Jiaying (Mai) Xu

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Education

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA   **June 2023 – May 2025**
Master of Arts in Experimental Psychology
GPA: 3.8/4.0, Cum Laude
Thesis: *Alcohol as a Predictor of Sexual Aggression Recidivism*

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA   **August 2020 – May 2023**
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Psychology (Double Major)
GPA: 3.7/4.0, Dean's List, Cum Laude

Manuscripts in Preparation

Xu, J., & Xu, H. Modifiable lifestyle and psychosocial factors that buffer the long-term impact of adverse
    childhood experiences on adult cognitive ability: Evidence from the UK Biobank.
    *in preparation indicates that analyses are completed and manuscript is in final steps

Xu, J., Zhao, C., Qin, H.,& Xu, H. (Under Review). Comparing DSM-5 and ICD-11 PTSD Diagnoses and Complex
    PTSD in Adolescents: Associations with Adverse Childhood Experiences. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*

Qin, H., **Xu, J.**, Wang, J., Wang, W., & Xu, H. (2025). Brain structural underpinnings of the differential effects of
    threat and deprivation on executive function: A UK Biobank study. published online ahead of print.

Posters

Xu, J., & Knight, R.A. (September 2025). *Alcohol as a Predictor of Sexual Aggression Recidivism*. Poster presented at
    the *Association for the Treatment & Prevention of Sexual Abuse (ATSA) Annual Research & Treatment
    Conference*; Orlando, Florida.

Research Experience

Research Fellow & Lab Manager—Developmental and Psychopathology Studies   **Jun 2025 – Present**
State Key Laboratory of Cognitive Science & Mental Health, Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of
Sciences
(PI: Hang Xu, Ph.D.; PI: Weiwen Wang, Ph.D.)

*Lead and contribute to multi-method projects on childhood adversity, resilience, and intervention mechanisms, spanning
large-scale datasets, clinical adolescent samples, and juvenile intervention trials.*

- **UK Biobank causal inference (first author; in preparation).** Designed and implemented a causal-forest (`grf`)
  workflow (orthogonalization, cross-fitting) to estimate Conditional Average Treatment Effects (CATEs) of ACEs
  on adult executive function. Built reproducible R pipelines to integrate modifiable lifestyle/psychosocial traits,
  cognitive outcomes, and inflammatory biomarkers; conducted regression analyses linking ACE and cognitive
  function to C-Reactive protein. *Also contributing to Qin et al., 2025 (submitted) on threat vs. deprivation*

- **Brain structural underpinnings of threat vs. deprivation (second author; published online ahead of print).**
  Co-led analyses in a UK Biobank study examining differential effects of deprivation and threat on multiple
  executive function domains, with mediation by hippocampal, striatal, and thalamic subregion volumes.
  Demonstrated broad EF impairments linked to deprivation versus selective, partly adaptive effects of threat.

- **Complex PTSD vs. PTSD in Chinese adolescents (first author; Under Review).** Cleaned, analyzed, and
  synthesized survey and clinical data across DSM-5 and ICD-11 criteria; examined detection rates, symptom
  heterogeneity, and ACE-related risk pathways in a large adolescent clinical cohort.

- **Juvenile intervention study (Zhangjiakou City; funding approved).** Co-developing trauma-informed
  intervention protocols; responsible for EEG/MRI data collection and analysis of neurocognitive mechanisms of

intervention response; preparing manuscripts on baseline trauma, cognition, and neurobiological predictors.

- **Trauma-Informed Organizational Assessment (TIOA).** Assisted in Chinese translation, cultural adaptation, and national rollout of TIOA; co-led training workshops for clinicians; created facilitator guides, fidelity metrics, and implementation checklists to enhance trauma-informed practice uptake.
- **Teaching & survey project.** Assisted with Health Psychology (UCAS course 180207040200MX004Y) and concurrently developed a separate survey study on healthy college students; collected, coded, and analyzed data to support classroom-based research training led by Dr. Wang.
- **Lab management.** Coordinate day-to-day operations, including training/supervision of junior RAs, IRB compliance, database management, manuscript drafting, and lab-wide research meetings.

Research Assistant — Emotion Regulation Meta-Analysis   Feb 2025 – Present
Harvard University/Yale University (PI: Mark Shuquan Chen, Ph.D.)

Cross-cultural update of a prior Nature Human Behavior meta-analysis on emotion regulation and mental health.

- Screened >5,000 records against inclusion/exclusion criteria.
- Coded strategy type, demographics, and cultural indices with interrater checks.
- Extracted outcome metrics for effect-size computation and moderator modeling.
- Coordinated coder meetings; logged decisions to ensure reproducibility.
- Summarized emerging moderator patterns for interpretation memos.

Research Fellow — SMILE & Big4 META Projects   Oct 2024 – Present
Lab for Youth Mental Health, Harvard University (PI: John Weisz, Ph.D.)

Meta-analyses of school-based interventions (SMILE) and psychotherapy homework effects (Big4).

- Screened >3,000 studies; documented PRISMA flow diagrams.
- Extracted intervention, outcome, and moderator data into REDCap.
- Calibrated interrater reliability; refined coding manual for clarity.
- Verified effect-size calculations and contributed to moderator models in R.
- Drafted methods and integrated literature for manuscripts.

Graduate Researcher — Master's Thesis (Alcohol & Recidivism)   Jun 2023 – May 2025
Knight Lab, Brandeis University (PI: Raymond A. Knight, Ph.D.)

Archival dataset (Massachusetts Treatment Center + NIJ) testing alcohol use as predictor of recidivism 1–15 years post-release.

- Obtained IRB approval; developed hypotheses and measurement plan.
- Extracted archival files with MTC Dictionary; built longitudinal datasets.
- Derived 28-item alcohol scales via exploratory factor analysis.
- Fit logistic and Cox regression models for differentiated recidivism.
- Disseminated results (ATSA, MASOC, MATSA) and drafted manuscript.

Undergraduate Research Assistant — Psychopathy & Sexual Aggression   Jun 2022 – May 2023
Knight Lab, Brandeis University (PI: Raymond A. Knight, Ph.D.; Supervisor: Sonja Krstic, Ph.D.)

Literature synthesis on developmental antecedents and personality correlates of sexual aggression.

- Conducted targeted searches of longitudinal studies.
- Summarized theoretical updates for lab conceptual models.
- Produced evidence briefs integrating findings into projects.

Undergraduate Summer Research Assistant — Socioeconomic & Wellbeing Studies   May 2021 – Sep 2021
Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (PI: Xuefeng Chen, Ph.D.)

Projects on poverty, parenting behavior, and income–happiness relationships.

- Consolidated literature on poverty and parental behavior constructs.
- Cleaned and analyzed survey datasets (SPSS / Excel).
- Prepared internal summaries to support manuscripts.

Industrial Experience

Psychology Student Intern — Digital Platform Initiative   **Aug 2023 – Jun 2024**
Boston Children's Hospital, Pediatric Physicians' Organization at Children's (PPOC)
(Supervisors: Maria Jesus Arrojo, LMFT/LMHC; Jonas Bromberg, Psy.D.)

Research for an internal platform enhancing outpatient pediatric behavioral health integration.

- Evaluated >80 digital youth mental health tools; identified functional gaps.
- Designed and deployed clinician surveys (SurveyMonkey / Qualtrics).
- Analyzed survey data to generate integration recommendations.
- Presented feature priorities informing platform scope and IT roadmap.

Extracurricular Activities

Student Club Co-Founder   **Dec 2022 – Jan 2024**
Muhe Mood Psychology, Brandeis Chapter

- Founded and managed a 114-member organization promoting mental health awareness among international students.
- Coordinated campus events, partnered with school counselors, and expanded resource access.
- Directed outreach via 100+ social media posts and initiatives, including an anonymous letter exchange campaign.

Teaching Experience

Graduate Course Assistant, Developmental Psychology, Brandeis University   **Fall 2024**
Principal Instructor: Hannah Snyder

Graduate Course Assistant, Statistics, Brandeis University   **Fall 2024**
Principal Instructor: Paul Dizio

Graduate Course Assistant, Intro to Psychology, Brandeis University   **Spring 2025**
Principal Instructor: Ryan Lundell-Creagh

Graduate Course Assistant, Statistics in R, Brandeis University   **Spring 2025**
Principal Instructor: Ryan Lundell-Creagh

Honors and Awards

Merit Scholarship, Brandeis University   **2023 - 24**
GSAS Grant, Brandeis University   **2023 -24**
Cum Laude, Brandeis University   **2023**
Dean's List, Brandeis University   **2021 - 23**

Skills & Test Scores

Programming Skills: R Studio(ANOVAregression, machine learning, causal forest, Bayesian), SPSS, JASP, LaTeX, Python, Colab, Github, Matlab
Additional Skills: Qualtrics, Covidence, Stata, Umbrella, Survey Monkey, REDCap, Zotero
Languages: Mandarin (native), English (bilingual), Spanish (intermediate), Japanese (intermediate)
GRE: 166 Verbal, 165 Quantitative (June, 2021)
TOEFL: 114 (June, 2016)