

# MADALINA VLASCEANU

---

CONTACT	<i>E-mail:</i> <a href="mailto:mov@alumni.princeton.edu">mov@alumni.princeton.edu</a> <i>Web:</i> <a href="https://mvlasceanu.com">https://mvlasceanu.com</a> <i>GitHub:</i> <a href="https://github.com/mvlasceanu">github.com/mvlasceanu</a>	
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS	<b>NYU Provost's Postdoctoral Fellow</b> New York University	2021-2023
EDUCATION	<b>Ph.D. in Psychology &amp; Neuroscience</b> Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA Primary advisor: Prof. Alin Coman Secondary advisors: Profs. Elizabeth Levy Paluck, Kenneth Norman Dissertation: <a href="#">Cognitive Processes Shaping Individual and Collective Belief Systems</a>	2021
	<b>M.A. in Psychology</b> Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA Thesis: <a href="#">Mnemonic Influence: Memory Impacts Emotion, Reason, and Action</a>	2018
	<b>B.A. in Psychology &amp; Economics, Magna Cum Laude, with Highest Distinction</b> University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA	2016
GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS	Research Grant, <a href="#">Adversarial Collaboration Project</a> , University of Pennsylvania [\$20,000]	2021
	Research Grant, Program in Cognitive Science, Princeton University [\$5,000]	2020
	Research Grant, Program in Cognitive Science, Princeton University[\$5,000]	2019
	Cognitive Science Fellowship, Princeton University [\$1,000]	2018
	Research Grant, Program in Cognitive Science, Princeton University [\$5,000]	2017
	Discover Grant, University of Rochester [\$3,000]	2015
	Research and Innovation Grant, University of Rochester [\$3,000]	2014
HONORS & AWARDS	APS Student Research Award, <a href="#">Association for Psychological Science</a>	2020
	Herbert L. Zimmer Research Award, University of Rochester	2016
	Student of the Year: LSRS, Romanian Student League	2015
	Iota Book Award for Student Excellence, University of Rochester	2013
	Renaissance and Global Full Tuition Scholarship, University of Rochester	2012 - 2016
	Handler Scholarship, Complete Financial Support, University of Rochester	2012 - 2016
SKILLS	<i>Softwares:</i> R, Python, STATA, SPSS, LATEX, HTML, Qualtrics, Inquisit, Microsoft Office, Keynote, Amazon Mechanical Turk, Turk Prime, Open Science Framework <i>Tools:</i> Project management, experimental design, behavioral data collection and analysis, A/B testing, effective organizational and communication skills, scientific writing, innovative thinking, functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) <i>Languages:</i> English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), Romanian (native)	
RESEARCH INTERESTS	<b>General Areas:</b> Individual and collective memory, beliefs, emotions, decision-making <b>Current Topics:</b> Belief and behavior change mechanisms <b>Techniques:</b> Behavioral, brain imaging, social network analysis <b>Applications:</b> Collective climate action, vaccine hesitancy	

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Amodio, D.M. (*in prep*) Artificial Intelligence propagated regressive social policy

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Momennejad, I., Dudik, M. (*in review*) Network Structure, Gender Diversity, and Interdisciplinarity Predict the Centrality of Artificial Intelligence Organizations. ([preprint](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, McMahon, C., Van Bavel, J.J., Coman, A. (*in review*) Political and non-political belief change elicits behavioral change. ([preprint](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Coman, A. (*in review*) The effects of dyadic conversations on Coronavirus-related belief change ([preprint](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Coman, A. (*accepted, International Journal of Data Science and Analytics*) Information sources differentially trigger Coronavirus-related belief change ([preprint](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Morais, M. J., Coman, A. (*in press, Journal of Cognition and Culture*). Network structure impacts the synchronization of collective beliefs. ([preprint](#))

Van Bavel, J.J., ... **Vlasceanu, M.**, ..., Boggio, P.S. (*in press, Nature Communications*) National identity predicts public health support during a global pandemic. ([preprint](#)) ([website](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Coman, A. (2021) The impact of social norms on health-related belief update. *Applied Psychology: Health and Wellbeing*, 1-12. ([paper](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Morais, M.J., Coman, A. (2021) The effect of prediction error on belief update across the political spectrum. *Psychological Science* ([paper](#))

- Featured in *PsyPost*: “Psychologists have found that triggering large prediction errors helps to change false beliefs” ([website](#))

Aladesuru\*, H.B., Cheng\*, D., Harris\*, D., Mindel\*, A., **Vlasceanu, M.** (2020). To Treat or Not to Treat: The Impact of Hairstyle on Implicit and Explicit Perceptions of African American Women’s Competence. *Open Journal of Social Sciences*, 8, 13-22. ([paper](#))

**Vlasceanu\***, M., Tachihara\*, K., Goldberg, A., Coman, A. (2020) Lexical associations in a native and non-native language affect retrieval induced forgetting. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* ([paper](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Goebel, J., Coman, A. (2020) The emotion-induced belief amplification effect. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* ([paper](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Morais, M.J., Duker, A., Coman, A. (2020) The synchronization of collective beliefs: From dyadic interactions to network convergence. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*. ([paper](#))

- Featured in *Princeton Insights*: “How do our beliefs converge?” ([website](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Morais, M.J. (2019) A possible neural mechanism of intentional forgetting. *Journal of Neuroscience - Journal Club* 39(39): 7642-7644. ([paper](#))

**Vlasceanu, M.**, Coman, A. (2018) Mnemonic accessibility affects statement believability: the effect of listening to others selectively practicing beliefs, *Cognition* 180, 238-245 ([paper](#))

- Featured in *Science Daily*: “To dispel myths, redirect the belief, study says” ([website](#))
- Featured in *Psychology Today*: “Are you persuasive enough to change someone’s mind?” ([website](#))

Vlasceanu, M., Enz, K., Coman, A. (2018) Cognition in a social context: A social-interactionist approach to emergent phenomena. *Current Directions in Psychological Sciences* 27(5), 369-377 ([paper](#))

Vlasceanu, M., Drach, R., Coman, A. (2018) Suppressing my memories by listening to yours: the effect of socially-triggered context-based prediction error on memory. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review* 1-7 ([paper](#))

CURRENT  
RESEARCH

Vlasceanu, M., Van Bavel, J.J. Identity-based interventions stimulating climate change collective action: A randomized control trial across many countries ([website](#))

Vlasceanu, M., Reinerio, D., Van Bavel, J.J. Misinformation reduction interventions: A comparison across online platforms

Fazio, L., Lewandowsky, S., Rand, D. (..) Vlasceanu, M., et al. Comparing the relative strength of available misinformation reduction interventions

Vlasceanu, M., Amodio, D.M. Artificial Intelligence propagated gender biases

Vlasceanu, M., Coman, A. Changing beliefs in a targeted fashion: Comparing strategies

Vlasceanu, M., Clark, C., Stern, C., Van Prooijen, J., Costello, T., Conway, L. Political ideology and cognitive rigidity

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS  
(SELECTED)

Vlasceanu, M., McMahon, C., Van Bavel, J.J., Coman, A., Belief Change Causes Behavioral Change. **Cognitive Science: Comparative Cognition**, Vienna, Austria ([talk](#)) 2021

Vlasceanu, M., Coman, A., The Effects of Dyadic Conversations on Belief Change. ([talk](#)) **Cognitive Science: Comparative Cognition**, Vienna, Austria 2021

Vlasceanu, M., Van Bavel, J.J., McMahon, C., Coman, A., Political and non-political belief change elicits behavioral change. ([talk](#)) **APS Virtual Convention** 2021

Vlasceanu, M., Coman, A., The Emotion-Induced Belief Amplification Effect. ([talk](#)) **Cognitive Science: Learning in Humans, Animals, and Machines**, Canada 2020

Vlasceanu, M., Tachihara, K., Goldberg, A., Coman, A. Lexical associations in a native and non-native language affect retrieval induced forgetting. ([poster](#)) **Cognitive Science: Learning in Humans, Animals, and Machines**, Canada 2020

Vlasceanu, M., Morais, M.J., Zhao, Z., Bornstein, A., Tamir, D., Norman, K.A., Coman, A. Self-other similarity modulates the socially-triggered context based prediction error effect. ([poster](#)) **Cognitive Science: Learning in Humans, Animals, and Machines**, Canada 2020

Vlasceanu, M., Coman, A., The Emotion-Induced Belief Amplification Effect. ([poster](#)) **32nd APS Annual Convention Society**, Chicago, IL 2020

Uddenberg, S., Thompson, B., Vlasceanu, M., Griffiths, T. L., Todorov, A., A face you can trust: Iterated learning reveals how stereotypes of facial trustworthiness may propagate in the absence of evidence. **The 20th annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society** 2020

Vlasceanu, M., Coman, A., Language Impacts Memory: Selective Practice of Information in a Second Language Affects the Socially-Shared Retrieval Induced Forgetting Effect. ([poster](#)) **International Convention of Psychological Science**, Paris, France 2019

Vlasceanu, M., Coman, A., The formation of collective beliefs by way of mnemonic accessibility. **30th APS Annual Convention Society**, San Francisco, CA ([poster](#)) 2018

	Vlasceanu, M., Coman, A., The impact of Socially-Triggered Context Based Prediction Error. <b>Cognitive Science: Computational Foundations of Cognition</b> , UK ( <a href="#">poster</a> )	2017
	Vlasceanu, M., Crasta, D, Rogge, R., Maximizing the benefits of expressive writing. <b>National Conference for Undergraduate Research</b> , Ashville, NC	2016
	Vlasceanu, M., Crasta, D, Rogge, R., Maximizing the benefits of expressive writing. <b>SPSP</b> , San Diego, CA	2016
ACADEMIC TALKS	Invited talk, SPSP Preconference on Collective Cognition	2022, Feb
	Invited talk, Clauset Lab Meeting, University of Colorado Boulder	2021, Sept
	Final Public Oral PhD Defense, Princeton University ( <a href="#">talk</a> )	2021, May
	Association for Psychological Science, Virtual Convention ( <a href="#">talk</a> )	2021, May
	Cognitive Seminar, Princeton University, NJ	2021, Mar
	Invited talk, Research Seminar, Central European University, Vienna, Austria	2020, Dec
	Cognitive Science Conference, Toronto, Canada ( <a href="#">talk</a> )	2020, Jul
	Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL (cancelled due to pandemic)	2020, May
	Invited talk, Judgement and Decision Making class, Princeton University, NJ ( <a href="#">talk</a> )	2020, Apr
	Collective Information Processing workshop, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin	2020, Mar
	Cognitive Seminar, Princeton University, NJ	2019, Oct
	Cognitive Science Seminar, Princeton University, NJ	2019, Feb
	Invited talk, Cognitive Grad Seminar, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ	2018, Oct
	Cognitive Seminar, Princeton University, NJ	2018, Oct
	Master's Thesis Defense, Princeton University, NJ	2018, Oct
	Five College Conference, Princeton University, NJ	2018, May
	Cognitive Seminar, Princeton University, NJ	2018, Feb
	Five College Conference, New York, NY	2017, May
	Cognitive Seminar, Princeton University, NJ	2017, May
	Senior Thesis Defense, University of Rochester, NY	2016, May
	National Conference for Undergraduate Research, Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA	2015, Mar
TEACHING	Psychology for Policy Analysis and Implementation, Assistant Instructor <b>Princeton University</b> , Prof. Alin Coman, Prof. Emily Pronin	2021
	The Psychology of Decision-Making and Judgement, Assistant Instructor <b>Princeton University</b> , Prof. Eldar Shafir	2020
	Research Methods, Assistant Instructor <b>Princeton University</b> , Prof. Johannes Haushofer	2019
	Developmental Psychology, Assistant Instructor <b>Princeton University</b> , Prof. Casey Lew-Williams	2018
	Introduction to Psychology, Assistant Instructor <b>Princeton University</b> , Prof. Joel Cooper	2017
	Social Psychology and Individual Differences, Teaching Assistant <b>University of Rochester</b> , Prof. Andrew Eliot	2015
	Introduction to Economics, Teaching Assistant <b>University of Rochester</b> , Prof. Steven Landsburg	2015
ACADEMIC SUPERVISION	Research assistants: Debby Cheng, Tife Aladesuru, Arielle Mindel, Dana Harris, Paula Gradu Senior thesis students: Charlotte Notaras, Lila Abreu, Rebecca Blevins, Kafkas Everest	

Summer interns: Maygen Kerner, Vansh Bansal

High school students: Sebastian Adriano, Abigail Lin

LEADERSHIP &  
SERVICE

Anti-Racist Psychological Research Conference Facilitator 2021  
• facilitating discussions and creation of teaching materials for researchers interested in conducting anti-racist psychological research

Emerging Scholars of Psychological Science, Talk Series Organizer 2019 - 2021  
• organizing weekly talks for graduate students at universities in the United States

Invited Reviewer 2020-present  
• *Cognitive Science*  
• *Applied Psychology: Health and Well-Being*  
• *Journal on Data Science*  
• *PLOS One*

Graduate Student Government Executive Board, Princeton University 2019 - 2020  
• organizing community building events, advocating on behalf of graduate students

Senior Thesis Statistics Tutor, Princeton University 2019 - 2021  
• overseeing senior thesis projects, providing statistics and programming support

Code of Conduct committee, Princeton University 2019 - 2020  
• compiling diversity, climate, and inclusion assessments and reports

Intern Academic supervision, Princeton University 2018 - 2020  
• overseeing and advising intern projects

Graduate Fellow, Program in Cognitive Science, Princeton University 2018 - 2019  
• organizing cognitive science events, advising cognitive science students

Good Judgement coding, Princeton University 2018  
• coding and product rating

Graduate student interview organizing committee, Princeton University 2017  
• organizing and coordinating interview events and scheduling

WORK  
EXPERIENCE

Research intern summer 2021

**Microsoft Research**

- conducted research in the Machine Learning group at Microsoft AI
- developed project on network structure in AI teams with Ida Momennejad and Miro Dudik

Research mentor 2020-present

**Polygence**

- supervised the independent research projects of high school students

Research assistant, Couples Research Lab, PI: Prof. Ronald Rogge 2013-2016

**University of Rochester**

- worked in a collaborative research group investigating relationship satisfaction metrics
- designed and implemented studies, collected and analyzed data, presented findings

- Summer intern, Behavioral Economics Lab, PI: Prof. Johannes Haushofer 2015  
**Princeton University**
- assisted in research on poverty and decision-making
  - collected and analyzed data, presented findings
- Summer intern, Socio-Cognitive Processes Lab, PI: Prof. Alin Coman 2015  
**Princeton University**
- conducted research on event segmentation and decision-making
  - designed and implemented studies, collected and analyzed data, presented findings
- Research assistant, Eye Think (Richardson) Lab; Social Cognition & Motivation (Guinote) Lab 2014  
**University College London**
- assisted in research on perception and cognition; collected eye-tracking data
  - assisted in research on motor fluency and aesthetic preferences; collected and analyzed data
- Research assistant, macaque data collection, PI: Dr. Kelly Hughes 2014  
**Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico**
- assisted in research on primate cognition (mental rotation)
  - collected and coded data
- Technical assistant 2012 - 2013  
**University of Rochester Medical Center**
- assisted in medical research laboratory and equipment setup