

Introduction

The SPU Experience Project focuses on multiple aspects of identity development of students at a private religious institution. As part of this project, we developed the following measure:

- Adaptive Measure of Identity Statuses: Religion (AMIS-R)
 - Unique developmental process of religious identity, move between IDs
 - We added a factor to the Duke University Religion Index (DUREL): "experience of the divine" (see construct definitions table)
 - DUREL measures religious behaviors, public and private involvement
- The combination of these measures allows us the unique opportunity to assess the relationship between the process of religious identity development and religious behaviors and experiences.

Literature Review:

- Adaptive Measure of Identity Statuses: Religion (AMIS-R)
 - Based on theoretical model by Phinney & Baldelomar
 - Measure identity status Commitment and Exploration on a matrix
- Duke University Religion Index (DUREL) - (Koenig & Bussing)
 - developed for use in large cross-sectional and longitudinal observational studies to briefly measure religiosity and behaviors
 - organizational religious activity (Involvement), non-organizational religious activity (EoD), and intrinsic religiosity (Daily Life)
- Emerging adults and the rise of Religious "nones"

Construct Definitions:

CONSTRUCT DEFINITIONS (table 1)	
Construct	Definition
Exploration	Seeking out information and taking action to learn more about religious beliefs
Commitment	One's dedication to a certain religious belief
Pressure	Pressure felt from primary influencing parties (family, social groups, etc.) to commit to a specific religious belief.
Individuation	Participating in or belonging to a religion which one did not grow up in
Critical Thinking	Having doubts or seeking out information that contradicts what one thinks about religion
Future Goal	Wanting to become more committed to a religion in the future
Openness to Change	Feeling open and comfortable with changing their religious views
Involvement	Participation in religious activities both publicly and privately
Experience of Divine	Feeling that a divine force has impacted your life
Daily Life	Prioritizing religious beliefs in one's everyday life

Goals and Hypotheses:

- Establish validity and reliability of AMIS and added DUREL factor
 - Positive relationship between the DUREL involvement subscale and the AMIS-R Commitment and exploration subscales.
 - DUREL Experience of the Divine subscale will be positively correlated with AMIS-R exploration and individuation
 - differences in the levels of DUREL involvement between pilot part 1 and 2 because of COVID-19 impacts on in-person events.

Methods

Sample Characteristics: SPU undergraduate students in Lifespan Psychology course (N = 232), Mage 19.2, POC = 47.8%, White = 52.2%, religious = 55.4%, spiritual = 29.7%, none = 14.9%)

Procedure: We ran an online survey study through Qualtrics and Sona

Instruments and Scale Development: AMIS-R and DUREL

- Remove and/or adjust AMIS-R items based on reliability
- Add DUREL: "Experience of the Divine" subscale, test reliability

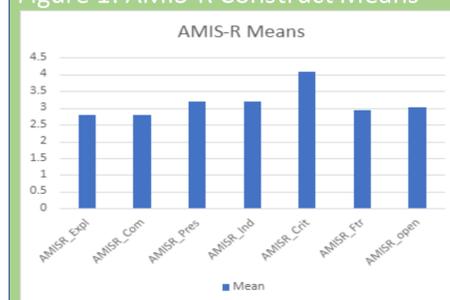
Results

AMIS-R Development

Table 2: AMIS-R Reliability

AMIS-R Reliability	
Subscale	Cronbach's α
Exploration	0.771
Commitment	0.814
Pressure	0.691
Individuation	0.806
Critical thinking	0.764
Future Goal	0.879
Openness to Change	0.866

Figure 1: AMIS-R Construct Means



DUREL Development

Table 3: DUREL Reliability

DUREL Reliability	
Subscale	Cronbach's α
Involvement	0.848
Experience of Divine	0.944
Daily Life	0.944

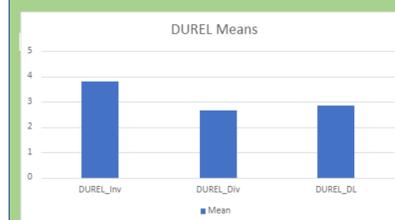


Figure 2: Confirmatory Factor Analysis

AMIS-R Confirmatory Factor Analysis					
Factor	Indicator	Estimate	SE	Z	p
Exploration	Q11_3	0.736	0.0805	9.14	<.001
	Q13_1	1.018	0.0701	14.52	<.001
	Q14_5	-0.746	0.0719	-10.36	<.001
Commitment	Q10_2	1.368	0.1162	11.77	<.001
	Q15_2	0.977	0.0760	12.86	<.001
	Q16_4	1.121	0.0802	13.98	<.001
Pressure	Q11_1	1.018	0.1008	10.10	<.001
	Q12_4	-0.953	0.1030	-9.26	<.001
	Q17_1	0.651	0.1008	6.46	<.001
Individuation	Q10_5	1.461	0.1125	12.98	<.001
	Q12_3	1.090	0.0744	14.65	<.001
	Q13_2	-0.793	0.0758	-10.45	<.001
Critical Thinking	Q10_4	1.320	0.1101	11.99	<.001
	Q13_5	1.025	0.0750	13.67	<.001
	Q14_2	0.733	0.0819	8.95	<.001
Future Goal	Q11_4	1.030	0.0717	14.37	<.001
	Q13_3	-1.043	0.0706	-14.78	<.001
	Q14_3	-1.120	0.0794	-14.11	<.001
Openness to Change	Q11_2	0.986	0.0811	12.15	<.001
	Q12_2	1.112	0.0751	14.80	<.001
	Q13_4	1.069	0.0711	15.03	<.001

Figure 4: DUREL Exploratory Factor Analysis

Factor Loadings	Factor		Uniqueness
	1	2	
Q18_1		0.906	0.327
Q18_2		0.843	0.309
Q19_1	0.843		0.165
Q19_2	0.927		0.136
Q19_3	0.932		0.161
Q19_4	0.856		0.291
Q20_1		-0.815	0.172
Q20_2		-0.759	0.234

Correlation Matrix - Pilot Part 2 (Oct-Dec 2020)

Correlation Matrix										
	AMISR_Expl	AMISR_Com	AMISR_Pres	AMISR_Ind	AMISR_Crit	AMISR_Ftr	AMISR_open	DUREL_Inv	DUREL_Div	DUREL_DL
AMISR_Expl	—									
AMISR_Com	0.393 ***	—								
AMISR_Pres	-0.103	-0.023	—							
AMISR_Ind	0.216 **	0.402 ***	-0.027	—						
AMISR_Crit	0.183 **	0.434 ***	0.175 *	0.403 ***	—					
AMISR_Ftr	0.536 ***	0.458 ***	-0.143 *	0.254 ***	0.254 ***	—				
AMISR_open	0.226 **	0.669 ***	0.043	0.370 ***	0.615 ***	0.280 ***	—			
DUREL_Inv	-0.488 ***	-0.419 ***	0.295 ***	-0.326 ***	-0.134	-0.619 ***	-0.209 **	—		
DUREL_Div	0.443 ***	0.363 ***	-0.211 **	0.251 ***	0.155 *	0.513 ***	0.230 **	-0.582 ***	—	
DUREL_DL	0.543 ***	0.516 ***	-0.245 ***	0.309 ***	0.253 ***	0.603 ***	0.349 ***	-0.749 ***	0.698 ***	—

Note. * p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001

Discussion

Factor Analyses – AMIS-R and added DUREL subscale are reliable with strong convergent validity

Strong Correlations Between Measures

- AMIS-R Commitment and Openness to Change strong positive corr.
 - high commitment associated with more open-mindedness and understanding of "universality"
- AMIS-R Critical Thinking and Openness are positively correlated
 - deeper understanding, willing to change
- DUREL Experience of Divine and Daily Life strong positive correlated
 - one is likely to experience divine in daily life
- DUREL Involvement and Religious Emphasis positive correlation
 - having religious activities emphasized while growing up leads to more involved as an emerging adult
- DUREL involvement and AMIS Future Change strong negative corr.
 - high participation in church leads to less change in commitments/belief that you will change your mind
- AMIS future change/openness and DUREL Daily Life positive corr.
 - more awareness of faith means openminded-ness and change
- AMIS future change and DUREL Experience of divine positive corr.
 - Open to further exploring and committing based on experiences
- DUREL DL and AMIS Pressure negative correlation, while Pressure and Involvement are positively correlated
 - High pressure = low daily life emphasis, more public participation

Hypotheses:

- DUREL involvement was likely affected by COVID restrictions, as part 1 was early in the stay-at-home orders and part 2 was 9 months into them.
- Experience of Divine was correlated with AMIS commitment and exploration as predicted.

COVID Effects on Religious Involvement

- AMIS-Exploration and commitment negative correlation with DUREL involvement only in part 2
- DUREL Involvement and AMIS Commitment positively correlated in part 1, then negatively correlated in part 2. This could be related to COVID health restrictions on in-person events.

Future goals: longitudinal, adaptive measure

- Test AMIS-R according to adaptive "flow" chart of factors to assign identity statuses (Achieved, Foreclosed, Moratorium, Diffused).

Conclusion

AMIS-R developed items had strong reliability and convergent validity. DUREL added construct had strong reliability and convergent validity with existing factors. AMIS and DUREL were related in expected ways. AMIS future change and all DUREL subscales had the strongest relationship, suggesting that students are in process of changing their beliefs about religion. COVID-19 effects can be seen in relationships between DUREL religious involvement and AMIS exploration which lowered later into COVID restrictions.