

Ava S. Curry

(618) 567-5938 || Curryava140@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Criminal Justice Sciences Minor

May 2026 (expected)

Illinois State University, Normal, IL

Cumulative GPA: 4.0/4.0; Dean's List: Six semesters

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- The adverse effects of witnessed interparental and community violence on adolescent development
- The impact of parental incarceration on adolescent adaptation and resilience
- Trauma-informed interventions that support familial healing and adjustment
- The evolving relationship dynamics between survivors of interparental violence and their children under sustained exposure to violent and unsafe household environments
- Cultural constructions of gender (e.g., gender role norms) and their influence on survivors of intimate partner violence

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Curry, A. S., Clemens, K. S., Ralston, A. J., Matkovic, J (2026, February) *Positive Affective Expectations and Perceived Discrimination as Predictors of Positive Health Behavior in Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Individuals* [Poster accepted] Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Curry, A. S., Savage, Joanne (2026, April) *Witnessed Violence as a Predictor of Substance Abuse Outcomes Among Adolescents* [Poster under review] Illinois State University Annual Research Symposium, Normal IL.

Curry, A. S., Clemens, K. S. (2026 April) *Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Gender Role Norms, and Perceived Stress as Predictors of Reproductive Health Outcomes in Individuals Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)* [Poster under review] Illinois State University Annual Research Symposium, Normal, IL.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

HP2 Research Lab

Department of Psychology, Illinois State University

Advisors: Kelly Clemens and John Matkovic

Co-Lab Manager

January 2026 – present

- Organize and create the HP2 lab schedule and function as a point of contact for lab members by offering support and guidance on navigating lab procedures and responsibilities
- Provide support to faculty advisors by assisting with task delegation and maintaining efficient lab operations
- Propose and design an individual research project alongside faculty advisors for presentation at Illinois State University's 2026 Research Symposium

Assistant Lab Manager

August 2025 – present

- Provide support to co-lab managers by assisting with task delegation across multiple projects, and maintaining efficient lab operations
- Function as a point of contact for lab members, fostering open communication by offering support and guidance on navigating lab procedures and responsibilities
- Track timelines and milestones to ensure the progression of research in a timely manner

Research Assistant

January 2025 – present

- Collaborate with lab members and faculty to refine research questions, and support the progression of ongoing studies
- Analyze and interpret data sets to contribute to the development of publishable research findings and conference presentations
- Participate in weekly lab meetings to discuss research progress and examine psychological concepts and data

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

January 2025 – May 2025

Department of Criminal Justice Sciences, Illinois State University

Advisor: Joanne Savage

- Partnered with the course advisor to design an individual student research project, contributing through literature review, research planning, and the development of academic writing skills
- Collaborated with the course advisor to develop supplemental materials and improve student engagement

AWARDS

- Dr. Thomas Ellsworth Family Endowed Scholarship 2025
- Redbird Academic Scholarship 2023 - 2026

PROFESSIONAL & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

ISU Campus Recreation, Bowling and Billiards Center

August 2025 – present

Facility Manager

- Oversee daily operations and supervise staff in the absence of senior management, ensuring smooth facility functioning and adherence to customer service standards

ISU Campus Recreation, Bowling and Billiards Center

April 2024 – present

Customer Service Associate

ISU Campus Services, Office Assistant

April 2024 – present

Font Desk Associate

ISU Student Access and Accommodation Services

2024 – 2025

Student Note Taker

Miller Park Zoo

July 2025 – present

Animal Care Volunteer

Wish Bone Canine Rescue

January 2025 – present

Dog Walker and Adoption Events Volunteer

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Novice Statistical Software: SPSS

ORGANIZATIONS

- Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Criminal Justice Association