

## CAREER PROFILE

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- 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

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### 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

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### 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

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- 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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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**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

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- 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

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- **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

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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