Allyson L. Snyder

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EDUCATION

University of California, Davis Davis, CA
Doctor of Philosophy in Communication Studies (2026)

University of California, Davis Davis, CA
Master of Science in Child Development (2024)

Northwestern University Evanston, IL
Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies | Certificate in Integrated Marketing Communications (2019)

PUBLICATIONS

**Note*: Underlined names indicate undergraduate co-authors.

12. Kim, M., **Snyder, A.L.**, Cingel, D.P. (in press). Seeing and Hearing YouTube: Linking media design to children's attention span and viewing control. *Communication Research*.

11. **Snyder, A.L.**, Cingel, D.P., Rhea, S.V., Shawcroft, J., Vigil, S.L., & Ong, K. (2025). Children's Vocabulary, Math, and Social-Emotional Learning From Interactive Media: The Role of Choice, Agency, and Repetition in App Design. *Psychology of Popular Media*. https://dx.doi.org/10.1037/ppm0000621

10. **Snyder, A.L.,** Shawcroft, J., Ruiz, J.B., & Cingel, D.P. (2025). Parents' Differential Attitudes Toward Children's Media Use by Race and Anxiety About Children's Futures. *Journal of Early Childhood Research*, *34*, 328-339. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-024-03005-8

9. Shawcroft, J., **Snyder, A.L.**, Cingel, D.P., & Ruiz, J.B. (2025). Parent Problematic Media Use, Child Reactivity, and Income: Context for Parents' Use of Media Emotion Regulation Strategies in the United States. *Journal of Children and Media*. 1-22. https://doi.org/10.1080/17482798.2024.2446334

8. **Snyder, A.L.**, Taylor, L.B., & Cingel, D.P. (2025). U.S. Parents' Use of Media for Emotion Regulation During Early Childhood. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. *34*, 1-12. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10826-024-03005-8

7. **Snyder, A.L.,** Cingel, D.P., & Patterson, A. (2024). U.S. Parents' Scientific Literacy and Efficacy: Associations with Children's STEM Media Engagement. *Journal of Children and Media. 18*(4), 543-554. https://doi.org/10.1080/17482798.2024.2383618

6. Cingel, D.P., Krcmar, M., **Snyder, A.L.,** & Vigil, S.L. (2024). The Effects of Fantastical Characters and Prosocial Message Duration on Children's Narrative, Emotional, and

Moral Lesson Comprehension of a Cartoon. *Mass Communication and Society*. 1-26. https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2024.2404626

5. Cingel, D.P., **Snyder, A.L.**, & Vigil, S.L. (2023). Minding Children's Media Morals: Parents' Moral Foundation Salience Differentially Relates to Attitudes and Motivations Toward Children's Educational Media. *Mass Communication and Society*. *27*(5), 1085-1106. https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2023.2226645

4. **Snyder, A.L.**, Bonus, J.A., & Cingel, D.P. (2023). Representations of LGBQ+ families in young children's media. *Journal* of *Children and Media*, *17*(1), 154-160. https://doi.org/10.1080/17482798.2023.2173856

3. Cingel, D.P., Krcmar, M., Marple, C., & **Snyder, A.L.** (2023). The development and validation of a measure of moral intuition salience for children and adolescents: The Moral Intuitions and Development Scale. *Journal of Communication*. *73*(2), 179-191. https://doi.org/10.1093/joc/jqac049

2. **Snyder, A.L.,** LeBoeuf, L., & Lillard, A.S. (2023). "My Name is Sally Brown, and I Hate School!": A retrospective study of school liking among conventional and Montessori school alumni. *Psychology in the Schools*, *60*(3), 541-565. https://doi.org/10.1002/pits.22777

1. **Snyder, A.L.**, Tong, X., & Lillard, A.S. (2021). Standardized Test Proficiency in Public Montessori Schools. *Journal of School* Choice. https://doi.org/10.1080/15582159.2021.1958058

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Gong, X., Kee, R., **Snyder, A.L.,** Zhao, Z. & Huskey, R. (in press). Some Tips For Running a Small, Scrappy, and Successful Communication Neuroscience Lab. In Edwards, C., Edwards, A., & Spence, P. (Eds.), *Communication and Media Labs*. Berlin, Germany: Springer Nature.

POPULAR PRESS

1. Cingel, D., **Snyder, A.L.**, Shawcroft, J., & Vigil, S. (2024, February 23). Making the moral of the story stick – a media psychologist explains the research behind 'Sesame Street,' 'Arthur' and other children's TV. *The Conversation.*

GRANTS AND FUNDING

7. **Children's Vocabulary, Math, and Social-Emotional Learning: An Efficacy Study Comparing Two Versions of Lingokids.** (2023). Funded by Lingokids, Barcelona, Spain. PI: Drew P. Cingel; Lead Student Investigator: **Allyson L. Snyder**. $25,000

6. **Biological and Behavioral Explanations for Children's Learning from Virtual Reality** (2024). Funded by the Dean's Summer Support Award in the College of Letters and Sciences at the University of California, Davis. PI: **Allyson L. Snyder**. $6,000

5. **Children's Learning from Interactive Media: Current Theoretical and Methodological Approaches, Children's Experiences, and Proposed Pathways Forward** (2024).

Funded by Communication Dissertation Award from the Department of Communication at the University of California, Davis. PI: **Allyson L. Snyder**. $1,500

4. **The Role of Working Memory on Children's Learning of Spatial Skills from a Virtual Reality Game** (2024). Funded by the Erna and Orville Thompson Endowment Graduate Student Research Awards. PI: **Allyson L. Snyder**. $2,500

3. **Children's Science Learning in Virtual Reality Pilot** (2023). Funded by the Department of Communication at the University of California, Davis. PI: Camren L. Allen, Co-PI: **Allyson L. Snyder**. $500

2. **Supporting Science Learning in Digital Environments: The Argument for Play** (2022). Funded by the Department of Communication at the University of California, Davis. PI: **Allyson L. Snyder**. $500

1. **Parents' Science Literacy and Efficacy as Related to Media Selection for Young** Children (2021). Funded by the Department of Communication at the University of California, Davis. PI: **Allyson L. Snyder**. $500

HONORS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITION

Best Innovation | Center for AI and Experimental Futures and AI Center in Engineering 2026
Sex, Drugs, and LLMs: How LGBTQ+ Adolescents Perceive the Efficacy and Accuracy of LLM Responses to Sexual Health Questions

Best Innovation | Center for AI and Experimental Futures and AI Center in Engineering 2026
AI Integration in Medical Care for Menopause: Proposed Experiment on Chatbots as Tools for Patient Preparation and Communication Coaching

Top 5 Paper | Communication and Social Cognition Division of NCA 2025
Manipulating Working Memory Demands for Children Playing a Virtual Reality Game: Effect on Learning

Best Innovation | Center for AI and Experimental Futures and AI Center in Engineering 2025
Too Scared to Talk to Peers, Too Efficient to Meaningfully Engage with a Chatbot: AI for Math Tutoring

Top Reviewer | International Communication Association 2025
Awarded by the Children, Adolescents, and the Media Division

Top Paper | Children, Adolescents, and Media Division of ICA 2025
Parent Problematic Media Use, Child Emotional Reactivity, and Household Income Relate to Parent Reliance on Media Emotion Regulation Strategies

Top Reviewer | International Communication Association 2022
Awarded by the Children, Adolescents, and the Media Division

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Note*: Underlined names indicate undergraduate co-authors.

45. Kim, M., Cingel, D.P., & **Snyder, A.L.** (2026, May). "A Longitudinal Study Examining the Impact of YouTube's Visual and Audio Effects on Children's Attention and Viewing Control." Session presented at annual ICA Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa.

44. Carter, M.C., Sandoval Valdez, J., Shawcroft, J., Hernandez, M., Vigil, S.L., **Snyder, A.L.**, Charmaraman, L., Rich, M., Cingel, D.P., & Bickham, D. (2026, June). "Do Person-Centric Effects Need Person-Centric Measures? Investigating an Unaccouanted-For Explanatory Factor in Contemporary Social Media Effects Research." Session presented at annual ICA Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa.

43. Snyder, A.L., Rhea, S.V., Allen, C.L., Plunkett, M., Cingel, D.P., Litinskiy, A., Ong, K.E., Hanmore, A.A. (2026, May). "Letting Children Choose: Autonomy, Learning, and Interactive Media." Session presented at annual Communication Horizons conference, Davis, CA.

42. Rhea, S.V., Hanmore, A.A., Macasaet, G., Bayat, H., & **Snyder, A.L.** (2026, May). "When Teens Turn to AI: Evaluating Large Language Models as Supplemental LGBTQ+ Sex Education Resources." Session presented at annual Communication Horizons conference, Davis, CA.

41. **Snyder, A.L.**, Rhea, S.V., Shawcroft, J., Cingel, D.P., Vigil, S.L., and Carter, M.C. (2026, April). " Viewing Upsetting Content on Social Media Predicts Depressive and Anxiety Symptoms Among Adolescents." Poster presented at Society for Research on Adolescence Biennial Meeting, Toronto, Canada.

40. Hanmore, A.A., Macasaet, G., McKenzie, R.E., Rhea, S.V., & Snyder, A.L. (2026, February). "Sex, Drugs, and LLMs: How LGBTQ+ Adolescents Perceive the Efficacy and Accuracy of LLM Responses to Sexual Health Questions." Session presented at Computational Social Science Conference. Davis, CA. **Awarded "Best Innovation"**

39. Shankar, P., Ong, K.E., Tiner, D., Rhea, S.V., & **Snyder, A.L.** (2026, February). "AI Integration in Meidcal Care for Menopause: Proposed Experiment on Chatbots as Tools for Patient Preparation and Communication Coaching." Session presented at Computational Social Science Conference. Davis, CA. **Awarded "Best Innovation"**

38. **Snyder, A.L.,** Allen, C.L., Rhea, S.V., Cingel, D.P., Huskey, R., Klein, V., Fong, M., & Cervantes, A. (2025, November). "Manipulating Working Memory Demands for Children Playing a Virtual Reality Game: Effects on Learning." Session to be presented at NCA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. **Awarded Top 5 Paper.**

37. **Snyder, A.L.,** Rhea, S.V., & Cingel, D.P. (2025, July). "Parents View Entertainment and Educational Content Differently: The Associations of Parental Attitudes and Anxieties About Their Children's Futures." Poster to be presented at the Digital Media and Developing Minds Congression, Washington, D.C.

36. **Snyder, A.L.,** Cingel, D.P., Rhea, S.V., Shawcroft, J., Vigil, S.L., & Ong, K. (2025, June). "Children's Vocabulary, Math, and Social-Emotional Learning from Interactive Media: The Role of Choice, Agency, and Repetition in App Design." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

35. Shawcroft, J., **Snyder, A.L.**, Cingel, D.P., & Ruiz, J.B. (2025, June). "Parent Problematic Media Use, Child Emotional Reactivity, and Household Income Relate to Parent Reliance on Media Emotion Regulation Strategies." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. **Awarded Top Paper.**

34. Shawcroft, J., Cingel, D.P., Vigil, S.L., & **Snyder, A.L.** (2025, June). "Navigating the Challenges and Opportunities of Using Ecological Momentary Assessment Methods to Study Social Media Use in Adolescent Samples." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

33. Gong, X., Kee, R., Zhao, Z., Sarieva, S., Klein, V., **Snyder, A.L.**, Riggs, E., Coronel, J., Ulusoy, E., Eden, A., Boydstun, A., & Huskey, R. (2025, June). "The Negativity Bias For News: A Computational Neuroimaging Investigation." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

32. Shawcroft, J., **Snyder, A.L.,** Aladé, F., Nguyen, A., Ruiz, J.B., & Cingel, D.P. (2025, May). "Understanding Family Processes of Media-Based Ethnic-Racial Socialization of Young Children: A Mixed Method Study with Diverse Parents Living in the United States." Session presented at the annual Communication Horizons Conference, Davis, CA.

31. Snyder**, A.L.** & Rhea, S.V. (2025, May). "Beyond Content: A Digital Agronomy Approach to Promoting Youth Well-Being." Session presented at the annual Communication Horizons Conference, Davis, CA.

30. Kee, R., Gong, X., Zhao, Z., **Snyder, A.L.,** Riggs, E., Coronel, J., Ulusoy, E., Eden, A., Boydstun, A., & Huskey, R. (2025, May). "The Negativity Bias for News: A Computational Neuroimaging Investigation." To be presented at the annual Communication Horizons Conference, Davis, CA.

29. Zhao, Z., Gong, X., Kee, R., **Snyder, A.L.**, Riggs, E., Coronel, J., Ulusoy, E., Eden, A., Boydstun, A., & Huskey, R. (2025, May). "The Negativity Bias for News: A Value-Based Decision Making Study." Session presented at the annual Communication Horizons Conference, Davis, CA.

28. Kee, R., Gong, X., Ulusoy, E., Riggs, E., Zhao, Z., **Snyder, A.L.**, Coronel, J., Eden, A., Boydstun, A., & Huskey, R. (2025, May). Negatively Valenced and High-Arousal News Headlines Drive Preferential Evidence Accumulation and Influence Selection Behavior. Annual Meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, D.C.

27. Gong, X., Ulusoy, E., Riggs, E., Kee, R., Zhao, Z., **Snyder, A.L.,** Coronel, J., Eden, A., Boydstun, A., & Huskey, R. (2025, April). Negatively Valanced and High-Arousal News Headlines Drive Preferential Evidence Accumulation and Influence Selection Behavior. Annual Meeting of the Social and Affective Neuroscience Society, Chicago, IL.

26. Fong, M., Cervantes, A., Ong, K., & Snyder, A.L. (2025, March). "Too Scared to Talk to Peers, Too Efficient to Meaningfully Engage with a Chatbot: An Initial Proposal for Experimental Work Using AI for Math Tutoring in Middle Schools. Session presented at Computational Social Science Conference, Davis, CA. **Awarded "Best Innovation"**

25. Allen, C.L. & **Snyder, A.L.** (2024, June). "The Effects of Working Memory on Children's Learning of Spatial Skills from a Virtual Reality Game." Research escalator at ICA Annual Meeting, Gold Coast, Australia.

24. **Snyder, A.L.**, Cingel, D.P., Patterson-Williams, A. (2024, June). "U.S. Parents' Scientific Literacy and Efficacy: Associations with Children's STEM Media Engagement." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Gold Coast, Australia.

23. **Snyder, A.L.**, Shawcroft, J., Ruiz, J.B., & Cingel, D.P. (2024, June). "Parents' Differential Attitudes Toward Children's Media Use by Race and Anxiety About Children's Futures." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Gold Coast, Australia.

22. Krcmar, M., Cingel, D.P., Vigil, S.L., & **Snyder, A.L.** (2024, June). "The Effects of Fantastical Characters and Prosocial Message Duration on Children's Narrative, Emotional, and Moral Lesson Comprehension of a Cartoon." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Gold Coast, Australia.

21. **Snyder, A.L.**, Cingel, D.P., Patterson-Williams, A. (2024, April). "U.S. Parents' Scientific Literacy and Efficacy: Associations with Children's STEM Media Engagement." Session presented at Comm Horizons Annual Meeting, Davis, CA.

20. **Snyder, A.L.** & Allen, C.L. (2024, April). "The Role of Working Memory in Learning Spatial Rotation from Virtual Reality." Poster presented at SRA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

19. Cingel, D.P. & **Snyder, A.L.** (2024, April). "Cultural Differences in the Effects of Moral Media on Children." Session presented at Media & Morality Conference, Columbus, OH.

18. **Snyder, A.L.**, Shawcroft, J., & Vigil, S.R. (2023, September). "Parents' Anxiety and Their Attitudes toward Educational and Entertainment Media." Poster presented at the Digital Media and Developing Minds conference, Washington, D.C.

17. Shawcroft, J., **Snyder, A.L.**, & Vigil, S.R. (2023, September). "Profiles and Antecedents of the Association Between Social Media Uses and Mental Health in Adolescent Samples in the United States and South Korea." Poster presented at the Digital Media and Developing Minds conference, Washington, D.C.

16. Vigil, S.L., **Snyder, A.L.**, & Shawcroft, J. (2023, September). "Social Media Use, Fear of Missing Out, and Indicators of Social Connection Among Adolescents." Poster presented at the Digital Media and Developing Minds conference, Washington, D.C.

15. Allen, C.L. & **Snyder, A.L.** (2023, September). "Children's Working Memory and Learning from Virtual Reality." Poster presented at the Digital Media and Developing Minds conference, Washington, D.C.

14. Snyder**, A.L.**, Taylor, L.B., & Cingel, D.P. (2023, May). "U.S. Parents' Use of Mobile Media for Emotion Regulation During Early Childhood." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, Canada.

13. Snyder**, A.L.**, Vigil, S.L., & Cingel, D.P. (2023, May). "Conceptualizing and Operationalizing Children's Moral Media Comprehension: A Review of the Literature and Decisions for Future Research." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, Canada.

12. Vigil, S.L., **Snyder, A.L.**, & Cingel, D.P. (2023, May). "Minding Children's Media Morals: Parents' Moral Foundations Salience Differentially Relates to Attitudes and Motivations Toward Children's Educational and Entertainment Media." Session presented at ICA Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, Canada.

11. Taylor, L.B**., Snyder, A.L.**, & Cingel, D.P. (2023, April). "Parental Mediation and Conflict with Adolescents' YouTube Use." Poster presented at SRA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

10. Snyder**, A.L.**, Taylor, L.B., & Cingel, D.P. (2023, March). "Mobile Media Use for Emotion Regulation in the Family Context During Early Childhood." Poster presented at 2023 SRCD Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT.

9. **Snyder, A.L.** (2022, May). "Parental Use of Mobile Media for Emotion Regulation During Early Childhood." Research escalator presented at annual ICA conference, Paris, France.

8. Cingel, D., Krcmar, M. Marple, C., & **Snyder, A.L**. (2022, May). "The Development and Validation of a Measure of Moral Intuition Salience for Children and Adolescents: The Moral Intuitions and Development Scale (MIDS)." Poster presented at annual ICA conference, Paris, France.

7. **Snyder, A.L.**, Taylor, L.B., & Cingel, D.P. (2022, April). "Minding Children's Media Morals: Parents' Moral Foundation Salience Differentially Relates to Attitudes and Motivations Toward Children's Educational Media." Davis, CA.

6. **Snyder, A.L.**, Tong, X., & Lillard, A.S. (2022, May). "Standardized Test Proficiency in Public Montessori Schools." Session presented at 2022 AERA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

5. **Snyder, A.L.**, Tong, X., & Lillard, A.S. (2021, April). "Standardized Test Performance of Black, Hispanic, and Low-Income Students in Montessori Schools." Session presented at the Diversity in Scholarship Conference, Charlottesville, VA.

4. Vasc, D., **Snyder, A.L.**, Rahman, R., & Lillard, A.S. (2021, April). "Montessori Teaching: Children's Imitation of Precise Actions." Session presented at 2021 AERA Annual Meeting, virtual.

3. **Snyder, A.L.** (2020, December). "The Relation Between Creativity and STEM Learning Among Preschoolers." Poster presented at SRCD Special Topics Meeting: Learning Through Play and Imagination, conference canceled.

2. **Snyder, A. L.** (2020, October). "The Relation Between Creativity and STEM Learning Among Preschoolers." Session presented at the 6th Meeting of the Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity, virtual.

1. Yonas, D., **Snyder, A.L.**, Taggart, J., Seale, M., & Lillard, A.S. (January 2020). "The Experience and Outcomes of Young Alumni of a Predominantly Black Montessori Preschool." Poster presented at the Diversity in Scholarship Conference, Charlottesville, VA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

Introduction to Media and Telecommunications Fall 2026
School of Communication
Western Michigan University – Kalamazoo, MI

Introduction to Mass Communication Winter 2025
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Children, Adolescents, and the Media Spring 2024, Summer 2023
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Media Entertainment Winter 2024
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Video Games Theory and Research Fall 2023
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Introduction to Public Speaking Summer 2022
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Communication Summer 2025

Race and Media Spring 2025
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Interpersonal Communication Spring 2025
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Interpersonal Communication Competence Fall 2024
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Video Games Theory and Research Summer 2023
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Organizational Communication Spring 2023
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Children, Adolescents, and the Media Fall 2022, Winter 2025
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

Introduction to Public Speaking Fall 2021, Winter 2022, Spring 2022
Department of Communication
University of California, Davis – Davis, CA

SERVICE TO THE ACADEMY

Reviewer | Journal of Communication

Reviewer | Journal of Children and Media

Reviewer | Translational Issues in Psychological Science

Reviewer | International Communication Association

MEDIA COVERAGE

2. Russell, A. (2024, March 25). Understanding How Students Learning Through Virtual Reality. *The Student Researcher. https://www.ucdavis.edu/student-research/news/understanding-how-students-learn-through-virtual-reality*

1. Cherry, M. & Cummings, B. Teaching Kids Through Virtual Reality. *KCRA 3 News. https://youtu.be/Y_8OXNkOL-c?si=zHJ5t1WsuKEFHx3Z*