

Educational Psychology

NEWSLETTER

August 2025

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- 10/3-5 AzPA in Flagstaff!
- 10/8-12 ACES in Philadelphia

UNIVERSITY DATES + DEADLINES

- 8/18 Faculty and GAs Return
- 8/25 First day of fall term!

CAMPUS EVENTS

- 8/18-8/21 Fill the Cupboard
- 8/22 COE Welcome Reception
- 8/24 Lumberjack Club Fair
- 8/27 Community Fair
- 8/29 Lumberfest

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

- Dr. Britt Landis

CULTURAL SPOTLIGHT

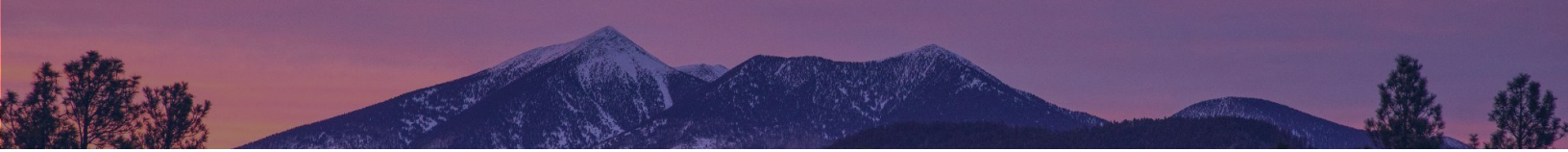
- National Dog Month

Welcome back!

Welcome back to a new academic year in Educational Psychology! This year we are welcoming in **191 new students** across all our programs and campuses: Applied Human Behavior BS, Clinical Mental Health Counseling MA, Combined Counseling/School Psychology PhD, Human Relations MEd, School Counseling MEd, and School Psychology EdS.

Here are some helpful reminders and resources as you get settled in. If you are having enrollment issues, it is always good to start by contacting the registrar's office (**registrar@nau.edu**). Remember to log in to Canvas right away to take a look at the syllabus, class module(s), to locate professor's email address, office hours, as well upcoming projects & deadlines for the semester. If you are having issues in class, remember that your professors are there to help you! Contact your professors via email or check in with the office (**eps@nau.edu**) to determine when their office hours are. You may also use the above email to get most other questions answered or at least pointed in the right direction. In addition, **check your NAU email regularly** to see announcements about all kinds of other helpful resources and upcoming events that may interest you. The graduate college in particular often has a monthly line up of helpful events you can attend.

Have a wonderful semester!



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- The [Arizona Psychological Association convention](#) will be held October 3-5 in Flagstaff at the Little America Hotel.
- The [ACES conference](#) will be held October 8-12 in Philadelphia.

ACADEMIC DATES + DEADLINES

- 8/18 Faculty and GAs Return
- 8/25 First day of fall term!

CAMPUS EVENTS

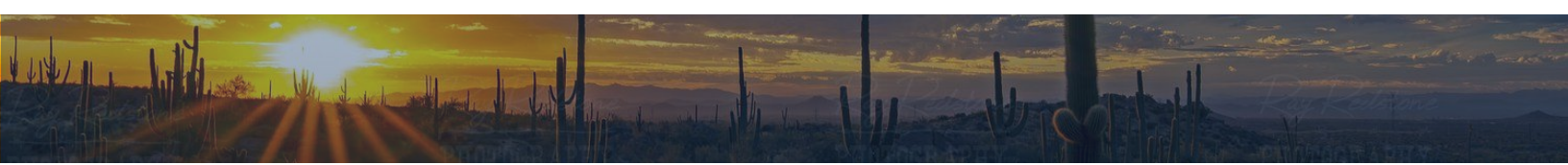
- 8/18-8/21 [Fill the Cupboard](#) | Everyday drop off materials for Louie's Cupboard at the Union Pedway from 10 am to 2 pm. | Each day has a specific theme:
 - Monday - Cookware
 - Tuesday - Hygiene
 - Wednesday - Canned foods
 - Thursday - Pantry Items
- 8/22 COE Welcome Reception | Join COE faculty, staff, and students from 1 to 3 pm in the COE lobby.
- 8/24 [Lumberjack Club Fair](#) | All NAU students are invited to learn about all the clubs and organizations available from 8:30 to 10 am at the South Recreation Complex.
- 8/27 [Community Fair](#) | Local Flagstaff businesses will be on campus for the 20th annual community fair on the Union Pedway from 9 am to 2 pm.
- 8/29 Lumberfest | The Campus Living Association is hosting a welcome back event with activities and food for all students from 11:30 am to 5 pm in the Central Quad.

NAU
Events

Flagstaff
Events

Phoenix
Events

Tucson
Events





FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

This month we are excited to welcome Dr. Britt Landis as our newest faculty member in the School Psychology EdS program! Dr. Landis is a familiar face as she was previously an adjunct professor for us this spring. Dr. Landis recalls being thrilled to see the school psychology assistant professor position open. “I was ecstatic to work in the innovative interdisciplinary program and to continue to work with the passionate and diverse students and faculty I had started to meet.”

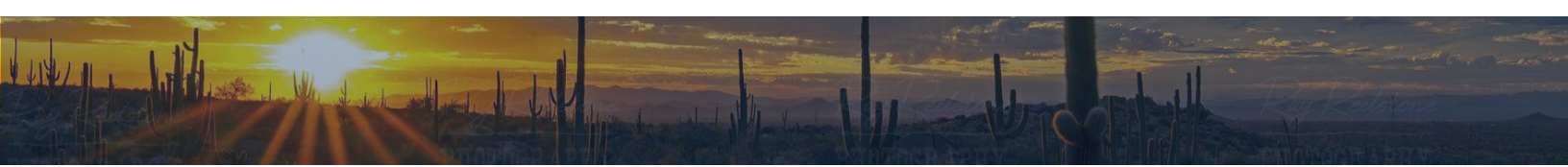


On her journey to school psychology, Dr. Landis says that her path was not always direct. “I took some fun detours working in health policy, teaching English as a second language in Bogotá, Colombia, and even selling construction materials in Mexico to improve my Spanish.” Dr. Landis graduated from the School Psychology PhD program at the University of Oregon. After that she worked as a consultant with school districts in New England on their goals to improve their literacy instruction and interventions. “This was a great fit for me because I am passionate about helping school start students off on positive trajectories for school success and preventing severe setbacks. I also enjoy applying my knowledge in consultation, research-based instruction and intervention, tiered systems of support, and data-based decision-making. At the same time, I always knew I eventually wanted to be a professor in school psychology. It’s hard to beat a career where you get to teach what you’re passionate about, research what you’re interested in, and mentor the future professionals who will make an impact in their communities.”

This semester, Dr. Landis will be teaching EPS 671 and EPS 678. She says these are two of her favorite topics but she is also looking forward to teaching classes about assessment and interventions in schools for academics and socio-emotional learning in the future.

Dr. Landis will also continue her current research projects working to develop relationships with local schools where she can establish new collaborative projects. “My primary research interests focus on the implementation of multi-tiered systems and supports (MTSS) in diverse contexts, with a particular emphasis on literacy assessment, educator professional development and consultation, and effective practices for multilingual learners. Some of my current projects are: investigating the technical adequacy of formative writing assessments for multilingual learners in dual-language settings; exploring facilitators and barriers to schools’ adoption and implementation of evidence-based reading interventions; and examining the efficacy of a coaching model to improve paraeducators’ use of evidence-based reading interventions.”

Outside of her professional work, Dr. Landis enjoys spending time with her family. “I have a three-year-old daughter who makes me laugh and play “shy kitty” at least five times a day.” Her main hobby is rock-climbing outside with friends and family. Dr. Landis also likes to mountain bike, camp, and travel.



CULTURE AND DIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT

August is National Dog Month! In honor of that, Zoe Cornelius, one of our College of Education staff members and recent NAU graduate, is sharing about her and Dr. Karen Sealander's work with an organization called Canine Companions. Keep reading for a letter from Zoe.

"Founded on July 4, 1975, Canine Companions pioneered the concept of the modern service dog. Since then, they've placed over 8,000 expertly trained dogs with people with disabilities—completely free of charge—helping them live with greater independence.

The process starts near Santa Rosa, California, where puppies are born and cared for by volunteer Breeder Caretakers that provide early socialization and closely monitor health. At eight weeks old, the pups are transported—thanks to volunteer drivers and pilots—to puppy raisers across the U.S. These amazing individuals come from all walks of life: working professionals, retirees, college students, and even incarcerated individuals actively serving sentences. Puppy raisers teach foundational skills and provide lots of love until the dogs are 14–18 months old.

Then it's off to one of six regional training centers, where they spend another 6–9 months mastering advanced tasks that help their future partners thrive. Not every dog becomes a service dog, though—about half pursue other careers. Some become therapy dogs, others join search and rescue teams, and many are adopted as beloved pets—often by their puppy raisers.

If you've spent time in NAU's College of Education or stopped by the Service Center (Room 135), you may have already met Lorrey, our resident therapy-dog-in-training. I raised Lorrey as a Capstone project during undergrad while working for the College. She came with me to work and around campus almost daily. When she was released from the service dog track, I adopted her right away—I'd seen the positive impact she had on the NAU community and knew I had to let her continue her career here.

You might also know the incredible Dr. Karen Sealander, who's about to meet the SEVENTH Canine Companions puppy she will raise. Her most recent puppy, a huge handsome guy named Shawn, just started advanced professional training at a regional center in California. Wish him luck!

Dr. Sealander is the reason I joined Canine Companions, and together we're working to launch a "Collar Scholars" student group here at NAU. Collar Scholar chapters exist at dozens of universities, bringing together graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, staff, and community members who love dogs and want to support people with disabilities.

If you're interested in getting involved (or just want to meet some really cool canines), reach out! There are countless ways to participate, even if you're not ready to raise a puppy.

If you have any questions or would like to receive updates on NAU Collar Scholars, contact me at Zoe.Cornelius@nau.edu, or reach out to Dr. Sealander at Karen.Sealander@nau.edu. For more information about Canine Companions and their mission, visit Canine.org.

Welcome back and let the Fall Semester begin!

Zoe Cornelius

(P.S.- Tell your dog I said hi)"

