

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Deliberation in online environments, disinformation and conspiracy
- Psychology of sustainable behavior, especially travel and transportation
- Climate change communication and climate change skepticism
- Online opinion dynamics, political polarization and extremism

## EDUCATION

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- PhD Governance** 2020-2023  
*Hertie School Berlin*  
Research focus: Online Environments, Deliberation and Democracy. In affiliation with the Hertie School's Data Science Lab, supervised by Prof. Simon Munzert.
- MSc. Social Data Science** 2019-2020  
*University of Oxford*  
Interdisciplinary and international graduate program, hosted by the Oxford Internet Institute, at the intersection of social and computational science, with a practical focus on data analysis and programming with Python, Internet research and political science
- MSc. Psychology** 2016-2019  
*University of Kassel*  
First major in Social and Environmental Psychology, second major in Clinical Psychology.  
Master thesis: Social Drivers of Individual Air Travel
- BSc. Psychology** 2013-2016  
*University of Kassel*  
Bachelor thesis in environmental psychology: Outdoor sport and Environmental behavior.  
Presentation of thesis-related poster at the AASP Conference in Toronto, 2018

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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- Teaching Assistant** Fall 2021  
*Introduction to Data Science, Hertie School*  
Teaching two groups of MSc students (Data Science for Public Policy), I revisit the topics presented in the lecture on data collection, data storage and programming and demonstrate practical applications in R.
- Teaching Assistant** Spring 2021  
*Statistical Modeling & Causal Inference, Hertie School*  
Teaching two groups of MSc students (Public Policy), I revisited the topics presented in the lecture on statistical modeling and causal inference and demonstrate practical applications of the methods in R.

**Research Consultant**

2020-2021

*Data Science Lab, Hertie School*

Providing help and advice on methodological and technical issues that appear in the course of student and PhD research, e.g. questions of research design, quantitative measurement, statistical inference and computational tools.

**Research Assistant**

2017-2019

*Center for Environmental Systems Research (CESR)*

Within the DFG funded TOMACE project (Trade Offs between Mitigation and Climate Engineering) we analyzed the public attitude towards solar radiation management. My focus was on psychological test construction, data analysis and visualization using R. The project was embedded in the SESAM group (Socio-environmental Systems Analysis and Modeling).

**Teaching Assistant**

2014-2016

*University of Kassel, Department of Psychology, Quantitative Methods*

Teaching various groups of undergraduate students, I deepened the topics presented in the Quantitative Methods I and II lectures and demonstrated the practical implementation of methods in R across three subsequent semesters.

**Research Assistant**

2014-2016

*University of Kassel, Department of Psychology, Psychology of Memory*

Within a project on false memories, I conducted experiments with participants in the laboratory.

**PUBLICATIONS**

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Oswald, L., Bright, J. (2021). How do climate change skeptics engage with opposing views? Understanding mechanisms of social identity and cognitive dissonance in an online forum. arXiv preprint arXiv:2102.06516.

Oswald, L., & Ernst, A. (2020). Flying in the Face of Climate Change: Quantitative psychological approach examining the social drivers of individual air travel. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 29(1), 68-86.

Klaus, G., Ernst, A., & Oswald, L. (2020). Psychological factors influencing laypersons' acceptance of climate engineering, climate change mitigation and business as usual scenarios. *Technology in Society*, 60, 101222.

Klaus, G., Oswald, L., Ernst, A., & Merk, C. (2021). Effects of opinion statements on laypeople's acceptance of a climate engineering technology. Comparing the source credibility of researchers, politicians and a citizens' jury. *Journal of Science Communication*, 20(1), A03.

**PRESENTATIONS**

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**ICP+**

2021

*International Congress of Applied Psychology*

Topic: How do climate change skeptics engage with opposing views? Mechanisms of social identity and cognitive dissonance in an online forum.

- PBW** 2021  
*Political Behavior Workshop, Humboldt University Berlin*  
 Topic: Pinning down deliberative systems with digital trace data.
- MPA** 2021  
*Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association*  
 Topic: How do climate change skeptics engage with opposing views? Invited talk within the 'internet explorer' symposium.

## VOLUNTARY ENGAGEMENT

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- Seminar Organization** 2019-2020  
*Network Analysis for Sustainable Development*  
 In collaboration with the German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes), we hold a 4-day Seminar with 85 participants, international speakers, multiple workshops, talks and hands-on projects on the potentials of network analysis in the context of sustainable development (e.g. mobility networks, ecological networks, climate networks and the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN) in Berlin.
- Elected Student Representative** 2018-2019  
*Graduate Center for Environmental Studies and Teaching (GradZ), University of Kassel*  
 I represented students' interests in the interdisciplinary center for environmental research at the University of Kassel.
- Seminar Organization** 2018-2019  
*Artificial Intelligence and Society*  
 Funded by the German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes), we organized an interdisciplinary discussion seminar on artificial intelligence with a focus on societal, technical, scientific and ethical perspectives, in collaboration with the Ludwig-Maximilian-University, Munich.
- Seminar Organization** 2017-2018  
*Sustainability Scenario Modelling*  
 We organized this seminar for scholarship holders of the German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes) with a sustainability focus. We developed climate models and social scenarios, hosted 9 International speakers, in collaboration with IIASA Vienna and the University of Vienna.
- Elected Student Representative** 2017-2018  
*Directorate, Department of Psychology, University of Kassel*  
 I communicated psychology students' interests to academic faculty and discussed strategic developments of the department.
- Sport Psychology** 2017  
*FC Augsburg (German premier league soccer team)*  
 Focus on collection and analysis of data for research and diagnostics on motivation and volition, as well as the communication of results to coaches and staff, partly practical work on the field.

**Psychological therapy of chronic pain**

2015

*German Red Cross Hospital, Kassel (Pain Clinic)*

I led psycho educative groups on the psychological dynamics of chronic pain, especially for patients with chronic headaches and stress, and instructed various methods of stress reduction.

**AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

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**Highly commended thesis**

2020

*Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford*

Honoring MSc thesis (Should we talk to climate skeptics?), annual award.

**Carl-Friedrich Graumann Award**

2018

*German Psychological Society (DGPs), Section Environmental Psychology*

Honoring BSc thesis (Outdoor Sport and Environmental behavior) as best newcomer scientist work in the field of environmental psychology, biannual award.

**Scholarship**

2016-2020

*German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes)*

Supporting "the university education of young people who, on account of their exceptional academic or artistic talents and their personalities, can be expected to make an outstanding contribution to society as a whole".

**CONTACT**

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