

EMMA TEMPLETON

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EDUCATION

- 2016-2023 **Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH**
Ph.D. in Psychological and Brain Sciences
Dissertation: What makes conversation good? How responsivity, topics, and insider language predict feelings of connection
- 2009-2013 **Harvard University, Cambridge, MA**
B.A. in Psychology
Cum Laude with Highest Honors in Field

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023-present **Postdoctoral Fellow** – Computational Social Affective Neuroscience Lab
Dartmouth College (P.I. Luke Chang)
- 2016-2023 **Graduate Student** – Dartmouth Social Systems Lab
Dartmouth College (P.I. Thalia Wheatley)
- 2014-2016 **Lab Manager** – Stanford Social Neuroscience Lab
Stanford University (P.I. Jamil Zaki)
- 2010-2013 **Honors Thesis Researcher** – Social, Cognitive, and Affective Neuroscience Lab
Harvard University (Advisors: Jason Mitchell & Diana Tamir)

PUBLICATIONS

Advisees are underlined. * Equal contribution.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., Cone LeBeaumont, M., Nook, E., Haddox, D., Aiman, E., & Wheatley, T. (2024). From talk to telepathy: The spontaneous use of insider language in casual conversation. *PsyArXiv*.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., & Wheatley, T. (2024). Conversational Launch Pads. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (Vol. 46).

Di Stasi, M., **Templeton, E.**, & Quoidbach, J. (2023). Zooming Out on Bargaining Tables: Exploring Which Conversation Dynamics Predict Negotiation Outcomes. *Journal of Applied Psychology*.

Cox, C., **Templeton, E.**, & Fusaroli, R. (2023). Fine-Tuning Social Timing: From Non-Human

to Human Animals and Back. A Commentary on “The Evolution of Social Timing” by Verga, Kotz, and Ravignani. *Physics of Life Reviews*, 47, 79-81.

Templeton, E. & Wheatley. (2023). Listening fast and slow. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 101658.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., Reynolds, E., Cone LeBeaumont, M., & Wheatley, T. (2023). Long gaps between turns are awkward for strangers but not for friends. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B*, 378(1875), 20210471.

Wood, A., **Templeton, E.**, Morrel, J., Schubert, F., & Wheatley, T. (2022). Tendency to laugh is a stable trait: Findings from a round-robin conversation study. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B*, 377(1863), 20210187.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., Reynolds, E., Cone LeBeaumont, M., & Wheatley, T. (2022). Fast response times signal social connection in conversation. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 119(4), e2116915119.

Wei, J., Finn, K., **Templeton, E.**, Wheatley, T., & Vosoughi, S. (2021). Linguistic complexity loss in text-based therapy. In *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human language technologies* (pp. 4450-4459).

Tamir, D.*, **Templeton, E.***, Ward, A., & Zaki, J. (2018). Media usage diminishes memory for experiences. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 76, 161-168.

Templeton, E.M., Stanton, M.V., & Zaki, J. (2016). Social norms shift preferences for healthy and unhealthy foods. *PLoS ONE*, 11(11): e0166286.

Jordan, J., Rutter, E., & **Templeton, E.** (2012). Twenty-first Century Doodling: How does Facebook Use Impact Memory of Lecture Content?. *The Harvard Undergraduate Research Journal*, 5(1), 39-43.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW AND IN PREPARATION

Templeton, E., Wheatley, T., & Chang, L. (invited submission). The importance of studying natural conversation. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*.

Sanchez, K. L., Kalkstein, D. A., Hirschi, Q., Corrington, A., Pinedo, A., Brannon, T. N., Stewart, D., Hard, B. M., Harrington, H. M., **Templeton, E.**, Walton, G. M. (under review). Uncomfortable because we care: A friendship-affirming appraisal of race talk strengthens Black-White friendships over time.

Templeton, E., Wheatley, T., & Chang, L. (in prep). Why the weather? High-transition topics launch conversation.

Thornton, M., **Templeton, E.**, & Wheatley, T. (in prep). Body movement synchrony and anti-synchrony in conversations between friends and strangers.

Welker, C., **Templeton, E.**, & Wheatley, T. (in prep). The affective benefits of diversified social interaction.

Nielsen, Y., Fusaroli, R., Trecca, F., Bleses, D., Fein, D., Højen, A., Naigles, L., **Templeton, E.**, & Christiansen, M. (in prep). Conversational alignment as an individual difference.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2024 Postdoc Professional Development Travel Award
2023 William M. Smith Promise Award in the Brain Sciences
2023 Neukom Institute for Computational Science Travel Grant
2022 Graduate Student Counsel Conference Travel Grant
2022 Neukom Institute for Computational Science Travel Grant
2021 SANS Poster Award
2020 Neukom Institute for Computational Science Travel Grant
2019 Neukom Institute for Computational Science Travel Grant
2019 SPSP Graduate Travel Award
2018 Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, Dartmouth College Center for the Advancement of Learning
2018 Graduate Student Counsel Conference Travel Grant
2016 Graduate Student Counsel Conference Travel Grant
2016 Media Psychology Preconference Graduate Student Travel Award
2015 Stanford CNI Seed Grant
2013 Harvard University Mind, Brain, Behavior Certificate
2013 William Fahey House Spirit Award
2012 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Fellow
2012 Mary Gordon Roberts Summer Mind, Brain, and Behavior Fellowship
2011 David Rockefeller International Experiences Grant
2011 Mind, Brain, and Behavior Departmental Travel Grant
2009 Milken Scholar

INVITED TALKS

Apr 2025 Thought Dynamics Lab Seminar Series, PI: Isaac Fradkin
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (virtual)
(upcoming)

Jan 2025 Carnegie Mellon University
Social and Decision Sciences Department
What makes people feel connected in conversation?

Dec 2024 University of Texas at Austin
Psychology Department
What makes people feel connected in conversation?

Nov 2024 Chicago Booth
Behavioral Science Workshop
What makes people feel connected in conversation?

Nov 2024 Stanford Graduate School of Business
Organizational Behavior Seminar
What makes people feel connected in conversation?

- Oct 2024 The West Interpersonal Perception Lab, PI: Tessa West
New York University (virtual)
What makes people feel connected in conversation?
- May 2024 International Listening Seminar, Organizers: Guy Itzhakov & Avraham Kluger
Virtual meeting
Listening fast and slow
- Feb 2024 UCLA Center for Language, Interaction, and Culture
Los Angeles, CA
What makes people feel connected in conversation?
- Jan 2024 Princeton University Psychology Department
Princeton, NJ
What makes people feel connected in conversation?
- Dec 2023 Columbia University Psychology Department
New York, NY
What makes people feel connected in conversation?
- Oct 2023 Harvard Psychology Social Lunch
Cambridge, MA
What makes conversation good? Gap lengths and insider language predict feelings of connection
- Oct 2023 UCR Social / Personality Proseminar
Riverside, CA (virtual)
What makes conversation good? Gap lengths and insider language predict feelings of connection
- Nov 2022 Niedenthal Emotions Lab, PI: Paula Niedenthal
University of Wisconsin-Madison (virtual)
A naturalistic approach to studying conversation
- Mar 2022 Social Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, PI: Anat Perry
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (virtual)
A naturalistic approach to studying conversation
- Oct 2021 Brown Social Cognitive Seminar
Providence, RI (virtual)
A naturalistic approach to studying conversation
- June 2017 Conversation Day
Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA
What makes conversation good?

CONFERENCE TALKS

- Feb 2025 Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Emotion Preconference

- Denver, CO
From talk to telepathy: The spontaneous use of insider language in casual conversation
- Feb 2025 Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Computational Psychology Preconference
Denver, CO
Conversational Launch Pads
- May 2023 Association for Psychological Science, The Science of Conversation: Novel Perspectives on How to Foster Connections through Meaningful Dialogue
Washington, D.C.
Gaps between turns carry social meaning in conversation
- Feb 2023 Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Psychology of Language Preconference
Atlanta, GA
Conversational Launch Pads
- Feb 2022 Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Shared Reality and Authenticity Preconference
San Francisco, CA
Fast response times signal social connection in conversation
- Feb 2020 Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Social Psychology Unleashed: Extracting Meaningful Patterns from Real-world Social Behavior (Symposium Chair)
New Orleans, LA
A naturalistic approach to studying conversation
- Feb 2019 Society for Personality and Social Psychology, From words to minds: Quantitative text analysis and theory testing
Portland, OR
How to use topic modeling to study conversation
- Jan 2017 Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Media Psychology Preconference
San Antonio, TX
Media usage diminishes engagement and memory of events.

DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- Aug 2022 Dartmouth PBS Text Analysis Meeting
Hanover, NH
Applying text analysis to natural conversation
- Sept 2021 Dartmouth Social Labs Meeting
Hanover, NH
Measuring “insider language” in conversation
- Feb 2021 Dartmouth Social Labs Meeting
Hanover, NH
What are the words that define friendship?
- Jan 2020 Dartmouth Social Brain Sciences Brown Bag

Hanover, NH

The space between us: Short gaps between turns signal social connections

Feb 2019 Dartmouth Social Brain Sciences Brown Bag
Hanover, NH
Turn-taking in natural conversation

POSTERS

Advisees are underlined.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., & Wheatley, T. (2024). *Conversational launch pads*. Poster presented at the Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Haddox, D., Aiman, E., **Templeton, E.**, & Wheatley, T. (2024). *Detecting insider language in natural conversation*. Poster presented at The Love Consortium Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.

Templeton, E., Haddox, D., Aiman, E., Chang, L., & Wheatley, T. (2024). *Conversational launch pads and insider language between strangers and friends*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Emotion Preconference, San Diego, CA.

Welker, C., **Templeton, E.**, & Wheatley, T. (2022). *The affective benefits of diversified social interaction*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Affective Science, virtual meeting.

Welker, C., **Templeton, E.**, & Wheatley, T. (2022). *The affective benefits of diversified social interaction*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.

Di Stasi, M., **Templeton, E.**, & Quoidbach, J. (2021). Conversation Dynamics Predicts Negotiation Outcomes. 34th Annual Conference of the International Association for Conflict Management.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., & Wheatley, T. (2021). *Clicking in conversation: Short gaps between turns signal social connection*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Affective and Social Neuroscience. Poster accepted in 2020, presented virtually in 2021 due to COVID-19.
* Poster Award winner.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., & Wheatley, T. (2019). *Rapid turn-taking during natural conversation predicts greater social connection*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Affective and Social Neuroscience, Miami, FL.

Templeton, E., Chang, L., & Wheatley, T. (2018). *Traveling together through topic space predicts enjoyment of conversation*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Affective and Social Neuroscience, Brooklyn, NY.

Templeton, E., Tamir, D., & Zaki, J. (2016). *Anterior cingulate activity during a passive donation task predicts actual donation behavior*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Affective and Social Neuroscience, New York, NY.

Templeton, E., Tamir, D., & Zaki, J. (2016). *Don't take a picture, it won't last longer: Picture-taking and social media change experiences and memory of events*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

Templeton, E. & Zaki, J. (2015). *You are what your friends eat: Social norms shift food preferences for healthy and unhealthy foods*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, New York, NY.

Templeton, E. & Zaki, J. (2015). *Social norms shift food preferences for healthy and unhealthy foods*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Affective Science, Oakland, CA.

Tamir, D., **Templeton, E.**, Ferreol, M., Mitchell, J. (2012). *Spatial and temporal distance reduces empathic responses to others' suffering*. Poster presented at the Annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, New Orleans, LA.

WORKSHOPS

- 2025 Workshop on Naturalistic Conversation at Princeton University (May 6 - 8)
- 2024 Dartmouth Neuroscience and Artificial Intelligence Workshop (October 21 - 22)
- 2024 UCLA Center for Language, Interaction, and Culture: Adopting affective stances in conversation (February 1 - 2)
- 2023 SFI Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science Modeling and Complexity (June 18 - 30)
- 2021 The Love Consortium Community Event: Cultural considerations in the science of love (November 29)
- 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (November 7 - 11)
- 2020 The Love Consortium Community Event (August 27)
- 2020 Academics for Black Survival and Wellness (June 19 - 25)
- 2020 SFI Conference on Language as a window into human minds: Explorations with computer-resident language and naturalistic conversation (April 23)
- 2018 Methods in Neuroscience at Dartmouth (July 30 - August 7)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2021 Data Science Infused into the Undergraduate STEM Curriculum, *Supervisor*
- 2020 Laboratory in Psychological Science, *Teaching Assistant*
- 2019 Cognition, *Teaching Assistant*
- 2018 Introduction to Psychology, *Teaching Assistant*
- 2017 Social Psychology, *Teaching Assistant*

SERVICE

- 2010-present Milken Scholar Mentor
- 2022-present Vice President of Social Engagement and Inclusion, DartSlam
- 2022-2023 Dartmouth PBS Social Committee
- 2022-2023 Hanover High School Data Analysis Consultant (DEI surveys)
- 2019-2023 Dartmouth PBS Peer Mentor
- 2018-2023 Resident Fellow in East Wheelock House

2020-2021 Mentor for the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream
2019-2020 Building Inclusivity to Advance Science Working Group
2017-2018 Co-organizer for Dartmouth PBS Social Labs Meeting
2017-2019 Co-organizer for Dartmouth PBS Social Brain Symposium
2011-2013 Peer Advising Fellow

AD HOC REVIEWING

Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Cognition, Cognition and Emotion, Collabra: Psychology, Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, Language Learning and Development, National Science Foundation, PLOS ONE, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience, Social Psychological and Personality Science (<https://publons.com/researcher/3311786/emma-templeton/>)

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

Psychologists Have Found a Way to Measure When People ‘Click’, [Discover Magazine](#)
We ‘click’ better with others when conversations flow more quickly, [NewScientist](#)
When do we ‘click’ with someone? This test tells us., [The Washington Post](#)
What smartphone technology is doing to our memories, [Vox](#)