

ryan w carlson

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education

- 2020-present **Yale University**, New Haven, CT, USA
Ph.D. in Psychology (expected May 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. (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.

book chapters

- Melnikoff, D. E., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Stillman, P. E. (in press). 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.

preprints / working papers

- Carlson, R. W.**, Zoh, Y., Morris, A., & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). Modelling precision and bias in motive introspection. [Working paper link](#)
- Carlson, R. W.**, & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). The pitfalls of play-to-play morality. [Working paper link](#)
- Davis, I., **Carlson, R. W.**, Dunham, Y., & Jara-Ettinger, J. (in prep). Detecting potential social partners from indirect prosociality: A computational account. [Working paper link](#)
- Adkins, C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Crockett, M. J., & Clark, M. S. (in prep). Desires are sufficient for perceiving selfishness. [Working paper link](#)
- Kealoha, C., Chituc, V., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Crockett, M. J. (in prep). Altruism dominates selfishness in spontaneous inferences about public moral displays. [Working paper link](#)

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 , <i>Marx Science & Social Science Library, Yale University</i>
	Head Teaching Fellow , <i>Department of Psychology, Yale University</i>
2022	PSYC 315: <i>The Modern Unconscious</i> (J. Bargh)
2019	PSYC 376: <i>Learning and Memory</i> (T. Brown)
	Teaching Fellow , <i>Department of Psychology, Yale University</i>
2020	PSYC 200: <i>Statistics for Psychological Science</i> (A. Bailey)
2019	PSYC 303: <i>Social Neuroscience</i> (M. Crockett)
2018	PSYC 141: <i>Abnormal Psychology</i> (A. Baskin-Sommers)
	Teaching Assistant , <i>Department of Psychology, Simon Fraser University</i>
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: <i>Research Methods in Psychology</i> (G. Alder)

service

2021-present	Sneak Peek Mentor , <i>Yale Psychology Sneak Peek Program</i>
2020-present	Peer Mentor, Member , <i>Yale Diversity Committee</i>
2020	Co-organizer, Speaker , <i>Yale Psychology's Town Hall on Structural Inequality, Racial Prejudice, and Allyship</i>

2019-present	Graduate Affiliate, Mellon Forum Mentor , <i>Trumbull College, Yale University</i>
2018-2020	Psychology Representative , <i>Yale Graduate Student Assembly (GSA)</i>
2018-2019	Interview Weekend Coordinator (Social Area) , <i>Yale Psychology</i>
2016	Programming Assistant , <i>SPSP Emotion Preconference</i>
2013-2015	Founder, Editor-in-Chief , <i>SFU Undergraduate Journal of Psychology</i>

mentorship

Research Assistants

2017	Julia Hu (then: Yale College, now: User Research, Sonos Inc.)
2019	Cameron Martel (then: Yale College, now: PhD student at MIT Sloan)
2020	Paul McKee (then: Connecticut State University, now: PhD student at Duke)
2020	Cameron Berg (then: Yale College, now: AI Resident at Meta)
2020-2022	Caleb Kealoha (then: Yale lab manager, now: PhD student at Harvard Business School)
2020-2022	Mina Caraccio (Yale College)

Yale College Mellon Forum Mentees

2019	Jasmyne Pierre (then: Yale College, now: Instructor, iCAMP))
2020	Illyda Orhan (then: Yale College, now: PhD student at NYU)

Yale Psychology Sneak Peak Program Mentees

2021	Micaela Rodriguez (then: Stony Brook University, now: PhD student at UNC Chapel Hill)
2022	Savannah Gregory (University of Notre Dame)

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 Nlearn 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
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