

Benjamin J. Zubaly

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 Citizenship USA

Updated November 11, 2025

EDUCATION

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

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Evolutionary psychology, cultural evolution, gene-culture coevolution, evoked culture, moral psychology, social psychology, psychology of religion, health psychology, meta-science, scientific fraud

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.

[†]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>

[†] Indicates equal authorship contributions.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 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 86th Annual Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) National Convention by KA.*
- Zubaly, B.**, Arbeau, K., Palmer-Hague, J. (2025). Religiosity and the behavioral immune system. *Poster presented at 2025 at SPSP in Denver, USA and the 2024 Trinity Western CREATE Conference in Langley, Canada.*
- Zubaly, B.**, Palmer-Hague, J. (2024). Does parental dominance influence offspring sex? *Poster presented virtually at 2024 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 2023 Trinity Western University CREATE Conference in Langley, BC, Canada.*
- Zubaly, B.** (2022). Why get involved in research at TWU? *Virtual talk at the 2022 Trinity Western University CREATE Conference in Langley, BC, Canada.*

MEDIA COVERAGE

- 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

- 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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|------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Research Assistant | 2025 |
| Ayers Psychology and Evolution (APE) Lab, Boise State university | |
| Lab Director: Jessica Ayers, Ph.D. | |

Research Assistant 2023- 2025
 Health Psychology Lab, Trinity Western University
 Lab Director: Kelly Arbeau, Ph.D.

Research Assistant 2021-2025
 Social Neuroendocrinology Lab, Trinity Western University
 Lab Director: Jaime Palmer-Hague, Ph.D.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Statistics Tutor February-April 2024
 Department of Athletics, Trinity Western University
 Supervisor: Sam Jung, Associate Director of Athletics

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant September-December 2023
 Department of Psychology, Trinity Western University
 PSYC 105: Introduction to Psychology
 Instructor: Todd Dutka, M.A.

Writing Tutor September-December 2021
 Writing Centre, Trinity Western University Learning Commons
 Supervisor: Emily Keery, M.A.

SERVICE

- 2024 Reviewer, Student Research Awards, Association for Psychological Science
- 2024 Reviewer, Student Crant Competition, Association for Psychological Science

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

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

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- 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

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

SOFTWARE COMPETENCIES

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