ryan w. carlson

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employment & education

2023-present **University of Chicago Booth School of Business**, *Chicago, IL*
Principal Researcher (postdoc)
Advisor: Ayelet Fishbach

2017-2023 **Yale University**, *New Haven, CT*
Ph.D. in Psychology
M.S. (2019) & M.Phil. (2020)
Advisor: Molly Crockett

2015-2017 **Stanford University**, *Stanford, CA*
Full-time Research Coordinator
Advisor: Jamil Zaki

2010-2014 **Simon Fraser University**, *Burnaby, BC, Canada*
B.A. (Hons.) in Psychology
Advisors: Lara Aknin & Mario Liotti

awards & honors

2023   Jane Olejarczyk Department Service Award, *Yale University*
2022   Frederick W. Hilles Memorial Scholarship, *Yale University*
2022   Conference Travel Fellowship, *Yale University*
2021   Richter Summer Fellowship, *Yale University*
2021   Teaching Innovation Project Grant, *Yale University*
2019   Fellow*, Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience*
2017   Graduate Fellowship, *Yale University*
2016   Innovation Grant, *Stanford Center for Cognitive and Neurobiological Imaging*
2015   Travel Grant, *National Science Foundation*
2014   VPR Sciences Undergraduate Research Award, *Simon Fraser University*
2013   Undergraduate Open Scholarship, *Simon Fraser University*
2013   One World Scholarship, *Irving K Barber BC Scholarship Society*
2013   International Mobility Award, *Simon Fraser University*

publications

Davis, I., **Carlson, R. W.,** Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (2023). Detecting potential social partners from indirect prosociality: A computational account. *Cognition*.

*****Carlson, R. W.**, *Bigman, Y. E., Gray, K., Ferguson, M. J., & Crockett, M. J. (2022). How inferred motives shape moral judgments. *Nature Reviews Psychology.*

Weisz, E., Ong, D. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Clark, M. D., & Zaki, J. (2022). A brief intervention to motivate empathy among middle school students. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General.*

Carlson, R. W., Adkins, C., Crockett, M. J., & Clark, M. S. (2022). Psychological selfishness. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.

Melnikoff, D. E., **Carlson, R. W.,** & Stillman, P. E. (2022). A computational theory of the subjective experience of flow. *Nature Communications.*

Carlson, R. W., & Zaki, J. (2021). Belief in altruistic motives predicts prosocial actions and inferences. *Psychological Reports*.

Weisz, E., Ong, D. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (2021). Building empathy through motivation-based interventions. *Emotion.*

Carlson, R. W., Marechal, M., Oud, B., Fehr, E., & Crockett, M. J. (2020). Motivated misremembering of selfish decisions. *Nature Communications*

Carlson, R. W., & Crockett, M. J. (2018). The lateral prefrontal cortex and moral goal pursuit. *Current Opinion in Psychology.*

Carlson, R. W., & Zaki, J. (2018). Good deeds gone bad: Lay theories of altruism and selfishness. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology.*

Morelli, S. A., Leong, Y. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Kullar, M., & Zaki, J. (2018). Neural detection of socially valued community members. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.*

Carlson, R. W., Aknin, L. B., & Liotti, M. (2016). When is giving an impulse? An ERP investigation of intuitive prosocial behavior. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*.

book chapters

Melnikoff, D. E., **Carlson, R. W.,** & Stillman, P. E. (2023). The structure of immersive activities: Insights from a computational model of flow. In A. Kruglanski, A. Fishbach, & K. Copetz (Eds.), *Goal Systems Theory: Psychological Processes and Applications.* New York: Oxford University Press.

working papers

Carlson, R. W., Zoh, Y., Morris, A., & Crockett, M. J. (under review, *Science Advances*). Quantifying accuracy and bias in motive introspection.

Carlson, R. W., & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). The pitfalls of play-to-play morality.

Carlson, R. W., & Small, D. A. (in prep). Revisiting the norm of self-interest.

Morris, A., **Carlson, R. W.**, Kober, H., & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). Introspective access to value-based choice processes.

oral presentations and invited talks

Carlson, R. W. (Sept, 2023). The subjective side of morality. Talk to be presented at Marketing Seminar, UChicago Booth School of Business.

Carlson, R. W. (Apr, 2023). The history of race at Yale Psychology. Guest lecture, PSYC 110, Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Feb, 2023). The history of race at Yale Psychology and the specific case of James Rowland Angell. Talk at Clinical Current Works, Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Dec, 2022). Quantifying accuracy and bias in motive introspection. Talk presented at Knobe Lab Meeting at Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Nov, 2022). Pay-to-play morality. Talk presented at Sprouts, Yale School of Management.

Carlson, R. W. (Nov, 2022). A theory of motive introspection. Talk presented at Ferguson Lab Meeting at Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Nov, 2022). A theory of motive introspection. Talk presented at Morality Lab Meeting (PI: Liane Young) at Boston College.

Carlson, R. W. (Oct, 2022). Quantifying accuracy and bias in motive introspection. Talk presented at the Concepts & Cognition Lab Meeting (PI: Tania Lombrozo) at Princeton University.

Carlson, R. W. (Jul, 2022). The pitfalls of pay-to-play morality. Talk presented at Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP) annual meeting, Milan, Italy.

Carlson, R. W. (Apr, 2022). Motivated misremembering and the subjective side of morality. Talk presented at Cushman/Greene Lab Meeting at Harvard University.

Carlson, R. W. (Apr, 2021). The precision and partiality of motive introspection. Talk presented at Rutledge Lab Meeting at Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Feb, 2021). The role of self-inference in prosocial behavior. Talk presented virtually at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) annual meeting.

Carlson, R. W. (Feb, 2021). A theory of psychological selfishness. Talk presented at Clark-Bargh Lab Meeting at Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Dec, 2019). Self-inference. Talk presented at Turk-Browne Lab Meeting at Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Feb, 2019). Selfish decisions are more generous in hindsight. Talk presented at the Judgment and Decision-Making Preconference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) annual meeting, Portland, OR.

Carlson, R. W. (Feb, 2019). Psychological selfishness. Talk presented at Knobe Lab Meeting at Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Nov, 2018). The psychology of selfishness. Talk presented at Jara-Ettinger Lab Meeting at Yale University.

Carlson, R. W. (Apr, 2018). Mechanisms of motivated memory. Talk presented at Jara-Ettinger Lab Meeting at Yale University.

poster presentations

Carlson, R. W., & Small, D. A. (Nov, 2023). Revisiting the norm of self-interest. Poster to be presented at the Society for Judgment and Decision-making (SJDM) annual meeting.

Carlson, R. W., & Crockett, M. J. (Feb, 2023). The pitfalls of pay-to-play morality. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) annual meeting.

Morris, A., **Carlson, R. W.,** & Crockett, M. J. (Mar, 2022). Introspective access into multi-attribute choice processes. Poster presented at the multi-disciplinary conference on Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making (RLDM), annual meeting.

Adkins, C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Crockett, M. J., & Clark, M. S. (Feb, 2022). The selfishness of desires. Poster presented virtually at SPSP annual meeting.

Davis, I., **Carlson, R. W.,** Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (July, 2021). Reasoning about social preferences with uncertain beliefs. Virtual talk at the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci) Annual Meeting.

Carlson, R. W., Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (Oct, 2020). Bridging self-report and choice modelling to investigate the accuracy of self-inferred preferences. Virtual poster for the Society for Neuroeconomics Annual Meeting.

Carlson, R. W., Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (July, 2020). Self-inferred desires to benefit self and other. Virtual poster presented virtually at CogSci Annual Meeting.

Carlson, R. W., Oud, B., Marechal, M., Fehr, E., & Crockett, M. J. (Mar, 2018). Selfish decisions are more generous in hindsight. Poster presented at the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, Atlanta, GA.

Leong, Y.C., Morelli, S.A., **Carlson, R. W.**, Kullar, M. & Zaki, J. (Mar, 2017) Neural prediction of social support hubs in emerging social networks. Poster presented at the Social Affective Neuroscience Society annual meeting (SANS*)*, Los Angeles, CA.

Carlson, R. W., & Zaki, J. (Jan, 2017). Believing in true altruism amplifies prosocial tendencies. Poster presented at the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, San Antonio, TX.

Kullar, M., Morelli, S. A., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (Jan, 2017). Neural representation of popularity and closeness in social networks differs depending on context. Poster presented at SPSP, San Antonio, TX.

Carlson, R. W., Morelli, S. A., Kullar, M., & Zaki, J. (Apr, 2016). Social network dynamics shape neural sensitivity to vicarious reward. Poster presented at SANS, New York, NY.

Kullar, M., Morelli, S. A., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (Apr, 2016). Neural systems that track social perceptions of network members. Poster presented at SANS, New York, NY.

Burnett A. J., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Liotti, M. (Jan, 2016). "Would partisans do well in the imitation game?": Moral turing tests promote ideological depolarization. Poster presented at the Judgment and Decision-Making Preconference for SPSP, San Diego, CA.

Carlson, R. W., Burnett A. J., & Liotti, M. (Jan, 2016). Sacrificing time for others during an unpleasant experience supports well-being. Poster for the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, San Diego, CA.

Carlson, R. W., Burnett A. J., & Liotti, M. (Jan, 2016). Sacrificing time for others during an unpleasant experience supports well-being. Poster for the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, San Diego, CA.

teaching experience

2021-2023	**StatLab Consultant**, *Marx Science & Social Science Library*, *Yale University*

Head Teaching Fellow, *Department of Psychology, Yale University*
2022	PSYC 315: *The Modern Unconscious* (J. Bargh)
2019	PSYC 376: *Learning and Memory* (T. Brown)

Teaching Fellow, *Department of Psychology, Yale University*
2020	PSYC 200: *Statistics for Psychological Science* (A. Bailey)
2019	PSYC 303: *Social Neuroscience* (M. Crockett)
2018	PSYC 141: *Abnormal Psychology* (A. Baskin-Sommers)

Teaching Assistant, *Department of Psychology, Simon Fraser University*
2015	PSYC 201: *Research Methods in Psychology* (G. Alder)
2014	PSYC 201: *Research Methods in Psychology* (G. Rose)
2014	PSYC 201: *Research Methods in Psychology* (G. Alder)

service

2022-present	**Member**, *Yale Psychology's Committee for Racial Equity and Justice*
2021-present	**Sneak Peek Mentor**, *Yale Psychology Sneak Peek Program*
2020-present	**Peer Mentor**, *Yale Diversity Committee*
2020	**Co-organizer, Speaker**, *Yale Psychology's Town Hall on Anti-Racism*
2019-present	**Graduate Affiliate**, **Mellon Forum Mentor**, *Trumbull College, Yale University*
2018-2020	**Psychology Representative**, *Yale Graduate Student Assembly (GSA)*
2018-2019	**Interview Weekend Coordinator (Social Area)**, *Yale Psychology*
2016	**Programming Assistant**, *SPSP Emotion Preconference*
2013-2015	**Founder, Editor-in-Chief**, *SFU Undergraduate Journal of Psychology*

mentorship

Research Assistants
2017	Julia Hu (then: Yale College, now: UX Research, GoPro)
2019	Cameron Martel (then: Yale College, now: PhD student, MIT)
2020	Paul McKee (then: Connecticut State U., now: PhD student, Duke)
2020-2022	Caleb Kealoha (then: Yale lab manager, now: PhD student, Harvard)
2020-2022	Mina Caraccio (Yale College, now: Research Fellow, Conn. Mental Health)

Yale College Mellon Forum Mentees
2019	Jasmyne Pierre (then: Yale College, now: PhD student, CUNY)
2020	Illayda Orhan (then: Yale College, now: PhD student, NYU)
2023	Dylan Campbell (Yale College, now: Research Fellow, Brigham & Women's)

Yale Psychology Sneak Peak Program Mentees
2021	Micaela Rodriguez (then: Stony Brook U., now: PhD student, UNC Chapel Hill)
2022	Savannah Gregory (University of Notre Dame)

professional workshops

Instructor

2022	Yale StatLab Data Visualization Workshop
2022	Yale StatLab Data Wrangling Workshop
2021	Crockett Lab Summer R Refresher
2020	Crockett Lab Summer R Workshop

Participant

2019	Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience
2018	Intel Hackathon for Computational Neuroscience
2017	Stanford Center for Reproducible Neuroscience Better Science Workshop
2016	Berkeley Institute for Data Science Nilearn Course
2016	Stanford Neurosciences Institute Advanced R Workshop
2015	Stanford Computational Social Science R Workshop
2015	Chicago Neuroimaging Workshop

ad-hoc reviewing

Biological Psychology
Cognition
European Journal of Social Psychology
Journal of Experimental Psychology: General
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology
Journal of Neurophysiology
Journal of Neuroscience
NeuroImage
Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes
Social Psychology

references

Molly Crockett, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Princeton University
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Jamil Zaki, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Stanford University
jzaki@stanford.edu

Margaret Clark, Ph.D., Professor, Yale University
margaret.clark@yale.edu

Melissa Ferguson, Ph.D., Professor, Yale University
melissa.ferguson@yale.edu