

Mengdi Huang

1330 53rd Street
Chicago, IL 60615
(858) 666-5866 | mengdhuang@gmail.com
<https://mengdihuang.github.io/>

EDUCATION

- 2019 – 2020 **University of Chicago**
M.A., Social Sciences (Psychology)
Thesis: *Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People's Intuition of Meaning*
Advisor: Fan Yang, Ph.D.
- 2015 - 2019 **University of California, San Diego**
B.S., Social Psychology, *High Distinction*
Honors Thesis: *How Guilt Decays: Effects of Rationalization on an Interpersonal Perspective*
Advisor: On Amir, Ph.D. & Kristen Duke, Ph.D.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019 – present **Human Nature and Potentials Lab, University of Chicago**
Psychology Graduate Student
Advisor: Fan Yang, Ph.D.
- Conducted independent research examining beliefs about happiness and meaning in life: reviewed literature, drafted IRB protocol, designed and pre-registered 7 studies
 - Scored short-answers and tested inter-rater reliability
 - Recruited and ran 1000 participants on Amazon Mechanical Turk
 - Analyzed data using advanced methods including multilevel modeling and Bayesian statistics in R
- Research Assistant*
- Help design and pre-register study examining how children value meaning in information processing
 - Participate in weekly lab meetings on lab projects and literature.
 - Produce three lab manuals on analysis techniques in R.
- 2018 – 2019 **Rady School of Management, University of California, San Diego**
Undergraduate Honors Student
Advisor: On Amir, Ph.D. & Kristen Duke, Ph.D.
- Conducted independent research on the self-regulatory strategies of guilt
 - Reviewed literature, designed experiment on Qualtrics, and collected data via SONA
 - Transformed, analyzed and visualized data using R
 - Presented findings in three conferences
- 2017 – 2019 **Empathy and Emotion Lab, University of California, San Diego**
Research Assistant
Supervisor: Christopher Oveis, Ph.D.

- Examined empathy and perceived responsiveness in a laboratory setting
- Recorded and interpreted physiological signals (blood pressure, heart rate, and respiratory rate)
- Trained new RAs on physiological equipments
- Scored physiological data on MindWare
- Coded behaviors on BORIS; Edited videos for behavioral coding

Summer 2018

The Markman Lab, Stanford University

Summer Research Assistant

Supervisor: Lin Bian, Ph.D. & Ellen Markman, Ph.D.

- Examined gender stereotype and motivation on children aged from 4 to 6
- Coded survey short answers on people's inherence heuristics about breakfast
- Recruited and tested 70 children at local preschool within two months
- Performed data entry and cleaning

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Huang, M. & Yang, F. *Whose Life is More Meaningful: Benefits to Society and Benefits to Oneself in People's Intuition of Meaning*. Manuscript in progress.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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 to be 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. (June 2020). *How Guilt Decays: Effects of Rationalization on an Interpersonal Perspective*. Poster presented at the 32nd Association for Psychological Science Conference. (Conference Canceled, available [online](#))

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

Huang, M., Aleibar, D., & Guarrena-Espinosa, L (May 2018). *The Effect of comparing Similarities and Differences Through Upward or Downward Social Comparison on Academic Self-Concept*. Poster presented at the 2018 UCSD Psychology Honors Program Symposium. San Diego, CA

AWARDS AND HONORS

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 EXPERIENCE

Spring 2018	PSYC 70: Research Methods in Psychology (Course Instructor: Dr. David Frederick) University of California, San Diego <i>Undergraduate Teaching Assistant.</i> Led weekly discussions to reinforce difficult methodological concepts. Assisted with grading of course quizzes and exams.
Fall 2018	PSYC 193L: Social Psychology Laboratory Topics (Course Instructor: Dr. David Frederick) University of California, San Diego <i>Undergraduate Teaching Assistant.</i> Held office hours to help students on research design and SPSS interpretation. Assisted with distributing studies on SurveyMonkey.
2018 - 2019	Psychology Honors Mentoring Program University of California, San Diego <i>Mentor.</i> Met with mentees biweekly and supported them to succeed in their honors coursework and projects.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

2020	University of Chicago ReproducibiliTea Journal Club
2020	Tsinghua University Positive Psychology Club

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

2020	Association for Psychological Science (APS)
2020	Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

RESEARCH SKILLS

Statistical Software: R, SPSS, JMP
 Programming Languages: Python, HTML
 Laboratory: Psychophysiology (ECG, EMG, EEG), BORIS
 Methodology: Qualtrics, MTurk, Web Scraping, Text Mining (Sentiment Analysis, Topic Modeling)
 Language: Mandarin, Korean