Writing Lab (PSYC 3201)

### **Tusculum College Upward Bound Summer Preparatory Program (2008-2009)**

- Instructor: Introductory Psychology

**STATISTICAL & TECHNICAL SKILLS**

Training and extensive experience with SPSS, Stata, R, SAS, EQS, and HLM analytics packages. Proficient in high-level programming and scripting languages, including Python, php, and HTML/CSS. Experience with relational and document-oriented databases (Postgres, MongoDB and MySQL). Experience with large-scale cloud platforms (Azure, AWS, Rackspace). Previous experience with VisualBasic and Autolt.

Experience with advanced statistical techniques, including multiple regression, non-parametric techniques, computer-intensive methods, hierarchical linear modeling, and structural equation modeling.

**SOFTWARE**

*tapas* – An online implementation of the *jayne* plagiarism detector. Available at [tapas.ai](https://tapas.ai); code available at [github.com/seanrife/tapas](https://github.com/seanrife/tapas); [github.com/seanrife/tapaas-api](https://github.com/seanrife/tapaas-api)

*jayne* – A plagiarism detector for academic research papers. Accepts PDFs and XML files and analyzes in search of similarities using a variety of text comparison techniques. Open source. Available at [github.com/seanrife/jayne](https://github.com/seanrife/jayne)

*scite.ai* – A platform for analyzing citations of scientific literature. Received multiple grants (NSF, NIDA) and funding from multiple venture capital firms.

*The R-factor* – a tool that uses machine learning to classify scientific classifications as confirming, refuting or mentioning. Discontinued (superseded by *scite.ai*).

*statcheck on the web* (2016-2023) – A web implementation of *statcheck* (tool for detecting errors in statistical reporting). Open source. Available at [statcheck.io](https://statcheck.io)

*psyLex* – An implementation of the Linguistic Inquiry Word Count (LIWC) in Python and R. Open source. Available at [github.com/seanrife/psyLex](https://github.com/seanrife/psyLex)

*Snowbank* – A virtual machine implementation of the R *snowfall* library, designed to make parallel processing across multiple workstations easier and more accessible. Discontinued, 2014.

*Specto* – An auto screen capture utility for Windows. Useful for logging user activity, particularly in the context of participant interviews. Available at [seanrife.com/code](https://seanrife.com/code).

*spooner* – A free e-mail-based document distribution service for scholarly journal articles, used to make published articles available on academic websites while maintaining compliance with journal copyright agreements. Available at [spooner.lyceum.ws](https://spooner.lyceum.ws)

*Ephemerix* – A participant management system for daily diary studies. Controls access to surveys and executes automated reminders via phone, e-mail, and text messages. Public release in progress.

*GGT 100* – A laboratory experiment software package designed for gambling studies, confidence estimations, and bet placement. Developed under contract for an independent research laboratory.

**SUPERVISED RESEARCH PROJECTS****Graduate Students**

- Copeland, H. (2021 - 2023; Directed Individual Studies; Thesis)
- Kennedy, K. (2022; Thesis)
- Dodd, B. (2020; Thesis)
- Crabtree, W. (2020; Thesis)
- Kessler, D. (2019; Thesis)
- York, S. (2018; Thesis)
- Gonzalez, C. (2018; Thesis)
- Blackeye, C. (2017; Directed Individual Study)

- Kesler, D. (2017; Thesis)
- Wilke, M. (2017; Thesis)
- Roberts, A. (2016-2017; Directed Individual Study; Thesis)
- Ross, K. (2016; Directed Individual Study)
- Smith, S. (2016; Thesis)
- Daniels, J. (2015; Thesis)
- Rackers, M. (2015; Thesis)

#### **Undergraduate Students**

- Boyd, A. (Fall, 2023); Directed Individual Study)
- Copeland, H. (Spring, 2021; Directed Individual Study)
- King, I. (Fall, 2020 - Present; Directed Individual Studies; Thesis)
- Brown, C. (Fall, 2020; Directed Individual Study)
- Sullivan, S. (Fall, 2020; Directed Individual Study)
- Link, K. (Spring, 2020; Senior Thesis)
- Kennedy, K. (Fall, 2019; Directed Individual Study)
- Sinclair, G. (Spring, 2019-present; Presidential Fellow)
- Crabtree, W. (Spring, 2019; Directed Individual Study)
- Smith, A. (Fall, 2017; Directed Individual Study)
- Rolfe, M. (Spring, 2017; Directed Individual Study)
- Settler, K. (Spring, 2017; Directed Individual Study)
- Lambert, Q. (Fall, 2016; Directed Individual Study)
- Hayden, S. (Fall, 2016; Directed Individual Study)
- Lewis, E. (Spring, 2016; Directed Individual Study)
- Harris, H. (Spring, 2016; Directed Individual Study)
- Bernier, R. (Spring, 2016; Directed Individual Study)
- Settler, K. (Fall, 2015; Directed Individual Study)
- Wild, M. (Fall, 2015; Directed Individual Study)
- Crittendon, D. (Fall, 2015; Directed Individual Study)
- Taylor, L. (Spring, 2015; Directed Individual Study)
- Roberts, A. (Spring, 2015; Directed Individual Study)

#### **HONORS & AWARDS**

Murray State University Lana Porter Open Access Initiatives Award (2018)

East Tennessee State University School of Graduate Studies and Graduate Council  
Outstanding Thesis in Education & Social Science (2009)

Psi Chi (National Honors Society in Psychology)

Pi Gamma Mu (National Honors Society in Social Sciences)

Alpha Kappa Delta (National Honors Society in Sociology)

#### **GRANTS**

Co-Investigator, *A Platform for Crowd-Sourcing Metascientific Data on Plagiarism / Textual Overlap*. Fetzer Franklin Fund. 2019.

Co-Investigator, *scite: A deep learning platform to identify confirming and refuting citations*. National Institutes of Health Award Number 1 R44 DA050155-01. Award amount: \$ 1,725,000. 2019.

**RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE**

Co-Investigator, *scite: A deep learning platform to identify confirming and refuting citations*. National Science Foundation grant #1913619. Award amount: \$224,559. 2019.

Society for the Teaching of Psychology, Instructional Resource Awards. 2015.

Co-Investigator, *Examining the Racial Climate and its Effect on Student Persistence and Success*. Tennessee Board of Regents, Geier Diversity Research Grant. 2008-2009.

**PROFESSIONAL  
MEMBERSHIPS****Kent State University, Kent, OH**

- Project Director, *Women's Health Experiences and Daily Living* study (2009-2011)
- Project Director, *SNF: Daily Experiences and Social Media Use* (2012-2014)

**East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN**

- Project Director, *Examining the Racial Climate and its Effect on Student Persistence and Success* (2008-2009)
- Primary Investigator, *Sexual Assault, Perceived Stigma, and Religiosity* (2007-2008)
- Project Director, *Daily Health in College Students* (2007-2008)

**Current:**

- Heterodox Academy

**Previous:**

- Founding Member, Society for the Improvement of the Psychological Sciences
- Society for the Teaching of Psychology
- Southeastern Psychological Association
- Society for Personality and Social Psychology
- International Association for Relationship Research
- American Psychological Association

**SERVICE**

Advisor, International Association of Chiefs of Police

Administrator, [tapas.ai](#)

Administrator, [statcheck.io](#) (2016-2023)

Ambassador, Center for Open Science

Member, Automated Screening Working Group (SciCrunch)

Member, Scientific Advisory Board, PsyArXiv: A Preprint Service for the Psychological Sciences

**Ad-hoc reviewer:**

- Psych
- Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science
- Cyberpsychology, Behavior and Social Networking
- Emerging Adulthood
- International Journal of Social Research Methodology

- Cyberpsychology: Journal of Psychosocial Research on Cyberspace
- Computers in Human Behavior

Member, College of Reviewers of the International Journal of Social Research Methodology (2015-2020).

Faculty Advisor, Murray State University Psychology Club (2014-2020).

President, East Tennessee State University Society for Intellectual Diversity (2008-2009).

President, North Georgia College and State University Psi Chi (2005).