

Mengdi Huang

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EDUCATION

2021 – Present	Northwestern University Ph.D., Social Psychology M.S., Statistics
2022	Northwestern University M.A., Social Psychology
2020	University of Chicago M.A., Social Sciences (Psychology)
2019	University of California, San Diego B.S., Social Psychology, <i>High Distinction</i>

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION

Huang, M., & Wu, E. Z. (2024). The associations between self-compassion and adult attachment: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/02654075241265766>

Huang, M., & Yang, F. (2022). Self-transcendence or self-enhancement: People's perceptions of meaning and happiness in relation to the self. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0001297>
[Featured in Greater Good Science Center at UC Berkeley, *The University of Chicago Social Sciences News*]

PAPER UNDER REVIEW OR IN PROGRESS

Huang, M., Gardner, W. Clear Self, Clear Choices: Self-Concept Clarity's Role in Decision Making and Well-being (under review at *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*)

Huang, M., Molden D. Matching Effects of Self-Regulatory Preferences in One's Social Network (Manuscript in progress)

Huang, M., Doriscar, J., Gardner, W. "Not all Men": The Role of Masculine Defensiveness in Women's Discussions with Men (Manuscript in progress)

Huang, M., Doriscar, J., Molden, D. Person-specific Lay Beliefs and Meta-beliefs in Social Judgment (in progress, four studies collected and analyzed)

Huang, M., Molden, D. Regulatory Focus and Authenticity in Networking (in progress, three studies collected and analyzed)

Doriscar, J., **Huang, M.**, Diamond-McCoy, A., Gardner, W. Understanding Moral Fragility: Exploring the Impact of Personal Prejudice and Societal Racism on Support for Black-Owned Business (in progress)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**= Indicates undergraduate student under supervision

- Huang, M.**, Doriscar, J.E., & Gardner, W. (April 2025). “Not all Men”: The Role of Masculine Defensiveness in Women’s Discussions with Men. Paper Talk presented at the 97th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association
- **Lam, S., Huang, M., & Gardner, W.** (April 2025). The Interaction of Self-Concept Clarity and Advice Seeking in Decision-Making. Poster presented at the 97th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association
- **Zhou, H., Huang, M., Doriscar, J.E., & Gardner, W.** (April 2025). The Influence of Masculine Defensiveness on Bystander Interpretation of Sexist Events. Poster presented at the 97th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association
- Huang, M. & Molden, D.** (February 2025). Social Network Formation: A Regulatory Focus Perspective. In Shimshock, C. & O’Brien, E. (February 2025), *Help or Hindrance? When and How Others Impact Goal Pursuit*. Symposium Talk at 2025 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference
- Huang, M.**, Doriscar, J.E., & Gardner, W. (February 2025). “Not all Men”: The Role of Masculine Defensiveness in Women’s Discussions with Men. Poster presented at 2025 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference
- Huang, M. & Gardner, W.** (April 2024). The Effect of Self-Concept Clarity on Decision-making. Paper Talk presented at the 96th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association
- Huang, M.**, Doriscar, J.E., Gardner, W. (February 2024). Silent Struggles: The Adverse Consequences of Masculine Defensiveness on Women. Poster presented at 2024 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference
- Huang, M. & Gardner, W.** (February 2024). The Effect of Self-Concept Clarity on Decision-making. Poster presented at 2024 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference
- Huang, M. & Molden, D.** (April 2023). Matching Effects of Self-Regulatory Preferences in One’s Social Network. Paper Talk presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association
- Huang, M. & Molden, D.** (February 2023). Matching Effects between One’s Own Self-Regulatory Preferences and the Preferences of One’s Social Network. Research Spotlight presented at 2023 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Conference
- Huang, M. & Yang, F.** (June 2021). *Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People’s Intuition of Meaning*. Talk presented at 2021 Life Improvement Science 2021 Conference
- Huang, M. & Yang, F.** (April 2021). *Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People’s Intuition of Meaning*. Talk presented at 2021 Society for Affective Science Conference
- Huang, M. & Yang, F.** (February 2021). *Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People’s Intuition of Meaning*. Poster 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. (May 2020). *How Guilt Decays: Effects of Rationalization on an Interpersonal Perspective*. Poster presented at the 32nd Association for Psychological Science Conference (virtual).

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., Duke, K., & Amir, O. (May 2019). *How Guilt Decays: Effects of Rationalization on an Interpersonal Perspective*. Poster presented at the 2019 UCSD Psychology Honors Program Symposium. San Diego, CA

INVITED TALKS

2023	Elmhurst University, Psychology Colloquium
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FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

2024	Best Paper Award, International Society for the Science of Existential Psychology
2024	Graduate Student Paper Award, Midwestern Psychological Association
2023	Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant, Northwestern University
2023	Toloka for Social Sciences Research Grant
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

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCES

Guest Instructor:

PSYCH 341: Positive Psychology: The Science of Well-Being

- average rating of the instructor: 4.71/5

Teaching Assistant:

PSYCH 249: Buddhist Psychology

PSYCH 313: Relationship Science

PSYCH 213: Social Psychology

PSYCH 341: Positive Psychology: The Science of Well-Being

PSYC 70: Research Methods in Psychology

PSYC 193L: Social Psychology Laboratory Topics

Research Mentor for Undergraduate Students at Northwestern University:

- Summer Undergraduate Research Grants (SURG) Students:
 - Sabrina Lam: *The Interaction of Self-Concept Clarity and Advice Seeking in Decision-Making*
 - Hannah Zhou: *The Influence of Masculine Defensiveness on Bystander Interpretation of Sexist Events*
- Research Assistants:
 - Celena Kim, Mary Emily Armoska, Nayeli Rey, Aarnav Patel, Mariana Garza Obeso, Seora Kim, Binhao Wu, Abigail Melaku, Arina Khlus, Emily Papirnik, Neil Chen, Rachel Yoon, Selena Li, Xinyang Du, Xiyu Huang, Vy Ho

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Department Service

Social Psychology Brownbag Coordinator

Social Event Coordinator

Sneak Peak program application reviewer

Journal Ad Hoc Reviewer

Stress and Health

Conference Program Reviewer

Society for Personality and Social Psychology

Mentorship Programs

Pre-Grad Mentor for Project Short

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS

Summer Institute in Computational Social Sciences Chicago 2024

Structural Equation Modeling Workshop 2024

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION & MEMBERSHIP

Society for the Science of Motivation

Midwestern Psychological Association

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

Association for Psychological Science (APS)

The International Society for Self and Identity (ISSI)