

GABRIEL NNAMDI EZEMA

Assistant Professor, Counseling Psychology
Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Research
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EDUCATION

08/2025 **University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee | Milwaukee, WI**
Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology

05/2019 **Boston College | Chestnut Hill, MA**
M.A. Mental Health Counseling
05/2019 M.A. Theology and Ministry
05/2019 Certification, Positive Youth Development

06/2014 **Pontifical Urbana University | Rome, Italy**
Bachelor of Theology - *Summa cum laude*
06/2009 Bachelor of Philosophy – *Magna cum laude*

06/2009 **University of Ibadan | Ibadan, Nigeria**
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy – *Magna cum laude*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

08/2025 – Present Assistant Professor, Counseling Psychology
Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Research
The University of Memphis

2024 - 2025 Doctoral Intern,
University Counseling Center
University of Notre Dame

2023 -2024 Lecturer 1
Department of Educational Psychology
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

2021 – 2023 Instructor of Record
Department of Educational Psychology
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

2020-2021 Graduate Research Assistant
Department of Educational Psychology

GABRIEL NNAMDI EZEMA

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

- 2019 -2020 In-Home Therapist
Northeast Family Services
Auburn, MA
- 2015-2016 Assistant Chaplain
St. Peter’s Chaplaincy
University of Nigeria | Nsukka, Nigeria
- 2014 – 2015 Assistant Parish Priest
St. Mary’s Parish
Enugu Ezike | Nsukka, Nigeria

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Memphis

Multicultural Counseling (COUN 7750)
Practicum in Counseling Psychology (CPSY 8200)

University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Supervised Practicum 2 in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (COUNS 970)
Theory and Practice of Group Counseling (COUNS 800)
Multicultural Consideration of Lifespan Psychopathology (COUNS 751)
Supervised Practicum 1 in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (COUNS 765)
Pre-Practicum (COUNS 755)
Neuroscience and Medical Aspects of Counseling (COUNS 702)
Career Planning and Development for the Multicultural Workplace (ED PSY 212)
Planning Your Major/Career (ED PSY 110)

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Scholarly Publications: Journals

1. **Ezema, G. N.** & Autin, K. L. (2024). Examining predictors and outcomes of future decent work perception among Nigerian emerging adults. *Journal of Career Assessment*, 32(3), 445-461. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10690727231201958>
2. Fouad, N. A., Burrows, S. G., Avery, C., & **Ezema, G.** (2024). Changes in US Workers’ Values and Satisfaction After COVID-19. *Journal of Career Assessment*, 32(2), 321-342. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10690727231194786>
3. Ma, Y., Autin, K. L., & **Ezema, G. N.** (2023). Validation of the Chinese Decent Work Scale. *Journal of Career Development*, 50(1), 37-5. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08948453221080980>
4. Blustein, D. L., Erby, W., Meerkins, T., Soldz, I., & **Ezema, G. N.** (2022). A critical exploration of assumptions underlying STEM career development. *Journal of Career Development*, 49(2), 471-487. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0894845320974449>

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5. Autin, K. L., Herdt, M. E., Garcia, R. G., & **Ezema, G. N.** (2022). Basic psychological need satisfaction, autonomous motivation, and meaningful work: A self-determination theory perspective. *Journal of Career Assessment*, 30(1), 78-93.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10690727211018647>

Manuscripts Under Review

- Ezema, G. N.**, Autin, K. L., Obiano, C., Ozoani, A., & Ekeocha, P. (under review). *A qualitative examination of future decent work perceptions among Nigerian emerging adults*. *Journal of Vocational Behavior*.
- Herdt, M. E., Lanzi, A., Garcia, R. G., Raval, G., Atay, B., Zhu, L., **Ezema, G. N.**, & Autin, K. L. (under review). *Job crafting's role in the satisfaction of work needs: A mixed-methods investigation*. *Journal of Career Assessment*.
- Kou, Q., Rasdi, R. M., Herdt, M. E., & **Ezema, G. N.** (under review). *Perception of future decent work among first-generation college students from broad-access institutions: An integrated approach*. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*.

Unpublished Manuscripts

- Ezema, G.N.** & Autin, K.L. (2026). *Predicting work volition among Nigerian emerging adults: A psychology of working perspective* [Unpublished manuscript]. Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Research, University of Memphis.

Book Chapters

- Autin, K. L., & **Ezema, G. N.** (2023). The essential worker paradox. In D. Blustein & L. Y. Flores (Eds.), *Rethinking work: Essays on building a better workplace* (pp. 113-117). Routledge.

Academic Presentations

- Ezema, G. N.**, Atay, B., Burrows, S., Shen, N., & Okechi, I. D. (2025, August). *Examining Familial Support, Economic Stress, and Academic Engagement in Nigerian High Schoolers*. [Poster Presentation]. 133rd Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association
- Ezema, G. N.** (2025, April). *Spiritual well-being: Finding purpose, peace, and community away from home*. Presentation to international students, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana.
- Ezema, G. N.** (2025, January). *Informed consent in psychotherapy during behavioral emergencies and crises interventions*. Staff in-service presentation, University of Notre Dame Counseling Center, Notre Dame, Indiana.
- Ezema, G. N.** & Autin, K.L. (2024, August). *Predicting Work Volition among Nigerian Emerging Adults: A Psychology of Working Perspective*. [Poster Presentation]. 132nd Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association
- Ezema, G. N.** & Autin, K.L. (2024, August). *A Qualitative Examination of Future Decent Work Perceptions Among Nigerian Emerging Adults*. [Poster Presentation]. 132nd Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association

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- Ezema, G. N. & Autin, K.L.** (2023, August). *Examining predictors and outcomes of future decent work perception among Nigerian emerging adults. [Poster Presentation]*. 131st Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association (Div 17 Student Poster Presentation).
- Ezema, G. N.** (2023, August). *Bridging the Gap for Students with Existing Barriers to Learning. [Paper Presentation]*. UWM 2023 Graduate Teaching Assistant Orientation.
- Ezema, G.N.** (2022, October). *You and your mental health: Making every day worth living. [Invited Address]*. Mental Health Awareness Campaign Organized by the Intersect Consortium for Mental Health Day, 2022, Abuja, Nigeria.
- Herdt, M., Garcia, R., **Ezema, G.**, & Autin, K. (2021). *Applying self-determination theory to need satisfaction, motivation, and work meaning [Poster Presentation]*. 129th Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association.
- Ezema, G.N. & Ezema, G.C.** (2019, October). *Psycho-pastoral approach to community mental health services in Nigeria: Prospects and problems. [Poster presentation]*. 5th International Conference of Psychology and Other, Boston, MA.
- Blustein, D. L., Meerkins, T., Erby, W., **Ezema, G.**, & Soldz, I. (2019, August). A critical exploration of assumptions underlying STEM career development. In D. Blustein (Chair). *New directions in STEM career development: Interrogating assumptions. [Symposium]*. 127th Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association, Chicago, IL.
- Davila, A., Meerkins, T., Jackson, D., Olle, C., **Ezema, G.**, Kim, J., Garcia, R., Soldz, I., & Blustein, D. (2019, August). *Transformation in work in the 21st Century: Employment, precarity and the other. [Poster presentation]*. 127th Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association, Chicago, IL.
- Onyedibe, C.C., Ugwu, L.E. & **Ezema, G.N.** (2019, July). *Quality of life among health workers: The role of work schedule and perceived social support. [Paper presentation]*. 2019 International Conference Organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria.
- Ezema, G. N.** (2018, June). *Relationship and Wellbeing. [Invited address and Workshop facilitator]*. 2018 Scientific Conference/Workshop of the Department of Psychology, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria.
- Ezema, G. N.** (2018, January). *Mental Health Promotion among Nigerian University Students. [Invited address]*. Godfrey Okoye University, Enugu, Nigeria.

Editorial Services

2025 – Present	Editorial Board Member, Journal of Vocational Behavior
2025 – Present	Editorial Board Member, Journal of Career Assessment
2026 – Present	Editorial Board Member, The Counseling Psychologist

Ad Hoc Journal Review

Journal of Career Development (JCD)
The International Journal of Human Resource Management
Training and Education in Professional Psychology (TEPP)

HONORS AND AWARDS

2024 CGP Outstanding Dissertation Award: APA Committee for Global Psychology award for an exceptional dissertation.

GABRIEL NNAMDI EZEMA

2023 Graduate Student Poster Award (First Place): APA Division 52 award for outstanding graduate student research.

2023 University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Teaching Fellowship: Fellowship for innovative teaching integrating mental health, with a \$1,000 stipend.

2023 Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowship: UWM Graduate School fellowship recognizing academic excellence, with \$15,500 stipend, tuition remission, health insurance, and \$1,000 travel grant.

2022 Richard Hurlbut, Ph.D. Scholarship: Wisconsin Psychological Association award for outstanding graduate student achievement, with a \$1,500 stipend.

2022 Amy Tessmer Boening Scholarship Fund: UWM School of Education merit-based scholarship with a \$2,000 stipend.

2021, 2020 Chancellor’s Graduate Student Award: UWM fellowship (\$10,000, \$ 6,875 stipends).

2016–2019 Irish Memorial Fellowship: Boston College fellowship covering tuition, health insurance, \$750 for books, and \$1,500 stipends.

GRANTS

2024	<i>University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Graduate School Travel Grant to the 132nd Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association. University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee Graduate School and Student Involvement. \$1193. Funded.</i>
2023	<i>Counseling Psychology Student Association Travel Grant to the 131st Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Graduate School and Student Involvement. \$1700. Funded.</i>
2022	<i>Counseling Psychology Student Association Travel Grant to the 130th Annual Convention of the American Psychology Association. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Student Government. \$300. Funded</i>
2018	<i>Travel Grant to 2018 Scientific Conference/Workshop of the Department of Psychology, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. Department of Psychology, University of Nigeria, Nsukka. \$1000. Funded.</i>
2018	<i>Grant to Organize a Mental Health Awareness Conference/Workshop for Nigerian University Students. Irish Memorial Funders. \$17, 000. Funded.</i>

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Psychological Association
Division 15, Educational Psychology
Division 17, Society of Counseling Psychology
Division 52, Society for Global Psychology