

Curriculum Vitae

Laura Kern, JD, Ph.D.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Florida Center for Inclusive Communities
Department of Child & Family Studies
College of Behavioral and Community Sciences
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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Ph.D. University of Connecticut, Educational Psycholo TJEMC /Span /MCID 36 BDC 0 g/TT0 1 Tf0 Tc 0 Tw ()TjEMC ET/Artifac

University of Connecticut, Health Center UConn A. J. Papanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities <i>Graduate Assistant/AUCD Trainee, 2010-12</i> <i>LEND Fellow 2009-2010</i>	2009-2012
Law Offices of Kern & Kern, LLC, Berlin, CT <i>Associate Attorney; Attorney of Counsel</i>	2002-2017
Law Offices of Pignatella and Kern, New Britain, CT <i>Associate Attorney</i>	1999-2002

TRAINING

Certified Online Educator, University of South Florida	2022
Education Policy and Politics in the Nation's Capital, Higher Education Consortium for Public Education	2016
Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) Workshop, University of Connecticut	2015
Meta-Analysis Summer Workshop, University of Connecticut	2015
School Wide Information System (SWIS III), University of Oregon	2014
Parent Leadership and Advocacy Training, University of Connecticut, A. J. Papanikou Center	2010
Montessori Education for 3–6-year old's, North American Montessori Center	2007

EXTERNAL FUNDING

Funded Grants

3. George, H.P., Splett, J., & **Kern, L.** (2021-2026). *Florida Connect: Interconnecting School Mental Health and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports to Improve Middle School Students' Academic, Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Outcomes (\$1,508,004)*. U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Special Education - Technical Assistance and Dissemination Model Demonstration Projects (CFDA 84.326M, PR/Award # H326M210005), **Role: Co-Principal Investigator and Implementation Coordinator (20% FTE)**
2. **Kern, L.** (2021 - 2023). *Enhancing Family Engagement in Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (EFE-PBIS) (\$12,640)*. University of South Florida, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences Internal Grant.
Role: Principal Investigator
1. **Kern, L.** & Simonsen, B. (2016 - 2017). *Project RECESS: Restructuring Environmental Contingencies; Enhancing Self-Managed Supervision (Dissertation) (\$5,000)*. Wing Institute.
Role: Co-Principal Investigator

Under Review

8. Freeman, J., **Kern, L.**, Gambino A., Lombardi, A., & Kowitt, J. (2019). Assessing the relationship between the positive behavior intervention and supports framework and student outcomes in high schools. *The Journal of At-Risk Issues*, 22, 1–11. <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1231342.pdf>
7. **Kern, L.**, George, H. P., Evanovich, L. L., & Martinez, S. (2019). Addressing the need for progress in special education: Understanding *Andrew F.* and the role of special educators. *Journal of the American Academy of Special Education Professionals (JAASEP) Spring/Summer*, 68-81.
6. Slattery, L. C., George, H. P., & **Kern, L.** (2019). Defining the word bullying: Inconsistencies and lack of clarity among current definitions. *Preventing School Failure: Alternative Education for Children and Youth*, 63, 227–235. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1045988X.2019.1579164>
5. Evanovich, L. L., George, H., & **Kern, L.** (2018). The landfill is full: Breaking the data-dumping model. *The Journal of At-Risk Issues*, 21, 37-47.
4. Evanovich, L. L., & **Kern, L.** (2018). Precorrection: Preventing predictable problem behaviors in school settings. *Beyond Behavior*, 27, 90-98. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1074295618769892>
- 3.

4. Dooley, K., **Kern, L.**, & Meyer, K. (YEAR). Embracing best practices: Embedding functional behavioral assessments and behavior intervention plans into the IEP planning process. [Manuscript in preparation]. Child & Family Studies, University of South Florida.
3. **Kern, L.**, George, H. P., Baton, E., Broughton, T., McDaniel, S. (YEAR). A literature review of PBIS implementation in rural settings [Manuscript in preparation]. Child & Family Studies, University of South Florida.
2. **Kern, L.**, McDaniel, S., & George, H. P., Bales, T.* (YEAR). Corporal pu Td[(())80.843 0 Tdh43 0 Tdh4t)6.9 (y o)10.denC. Cf-6

42. Kern, L., George, H. P., Robbie, K., Peterson, N., & Simonsen, B. (September 2024). *Creating a Schoolwide Teaching Matrix*. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org
41. Morris, K., **Kern, L.**, Strickland-Cohen, M. K., & Powers, L. (2024). Integrating High Leverage Practices for Students with Disabilities within the PBIS/MTSS Framework. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org
40. Center on PBIS. (July 2023). *PBIS Implementation Blueprint*. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org [Heather George and **Laura Kern** lead the development of this blueprint].
39. Baton, E. *, Kincaid, D., Iovannone, R., George, H. P., Suldo, S., & **Kern, L.**, (2023). *Updating the definition of family engagement using focus groups*. Unpublished manuscript, Department of Child and Family Studies, University of South Florida, Tampa, USA.
38. Baton, E. *, Kincaid, D., Iovannone, R., George, H. P., Suldo, S., & **Kern, L.**, (2023). *Creation and validation of the Family Engagement and Empowerment Measure (FEEM)*. Unpublished manuscript, Department of Child and Family Studies, University of South Florida, Tampa, USA.
37. Perales, K., Eber, L., Raulerson, C., & **Kern, L.** (January 2023). *Addressing confidentiality while supporting the social-emotional-behavioral needs of students within schools* (Version 2). Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org
36. Baton, E. *, Kincaid, D., Iovannone, R., George, H. P., Suldo, S., & **Kern, L.**, (2022). *An integrated review of the literature on parent training and family involvement*. Unpublished manuscript, Department of Child and Family Studies University of South Florida, Tampa, USA.
35. Robbie, K., Angelosante, C, & Artesani, J., **Kern, L.**, & George, H. P. (September 2022). *Establishing a rural regional cohort: Supporting fidelity of PBIS implementation in rural schools*. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org
34. Strickland-Cohen, M. K., Newson, A., Myer, K., Putnam, R., **Kern, L.**, Myer, B. C., & Flammini, A. (September 2022). *Strategies for de-escalating student behavior in the classroom*. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org
33. Robbie, K., Santiago-Rosario, M., Yanek, K., **Kern, L.**, Meyer, B., Morris, K., & Simonsen, B. (August 2022). *Creating a classroom teaching matrix*

key findings. Storrs, CT: University of Connecticut.

9. **Kern, L.**, & Montrosse-Moorhead, B. (2016). *IRIS Center external evaluation: Analysis of professional development provider survey initial key findings*. Storrs, CT: University of Connecticut.
8. Montrosse-Moorhead, B., & **Kern, L.** (2016). *IRIS Center external evaluation: Comparative analysis of faculty and professional development provider survey initial key findings*. Storrs, CT: University of Connecticut.
7. **Kern, L.** (Chairperson; 2015). *Disability resource directory for town of Berlin, Connecticut*. Berlin, CT: Commission for Persons with Disability.
6. **Kern, L.** & Sugai, G. (2014). *Addressing Bullying Behavior: A Descriptive Literature Review of School-Based Interventions*. Storrs, CT: Center for Behavioral Education and Research, Neag School of Education, University of Connecticut.
5. Sugai, G. & **Kern, L.** (2014). *Connecticut consumer guide on school climate and bullying behavior prevention*. Storrs, CT: Center for Behavioral Education and Research, Neag School of Education, University of Connecticut.
4. Sugai, G. & **Kern, L.** (2014). *What is PBIS? How will it help my child and improve school discipline?* Washington, DC: National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD).
3. Act Early Connecticut, CDC and State of Connecticut, Dept. of Developmental Disabilities.

Assessment for Effective Intervention, *Ad Hoc Reviewer*, 2024 - Present

Exceptional Children, *Ad Hoc Reviewer*, 2024 - Present

Teaching and Teacher Education, *Ad Hoc Reviewer*, 2018 - Present

Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions, *Ad Hoc Reviewer*, 2016 - Present

Remedial and Special Education, *Ad Hoc Reviewer*, 2014 - Present

Beyond Behavior, *Ad Hoc Reviewer*, 2013 – Present

Book Endorsements & Reviews

3. Hieneman, M., Fefer, S., Sieders, M., & Isley, S. (2021). *Partnering with positive behavior support: Structuring your home for the best possible behavior*. Brookes Publishing Co. (Endorsement)
2. Hieneman, M., Fefer, S., Isley, S., & Sieders, M. (2022). *Helping your Family Thrive: A Practical Guide to Parenting with Positive Behavior Support*. Brookes Publishing Co. (Endorsement)
1. Hieneman, M., Elfner, K., & Sergay, J. (2022). *Resolving your Child's Challenging Behavior (2nd Ed.)*, *A Practical Guide to Parenting with Positive Behavior Support*. Brookes Publishing Co. (Review)

PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed

* indicates student

56. **Kern, L.** Dooley, K., & Bird, R. (2025, May, accepted). *Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Supporting Individual Needs*. Presentation at the Northeast PBIS Network Leadership Forum, Mystic, CT.
55. Williers, M., **Kern, L.**, & Baton, E. (2025, April, accepted). *Addressing Quality of Life in PBIS: Making it Meaningful* Presentation at the National Parent Center conference Denver, CO.
54. Williers, M., & **Kern, L.** (2025, April, accepted). *Sharing Perspectives on Developing Agency Toward Positive Post-Secondary Outcomes*. Presentation at the National Parent Center conference Denver, CO.
53. **Kern, L.** & Dooley, K. (2025, March, accepted). *Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Supporting Individual Needs*. Presentation at the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Baltimore, MD.
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48. VanLone, J., Wilkinson, S., & Robbie, K., &

32. **Kern, L.,** & Dooley, K. (2019, October). *Using self-management strategies to improve behavior in school.* Presentation at the Teacher Educators for Children with Behavioral Disorders, Tempe, AZ.

31. Wilkinson, S

14. **Kern, L.** & Sugai, G. (2015, May). *Review of Tier 1 interventions for school-based violence*. Poster presentation at the Northeast PBIS Network Leadership Forum, Mystic, CT.

13. **Kern, L.** & Sugai, G. (2015, May). *Review of tier 1 interventions for school-based violence*. Poster presentation at the CBER Resea o8 (a)-5.8 (o8 (((No8 4 Tw [(tie)-2.8 (r)2.4 0e(o8v (he.8 (se)P001 T.8 (or)9o8v (he.8 1 1 Tf0e(o8v (he.8 1 Tf

32. Martinez, S., & **Kern, L.** (2023, October). *Let me Lead: Youth Directed Supports*. Presentation at the PBIS Leadership Forum, Chicago, IL
31. **Kern, L.**, Meyer, B., McEvoy, C., & Reynoso, K. (2023, October). *From policy to practice: Addressing restraint and seclusion through the PBIS framework*. Presentation at the PBIS Leadership Forum, Chicago, IL.
30. **Kern, L.**, & McGough, K.* (2023, March). *Creating opportunities for family engagement in diverse Communities when implementing PBIS*. Presentation at the International Association for Positive Behavior Support (ABPS), Jacksonville, FL.
29. Morris, K., Powers, L., **Kern, L.**, & Strickland-Cohen, K. (2023, March). *Supporting students with disabilities within a PBIS framework using high-leverage practices*. Presentation at the International Association for Positive Behavior Support (ABPS), Jacksonville, FL.
28. Marken, A., **Kern, L.**, Sieders, M., Williers, N. (2022, Nov. 29). *More than an invitation: Tips for ensuring parents are partners in developing and implementing the IEP*. Webinar hosted by the Progress Center, Center on PBIS, & PEAK Parent Center.
27. **Kern, L.**, Wilson, K. V., & Rhodes, C. E. (2022, October). *Transforming program approaches: From punitive to positive behavioral interventions*. Presentation at the PBIS Leadership Forum, Chicago, IL.

15. McGough, K., & Kern, L. (2021, February). *Embracing the new year: Supporting mental wellness through PBS*. Presentation (virtual) at the Colorado Peak Parent Organization annual conference.

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12. **Kern, L.** (2019, January). *Assessment in education: ESSA and state accountability plans*. Guest Lecture for Practicum Seminar Class for School Psychologists, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.
11. **Kern, L.** (2018, April). *Educational law for school psychologists: An overview*. Guest Lecture for Practicum Seminar Class for School Psychologists, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.
10. **Kern, L.** (2017, March). *IDEA: Review and some applications*. Guest Lecture for Practicum Seminar Class for Special Education, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
9. **Kern, L.** (2016, December). *Parents and special education*. Guest Lecture for University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
8. **Kern, L.** (2016, September). *Special education law and policy*. Guest Lecture for Introduction to Exceptionality Class (EPSY 3110), University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
7. Kowitt, J., & **Kern, L.** (2016, March). *Poster presentations*. Guest Lecture for Doctoral Seminar, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
6. **Kern, L.** (2016, February). *Special education law and policy*. Guest Lecture for Introduction to Exceptionality Class (EPSY 3110), University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
5. **Kern, L.** (2015, September). *Systematic literature review: Overview, examples & considerations*. Guest Lecture for Research Design Class (EPSY 5601), University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
4. **Kern, L.** (2015, August). *Special education law and policy*. Guest Lecture for TCPG Instruction for Students with Special Needs. University of Connecticut, West Hartford, CT.
3. **Kern, L.** (2015, Spring). *Special education law and policy*. Guest Lecture for Introduction to Exceptionality Class, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
2. **Kern, L.** (2015, Spring). *Special education procedural law*. Guest Lecture for Student Psychology Student Group, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT.
1. **Kern, L.** (2011, Spring). *An introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Guest Lecture for Social Work Class, University of Connecticut

1. **Kern L.** (2022, February 17). *Episode 28: Engaging families in special education with Dr. Laura Kern*. Audio podcast hosted by the Educators Blueprint. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/episode-28-engaging-families-in-special-education-with/id1570335663?i=1000551389097>

Invited Professional Development Events: Trainings and Workshops

9. **Kern, L.**, (2024, October). *What's Function Got to Do with It?: Behavior and its Impact on Your Child's Education?* Partner's Resource Education.
8. Perales, K., Powers, L., Pohlman, J., **Kern, L.**, & Campbell, A. (2024, October). *Pre-Forum Leadership Institute for District Leaders and Coaches*. National PBIS Leadership Forum, Chicago, IL.
7. Robbie, K., Wilkinson, S., **Kern, L.**, & VanLone, J. (2023, March 29). *You're in the driver's seat: A classroom roadmap for supporting ALL students*. Workshop (1/2 day) at the International Association for Positive Behavior Support (ABPS).
6. Robbie, K., Wilkinson, S., VanLone, J. & **Kern, L.** (2022, April 16). *You're in the driver's seat: A classroom roadmap for supporting ALL students*. Workshop (1/2 day) at the International Association for Positive Behavior Support (ABPS).
5. **Kern, L.** (2015, November). *Classroom management: Overview of critical features (Session 1 and 2)* Training for the Methueun District Conference, Methuen, MA.
4. Dooley, K., **Kern, L.**, & Gordon, L. (2015, August). *Positive behavior support and classroom management basics*. Workshop (1 day) for the University of Connecticut Teacher Certification (TCPG) Program, West Hartford, CT.
3. Dooley, K. & **Kern, L.** (2014, July). *Positive behavior support and classroom management basics*. Workshop (1 day) for the University of Connecticut Teacher Certification (TCPG) Program, West Hartford, CT.
2. **Kern, L.** (2011, Fall). *Parent to parent training*. Training (multiple days) for the University of Connecticut J. Papanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Farmington, CT.
1. **Kern, L.** (2011, Spring). *Parent to parent training*. Training (multiple days) for the University of Connecticut J. Papanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Farmington, CT

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

<p>University of South Florida, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences Instructor of Record</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Interdisciplinary Approaches to Policy and Systems Change in Behavioral Health. (MHS 7707; Spring, 2022, Spring, 2023, Spring, 2024, & Spring, 2025)</i> • <i>Directed Research</i> 	2020-Present
<p>University of Florida, School of Special Education, School Psychology and Early Childhood Adjunct Faculty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Disability: Legal Aspects and Policy (EEX 4520; 7 classes total across 2 years)</i> • <i>Impact of Disabilities: Home, Community, and Workplace (EEX 2000; 2 classes total across 2 years)</i> 	2018-2020
<p>University of Connecticut, College of Education, Department of Educational Psychology Adjunct Faculty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Policy, Law, and Ethics in Special Education (EPSY 5119; 3 classes)</i> 	2013-2019

- *Policy, Law, and Ethics in Special Education (EPSY 5119)*
- *Applied Behavior Analysis (2 classes)*
- *Instruction for Students with Special Needs (2 classes)*
- *Collaborative Programming Planning Special Education*

Instruction Related

Redesigned University of Florida on-line course; *Disability: Legal Acts and Policy* course; part of a 5-course minor in *Disability in Society*, 2019; adaptation will be used by multiple instructors across different sessions three times a year.

Added in material to analyze case law into University of Connecticut in person and on-line course; *Policy, Law, and Ethics in Special Education* course; part of a 4-course concentration in *School Law*, 2014.

Masters Student Comprehensive Exam:

Eben McKnight (student); plan of study advisor; led and evaluated topic on comprehensive examination for Masters Program.

Doctoral Committee: Christine Hugh (student)

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Association for Positive Behavior Support

Elected Board Member - family seat, 2020-2023
Chair, Family Group Ad Hoc Committee, 2020-2023
Ex Officio, Family, 2023-2024

Committees: Membership, Mental Health, TEC (conference and training), Strategic Action Plan, CANDO (networking), Operations Manual (2020-2024)

Helped re-design organization and redo By-Laws

Strand Leader, Home and Community, 2021, 2022, 2023
Strand Leader, Home and Family, 2021, 2022, 2023
Strand Leader, Early Childhood, 2023
Co-Coordinator, Law and Policy Sub-group, State Leaders Network, 2020-Present

Family/Professional Member: 2018-Present

Student Member: 2013-2018
Family Ad Hoc Committee

Abstract Reviewer, 2013-2020

Home and Community Positive Behavior Support (HCPBS) Network

Leadership Committee, 2020-Present
Lead: Family Chats (role is to organize and coordinate a group of family members who participate in a webinar on a topic related to positive behavior support, sharing tips from a parent perspective and facilitated by a professional for the topic; co-led by Parenting Special Needs Magazine, HCPBS, Partnership for People with Disabilities, Parent to Parent USA)
Family chat: Teaching flexibility in uncertain times (2021, April)
Family chat: Navigating transitions across the lifespan (2021, August)
Family chat: Practical tips for puberty (2022, November)
Family chat: Help! Tackling social media (2022, February)
Family chat: Including us: Sharing cultural diversities (2022, November)
Family chat: The battle over food (2023, February)
Family chat: Help accessing care: Dentists, hairdressers, and doctors-Oh my! (2023, May)

Council for Exceptional Children

Member
Division for Emotional and Behavioral Health

Association for University Centers on Disabilities

Member, student network, 2009-2013
Trainee Liaison, 2010-2011

State**State of Connecticut, Department of Developmental Disabilities**

Positive Behavior Support Committee Group, 2015-2016
Act Early Connecticut, Work Group Member, 2011-2012

University**University of South Florida, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences**

Elected Child Family Studies Governance Council, 2021-2024

March 6, 2025

written report, attendance at probate hearing, ongoing review of case.