Marianna Zhang

she/her

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A CV might suggest our path is defined only by successes. And the broader culture of academia might suggest this of graduate students and academics broadly. Here's to correcting that image.

*Partial list of rejections starting from college. Does not include opportunities I was too insecure to apply to – shoot your shot!

Degree programs I didn't get into

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2018	PhD program in Psychology, Department of Psychology
	University of Michigan
	• I was waitlisted so I don't know how it would have actually shaken out. At some point while waiting, I realized my mind was made up already for elsewhere.
2018	MA program in Psychology, Department of Psychology
	University of British Columbia
2040	
2018	PhD program in Psychology, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
	PhD program in Cognitive Science, Cognitive Science Program
	Indiana University Bloomington
2014	Bachelor of Arts, Harvard University
	• I didn't actually like the school and only applied because of parental pressure, so I
	felt a strange sense of relief from this failure.
2014	De de de la Contra Vala II disconsider
2014	Bachelor of Arts, Yale University
	• In contrast, I actually did like Yale, so this was disappointing to hear.

Honors & awards I didn't receive

2022	Elizabeth Munsterberg Koppitz Child Psychology Graduate Student Fellowship,
	American Psychological Foundation
2021	Outstanding Research Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)
2021	Stanford Interdisciplinary Graduate Fellowship, Stanford University
2018, 2020	Graduate Research Fellowship Award (x2), National Science Foundation
	 One epic all-nighter didn't manage it senior year of undergrad, and listening to unfortunate advice about page margins sunk my chances in grad school. I probably learned the most from this failure: good friends will support you <i>especially</i> when you face failure, and even though it might not feel like it in the moment, life does go on.
2017	Liew Family College Research Grant, Career Advancement, The University of Chicago
2017	Beinecke Scholarship
2017	Goldwater Scholarship
2017	PRISM Research Grant, Career Advancement, The University of Chicago
2017	UCISTEM Summer Research Grant, Career Advancement, The University of Chicago
2016	Summer Action Grant, Career Advancement, The University of Chicago

Critical Language Scholarship (CLS), U.S. Department of State 2016

Research experiences I didn't get into

Center for the Study of Language and Information (CSLI) Summer Internship Summer 2016

Stanford University

• I'm a graduate student at Stanford now and often coordinate this program & participate in the program as a mentor!

too many labs to recall, Department of Psychology

University of Chicago

• I am perpetually thankful Daniel Casasanto decided to take a chance on first-year me.

2014