

Curriculum Vitae

DEBORAH QU

C: (510) 561-5604 | deborahqu@berkeley.edu

EDUCATION

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| 2023-2028 | University of California, Berkeley , Berkeley, CA
<i>Ph.D.</i> , Social and Personality Psychology
Faculty Advisors: Oliver P. John, PhD, Ozlem Ayduk, PhD |
| 2019-2023 | University of California, Berkeley , Berkeley, CA
<i>B.A.</i> , Psychology, Highest Honors |

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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| 2021-Present | UC Berkeley, Department of Psychology
Doctoral Researcher (2023-Present), Research Assistant (2021-2023) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed and conducted large-scale human-centered research studies (3,000+ participants across projects) to investigate how people interpret and emotionally respond to different stimuli and contexts, focusing on personality and psychological distancing.Applied regression and mixed-effects modeling to analyze within-subject data and identify patterns in user perceptions and emotional responses.Conducted qualitative analysis of open-ended responses, using LLM-assisted workflows to accelerate thematic coding and insight synthesis.Communicated research insights through presentations, visualizations, talks, and conference posters. |
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Research and Technical Skills

Literature Reviews, IRB Protocol and Pre-registration Creation, Study and Survey Design, Scientific Writing, Poster Presentation
R / R Studio, Qualtrics, Prolific, CloudResearch, SONA, Microsoft Word
Linear & Mixed-Effects Modeling, Regression, Moderation, Mediation
LLM prompting for qualitative data analysis (OpenAI, Claude)

Teaching & Communication Skills

Research Mentorship
Teaching Assistant for statistics, coding, social psychological topics
Remote instruction (Zoom, Google Docs, Slack)
Writing, research development, and presentation

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARD

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| 2025 | Graduate Research Fellowship Program, NSF: Honorable Mention |
| 2023–2026 | UC Berkeley’s Chancellor’s Fellowship |
| 2023-2024 | UC Berkeley’s Path to the Professoriate Fellow (\$1000) |
| 2023 | Katherine Craig Swan Psychology Departmental Award (\$500) |

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2023	Warner Brown Memorial Prize in Psychology (\$500)
2022	UC Berkeley's SURF Letters & Science Fellow (\$5,000)
2019-2023	UC Berkeley's Undergraduate Scholarship

GRANTS

2026	Bob Levenson Research Grant: Negative Emotional Responding is a Function of Situational Context, Personality, and their Interactions (\$5333.33)
2024	Asian American Research Center Research Grant: Frame-Switching between Expressive Suppression Tendencies among Chinese Americans (\$5000)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS / PUBLICATIONS

Qu, D. and Ayduk, Ö. (2026). *Spatial Distancing and Perceived Safety*. Manuscript in prep.

Qu, D. and John, O.P. (2026). *The Effects of Neuroticism and Agreeableness on Negative Affect*. Manuscript in prep.

Qu, D., Sgambati, T.J., John, O.P., & Ayduk, Ö. (2026). *Automatizing Temporal Distancing using Implementation Intentions*. Manuscript submitted to *Emotion*.

Qu, D. and John, O.P., (2026). *Move Over Neuroticism! Agreeable People Feel Bad Too!* Poster accepted at European Conference on Personality, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.

Qu, D. and John, O.P., (2026). *Negative Emotional Responding is a Function of Situational Context, Personality, and their Interactions*. Poster presented at California Well-Being Conference (CaWBC), Riverside, CA.

Qu, D. and John, O.P., (2026). *Negative Emotional Responding is a Function of Situational Context, Personality, and their Interactions*. Poster presented at Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Chicago, IL.

Qu, D., Sgambati, T.J., John, O.P., & Ayduk, Ö. (2025, February). *Automatizing Temporal Distancing using Implementation Intentions*. Poster presented at Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Denver, CO.

Qu, D., Sgambati, T.J., & Ayduk, Ö. (2022, February). *Habitual Temporal Distancing during the COVID-19 Pandemic*. Poster presented at Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.

Liu, A., Rahardjo, A., Roelofs, A., Sreya, A., Su, I., Zhou, K., & **Qu, D.** (2022). *Our Dictator Called Love—How the Heart Influences Moral Judgment*. UC Berkeley: ULAB.

CONFERENCE TALKS

Qu, D., John, O.P., (June 2026). *Move over Neuroticism—Agreeable People Feel Bad too!* Talk presented at Bay Area Affective Science Conference (BAAS), San Francisco, CA.

AD-HOC PEER REVIEWING

2026 Reviewer with Ozlem Ayduk, PhD; *Psychological Bulletin*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley

Social Psychology, Fall 2026

Psychology of Personality, Fall 2025, Fall 2023

Research and Data Analysis in Psychology, Fall 2024

Taught and reviewed core concepts in lectures and small-group discussions (approx. 30 students per section)

Held weekly 1-hour virtual office hours for student support and project feedback

Co-designed assessments, graded weekly assignments and exams

Reader, UC Berkeley

Social Psychology, Spring 2024

Graded exam assignments for a class of approx. 250.

Graduate Research Mentor for Undergraduates, 2024-2025 Undergraduate Lab

Mentored first-time student researchers on a project investigating inattention symptoms in ADHD. Sponsor: Mark D’Esposito, PhD

Undergraduate Research Mentor, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Lab

Mentored first-time student researchers on a project investigating how relationship closeness affects moral reasoning.

Guided students through structured research: literature review, hypothesis generation, statistical analysis in R, and manuscript preparation.

Provided weekly feedback virtually and in-person and supported writing and presentation skills.

Presented findings as a poster at the 2022 ULAB symposium; paper published via UC eScholarship.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Graduate Student Affiliate, Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, since 2025

Psi Chi (International Psychology Honor Society), since 2022

Society for Personality and Social Psychology, since 2021

SERVICE

Institute of Personality and Social Research Colloquium Committee
Member, 2026
Gordon Allport Society Committee, 2025-2026

WORK/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Green Yogi Volunteer, 2025-Present

Front desk management, member check-in, package sales, studio upkeep

UC Berkeley, Bancroft Library – Oral History Center

Student Staff (Supervisors: Dr. Jill Schlessinger & Dr. Martin Meeker),
2020–2021