

SARAH ALAHMADI

Education

2024	Ph.D. - Assessment and Measurement James Madison University (JMU), Harrisonburg, VA
2020	M.S. – Experimental Psychology Villanova University (VU), Villanova, PA
2016	B.A. - Psychology University of Virginia (UVa), Charlottesville, VA

Professional Experience

2024 – Present	Psychometrician, ACS Ventures, LLC; Las Vegas, NV Provide assessment consulting services including evaluation, operational support, and quality assurance for credentialing and education programs.
2023 – 2024	Assessment Systems Manager, Center for Assessment and Research Studies (CARS), JMU Managed a transitioning and newly integrated assessment consulting system. Coordinated assessment projects for various campus partners.
Summer 2023	Intern, ACS Ventures, LLC; Las Vegas, NV Researched standard setting. Facilitated standard setting workshops. Analyzed data and prepared job/practice analysis technical reports.
2022 – 2023	Doctoral Teaching Assistant, JMU Assisted in teaching, grading, and creating instructional materials for advanced, graduate-level statistics courses.
Summer 2022	Psychometrics Intern, American Board of Surgery (ABS), Philadelphia, PA Scored operational exams. Researched best methods to detect drift for stable Rasch common-item equating.
2020 – 2022	Assessment Consultant, CARS, JMU Provided consultation on psychometrically sound practices to improve reliability and validity for various assessment programs with varying needs.
2018 – 2020	Adjunct Faculty, VU Taught Arabic I and II courses.
2016 – 2017	Lead Examiner, UVa Collected data through interviews and questionnaires during 2.5-hr home visits with over 120 participating families in a longitudinal research study.

Service

- Reviewer: Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice (2024 – Present)
- NCME: Publications Committee member (2021– 2023)
- Reviewer: Concept Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Journal, VU (2018 – 2020)

Software Skills

R, SAS, Python, WINSTEPS, flexMIRT, Mplus, SPSS, Microsoft Office

Selected Scholarly Research

Publications

- Alahmadi, S., & DeMars, C. E. (2025). From item estimates to test operations: The cascading effect of rapid guessing. *Journal of Educational Measurement*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jedm.70010>
- Alahmadi, S., & DeMars, C. E. (2024). Comparing examinee-based and response-based motivation filtering methods in remote, low-stakes testing. *Applied Measurement in Education*, 37(1), 43-56. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08957347.2024.2311927>
- Alahmadi, S., Jones, A. T., Barry, C. L., & Ibáñez, B. (2023). Comparing drift detection methods for accurate Rasch equating in different sample sizes. *Applied Measurement in Education*, 36(2), 157-170. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08957347.2023.2201704>
- Alahmadi, S., & DeMars, C. E. (2022). Large-scale assessment during a pandemic: Results from James Madison University's Assessment Day. *Research and Practice in Assessment*, 17(1), 5-15.
- Finney, S. J., Gilmore, G. R., & Alahmadi, S. (2021). "What's a good measure of that outcome?" Resources to find existing and psychometrically sound measures. *Research & Practice in Assessment*, 16(2), 46-58.

Selected Recent Presentations

- Alahmadi, S. & DeMars, C. E. (2025, April). How rapid guessing biases parameter estimates and compromises common assessment practices. Paper presented at the annual meeting of National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME), Denver, CO.
- Alahmadi, S. & Buckendahl, C. W. (2024, April). Priors and evidence: Introducing Bayesian reasoning to standard setting. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME), Philadelphia, PA.
- Alahmadi, S. (2023, September). Rethinking precedents and reimagining norms in current assessment practice. Invited presentation presented for the Center for Assessment and Research Studies (CARS) at JMU, Harrisonburg, VA.
- Alahmadi, S., Jones, A. T., Barry, C. L., & Ibáñez, B. (2023, April). The impact of different drift detection methods on Rasch scale stability. Paper presented at the annual meeting of NCME, Chicago, IL.
- Alahmadi, S., Goodman, J. T., Jackson, J., Li, X., & Runyon, C. R. (2023, April). In B. C. Leventhal (moderator), Internships in the measurement profession: A discussion among organizers, mentors, and students. Panel presented at the annual meeting of NCME, Chicago, IL.
- Alahmadi, S. & DeMars, C. E. (2022, October). What if we ignore non-effortful responses: The impact of rapid guessing on item parameter estimates. Poster presented at the annual meeting of Northeastern Educational Research Association (NERA), Trumbull, CT.
- Alahmadi, S. (2022, March). Using process data for motivation filtering in remote, low-stakes assessment. Award-winning research presented at the Association of Test Publishers' annual Innovation in Testing conference, Orlando, FL.