ryan w carlson

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education

2020-present   **Yale University**, New Haven, CT, USA
Ph.D. in Psychology (expected 2023)
Advisor: Molly Crockett

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

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

post-bac training

2015-2017   **Stanford Social Neuroscience Lab** (Advisor: Jamil Zaki)
Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA
Full-time Research Coordinator

awards

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

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

Weisz, E., Ong, D. C., Carlson, R. W., Clark, M. D., & Zaki, J. (in press). 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. (in press). The structure of immersive and engaging 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.

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, 21(5), 990–999.*

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.

preprints / in prep

Carlson, R. W., Zoh, Y., Morris, A., & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). Modelling precision and bias in motive introspection. Preprint.

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

Davis, I., Carlson, R. W., Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (submitted). Detecting potential social partners from indirect prosociality: A computational account. https://bit.ly/3dDDqgt

Adkins, C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Crockett, M. J., & Clark, M. S. (submitted). Desires are sufficient for perceiving selfishness. https://bit.ly/3DPkZju

Kealoha, C., Chituc, V., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). Altruism dominates selfishness in spontaneous inferences about public moral displays.

oral presentations and invited talks

Carlson, R. W. (Nov, 2022). Modelling motive introspection. Talk to be presented at Concepts & Cognition Lab Meeting (PI: Tania Lombrozo) at Princeton University.

Carlson, R. W. (Nov, 2022). Modelling motive introspection. Talk to be presented at Morality Lab Meeting (PI: Liane Young) at Boston College.

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., & Crockett, M. J. (Feb, 2022). The pitfalls of pay-to-play morality. Poster to be 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. (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.

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). "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., 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.

teaching experience

2021-present	StatLab Consultant, Yale University

Head Teaching Fellow, Yale University
2022	PSYC 315: *The Modern Unconscious* (J. Bargh)

Teaching Fellow, Yale University
2020	PSYC 200: *Statistics for Psychological Science* (A. Bailey)
2019	PSYC 376: *Learning and Memory* (T. Brown)
2019	PSYC 303: *Social Neuroscience* (M. Crockett)
2018	PSYC 141: *Abnormal Psychology* (A. Baskin-Sommers)

Teaching Assistant, 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

2021-present **Sneak Peek Mentor**, *Yale Psychology Sneak Peek Program*
Mentor and support students from underrepresented backgrounds in preparing their applications for psychology PhD programs.

2020-present **Peer Mentor, Member**, *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
2022   StatLab Data Visualization Workshop
2022   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

languages

R, Python, MATLAB, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

ad-hoc reviewing

Biological Psychology
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

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Jamil Zaki, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Stanford University
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Margaret Clark, Ph.D., Professor, Yale University
margaret.clark@yale.edu