

NADIA M. BRASHIER

Curriculum Vitae

University of California, San Diego
Department of Psychology
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POSITIONS

- 2023- **University of California, San Diego**
Assistant Professor of Psychology
- 2021-23 **Purdue University**
Assistant Professor of Psychological Sciences
- 2018-21 **Harvard University**
NIH and NSF SBE Postdoctoral Fellow, *Mentor*: Daniel Schacter

EDUCATION



- 2018 **Duke University**
Ph.D. in Cognition & Cognitive Neuroscience
- 2015 **Duke University**
M.A. in Cognition & Cognitive Neuroscience
- 2012 **Davidson College**
B.S. in Psychology with Neuroscience Concentration
magna cum laude with departmental honors, Phi Beta Kappa















RESEARCH INTERESTS

I study memory and judgment across the lifespan, with a specific focus on cognitive “shortcuts” people use to evaluate truth. My research identifies ways that young and older adults come to believe things that are not true, from fake news to common superstitions.


PUBLICATIONS

Click  to read





- Brashier, N. M.** (2023). Do conspiracy theorists think too much or too little? *Current Opinion in Psychology* 
- Ecker, U. K. H., Lewandowsky, S., Cook, J., Schmid, P., Fazio, L. K., **Brashier, N. M.**, Kendeou, P., Vraga, E. K., & Amazeen, M. A. (2022). The psychological drivers of misinformation belief and its resistance to correction. *Nature Reviews Psychology* 

- Thakral, P. P., Devitt, A. L., **Brashier, N. M.**, & Schacter, D. L. (2021). Linking creativity and false memory: Common consequences of a flexible memory system. *Cognition* 
- Brashier, N. M.**, Pennycook G., Berinsky, A. J., & Rand, D. G. (2021). Timing matters when correcting fake news. *PNAS* 
- Brashier, N. M.**, & Fazio, L. K. (2020). Why do older adults share more misinformation? We need social media data to find out. *The Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review* 
- Brashier, N. M.**, & Schacter, D. L. (2020). Aging in an era of fake news. *Current Directions in Psychological Science* 
- Brashier, N. M.**, Eliseev, E. D., & Marsh, E. J. (2020). An initial accuracy focus prevents illusory truth. *Cognition* 
- Brashier, N. M.**, & Marsh, E. J. (2020). Judging truth. *Annual Review of Psychology* 
- * one of Annual Review's [top 10 most downloaded articles](#) of 2020 in the social sciences
- Wang, W., **Brashier, N. M.**, Wing, E. A., Marsh, E. J., & Cabeza, R. (2018). Knowledge supports memory retrieval through familiarity, not recollection. *Neuropsychologia* 
- Wang, W., **Brashier, N. M.**, Wing, E. A., Marsh, E. J., & Cabeza, R. (2018). Neural basis of goal-driven shifts in access to knowledge. *European Journal of Neuroscience* 
- Brashier, N. M.**, & Multhaup, K. M. (2017). Magical thinking decreases across adulthood. *Psychology and Aging* 
- Brashier, N. M.**, Umanath, S., Cabeza, R., & Marsh, E. J. (2017). Competing cues: Older adults rely on knowledge in the face of fluency. *Psychology and Aging* 
- Marsh, E. J., Cantor, A. D., & **Brashier, N. M.** (2016). Believing that humans swallow spiders in their sleep: False beliefs as side effects of the processes that support accurate knowledge. *Psychology of Learning and Motivation* 
- Wang, W., **Brashier, N. M.**, Wing, E. A., Marsh, E. J., & Cabeza, R. (2016). On known unknowns: Fluency and the neural mechanisms of the illusory truth effect. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience* 
- Fazio, L. K., **Brashier, N. M.**, Payne, B. K., & Marsh, E. J. (2015). Knowledge does not protect against illusory truth. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General* 
- Jiang, J., **Brashier, N. M.**, & Egner, T. (2015). Memory meets control in hippocampal and striatal binding of stimuli, responses, and attentional control states. *The Journal of Neuroscience* 


MANUSCRIPTS

- Brashier, N. M.**, & Rand, D. G. (preprint). Illusory truth occurs even with incentives for accuracy. 
- * covered by [CBS News](#) and the [Neiman Lab](#)
- Brashier, N. M.**, Ho, C. H., Hogue, T. K., & Schacter, D. L. (invited revision in preparation). Prior exposure inflates perceived preparation for difficult problems. *Memory*
- Brashier, N. M.** (invited). Fighting fake news across the adult lifespan. *Current Opinion in Psychology*









FUNDING
















2022	‘Neural Mechanisms of Memory Updating Across the Lifespan,’ Purdue Synergistic Connections Between Life and Social Sciences Award (PI), \$10,000
2021	‘Testing the Optimal Time to Correct Misinformation,’ Facebook (co-PI), \$50,000
2020	NIH Postdoctoral Diversity Supplement, \$241,315 <i>for scientists from disadvantaged backgrounds</i> 
2018	NSF SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, \$165,000
2017	APA Dissertation Research Award, \$4,114 
2017	APF 125 th Anniversary Scholarship, \$3,000 
2017	Phillip Jackson Baugh Fellowship, \$30,882 <i>supports single Duke student’s career in aging</i> 
2012	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, \$134,000
2011	Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellowship, \$6,000
2010	Davidson Research Initiative Fellowship, \$6,800

HONORS & AWARDS

2023	Favorite Faculty Award, Purdue University
2022	APS Rising Star
2018	APA Div 20 Doctoral Dissertation Award in the Psychology of Aging 
2016	Kavli Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience Fellow
2015	Summer Institute on Bounded Rationality Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Human Development
2012	William Gatewood Workman Award <i>Davidson Psychology Department’s highest honor</i>
2012	Phi Beta Kappa
2011	APA Div 20 Award for Completed Undergraduate Research in Adult Development and Aging
2008	National Merit Finalist

SELECT MEDIA COVERAGE

- “Is ‘fake news’ creeping into your belief system?” *Forbes* 
- “Why do our brains believe lies?” *Washington Post* 
- “Kanye West, Twitter, and how to disengage from hate on social media” *USA Today* 
- “5 tips to spot misinformation and prevent its spread” *Washington Post* 
- “Getting wise to fake news” *The New York Times* 
- “Older people spread more fake news, a deadly habit in the COVID-19 pandemic” *LA Times* 
- “New research explains why Boomers share so much fake news” *Rolling Stone* 
- “Conspiracy theories: Why some people are susceptible and how to protect yourself” *Washington Post* 

- “What is the Internet doing to Boomers’ brains?” *Huffington Post* 
- “Study: Incentives ineffective on preventing fake news” *CBS* 
- “Why do we fall for fake news?” *Getting Curious* with Jonathan Van Ness from *Queer Eye* 
- “Older users share more misinformation. Your guess why might be wrong” *MIT Tech Review* 
- “The enduring allure of conspiracies” *Knowable Magazine* 
- “How to keep conspiracy theories from ruining your Thanksgiving” *PBS* 
- “When false claims are repeated, we start to believe them” *Research Digest* [37.8k upvotes on Reddit] 
- “How disinformation hacks your brain” *Scientific American* 
- “What makes people believe in conspiracy theories?” *Al Jazeera* 
- “Why we feel the need to knock on wood” *Discover Magazine* 
- “Trump’s Tweets and the creation of illusory truth” *The Atlantic* 
- “How liars create the illusion of truth” *BBC* 
- “The science behind why fake news is so hard to wipe out” *Vox* 
- “Losing relatives to fake news” *You’re Wrong About* podcast 
- “Navigating misinformation in crises” *790 KABC radio* 

INVITED TALKS

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| 2023 | Caltech, Conspiratorial Thinking & Origins, Spread, and Consequences Workshop |
| 2022 | University of Pennsylvania, Social Action Colloquium |
| 2022 | New York University, Center for Social Media and Politics |
| 2022 | Northwestern University, Department of Psychology |
| 2021 | Clemson University, NATO Workshop on Disinformation |
| 2021 | Princeton University, Center for Information Technology Policy |
| 2021 | Yale University, School of Management |
| 2021 | Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Center for Adaptive Rationality |
| 2020 | University of Virginia, Department of Psychology |
| 2020 | Tufts University, Department of Psychology |
| 2020 | University of California, Berkeley, Department of Psychology |
| 2019 | Stony Brook University, Department of Psychology and Osher Lifelong Learning Institute |
| 2019 | Harvard University, Department of Psychology, Social Lunch |
| 2014 | Duke University, Department of Psychology & Neuroscience, Developmental Psychology Talk Series |
| 2011 | University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Department of Psychology |

CONFERENCE TALKS

- Brashier, N. M.** (2023). Do conspiracy theorists think too much or too little? Conspiracy Theory Conference, Miami, Florida.
- Brashier, N. M., Pennycook, G., Berinsky, A., & Rand, D. G.** (2022). Timing matters when correcting fake news. Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, Massachusetts.
- Brashier, N. M.** (2022). Judging truth in an era of fake news. Kavli Frontiers of Science Symposium, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- Brashier, N. M.** (2022). Timing matters when correcting fake news. Misinformation in the Digital Age: Comparative Contexts and Policy Lessons Conference, Toulouse, France.
- Brashier, N. M.** (2022). Aging in a fake news era. Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- Brashier, N. M., Lang, J. D., & Schacter, D. L.** (2021). Emotion impacts belief in fake news, but not memory for its source. Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Brashier, N. M.** (2021). Aging in a fake news era. Association for Psychological Science Virtual Convention.
- Brashier, N. M., Pennycook, G., Berinsky, A., & Rand, D. G.** (2020). When should you correct fake news? Comparing prebunking, warning labels, and debunking. Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society.
- Brashier, N. M., Ho, C. H., Hogue, T., K., & Schacter, D. L.** (2019). Episodic retrieval and metacognition during problem solving. Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Montreal, Canada.
- Brashier, N. M., & Marsh, E. J.** (2019). Looking on the bright side: Affect, age, and perceptions of truth. Biennial Meeting of the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition, Cape Cod, MA.
- Brashier, N. M., Eliseev, E. D., & Marsh, E. J.** (2019). Sticking to what you know: Evaluating truth reduces later reliance on fluency. Biennial Meeting of the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition, Cape Cod, MA.
- Brashier, N. M., & Marsh, E. J.** (2018). Judging truth through “rose-tinted glasses”: Reliance on an affect heuristic. Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, New Orleans, LA.

MENTORING

- PhD Students* Phúc Lê, Cognitive Psychology, Purdue '27 ([Fredrick N. Andrews](#) fellow)
 Payton Robinson, Neuroscience and Behavior, Purdue '28 ([Ross](#) fellow)
- Dissertation* Nikita Salovich, Northwestern '22
- Committees* Garrett O'Day, Purdue '22

<i>Masters Committees</i>	Kimberly Gálvez-Ortega, Purdue '26 Hailey Arreola, Purdue '25 Alexa Bushinski, Purdue '25 Andrea Zhong, University of Hong Kong '22
<i>Thesis Students</i>	Katie Allen, Purdue '24 (selected for Research-Focused Honors Program) Catherine Ho, Harvard '21 (2019 PRISE fellow, 2020 HCRP fellow) Jenna Lang, Harvard '21 (2020 BLISS fellow, Psychology Faculty Prize winner)
<i>Research Assistants</i>	Natalie Hoffman, Purdue '25 Alin Alshaheri, San Diego State '24 Katie Allen, Purdue '24 Anna Morehead, Purdue '24 T'Ajmal Hogue, Harvard '21 Ayesha Syed, Duke '21 Stephanie Ng, Duke '19 Sarah Turner, Duke '18 Gabriella Rivera, Duke '18 Julian Pino, Duke '18 Tannya Cai, Duke '17 Sophie Alman, Duke '17 Mack Chandler, Duke '16
2023	Panelist, Hidden Curriculum in Psychological Sciences, Purdue University
2022	Mentor, Summer Research Opportunities Program  <i>prepared undergraduates from underrepresented backgrounds for graduate study</i>
2021	Mentor, SPARK Society Speed Mentoring
2021	Mentor, Women in Cognitive Science Speed Mentoring
2019	Certificate in Science Mentoring, Harvard University 
2018	Honoree, Celebrating Mentors <i>senior gift made to Duke in my honor</i> 
2017, 18	Panelist, Supporting Undergraduates at Psychonomics Workshop
2014-16	Mentor, Bass Connections Aging and Heuristics Team  <i>supervised full-time interdisciplinary summer research and independent study</i>
<i>Mentorship of First-Generation College Students (outside of my lab)</i>	
2022-23	Mentor, Horizons Faculty Mentor Program  <i>provided academic and social support to Pell-eligible Purdue freshmen</i>
2020	Mentor, PPREP Program  <i>guided underrepresented students as they applied to graduate school</i>
2018-21	Mentor, First Generation Harvard Alumni  <i>advised first-generation, low-income Harvard freshmen</i>
<i>Panels for First-Generation College Students and their Mentors</i>	
2022	Panelist, Horizons Academic Advice for First-Generation Students, Purdue University
2021	Panelist, 'Mentoring Matters,' Women in Cognitive Science <i>presented 'best practices' for recruiting and retaining first-gen, low-income college students interested in cognitive science</i>
2021	Panelist, Harvard Primus Women's Month Career Panel

TEACHING

Pedagogical Training

- 2022 IMPACT Faculty Fellowship, Purdue University, \$10,000 [🔗](#)
 2018 Certificate in College Teaching, Duke University [🔗](#)

Courses Taught

- | | | | |
|---------|---|---|--|
| Fall 23 | <i>Extended Cognition</i>
UC San Diego | Fall 21,
Spring 22,
Fall 22,
Spring 23 | <i>Introduction to Cognitive Psychology</i>
Purdue University |
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SERVICE

To First-Generation College Students

- 2022 Faculty Representative, First Generation Celebration Week, Purdue University [🔗](#)
organized the College of Health and Human Sciences' inaugural First Gen Celebration Week
- 2021-22 Team Member, First-Generation Landscape Analysis Project, Purdue University [🔗](#)
worked with the Office of the Provost to identify ways that Purdue can better serve first-gen students conducted focus groups with current students and communicated key findings (e.g., gaps in academic advising, problems with the financial aid office, food insecurity) to senior leadership

To Cognitive Science

- 2022 Program Chair, APA Division 3 (*Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science*)
 2022 Committee Member, Cognitive Neuroscience Faculty Search, Purdue University
 2021-23 Steering Committee Member, Center on Aging and the Life Course, Purdue University
 2019-21 Outside Examiner, Davidson College

To the Community

- 2018-21 Volunteer, Haymarket People's Fund | *funds antiracist organizations in New England* [🔗](#)
 contributed to Ford Foundation grant, \$27,060
- 2016-18 Volunteer, Southern Coalition for Social Justice | *promotes racial equity in the South* [🔗](#)