

CURRENT POSITION

Postdoctoral researcher

Max Planck Institute for Human Development
Center for Humans and Machines

Berlin, Germany

Since 09/2023

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Postdoctoral researcher

Ruhr-University Bochum
Center for Law, Behaviour, and Cognition

Bochum, Germany

04/2022 - 08/2023

- DFG/CAPES-funded project: “Experimental legal philosophy: The concept of law revisited”. Principal investigator: Stefan Magen
- September 2022: Research stay at University of Granada (Spain)
- April/May 2023: Research stay at Insper, São Paulo, and PUC Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

EDUCATION

Dr. rer. nat. Psychology

Georg-August-University Göttingen. Grade: magna cum laude (“with great honors”)
Georg-Elias-Müller Institute for Psychology
Cognitive and Decision Sciences

Göttingen, Germany

2017 - 2022

- Thesis: “The role of causal representations in moral judgment”. Advisor: Michael R. Waldmann.
- Defense date: August 29, 2022

M.Sc. Psychology

Georg-August-University Göttingen. Grade: 1.3 (“very good”)

Göttingen, Germany

2014–2017

- Thesis: “An empirical investigation of the effects of prescriptive and statistical normality on judgments of actual causation and accountability”. Grade: 1.0 (“very good”). Advisor: Michael R. Waldmann
- Research stay at University College London, UK (Summer 2016), Department of Experimental Psychology, Causal Cognition Lab (David Lagnado)

B.Sc. Psychology

Georg-August-University Göttingen. Grade: 1.3 (“very good”, degree awarded with distinction)

Göttingen, Germany

2010–2014

- Thesis: “Foraging with threatened options”. Grade: 1.0 (“very good”). Advisor: Hansjörg Neth
- Study stay at Université Paris Est Créteil Val de Marne, France (Summer 2014), Studies of French philology, literature, philosophy and history

PUBLICATIONS

Engelmann, N. (2025). Murderer at the door! To lie or to mislead? In A. Wiegmann (Ed.), *Advances in experimental philosophy of lying*. Bloomsbury.

Engelmann, N., Kirfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., & Rahwan, I. (2025). Framing, not transparency, reduces cheating in algorithmic delegation. In D. Barner, C. Walker, A. Ruggeri, & N. Bramley (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 47th annual meeting of the cognitive science society*. Cognitive Science Society.

- Engelmann, N.**, & Kirfel, L. (2025). Who caused it? Different effects of statistical and prescriptive abnormality on causal selection in chains. In K. Tobia (Ed.), *The Cambridge handbook of experimental jurisprudence*. Cambridge University Press.
- Almeida, G. F. C. F., Nunez, J. L., **Engelmann, N.**, Wiegmann, A., & de Araújo, M. (2024). Exploring the psychology of LLM's moral and legal reasoning. *Artificial Intelligence*, 333, 104145.
- Engelmann, N.**, Almeida, G. F. C. F., Oliveira, F., Prochownik, K., Hannikainen, I., Struchiner, N., & Magen, S. (2024). Apply the laws, if they are good: Moral evaluations linearly predict whether judges should apply the law. *Cognitive Science*, 48(10), e70001.
- Engelmann, N.**, & Hannikainen, I. R. (2024). Does moral valence influence the construal of alternative possibilities? *Possibility Studies & Society*, 2(3), 318–333.
- Engelmann, N.**, Hannikainen, I. R., González-García, C., & Ruz, M. (2024). Understanding rule enforcement using drift diffusion models. In L. Samuelson, S. Frank, M. Toneva, A. Mackey, & E. Hazeltine (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 46th meeting of the cognitive science society*.
- Shurakov, N., Kolbe, M., **Engelmann, N.**, & Wiegmann, A. (2024). Borderline lies - do LLMs judge like humans? [in press]. In V. C. Müller, A. R. Dewey, L. Dung, & G. Löhr (Eds.), *Philosophy of artificial intelligence: The state of the art*. Springer Nature.
- Stephan, S., **Engelmann, N.**, & Waldmann, M. R. (2023). The perceived dilution of causal strength. *Cognitive Psychology*, 140, 101540.
- Engelmann, N.**, & Waldmann, M. R. (2022a). How causal structure, causal strength, and foreseeability affect moral judgments. *Cognition*, 226, Article 105167.
- Engelmann, N.**, & Waldmann, M. R. (2022b). How to weigh lives. A computational model of moral judgment in multiple-outcome structures. *Cognition*, 218, Article 104910.
- Wiegmann*, A., & **Engelmann***, N. (2022). Is lying morally different from misleading? An empirical investigation. In L. Horn (Ed.), *From lying to perjury: Linguistic and legal perspectives on lies and other falsehoods* (pp. 89–111).
- Engelmann, N.**, & Waldmann, M. R. (2021). A causal proximity effect in moral judgment. In T. Fitch, C. Lamm, H. Leder, & K. Teßmar-Raible (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 43rd meeting of the cognitive science society* (pp. 2330–2336).
- Viebahn*, E., Wiegmann*, A., **Engelmann, N.**, & Willemse, P. (2021). Can a question be a lie? An empirical investigation. *Ergo*, 8, Article 7.
- Hagmayer, Y., & **Engelmann, N.** (2020). Asking questions to provide a causal explanation – Do people search for the information required by cognitive psychological theories? In E. A. Bar-Asher Siegal & N. Boneh (Eds.), *Perspectives on causation: Selected papers from the Jerusalem 2017 workshop* (pp. 121–147). Springer International Publishing.
- Wiegmann*, A., & **Engelmann***, N. (2020). Entwicklungen und probleme der moralpsychologie zu beginn des 21. jahrhunderts [Developments and problems in moral psychology in the 21st century]. In N. Paulo & J. C. Bublitz (Eds.), *Empirische ethik - Grundlagentexte aus psychologie und philosophie* (pp. 139–175). Suhrkamp Verlag.
- Hagmayer, Y., & **Engelmann, N.** (2014). Causal beliefs about depression in different cultural groups — What do cognitive psychological theories of causal learning and reasoning predict? *Frontiers in Psychology*, 5, Article 1303.
- Neth, H., **Engelmann, N.**, & Mayrhofer, R. (2014). Foraging for alternatives: Ecological rationality in keeping options viable. In P. Bello, M. Guarini, M. McShane, & B. Scassellati (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 36rd meeting of the cognitive science society* (pp. 1078–1083).

* = shared first authorship

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Hannikainen, I. R., Engelmann, N., González-García, C., & Ruz, M. (2024). Drift diffusion models reveal punitive bias and cognitive conflict in rule enforcement.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2024: Disciplinary Diversity & Integration Award in Cognitive Science for the paper “Understanding rule enforcement using drift diffusion modelling”, Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 1000\$.
- 2023: Nominated for the dissertation prize of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), General Psychology section.
- 2023: Travel grant by Fritz Thyssen Stiftung for research stay at Insper, São Paulo, and PUC Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, ca. 3000€.
- 2016: Erasmus+ Scholarship for research stay at University College London, UK, ca. 1500€.
- 2014: Erasmus Scholarship for stay at Université Paris Est Créteil Val de Marne, Paris, France, ca. 1500€.
- 2014: “Niedersachsenstipendium” (Scholarship awarded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research for outstanding grades and political engagement, 500€).
- 2012–2013: “Deutschlandstipendium” (Scholarship awarded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research for outstanding grades and political engagement, 12 x 300€).

INVITED TALKS

- Engelmann, N., Ruiz Torres, E., Isern-Mas, C., Machery, E., Hannikainen, I., “Moral Judgments about Abortion”, *Legal Interpretation and Moral Reasoning Workshop, University of Granada, Spain, November 5 – 7, 2025*.
- Engelmann, N., Kirlfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., Rahwan, I., “Understanding and preventing unethical behavior in delegation to AI”, *Basel-Oxford-NUS BioXPhi Summit 2025, University of Basel, Switzerland, June 26, 2025*.
- Engelmann, N., Hannikainen, I., “Understanding rule enforcement using drift diffusion models”, *Symposium on Legal Interpretation and Data, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., USA, March 14, 2025*.
- Engelmann, N., Kirlfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., Rahwan, I., “Understanding and preventing the delegation of unethical behavior to AI”, *EXTRA Research Colloquium, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany, January 29, 2025*.
- Engelmann, N., Kirlfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., Rahwan, I., “Why does delegation to algorithms facilitate unethical behavior?”, *Workshop “Machine Behavior Research on Cooperative AI”, University of Duisburg, Germany, November 14-15, 2024*.
- Shurakov, N., Kolbe, M., Engelmann, N., and Wiegmann, A., “Borderline lies: Do LLMs judge like humans?”, *Symposium “LLMs for xPhi”, Jagiellonian University Kraków, Poland, May 30, 2024*.
- Engelmann, N., “Is there a duty to apply immoral laws?”, *Workshop “Moral cognition in medicine and law”, University of Granada, Spain, May 10 - 11, 2024*.
- Engelmann, N., “Is lying morally different from misleading? An empirical investigation”, *Workshop “Deceptive speech acts in philosophy and law”, Jagiellonian University Kraków, Poland, October 05 - 06, 2023*.
- “The role of causal representations in moral judgment”, *Dissertation competition of the German Psychological Society (DGPs), General Psychology section, Schloss Rauischholzhausen, June 24, 2023*.
- “An empirical investigation of the relationship between law and morality”, *PUC Rio de Janeiro, May 15, 2023*.
- “Causal reasoning”, *Insper, São Paulo, May 02, 2023*.
- “The role of causal representations in moral judgment”, *Stanford University, Causality in Cognition Lab , October 17, 2022*.
- “How to weigh lives. A computational model of moral judgment in multiple-outcome structures”, *Workshop “Moral dilemmas involving self-driving cars”, Bundeswehr University, Munich, October 7, 2022*.

- “The role of causal representations in moral judgment”, *University of Granada, Department of Philosophy*, September 28, 2022.
- “A causal proximity effect in moral judgment”, *Chicago/Michigan Psychology and Law Studies Lab*, September 29, 2021.
- “A causal proximity effect in moral judgment”, *Georgetown Law & Language Lab*, September 13, 2021.
- Invited discussant, *Workshop “The Moral Psychology of War.” Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law, and Armed Conflict (ELAC) & Nuffield College Oxford, May 13 - 14, 2021*.
- Invited author, *book workshop “Empirische Ethik”*. *Center for Interdisciplinary Research at Bielefeld University, Germany, August 29 - 30, 2019*.
- “Norms and causation - Current empirical findings” (with Lara Kirfel), *Workshop “The Experimental Philosophy of Morality and Causation - Perspectives from Philosophy, Psychology, and Law.” Ruhr University Bochum, Germany, June 13, 2017*.

CONFERENCE TALKS

- Engelmann, N., Kirfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., Rahwan, I., “Framing, not transparency, reduces cheating in algorithmic delegation”, *Subjective Probability, Utility, & Decision-Making (SPUDM)*, Lucca, Italy, August 30 - September 4, 2025.
- Engelmann, N., Kirfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., Rahwan, I., “Framing, not transparency, reduces cheating in algorithmic delegation”, *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, San Francisco, USA*, July 30 - August 1, 2025.
- Engelmann, N., Kirfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., Rahwan, I., “Framing, not transparency, reduces cheating in algorithmic delegation”, *IC2S2: Annual conference of the International Society for Computational Social Science, Norköpping, Sweden*, July 22 - 24, 2025.
- Engelmann, N., Kirfel, L., Nussberger, A., Rilla, R., Rahwan, I., “Framing, not transparency, reduces cheating in algorithmic delegation”, *EASP Meeting: The Future of Behavioural Ethics*, Harnack Haus, Berlin, Germany, May 16 - 17, 2025.
- Engelmann, N., Hannikainen, I., González-García, C., and Ruz, M., “Understanding rule enforcement using drift diffusion models”, *46th Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Rotterdam, Netherlands*, July 26, 2024.
- Engelmann, N., “Is there a duty to apply immoral laws?”, *4th European Experimental Philosophy Conference, Kraków, Poland*, May 30 — June 2, 2024.
- Engelmann, N. & Wiegmann, A., “Is lying morally different from misleading? An empirical investigation”, *2nd European Experimental Philosophy Conference, Granada, Spain*, September 08 - September 10, 2022.
- Engelmann, N. & Wiegmann, A., “Is lying morally different from misleading? An empirical investigation”, *Joint Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP) and the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP)*, Milan, Italy, July 19 - July 22, 2022.
- Wiegmann, A. & Engelmann, N., “Is lying morally different from misleading? An empirical investigation”, *Workshop “Commitments in Grammar and Discourse” at the Annual Meeting of the German Society for Linguistics*, February 23, 2022 (Online).
- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., “Moral reasoning with multiple effects: Exploring the scope of a subjective-utilitarian approach”, *Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP)*, Titania Hotel, Athens, Greece, September 6, 2019.
- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., “Moral reasoning with multiple effects: Exploring the scope of a subjective-utilitarian approach”, *European Conference for Cognitive Science*, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany, September 3, 2019.

- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., "Moral reasoning with multiple effects", *Tagung experimentell arbeitender Psychologen (Teap), London Metropolitan University, UK, April 17, 2019.*

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., "How to weigh lives. A computational model of moral judgment in multiple-outcome structures.", *Poster presentation at the workshop "Engineering and Reverse-Engineering Morality" at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, July 26, 2021 (online)*
- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., "A causal proximity effect in moral judgment", *Poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, July 26 - 29, 2021 (Online)*
- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., "A causal proximity effect in moral judgment", *Poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP), June 28 - July 02, 2021 (Online)*
- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., "Moral reasoning with multiple effects", *Poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Palais des Congrès, Montréal, Canada, July 27, 2019.*
- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., "Moral reasoning with multiple effects", *Poster presentation at the RTG 2070 conference "Understanding Social Relationships", German Primate Center, Göttingen, Germany, October 17, 2018.*
- Engelmann, N. & Waldmann, M.R., "The interaction between causality, foreseeability, and outcome valence in attributions of moral responsibility", *Poster presentation at the UK Xphi Conference, University College London, UK, June 14, 2018.*
- Viebahn, E., Wiegmann, A., Engelmann, N., & Willemesen, P., "Can a question be a lie? An empirical investigation", *Poster presentation at the UK Xphi Conference, University College London, UK, June 14, 2018.*
- Stephan, S., Engelmann, N., & Kirfel, L., "The influence of learned statistical abnormality on singular causation judgments", *Poster presentation at the UK Xphi Conference, University College London, UK, June 14, 2018.*
- Engelmann, N., Stephan, S., & Lagnado, D., "Functional norms and causal judgment", *Poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology (ESPP), University of Hertfordshire, UK, August 16, 2017.*

TEACHING

Courses

Quantitative Methods I (Bachelor Psychology): basics of research design and hypothesis testing, data visualisation, descriptive and inferential data analysis, data visualisation, power analyses. Practical exercises in MS Excel.

- Winter 2017/18, Winter 2018/19, Winter 2019/20, Winter 2020/21, Winter 2021/22

Quantitative Methods II (Bachelor Psychology): General Linear Model and applications (multiple linear regression and its assumptions, ANOVA, contrast analyses, logistic regression, multilevel models). Practical exercises in R and RStudio.

- Summer 2018, Summer 2019, Summer 2020, Summer 2021

Thesis Supervision

- **Deprivationism vs. willhavehadism - The influence of life satisfaction on judgments in moral dilemmas.** M.Sc. thesis, A. Rinn, Summer 2022.
- **Moral intuitions about death.** M.Sc. thesis, F. Koniusch, Summer 2022.

- **Killing as a side effect: Investigating the violability of soldiers and civilians in war.** B.Sc. thesis, K. McElyea, Summer 2021 (co-supervision with Juan Carlos Marulanda).
- **AI and moral decisions: Can experience learning and process transparency increase acceptability?** M.Sc. thesis, A. Zobott, Summer 2020.
- **Lying, deceiving, misleading: Moral evaluation and the influence of perspective.** M.Sc. thesis, E. Köhler, Summer 2020 (co-supervision with Dr. Alex Wiegmann).
- **The influence of causal structure and beliefs about causal structure on judgments of causation and moral responsibility.** B.Sc. thesis, S. Ernst, Summer 2020.
- **Moral reasoning with multiple effects: Intentionality and moral responsibility for side effects.** B.Sc. thesis, M. Rocholl, Summer 2019.
- **The role of outcome valence for causal attributions in disjunctive causal structures.** B.Sc. thesis, L. Ahlwes, Summer 2019.
- **Causal questions and explanation.** B.Sc. thesis, L. Bertz, Summer 2018 (co-supervision with Prof. York Hagemayer).

SERVICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **Action Editor** *Experimental Philosophy* since 2025
- **Member of the Research Data Management and Open Science Working Group** *Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin.* since 2024
- **Member of search committee for a professorship in work and organizational psychology** *Institute for Psychology, Georg-August-University Göttingen.* 2021/22
- **Participant in Dorothea Schröder mentoring programme** *Career mentoring for female PhD candidates and postdocs, selected for academic potential* 2021 - 2022
- **Co-organizer of R-Ladies Göttingen** *Organization to promote gender diversity in the R community* 2021
- **Member of the ethics board** *Institute for Psychology, Georg-August-University Göttingen.* 2020 - 2022

AD HOC REVIEWS

- *Acta Psychologica*
- *Bloomsbury Press*
- *Cognition*
- *Cognitive Science*
- *Cognitive Psychology*
- *Collabra*
- *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*
- *Open Mind*
- *Scientific Reports*
- *Social Psychological and Personality Science*
- *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*
- *Philosophical Psychology*
- *PLoS one*
- *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*
- *Royal Society Open Science*

LANGUAGES

- **German:** Native speaker
- **English:** Fluent
- **French:** Conversational

SOFTWARE AND PROGRAMMING SKILLS

- R (advanced)
- LaTex (intermediate)
- MatLab (basics)
- Python (basics)