

Megan Smith

Behavioral Science | Social Psychology | Human Reasoning & AI Evaluation

Contact

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Profile

Psychology Specialist and Academic Author with dual master's degrees and experience analyzing human reasoning, cognitive biases, and developmental patterns. Skilled in evaluating LLM behavior—identifying reasoning failures, ambiguity, and edge-case vulnerabilities. Brings systems-level analysis and psychological expertise to translating complex mechanisms into clear insights that strengthen model accuracy and safety.

AI Model Evaluation & Reasoning Analysis

Comparative assessment of model outputs (**ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini**)

Identification of **reasoning failures, ambiguity, bias, and logical inconsistencies**

Construction of **adversarial** and **edge-case prompts** for stress-testing

Human-in-the-loop quality review for dataset development

Application of **psychological frameworks** (emotion, bias, social reasoning) to evaluate model responses

Technical Skills

Content & Learning Platforms: WordPress, Twine (SugarCube), Screencastify, Padlet, Kahoot!

Psychological Knowledge

Human Judgment & Decision Processes

Biases, heuristics, moral reasoning, ambiguity resolution, Behavioral microeconomics

Social & Cultural Psychology

Influence (Cialdini), ingroup/outgroup dynamics, collective identity, cross-context communication

Affective & Emotional Processes

Emotion recognition (FACS-certified), affective neuroscience, social cues, emotional inference, Impact of affect on reasoning, physiological stress responses

Developmental & Learning Processes

Cognitive development, trauma, ACEs attention, memory, classical conditioning

Certifications

2025

Model Validation 1: MOVE AI, Handshake

Trained in assessing Large Language Model (LLM) performance by intentionally breaking and stress-testing models, identifying and resolving logic or data flaws, and articulating findings through structured reporting

2010

Facial Action Coding System (FACS)

Demonstrated skill in identifying facial muscle indicators of emotion

Publications

Smith, M. G. (2024)

[Want to Learn AI? Ask It!](#), *Public Libraries Online*

Smith, M. G. (2021)

[Libraries and Mental Health Initiatives: A Literature Review](#), *Library Philosophy and Practice*

Coursework

Elements of AI: Ethics; University of Helsinki
(in progress)

AI is for Everyone; Coursera
2025

Experience

Oct 2025—Nov 2025

MOVE Fellow / Prompt Engineer • Handshake • Remote

- Conducted structured evaluations of **LLM-generated content** for clarity, factual accuracy, developmental fit, and reasoning quality.
- Identified **bias, inconsistency, and ambiguity** in model outputs and provided targeted recommendations for improvement.
- Collaborated with researchers to design **high-sensitivity test cases** and assess model behavior under edge conditions.

Jul 2022—Oct 2025

Elementary School Outreach Coordinator • Mount Prospect Public Library • Mount Prospect, IL

- Translated **psychological frameworks** (emotion, cognition, communication) into original lessons for diverse developmental levels.
- Evaluated educational content for **coherence, factual accuracy, clarity, cultural sensitivity**, and age appropriateness.
- Identified **reasoning errors and cognitive gaps** in real-time through learner cues, refining explanations for precision and comprehension.
- Used LLMs during program development to test clarity, probe **failure patterns**, and perform **prompt refinement** for more accurate outputs.

Nov 2020—Jul 2022

Branch Associate • Palatine Public Library • Palatine, IL

- Translated imprecise, emotionally loaded, or open-ended patron questions into clear, actionable information pathways (e.g., reading needs, child anxiety, behavior concerns), demonstrating strong skill in **query interpretation, information triage, and adaptive reasoning**.

May 2017—Mar 2020

Youth Development Specialist (Coordinator/ Instructor/ Unit Leader) • YMCA • Lake Zurich, IL

- Coached children and teens (ages 6–14) in **emotional literacy, boundary setting, conflict resolution, and perspective-taking**, applying behavioral theory to support real-time **social-emotional (SEL) growth**.
- Recognized **underlying motivational drivers** behind disruptive or withdrawn behavior and adapted interventions to improve engagement, peer cohesion, and psychological safety.
- De-escalated high-intensity situations using **trauma-informed practices, CBT-informed techniques**, and attuned communication to restore stability and trust.

Feb 2016—Jul 2016

ACT/AP Tutor • Academic Approach • Chicago, IL

- Tutored high school students using **CBT- and ACT-informed strategies** to reduce anxiety and improve **reasoning clarity** during complex problem-solving tasks.

Oct 2014—Jul 2015

Undergraduate Outreach Coordinator/ Research Coordinator • Northern Illinois University • DeKalb, IL

- Facilitated structured one-on-one conversations with students, identifying **stress indicators** and documenting **reasoning patterns** and **behavioral outcomes**.

Education

M.A. Library and Information Sci (2023)

M.A. Social Sci (2013)

B.A. Psychology & Political Sci (2011)

Dominican University — River Forest, IL

University of Chicago — Chicago, IL

Northern Illinois University — DeKalb, IL