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# Jonathan Zhang

Boston, MA, USA • (267) 265-9064 • [itsjon@bu.edu](mailto:itsjon@bu.edu) • LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/itsjon>

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Cross-cultural researcher with extensive experience in psychological & anthropological research methodologies. Managed and led multiple projects—having built a strong background in data coding, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and statistical software tools. Research background supported by multiple internships, competitive grants, and a strong record of peer-reviewed publications, presentations, and submitted talks to prestigious conferences and journals. Committed to advancing knowledge through academic rigor and curiosity.

## EDUCATION

**Columbia University, New York, NY**

Enrolling Fall 2026

M.A. in Psychology in Education

**Boston University, Boston MA**

September 2021 - May 2025

B.A. (w/ **Honors in the Major**) in Psychology and Anthropology, Specialization in Sociocultural Anthropology

- University Scholarship: Full ride (Tuition, Housing, external fees)
- Dean's List: Fall 2024 & Spring 2025
- **Thesis Title:** PTSD & Post-Combat Purification Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits

**Relevant Coursework:** Cross-Cultural, Clinical, Developmental, Emotions, Experimental, Ethnography, Linguistics, Personality, Project Design, Psychopathology, Qualitative, Quantitative, R Studio

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research Intern** - Human Relations Area Files (HRAF), Yale University

**September 2025 - August 2026**

- 1 year paid Internship, starting September 2025, under supervision of Dr. Carol Ember

**Data Analyst** - Center for Autism Research & Excellence (CARE) Lab

**March 2025 - May 2025**

Under supervision of Sabina Laurino and Dr. Helen Tager-Flusberg

- Recruited by former lab manager to assist in finalizing data coding & analysis for a longitudinal research project.
- Coded over 14 videos during the job period, holding a reliable rate of 97.7% across all coded videos.
- Assisted in data analysis, using R to conduct t-test and Cohen's Kappa to compare differences in each children's intervention sessions as well as data coders' reliability.
- Credited for my high reliability rates by my supervisors at a conference presentation in May.

**Honors Thesis** - Boston University's Anthropology Department

**September 2024 - May 2025**

Advised by Dr. Luke Glowacki

- Expanded my cross-cultural database using published ethnographic materials on war rituals and PTSD, encoding them into the database for future data analysis.
- Built a Generalized Linear Mixed Model using a Bayesian framework, to assess potential differences in the coded data across cultures and regions, with results yielding multiple significance across ritual variables.
- Conducted a tetrachoric correlation test to estimate correlation between continuous variables for my initial analysis.
- Presented at numerous conferences, receiving feedback from established scholars, informing my research.

- Received travel awards to help subsidize travel costs for conference and symposium presentations.
- Completed my thesis in full standing, having produced a 76 page manuscript, and successfully defended it.
- Future Activities: Publication to peer-reviewed journals.

#### **Graduate Intern** - Boston University's School of Social Work

**July 2024 - May 2025**

- Conducted literature reviews on mass incarceration in connection with Christian influence on punitive punishment and post-incarceration security.
- Helped prepare a symposium at the School of Social Work, inviting scholars in our field of interest to attend and present their works on mass incarceration.
- Contributed to weekly discussions on project progression and next steps, resulting in our successful symposium.

#### **Undergraduate Researcher** - Human Systems and Behavior Lab

**September 2023 - August 2024**

Advised by Dr. Luke Glowacki

- Conducted a 2 year-long, independent research project, looking into post-combat rituals for potential therapeutic benefits in PTSD treatment.
- Submitted applications for the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), receiving over \$10,000 in fundings, used to support the research project.
- Reviewed literature on PTSD, postcombat rituals, cultural rewards, and cross-cultural assessments, used in supporting our expected findings in the project.
- Developed coding protocols, to identify indicators of post-combat rituals behaviors across ethnographic texts, in order to construct a comprehensive research database.
- Conducted extensive ethnographic review of over 1000+ texts, through a worldwide ethnographic database, and encoding them into a comprehensive database to be used for data analysis.
- Conducted a pilot study, looking at different types of post-combat rituals across pre-industrial societies, with preliminary findings showing recurring elements present in each ritual examined.
- Presented and published my current research findings at research conferences and symposiums in the Fall.

#### **Research Intern** - Center for Autism Research & Excellence (CARE) Lab

**May 2023 - August 2023**

Under supervision of Sabina Laurino and Dr. Helen Tager-Flusberg

**March 2025 - May 2025**

- Assisted in administering JASPER intervention sessions to minimal verbal/ASD diagnosed children for the SPROUT research project.
- Recorded and transcribed 25+ video sessions using ELAN and SALT software, encoding transcriptions into a research database.
- Gave weekly reports on assignments at weekly lab meetings, contributing to discussions on the project's progress.
- Coordinated recruitment efforts with fellow interns, sending over 3,000+ emails to potential participants to schools, daycares, ABA centers, and speech pathologists in the Boston area.

#### **Project Coordinator** - *Psycholinguistic Lab*

**January 2023 - May 2025**

Under supervision of Dr. Catherine Caldwell-Harris

- Led a student-run research lab, examining the role of the Foreign Language Effect through storytelling and how it influences emotion regulation, expression, and social interaction across bilingual individuals.
- Managed a team of student researchers, ranging from undergraduate to graduate students, training them to run experiment sessions, contributing to the overall progression of the project.
- Obtained IRB approval for human subject research for our lab's project.
- Designed an experiment session protocol to ensure standardized procedures are being performed consistently.

- Recruited Mandarin and English speakers through a series of advertisements and reaching out through social media, emails, and classroom visits.
- Coordinated with project coordinators in scheduling weekly meetings, maintaining communication with all lab members and PI, in order to determine next steps in the project.
- Managed and organized all files related to the project from datasets, procedure guides, and IRB documentations.
- Conducted initial data analysis, examining levels of emotional response between native Mandarin speakers and English speakers across an everyday emotional scale.
- Built a word cloud to analyze significant themes and trends across participants' stories.
- Conducted a sentiment analysis on emotional stories, yielding quantitative results that were able to be modeled.
- Presented lab's finding at accepted conferences and symposiums throughout the school year.

**Research Assistant** - *Boston University's Anthropology Department*

**September 2022 - January 2023**

Under supervision of Dr. Luke Glowacki

- Constructed a research database of how different societies make peace by evaluating, extracting, and compiling metadata from over thousands of online documents through eHRAF, to help with data analysis later on.
- Helping with other project aspects such as giving weekly reports on the data construction and analysis of the data.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Teaching Assistant** - PS251: Personality Psychology

**January 2024 - May 2024**

Taught by Dr. David Shim

- Assisted the instructor and graduates teach fellows with preparation of course materials and discussion questions, leading to more interactive and engaging class sessions.
- Held weekly office hours, providing personalized guidance to over 100 students, resulting in improvement of average exam grades throughout the semester.
- Developed and led review sessions, assisting students with lecture material and exam preparation, significantly enhancing students' understanding of personality theories.
- Helped facilitate discussion sessions with graduate teaching fellows, encouraging student engagement through small-group activities.

**Student Mentor** - Boston Partners in Education

**January 2022 - May 2022**

- Partnered with the Boston Partners in Education to assist local schools around with facilitating classroom activities and contributing to the student's overall success.
- Provided academic and emotional support to students with disabilities and other special needs.
- Assisted students in their coursework, ensuring academic and personal needs were met within the school setting.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Captain** - Boston University's Kendo Association (BUKA)

**September 2024 - May 2025**

- Instructed incoming beginners in fundamental kendo techniques, etiquette, and philosophy to build a strong foundation of the martial arts, resulting in a 90% pass rate among our beginners for their examination.
- Led team practices, ensuring members developed and maintained basic skills and technical achievements.
- Provided mentorship and guidance to junior members, creating a supportive and disciplined training environment.
- Assisted in organizing team logistics, including practice schedules, tournament travel, and equipment management.
- Represented club at intercollegiate tournaments, placing among the top in both individual and team competitions.

**Brotherhood Chair/Social Media Chair** - Kappa Kappa Psi, Theta Beta Chapter

**May 2024 - May 2025**

- Promoted a core pillar of my fraternity, Brotherhood, maintaining strong bonds among fraternity band members.
- Co-chaired a committee to uphold the chapter's ideals of our fraternity's pillar to over 26 chapter members.

- Hosted and led a series of professional development workshops for my chapter to engage in our Brotherhood Pillar, as part of our organization's annual Month of Brotherhood in April 2025.
- Managed social media across all platforms, and helped facilitate communications across local chapters and officers.
- Led the submission of the fraternity's annual awards applications and Crown Pearl Goals, in collaboration with the chapter's e-board and committee, resulting in our chapter winning prestigious achievement awards.

## SERVICE PROJECTS

### Brotherhood Talk Panel - Kappa Kappa Psi, Theta Beta Chapter

April 2024

- Led a talk panel with representatives of KKPsi's chapter members around the Northeast District, to talk about our experiences with engaging in the Brotherhood Pillar.
- Connected and worked with various members from different chapters to create a space to engage in discussion, resulting in over 25+ members in attendance of our panel.

### Professional Development Workshops - Kappa Kappa Psi, Theta Beta Chapter

April 2024

- Led a series of workshops throughout the month of April, to celebrate fraternity's Month of Brotherhood.
- Contacted and collaborated with major organization figures, including the BU Band Directors and KKPsi's National President, to lead the workshops, to create a fruitful experience for our member's professional development.
- Successfully engaged chapter members in the pillar of Brotherhood, with a 80% attendance rate overall.

### Resume Workshop - Kappa Kappa Psi, Theta Beta Chapter

November 2024

- Collaborated with alumni of the fraternity's chapter to host a workshop for developing/updating a resume & CV, helping members prepare applications for jobs, schools, and internships.
- Utilized a team of committee members to help in the planning process through delegating, consulting, and frequent communication, ensuring all necessary preparations are completed for the event.

### Musicianship Workshop - Kappa Kappa Psi, Theta Beta Chapter

August 2024

- Led a music development workshop, for improving musical skills to fraternity members, through group-based activities and open feedback.
- Collaborated with our band's graduate assistant in designing the workshop activities that fit within the values of our chapter's Musicianship pillars.
- Utilized a team of committee members to help in the planning through delegating and frequent communication.

## AWARDS/GRANTS

- Student Academic Enhancement Fund (2024): **\$239** awarded for subsidizing conference and travel cost
- Honors Research Travel Award (2024): **\$363** awarded for subsidizing conference and travel cost
- Newbury Center Summer Research Award (2024): **\$1,500** from Boston University Newbury Center, supporting first-generation student researchers.
- UROP Housing Research Award (2024): **\$1,300** grant for Summer Housing Supplement
- UROP Summer Research Award (2024): **\$4,500** grant for PTSD and post-combat rituals research
- Creating Anthropologies Conference Travel Award (2024): **\$400** awarded for subsidizing conference and travel cost to the University of California: Santa Cruz
- UROP Spring Research Award (2024): **\$3,000** grant for PTSD and post-combat rituals research

## PUBLICATIONS

- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (October 2024). "PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits". *27th Undergraduate Research Opportunities (UROP) Symposium Journal*

- **Zhang J.\***, Hagen, V.\*, & Caldwell-Harris, C. (In prep). "Language, Culture, and Emotion: A Psycholinguistic Study on Mandarin and English Speakers".

## SUBMITTED TALKS/SYMPOSIUMS

- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (May 2025). "*PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits*". Submitted Talk accepted at the American Psychological Science Convention
- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (January 2025). "*PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits*". Plenary Speaker at Harvard University's National Collegiate Research Conference
- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (May 2024). "The Correlation between PTSD & Post-Combat Purification Rituals". *Symposium Presentation given at the University of California, Santa Cruz: Creating Anthropologies Graduate Conference in Santa Cruz, CA*

## POSTER/PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (May 2025). "*PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits*". Poster Presentation accepted at the American Psychological Science Convention
- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (November 2024). "*PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits*". *Poster Presentation for National First-Gen College Celebration Day Symposium.*
- **Zhang J.\***, Hagen, V.\*, & Caldwell-Harris, C. (October 2024). "Language, Culture, and Emotion: A Psycholinguistic Study on Mandarin and English Speakers". *Virtual Presentation at the 2024 APS Global Psychological Science Summit*
- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (October 2024). "PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits". *Poster Presentation at the 2024 Northeastern Psychological Association Conference in Springfield, MA*
- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (October 2024). "PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits". Virtual Presentation at the 2024 APS Global Psychological Science Summit
- **Zhang J.\***, Hagen, V.\*, & Caldwell-Harris, C. (October 2024). "Language, Culture, and Emotion: A Psycholinguistic Study on Mandarin and English Speakers". *Poster Presentation at the 2024 Northeast Eastern Psychological Association Conference in Springfield, MA*
- **Zhang J.\*** & Glowacki L. (October 2024). "PTSD and Postcombat Rituals: An Analysis into Potential Therapeutic Benefits". *Poster Presentation at the 27th Undergraduate Research Opportunities Symposium in Boston, MA*
- Luo D.D.\*, Hagen, V.\*, **Zhang J.\*** & Caldwell-Harris, C. (March 2024). "Mandarin and English Speakers' Emotional Response When Telling Stories in Native/Foreign Language". *Poster Presentation at the 95th Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference in Philadelphia, PA*
- Bahar, M., Lyu, M., Shaposhnick, A., Trabazo, C., Yang, R., Yaghmai, I., & **Zhang, J.** (November 2023). The Impact of Impulsivity and Personality Traits on Spending Habits Among College Students. Research [paper](#) presented in-class for Experimental Psychology course.

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Kappa Kappa Psi: National Band Honorary Fraternity (Brotherhood and Social Media Chair)
- Boston University Kendo Association (Assistant Captain)
- Boston University Bands (Alto Saxophone and Trumpet)
  - Athletic Band: 1st Alto Sax
  - Marching Band: 1st Alto Sax and 2nd Trumpet
  - Jazz Band: 2nd Alto Sax

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- BU Climbing Club (Communication Chair)
  - Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)
  - Undergraduate Psychology Association

## SKILLS

- **Statistical Softwares:** R Studio, SPSS, Microsoft Excel
- **Transcription Softwares:** ELAN & SALT
- **Design/Editing Softwares:** Qualtrics, Google Form, Canvas, Final Cut Pro
- **Languages:** Chinese (Mandarin & Other), Spanish (Elementary), American Sign Language (Elementary)