

Kyle Nolla

August 2025

Morgan State University
Behavioral & Social Science Center
1700 E. Cold Spring Lane
Baltimore, MD 21251

Tel: (443) 885-4215
Email: kyle.nolla@morgan.edu

EDUCATION

- 2021 PhD in Psychology (Cognitive Neuroscience)
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Dissertation: Anxious to Play: Social and Emotional Forces that Restrict Women's Video Game Skill Development
- 2021 M.S. in Statistics
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Thesis: Social Correlates & Psychometric Properties of a Gaming Knowledge Measure
- 2017 M.S. in Psychology (Cognitive Neuroscience)
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Thesis: The Role of Emotion Regulation in Competitive Gaming Performance
- 2015 B.A. in Psychology
with General Honors
University of Chicago

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2024 to Present Assistant Professor of Psychology (Tenure-Track)
Center for Data Analytics & Sports Gaming Research
Morgan State University
- 2023 to 2024 NIH T32 Behavioral & Psychosocial Postdoctoral Research Training
Program in Cancer Control and Prevention (CA193193)
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Department of Medical Social Sciences
- 2021 to 2023 Postdoctoral Fellowship in Psychometrics
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Department of Medical Social Sciences

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- 2025 Vickers, A., **Nolla, K.**, & Cella, D. Drop the “M”: Minimally important difference and change are not independent properties of an instrument and cannot be determined as a single value using statistical methods. *Value in Health*.
- 2024 **Nolla, K.**, Reber, P., & Beeman, M. Affect and performance across double-elimination tournaments: A field study of Super Smash Bros competitors. *Journal of Electronic Gaming and Esports*, 2(1). <https://doi.org/10.1123/jege.2024-0023>
- 2024 Boehm, D., **Nolla, K.**, Naser-Tavakolian, A., Rosenfeld, J., Ji, E., Griffith, J., & Lee, Z. “Development of a patient-reported outcome measure for patients with ureteral stricture disease.” *Urology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.urology.2024.10.054>
- 2024 Cella, D., **Nolla, K.**, & Peipert, D. “The challenge of using patient-reported outcome measures in clinical practice: how do we get there?” *Journal of Patient Reported Outcomes*. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41687-024-00711-1>
- 2024 **Nolla, K.**, Rasmussen, L. V., Rothrock, N. E., Butt, Z., Bass, M., Davis, K., Cella, D., Gershon, R., Barnard, C., Chmiel, R., Almaraz, F., Schachter, M., Nelson, T., Langer, M., & Starren, J. “Seamless integration of computer-adaptive patient-reported outcomes into an electronic health record.” *Applied Clinical Informatics*. <https://doi.org/10.1055/a-2235-9557>
- 2023 **Nolla, K.**, Beeman, M., Reber, P., & Eagly, A. “Novice women players have better outcomes in women-only versus mixed-gender esports tournaments.” *Journal of Electronic Gaming and Esports*, 1(1). <https://doi.org/10.1123/jege.2022-0032>
- 2023 **Nolla, K.**, Benjamin, D., & Cella, D. “Patient-reported outcomes in renal cell carcinoma trials using immunotherapy combinations versus sunitinib as first-line treatment.” *Nature Reviews Urology*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41585-023-00747-w>
- 2022 Benjamin, D., **Nolla, K.**, & Cella, D. “Nivolumab in combination with cabozantinib for the treatment of advanced or metastatic renal cell carcinoma.” *Future Oncology*, 18(39). doi.org/10.2217/fon-2022-0785
- 2018 Miller, D., **Nolla, K.**, Eagly, A., & Uttal, D. “The development of children’s gender-science stereotypes: A meta-analysis of 5 decades of U.S. Draw-A-Scientist studies.” *Child development*, 89(6), 1943-1955. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cdev.13039>
- 2016 Park, D., Schaeffer, M., **Nolla, K.**, Levine, S., & Beilock, S. “How do generic statements impact performance? Evidence for entity beliefs.” *Developmental science*, 20(2), e12396. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.12396>

Conference Proceedings

- 2023 **Nolla, K.**, Perry, L., & Cella, D. Gamification for a symptom management app in older adult users: Survey of preferences. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*; 2023,57(S1):S590, <https://doi.org/10.1093/abm/kaad011>

Manuscripts in Preparation

(Under review). **Nolla, K.**, Kuharic, M., Lancki, N., Walsh-Bailey, C., Flores, A., Garcia, S., Jenson, R., Wang, Y., Mai, Q., Mercer, A., Smith, J. D., Pshigios, A., Kircher, S., Franklin, P., Cella, D., & Yanez, B. Patient portal engagement in oncology: Results from the NU IMPACT study in a large healthcare system. *JCO Clinical Informatics*.

(Under review). Olivera-Figueroa, L., **Nolla, K.**, & Tulloch, I. A Time to Gamble: A review assessing associations between time perspective and gambling. *Personality and Individual Differences*.

(In prep). **Nolla, K.**, Perry, L., Gogineni, A., Sheetal, K., Mohindra, N., Tetrick, M., Sanchez-Petito, G., Noonan, A., Presley, C., Cella, D., & Benzo, R. Development of a gamified symptom tracking app for patient-reported outcomes in cancer: User-centered design of the mobile web app Athena Companion.

(In prep). **Nolla, K.**, Cella, D., & Peipert, J. D. Validation of the PROMIS Medication Adherence Scale.

Nolla, K. Measurement of gaming knowledge through game-general and game-specific items in a gender-diverse sample. <https://osf.io/5szkc/>

Nolla, K., Beeman, M., Reber, P., & Adam, E. The dual roles of emotion regulation and skill in competitive performance of one-on-one esports. <https://osf.io/hk5cj/>

GRANTS, HONORS, & AWARDS

- 2024 Big Ten Cancer Research Center Population Science Pilot Award - \$15,000 for the collaborative project “A Gamified Web App to Monitor Symptoms & Engage Users: The GAME Pilot with Cancer Patients”
- 2023 & Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Researchers of Color Mentored
- 2024 Travel Award – Cost of conference attendance, organized mentorship experience
- 2022 Lurie Cancer Center Postdoctoral Translational Pathway Award –\$20,000 internal grant for project “Developing a Gamified Website for Symptom Monitoring in Advanced Cancer Care”
- 2021 Summer Institute in Computational Social Sciences Scholarship – Tuition for the week-long online institute on social data science held by Keio University
- 2020 GaymerX GDC Scholarship – \$2,500 scholarship for the 2020 Game Developer’s Conference including specialized mentorship program (canceled due to COVID-19)
- 2019 Kellogg School of Business Dispute Resolution Research Center Grant – \$3,250 internal grant for “Gendered Context of Competitive Gaming Skill Acquisition”
- 2019 & Northwestern’s Graduate Research Grant –\$1,500 each internal grants to support
- 2017 Master’s thesis and dissertation data collection
- 2018 Advanced Cognitive Science Fellow – 1 year funding and tuition for project titled “Skill & Stress Response in Elite Esports Competitors”
- 2018 Psychology Department Summer Research Grant – \$7,000 internal grant for project “Skill & Stress Response in Elite Esports Competitors”

- 2016 Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience Fellow – Tuition and funding to attend the Kavli Summer Institute at UC Davis
- 2015 Incoming Student Cognitive Science Fellow – 1 year funding and tuition

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

- 2024 **Nolla, K.** “Access and Identification with Esports by Sex and Gender Identity.” Oral presentation, 2024 Esports Research Network Conference, London, UK.
- 2024 **Nolla, K.,** Greene, G., Sparling, A., & Langer, M. “PROMIS in routine clinical care: A narrative review of implementation studies and research results.” Poster at the Annual PROMIS International Conference, Cologne, Germany.
- 2024 **Nolla, K.,** Langer, M., Greene, G., Sparling, A., Rothrock, N., & Franklin, P. “Patient Reported Outcome Measurement Information System (PROMIS) in routine oncological care: A literature review and survey of users.” Abstract accepted by the American Society of Clinical Oncology, online, June 2024.
- 2024 **Nolla, K.,** Beeman, M., Reber, P., Cella, A., & Adam, E. “Emotion regulation and salivary cortisol in Top 100 esports competitors.” Oral presentation given at Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL, USA; poster presentation given at Cognitive Neuroscience Society, Toronto, Canada.
- 2024 Cella, A.* & **Nolla, K.** “Mastering emotion regulation in Smash: Strategies of top esports performers.” Poster presentation at Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL, USA. *Undergraduate mentee.
- 2024 **Nolla, K.,** Stout, B., Rosenthal, A., & Kassel, J. “Grassroots justice in esports: A case study from the Super Smash Bros community.” Oral presentation given at Ethical Games Conference, Online.
- 2023 **Nolla, K.,** Langer, M., Greene, G., Rothrock, N., & Franklin, P. “The clinician experience of PROMIS in routine clinical care.” Oral presentation at the Annual PROMIS International Conference, Banff, Alberta, Canada.
- 2023 Perry, L., **Nolla, K.,** & Cella, D., “Developing a gamified app for routine delivery of PROMIS measures: User-centered design for advanced cancer.” Poster presented at the Annual PROMIS International Conference, Banff, Alberta, Canada.
- 2023 **Nolla, K.,** Perry, L., & Cella, D. “Gamification for a symptom management app in older adult users: Survey of preference.” Poster presented at the Society for Behavioral Medicine, Phoenix, Arizona, USA.
- 2023 Boehm, D., **Nolla, K.,** Rosenfeld, J., Ji, E., Griffith, J., & Lee, Z. “Developing Patient-Reported Outcomes in Robotic Ureteroplasty.” Poster presented at American Urological Association, Chicago, IL, USA.
- 2021 **Nolla, K.,** Beeman, M., & Reber, P. “Emotion regulation supports expert performance in esports players of all skill.” Poster presented at Cognitive Neuroscience Society Virtual Conference.
- 2021 **Nolla, K.** “Burnout in a Volunteer World.” Panel presentation at Eyes Open Conference, online. Available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_EPUPLTeV8
- 2019 **Nolla, K.,** Beeman, M.; Reber, P.; & Adam, E. “Cognitive, social, and physiological correlates of Top 100 Smash performance.” Poster presented at UCI Esports Research Conference, Irvine, California, USA.

- 2018 **Nolla, K.**, Wright, R., & Morrow, C. “Mindset and Stress Management in Esports.” Panel presentation at Super Smash Con, Chantilly, Virginia, USA. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IKVaLXISBc>
- 2017 **Nolla, K.** & Beeman, M. “Creative cognition under performance pressure: Investigating how anxiety affects attentional styles and creativity.” Poster presentation at Cognitive Neuroscience Society and Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity, San Francisco, California, USA.

TALKS

- 2022 Nolla, K. Invited talk. “Social and Cognitive Psychology of Game Participation.” University of Chicago, Uncommon Hacks Event.
- 2021 Cella, D. & Nolla, K. Invited talk. “Comparing health-related quality of life between first-line treatments for advanced or metastatic renal cell carcinoma in the age of immunotherapy.” Israeli Genitourinary Oncology Congress.
- 2020 Nolla, K. Departmental talk. “Cognitive and social correlates of competitive gaming expertise.” Northwestern Psychology Department Colloquium Series.

TEACHING

Instructor	Fall 2025	Structural Equation Modeling (Graduate)
Instructor	Fall 2025	Principles & Foundations of Measurement (Graduate)
Instructor	Spring 2025	General Psychology
Instructor	Fall 2024	Psychology of Learning
Instructor	Spring 2024	Developmental Psychology
Teaching Assistant	Fall 2016 to Winter 2021	Psychopathology, Psychology of Gender, Methods of Observing Human Behavior, Developmental Psychology (Discussion Section Instructor), Field Methods (Graduate), Cognitive Psychology, Consciousness, Brain Damage and the Mind, Introduction to Neuroscience

SERVICE

Academic Service

- 2024-Present Advisor. Morgan State Esports Club.
- 2024-Present Ad Hoc Reviewer. Journal of Electronic Gaming and Esports.
- 2024-Present Ad Hoc Reviewer. Applied Clinical Informatics Open.
- 2023-2024 Postdoctoral Trainee Representative. Department Steering Committee.
- 2023-2024 Ad Hoc Reviewer. Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences.
- 2022 & 2024 Ad Hoc Reviewer. Press Start Journal.
- 2023 Volunteer. Games User Research Conference by IGDA.
- 2019 Academic Mentor. Northwestern Summer Research Opportunity Program.
- 2018-2019 Representative. Psychology Graduate Student Council.
- 2016-2018 Founder. Psychology Graduate Student Diversity & Inclusion Committee.
- 2016-2017 Reviewer and Speaker. Northwestern Psychology Department Sneak Peek.

Community Service

- 2022 Academic Mentor. Queer Women of Esports. Data, infographics, and mentee's final writeup available at: <https://osf.io/h24ab/>
- 2018-2020 Founder and Director. Smash Community Code of Conduct. https://www.ssbwiki.com/SSB_Code_of_Conduct_Panel

MEDIA COVERAGE

- 2021 Tisk Talks. "Dr. Kyle Nolla (aka Dr. Piggy) – gender, emotions, and performance in video games." YouTube episode. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTWw5hwX3M8>
- 2021 Waiting for Game | Melee Stats Podcast. "Smash & Academics feat. Dr. Piggy." YouTube episode. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8brz0bUNg8E>
- 2020 CLASH Tournaments. "Exiting Bowser's Castle." Multi-part YouTube series. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIIHVxA7UoL3kXaFWYoiVt9suiGg13JW2>
- 2020 Weaver, J. "How one video game community is trying to 'police itself' amid sexual assault allegations." News article. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/super-smash-allegations-1.5640449>
- 2019 Toms, C. "Kyle Nolla: Understanding player performance at the highest level." Biographical feature. <https://esportsinsider.com/2019/04/kyle-nolla-understanding-player-performance-at-the-highest-level>
- 2019 Witkowski, S. "Getting Smashed." Podcast episode. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/getting-smashed/id1168876567?i=1000433552264>
- 2018 Yong, E. "What we learn from 50 years of kids drawing scientists." News article. <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/03/what-we-learn-from-50-years-of-asking-children-to-draw-scientists/556025/>

LANGUAGES

- Japanese Intermediate reading and writing proficiency. Basic speaking proficiency.
- Spanish Intermediate reading proficiency. Basic speaking and writing proficiency.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2025 to Present American Psychological Association
- 2025 to Present Eastern Psychological Association
- 2024 to Present Midwestern Psychological Association
- 2023 Society for Behavioral Medicine
- 2023 to Present Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness
- 2021 to Present PROMIS Health Organization
- 2017 to Present Cognitive Neuroscience Society
- 2017 to 2021 Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity
- 2015 to 2016 Society for Personality and Social Psychology

REFERENCES

David Cella
Professor of Medical Social Sciences
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
625 N Michigan Ave, 21st Floor
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 503-1086
d-cella@northwestern.edu

Mark Beeman
Professor of Psychology
Northwestern University
2029 Sheridan Rd, Cresap 104
Evanston, IL 60208
(847) 491-4617
mbeeman@northwestern.edu

Alice Eagly
Professor of Psychology Emerita
Northwestern University
2029 Sheridan Rd, Swift 313
Evanston, IL 60208
(847) 467-5026
eagly@northwestern.edu