

Abigail Martin

Southeastern Psychological Association

Orlando, Florida | March 13th - 16th

SEPA Conference Travel Report

I had the opportunity to attend the 2024 Southeastern Psychological Conference! Presenting research on the *Moderating Effect of Executive Functioning on Psychopathy and Empathy* was beneficial both professionally and personally. The conference was full of networking opportunities, professional development, and a variety of psychological scientists creating and sharing new knowledge. The opportunity to broaden my understanding of various aspects of psychology and connect with researchers from across the country is one that will open doors for a successful career in academia. The conference offered opportunities to attend sessions on topics such as neuroscience, clinical psychology, cognitive psychology, and developmental psychology. I had the privilege of attending sessions on COVID-19, metacognition, gender in science, and hiking on mood and self-esteem. The opportunity to attend so many sessions helped me build a well-rounded knowledge of psychology.

In addition to building relationships with researchers at the conference, traveling with my labmates helped us foster deeper professional connections. Building those connections opened the door for me to research and co-author with a fellow undergraduate researcher on a poster titled *Private Religiosity Influencing Family Cohesion and the Moderating Effect of Parental Involvement*. We will be presenting our research together at the Mid-South Psychology Conference!

The Southeastern Psychological Conference provided a valuable platform to share my research and expand my professional network. Attending the conference would not have been possible without the financial and academic support from the Shackouls Honors College. Thank you guys so much for the opportunity!