

# Xinran DU

## RESEARCH INTEREST

Felt Understanding, Intergroup Relations, Social Identity, Mental Health, and Open Science

## EDUCATION BACKGROUND

**University of Exeter**, Exeter, UK

09/2020 – present

**PhD in Psychology**

- **Project:** Felt Understanding: A Key to Understand International Students' Wellbeing
- **Aim:**
  - To assess mental health and wellbeing of international students in UK higher education.
  - To promote felt understanding between international students and UK students via structured-communication.
  - To test whether higher understanding relates to better wellbeing and intergroup relations between international students and UK students.

**University of Manchester**, Manchester, UK

09/2019 – 09/2020

**MRes in Psychology**

- **Modules:** Advanced Data Skills, Open Science and Reproducibility, Advanced Statistics Workshop, Advanced Research Methods in Experimental Psychology, Qualitative Research Methods, Contemporary Research Skills, etc.

**Guangdong University of Foreign Studies**, Guangzhou, China

09/2015 - 06/2019 **BSc in Applied Psychology (Honours)**

- **Modules:** Experimental Psychology, Personality Psychology, Research Methods in Psychology, Social Psychology, Psychology of Communication, etc.

**Inha University**, Incheon, South Korea

08/2017 - 01/2018 **BSc in Business Administration (exchange) (Honours)**

- **Modules:** Organizational Behaviour, Introduction to Communications, Investigating Regional Culture

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Manchester

*Dissertation*

11/2019 - 09/2020

**Exploring Autistic Traits and Perception of Surprise in Decision Making**

- Use Gorilla for gambling task and R for data wrangling and analysing.
- Explore the relationship between autistic traits and perceived surprise in surprising events under the Bayesian framework.

- Research Methods: Consider reaction time and error rate in decision making as the functioning of surprise. Build multiple linear regression model and logistic regression model between autistic traits and indicators of surprise.

Guangzhou

*Dissertation*

09/2018 - 04/2019

**Comparative Study on Executive Function of Club Drug Abusers and Traditional Drug Abusers**

- Use Eprime for designing tasks and SPSS for t-test and ANOVA.
- Understand the cognitive characteristics of drug abusers, including their ability to inhibit impulses and shift attention.
- Research Methods: The inhibition subcomponent is tested by Stroop task and stop-signal task. The shifting subcomponent is measured by more-odd task and local-global task. Compare the task scores between two different groups of drug abusers.

Guangzhou

*Research Project*

05/2016 - 01/2017

**Comparison of the Differences between Urban and Rural Residents' Gratefulness and National and Social Gratitude**

- Use Questionnaire and National and Social Thanksgiving Scale to conduct the research with 200 urban and rural residents in China. Organise team members to carry out research as a team leader.
- Research social mentality and social sentiment theory to provide guidance for the practice of residents' psychological services, and theoretical and practical basis for exploring positive psychology, such as gratitude.
- Conduct ANOVA on gratitude scores to compare the differences between urban and rural residents.

## PUBLICATIONS

Du, X., Livingstone, A. G., & Adlam, A.-L. R. (2023). Felt understanding as a bridge between social identity and wellbeing among international university students. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 1– 18. <https://doi.org/10.1002/casp.2722>

Du, X., Fu, G. (2017). Comparison of the Differences between Urban and Rural Residents' Gratefulness and National and Social Gratitude. *Education Modernization*, 52, 303-305, doi: 10.16541/j.cnki.2095-8420.2017.52.125

## ROLES

12/2020 - current, Co-organiser of ReproducibiliTea Journal Club at University of Exeter.

## AWARDS

### Scholarships

University of Exeter

- Researcher-Led Initiative Awards (2023)
- Open Research Awards (2023)
- International lab visiting funding (2023)
- Global Excellence Scholarship (2020)

Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

- Honour Graduate Scholarship (2019)
- First-class Scholarship (2017)
- Second-class Scholarship (2016)

## SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

- Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (AFHEA)
- Accrediting Staff Professionalism in Research-led Education (ASPIRE) Associate Fellowship
- Computing: R, Gorilla, SPSS, Eprime
- Mandarin: Native speaker, Mandarin Chinese Proficiency Test (Level 2A)

## WORKING EXPERIENCE

**University of Exeter**, Exeter, United Kingdom

*Part-time*

11/2022

### **Tutor of Coding For Reproducible Research community**

- Deliver “Introduction to R” workshop to PhDs and staff.

05/2022

### **Deliver workshop for Doctoral College**

- Deliver R workshop on data wrangling and data visualisation to Postgraduate Researchers.

01/2021 – current

### **Postgraduate Teaching Assistant**

- Help lecturers convey modules.
- Modules:
  - Social Psychology Practical: guide students through a project from designing study to data analysis.
  - Methods and Statistics in Psychology: help with students’ questions about carrying out data analysis (e.g., ANOVA, linear regression) using SPSS.
  - Introduction to Statistics: lead tutorials on binomial test, t test etc.

**Guangzhou Baiyun Psychological Hospital**, Guangzhou, China

*Intern*

07/2018 - 09/2018

### **Counselling**

- Provide individual counselling for schizophrenic patients.
- Help doctors lead counselling groups, such as emotional management and art therapy.
- Assist psychological testing. Assessing the condition of the patient on a computer by scales and assisting the psychiatrist in making a diagnosis.

**Guangzhou Yuancun Primary School, Guangzhou, China**

*Intern*

01/2018 - 02/2018    **Psychology Teacher**

- Give primary school students psychological lectures about "Respect and Dedication", and enhanced concentration ability of primary school students through group games and psychology videos.
- Understand psychological characteristics of primary school students, and helped with improving their performance at school.

**Guangdong Modern International Market Research Co., Ltd., Guangzhou, China**

*Intern*

12/2015 - 01/2016    **Market Research**

- Use telephone survey on the satisfaction of residents in Boluo County, Guangdong, China, on social security (the frequency of criminal activities)
- Understand how to get the target customer's trust on telephone, and utilised communication skills to make the telephone survey progress efficiently.

## **EXTRA CURRICULAR**

Career Planning Studio, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, China

05/2018-06/2019    **Career Consultant**

- Help undergraduates discover their career interests, recognise their strengths and weaknesses, and plan for their future careers via Interest Island games, Holland's theory, and Super's career planning.

Zhishan Psychology Studio, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, China

05/2017-05/2019    **Province-level Entrepreneurship Practice Project**

- Responsible for the operation of an official social media account for Zhishan Psychology Studio.
- Present psychological knowledge with videos and examples in an easy-to-understand way.

Qihui Special Education School, Guangzhou Tianhe District, China

09/2015-05/2018    **Volunteer**

- Assist teaching activities.
- Help students with special educational needs, such as autism, Down syndrome, to learn knowledge and develop abilities of self-care.