

Maria Almudena Claassen

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Date of birth: 22 December 1989, Nationality: Dutch

Professional experience and education

06/04/2020 – current

Postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Glasgow, Scotland

ESRC research grant: *The psychology of sugary drinks: The role of consumption and reward simulations*

01/09/2014 – 20/06/2019

PhD in Social Psychology at l'Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Research grant from the Walloon Region

Title of thesis: *Relative socioeconomic status and decision-making: An application to eating behaviors*

01/07/2013 - 31/08/2013

Research Assistant at the Health and Eating Laboratory at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, USA

Tasks: data collection and data input

01/01/2013 – 31/06/2014

Research Assistant at the Self-Regulation Lab at Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands

Tasks: data collection, data input

01/09/2012 – 30/05/2014

Research Master Social and Health Psychology at Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands

Guest student Research Master Social and Organizational Psychology at Universiteit Leiden, The Netherlands

01/09/2008 – 31/08/2012

Bachelor Social Psychology and Bachelor Literary Studies at Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands

Erasmus exchange at l'Université Paris Diderot - Paris VII, France

01/09/2006 – 31/06/2008

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at the International School Hilversum 'Alberdingk Thijm', The Netherlands

Teaching and student supervision

01/09/2017 – 26/01/2018

Assistant Teacher "Methodological Practices" at l'Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

01/11/2013 – 01/01/2014

Assistant Teacher "Social Cognition" at Universiteit Utrecht, The Netherlands

Supervision of bachelor theses and master theses/research projects/internships

Supervision of graduate students: 6, thus far 2 have become PhD students

Publications and working papers

Chang, B.P.I., **Claassen, M.A.**, Cleeremans, A., & Klein, O. (2020). The time is ripe: Thinking about the future reduces unhealthy eating in those with a higher BMI. *Foods*, 9(10), 1391.

Claassen, M.A., Corneille, O., & Klein, O. (2019). Psychological Consequences of Inequality for Food Intake. In J. Jetten & K. Peters (Eds.), *The social psychology of inequality*. New York: Springer.

Claassen, M. A., Klein, O., Bratanova, B., Claes, N., & Corneille, O. (2018). A systematic review of psychosocial explanations for the relationship between socioeconomic status and body mass index. *Appetite*, 132, 208-221.

Bratanova, B., Loughnan, S., Klein, O., **Claassen, A.**, & Wood, R. (2016). Poverty, inequality, and increased consumption of high calorie food: Experimental evidence for a causal link. *Appetite*, 100, 162-171.

Claassen, M.A., Rusz, D., Papies, E.K. (under review). No evidence that consumption and reward simulation labels increase the attractiveness of water compared to conventional labels.

Papies, E.K., **Claassen, M.A.**, Rusz, D., & Best, M. (under review). Flavors of desire: Cognitive representations of appetitive stimuli and their motivational applications.

Claassen, M.A., Corneille, O., & Klein, O. (working paper). Higher relative income reduces delay discounting in lower-income individuals.

Presentations

2021

SPSP 2021, online. Poster presentations: “Flavors of desire: Cognitive representations of appetitive stimuli and their motivational applications.”

2019

JDMx2019 meeting, University of Trento, Trento, Italy. Oral presentation: “Higher subjective income reduces delay discounting in lower-income individuals.”

26th European Congress on Obesity, Glasgow, Scotland. Oral presentation: “A systematic review of social explanations for the relationship between socioeconomic status and body mass index.”

9th annual conference Association for Researchers in Psychology and Health (ARPH), Egmond aan Zee, The Netherlands. Oral presentation: “Foods are ascribed social status which influences food choices across social classes.”

2018

The 20th Social Cognition Network (ESCON), Conference, Cologne, Germany. Oral presentation: “SES and reward impulsivity: Social norms guide behaviors towards money and food.”

The 32nd European Health Psychology Conference (EHPS), Galway, Ireland. Poster presentation 1: “Social predictors of vegetable consumption and nudging for change.” Poster presentation 2: “Social position and health: Social norms guide impulsive behaviors towards money and food.”

8th annual conference Association for Researchers in Psychology and Health (ARPH), Tilburg, The Netherlands. Oral presentation: “SES & Obesity: Determinants of vegetable consumption in a representative Belgian sample.”

2017

European Association of Social Psychology (EASP), Granada, Spain. Presentation: “Perceived poverty increases reward impulsivity.” Organizer of symposium “The psychology of inequality: How inequality influences perceptions, motives, and behaviors.”

Belgian Association of Psychological Science (BAPS) meeting 2017, Brussels, Belgium. Poster presentation: “The influence of relative income on delay discounting of money and food.”

Sixth annual conference Association for Researchers in Psychology and Health (ARPH), Leiden, The Netherlands. Oral presentation: “Future me wants to be healthy: Thinking about the future reduces snack food intake.”

2016

9th European Public Health Conference (EPH), Vienna, Austria. Oral presentation: “Perceived control decreases reward impulsivity.”

Reward Symposium, Brussels, Belgium. Poster presentation: “Poverty & Obesity: Perceived poverty increases reward impulsivity.”

The 30th European Health Psychology Conference (EHPS), Aberdeen, Scotland. Oral presentation: “Poverty & obesity: how poverty and hunger influence food choices.”

Belgian Association of Psychological Science (BAPS) meeting 2016, Antwerp, Belgium. Oral presentation: “Poverty & obesity: How poverty and hunger influence food choices.”

The 3rd International Conference on Social Identity and Health (ICSIH-3), Brisbane, Australia. Oral presentation: “Social anxiety impacts caloric intake.”

5th annual conference Association for Researchers in Psychology and Health (ARPH), Maastricht, The Netherlands. Oral presentation: “Poverty and Obesity: a psychological approach to explaining the relationship between money scarcity and food consumption.”

2015

Belgian Association of Psychological Science (BAPS) meeting 2015, Brussels, Belgium. Oral presentation: “Assessing the impact of computer-mediated intergroup contact.”

4th annual conference Association for Researchers in Psychology and Health (ARPH), Gent, Belgium. Poster presentation: “The influence of supermarket status on food choices.”

2014

8^e congress de l’Association Francophone de Psychologie de la Sante (AFSPA), Liège, Belgium. Oral presentation: “Money & Food: The influence of economic precarity on eating behaviors.”

Workshops, courses, and trainings

2018

Winter School competing or cooperating: human interaction in times of social and economic instability (Università degli Studi di Padova, Padova, Italy)

Workshop on social inequalities, group membership, and health (Jolanda Jetten, The University of Queensland, Australia), Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

Workshop on the psychology of social inequalities (Jean-Claude Croizet, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium)

2017

Winter School on the implications of socioeconomic inequality for psychological well-being (University of Padova, Italy)

Course on qualitative methods and mixed methods applied to health psychology interventions (Nollaig Frost & Olivier Luminet, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium)

2016

Workshop on mixed models (Charles M. Judd, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium)

Workshop Graphics in *R* (Kurt Barbe, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium)

2015

Summer School on food marketing, consumer behavior and quantitative methods of market research (Technical Educational Institute of Thessaly, Greece)

PoRESP Summer School on anti-poverty policies and individual responses (UCL Fondation Universitaire, Belgium)

Course on academic writing (Lucy Gillian, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium)

Professional memberships

Association for Researchers in Psychology and Health (ARPH), Junior Membership

Belgian Association for Psychological Science (BAPS), Full Member

European Association for Psychological Science (EASP), Postgraduate Member

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Full member

Skills and hobbies

Research skills

- Generating research questions and hypotheses
- Designing behavioral experiments (online, lab, field)
- Data collection (with Prolific, *Qualtrics* Survey Software, *E-Prime* Psychology Software Tool)
- Data analysis (with *R* Software for Statistical Computing, *SPSS* Statistics Analysis Software, NVivo, OpenSesame)
- Data interpretation and writing of scientific reports and publications

Languages

- Bilingual Dutch/Spanish
- English – proficient
- French – advanced (C1)
- Italian – intermediate (B1)

Hobbies

- Rock climbing
- Creative writing
- Travelling (September 2019 – March 2020: traveling through South America)