

CLARA COLOMBATTO

Curriculum Vitae | February 2024

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2024 - **University of Waterloo**, Ontario, CA
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology
- 2024 - **University College London**, London, UK
Honorary Lecturer, Department of Experimental Psychology
- 2022 - 2023 **University College London**, London, UK
Research Fellow, Department of Experimental Psychology
Sponsor: Steve Fleming
- 2021 - 2022 **Yale University**, New Haven, CT
Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Psychology
Sponsor: Molly Crockett

EDUCATION

- 2015 - 2021 **Yale University**, New Haven, CT
Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology
Advisor: Brian Scholl
- 2011 - 2015 **Duke University**, Durham, NC
B.A. in Philosophy
B.S. in Neuroscience
Magna cum laude, with High Distinction
Advisors: Scott Huettel & Walter Sinnott-Armstrong

GRANTS

- 2023 *Microsoft Research*
PI, Metacognition and Trust in Human-AI Collaboration

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2022 James B. Grossman Dissertation Prize*
Awarded annually to the best doctoral dissertation in Psychology at Yale
- 2019 Student Travel Award*
Object Perception, Attention, and Memory Conference
- 2019 Student Travel Award*
Vision Sciences Society
- 2016 Phi Beta Kappa*
Duke University

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023 Neuroscience of Consciousness Winter School Fellowship*
CIFAR program in Brain, Mind & Consciousness
- 2019 Computational Summer School Fellowship*
Methods in Neuroscience at Dartmouth
- 2016 Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience Fellowship*
Kavli Foundation
- 2014 Neuroscience Program of Research Fellowship*
Duke University
- 2013 Bass Connections Scholarship*
Duke University

PUBLICATIONS

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., & Scholl, B. J. (in press). Perceived gaze dynamics in social interactions can alter (and even reverse) the perceived temporal order of events. *Cognition*.

Bhattacharyya, R., **Colombatto, C.**, Fleming, S., Posner, I., & Hawes, N. (2023). Investigating the role of metacognition for joint decision-making in human-robot collaboration. *AAAI 2023 Summer Symposium: Building Connections: From Human-Human to Human-AI Collaboration*.

Colombatto, C., Everett, J. A. C., Senn, J., Maréchal, M. A., & Crockett, M. J. (2023). Vaccine nationalism counterintuitively erodes public trust in leaders. *Psychological Science*, 34, 1309–1321.

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (2022). Unconscious pupillometry: An effect of ‘attentional contagion’ in the absence of visual awareness. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 151, 302–308.

Colombatto, C., Uddenberg, S., & Scholl, B. J. (2021). The efficiency of demography in face perception. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 83, 3104–3117.

Colombatto, C., van Buren, B., & Scholl, B. J. (2021). Hidden intentions: Visual awareness prioritizes perceived attention even without eyes or faces. *Cognition*, 217, Article 104901, 1–7.

*Everett, J. A. C., ***Colombatto, C.,** Awad, E. Boggio, P., Bos, B., Brady, W. J., Chawla, M., Chituc, V., Chung, D., Drupp, M. A., Goel, S., Grosskopf, B., Hjorth, F., Ji, A., Kealoha, C., Kim, J. S., Lin, Y., Ma, Y., Maréchal, M. A., Mancinelli, F., Mathys, C., Olsen, A. L., Pearce, G., Prosser, A. M. B., Reggev, N., Sabin, N., Senn, J., Shin, Y. S., Sinnott-Armstrong, W., Sjøstad, H., Strick, M., Sul, S., Tummers, L., Turner, M., Yu, H., Zoh, Y., & Crockett, M. J. (2021). Moral dilemmas and trust in leaders during a global health crisis. *Nature Human Behavior*, 5, 1074–1088.

* Equal contribution

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., & Scholl, B. J. (2020). Gaze deflection reveals how gaze cueing is tuned to extract the mind behind the eyes. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117, 19825–19829.

Colombatto, C., van Buren, B., & Scholl, B. J. (2020). Gazing without eyes: A ‘stare-in-the-crowd’ induced by simple geometric shapes. *Perception*, 49, 782–792.

Colombatto, C., van Buren, B., & Scholl, B. J. (2019). Intentionally distracting: Working memory is disrupted by the perception of other agents attending to you — even without eye-gaze cues. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 26, 951–957.

Chen, Y. -C., **Colombatto, C.,** & Scholl, B. J. (2018). Looking into the future: An inward bias in aesthetic experience driven only by gaze cues. *Cognition*, 176, 209–214.

Colombatto, C., & McCarthy, G. (2017). The effects of face inversion and face race on the P100 ERP. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 29, 664–676.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Colombatto, C., Conway, P., De Brigard, F., Hofmann, W., Sinnott-Armstrong, W., Stanley, M. L., Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (under revision). Motivated abstraction of personal transgressions in moral narratives.

Colombatto, C., Capozzi, F., Fratino, V., & Ristic, J. (under revision). A perceptual advantage for social groups.

Colombatto, C., & Fleming, S. M. (under revision). Folk psychological attributions of consciousness to large language models.

*Kim, J. S., ***Colombatto, C.**, & Crockett, M. J. (under revision). Goal inference in moral narratives.

* Equal contribution

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., van Buren, B., & Scholl, B. J. (under review). Foundations of social perception: Eye contact or ‘mind contact’?

Colombatto, C., & Fleming, S. M. (under review). Illusions of confidence in artificial systems.

Yan, L., **Colombatto, C.**, & Ristic, J. (under review). Enhanced perception of facing social groups reflects optimal interactive group size.

WORKING PAPERS

Colombatto, C., Crockett, M. J., & Scholl, B. J. (in preparation). ‘Perceptual ageism’: Distinct trajectories of first impressions from faces across their lifespan.

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (in preparation). Attending to attention: Reverse correlation reveals how we perceive attentiveness in other people’s faces.

Colombatto, C., & Crockett, M. J. (in preparation). Immoral behavior generates higher disagreement in collective moral impressions.

Colombatto, C., & Fleming, S. M. (in preparation). Metacognition as a key dimension in social perception.

*Everett, J. A. C., ***Colombatto, C.**, ..., & Crockett, M. J. (in preparation). Moral dilemmas: from theory to practice.

* Equal contribution

INVITED TALKS

2024	Mind and Brain Institute Western University
2024	Rahnev lab Georgia Institute of Technology
2023	Center for Research in Cognition & Neurosciences Université libre de Bruxelles
2023	LSE-UCL Workshop on Attributions of Consciousness to AI Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science, LSE
2023	Oxford Robotics Institute University of Oxford
2023	UCL-PSL Summer School on Consciousness and Metacognition Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, UCL
2023	Department of Psychology Birkbeck, University of London
2022	Department of Psychology University of Waterloo
2022	Robotics Laboratory University of Bristol
2021	Laboratory for Attention & Social Cognition McGill University
2021	Computational Vision and Learning Laboratory UCLA
2021	Consciousness Club University College London
2020	Perception Laboratory New School for Social Research
2017	Developmental Psychology University of New Haven

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (2024). Attending to attention: Reverse correlation reveals how we perceive attentiveness in other people's faces. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Lake Ontario Visionary Establishment, 2/9/24, Niagara Falls, ON, CA.

Ristic, J., Yan, L., & **Colombatto, C. (2023).** Social perceptual grouping is sensitive to group size. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *European Conference on Visual Perception*, Paphos, Cyprus.

Colombatto, C., & Fleming, S. M. (2023). Illusions of confidence in artificial systems. Poster presented at the *Conference on Cognitive Computational Neuroscience*, Oxford, UK.

Yan, L., **Colombatto, C., & Ristic, J. (2023).** Perceptual grouping of social interactions is sensitive to group size. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Canadian Psychological Association*, Toronto, Canada.

Colombatto, C., & Fleming, S. M. (2023). Inferring metacognition in humans and machines. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Association of Scientific Studies of Consciousness*, New York, NY.

Colombatto, C., & Fleming, S. M. (2023). Illusions of confidence in the advice of artificial systems. Talk given at the Perceptual Metacognition Satellite of the *Association of Scientific Studies of Consciousness*, New York, NY.

Ristic, J., **Colombatto, C., & Yan, L. (2023).** From dyads to crowds: Perceptual unity of group interactions. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 23(9), 5336, <https://doi.org/10.1167/jov.23.9.5336>.]

Colombatto, C., Guo, Y. Y. L., Scholl, B. J., & Ristic, J. (2022). Pupil size modulates gaze cueing. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Psychonomic Society*, online.

McCrackin, S. D., **Colombatto, C., Fratino, V., Scholl, B. J., & Ristic, J. (2022).** Pupil dilation widens the perceived cone of direct gaze. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Psychonomic Society*, online.

Ristic, J., **Colombatto, C., & Fratino, V. (2022).** Perceptual grouping of social interactions: From dyads to triads. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Psychonomic Society*, online.

Crockett, M. J., **Colombatto, C.**, & Chawla, M. (2022). Immoral behavior generates higher disagreement in collective moral impressions. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, Milan, Italy.

Colombatto, C., & Crockett, M. J. (2022). Motivated obfuscation of moral transgressions in natural language. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, Milan, Italy.

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (2022). Attending to attention: Reverse correlation reveals how we perceive attentiveness in other people's faces. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 22(14), 3339, <https://jov.arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2783984>.]

Fu, S., Chen, Y. -C., **Colombatto, C.**, & Lu, H. (2022). Visual impressions of social avoidance from moving shapes. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 22(14), 3693, <https://jov.arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2784196>.]

Fratino, V., **Colombatto, C.**, & Ristic, J. (2022). From dyads to triads: Perceptual unity of social groups. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, online.

Colombatto, C., & Crockett, M. J. (2022). Linguistic obfuscation of reality in narratives of moral transgressions. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology*, San Francisco, CA.

Fratino, V., **Colombatto, C.**, & Ristic, J. (2022). Two is company, three is a crowd: Perceptual unity of dyads and small groups. Talk given at the annual *Harvard Women in Psychology Trends in Psychology Summit*, online.

Colombatto, C., Kim, J. S., Rodriguez, D., & Crockett, M. J. (2021). I see where you are going: Perception of persuasion goals in moral narratives influences character impressions. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Cognitive Sciences Society*, online.

Crockett, M. J., Kim, J. S., & **Colombatto, C.** (2021). Competing goals in the construction and perception of moral narratives. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, online.

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., van Buren, B., & Scholl, B. J. (2021). From eyes to minds: Perceiving perception, and attending to attention? Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Society for Philosophy and Psychology*, online.

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., & Scholl, B. J. (2021). Gazing to look vs. gazing to think: Gaze cueing is modulated by the perception of others' external vs. internal attention.

Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, online. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 21(9), 2800, <https://arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2777666>.]

Lopez-Brau, M., **Colombatto, C.**, Jara-Ettinger, J., & Scholl, B. J. (2021). Attentional prioritization for historical traces of agency. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, online. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 21(9), 2748, <https://arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2777716>.]

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., & Scholl, B. J. (2020). Observed gaze dynamics in social interactions alter the perceived temporal order of events. Talk given at the annual *Object Perception, Attention, & Memory* meeting, online.

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (2020). Eyes vs. minds: A Janus-like manipulation reveals that perceived intentionality boosts gaze cueing. Poster accepted at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, online.

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (2019). Unconscious attentional contagion: Faster breakthrough into awareness for faces with dilated pupils. Poster presented at the annual *Object Perception, Attention, & Memory* meeting, Montréal, Québec, CA.

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (2019). Unconscious pupillometry: Faces with dilated pupils gain preferential access to visual awareness. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 19(10), 218, <https://arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2750796>.]

Uddenberg, S., **Colombatto, C.**, & Scholl, B. J. (2019). The speed of demography in face perception. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 19(10), 229d, <https://arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2750849>.]

Colombatto, C., & Scholl, B. J. (2018). Illusions of morality: Visual impressions of causality override overt judgment in moral decision making. Talk given at the annual *European Conference on Visual Perception*, Trieste, Italy.

Chen, Y. -C., **Colombatto, C.**, & Scholl, B. J. (2018). Looking into the future: An inward bias in aesthetic experience driven only by gaze cues. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 18(10), 1333, <http://jov.arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2700313>.]

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., & Scholl, B. J. (2018). Gaze cueing is tuned to extract the mind behind the gaze: Investigations of ‘gaze deflection’. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 18(10), 197, <http://jov.arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2699191>.]

Colombatto, C., Chen, Y. -C., & Scholl, B. J. (2017). Gaze cueing is tuned to extract the mind behind the gaze: Investigations of 'gaze deflection'. Poster presented at the annual *European Conference on Visual Perception*, Berlin, Germany.

Colombatto, C., van Buren, B., & Scholl, B. J. (2017). 'Mind contact': Might eye-gaze effects actually reflect more general phenomena of perceived attention and intention? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Vision Sciences Society*, St. Pete Beach, FL. [Abstract published in *Journal of Vision*, 17(10), 60, <http://jov.arvojournals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2650946>.]

Colombatto, C., McCarthy, G. (2017). Face processing at 100 ms: the effects of race and configuration. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the *Cognitive Neuroscience Society*, San Francisco, CA.

Colombatto, C. (2014). I'll do what you think we should do: Pronouns and the construction of the tutoring community. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Southeastern Writing Center Association*, Greenville, NC.

Russell, V. & **Colombatto, C.** (2013). We deliver!: The multi-modal medium is the message. Talk given at the annual meeting of the *Southeastern Writing Center Association*, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Waterloo

2024 Special Topics in Cognition and Perception: Social Perception

University College London

2023 Guest Lecturer, Neuroscience MSc (Tali Sharot)

Yale University

2020 Teaching Fellow, The Modern Unconscious (John Bargh)
 2018 Teaching Fellow, Decision-Making (Dave Rand)
 2017 Teaching Fellow, Cognitive Neuroscience (Steve Chang)
 2017 Teaching Fellow, Social Psychology (John Bargh)
 2016 Teaching Fellow, Intro to Cognitive Science (Brian Scholl)
 2016 - 2018 Writing Fellow, Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning

Duke University

2015 Teaching Assistant, Calculus and Functions II (Lewis Blake)
 2015 Teaching Assistant, Calculus and Functions II (Emily Braley)
 2014 Teaching Assistant, Calculus and Functions I (Rann Bar-On)
 2014 Teaching Assistant, Writing Literacy (Vicki Russell)

<i>2013</i>	Teaching Assistant, Freshmen Writing (Jesse Summers)
<i>2013</i>	Teaching Assistant, Freshmen Writing (Lindsay Smith)
<i>2012</i>	Peer Tutor, Academic Resource Center

STUDENTS SUPERVISED

<i>2024 -</i>	Irsa Duka, University of Waterloo 2024
<i>2024 -</i>	Audrey Hempel, Yale College 2025
<i>2024 -</i>	Aarifah Panchbhaya, University of Waterloo 2024
<i>2024 -</i>	Amy Delia Younesi, University of Waterloo 2024
<i>2024 -</i>	Daniela Pasqualini, University of Waterloo 2024
<i>2023 -</i>	Eliza Farquharson, University College London 2024
<i>2023 -</i>	Charlotte Patient, University College London 2024
<i>2023 -</i>	Claire Yan, University College London 2024
<i>2021 - 2022</i>	Maria Canon, Yale College 2022
<i>2021 - 2022</i>	Victoria Fraterno, McGill University 2022 (After McGill: PhD student at Concordia University)
<i>2021 - 2022</i>	Yang Yi Lin Guo, McGill University 2022 (After McGill: PhD student at University of British Columbia)
<i>2019 - 2022</i>	Conor Downey, Yale College 2022 (After Yale: PhD student at MIT)
<i>2019 - 2021</i>	Joanna Zukin, Yale College 2021
<i>2019 - 2020</i>	Rui Zhe Goh, Yale-NUS College 2020 (After Yale: PhD student at Johns Hopkins)
<i>2018 - 2019</i>	Lan Luo, Yale College 2020 (After Yale: PhD student at Columbia Business School)
<i>2018 - 2019</i>	Daniel Do, Yale College 2019 (After Yale: COO at Cortex College Consulting)
<i>2015 - 2016</i>	Audrey Luo, Yale College 2017 (After Yale: MD/PhD student at U of Pennsylvania School of Medicine)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Service

<i>2023</i>	Co-organizer, LSE-UCL Workshop on Attributions of Consciousness to AI
<i>2023 -</i>	Editorial Board Reviewer, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance
<i>2021 -</i>	Reviewer, Application Statement Feedback Program
<i>2022 - 2023</i>	Co-organizer, UCL-PSL Consciousness & Metacognition Summer School

Ad-Hoc Reviewing: Journals

Acta Psychologica
American Psychologist
Biological Psychology
Cognitive Science
Developmental Science
Emotion
Frontiers in Neuroscience
Frontiers in Psychology
iScience
JEP: General
JEP: Human Perception and Performance
Journal of Vision
Open Mind
PCI Registered Reports
Plos One
Psychophysiology
Scientific Reports
Social Neuroscience
The Journal of Pain
Visual Cognition

Ad-Hoc Reviewing: Conferences

Cognitive Computational Neuroscience
Cognitive Science Society
Society for Philosophy and Psychology

Ad-Hoc Reviewing: Grant Agencies

National Science Foundation