

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.