

LUISA FASSI

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EDUCATION

University of Cambridge

2021 - present

PhD in Medical Sciences

- Research at the [Digital Mental Health Group](#) focused on studying the link between adolescents' mental health and social media use, supervised by Dr Amy Orben and Prof Tamsin Ford.
- Core skills: quantitative analysis of cohort studies, systematic review and meta-analysis, analysis of intensive longitudinal data, qualitative study design and analysis.

University of Oxford

2019 - 2020

MSc in Psychological Research

- Graduation with distinction, awarded the Humphrey Prize for the best graduate dissertation.
- Core subjects: statistical theory and methods in R, MATLAB programming for experimental psychology, project design, research evaluation, computational modelling of brain functions.
- Thesis project supervised by Prof Roi Cohen Kadosh at the Cognition, Learning and Plasticity lab on modelling individuals' subjective beliefs in intervention studies, involving secondary data analysis.

Erasmus University Rotterdam

2016 - 2019

BSc in Psychology

- Graduation with an average of 8.3/10, ranked in the top 5 % of the 2019 bachelor cohort.
- Selection for a 400-hour honours program for academic excellence in the social and behavioural sciences.
- Thesis project supervised by Prof Steven A. Kushner at [Kushner Lab](#) in the Erasmus Medical Center on the effects of dentate gyrus chemogenetic activation to disentangle the neural pathways of bipolar I disorder, involving various wet lab techniques and data analysis.

VISITING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Clinical Psychologist, NHS Cambridge University Hospital

September-November 2024

Clinical placement in the [Children Services and Pediatric Medicine](#).

- Clinical shadowing and support on improving NHS service assessment and delivery.

PhD research visit, Radboud University

April-July 2024

Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, [Lifespan Cognitive Dynamics Lab](#).

- Studying the temporal dynamics of social media use and adolescent wellbeing.
- Methods used: dynamic structural equation models, bayesian statistics, linear models.

Academic visitor, University of Oxford

November 2020- October 2021

Department of Experimental Psychology, Cognition Learning and Plasticity Lab.

Research Assistant, Erasmus Medical Center Rotterdam

November 2017- July 2019

Department of Molecular Psychiatry, [Kushner Lab](#).

- Two-year part-time research internship in molecular psychiatry studying the genetic underpinnings of psychiatric disorders.

- Techniques learnt: animal testing and handling, immunohistochemical stainings, histology, confocal imaging, whole-cell reconstruction, chemogenetics (DREADDs), data analysis.

Summer Research Intern, Institute of Neuroscience Alicante
Developmental Neurobiology Unit, [Lopez-Bendito Lab](#).

July - August 2017

Research Trainee, Erasmus University Rotterdam

January - July 2017

Erasmus School of Social and Behavioural Sciences, 250-hour research training.

PUBLICATIONS

Fassi, L., Thomas K., Parry D. A., Leyland-Craggs A., Ford T. J., Orben A. (2024). Social media use and internalising symptoms in clinical and community adolescent samples: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *JAMA Pediatrics*, 178(8), 814-822 ([doi](#)).

Langener, A. M., Siepe, B. S., Elsherif, M., Niemeijer, K., Andresen, P. K., Akre, S., ... **Fassi, L.** Jacobson, N. C. (2024). A template and tutorial for preregistering studies using passive smartphone measures. *Behavior Research Methods*, 1-19 ([doi](#)).

Fassi, L., Hochman S., Daskalakis Z. J., Blumberger D. M., Cohen Kadosh R. (2024). The Importance of Individual Beliefs in Assessing Treatment Efficacy: Insights from Neurostimulation Studies. *eLife*, 12:RP88889 ([doi](#)).

Ghai*, S., **Fassi, L.***, Awadh, F., Orben, A. (2023). Lack of sample diversity in research on adolescent depression and social media use: a scoping review and meta-analysis. *Clinical Psychological Science*, 11(5), 759-772 (*joint first authorship, [doi](#)).

Fassi, L., Cohen Kadosh R. (2021). Letter to the Editor: How some brain stimulation studies fail to evaluate blinding adequately. *Journal of Psychiatric Research*, 137, 452-453 ([doi](#)).

Kamermans, K. L., Pouw, W., **Fassi, L.**, Aslanidou, A., Paas, F., Hostetter, A. B. (2019). The role of gesture as simulated action in reinterpretation of mental imagery. *Acta Psychologica*, 197, 131-142 ([doi](#)).

PREPRINTS

Pownall, M., Ghai, S., **Fassi, L.**, Hayes, G., Schaaf, M., Chin, C., ... Orben, A. (2024) What does Open Science mean for Educational Technology Research? Challenges, Opportunities, and a Call for Research. (preprint on [OSF](#)).

Fassi, L., Cohen Kadosh R. (2020). Is it all in our head? When subjective beliefs about receiving an intervention are better predictors of experimental results than the intervention itself (preprint on [bioRxiv](#)).

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Youth Mental Health Award

November 2023

Il Circolo, London-based charity, 2000 € award

Open and Responsible Science Award

November 2022

Erasmus Medical Center, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Humphrey Thesis Prize for Graduate Research Dissertation

July 2021

University of Oxford, Experimental Psychology Department

Honours Program Award

October 2017

Erasmus University Rotterdam, School Social and Behavioural Sciences

Research Trainee Award

October 2016

Erasmus University Rotterdam, School Social and Behavioural Sciences

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND FUNDING

Medical Research Council, DTP Flexible Funding Award 5 600 £ - funding support for three-month clinical placement.	<i>September 2024</i>
CERES, Open Science Training 2 000 £ - funding support to deliver open science training to CERES (Connecting the EdTech Research EcoSystem) scholars.	<i>September 2023</i>
Jacobs Foundation 14 993 \$ - (Co-PI) research grant from CERES to study identity development in relation to digital technologies using qualitative methods.	<i>November 2022</i>
Jacobs Foundation 14 807 \$ - (Co-PI) research grant from CERES to study mobile touch interactions in adolescence using phone tracking.	<i>November 2022</i>
Enrichment Scheme, The Alan Turing Institute 1 500 £ - PhD enrichment scheme from the The Alan Turing Institute of data science and AI.	<i>October 2022</i>
CERES, Open Science Training 2 500 £ - funding support for delivering open science training to CERES scholars.	<i>September 2022</i>
Medical Research Council, University of Cambridge 900 £ - funding to attend the Leeds School of Causal Inference .	<i>February 2022</i>
Medical Research Council, University of Cambridge 105 432 £ - MRC-DTP PhD studentship.	<i>October 2021</i>
The Carpentries Instructor Training, University of Oxford 700 £ - funding to become a certified instructor of data, software, and library lessons for The Carpentries .	<i>April 2021</i>

TRAINING

Intensive Longitudinal Modeling - <i>Utrecht Summer School on modeling the dynamics of intensive longitudinal data</i> , one-week intensive course (2023)
Causal Inference - <i>Leeds School of Causal Inference</i> , one-week intensive course (2022)
Structural Equation Modeling - <i>SEM workshop by Ethan McCormick</i> , one-day course (2022)
Data Management Skills for Open Science - <i>Workshop by the UK Reproducibility network, selection on a competitive basis</i> , one-day course (2020)

SUPERVISIONS

Master Students

Marina Picó Cabiró (University of Amsterdam), 2021

Research Assistants

Valerie Yap (University of Cambridge), 2024-present

Amelia Leyland Graggs (University of Cambridge), 2022-2024

Kirsten Thomas (University of Cambridge), 2021-2022

Bachelor Students

Anna-Lena M. Jüde (Primary thesis supervisor, Erasmus University Rotterdam), 2021

Serge Wittoeck (Primary thesis supervisor, Erasmus University Rotterdam), 2021

Ayan Huseynova (Primary thesis supervisor, Erasmus University Rotterdam), 2021

UNIVERSITY LECTURING AND SMALL GROUP TEACHING

Lecturer - *Robust Behavioural Science* Postgraduate Course, University of Cambridge (November 2024)

Lecturer - *Robust Behavioural Science* Postgraduate Course, University of Cambridge (February 2023)

Lecturer - *Basic and Translational Neuroscience* MPhil Course, University of Cambridge (November 2022)

Course Organiser and Lecturer - *An introduction to Open Science* PhD Course, Erasmus Medical Center Rotterdam (May 2022)

Undergraduate supervisor - *Adolescence*, 2nd year BA, 4 weeks course, Bachelor in Psychology, University of Cambridge (2023)

Undergraduate supervisor - *Academic Writing Skills II*, 3rd year BA, 4 weeks course, International Bachelor in Psychology, Erasmus University Rotterdam (2021)

Undergraduate supervisor - *Neuropsychological Diagnostics II*, 3rd year BA, 4 weeks course, International Bachelor in Psychology, Erasmus University Rotterdam (2021)

Private tutoring - *MyTutor*, London, BA and high-school one-to-one and group online tutoring in Statistics, Biology and Psychology (2020-2022)

Outreach tutoring - *Research Practices*, Year-12 high school students, 4 weeks course, Aim for Oxford program, University of Oxford (2020)

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Chair of Open Science Committee at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2022-ongoing)

Member of Open Science Committee at the MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit (2021-ongoing)

Co-chair of the [RIOT](#) Rotterdam, Science Club for Reproducible, Interpretable, Open, Transparent Research (2022-2023)

Co-chair of [SfGH](#), the Mental Health Committee of Students for Global Health (2021-2022)

INVITED TALKS

The Better Phone Project, HMD, online; Outreach: *Panel discussion on the evidence base regarding social media use and mental health* (October 2024)

UVA lunch seminar, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands; Academic talk: *Youth mental health and social media use* (July 2024)

Donders Institute lunch seminar, Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands; Academic talk: *social media use and youth mental health: what have we missed?* (June 2024)

University of Bath, Bath, UK; Academic talk: *presentation on PhD research findings to the Child Mental Health and Development (CMHD) research groups* (April 2024)

University of Bergen, online; Academic talk: *disentangling the relationship between youth mental health and social media use* (November 2023)

SOS Dislessia, Bologna, Italy; Outreach: *Youth mental health and technology use: a researcher perspective* (November 2023)

Castle Conference, Durham, UK; Outreach: *Digital Safety for children and young people* (September 2023)

BCS Oxfordshire, online; Outreach: *Mental health and the effects of social media* (March 2023)

Conference of Digital Media and Human Wellbeing (DIGEING), Paris; Academic talk: *Digital embedding in relation to individuals' mental health, cognition and identity formation* (December 2022)

Learning Event of Children Adolescents Mental Health Services, online; Outreach: *Social media use and adolescents' mental health* (October 2022)

School event at St Helen and St Katharine School, Abingdon, UK; Outreach: *Social media use from a researcher perspective* (October 2022)

Workshop on Digital Media and Human Wellbeing (DIGEING), European Commission, Venice; Outreach: *Social media use and adolescents' mental health: Which individuals are we studying?* (July 2022)

Festival of Cambridge Well-being, online; Outreach: *Adolescents' mental health and technology use* (July 2022)

Pint of Science, London; Outreach: *Youth social media use and mental health: beyond good and bad* (July 2022)

KEY CONFERENCES

ECREA, Ljubana, Slovenia September 2024

Talk: *Social media use in adolescent clinical and non-clinical populations: A registered report*

ISSBD, Lisbon, Portugal June 2024

Poster: *Social media use and adolescent internalising symptoms: a systematic review and meta-analysis*

Social Media Meeting, North Carolina, USA November 2023

Poster: *Social media use and adolescent internalising symptoms: a systematic review and meta-analysis*

SIPS, Padova, Italy June 2023

Hackaton: *Improving causal literacy across the scientific pipeline.*

Life History Research Conference, Oxford, UK June 2022

Talk: *Sample diversity in research on social media use and youth mental health: a scoping review and meta-analysis.*

FENS 2020, virtual conference July 2020

Poster: *Subjective and objective non-invasive brain stimulation and its relation to cognition.*

Dutch Neuroscience Meeting 2019, Utrecht, Netherlands June 2019

Poster: *Behavioural effects of dentate gyrus chemogenetic activation.*

VOLUNTEERING

Summer CAMP, Cambridge August 2024

Student outreach: *Introduction on Open Science: what, when, why?*

Pint of Science, London June 2022

Public outreach: *Youth mental health and social media use: a researcher perspective*

Oxford Hub, Oxford 2019-2020

Public outreach: *high-school, weekly 2-hour voluntary tutoring in high-schools schools located in a disadvantaged neighbourhood*

UNICEF, Rotterdam 2017-2019

Student outreach: *weekly 3-hour volunteering at primary schools located in disadvantaged neighbourhoods*

CODING AND LANGUAGE

R, RStudio, MATLAB, SPSS, JASP, Fiji/Imagej. Softwares

Italian (mother tongue), English (fluent, C2), Latin and ancient Greek. Languages