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# BRYAN WEST

sbw78@cornell.edu ♦ 925.998.6383

## EDUCATION

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<b>PhD, Social Psychology</b> Cornell University Department of Psychology Chair: Dr. David Pizarro	2024
Dissertation Title: <i>The Impact of Belief Changes on Perceived Authenticity</i>	
<b>MA, Social Psychology</b> Cornell University Department of Psychology	2020
<b>Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, Psychology &amp; Social Behavior</b> University of California, Irvine Department of Psychology & Social Behavior	2016
<b>BA, Music</b> University of California, Los Angeles Department of Music Dual Concentration in Cello Performance & Music Composition	2010

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Sage Fellowship	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Award	2022
Cornell Psychology Department Travel Award	2019
Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Award	2019
SPSP Graduate Travel Award	2019
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention	2018
Cornell Graduate School Conference Travel Award	2018
Post-Bacc GRE Course Scholarship, UC Irvine	2016
Post-Bacc Conference Travel Award, UC Irvine	2016
Outstanding Poster, Undergrad. Res. Conf., UC Irvine	2016
Full tuition merit scholarship, UCLA (Green Scholarship)	2005 – 2010

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

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- Independent Consultant: Magnit@Meta** 2023  
Subcontractor through Magnit for Meta's LLM (Llama) Red Team  
Subject Matter Expert: Social Psychology  
Tested safety of new language models in development at Meta.  
Tested models' ability to generate harmful content and maliciously influence people using principles of behavioral science.
- Red Team Member: OpenAI GPT-4** 2023  
OpenAI  
Adversarial Tester  
Tested GPT-4 prior to public release as a subject-matter expert in social psychology. Provided detailed feedback based on my expertise to improve model safety. Identified vulnerabilities and suggested improvements.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- Graduate Student Researcher** 2017 – 2024  
Department of Psychology  
Cornell University  
PI: Dr. David Pizarro  
PI: Dr. Tom Gilovich  
PI: Dr. Melissa Ferguson
- Research Assistant** 2016  
Social Inequality & Cohesion Lab  
UC Irvine  
PI: Dr. Paul K. Piff
- Research Assistant** 2015 – 2016  
Hot Cognition Lab  
UC Irvine  
PI: Dr. Peter H. Ditto
- Research Assistant** 2015 – 2016  
Social Cognition & Intergroup Perception Lab  
UC Irvine  
PI: Dr. Jacqueline M. Chen

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)  
Association for Psychological Science (APS)  
Sigma Xi

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## PUBLICATIONS

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Monteiro, B., **West, S.B.**, & Pizarro, D.A. (in press). Monsters and the Moral Psychology of the “Other.” In H. Kapoor & J. Kaufman (Eds.), *Creativity and Morality*. Elsevier.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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**West, S.B.** & Pizarro, D.A. (2022) *Belief in Persistent Moral Decline* [Manuscript submitted for publication]. Department of Psychology, Cornell University.

Monteiro, B.A. & **West, S.B.\*** (2022) *Morality as Cooperation & Political Ideology* [Unpublished manuscript]. Department of Psychology, Cornell University.

\* Joint authorship

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**West, S. B.**, Pizarro, D.A., & Ferguson, M. J. (2024, February). *Evaluating the Authenticity of Belief Change in Others*. Poster presentation at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

**West, S. B.** (2022, February). *Moral Foundations and Political Ideology: Problems, Confounds, and Confusion*. Poster presentation at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.

**West, S. B.** (2021, May). *Moral Foundations and Political Ideology: Problems, Confounds, and Confusion*. Talk at the Six College Conference, New York University, New York, NY.

**West, S. B.** (2021, March). *Moral Psychology and Political Ideology: Problems, Confounds, and Confusion*. Talk at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

**West, S. B.** (2019, May). *Moral Pessimism*. Presentation at the Conference of Social Psychologists around Western New York (SPAWN), Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.

**West, S. B.** & Pizarro, D. A. (2019, February). *Moral Pessimism*. Poster presentation at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

**West, S. B.** & Shariff, A. (2018, May). *Uncertainty and Apocalyptic Thinking*. Poster presentation at the Association of Psychological Science Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA.

**West, S. B.** (2018, April). *Moral Pessimism, Apocalyptic Beliefs, and Uncertainty: Are we really going to hell in a handbasket, or is that just wishful thinking?* Talk at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

**West, S. B.** (2018, April). *Moral Pessimism*. Talk at the Five College Conference, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.

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- West, S. B.,** Robinson, A. R., & Chen, J. M. (2017, January). *Prosociality, Anonymity, & Religious Belief*. Poster presentation at the Society for Personality & Social Psychology Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- West, S. B.,** Robinson, A. R., & Chen, J. M. (2016, May). *Prosociality, Anonymity, & Religious Belief*. Poster presentation at UC Irvine Undergraduate Research Opportunities Project Symposium, 2016, Irvine, CA.
- Da Pace, D., Mesa, N., Salem, R., **West, S. B.,** Li, C., & Piff, P. (2016, May). *An Embarrassment of Riches: The Expression of Wealth Guilt in Social Interaction*. Poster presentation at Association of Psychological Science Annual Convention, 2016, Chicago, IL.

## TEACHING, MENTORING, & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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### Course Instructor Cornell University

Intro to Psychology Summer 2021  
*Designed and taught introductory psychology in an online, asynchronous format.*

### Teaching Assistant Cornell University

Persuasion and Social Influence (Dr. Joel Le Forestier) Spring 2024  
 Intro to Cognitive Science (Dr. Shaun Nichols) Fall 2023

Writing in the Majors (WIM) Instructor

*Designed and taught a writing-intensive course that focused on reading and communicating current research in cognitive science. Chose readings for students, led weekly discussions, and graded all assignments.*

Intro to Personality Psychology (Dr. Vivian Zayas) Winter 2023, Summer 2022  
 Intro to Social Cognition (Dr. Melissa Ferguson) Summer 2023, Summer 2022  
 Intro to Social Psychology (Dr. Tom Gilovich) Spring 2022

Writing in the Majors (WIM) Instructor

*Designed and taught a writing-intensive course that focused on reading and communicating current research in social psychology. Chose readings for students, led weekly discussions, and graded all assignments.*

Prejudice, Stereotyping, & Discrimination (Dr. Amy Krosch) Fall 2021  
 Intro to Social Psychology (Dr. Tom Gilovich) Spring 2021  
 Intro to Social Cognition (Dr. Melissa Ferguson) Winter 2021  
 Intro to Personality Psychology (Dr. Parnia Haj-Mohamadi) Fall 2020  
 Intro to Personality Psychology (Dr. Vivian Zayas) Summer 2020  
 Intro to Social Psychology (Dr. Tom Gilovich) Spring 2020  
 Intro to Psychology Seminar (Dr. David Pizarro) Fall 2019  
 Seminar Instructor: Morality & Society

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*Designed and taught an introductory seminar focused on reading and discussing research articles about morality, politics, and current social issues. Chose readings for students, led weekly discussions, and graded all assignments.*

Intro to Psychology (Rajen Anderson) Summer 2019

Prejudice, Stereotyping, & Discrimination (Dr. Amy Krosch) Spring 2019

Intro to Social Psychology (Dr. Tom Gilovich) Fall 2018

Writing in the Majors (WIM) Instructor

*Designed and taught a writing-intensive course that focused on reading and communicating current research in social psychology. Chose readings for students, led weekly discussions, and graded all assignments.*

Intro to Social Psychology (Dr. Tom Gilovich) Spring 2018

Intro to Personality Psychology (Dr. Vivian Zayas) Fall 2017

### **Mentorship Experience**

Cornell University

Psychology Department Mentorship Program Fall 2019 – Spring 2022

### **Mentorship Experience**

UC Irvine

Post-Baccalaureate Peer Mentor September 2016 – June 2017

Research Mentor April 2016 – June 2016

Social Cognition and Intergroup Perception Lab