

ryan w. carlson

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education

- 2017-present Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
PhD in Psychology
Advisor: Molly Crockett
- 2010-2014 Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada
BA (Hons.) in Psychology
Advisors: Lara Aknin & Mario Liotti

relevant employment

- 2015-2017 Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA
Full-time Research Assistant
Advisor: Jamil Zaki

awards

- 2021 Yale University Teaching Innovation Project Grant
2019 Fellow at Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience
2017-2022 Yale University Graduate Fellowship
2016 Stanford Center for Cognitive and Neurobiological Imaging Innovation Grant
2015 National Science Foundation Travel Grant
2014 VPR Sciences Undergraduate Student Research Award
2013-2014 Simon Fraser University Undergraduate Open Scholarships
2013 Irving K. Barber One World Scholarship
2013 International Mobility Award

publications

- Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (in press). Belief in altruistic motives predicts prosocial actions and inferences. *Psychological Reports*.
- Weisz, E., Ong, D. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (2020). Building empathy through motivation-based interventions. *Emotion*.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Marechal, M., Oud, B., Fehr, E., & Crockett, M. J. (2020). Motivated misremembering of selfish decisions. *Nature Communications*. 11(1), 1-11.

- Carlson, R. W.**, & Crockett, M. J. (2018). The lateral prefrontal cortex and moral goal pursuit. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 24, 77-82
- Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (2018). Good deeds gone bad: Lay theories of altruism and selfishness. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 75, 36-40.
- Morelli, S. A., Leong, Y. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Kullar, M., & Zaki, J. (2018). Neural detection of socially valued community members. *PNAS*, 115(32), 8149-8154.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Aknin, L. B., & Liotti, M. (2016). When is giving an impulse? An ERP investigation of intuitive prosocial behavior. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 11(7), 1121-1129.

manuscripts under review

- Carlson, R. W.**, Adkins, C., Crockett, M. J., & Clark, M. S. (under review). Psychological selfishness.
- Melnikoff, D. E., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Stillman, P. E. (under review). A computational theory of flow.
- Weisz, E., Chen, P., Ong, D. C., **Carlson, R. W.**, Clark, M. D., & Zaki, J. (under review). A brief intervention to motivate empathy in middle school.

conference presentations

- Carlson, R. W.**, Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (Feb, 2021). The role of self-inference in prosocial behavior. Talk to be presented virtually at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) annual meeting.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (Oct, 2020). Bridging self-report and choice modelling to investigate the accuracy of self-inferred preferences. Poster to be presented virtually at the Society for Neuroeconomics Annual Meeting.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Yu, H., & Crockett, M. J. (July, 2020). Self-inferred desires to benefit self and other. Poster presented virtually at the Cognitive Science Society Annual Meeting.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Oud, B., Marechal, M., Fehr, E., & Crockett, M. J. (Feb, 2019). Selfish decisions are more generous in hindsight. Talk presented at the Judgment and Decision-Making Preconference for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) annual meeting, Portland, OR.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Oud, B., Marechal, M., Fehr, E., & Crockett, M. J. (Mar, 2018). Selfish decisions are more generous in hindsight. Poster presented at the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, Atlanta, GA.
- Leong, Y.C., Morelli, S.A., **Carlson, R. W.**, Kullar, M. & Zaki, J. (Mar, 2017) Neural prediction of social support hubs in emerging social networks. Poster presented at the Social Affective Neuroscience Society annual meeting (SANS), Los Angeles, CA.
- Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (Jan, 2017). Believing in true altruism amplifies prosocial tendencies. Poster presented at the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, San Antonio, TX.
- Kullar, M., Morelli, S. A., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (Jan, 2017). Neural representation of popularity and closeness in social networks differs depending on context. Poster presented at SPSP, San Antonio, TX.
- Carlson, R. W.**, Morelli, S. A., Kullar, M., & Zaki, J. (Apr, 2016). Social network dynamics shape neural sensitivity to vicarious reward. Poster presented at SANS, New York, NY.
- Kullar, M., Morelli, S. A., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Zaki, J. (Apr, 2016). Neural systems that track social perceptions of network members. Poster presented at SANS, New York, NY.

Carlson, R. W., Burnett A. J., & Liotti, M. (Jan, 2016). Sacrificing time for others during an unpleasant experience supports well-being. Poster presented at the Emotion Preconference for SPSP, San Diego, CA.

Burnett A. J., **Carlson, R. W.**, & Liotti, M. (Jan, 2016). "Are there partisans which would do well in the imitation game?": Moral turing tests promote ideological depolarization. Poster presented at the Judgment and Decision-Making Preconference for SPSP, San Diego, CA.

Carlson, R. W., Liotti, M. & Aknin, L. B. (Nov, 2014). Spatiotemporal neural dynamics of intuitive prosociality. Poster presented at the Society for Social Neuroscience annual meeting, Washington, DC.

Carlson, R. W. & Aknin, L. B. (May, 2014). Intuition, empathy, and prosocial behavior. Talk presented at Connecting Minds, Richmond, BC.

teaching experience

Teaching Fellow, Yale University

- 2020 PSYC 200: *Statistics for Psychological Science* (A. Bailey)
- 2019 PSYC 376: *Learning and Memory* (T. Brown)
- 2019 PSYC 303: *Social Neuroscience* (M. Crockett)
- 2018 PSYC 141: *Abnormal Psychology* (A. Baskin-Sommers)

Teaching Assistant, Simon Fraser University

- 2014-2015 PSYC 201: *Research Methods in Psychology* (G. Alder; G. Rose)

service

2019-present Graduate Affiliate, Trumbull College

Mentor Yale undergraduates in preparation for their senior thesis talks.
Coordinate social events that promote student well-being.

2018-2020 Psychology Representative, Yale Graduate Student Assembly (GSA)

Conducted town halls, meetings, and surveys to engage with students about their needs and concerns. Worked with other elected reps and department leadership to advocate for psychology graduate students.

2016 Program Assistant, SPSP Emotion Preconference

Organized and designed the program for the SPSP 2016 Emotion Preconference.

2013-2015 Founder, Editor-in-Chief, SFU Undergraduate Journal of Psychology

Launched an undergraduate research journal to promote independent student research. Developed protocols and a peer-review process. Coordinated with editors and reviewers, led promotion initiatives, maintained web content and submissions, and edited the journal's inaugural volume.

2012-2013 Global Partnering System Mentor, SFU International Services for Students

Mentored three international exchange students, offering tutoring and support for academic success.

2011-2012

Residence Orientation Leader, SFU Residence Orientation

Led new students through residence orientation week. Provided guidance and support for transitioning to living on campus, and led activities to help students build leadership and communication skills.

professional workshops

2020 Crockett Lab R Summer Workshop (organizer / instructor)
2019 Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience
2018 Intel Hackathon for Computational Neuroscience
2017 Stanford Center for Reproducible Neuroscience Better Science Workshop
2016 Berkeley Institute for Data Science Nilearn Course
2016 Stanford Neurosciences Institute Advanced R Workshop
2015 Stanford Computational Social Science R Workshop
2015 Chicago Neuroimaging Workshop

languages

R, Python, MATLAB, Javascript, HTML, CSS

ad-hoc reviewing

Biological Psychology
European Journal of Social Psychology
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology
Journal of Neurophysiology
Journal of Neuroscience
NeuroImage
Social Psychology