

# ryan w. carlson

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## education

- 2017-present     **Yale University**, New Haven, CT, USA  
PhD in Psychology  
MSc (2019), MPhil (2020)
- 2010-2014     **Simon Fraser University**, Burnaby, BC, Canada  
BA (Hons.) in Psychology

## research training

- 2017-present     **Crockett Lab (Advisor: Molly Crockett)**  
Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA  
Graduate Student
- 2015-2017     **Stanford Social Neuroscience Lab (Advisor: Jamil Zaki)**  
Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA  
Full-time Research Assistant
- 2013-2015     **Affective and Developmental Neuroscience Lab (Advisor: Mario Liotti)**  
Simon Fraser University. Burnaby, BC, Canada  
Honours Student, Research Assistant
- 2012-2015     **Helping and Happiness Lab (Advisor: Lara Aknin)**  
Simon Fraser University. Burnaby, BC, Canada  
Honours Student, Research Assistant
- 2013     **Social Neuroscience Program (Advisor: Dennis Schutter)**  
Utrecht University, Netherlands  
Exchange Student
- 2011-2012     **Intergroup Relations and Social Justice Lab (Advisor: Stephen Wright)**  
Simon Fraser University. Burnaby, BC, Canada  
Research Assistant

## awards

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

## publications

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

Melnikoff, D. E., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Stillman, P. E. (in press). A computational theory of flow. *Nature Communications*.

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

Weisz, E., Ong, D. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (2020). 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*. 11(1), 1-11.

**Carlson, R. W.**, & Crockett, M. J. (2018). The lateral prefrontal cortex and moral goal pursuit. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 24, 77-82

**Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (2018). Good deeds gone bad: Lay theories of altruism and selfishness. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 75, 36-40.

Morelli, S. A., Leong, Y. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Kullar, M., & Zaki, J. (2018). Neural detection of socially valued community members. *PNAS*, 115(32), 8149-8154.

**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*, 11(7), 1121-1129.

## manuscript under review / in revision

- Davis, I., **Carlson, R. W.**, Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (2021). Reasoning about social preferences with uncertain beliefs.
- Weisz, E., Ong, D. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Clark, M. D., & Zaki, J. (2021). A brief intervention to motivate empathy among middle school students.
- \*Carlson, R. W.**, \*Bigman, Y. E., Gray, K., Ferguson, M. J., & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). A motive-centered approach to morality.

## in prep manuscripts

- Carlson, R. W.**, Earp, B. E., & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). Beyond moral behaviorism.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Zoh, Y., & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). Dynamic self-inference.
- Adkins, C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Crockett, M. J., & Clark, M. S. (in prep). The selfishness of desires.

## conference presentations

- Carlson, R. W.**, & Crockett, M. J. (Feb, 2022). The pitfalls of pay-to-play morality. Talk presented virtually at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) annual meeting.
- Adkins, C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Crockett, M. J., & Clark, M. S. (Feb, 2022). The selfishness of desires. Poster to be presented virtually at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) annual meeting.
- Davis, I., **Carlson, R. W.**, Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (July, 2021). Reasoning about social preferences with uncertain beliefs. Talk presented virtually at the Cognitive Science Society Annual Meeting.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (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.**, Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (Oct, 2020). Bridging self-report and choice modelling to investigate the accuracy of self-inferred preferences. Poster presented virtually at the Society for Neuroeconomics Annual Meeting.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (July, 2020). Self-inferred desires to benefit self and other. Poster presented virtually at the Cognitive Science Society Annual Meeting.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Oud, B., Marechal, M., Fehr, E., & Crockett, M. J. (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.

- Morelli, S.A., Leong, Y.C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Kullar, M. & Zaki, J. (Mar, 2018) Neural detection of socially valued community members. Talk presented at the International Conference on Complex Networks, Cambridge, UK.
- 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.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Burnett A. J., & Liotti, M. (Jan, 2016). Sacrificing time for others during an unpleasant experience supports well-being. Poster presented at the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, San Diego, CA.
- Burnett A. J., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Liotti, M. (Jan, 2016). "Are there partisans which would 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.**, Liotti, M. & Aknin, L. B. (Nov, 2014). Spatiotemporal neural dynamics of intuitive prosociality. Poster presented at the Society for Social Neuroscience annual meeting, Washington, DC.
- Carlson, R. W.** & Aknin, L. B. (May, 2014). Intuition, empathy, and prosocial behavior. Talk presented at Connecting Minds, Richmond, BC.

## teaching experience

### Teaching Fellow, Yale University

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|------|---|
| 2020 | PSYC 200: <i>Statistics for Psychological Science</i> (A. Bailey) |
| 2019 | PSYC 376: <i>Learning and Memory</i> (T. Brown)                   |
| 2019 | PSYC 303: <i>Social Neuroscience</i> (M. Crockett)                |
| 2018 | PSYC 141: <i>Abnormal Psychology</i> (A. Baskin-Sommers)          |

### Teaching Assistant, Simon Fraser University

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| 2015 | PSYC 201: <i>Research Methods in Psychology</i> (G. Alder) |
| 2014 | PSYC 201: <i>Research Methods in Psychology</i> (G. Rose)  |

2014 PSYC 201: *Research Methods in Psychology* (G. Alder)

## service

- 2021-present **Sneak Peek Mentor**, *Yale Psychology Sneak Peek Program*  
Advise psychology PhD program applicants from underrepresented backgrounds in planning and preparing their applications.
- 2020-present **Peer Mentor, Gathertown Architect**, *Yale Diversity Committee*  
Support first year psychology graduate students in navigating the challenges of the first year of graduate school. Assist with the Diversity Committee's virtual social events.
- 2020 **Co-organizer, Speaker**, *Yale Psychology's Town Hall on Structural Inequality, Racial Prejudice, and Allyship*  
Co-organized Yale Psychology's inaugural town hall on structural inequality, prejudice and allyship. Conducted and presented archival research on scientific racism and issues of faculty diversity at Yale.
- 2019-present **Graduate Affiliate, Mellon Forum Mentor**, *Trumbull College, Yale University*  
Mentor Yale undergraduates in preparation for their senior thesis talks. Coordinate social events geared at promoting student well-being.
- 2018-2020 **Psychology Representative**, *Yale Graduate Student Assembly (GSA)*  
Served as an elected rep for psychology graduate students in Yale GSA. Organized townhalls and meetings to engage with student needs and concerns. Worked with other reps and department leadership to establish multiple departmental committees, including a Committee on Racial Equity and Justice (CREJ)—a rotating team of faculty, staff and students tasked with promoting racial justice at Yale.
- 2018-2019 **Interview Weekend Coordinator (Social Area)**, *Yale Psychology*  
Coordinated Yale Psychology's interview weekend for prospective students in 2018 and 2019. Worked with faculty, staff, and students to organize and execute student interview schedules, and coordinated social events.
- 2013-2015 **Founder, Editor-in-Chief**, *SFU Undergraduate Journal of Psychology*  
Launched an undergraduate journal for independent student research. Built the inaugural team of undergraduate editors, graduate reviewers, and faculty advisors. Developed protocols and a peer-review process. Secured funding, promotion efforts, maintained web content and submissions, and edited the journal's inaugural issue.

## professional workshops

- Organizer / Instructor**
- 2021 Crockett Lab Summer R Refresher

2020	Crockett Lab Summer R Workshop
	<b>Participant</b>
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

## languages

R, Python, MATLAB, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

## ad-hoc reviewing

Neuroscience:

*Biological Psychology*

*Journal of Neurophysiology*

*Journal of Neuroscience*

*NeuroImage*

Psychology:

*Asian Journal of Social Psychology*

*European Journal of Social Psychology*

*Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*

*Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*

*Social Psychology*