

Using a radical pragmatic lens, Dr. Andrew M. Colombo-Dougovito utilizes his expertise in mixed methodology to examine the motor development patterns and physical activity behaviors of autistic individuals across their lifespan. Within this work, he leverages participatory frameworks to explore the societal and environmental structures that influence physical activity engagement and skill development to ensure equal opportunities are provided to autistic individuals and their families.

After completing his Ph.D. in 2017 from the University of Virginia, Andrew joined the faculty of the University of North Texas as an Assistant Professor. There, he also acts as the Director of the Physical Activity & Motor Skills Program, the Director of the Disability & Movement Research Lab, and as faculty liaison to the Kristin Farmer Autism Center.

To date, Dr. Colombo-Dougovito has 19 publications and has given over 40 presentations to state, national, and international audiences. He presently serves as Historian on the Board of Directors and as a member of the Advocacy Committee for the National Consortium for Physical Education for Individuals with Disabilities (NCPEID). Additionally, he serves as an editorial board member for, both, *PALAESTRA* and *Revista de Sobama: Journal of the Brazilian Association of Adapted Motor Activity*. Currently, he is the acting chair for the APE Special Interest Group and a member of the Annual Convention Program Committee for SHAPE America. In 2017, he was awarded the APE/A Doctoral Student of the Year by SHAPE America and, in 2019, he was awarded the Elly D. Friedmann Young Professional Award from the International Federation for Adapted Physical Activity.

When not working, Andrew can be found outside—mountain biking, climbing, hiking, and spending time with family.