Jan Pfänder

PhD Student · École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL), Institut Jean Nicod

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Education

École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL), Institut Jean Nicod
2022 - Present
PhD Psychology
Paris, France
- Supervisors: Hugo Mercier & Kevin Arceneaux
- Thesis: Essays on Understanding Trust in Science

École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL)
2020 – 2022
MA Cognitive Science
Paris, France
- Supervisor: Hugo Mercier
- Thesis: How wise is the crowd – Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other?

Universität Freiburg
2019 – 2020
MA Journalism, 1st year
Freiburg, Germany

Universität Konstanz
2014 – 2018
BA Political Science and Public Administration
Konstanz, Germany

Work Experience

Direction Interministérielle de la Transformation Publique (DITP)
June 2020 – August 2020
Research Intern
Paris, France

Assemblée Nationale
September 2018 – July 2019
Parliamentary Assistant
Paris, France

University of St. Gallen
June 2017 – July 2018
Research Assistant
St. Gallen, Switzerland

Teaching

Courses

Critical thinking and fact checking | *Université PSL (Paris Sciences & Lettres)*
2022 – Present
- A hands-on introduction to research design for the interdisciplinary BA program "Sciences pour un monde durable"
- Sole instructor & creator of the course
- 30h in-class per semester; one semester a year

Workshops

Meta-analysis for beginners
- Laboratoire de Psychologie du Développement et de l'Éducation de l'Enfant (LaPsyDÉ) *(2h) | June 2024*

Publications

[1]*first author*

Peer Reviewed Publications

[1.] **Pfänder, J.**[1], de Courson, B., Mercier, H. (2025). How wise is the crowd: Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other? *Cognition, 255, 106005.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2024.106005

[2.] **Pfänder, J.**[1], de Courson, B., Mercier, H. (2024). How wise is the crowd: Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other? *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 46(0).* https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4ms2n8wd

Working Papers

[3.] **Pfänder, J.**[1], & Altay, S. (2024). Spotting False News and Doubting True News: A Meta-Analysis of News Judgments. https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/n9h4y *(Accepted)*

PRESENTATIONS

Talks

- **Processus sous-tendant la confiance dans la science**
  5ème édition des Rencontres Jeunes Chercheur·euse·s | *Grenoble, June 2024*

- **Spotting False News and Doubting True News: A Meta-Analysis of News Judgments**
  EDMO Scientific Conference on Disinformation | *Amsterdam, May 2024*

Posters

- **How wise is the crowd – Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other?**
  46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society | *Rotterdam, July 2024*

EXTERNAL COURSEWORK & SUMMER SCHOOLS

Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute   St. Andrews, UK
Hosted by the University of St. Andrews and organized by Indiana University Bloomington   *July 2024*

SKILLS

Languages: German, English, French, Spanish
Programming: R, Git (basics), Python (rudimentary)