

# HELEN WANG

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## EDUCATION

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<b>Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy</b>	Washington, D.C.
<i>Master of Science in Data Science for Public Policy</i>	<i>Expected May 2026</i>
<b>Princeton University</b>	Princeton, NJ
<i>Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Certificate in Cognitive Science</i>	<i>May 2022</i>
<i>Thesis: Moral Inferencing Patterns within Complex Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (CPTSD) Populations</i>	
Advisors: Yael Niv, Ph.D. & Isabel Berwian, Ph.D.	

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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<b>Brodnax Lab</b>	Washington, D.C.
<i>Graduate Research Assistant</i>	<i>Sept 2025-Present</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scrapped 20,000+ school handbooks across the United States and conducted text analysis to assess carceral ideology over time within the educational system</li></ul>	
<b>Vera Institute of Justice</b>	Brooklyn, NY
<i>Research Analyst</i>	<i>June 2025-Present</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identify methodological flaws, restructure statistical approaches, and produce visualizations for a research brief on incarceration-inclusive unemployment metrics, highlighting the economic impacts of incarceration on marginalized communities</li><li>Produce a data story on the effects of paternal incarceration on mothers' labor market outcomes using mixed methods, combining statistical analyses alongside semi-structured interviews</li></ul>	
<b>Credence Management Solutions</b>	McLean, VA
<i>Policy Analyst</i>	<i>August 2024-May 2025</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Translated scientific research along with market research on competitors to develop policy recommendations and solutions for public health programs, including strategies for nationwide scaling, implementation, recruitment, and program evaluation</li><li>Leveraged natural language processing on congressional legislation and geospatial visualization of federal funding to identify health policy priorities of federal stakeholders, informing strategic engagement</li><li>Conducted market analysis alongside data sourcing and manuscript writing to support bids for competitive NIH grants</li></ul>	
<b>National Institutes of Health</b>	Bethesda, MD
<i>Postbaccalaureate Research Fellow</i>	<i>June 2022-July 2024</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Managed, cleaned, and analyzed complex longitudinal and cross-sectional datasets (500+ participants), capturing the impact of social networks on caregiver health</li><li>Led quantitative and qualitative data analysis using advanced statistical techniques, including hierarchical modeling, social network analysis, and thematic analysis</li><li>Developed data pipelines and quality control measures for a community education program focused on reducing disease outcomes via genetic literacy in under-resourced communities</li></ul>	

- Supported recruitment, data collection and questionnaire development in Qualtrics, resulting in the net enrollment of 100+ participants in a longitudinal network study on caregiving and its related physical and mental health outcomes
- Led project examining the impact of coping strategies and interpersonal network structures on caregiver well-being, earning the Outstanding Poster Award for effective research dissemination

### **Niv Lab**

Princeton, NJ

#### *Undergraduate Researcher*

Sept 2021 – May 2022

- Independently secured \$3500 research grant to fund senior thesis project exploring differences in social learning amongst individuals with Complex Posttraumatic Stress Disorder symptomology compared to controls
- Designed, managed, and conducted experimental study to assess abnormalities in moral inferencing on 100+ participants, including pre-screening, task development, data collection, quantitative data analysis, and manuscript writing

### **Adversity and Relationships in Context Lab**

Princeton, NJ

#### *Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Sept 2021 – May 2022

- Conducted data collection and analysis of 20 + semi-structured interviews, including audio transcription and thematic analysis, to evaluate the effects of social class on close relationship reformation in college students
- Optimized data standardization processes by developing protocols and documentation for cleaning and preparing interview transcripts

### **Alzheimer Hellas**

Thessaloniki, Greece

#### *Summer Intern (Remote)*

June 2021 – Aug 2021

- Synthesized literature on the effects of COVID-19 on the mental wellbeing of dementia caregivers in Greece, culminating in co-authorship on a research manuscript on the subject

### **CONTACT of Mercer County**

Pennington, NJ

#### *Summer Intern (Remote)*

June 2020 – Aug 2020

- Created and implemented a virtual training program to enhance crisis intervention education during COVID-19, leveraging interviews, simulated calls, and video editing
- Compiled a referral database of national organizations and local resources for crisis counselors, streamlining access to information and resources

### **Behavior Science for Policy Lab**

Princeton, NJ

#### *Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Sept 2019 – May 2021

- Curated and coded research papers assessing (1) laboratory behavioral measures as predictors of environmental field behavior and (2) field applications of the Domain-Specific Risk-Taking (DOSPERT) scale for various meta-analysis projects
- Generated and maintained longitudinal datasets tracking corporate coalition membership, activist activity, and sustainability metrics by compiling information from bank ESG disclosures and news reports
- Utilized R and Java to streamline literature searches, perform exploratory data analysis, and produce data visualizations

- Created and pilot-testing surveys in Qualtrics and prepared manuscripts for publication using LaTeX

## **Witten Lab**

Princeton, NJ

### *Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Sept 2018 – May 2019

- Manually coded mouse behavior in MATLAB for a study analyzing the effect of ventral tegmental area inhibition via optogenetics on fear extinction in mice
- Mapped and recorded neuron activation in mice brain slices via WHOLEBRAIN software in R

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

### *Peer-Reviewed Publications*

Nikolaidou, E., Tsatali, M., Eleftheriou, M., **Wang, H.**, Karagiozi, K., Margaritidou, P., & Tsolaki, M. (2022). Emotional Function, Negative Thoughts about the Pandemic, and Adaptability Skills among Dementia Caregivers during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Brain Sciences*, 12(4), 459. <https://doi.org/10.3390/brainsci12040459>

### *Manuscripts Under Review*

Zajdel, M., **Wang, H.**, Swan, T., Keller, K., Lin, J., Koehly, L.M. Interpersonal Processes Linking Relationships and Physical Health.

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## **PRESENTATIONS**

Fisher, M., **Wang, H.**, Brookes, J., Koehly, L.M. (2024, October). Communication of Disease Risk, Resilience, and Generational Status among Families Affected by Sickle Cell Disease. Poster to be presented at the American Public Health Association 2024 Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.

Bishop, R., **Wang, H.**, Lin, J., Koehly, L. M. (2024, April). Social Support and Health Behaviors Among Mexican Americans in Texas: The Role of Social Ties. Poster presented at the American Academy of Health Behavior 2024 Scientific Meeting, Savannah, GA.

**Wang, H.**, Cooper, P., Nummelin, J., Koehly, L.M. (2023, November). Gender Differences in Division of Labor and Network Utilization in Rare Disease Caregivers. Poster presented at the National Human Genome Research Institute Symposium, Bethesda, MD.

Wilson, K., **Wang, H.**, Cordova Amador, I., Koehly, L.M, Lin, J. (2023, November). Medical Mistrust and Social Network Correlates in Hispanic Populations and their Impact on Rheumatoid Arthritis Symptomology. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America conference, Tampa, FL.

Cordova Amador, I., Mukhi, P., **Wang, H.**, Wilkinson, A.V., Lin, J., Koehly, L.M. (2023, November). The Effect of Hurricane Ike on Sharing Family Health History Amongst Mexican American Families. Poster presented at the National Human Genome Research Institute Symposium, Bethesda, MD.

Koehly, L.M., **Wang, H.**, Lin, J., Hollstein, B., Mooseder, A., Pfeffer, J., Prochnow, T., Shafie, T. (2023, June). Characterizing malfeasance, nonfeasance, and uplift relationships within interconnected convoys of parents for children with rare disease. Presentation given at Sunbelt: International Network for Social Network Analysis, Portland, OR.

**Wang, H.**, Zajdel, M., Wilson, K., Mukhi, P., Koehly, L.M. (2023, April). Linking “Drinking to Cope” with Social Network Properties and Caregiving Context. Poster presented at the National Institutes of Health Postbac Poster Day, Bethesda, MD. Awarded the

Outstanding Poster Award.

Wilson, K., Zajdel, M., **Wang, H.**, Koehly, L.M. (2023, April). Service Utilization Barriers and Linked Health Outcomes for Caregivers of Children with Inborn Errors of Metabolism. Poster presented at National Institutes of Health Postbac Poster Day, Bethesda, MD.

Keller, K., **Wang, H.**, Mountcastle, L., Zajdel, M., Koehly, L.M. (2023, April). Posttraumatic Stress in caregivers of children with rare diseases: a multi-method analysis. Poster presented at National Institutes of Health Postbac Poster Day, Bethesda, MD.

**Wang, H.**, Zajdel, M., Koehly, L.M. (2022, November). Linking "Drinking to Cope" with Network Properties and Caregiving Context. Poster presented at the National Human Genome Research Institute Symposium, Bethesda, MD.

Wilson, K.L, Waldman, Z.C., **Wang, H.**, Lin, J., Koehly, L.M. (2022, November). Participant Engagement with genomic risk information and community health services. Poster presented at the National Human Genome Research Institute Symposium, Bethesda, MD.

**Wang, H.**, Cooper, P., Nummelin, J., Zajdel, M., Koehly, L.M. (2022, August). Gender Roles and Informal Caregiving: A Social Network Approach. Poster presented at National Institutes of Health Summer Research Day, Bethesda, MD.

**Wang, H.** (2022, May). Moral Inferencing Patterns within Complex Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (CPTSD) Populations. Presentation given at Princeton University's Department of Psychology, Princeton, NJ.

## **Skills & Certifications**

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Programming	R, Python, SQL, Git, LaTeX
Cloud	Google Cloud Storage/BigQuery
Software	Microsoft Office Suite, Qualtrics, Prolific, Tableau
Language	Mandarin Chinese (Native)
Certifications	Mental Health First Aid

## **EXTRACURRICULAR & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

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**Georgetown Public Policy Review Data Visualization Team** Washington, D.C.  
*Senior Editor* Sept 2024 – Present

- Partnered one-on-one with Georgetown student authors to develop data visualizations for publications via Tableau and R, while delivering feedback on narrative clarity, cohesion, and communication effectiveness

**NIH UGSP Resource Committee** Bethesda, MD  
*Committee Chair* Sept 2022 – May 2023

- Curated resources on graduate school applications, career development, and educational opportunities for low-income and disadvantaged applicants

**RealTalkPrinceton** Princeton, NJ  
*Treasurer & Student Contributor* Sept 2020 – May 2022

- Advised students and prospective applicants on campus community events, academics, extracurriculars, culture, and personal matters
- Developed a standardized protocol to streamline organizational response to student mental health crisis posts, ensuring timely and appropriate responses
- Co-led the registration process to ensure official recognition as an Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students (ODUS) group

**Princeton Peer Nightline***Crisis Counselor*

Princeton, NJ

Sept 2019 – May 2022

- Respond to over 160+ hours of crisis calls and online chats from the Princeton University Undergraduate and Graduate Student body, providing peer counseling, suicide risk assessment, and mental health support

**CONTACT Princeton***Project Leader & Crisis Counselor*

Princeton, NJ

Sept 2018 – May 2022

- Supervised and maintained records of 100+ student volunteers at CONTACT Princeton, including managing recruitment, overseeing training, assigning apprenticeships, facilitating collaborations, and monitoring crisis shift activity
- Represented organizational interests at Executive Board meetings and other communications while also maintained relationships with key stakeholders, including partner branches, sponsoring organizations, daughter organizations, and University oversight members
- Facilitated the transition from in-person to virtual training during COVID-19, ensuring the continued training and support of volunteers while prioritizing participant safety
- Respond to over 120+ hours of crisis text chats and phone calls from the CONTACT Crisis line, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and CrisisChat, following certification in Mental Health First Aid and 10 weeks of intensive training on crisis intervention, suicide risk assessment, active listening, and safety planning

**MISCELLANEOUS WORK EXPERIENCE**

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**Princeton University Public Safety Department***University Operator Line*

Princeton, NJ

Sept 2021 – May 2022

- Directed and transferred callers across different University Departments as needed and answer inquiries about campus events and policies

**Princeton Public Library***Academic Tutor*

Princeton, NJ

Sept 2019 – May 2020

- Provided free tutoring for K-12 students on a wide range of subjects, including Math, English, Science, and Social Studies

**Mega Academy***Teaching Assistant*

Flushing, NY

June 2019 – Aug 2019

- Tutored 53 high school students in SAT-level Math and English and provided support in classroom settings by grading assignments and maintaining detailed progress records.
- Proctored and evaluated practice SAT exams, providing feedback to support student performance improvement.

**Alliance Computing Solutions***Summer Intern*

Princeton, NJ

June 2019 – Aug 2019

- Assisted with basic filing and data entry, including the maintenance of detailed inventory records, billings, vouchers, and contracts with both customers and the Department of Labor

- Maintained communications with both English and Chinese-speaking clients on office photo lines and through email for both the Training and Testing Departments
- Registered test-takers and acted as proctor for exams such as CELPIP, Pearson Vue, PSI, MAT, CLEP, Accuplacer, etc.

## **GRANTS, HONORS, & FELLOWSHIPS**

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2023	<b>Outstanding Poster Award</b> , National Institutes of Health, in recognition for authoring posters that scored in the top 20% of posters presented.
2022	<b>Howard Crosby Warren Senior Prize in Psychology</b> , Princeton University, in recognition of scholarly attainment and good character.
2022	<b>CONTACT Student Club Leadership Award</b> , Mercer County Board of County Commissioners, in recognition of meritorious service and leadership.
2021-2023	<b>National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Scholarship Program</b> 1 of 15 chosen nationally to receive scholarship (up to \$20,000), including a paid summer research internship and funded post-graduation employment at the NIH. Awarded to students from disadvantaged backgrounds to develop careers in biomedical and behavioral social science health-related research.
2021-2022	<b>Undergraduate Senior Thesis Research Grant (\$3,500)</b> , Princeton University, awarded to support data collection and analysis for senior thesis research.
2018-2022	<b>QuestBridge National College Match Scholar</b> Received competitive full, 4-year scholarship (worth over \$200,000) to attend QuestBridge College Partner, Princeton University. Awarded to low-income, high-achieving high school seniors from disadvantaged backgrounds.