

## Benjamin J. Zubaly

Department of Psychology, University of Michigan

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Citizenship: USA

**Updated November 13, 2025**

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### EDUCATION

<b>University of Michigan</b>	2031 (expected)
Ph.D. in Social Psychology	
Primary Advisor: Josh Ackerman	
Secondary Advisor: Shinobu Kitayama	
<b>Trinity Western University</b>	2024
B.A. (Honours) in Psychology with Great Distinction	

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### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social psychology, evolutionary psychology, cultural evolution, moral psychology, psychology of religion, meta-science, scientific fraud

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### PAPERS

Arbeau, K., Steeves, K., Todd, H., **Zubaly, B.**, Thorpe, C. (under revision). Drawings of the self during COVID-19 reveal lived experiences of the pandemic.

<sup>†</sup>Acem, E., Aczel, B., Albayrak-Aydemir, N., Brown, N., Dudda, L., Elsherif, M., Gjoneska, B., Kowal, M., Krishna, A., Miłkoś, S., Paruzel-Czachura, M., Patel, J., Pypno-Blajda, K., Scharlau, I., Verheyen, S., **Zubaly, B.** (2025). Why I declare a conflict of interest and you should not. *Theory and Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11186-025-09641-3>

Palmer-Hague, J., Stobbart, J., **Zubaly, B.** (2025). Women's intrasexual competitiveness, but not fertility, predicts greater competitive behavior toward attractive women across the menstrual cycle. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 46(6), 106760. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.evolhumbehav.2025.106760>

**Zubaly, B.**, Arbeau, K., & Palmer-Hague, J. (2025). Sociosexual attitudes mediate the relationship between behavioral immune system reactivity and religiosity. *Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ebs0000388>

**Zubaly, B.**, Palmer-Hague, J. (2025). Fathers' facial dominance predicts first-born sons in parent dyads. *Adaptive Human Behavior and Physiology*, 11(1), 1. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40750-024-00254-1>

<sup>†</sup>Indicates equal authorship contributions.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Zubaly, B.**, Palmer-Hague, J., Stobart, J. (2026). Women's intrasexual competitiveness, but not fertility, predicts greater competitive behavior toward attractive women across the menstrual cycle. *Poster to be presented at SPSP in Chicago, IL.*
- Arbeau, K., Thorpe, C., **Zubaly, B.**, Steeves, K. (2025). Drawing of the self during COVID-19 reveal lived experiences of the pandemic. *Poster presented at the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) National Convention in St. Johns, NL by KA.*
- Zubaly, B.**, Arbeau, K., Palmer-Hague, J. (2025). Religiosity and the behavioral immune system. *Poster presented at SPSP in Denver, CO, USA and the Trinity Western CREATE Conference in Langley, BC.*
- Zubaly, B.**, Palmer-Hague, J. (2024). Does parental dominance influence offspring sex? *Poster presented virtually at the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society Conference in Niagara Falls, NY.*
- Zubaly, B.**, Friesen, K., Fitchner, J., Venema, C., Moran-Linares, D., Arbeau, K. (2023). Disgust and religious behavior: Testing an adaptive hypothesis of religiosity. *Poster presented at the Trinity Western University CREATE Conference in Langley, BC.*
- Zubaly, B.** (2022). Why get involved in research at TWU? *Virtual talk at the Trinity Western University CREATE Conference in Langley, BC, Canada.*

## MEDIA COVERAGE

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- Dolan, E. (2025). Religiosity may function as a mating strategy shaped by disease avoidance psychology. *PsyPost.* <https://www.psypost.org/religiosity-may-function-as-a-mating-strategy-shaped-by-disease-avoidance-psychology/>
- Dolan, E. (2025). Fathers with more dominant-looking faces are more likely to have sons. *PsyPost.* <https://www.psypost.org/fathers-with-more-dominant-looking-faces-are-more-likely-to-have-sons/>

## PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

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- Zubaly, B.** (2025). Why Understanding Friendship Requires Evolutionary Psychology: Social Behavior is Fundamental to Survival and Reproduction. *Ayers Psychology and Evolution Lab Blog.* <https://www.ayerslab.org/blog/why-understanding-friendship-requires-evolutionary-psychology>

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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|-----------|---|
| 2023-2024 | Scholar Athlete of the Year Award, Trinity Western University           |
| 2024      | Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA), Trinity Western University |
| 2023      | American Enterprise Institute Summer Honors Program Scholar             |
| 2022      | Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA), Trinity Western University |
| 2020-2024 | Dean's List Honoree, Trinity Western University                         |
| 2020-2024 | U SPORTS Academic All-Canadian Award                                    |

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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<b>Research Assistant</b>	2025
Ayers Psychology and Evolution (APE) Lab, Boise State University	
Lab Director: Jessica Ayers, Ph.D.	
<b>Research Assistant</b>	2023-2025
Health Psychology Lab, Trinity Western University	
Lab Director: Kelly Arbeau, Ph.D.	
<b>Research Assistant</b>	2021-2025
Social Neuroendocrinology Lab, Trinity Western University	
Lab Director: Jaime Palmer-Hague, Ph.D.	

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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<b>Statistics Tutor</b>	February-April 2024
Department of Athletics, Trinity Western University	
Supervisor: Sam Jung, Associate Director of Athletics	
<b>Undergraduate Teaching Assistant</b>	September-December 2023
Department of Psychology, Trinity Western University	
PSYC 105: Introduction to Psychology	
Instructor: Todd Dutka, M.A.	
<b>Writing Tutor</b>	September-December 2021
Writing Centre, Trinity Western University Learning Commons	
Supervisor: Emily Keery, M.A.	

## **SERVICE**

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2024	Reviewer, Student Research Awards, Association for Psychological Science
2024	Reviewer, Student Grant Competition, Association for Psychological Science

## **ACADEMIC COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

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2024-2025	Senator, Trinity Western University Student Association
2023-2024	Junior Senator, Trinity Western University Student Association
2022-2023	President, Psi Chi Honor Society, Trinity Western University Chapter
2022-2023	Social Sciences Representative, Trinity Western University Student Association

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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2025	Behavior Technician, Maraca Learning, Boise, ID
2023	Proofreader, Dr. Kelly Arbeau, Associate Professor of Psychology, Langley, BC
2021	Behavior Technician, Focused Behavior Solutions, Spokane, WA

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

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- 2021-2024 President's Scholarship, Trinity Western University  
2020-2024 Spartan Athletic Scholarship, Trinity Western University  
2020-2021 Provost's Scholarship, Trinity Western University  
2020-2021 Dr. Riggs Leadership Scholarship, Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Center

## AFFILIATIONS

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- 2025-Present Evolution and Human Adaptation Program, University of Michigan  
2024-Present Student Member, Cultural Evolution Society  
2024-Present Student Member, Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
2024-Present Student Member, Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science  
2023-Present Student Member, Association for Psychological Science  
2023-Present Student Member, Human Behavior and Evolution Society  
2023-2024 Student Affiliate, American Psychological Association  
2022-2024 Member, Psi Chi Honor Society, Trinity Western University Chapter

## SOFTWARE COMPETENCIES

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R, SPSS, Bash, Git, GitHub, SONA, WebMorph, Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC), The Lexical Suite, some Fiji (ImageJ), some Python