

# CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Richard Rau  
Health and Medical University Potsdam / University of Münster  
Schiffbauergasse 14, 14667 Potsdam  
Mail: richard.rau@hmu-potsdam.de  
Web: richrau.github.io

## EDUCATION

- 2019      **PhD (Dr. rer. nat.)**, University of Münster, summa cum laude  
Advisors: Dr. Steffen Nestler and Dr. Michael Dufner
- 2016      **MSc Psychology**, University of Leipzig, Final grade 1.0 (GPA 4.0)
- 2012      **BSc Psychology**, University of Freiburg, Final grade 1.1 (GPA 3.9)
- 2008      **Abitur (matriculation examination)**, Uhland-Gymnasium Tübingen, Final grade 1.1 (GPA 3.9)

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- Since 2022    **Member of scientific staff** (permanent position) at the Chair of Psychological Assessment (Prof. Dr. Michael Grosz), Health and Medical University Potsdam; associated member at the Chair of Personality and Assessment (Prof. Dr. Mitja Back), University of Münster  
*Parental leave from May – September 2023*
- 2019-2022    **Member of scientific staff** at the Chair of Psychological Assessment & Personality Psychology (Prof. Dr. Mitja Back) and at the Chair of Statistics & Psychological Methods (Prof. Dr. Steffen Nestler), University of Münster  
*Parental leave from April – September 2020*
- 2016-2019    **Member of scientific staff** at the Chair of Psychological Methods (Prof. Dr. Steffen Nestler), University of Leipzig
- 2013-2015    **Student research assistant**, Department of Social Neuroscience (Prof. Dr. Tania Singer), Max-Planck-Institute for Cognitive and Brain Sciences
- 2014-2015    **Student teaching assistant for scientific writing**, University of Leipzig
- 2013          **Project employee at MTO Testsysteme GmbH**, psychological assessment for personnel selection, Tübingen
- 2010-2012    **Student teaching assistant for statistics**, University of Freiburg

## FUNDING / AWARDS

- 2024-2027 **Three-year research grant** “A multi-method approach to positivity differences in the formation of first impressions” funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG); 408,649€
- 2024 **APA Editor’s Choice Selection** for the paper „Trait-specificity versus global positivity: A critical test of alternative sources of assumed similarity in personality judgments”
- 2021 **Award for an Outstanding Contribution in Digital Diagnostics** granted by the Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics Section (DPPD) of the German Psychological Society; sponsored by Schuhfried GmbH; 1,500€
- 2016-2019 **Three-year funding for PhD research project**, granted by the Graduates Committee of the University of Leipzig; 60,600 €
- 2018 **Best Poster Award** for the Poster “Validation of an online-tool to measure individual styles in snap personality judgments” (Rau, R., Nestler, W., Dufner, M., & Nestler, S., 2018) presented at the European Conference on Personality; 500 €
- 2017 **Visiting scholarship** for a two-month stay at University of Toronto, Canada as a guest of Prof. Erika Carlson, funded by the German Academic Exchange Service, DAAD; 3,954 €
- 2014-2015 **Deutschlandstipendium**, German national scholarship for high-achieving and committed students from all scientific disciplines; 3,600 €
- 2014 **Scholarship by Studienstiftung Deutscher Psychologen e.V.** (Foundation of German Practicing Psychologists)

## TEACHING

- Since 2025 **Seminar: Psychological assessment**, undergraduate course
- Since 2024 **Lecture: Introduction to Social Psychology**, undergraduate course
- Since 2024 **Seminar: Key Phenomena in Social Psychology**, undergraduate course
- 2024 **Workshop: Invited expert for the annual PhD Workshop** organized by the Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics Section (DPPD) of the German Psychological Society; held together with Prof. Dr. Fanz Neyer and Prof. Dr. Janina Bühler
- 2023-2024 **Seminar: Quantitative research methods**, undergraduate course
- 2023-2024 **Seminar: Psychological assessment**, undergraduate course
- 2021-2022 **Lecture: Psychological assessment**, graduate course
- 2021-2022 **Seminar: Personality assessment and ability testing**, undergraduate course

2019-2022	<b>Seminar: Advanced computer-based data analysis in R</b> , graduate course
2020-2021	<b>Seminar: Personality and interpersonal perception at zero-acquaintance</b> , undergraduate course
2019-2020	<b>Lecture: Psychological assessment</b> , graduate course
2019-2020	<b>Seminar: Goal-oriented diagnostic interviewing</b> , undergraduate course
2019	<b>Workshop: Multilevel modelling of complex psychological data</b> , invited workshop held together with Dr. Florian Scharf for the Chair of Clinical Child Psychology at University of Leipzig
2016-2019	<b>Seminar: Computer based data analysis in R</b> , undergraduate course
2016	<b>Seminar: Computer based data analysis in SPSS</b> , undergraduate course
2014-2015	<b>TA: Scientific writing</b> , undergraduate course
2010-2012	<b>TA: Statistics I and II</b> , undergraduate course

## TRAINING

2018	Workshop: Missing Data (by Simon Grund)
2018	Workshop: How to Publish in Top-tier Journals (by Mo Wang)
2017	Workshop: Big Data (by Steffen Nestler and Florian Scharf)
2017	Workshop: Designing Complex Online Surveys Using formr.org (by Ruben Arslan)
2017	Workshop: Multilevel Structural Equation Modelling with lavaan (by Yves Rosseel and Axel Mayer)
2017	Workshop: Predictive Modelling and Machine Learning (by Florian Pargent and Clemens Stachl)
2016	Online Course: Improving Your Statistical Inferences (by Daniel Lakens)
2016	Workshop: Multilevel Analyses in R (by Jenny Wagner)

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Present	<b>Member of the European Association of Personality Psychology (EAPP) and of EAPP's sustainability committee</b>
Present	<b>Member of the German Psychological Society (DGPs)</b>
Present	<b>Member of the Society for Interpersonal Theory and Research (SITAR)</b>
Present	<b>Member of the Association for Research in Personality (ARP)</b>
2013-2015	<b>Elected member of the Council of Student Representatives</b> , University of Leipzig

- 2013-2015    **Member of the Study Commission**, University of Leipzig
- 2013-2015    **Head of local initiative of Studenten Bilden Schüler e.V.** (organizing private lessons for children from low-income families)

## **JOURNAL REVIEWING**

- Journal of Personality and Social Psychology (member of editorial board)
- European Journal of Personality (ad hoc)
- Social Psychology and Personality Science (ad hoc)
- Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin (ad hoc)
- Journal of Research in Personality (ad hoc)
- Journal of Experimental Social Psychology (ad hoc)
- Journal of Nonverbal Behavior (ad hoc)
- America Journal of Psychology (ad hoc)
- Journal of Personality (ad hoc)
- Journal of Individual Differences (ad hoc)
- Personality and Individual Differences (ad hoc)
- PLoS ONE (ad hoc)
- Psychology of Sport and Exercise (ad hoc)

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

- Süddeutsche Zeitung
- Psychologie Heute
- CNN
- NBC
- Daily Mail
- SWR
- WDR
- Deutschlandfunk Nova

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer reviewed journal articles:

- Rau, R.,\*** Schömann, L. M.,\* & Grosz, P. M. (in press). People “fake-good” on personality self-reports more strongly in a job context than in a dating context. *Journal of Research in Personality*. Retrieved from [https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/p8djb\\_v2](https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/p8djb_v2)  
\*shared first authorship
- Bleckmann, E., **Rau, R.**, Carlson, E., & Wagner, J. (in press). I think you might like me: Emergence and change of meta-liking in initial social interactions. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. Retrieved from [osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/r26jz](https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/r26jz)
- Rau, R.**, Grosz, M., & Back, M. D. (2025). A large-scale, gamified online-assessment of first impressions: The Who Knows project. *Behavior Research Methods*, 57(3), 83.
- Scharbert, J., Utesch, K., Reiter, T., ter Horst, J., van Zalk, M., Back, M. D., & **Rau, R.** (2025). If you were happy and you know it, clap your hands! Testing the peak-end rule for retrospective judgments of well-being in everyday life. *European Journal of Personality*, 39(1), 55–69. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08902070241235969>
- Schäpermeier, M., Thielmann, I., & **Rau, R.** (2024). Which Measures of Beliefs About Others’ Prosociality Predict Prosocial Behavior in Economic Games? *Collabra: Psychology*, 10(1), Article 121385. <https://doi.org/10.1525/collabra.121385>
- Kueppers, S., **Rau, R.**, & Scharf, F. (2024). Using Monte Carlo simulation to forecast the scientific utility of psychological app studies: A tutorial. *Multivariate Behavior Research*, 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00273171.2024.2335411>
- Carlson, E., Elsaadawy, N., Pringle, V., & **Rau, R.** (2024). Individual differences in dissimulation: Do some people make more distinctions among targets’ personalities than others? *Journal of Personality*, 92(5), 1341–1355. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jopy.12893>
- Pringle, V., Carlson, E., & **Rau, R.** (2023). Self-knowledge of perceiver effects: Do people know how positively they tend to view targets relative to other people? *Journal of Research in Personality*, 106, 1044–13. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrp.2023.104413>
- Schauf, T., Dufner, M., Nestler, S., & **Rau, R.** (2023). Do agency and communion explain the relationship between perceiver and target effects in interpersonal perception? A meta-analysis on generalized reciprocity. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 49(10), 1479–1494. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01461672221107205>
- Thielmann, I.\*, **Rau, R.\***, & Locke, K. D. (2023). Trait-specificity versus global positivity: A critical test of alternative sources of assumed similarity in personality judgments. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 124(4), 828–847. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pspp0000420>  
\* shared first authorship
- Rau, R.**, Zimmermann, J., & Back, M. D. (2023). Applying multi-modal Social Relations Analyses in personality pathology research. *Personality Disorders: Theory, Research, and Treatment*, 14(1), 73–82. <https://doi.org/10.1037/per0000589>
- Rau, R.**, Carlson, E. N., Dufner, M., Geukes, K., Kraft, L., Krause, S., Nikoleizig, L., Nestler, S., & Back, M. D. (2022). Positivity in peer perceptions over time: Personality explains variation at zero-acquaintance, popularity explains differential change. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 123(2), 423–443. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pspp0000407>

- Rau, R.,** Lawless DesJardins, N. M., Niemeyer, L. M., Back, M. D., Srivastava, S., & Nestler, S. (2022). Perceiver effects in first impressions reflect generalized stereotypes: Evidence of consistency across time, groups, and contexts. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 13(7), 1138–1150. <https://doi.org/10.1177/19485506211066710>
- Heynicke, M., **Rau, R.**, Leising, D., Wessels, N., & Wiedenroth, A. (2022). Perceiver effects in person perception reflect acquiescence, positivity, and trait-specific content: Evidence from a large-scale replication study. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 13(4), 839–848. <https://doi.org/10.1177/19485506211039101>
- Rau, R.,** Carlson, E. N., Back, M. D., Barranti, M., Gebauer, J. E., Human, L. J., Leising, D., & Nestler, S. (2021). What is the structure of perceiver effects? On the importance of global positivity and trait-specificity across personality domains and judgment contexts. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 120(3), 745–764. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pspp0000278>
- Rau, R.,** Nestler, W., Dufner, M., & Nestler, S. (2021). Seeing the best or worst in others: A measure of generalized other-perceptions. *Assessment*, 28(8), 1897–1914. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1073191120905015>
- Maßen, E., Büttner, M., Bröcker, A.-L., Stuke, F., Bayer, S., Hadzibegovic, J., Just, S. A., Bertram, G., **Rau, R.**, Haebler, D. von, Lempa, G., & Montag, C. (2021). Measuring emotional awareness in patients with schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorders. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 0, 5225. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.725787>
- Rau, R.,** Thielmann, I., Breil, S. M., Geukes, K., Krause, S., Nikoleizig, L., Back, M. D., & Nestler, S. (2020). Do perceiver effects in interpersonal perception predict cooperation in social dilemmas? *Collabra: Psychology*, 6(1), 35. <https://doi.org/10.1525/collabra.332>
- Garbe, L.\*, **Rau, R.\***, & Toppe, T\*. (2020). Influence of perceived threat of Covid-19 and HEXACO personality traits on toilet paper stockpiling. *PloS ONE*, 15(6). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0234232>  
\* shared first authorship
- Rau, R.,** Nestler, S, Geukes, K., Back, M. D., & Dufner, M. (2019). Can other-derogation be beneficial? Seeing others as low in agency can lead to an agentic reputation in newly formed face-to-face groups. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 117(1), 201–227. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pspp0000250>

### Conference Talks (as first author):

- Rau, R. (2023). What contributes to an accurate first impression of someone's personality? A large-scale investigation of the Good Judge, the Good Target, and the Good Trait. Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Psychology, Vienna, Austria.
- Rau, R., Grosz, M. P., & Back, M. D. (2023). *An investigation of self-knowledge about the accuracy of personality impressions with performance data from a gaming application*. Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Differential and Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics, Salzburg, Austria.

- Rau, R. (2022). *Eine Gamification-basierte Erfassung individueller Unterschiede in der Menschenkenntnis: Erste Einsichten von der Quiz-App „Who Knows“*. Positionsreferat presented at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Psychology, Hildesheim, Germany.
- Rau, R., Carlson, E. N., Dufner, M., Geukes, K., Kraft, L., Krause, S., . . . Back, M. D. (2022). *Positive peer perceptions over time: The role of personality and likability in predicting the development of perceiver effects*. Conference talk given at the European Conference on Personality, Madrid, Spain.
- Rau, R., Lawless DesJardins, N. M., Niemeyer, L. M., Back, M. D., Srivastava, S., & Nestler, S. (2021). *Perceiver effects in first impressions reflect generalized stereotypes: Evidence of consistency across time, groups, and contexts*. Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Differential and Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics, Ulm, Germany.
- Rau, R., Carlson, E. N., Dufner, M., Geukes, K., Kraft, L., Krause, S., . . . Back, M. D. (2021). *Positive peer perceptions over time: The role of personality and likability in predicting the development of perceiver effects*. Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Differential and Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics, Ulm, Germany.
- Rau, R., Nestler, S., Geukes, K., Back, M. D., & Dufner, M. (2019). *Does perceiving others as low in agency trigger self-promoting behavior in newly formed groups?* Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Differential and Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics, Dresden, Germany.
- Rau, R., Nestler, S., Back, M. D., Gebauer, J., & Carlson, E. N. (2018). *Which structure underlies perceiver effects in person perception: Evaluative halo or trait specific idiosyncrasies?* Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Psychology, Frankfurt, Germany.
- Rau, R., Drewke, P., Niemeyer, L. M., Lawless DesJardins, N. M., Back, M. D., & Nestler, S. (2018). *Was bedeuten individuelle Beurteilungstendenzen beim Kennenlernen: Generealisierte Stereotype oder situationsspezifische Erwartungen über „die Anderen“?* Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Psychology, Frankfurt, Germany.
- Rau, R., Dufner, M., Geukes, K., Back, M. D., & Nestler, S. (2018). *Can other-derogation be beneficial? Seeing others as low in agency can lead to an agentic reputation in newly formed face-to-face groups*. Conference talk given at the European Conference on Personality, Zadar, Croatia.
- Rau, R., Dufner, M., Geukes, K., Back, M. D., & Nestler, S. (2017). *Wie Du mich, so ich Dich? Reziprozitäten in der interpersonellen Wahrnehmung agentischer und kommunaler Eigenschaften*. Conference talk given at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Differential and Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics, Munich, Germany.

## Posters:

- Rau, R., Nestler, W., Dufner, M., & Nestler, S. (2018). *Validation of an online-tool to measure individual styles in snap personality judgments*. Presented at the European Conference on Personality, Zadar, Croatia.

## Chaired Symposia:

- Rau, R., Pusch, S., Wiedenroth, A., & Mund, M. (2021). *Tomorrow will be different: Interpersonal perceptions over time*. Symposium at the Biannual Meeting of the German Society for Differential and Personality Psychology and Psychological Diagnostics, Ulm, Germany.
- Rau, R., Barranti, M., Costello, C. K., & Humberg, S. (2018). *Making good impressions: On the antecedents and consequences of peer reputations*. Symposium at the European Conference on Personality, Zadar, Croatia.