

**CURRICULUM VITA**  
**ALLISON S. CARUTHERS**

Work Address:

Child and Family Center  
University of Oregon  
2738 NE Broadway  
Portland, OR 97232  
(503) 282-3662

Home Address:

4441 SW Wood Parkway  
Portland, OR 97219  
(503) 452-0650  
[ascaru@uoregon.edu](mailto:ascaru@uoregon.edu)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

---

2006 - 2008 Project Director, Project Alliance, Child & Family Center, Univ. of Oregon, Portland, OR  
Adjunct Faculty, Graduate School of Education and Counseling, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR

2005- 2006 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Reed College, Portland, OR

2000- 2005 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2000- 2004 Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

1999- 2000 Lab Manager, Sex and Media Research Lab, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

1997- 1999 Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA

**EDUCATION**

---

Ph.D. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, August, 2005  
Major: Developmental Psychology

M.A. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, December, 2002  
Major: Developmental Psychology

M.A. The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, May, 1999  
Major: Psychology

B.A. Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, May, 1997  
Majors: Psychology and English  
Cum laude

**HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS**

---

2005 Rackham One-Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan

2004 Dissertation Thesis Grant, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan

2004 Barbara Perry Roberson Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan

2003 Barbara Perry Roberson Summer Research Fellowship, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan

2003 University of Michigan/ Rackham Graduate School Teaching Fellow

2003 Nominated for Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of Michigan

2002 Travel Grant, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan

2000-2001 Pre-Doctoral Traineeship, National Institute of Health

2000 Developmental Area Summer Research Grant, Dept. of Psychology, University of Michigan

1997 Cum laude, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC

1996-1997 Spires Grant for Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Projects, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

My research interests are centered on adolescent gender and sexual socialization, and their relationship to sexual behavior, sexual risk-taking, and emotional well-being in adolescence and adulthood. More specifically, I am interested in how young people integrate notions from a variety of sources (e.g., parents, peers, media) about what it means to be a sexual woman or man, and how these notions relate to both normative and risky sexual exploration/ behavior in adolescence and emerging adulthood. Although sexual intercourse is of obvious interest due to the risks associated with pregnancy and STIs, I also include in my research a broader range of noncoital sexual behaviors that perhaps more accurately reflect the variety of adolescents' and young adults' sexual experiences. In addition to this interest in behavioral outcomes, I am also interested in the psychological and emotional consequences of socialization, romantic relationships, and sexual experiences. I utilize both quantitative and qualitative methodologies in my research designs.

## PUBLICATIONS (listed in reverse-chronological order)

---

Ward, L. M., Merriwether, A., & Caruthers, A. (2006). Breasts are for men: Media use, masculinity ideology, and men's beliefs about women's bodies. *Sex Roles, 55* (9-10), 703-714.

Schooler, D., Ward, L. M., Merriwether, A., & Caruthers, A. (2005). Cycles of shame: Menstrual shame, body shame, and sexual decision-making. *Journal of Sex Research, 42* (4), 324-334.

Smiler, A., Ward, L. M., Caruthers, A., & Merriwether, A. (2005). Pleasure, empowerment, and love: Factors associated with a positive first coitus. *Sexuality Research and Social Policy, 2* (3), 41-55.

Caruthers, A. S. (2005). "Hookups" and "friends with benefits": Nonrelational sexual encounters as contexts of women's normative sexual development. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Schooler, D., Ward, L. M., Merriwether, A., & Caruthers, A. (2003). Who's that girl: Television's role in the body image development of young White and Black women. *Psychology of Women Quarterly, 28* (1), 38-47.

Stone, E. R., Yates, A., & Caruthers, A. S. (2002). Risk taking in decision making for others versus the self. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology, 32* (9), 1797-1824.

Caruthers, A. S. (2002). *Mixed messages: The divergent nature of sexual communication received from parents, peers, and the media*. Unpublished master's thesis, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Ward, L. M., & Caruthers, A. S. (2001). Media influences. *Encyclopedia of Women and Gender, Volume Two* (pp.687-701). San Diego, CA: Academic Press.

Caruthers, A. S. (1999). *The emotional consequences of exposure to sexual orientation inappropriate humor on television comedies*. Unpublished master's thesis, The College of William and Mary.

**MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW** (listed in alphabetical order)

---

Caruthers, A., & Ward, L. M. (under revision). Mixed messages: A multi-method comparison of sexual values communicated to adolescent women by parents, peers, and the media. *Journal of Sex Research*.

Smiler, A. P., Epstein, M., Ward, L. M., Levin, D., Caruthers, A., & Merriwether, A. (under review). Clicking on stereotypes: Internet use and students' beliefs about gender and sexuality. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*.

**MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION** (listed in alphabetical order)

---

Caruthers, A. *Hooking up and the developmental tasks of emerging adulthood*.

Caruthers, A. "Hookups" and "friends with benefits": Patterns of nonrelational sexual behavior and the "sexually healthy" emerging adult woman.

Caruthers, A. *Sexual socialization as predictor of patterns of relationship and hookup behavior*.

Caruthers, A. *The emotional dynamics of mother/ daughter communication about romantic relationships and sexuality*.

Merriwether, A., Ward, L. M., & Caruthers, A. *Comfort in our skin: Assessing the impact of women's reproductive attitudes on their sexual decision-making*.

Ward, L. M., & Caruthers, A. *And TV makes three: Contributions of sexual communication from parents, peers, and the media to sexual risk-taking in adolescence and emergent adulthood*.

Ward, L. M., Day, K., & Caruthers, A. *Comparing contributions of parents, peers, and the media to the sexual socialization of Black adolescents*.

Ward, L. M., Day, K., Kim, J. L., Caruthers, A., & Merriwether, A. *Reading between the lines: Associations between magazine use and young women's and men's sexual attitudes*.

Ward, L. M., Smiler, A. P., Caruthers, A., & Merriwether, A. *From beliefs to behavior: Examining contributions of sexual attitudes, gender ideologies, and self-conceptions to college students' sexual decision-making*.

Ward, L. M., Smiler, A., Caruthers, A., & Merriwether, A. *Mining for mechanisms: Linking television use and viewers' sexual belief systems*.

**MEDIA ATTENTION**

---

Baxter, S. (2004, October 10). "Hookup" gives US a cooler sex life. *The London Times*, pp. 1/29.

Cooper, C. J. (2004, December 5). Hooking up is harmless, isn't it? *The (Bergen) Record*.

Jayson, S. (2007, February 15). What's up with hookups? *USA Today*, 10D.

McGinn, D. (2004, October 4). Mating behavior 101. *Newsweek*, 144 (14), 44-45.

## INVITED ADDRESSES

---

Caruthers, A. S. (2005, June). *"Hooking up 101: College sex with no strings attached."* Invited address. Congress on Women's Health sponsored by Journal of Women's Health and University of South Florida School of Medicine, Hilton Head, SC.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

Dishion, T., Caruthers, A., Myers, M., & Veronneau, M. H. (2008, May). *Premature autonomy and early adulthood: Drug use and deviant peers and the disruption of adult adaptation.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Prevention Research, San Francisco, CA.

Caruthers, A., Connell, A., & Dishion, T. (2008, March). *An adaptive approach to family-centered intervention: Linking intervention engagement to reductions in risky sexual behavior.* Poster session presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago, IL.

Caruthers, A. S. (2007, February). *Why relate? Motives and meanings of women's hookups.* Paper presented at the Third Conference on Emerging Adulthood, Tucson, AZ.

Caruthers, A. S. (2005, June). *"Hooking up 101: College sex with no strings attached."* Invited address. Congress on Women's Health sponsored by Journal of Women's Health and University of South Florida School of Medicine, Hilton Head, SC.

Caruthers, A. S. (2005, February). *"Hookups" and "friends with benefits": Pattern of nonrelational sexual behavior and the "sexually healthy" emerging adult woman.* Paper presented at the Second Conference on Emerging Adulthood, Miami, FL.

Caruthers, A. S. (2004, March). *The emotional dynamics of mother/ daughter communication about romantic relationships and sexuality.* Paper presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, Baltimore, MD.

Caruthers, A. S., & Ward, L. M. (2002, April). *Mixed messages: The divergent nature of sexual communication received from parents, peers, and the media.* Paper presented at the Society for Research on Adolescence, New Orleans, LA.

Caruthers, A. S. (2002, April). *Contributions of early sexual communication to sexual status, satisfaction, and emotional well-being.* Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, New Orleans, LA.

Caruthers, A. S., & Ward, L. M. (2001, October). *"Just be careful": Contributions of sexual communication from parents, peers, and the media to sexual risk-taking in adolescence and emergent adulthood.* Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for the Study of Human Development, Ann Arbor, MI.

Caruthers, A. S. (2000, March). *The emotional consequences of exposure to sexual orientation inappropriate humor.* Poster session presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago, IL.

Caruthers, A. S., Jenkins, W., Reid, A., & Solomon, J. (2000, March). *From titillation to sexual orientation: The changing nature of television's sexual content through the 90s.* Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago, IL.

Caruthers, A. S., & Dubas, J. S. (1998, October). *Older adolescents and television: Comprehension of implicit and explicit sexual humor*. Poster session presented at the Multidisciplinary Conference on Adolescent Health and Sexuality, Tucson, AZ.

### **SENIOR THESES SUPERVISED** (listed in alphabetical order)

---

Blodgett, E. G. (2006). *Women and sexuality in the health care setting*. Senior thesis, Reed College.

Deen, M. C. (2006). *Hookups and women's social, psychological, and sexual health in college*. Senior thesis, Reed College.

Ungerecht, M. E. (2006). *Gendered power relations and condom use in heterosexual relationships: A critique of the Theory of Reasoned Action*. Senior thesis, Reed College.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

---

**Instructor**, Lewis and Clark College, Graduate School of Education and Counseling  
Adolescent Development, Learning, and Exceptionality: Summer '08

**Instructor**, Reed College  
Developmental Psychology: F'05  
Gender and Sexuality: F'05  
Introduction to Psychology: Sp'06  
Children and the Media: Sp'06

**Graduate Student Instructor**, University of Michigan  
Introduction to Developmental Psychology: W'04 (L. M. Ward, instructor)  
Advanced Lab in Developmental Psychology: F'02, W'03 (J. Myers, instructor)  
Introduction to Psychology: W'00, W'02 (A. Merriwether, instructor)

**Teaching Assistant**, The College of William and Mary  
Introduction to Research Methods: F'97, F'98, Sp'99 (E. Rosen, R. Harcum, instructors)  
Intro. to Psychology As a Social Science: F'97, F'98, Sp'99 (E. Rosen, C. Pilkington, instructors)  
Intro. to Psychology as a Natural Science: Sp'98 (J. Crystal, instructor)  
Research in Developmental Psychology: Sp'98 (J. Dubas, instructor)  
Behavior Modification: Su'98 (L. Ventis, instructor)

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

---

2004-2005      **Co-Facilitator of Teen Council**, Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/ Willamette, Salem, OR

2004            **Clinic Volunteer**, Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/ Willamette, Beaverton, OR

2002- 2003    **Student Representative to the Faculty**, University of Michigan

2002- 2003    **Preliminary Exam Reform Committee**, University of Michigan

2001- 2002     **Chair of Developmental Student Organization**, University of Michigan

2001- 2002     **Graduate Curriculum Committee**, University of Michigan

2000- 2001     **Co-Chair of Developmental Psychology Recruitment Committee**, University of Michigan