

JOSHUA WEN ZHENG HEW

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EDUCATION

University of Edinburgh

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

MA (Hons) Philosophy and Psychology (expecting first class)

September 2021 – May 2025

- Representative courses: Big Data and Psychological Science (75%, top of the class); Logic 2: Modal logics (87%); Data Analysis for Psychology in R3 (83%); Analogy, Learning, and Generalisation in Humans and Machines (75%).
- Head writer for the *Psychology Magazine*, offered peer-support and organised writing workshops. Wrote 2 academic articles: “Can money buy happiness?” (2023) and “The psychology of parasocial relationships” (upcoming).
- Active listening volunteer at a student mental health helpline, whose name is undisclosed for confidentiality purposes. Visualised and interpreted call data and content to improve service quality and demonstrate impact to stakeholders. Reviewed industry best practices and guidelines to facilitate research-informed policy focus groups.
- Consultant at *180 Degrees Consulting*. Prepared a report with monetisation and volunteer retainment strategies for wellbeing hub *Zennistoun*. Conducted a case study on *Street Soccer Scotland* to quantify their digital social impact.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

User-centric Privacy and Security Research Team (supervisor: Jingjie Li)

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Video Games and AI Safety Intern

March 2024 – Present

- Worked with the team to develop an annotation protocol, and used this to evaluate video game scripts for safety.

Hew, J., Tarighat, A., Corley, M., & Horne, Z. (preprint). Examining structural and semantic predictors of announced sarcasm on r/AskReddit

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

First Author of an Article Submitted to the Cognitive Science Society Conference 2024

October 2023 – Present

- Topics: Natural Language Processing, Psycholinguistics, Social Media Data, and Bayesian Data Analysis.
- Worked with experts across the department to develop a niche project idea into an scholarly publication.

HollyMartin Lab (supervisor: Greta Gandolfi)

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Volunteer Research Assistant in Psycholinguistics (Conversation, Human-computer Interaction) October 2023 – Present

- Annotated the linguistic features for transcriptions of conversations between humans and Ferhat (social robot).
- Coded an R script to check for annotator spelling mistakes and calculate inter-annotator agreement.

Health and Relationships Processes (HARP) Lab

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Volunteer Research Assistant in Social Psychology (Romantic Relationships)

September 2022 – December 2022

- Responsible for 48 paired participants, coordinated email communications and Qualtrics surveys in a timely fashion.

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Bentoya Japanese Fusion Restaurant

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Part-time Waiter

February 2022 – present

- Regularly managed a section of up to 8 tables during peak hours with up to 50+ customers daily.
- Took charge to mentor and train 3 new waiters on restaurant SOPs and ways to maximise customer satisfaction.

Boys' Brigade Malaysia 2nd Subang Jaya Company

Subang Jaya, Malaysia

Leadership Roles in Committee (specific office held varied yearly)

July 2018 – August 2021

- Led a team of 6 to execute a 7-month initiation program for 30 recruits, considering factors such as recruit training, recruit wellbeing, role delegation and accountability. Successfully achieved a passing rate of 70%.
- Conducted the brass band and restructured the rehearsal program to better include 2 teens with cognitive disabilities.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Languages: English (native), Chinese (fluent), and Malay (proficient).
- IT: R (tidyverse, tidytext, lme4), Qualtrics, Latex Overleaf, Microsoft Office, Adobe Premiere Pro, and Sibelius.
- Volunteering: Participated in yearly (2008 – 2017) outreach trips to the indigenous tribes of Malaysia to understand their culture, interact with and teach their children, as well as clean and repair their infrastructure.
- Personal projects: YouTube channel with 5 videos, and *Lepak Time* podcast ran with friends consisting 21 episodes.
- Music: Piano (diploma), Violin (grade 8). Regular violinist with the *Edinburgh University Chamber Orchestra*.
- Other interests: Continental philosophy, music therapy, Bildungsroman literature, backpacking, and esports.