

# SOYEON CHOI

---

✉ [soyeonc@umich.edu](mailto:soyeonc@umich.edu)

🌐 Personal Webpage: <https://choi-soyeon.github.io>

🔍 Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=c8RVkOIAAAAJ&hl=en>

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Social Psychology**, 2018–Present

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, U.S.

- Advisor: Dr. Joshua M. Ackerman and Dr. Ethan Kross

**M.A. in Personality & Social Psychology**, 2018

Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea

- Advisor: Dr. Eunkook M. Suh

**B.A. in Psychology and English Language & Literature**, 2016

Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea

- Undergraduate Exchange Studies at UC Berkeley, Spring & Fall 2013

## CERTIFICATES

Graduate Data Science Certificate, MIDAS, University of Michigan, 2022

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Subjective well-being, Motivations shaped by ecological features (e.g., infectious disease, resource availability, unpredictability), Risk perception, Decision making

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

PhD Fellowship, KFAS (Full Funding, \$65,000), 2018–Present

Summer Research Award, University of Michigan, 2021, 2022

Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, 2020

ISR-Rackham Summer Training Award, University of Michigan, 2020

Rackham Conference Travel Grant, University of Michigan, 2019, 2020, 2022

Rackham International Student Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2019

Brain Korea 21 Research Grant, Korea Research Foundation, 2016–2018

Conference Travel Grant, Korea Research Foundation, 2017

Incoming Graduate Student Scholarship (Full Funding), Yonsei University, 2016

Merit-based Undergraduate Scholarship, Yonsei University, 2011, 2012, 2014

## PUBLICATIONS

**Choi, S.**, Merrell, W. N., & Ackerman, J. M. (2023). Safety first, but for whom? Shifts in risk perception for self and others following COVID-19 vaccination. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass*, e12757. <https://doi.org/10.1111/spc3.12757>

**Choi, S.**, Merrell, W. N., & Ackerman, J. M. (2022). Keep your distance: Different roles for knowledge and affect in predicting social distancing behavior.

*Journal of Health Psychology*, 27, 2847-2859. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13591053211067100>

- Media coverage: [Michigan News](#)

Ackerman, J. M., Merrell, W. N., **Choi, S.** (2020). What people believe about detecting infectious disease using the senses. *Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology*, 1, 100002. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cresp.2020.100002>

Lee, D. I., Gardiner, G., Baranski, E., **International Situations Project Members**, & Funder, D. C. (2020). Situational experience around the world: A replication and extension in 62 countries. *Journal of Personality*, 88, 1091-1110. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jopy.12558>

**Choi, S.**, & Suh, E. M. (2018). Retrospective time travel in life satisfaction judgment: A life history approach. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 129, 138-142. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2018.03.017>

Suh, E. M., & **Choi, S.** (2018). Predictors of subjective well-being across cultures. In E. Diener, S. Oishi, & L. Tay (Eds.), *Handbook of Well-Being*. Salt Lake City, UT: DEF Publishers.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Choi, S.** (2023, October). *Investigating shifts in risk perception with a prospective cohort design*. CloudResearch [Invited talk].

**Choi, S.**, Merrell, W. N., & Ackerman, J. M. (2022, February). *Psychological consequences of COVID-19 vaccines: The effects of vaccination on risk-related judgments for self and others* [Oral presentation]. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.

**Choi, S.** & Ackerman, J. M. (2020, February). *How much of the past do people value when making decisions?* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

**Choi, S.**, Ackerman, J. M., & Merrell, W. N. (2019, May). *What do people think diseases look, smell, sound, taste, and feel like?* Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Boston, MA.

**Choi, S.**, & Suh, E. M. (2019, February). *Are you happy with your friends? The impact of behavioral immune system on social networking strategy and subjective well-being*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

**Choi, S.**, & Suh, E. M. (2018, May). *Pathogen threat, optimal social network, and subjective well-being* [Oral presentation]. Paper presented at the annual

meeting of the Korean Psychological Association, Seoul, South Korea.

Lee, A., Whillans, A., **Choi, S.**, & Suh, E. M. (2018, March). *Happiness now or later? Cultural differences in happiness and motivation when sacrificing present desires for future goals*. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

**Choi, S.**, Choi, M., & Suh, E. M. (2017, August). *What makes us stronger? The influence of resource scarcity on persistence following success and failure*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Korean Psychological Association, Seoul, South Korea.

**Choi, S.**, & Suh, E. M. (2017, March). *The influence of childhood socioeconomic status on seeing the past through rose-tinted glasses*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the International Convention of Psychological Science, Austria, Vienna.

**Choi, S.**, & Suh, E. M. (2017, January). *Retrospective mental time travel in life satisfaction judgment: A life history approach*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.

Kim, S., Park, J., **Choi, S.**, Cho, H., & Kim J. (2013, January). *The effects of smart media efficacy and communication competence on life satisfaction* [Oral presentation]. Paper presented at HCI Korea, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Researcher**, Sept 2018–Present  
Evolutionary Social Psychology Lab, University of Michigan  
Advisor: Dr. Joshua M. Ackerman

**Graduate Researcher**, Mar 2016–Feb 2018  
Personality and Social Psychology Lab, Yonsei University  
Advisor: Dr. Eunkook M. Suh

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Sept 2013–Oct 2014  
Social and Nonverbal Behavior Lab, University of California, Berkeley  
Advisor: Dr. Dana R. Carney

## INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

**External Relations Intern**, Jan 2015–Jun 2015  
McKinsey & Company, Seoul, Korea

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Student Instructor**, University of Michigan  
PSYCH 280: Intro to Social Psychology  
*Winter 2019, Fall 2019, Winter 2020, Winter 2022*

- Taught three discussion sections per semester of 25 students each, designed lesson plans, created exams and materials with the teaching team, held office hours
- Instructor rating: 4.8/5.0 [Winter 2019], 4.4/5.0 [Fall 2019], 4.8/5.0 [Winter 2020], 4.9/5.0 [Winter 2022]

PSYCH 330: Evolution and Behavior  
*Winter 2021*

- Taught three discussion sections of 25 students each, prepared lesson plans, created materials and online spaces for class activities, held office hours
- Instructor rating: 4.8/5.0

PSYCH 385: Sex and Survival  
*Fall 2020*

- Created exams and graded assignments

**Teaching Assistant, Yonsei University**  
Psychology of Work, *Spring 2017*  
Perfectionism and Mental Health, *Fall 2016*

**PROFESSIONAL  
TRAINING**

ICPSR Summer: Multilevel Modeling, Regression II, University of Michigan, 2020  
Qualitative Data Analysis Workshop, University of Michigan, 2019  
Social Network Analysis Workshop, Yonsei University, 2018  
Statistics Winter Intensive Training, Yonsei University, 2017  
Moderation-Mediation Workshop, Yonsei University, 2016

**PROFESSIONAL  
& COMMUNITY  
SERVICE**

Volunteer, Madison Children's Museum, 2023–Present  
Psychology Student Academic Affairs Committee, University of Michigan, 2022  
Psychology Graduate Student Leadership Committee, University of Michigan, 2022  
Board Member, UM Asian Psychology Student Association, 2019–2021  
Mentor, The Michigan Association of Psychological Scholars, 2020  
Interpreter, International Exposition, Yeosu, Korea, Aug 2012  
Cultural Exchange Volunteer, UNICEF Korea, Seoul, Korea, 2011

**PROFESSIONAL  
AFFILIATIONS**

American Psychological Association  
Association for Psychological Science  
Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
Human Behavior and Evolution Society  
Korean Psychological Association

**KEY  
COMPETENCIES**

Quantitative Methods (including experimental design, survey design, sampling)  
Qualitative Methods (including interview, systematic observation)  
Data Analysis & Visualization (R, SPSS, SQL, MPlus)