

CAREER PROFILE

- Psychology researcher with over 6 years experience, specialising in behavioural economics, cognitive science, and climate change psychology.
- Collaborated with multiple research teams, in academic and non-academic research contexts.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills developed through award-winning presentations, peer-reviewed journal publications, and media interviews.

EDUCATION

PhD in Cognitive Psychology

University of New South Wales

Sydney, NSW

2017–Current

- **Research Question:** “How does dependency within a sample of evidence influence reasoning?”
- **Supervisors:** Brett K. Hayes, Danielle J. Navarro, Chris Donkin

Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours)

University of Western Australia

Perth, WA

2012–2016

- **GPA:** 6.7/7
- **Double Majors:** Psychological Science and Psychology in Society
- **Honours Thesis:** “Help me understand climate change: Group discussions improve success rates on the Carbon Dioxide Accumulation Task”
- **Honours Supervisors:** Mark J. Hurlstone, Iain Walker
- **Exchange:** University of Washington, Seattle, USA (2013-14; GPA: 3.9/4)

OTHER EDUCATION & TRAINING

Climate Communication & Advocacy

Climate Reality Leader Training

The Climate Reality Project

2020

- Trained by Al Gore to become 1 of many global advocates for climate change solutions

Science Communication & Leadership

UNSW Women in Maths and Science Champions

UNSW

2020

- Applied training in SciComm, social media, and leadership skills by engaging in media interviews, community talks, and educational sessions with schoolchildren about psychology

Git & GitHub

‘GitHub Ultimate: Master Git and GitHub - Beginner to Expert’

Udemy (Online)

2020

- Developed expertise in Git, GitHub, and other file management, version control, and collaboration functions

Communication & Presentation Skills

‘Influential Women’ 2-day course

National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA)

2020

- Gained physical and vocal communication skills, and learned to self-critique my presentations to improve my presence and impact

Computational Modeling

Dijon, France

4th European Summer School on Computational and Mathematical Modeling of Cognition

2018

- One of 33 participants from 100 international applicants
- Gained proficiency in computational modeling using R and JAGS

Bayesian Modeling

Amsterdam, the Netherlands

8th Annual JAGS and WinBUGS Workshop: Bayesian Modeling for Cognitive Science

2018

- Increased competency in Bayesian modeling and JAGS

Bayesian Statistics

Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Theory and Practice of Bayesian Hypothesis Testing: A JASP Workshop

2018

- Improved proficiency in using various Bayesian statistical tests

Climate Change Denialism

UQx (University of Queensland)

Making Sense of Climate Science Denial

2016

- Learned about the systemic and psychological causes of climate denialism

Scientific Writing

Stanford Online

Writing in the Sciences

2016

- Learned to make my writing more concise and comprehensible

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- Scientia PhD Scholarship (UNSW) 2017–2021
 - 1 of 50 recipients university-wide from 2400 invited Expressions of Interest
 - Annual stipend of \$40,000 and annual \$10,000 career development package
- Healthy Labs Scholarship (UNSW Graduate School) 2019
 - \$2,500 grant to design an online module to improve mental health in PhD candidates
- Best Student Presentation (Australasian Society for Experimental Psychology) 2018
 - \$200 cash prize

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Xie, B.**, Hayes, B. K., & Navarro, D. (2020). Adding types, but not tokens, affects property induction. *Cognitive Science*, 44, e12895. doi: 10.1111/cogs.12895
2. **Xie, B.**, Brewer, M. B., Hayes, B. K., McDonald, R. I., & Newell, B. R. (2019). Predicting climate change risk perception and willingness to act. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 65, 101331. doi: 10.1016/j.jenvp.2019.101331
3. **Xie, B.**, Hurlstone, M. J., & Walker, I. (2018). Correct Me If I'm Wrong: Groups outperform individuals in the Climate Stabilization Task. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9(2274). doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2018.02274
4. **Xie, B.**, Hayes, B. K., & Navarro, D. (2018). Adding types, but not tokens, affects the breadth of property induction. In T. T. Rogers, M. Rau, X. Zhu, C. W. Kalish (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. **Xie, B.** (2020). *The socio-psychological predictors of Australians' willingness to mitigate climate change*. Just Transitions Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Conference, Sydney, Australia.
2. **Xie, B.** (2020). *Bayes for New and Old: Modeling type and token effects in induction*. Australian Mathematical Psychology Conference, Coogee, Australia.
3. **Xie, B.** (2019). *Independent testimonies are no better than sequential testimonies in judgments under uncertainty*. 60th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montreal, Canada.
4. **Xie, B.** (2019). *Sequential testimony is as good as independent testimony in judgments under uncertainty*. Australian Mathematical Psychology Conference, Melbourne, Australia.
5. **Xie, B.** (2018). *Adding types, but not tokens, affects the breadth of property induction*. 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, USA.
6. **Xie, B.** (2018). *Adding types, but not tokens, affects the breadth of property induction*. 45th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for Experimental Psychology, Hobart, Australia.
7. **Xie, B.** (2016). *Help me understand climate change*. University of Western Australia School of Psychology Honours Conference, Perth, Australia.
8. **Xie, B.** (2014). *Cultural clash at the university: When family and college collide*. University of Washington Undergraduate Research Symposium, Seattle, USA.

MEDIA

1. Filatoff, N. (2020, February 10). The psychology of climate-change denial – we're all on the spectrum. Retrieved from [pv magazine](#).
2. Tang, C. (2020, February 7) Climate change denialism is something we all suffer from. Retrieved from [UNSW Newsroom](#).
3. Yun, J. (2020, January 24). This is the country that doubts climate science the most. Retrieved from [Yahoo Finance](#).
4. Williams, L. (2020, January 17). The Impact Of Climate Denialism Can't Be Ignored. Retrieved from [Gizmodo](#).
5. Interviewed by Manuela Tugliani, 16-years-old, in her winning submission to the journalism contest run by Giornalisti nell'Erba. Tugliani, M. (2020) Quando il consenso unanime degli scienziati non basta. Retrieved from [Giornalisti nell'Erba](#).
6. **Xie, B.** & Newell, B. (2019, September 18). Why attending a climate strike can change minds (most importantly your own). *The Conversation*. Retrieved from [The Conversation](#).

NON-ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

1. **Panel Member** on “*Women Leading Climate Action: Fighting Fake News*” (2020), organised by ActionAid and Women's Agenda. Moderated by Angela Priestley (Women's Agenda), with Denise Shrivell (MediaScope) and Sharon Bhagwan Rolls (Shifting the Power Coalition). Details [here](#).
2. **Guest Speaker** at Climate Solutions NSW Meeting (2020). See talk - *The Psychology of Climate Change Beliefs and Behaviour* - on YouTube [here](#).
3. **Moderator** at “*Green Jobs Now! What are they and where are they?*” webinar (2020), by UNSW ENvironment Collective, UNSW Climate Change Network and UNSW Sustainability. Details [here](#) and watch [here](#).
4. **Guest Speaker** at “*Lunchtime Webinar: Inspiring Community Actions on Climate Change*” (2020), by Waverley Council, NSW. Details [here](#).

5. **Panel Member** on “*Climate Change: Planting the Seeds of Hope*” (2019), at the Footprints EcoFestival, by Inner West Council, NSW. Moderated by Costa Georgiadis (Gardening Australia), with Tom Hume (Pingala) and Emma Bowen (Pocket City Farms). Details [here](#).
6. **Guest Scientist (Psychology)** on Arludo YouTube Live shows (2019). Watch one [here](#).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

PhD Researcher - How do repetitions affect reasoning? Sydney, NSW
UNSW School of Psychology 2017 - Current

- Reviewed literature about how repetitions harm people’s decision-making, which is increasingly problematic given echo chambers, re-sharing on social media, and political polarisation
- Designed and conducted 20 experiments to understand what people believe about repeated information
- Combined statistical analysis with Bayesian modeling to show that people ‘irrationally’ believe that repetitions of evidence increase the strength of that evidence
- Published 2 peer-reviewed articles and presented this work at 5 local and international conferences

Lead Researcher - What shapes Australians’ climate change beliefs? Sydney, NSW
UNSW School of Psychology 2018 - 19

- Reviewed literature about risk perception and how public communication can encourage people to protect themselves against environmental risks
- Analysed survey data from >1000 Australians to provide a quantitative profile of the most influential demographic, social, and psychological predictors of climate change beliefs
- Identified affect, efficacy, and social norms as the biggest predictors of Australians’ perceived risk and willingness to act on climate change
- Published a peer-reviewed article, a *The Conversation* piece, and discussed the real-world implications of our work to diverse audiences including academics, local council staff, and community groups

Lead Author - Comparing Australia’s COVID-19 & climate change responses Sydney, NSW
UNSW Practical Justice Initiative 2020

- Evaluated how recent government, business, and individual actions have contributed to a relatively successful COVID-19 response, and how this compares with Australia’s climate change response
- Contextualised this success with research from social, cognitive, and environmental psychology
- Published a report

Market Research Interviewer & Focus Group Host Leederville, WA
Thinkfield 2014 - 17

- Surveyed customers, businesses, and stakeholders, in order to understand public views, guide business strategy, and/or secure project approvals
- Organised focus groups, by recruiting diverse community members and then preparing technical equipment during the session
- Consistently overachieved target survey completion rates by engaging genuinely and enthusiastically with people over the phone and in person

Research Assistant Perth, WA
Department of Corrective Services 2014 - 16

- Helped the Rehabilitation and Reintegration team assess the efficacy of prison programs
- Converted qualitative data into quantitative assessments by consulting databases, court documents, and case files to compile Psychosocial Profiles and Risk Analyses (Static-99Rs)

Data Analyst

Perth, WA

Womens Health and Family Services

2015

- Assessed the efficacy of the “Buried in Treasures” psychotherapy program for treating Hoarding Disorder, by creating post-intervention questionnaires and performing statistical analyses
- Compiled a report that was presented by the team at conferences

Research Assistant

Seattle, USA

University of Washington, Seattle

2013 - 14

- Examined how students’ bicultural conflict (e.g., identifying with Asian and American cultures) creates psychological distress and influences decision-making
- Programmed experiments, organised timeslots, and interviewed participants

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Tutor: Research and Applications in Psychology

UNSW

PSYC3011

2020

- Teach career development skills, ethics, and apply psychological research to United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- 2020: 61 students

Tutor & Senior Tutor: Developmental Psychology

UNSW

PSYC3341

2017 - 20

- Teach content about how children develop cognitively, emotionally, and socially throughout childhood
- 2020: 40 students - included Digital Uplift (creating interactive online content)
- 2019: 72 students - Senior Tutor (coordinate content and lead other tutors)
- 2018: 43 students
- 2017: 37 students

Tutor: Psychology 1A

UNSW

PSYC1001

2019

- Teach introductory topics in all areas of psychology (including health, personality, social psychology)
- 2019: 55 students

Casual Marker: Clinical Perspectives on Anxiety, Mood, and Stress

UNSW

PSYC1024

2018

- Assess students’ final assignments in which they implemented a intervention to improve their own mental health

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Programming:** R, JavaScript, jsPsych
- **Languages:** English (native), Cantonese (conversational), German (conversational)
- **Volunteer Roles:** Academic Peer-Reviewer, UNSW Climate Change Network, Thoughtful Foods Co-Operative, Sisters who SHINE

REFEREES

1. **Professor Brett Hayes**, School of Psychology, UNSW - Primary PhD Supervisor
 2. **Professor Ben Newell**, School of Psychology, UNSW - Co-author and Tutoring Supervisor
 3. **Arifa Sarfraz**, Manager of Sustainability, UNSW - Colleague
- Contact details for referees available upon request