

Ali Hajian

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Education

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Ph.D., Social Psychology	Expected May 2029
University of Massachusetts Amherst, M.A., Social Psychology	Expected Summer 2026
University of Tehran, B.A., Psychology	January 2024

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Papers

Ruggeri, K., Stock, F., ... **Hajian, A.**, ... Willder, R. A synthesis of evidence for policy from behavioural science during COVID-19. *Nature* **625**, 134–147 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06840-9>

Ruggeri, K., Panin, A., ... **Hajian, A.**, ... Vdovic, M. The globalizability of temporal discounting. *Nat Hum Behav* **6**, 1386–1397 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-022-01392-w>

Manuscripts In Preparation

Zewail, A., Setia, A., Mohammadsadegh, R., Seker, F., **Hajian, A.**, Sosa, H., Morhayim, L., Reddy, S., & Atari, M. (*In Preparation; target: Nature Scientific Data*). The Cultural and Moral Expressions in Language (CAMEL) corpus.

Hajian, A., Liu, G., Seker, F., Zewail, A., Mohammadsadegh, R., Graham, J., Haidt, J., Atari, M. (*In Preparation; target: Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*). Developing the Short Version of Moral Foundations Questionnaire-2 (MFQ-2-S)

Research Experience

Culture and Morality Lab (CaM-L) Graduate Research Assistant	Amherst, MA September 2024 – Present
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- Conducted an empirical study to develop a short version of Moral Foundations Questionnaire-2, validating it across 10 populations
- Mentored 4 Undergraduate RAs for the Culture and Moral Expressions in Language Annotation Project

Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science Summer Research Intern, University of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, PA June 2025 - July 2025
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- Attend lectures and workshops on computational methods, including natural language processing (NLP), machine learning, and network analysis
- Collaborate on a group research project using computational methods

Social, Moral, and Political Psychology Lab SPUR Research Intern, University of Toronto	Toronto, Canada (Remote) June 2023 – December 2023
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- Collaborated on a project exploring how different risk attitudes are related to low-level bodily experience and high-level social beliefs (e.g., ideology)
- Presented preliminary results in Social-Personality Undergraduate Research Program (SPUR) conference at the end of the program

Junior Researcher Program; jSchool Research Intern	Remote July 2021 – April 2024
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- Attended workshops and professional development sessions as part of jSchool (lasting three weeks)
- Collaborated on an international project on perceived polarization in behavioral policy interventions (nudges)

Teaching Experience

University of Massachusetts Amherst Teaching Assistant, Methods of Inquiry in Psychology	Amherst, MA Fall 2024
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- Instructed and assessed 42 undergraduate students on formulating research questions and hypotheses, conducting statistical analyses, and mastering scientific writing techniques
- Graded weekly assignments and final projects, and provided consistent feedback throughout the semester

Teaching Assistant, Forensic Psychology

Spring 2025

- Oversaw lectures, held review sessions, proctored exams, and graded weekly assignments

Conference Presentations

Hajian, A., Atari, M. (2025, February). The Moderating Effect of Gender on the Relationship Between Moral Foundations and Political Opinion in the U.S.. SPSP Annual Convention, Denver, CO. [Poster Presentation].

Service

Brownbag/SPAM Committee, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Amherst, MA

Co-Organizer

Upcoming

- Find potential speakers for 2025-2026 Brownbag which align with department and student needs and priorities, organize calendar visiting speakers and schedule their travel and visitation itinerary

Student Scientific Association of Psychology, University of Tehran

Tehran, Iran

Director

Fall 2020 - Fall 2022

- Oversaw and organized student orientations, scientific methods workshops, and social psychology journal clubs, in addition to inviting speakers to Association-held seminars

Honors & Awards

Edna M. Dahlquist Scholarship

Fall 2024

Recipient

Work Experience

VisaMondial

Tehran, Iran

Immigrant Counselor

March 2024 - August 2024

- Mental health and general counseling services for Iranian clients immigrating to Canada, in addition to content production (e.g., manuals and working papers, blogposts, podcast scripts)

Professional Affiliations

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

2024 - Present