

**Name:** Kimberly Rios

**Institutional affiliation:** University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

**Area of specialization:** Social Psychology

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**Brief (1 paragraph) summary of professional interests:**

Although I have always identified as a social psychologist, I received my PhD in Organizational Behavior from the Stanford Graduate School of Business (so yes, moving from a business school to a psychology department is possible!). Prior to arriving at the University of Illinois in Fall 2023, I was on faculty in the Psychology departments at Ohio University (2013-2023) and the University of Chicago (2010-2013), as well as in the School of Communication at The Ohio State University (2008-2010). Thus, I've lived in the Midwest for my entire postgraduate academic career! Broadly speaking, I study how people respond to threats to their social and personal identities, and I have conducted research in several intergroup contexts, including race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. My favorite class to teach is Psychology of Religion and Spirituality, and I currently serve as Editor-in-Chief for the journal *Self and Identity*.

**Representative publications (no more than five):**

- Rios, K., Roth, Z. C., & Coleman, T. J. (in press). The importance of scientists' intellectual humility for communicating effectively across ideological and identity-based divides. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.
- Rios, K. (2024). Harnessing the many facets of White identity to reduce feelings of threat and improve intergroup relations. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*, 27(5), 1014-1026.
- Rios, K., & Cohen, A. B. (2023). Taking a "multiple forms" approach to diversity: An introduction, policy implications, and legal recommendations. *Social Issues and Policy Review*, 17, 104-130.
- Rios, K. (2022). Multiculturalism and colorblindness as threats to the self: A framework for understanding dominant and non-dominant group members' responses to interethnic ideologies. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 26, 316-341.
- Rios, K., Sosa, N., & Osborn, H. J. (2018). An experimental approach to Intergroup Threat Theory: Manipulations, moderators, and consequences of realistic vs. symbolic threat. *European Review of Social Psychology*, 29, 212-255.

**Representative honors or awards (no more than five):**

- University of Illinois Urbana Champaign List of Teachers Rated as "Excellent" (2024)
- Society for Experimental Social Psychology Diversity Science Award (2024)
- Ohio University Presidential Research Scholar (2019)
- International Society for Self and Identity Outstanding Early Career Award (2018)
- Ohio University Dean's Outstanding Teacher Award (2017)

**Involvement in MPA:**

MPA has been my favorite conference ever since I attended for the first time in 2010! From early in my career, I loved its relatively small size and the ease with which I could "network" (I know, that word is kind of awful) with psychologists across career stages and institution types. Now, I appreciate being able to share what is awesome about MPA with my undergraduate and graduate students – who are regular paper and poster presenters – as well as seeing how much more diverse MPA has become as an organization in the past 15 years. I served on the conference program committee from 2013-2015, was elected an MPA Fellow in 2015, chaired the conference program in 2019, and have been an Associate Executive Officer since 2022. During my tenure as AEO (an acronym that makes me giggle – but hey, I like it better than the word "network"), I have coordinated the Graduate Diversity Travel Awards and facilitated connections between award recipients and admired scholars. I have also organized an annual meetup at the conference for Latino/a attendees. As President of MPA, I would look forward to continuing to make the conference and organization a welcoming space for everyone.