

## Mengdi Huang

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### EDUCATION

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| 2019 – 2020 | M.A. Social Sciences (Psychology)<br>University of Chicago<br>Chicago, IL<br>Thesis: <i>Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People's Intuition of Meaning</i><br>Advisor: Fan Yang, Ph.D.                             |
| 2015 - 2019 | B.S., Social Psychology, <i>High Distinction</i><br>University of California, San Diego<br>San Diego, CA<br>Honors Thesis: <i>How Guilt Decays: Effects of Rationalization on an Interpersonal Perspective</i><br>Advisor: Kristen Duke, Ph.D. & On Amir, Ph.D. |

### ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC TRAINING

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| 2019 | University of Chicago, Computational Mathematics and Statistics Camp                 |
| 2019 | University of Chicago, Quantitative Methods in Education, Health and Social Sciences |

### AWARDS AND HONORS

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| 2019-2020 | Maroon Scholar Research Award, University of Chicago                     |
| 2019-2020 | Director's Fellowship, University of Chicago                             |
| 2019      | Anderson Undergraduate Travel Award, University of California, San Diego |
| 2018      | Marshall College Provost Honors, University of California, San Diego     |

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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| 2019 – Present | <b>Human Nature and Potentials Lab, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL</b><br><i>Psychology Graduate Student</i><br>Advisor: Fan Yang, Ph.D. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examine people's moral judgments of happiness and meaning</li> <li>• Manage original research study: design experiments, thesis and IRB proposal, recruit participants and run experiments on MTurk, data management, writing journal quality paper</li> <li>• Construct a linear mixed-effect model to analyze data in R</li> <li>• Preliminary results were presented at the 2020 Society for Personality and Social Psychology's Annual Convention</li> </ul> |
| 2018 – 2019    | <b>Rady School of Management, University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA</b><br><i>Undergraduate Honors Student</i><br>Advisor: Kristen Duke, Ph.D. & On Amir, Ph.D.   |

- Conducted independent research on guilt reduction strategies and the reparative function of guilt
- Reviewed literature, designed experiment on Qualtrics, and collected data on SONA
- Presented research project in various conferences

2017 – 2019

**Emotion Lab, University of California, San Diego**, San Diego, CA

*Research Assistant*

Supervisor: Christopher Oveis, Ph.D.

- Examined empathy and perceived responsiveness in a laboratory setting
- Recorded and interpreted physiological signals (blood pressure, heart rate, and respiratory rate)
- Independently trained new RAs on physiological equipment; Scored physiological data on MindWare
- Coded behaviors on Boris; Edited videos for behavioral coding

Summer 2018

**The Markman Lab, Stanford University**, Stanford, CA

*Summer Research Assistant*

Supervisor: Lin Bian, Ph.D.

- Coded survey short answers on people's inference heuristics about breakfast
- Recruited participants at local preschool
- Examined gender stereotype and motivation on children aged from 4 to 6
- Performed data entry, cleaning, and visualizations

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

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Huang, M. & Yang, F. *Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People's Intuition of Meaning*. Manuscript in progress.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**Huang, M.** & Yang, F. (under review). *Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People's Intuition of Meaning*. Poster to be presented at 2021 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference.

**Huang, M.\***, Yang, F., Yu, Y., Liu, J., Leng, Y. (June 2020). *What is Happiness? Explaining Happiness from Different Perspectives*. Panel talk presented at 2020 MAPSS Virtual Academic Conference  
\*Panel Organizer

**Huang, M.**, Duke, K., & Amir, O. (June 2020). *How Guilt Decays: Effects of Rationalization on an Interpersonal Perspective*. Poster presented at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Association for Psychological Science Conference. (Conference Canceled, available [online](#))

**Huang, M.**, Duke, K., & Amir, O. (May 2019). *How Guilt Decays: Effects of Rationalization on an Interpersonal Perspective*. Poster presented at the Annual Psychology Student Research Fair at California State University, San Marcos. San Diego, CA

**Huang, M.**, Aleibar, D., & Guarrena-Espinosa, L (May 2018) *The Effect of comparing Similarities and Differences Through Upward or Downward Social Comparison on Academic Self-Concept*. Poster presented at the University of California, San Diego Department of Psychology Honors Program Symposium. San Diego, CA

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Spring 2018      PSYC 70: Research Methods in Psychology (Course Instructor: Dr. David Frederick)  
 University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA  
*Undergraduate Teaching Assistant:* Led weekly discussions to reinforce difficult methodological concepts. Assisted with grading of course quizzes and exams.
- Fall 2018        PSYC 193L: Social Psychology Laboratory Topics (Course Instructor: Dr. David Frederick)  
 University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA  
*Undergraduate Teaching Assistant:* Held office hours to help students on research design and SPSS interpretation. Assisted with distributing studies on SurveyMonkey.
- 2018 - 2019      Psychology Honors Mentoring Program  
 University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA  
*Mentor:* Met with mentees biweekly and supported them to succeed in their honors coursework and projects.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

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- 2020              Tsinghua Positive Psychology Club  
 2020              University of Chicago ReproducibiliTea Journal Club

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

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- 2020    Association for Psychological Science (APS)

## RESEARCH SKILLS

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Statistical Software: R, SPSS, JMP  
 Programming Languages: Python, HTML  
 Laboratory: Psychophysiology (ECG, EMG, EEG)  
 Computational Skills: Qualtrics, MTurk, Text Mining (Sentiment Analysis, Topic Modeling)  
 Language: Mandarin, Korean