

Julian A. Scheffer
PhD Candidate, Psychology

Contact Information

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Research Interests

Morality, Empathy, Compassion, Political Psychology, Social Neuroscience

Education

2016-Present **Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA**
PhD, Social Psychology
Specialization, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (SCAN)
PhD Advisor: Dr. Daryl Cameron
SCAN Advisor: Dr. Charles Geier

2014-2016 **University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA**
MA, Social Psychology
Trainee, T32 Behavioral-Biomedical Interface
MA Advisor: Dr. Daryl Cameron
T32 Advisors: Dr. Daniel Tranel, Dr. Jan Wessel

2008-2013 **University of Toronto, Scarborough, ON, CAN**
BSc, Majors in Neuroscience and Psychology
BSc Advisors: Dr. Elizabeth Page-Gould, Dr. Michael Inzlicht

Research Fellowships

2016-2017	NIH T32 Fellowship, <i>University of Iowa</i> (declined)	\$18,600 (approx.)
2015-2016	NIH T32 Fellowship, <i>University of Iowa</i>	\$18,600 (approx.)

Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C. D., McKee, S., Hadjiandreou, E., & Scherer, A.M. (in press). [Stereotypes about compassion across the political spectrum](#). *Emotion*.

Cameron, C.D., Hutcherson, C.A., Ferguson, A.M., **Scheffer, J.A.**, Hadjiandreou, E., & Inzlicht, M. (2019). [Empathy is hard work: People avoid empathy because of its cognitive costs](#). *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, *148*, 962-976.

Cameron, C.D., Payne, B.K., Sinnott-Armstrong, W., **Scheffer, J.A.**, & Inzlicht, M. (2017). [Implicit moral evaluations: A multinomial modeling approach](#). *Cognition*, *158*, 224-241.

Manuscripts Under Review or Revision

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., & Inzlicht, M. Caring is costly: People avoid the cognitive work of compassion. Invited revision in preparation.

Book Chapters

Cameron, C. D., **Scheffer, J.A.**, & Spring, V.L. (2018). Implicit moral cognition. In J. Graham & K. Gray (Eds.), *Atlas of Moral Psychology*. Guilford Press.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Scheffer, J.A.*, Reber, J.* , Cameron, C.D., & Tranel, D. *Approaching the cognitive costs of empathy: Do amygdala lesions associate with empathy choice?*

Reber, J.* , **Scheffer, J.A.***, Cameron, C.D., & Tranel, D. *Who's really driving the trolleys?: Decomposing moral dilemma judgments by individuals with vmPFC lesions using process dissociation.*

Scheffer, J.A., Wessel, J.* , & Cameron, C.D.* *Can't stop the feeling: Empathy's cognitive costs delay motor inhibition.*

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., Packer, D.J., & Van Bavel, J.J. *Motivated moral construal: Intergroup preferences to make moral judgments.*

(*equal author contributions)

Conference Papers

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., Scherer, A.M., McKee, S., & Hadjiandreou, E. (March, 2018). *Bleeding or cold hearts? Examining ideological stereotypes about compassion.* Presented at the Emotion Preconference at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., & Inzlicht, M. (October, 2017). *Caring is costly: People avoid the cognitive effort of compassion.* Presented at the meeting of the Moral Psychology Research Group, State College, PA, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., & Inzlicht, M. (April, 2017). *Feeling with or caring for? Comparing empathy and compassion avoidance.* Presented at the 89th annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., Payne, B.K., Sinnott-Armstrong, W., & Inzlicht, M. (May, 2015). *Implicit moral cognition: A process dissociation approach.* Presented at the 87th annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., & Page-Gould, E. (April, 2012). *Success in academics: Implicit theories of intelligence with intrinsic and extrinsic motivators.* Presented at the 42nd annual York University Undergraduate Thesis Conference, Toronto, ON, CAN.

Conference Posters

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., Packer, D.J., & Van Bavel, J.J. (February, 2020). *Motivated moral construal: Examining intergroup preferences to moralize transgressions.* To be presented at the Justice and Morality Preconference at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., & Inzlicht, M. (February, 2019). *Parochial compassion: People choose compassion more for loved ones compared to strangers.* Presented at the Emotion Preconference at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., & Inzlicht, M. (January, 2017). *Feeling with or caring for? Comparing empathy and compassion avoidance.* Presented at the 18th annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., Cameron, C.D., Payne, B.K., Sinnott-Armstrong, W., & Inzlicht, M. (February, 2015). *Implicit moral cognition: A process dissociation perspective.* Presented at the 16th annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Long Beach, CA, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., & Page-Gould, E. (February, 2014). *The parent-student dyad: Research suggests that students' perceptions of their mother's goals for their desire to develop academic ability is more beneficial for*

academic achievement than perceptions of their father's goals. Presented at the 15th annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX, USA.

Scheffer, J.A., & Page-Gould, E. (May, 2013). *Success in academics: Implicit theories of intelligence with intrinsic and extrinsic motivators.* Presented at the 25th annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science, Washington, DC, USA.

Teaching

Penn State University

Teaching Assistant, Social Psychology and Evaluation (Instructor: Dr. Melvin Mark; Spring, 2020)

Teaching Assistant, Social and Personality Development (Instructor: Dr. Nhi Thai; Spring, 2020)

Guest Lecture on Somatic Marker Hypothesis (Human Emotions, Instructor: Reginald Adams; Fall 2019)

Guest Lecture on Empathy's Costs (Positive Psychology, Instructor: Reginald Adams; Fall, 2019)

Research Methods in Psychology, World Campus Instructor (Fall 2018; Spring 2019)

Guest Lecture on Empathy and Morality (Positive Psychology, Instructor: Troy Steiner; Fall, 2018)

Research Methods in Psychology, Lab Instructor (Spring, 2018; Fall, 2017)

University of Iowa

Guest Lecture on Neuroscience (Intro to Psychology, Instructor: Ji Xia; Summer, 2015)

Notable SRTes

Research Methods, Spring, 2019 (Online Instructor, 2nd term: 52.6% response rate)

Quality of instructor: 5.80/7.00, Instructor average rating: 5.54/7.00, Misc. average rating: 6.13/7.00

What helped you learn in this course?

"The instructor's detailed feedback in regards to writing and assignments was extremely helpful."

"I thought that the professor requesting that we respond to each announcement post was very effective. This way I felt more pressed to read the announcements carefully instead of putting it off as something I would do later. And considering how these announcements were filled with crucial information concerning our assignments, I was sure to read and re-read everything."

Which elements of this course contributed most effectively to your learning?

"My instructor, who was understanding and cooperative regarding deadlines in response some ... mayhem I encountered, however not flexible regarding grading. This forced me to get a grip and take requirements seriously. Which I appreciate."

"Detailed feedback"

Research Methods, Spring 2018 (Lab Instructor, 2nd term: 54.5% response rate)

Quality of instructor: 5.25/7.00, Instructor average rating: 5.78/7.00

What helped you learn in this course?

"Julian was the best aide in the class"

"How willing Julian was to help us"

What did you like best about this course?

"... openness of TA answering questions"

"Julian, by far the best TA I've ever had"

Service

Service to the Profession

Reviewer

Frontiers

Psychological Science

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin
Graduate Student Member-at-Large
Society for Personality and Social Psychology (2020)

Service to Penn State University

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Graduate Alliance in Diversity and Inclusion (GADI; Steering & Social Rep, 2017-2018)

Departmental Service

Incoming Graduate Student Mentoring Program Coordinator (2019-2020)

Social Psychology Area Student Rep (2017-2019)

BRIDGE Diversity Committee (Steering Rep 2017-2019; Media Rep 2016-2017)

AXONS Advisory Board (Vice-President, 2017-2018; Secretary, 2016-2017)

Department Climate Reviewer (Fall 2017, Spring 2019)

Service to University of Iowa

University Service

Undergraduate Research Fair Judge (2014-2016)

Professional Development

Essentials of Online Teaching, Penn State University World Campus

SafeZone 101 & Transgender 101 Training, Penn State University LGBTQA Resource Center

Entering Mentoring, University of Iowa Graduate College

Honors & Awards

Selected achievements: Acceptance to SISPP, Honorable Mention SSHRC Doctoral and CGS-M Awards
(3/6 Applications waitlisted)

2020	Superior Teaching and Research Excellence Award, <i>PSU Liberal Arts</i>
2019	Summer Institute in Social and Personality Psychology, <i>SPSP</i> ; SSHRC Doctoral Award Honorable Mention, <i>Government of Canada</i> ; BRIDGE Diversity Impact, <i>Penn State Psychology Department</i>
2018	SSHRC Doctoral Award Honorable Mention, <i>Government of Canada</i> ; SSNaP Award Honorable Mention
2017	Herman Goffberg Memorial Travel Award, <i>PSU</i> ; Diversity Travel Award, <i>MPA</i> ; Travel Award, <i>PSU</i>
2016	BBIP T32 Summer Training Grant, <i>University of Iowa</i>
2015	BBIP T32 Summer Training Grant, <i>University of Iowa</i> ; GPSG Travel Grant, <i>University of Iowa</i> ; GSS Travel Grant, <i>University of Iowa</i>
2014	SSHRC CGS-M Award Honorable Mention, <i>Government of Canada</i>
2013	Honors List, <i>University of Toronto</i> ; Letter Award, <i>University of Toronto</i>
2012	Honors List, <i>University of Toronto</i>

Skills & Experience

Methods	High-Density EEG, fMRI, Peripheral Physiology, Electromyography
Hardware	BIOPAC, MindWare, BrainVision, ANT Lab
Software	Matlab, SPM, AFNI, E-Prime, DirectRT, MediaLab
Statistical Analyses	SPSS, R