

CAREER PROFILE

- Psychology researcher with over 6 years experience, specialising in 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.
- Passionate about translating research findings for lay audiences, so the broader community can benefit from the best available evidence.

EDUCATION

PhD in Cognitive Psychology

University of New South Wales

Sydney, NSW

2017–estimated July 2021

- **Research Question:** “How do repetitions influence reasoning?”

Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours)

University of Western Australia

Perth, WA

2012–2016

- **Honours Thesis:** “Help me understand climate change: Group discussions improve success rates on the Carbon Dioxide Accumulation Task”

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

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

Dijon, France

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](https://doi.org/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](https://doi.org/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](https://doi.org/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.**, & Hayes, B. (2020). *When are People Sensitive to Information Dependency in Judgments Under Uncertainty?* 61st Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Virtual.
2. **Xie, B.** (2020). *The socio-psychological predictors of Australians' willingness to mitigate climate change*. Just Transitions Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Conference, Sydney, Australia.

3. **Xie, B.**, Navarro, D., & Hayes, B. (2020). *Bayes for New and Old: Modeling type and token effects in induction*. Australian Mathematical Psychology Conference, Coogee, Australia.
4. **Xie, B.**, Navarro, D., & Hayes, B. (2019). *Independent testimonies are no better than sequential testimonies in judgments under uncertainty*. 60th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montreal, Canada.
5. **Xie, B.**, Navarro, D., & Hayes, B. (2019). *Sequential testimony is as good as independent testimony in judgments under uncertainty*. Australian Mathematical Psychology Conference, Melbourne, Australia.
6. **Xie, B.**, Hayes, B., & Navarro, D. (2018). *Adding types, but not tokens, affects the breadth of property induction*. 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, USA.
7. **Xie, B.**, & Farrell, S. (2018). *Copy the consensus and discount dissenters? Evaluating a model of social learning*. 5th Summer School on Computational Modeling, Couches, France.
8. **Xie, B.**, Hayes, B., & Navarro, D. (2018). *Adding types, but not tokens, affects the breadth of property induction*. 45th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society for Experimental Psychology, Hobart, Australia.
9. **Xie, B.**, Hurlstone, M., & Walker, I. (2016). *Help me understand climate change*. University of Western Australia School of Psychology Honours Conference, Perth, Australia.
10. Chang, L., Chen, S., **Xie, B.**, Chang, K., & Shoda, Y. (2014). *Cultural clash at the university: When family and college collide*. University of Washington Undergraduate Research Symposium, Seattle, USA.

MEDIA

1. **Xie, B.**, Newell, B., & Moss, J. (2021, February 10). COVID-19 vs. Climate: Australia's Scorecard. Retrieved from [International Universities Climate Alliance](#).
2. Filatoff, N. (2020, February 10). The psychology of climate-change denial – we're all on the spectrum. Retrieved from [pv magazine](#).
3. Tang, C. (2020, February 7) Climate change denialism is something we all suffer from. Retrieved from [UNSW Newsroom](#).
4. Yun, J. (2020, January 24). This is the country that doubts climate science the most. Retrieved from [Yahoo Finance](#).
5. Williams, L. (2020, January 17). The Impact Of Climate Denialism Can't Be Ignored. Retrieved from [Gizmodo](#).
6. 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](#).
7. **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](#). Republished by [Lifehacker](#), [Marketing Mag](#), [Science Alert](#), [phys.org](#), [Renew Economy](#), and in Danish by [videnskab](#).

NON-ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

1. **Moderator and Speaker** at “UNSW Climate Reality Leaders present: *The Climate Crisis & its Solutions*” (2020). Presented with Sarah McInnes, Wenjing Wang, Nadya Serje, and Arifa Sarfraz (UNSW Sustainability). Q&A featuring Matt England (UNSW Climate Change Research Centre) and Alvin Stone (ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate Extremes). Details [here](#).
2. **Panel Member** at “*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](#) and read the write-up [here](#).

3. **Guest Speaker** at Climate Solutions NSW Meeting (2020). See talk - *The Psychology of Climate Change Beliefs and Behaviour* - on YouTube [here](#).
4. **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](#).
5. **Guest Speaker** at “*Lunchtime Webinar: Inspiring Community Actions on Climate Change*” (2020), by Waverley Council, NSW. Details [here](#).
6. **Panel Member** at “*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](#).
7. **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 7 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 for the *International Universities Climate Alliance*

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
- Taught career development skills, ethics, and applying psychological research to address United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
 - 2020: 62 students
- Tutor & Senior Tutor: Developmental Psychology** UNSW
PSYC3341 2017 - 20
- Taught content about how children develop cognitively, emotionally, and socially throughout childhood
 - 2020: 40 students - included Digital Uplift (created interactive online content)
 - 2019: 72 students - Senior Tutor (coordinated content and lead other tutors)
 - 2018: 43 students
 - 2017: 37 students
- Tutor: Psychology 1A** UNSW
PSYC1001 2019
- Taught 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
- Assessed 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, Secretary Board of Directors at 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. **Ms Arifa Sarfraz**, Manager of Sustainability, UNSW - Colleague
- Contact details for referees available upon request