

Colin Holbrook, PhD

Associate Professor
Department of Cognitive and Information Sciences
University of California, Merced
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Education

- 2010 PhD, Cognitive Science
Queen's University, Belfast, Institute of Cognition and Culture
- 2000 B.A., Cognitive Science
B.A., Religious Studies
University of California, Berkeley

Research Interests

Threat-assessment, Emotion, Evolutionary Psychology, Human-Robot Interaction

Awards or Grants

- 2023 Defense University Research Instrumentation Program: *Instrumentation Enabling Investigation of Relation-based Trust in Anthropomorphic Robots*, \$539,978.
- 2020 Air Force Office of Scientific Research: *Trust in Machine Agents Under Realistic Threat*, \$815,011.
- 2017 Defense University Research Instrumentation Program: *Configurable Anthropomorphic Robot to Assess Threat-modulation of Trust in Machine Agents*, \$141,481.
- 2015 Air Force Office of Scientific Research: *Group Bias and the Attribution of Mental Properties to Allies, Antagonists, and Automata*, \$360,000.
- 2014 UCLA Chancellor's Award for Postdoctoral Research, \$5,000.
- 2012 UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute Transdisciplinary Seed Grant: *Reducing Group Prejudice with Neuromodulation*, \$25,000.
- 2006 Overseas Research Student Award, \$110,000.

Publications

Holbrook, C., Holman, D., Clingo, J. & Wagner, A. R. (2024). Overtrust in AI recommendations about whether or not to kill: Evidence from two human-robot interaction studies. *Scientific Reports*, 14, 19751. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-024-69771-z>

- Dayer, A., Aswamenakul, C., Turner, M. A., Nicolay, S., Shurik, K., & Holbrook, C. (2024). Intuitive moral bias favors the religiously faithful: Evidence from two societies. *Scientific Reports*, *14*, 18291. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-024-67960-4>
- Samore, T., Fessler, D. M. T., Sparks, A. M., Holbrook, C. ... Wang, X. (2024). Accordance and conflict between religious and scientific precautions against COVID-19 in 27 societies. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*, 1-20.
http://colinholbrook.com/Samore_et_al_Religion_COVID_RBB_2024.pdf
- Lobato, E. & Holbrook, C. (2024). Prejudice is epistemically unwarranted belief. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, *38*(3), e4216. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/acp.4216>
- Holbrook, C., Krishnamurthy, U., Maglio, P., & Wagner, A. R. (2024, June 22). Physical anthropomorphism (but not gender presentation) influences trust in household robots. *PsyArXiv*. <https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/uvkec>
- Yin, Y., Nayyar, M., Holman, D., Lucas, G., Holbrook, C., & Wagner, A. (2024, June 24). Validation and evacuee modeling of virtual robot-guided emergency evacuation experiments. *PsyArXiv*. <https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/mr78s>
- Moser, C., Holbrook, C., Ellks, R., & Jones, A. (2024, June 24). Possessing potential weapons (still) heightens anger perception: Replicating and extending a test of Error Management Theory. *PsyArXiv*. <https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/jsurq>
- Holbrook, C., Holman, D., Wagner, A. R., Marghetis, T., Lucas, G., Sheeran, B., Surendran, V., Armagost, J., Spazak, S., Andor, K., & Yin, Y. (2023). Investigating human-robot overtrust during crises. In P. K. Murukannaiah, T. Hirzle (Eds.) *Proceedings of the Workshops at the Second International Conference on Hybrid Human-Artificial Intelligence* (164-168) (CEUR-WS.org).
<https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/3p5qe>
- Holbrook, C., Fessler, D. M., Sparks, A. M., Johnson, D. L., Samore, T., & Reed, L. I. (2023). Coalitionality shapes moral elevation: Evidence from the U.S. Black Lives Matter protest and counter-protest movements. *Royal Society Open Science*, *10*, 220990.
<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rsos.220990>
- Samore, T., Fessler, D. M., Sparks, A. M., Holbrook, C., Aaroe, L., Baeza, C. G., ... Wang, X. (2023). Greater traditionalism predicts COVID-19 precautionary behaviors across 27 societies. *Scientific Reports*.
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-023-29655-0>
- Sheeran, B. P., Wagner, A. R., Holbrook, C., & Holman, D. (2023, January 23-27). *Robot guided emergency evacuation from a simulated space station* [Paper presentation]. AIAA SciTech 2023 Forum, National Harbor, MD. doi.org/10.2514/6.2023-0156
http://colinholbrook.com/Sheeran_et_al_ISS_Robot_Evac_AIAA_2023.pdf
- *Fessler, D. M. T., *Merrill, W., Holbrook, C., & Ackerman, J. (2023). Beware the foe who feels no pain: Associations between relative formidability and pain sensitivity in three U.S. online studies. *Evolution & Human Behavior*, *44*(1), 1-10.

(* equal authorship.)

<http://www.danielmtfessler.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Fessler-Merrell-et-al-in-press-Beware-The-Foe-Who-Feels-No-Pain.pdf>

Ocampo, D., Sullivan, J., Dayer, A., Palka, E., Betschart, N., & Holbrook, C. (2023). Prosocial aggression tracks genetic relatedness distinctly from emotional closeness. *Emotion*, 23(6), 1575-1583.

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Holbrook, C., Yoon, L., Fessler, D.M.T., Moser, C., Jimenez Delgado, S., & Kim, H. (2022). Moral parochialism and causal appraisal of transgressive harm in Seoul and Los Angeles. *Scientific Reports*, 12, 14227. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-18521-0>

Wagner, A. R., Holbrook, C., Holman, D., Sheeran, B., Surendran, V., Armagost, J., Spazak, S., & Yin, Y. (2022, November 17-19). *Using virtual reality to simulate human-robot emergency evacuation scenarios* [Paper presentation]. AAAI AI-HRI Fall Symposium Series 2022, Arlington, VA. arXiv:2210.08414

http://colinholbrook.com/Wagner_et_al_VR_HRI_Crisis_2022_AIHRI.pdf

Holbrook, C. & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2022). Evolved to learn: Emotions as calibrational adaptations. In D. Dukes, E. Walle, A. Samson (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Emotional Development*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

http://colinholbrook.com/Evolved_to_Learn_in_press.pdf

Holbrook, C., Iacoboni, M., Gordon, C., Proksch, S., Makhfi, H., & Balasubramaniam, R. (2021). Posterior medial frontal cortex regulates sympathy: A TMS study. *Social Neuroscience*, 16(6), 595-606. http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_et_al_TMS_PMFC_Sympathy_SN_2021.pdf

Kupfer, T.R., Fessler, D.M.T., Lal, V., Wu, B., Hwang, T., Alas, S., Samore, T., Sparks, A.M., Sakhamuru, T., & Holbrook, C. (2021). The skin crawls, the stomach turns: Ectoparasites and pathogens elicit distinct defensive responses in humans. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 288: 20210376.

[http://colinholbrook.com/Kupfer_et_al_\(in_press\)_Skin_Crawls_Stomach_Turns.pdf](http://colinholbrook.com/Kupfer_et_al_(in_press)_Skin_Crawls_Stomach_Turns.pdf)

Samore, T., Fessler, D. M., Sparks, A. M., & Holbrook, C. (2021). Of pathogens and party lines: Social conservatism positively associates with COVID-19 precautions among Democrats but not Republicans. *Public Library of Science ONE*, 16(6): e0253326.

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0253326>

Lopez, L.D., Moorman, K., Schneider, S., Baker, M.N., & Holbrook, C. (2021). Morality is relative: Anger, disgust and aggression as contingent responses to sibling versus stranger harm. *Emotion*, 21(2), 376-390.

http://colinholbrook.com/Morality_is_relative_Lopez_et_al_2019.pdf

Holbrook, C., Iacoboni, M., Gordon, C., Proksch, S., & Balasubramaniam, R. (2020). Posterior medial frontal cortex and threat-enhanced religious belief: A replication and extension. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 15(12), 1361-1367.

http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_et_al_PMFC_Religious_Belief_SCAN_2020.pdf

Lobato, E.J.C., Powell, M., Padilla, L., & Holbrook, C. (2020). Factors predicting willingness to

- share COVID-19 misinformation. *Frontiers in Psychology*.
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- Holbrook, C. & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2020). Conservative extremists are afraid of threats that don't exist [Commentary]. In A. Lopez, H. Sheikh (Eds.), *Extremism in Historical and Evolutionary Perspective*. The Evolution Institute. <https://evolution-institute.org/conservative-extremists-are-afraid-of-threats-that-dont-exist/>
- Lobato, E.J.C., Tabatabaiean, S., Fleming, M., Sulzmann, S., & Holbrook, C. (2020). Religiosity predicts evidentiary standards. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 11(4), 546-551.
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- Holbrook, C.,* Pollack, J.,* Zerbe, J., & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2020). Perceived supernatural support enhances battle confidence: A knife combat field study. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*, 10(1), 6-17. (“*”equal authorship.)
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- Sparks, A.M., Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2019). Elevation, an emotion for prosocial contagion, is experienced more strongly by those with greater expectations of the cooperativeness of others. *Public Library of Science ONE*.
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- Tabatabaiean, S., Holbrook, C., & Jennings, C.D. (2019). A re-examination of the interrelationships between attention, eye behavior, and creative thought. In A.K. Goel, C.M. Seifert, & C. Freksa (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 41st Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (p. 3590). Montreal, QB: Cognitive Science Society.
- Fessler, D.M.T., Sparks, A.M., Samore, T., & Holbrook, C. (2019). Does observing reciprocity or exploitation affect elevation, a mechanism driving prosociality? *Evolutionary Human Sciences*, 1, E3. doi:10.1017/ehs.2019.3
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- Samore, T., Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., & Sparks, A.M. (2018). Electoral fortunes reverse, mindsets do not: Political orientation, credulity, and conspiracism following the 2016 U.S. elections. *Public Library of Science ONE*. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0208653>
- Holbrook, C. (2018). Cues of violent intergroup conflict diminish perceptions of robotic personhood. *ACM Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems*, 8(4), Article 28.
http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_Warfare_Cues_and_Robotic_Personhood_TiS_in_press.pdf
- Holbrook, C., Gordon, C.G., & Iacoboni, M. (2018). Continuous theta burst stimulation of posterior medial frontal cortex to experimentally reduce ideological threat responses. *Journal of Visualized Experiments*, 139, e58204, doi:10.3791/58204

<https://www.jove.com/video/58204/continuous-theta-burst-stimulation-posterior-medial-frontal-cortex-to>

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- Holbrook, C., López-Rodríguez, L., Gómez, Á. (2018). Battle of wits: Militaristic conservatism and warfare cues enhance the perceived intellect of allies versus adversaries. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 9, 319-327.
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- Pollack, J.,* Holbrook, C.,* Fessler, D.M.T., Sparks, A. M., & Zerbe, J.G. (2018). May God guide our guns: Visualized supernatural aid heightens team confidence in a paintball battle simulation. *Human Nature*. doi:10.1007/s12110-018-9320-8
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- Sparks, A., Fessler, D.M.T., Chan, K.Q., Ashokkumar, A., & Holbrook, C. (2018). Disgust as a mechanism for decision making under risk: Illuminating sex differences and individual risk-taking correlates of disgust propensity. *Emotion*, 18(7), 942-958.
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- Holbrook, C., López-Rodríguez, L., Fessler, D.M.T., Vázquez, A., Gómez, A. (2017). Gulliver’s politics: Conservatives envision potential enemies as readily vanquished and physically small. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 8, 670-678.
http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_et_al_Gullivers_Politics_SPPS_2016.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., Pisor, A.C., & Holbrook, C. (2017). Political orientation predicts credulity regarding putative hazards. *Psychological Science*, 28, 651-660.
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- Holbrook, C., Izuma, K., Deblieck, C., Fessler, D.M.T. , & Iacoboni, M. (2016). Neuromodulation of group prejudice and religious belief. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 11, 387-394.
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- Fessler, D. M. T. & Holbrook, C. (2016). Synchronized behavior increases assessments of the formidability and cohesion of coalitions. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 37, 502-509.
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- Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Pollack, J. (2016). With God on your side: Religious primes reduce the envisioned physical formidability of a menacing adversary. *Cognition*, 146, 387-392.
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- Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Navarrete, C. (2016). Looming large in others' eyes: Racial stereotypes illuminate dual adaptations for representing threat versus prestige as physical size. *Evolution & Human Behavior*, 37, 67-78.
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- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2016). Dressed to kill? Visible markers of coalitional affiliation enhance conceptualized formidability. *Aggressive Behavior*, 42(3), 299-309.
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- Sousa, P., Holbrook, C., & Swiney, L. (2015). Moral asymmetries in judgments of agency withstand ludicrous causal deviance. *Frontiers in Psychology*. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01380
http://colinholbrook.com/Sousa_Holbrook_Swiney_Moral_Asymmetry_Ludicrous_Deviance.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Kanovsky, M., Barrett, H.C., Bolyanatz, A.H., Gervais, M., Gurven, M., Henrich, J., Kushnick, G., Pisor, A.C., Stich, S., von Reuden, C., & Laurence, S. (2016). Moral parochialism misunderstood: A reply to Piazza and Sousa. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*. doi:10.1098/rspb.2015.2628
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- Holbrook, C., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2015). The same, only different: Threat management systems as homologues in the tree of life. In P. J. Carroll, R. M. Arkin, & A. L. Wichman, (Eds.), *Handbook of Personal Security*. New York: Psychology Press.
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- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., & Fleischman, D.S. (2015). Assets at risk: Menstrual cycle variation in the envisioned formidability of a potential sexual assailant reveals a component of threat assessment. *Adaptive Human Behavior & Physiology*, 1, 270-290.
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- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2014). Marching into battle: Synchronous walking diminishes the conceptualized formidability of an antagonist in men. *Biology Letters*. doi:10.1098/rsbl.2014.0592
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- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Tiohkin, L., & Snyder, J.K. (2014). Sizing up Helen: Nonviolent physical risk-taking enhances the envisioned bodily formidability of women. *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 12, 67-80.

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- Holbrook, C., Galperin, A., Fessler, D.M.T., Johnson, K., Bryant, G., & Haselton, M. (2014). If looks could kill: Anger judgments are intensified by affordances for doing harm. *Emotion*, *14*, 455-461.
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- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., & Gervais, M. (2014). Men's physical strength moderates conceptualizations of prospective foes in two disparate human societies. *Human Nature*, *25*, 393-409.
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- Holbrook, C., Piazza, J., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2014). Further challenges to the "Authentic" / "Hubristic" model of pride: Conceptual clarifications and new evidence. *Emotion*, *14*, 38-42.
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- Holbrook, C., Piazza, J., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2014). Conceptual and empirical challenges to the "Authentic" and "Hubristic" model of pride. *Emotion*, *14*, 17-32.
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- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Pollack, J., & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2014). Stranger danger: Parenthood and child presence increase the envisioned bodily formidability of menacing men. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, *35*, 109-117.
http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler_et_al_Stranger_Danger_EHB_2014.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., Tiokhin, L., Holbrook, C., Gervais, M., & Snyder, J.K. (2014). Foundations of the Crazy Bastard Hypothesis: Nonviolent physical risk-taking enhances conceptualized formidability in two cultures. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, *35*, 26-33.
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- Holbrook, C., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2013). Sizing up the threat: The envisioned physical formidability of terrorists tracks their leaders' failures and successes. *Cognition*, *127*, 46-56.
http://colinholbrook.com/OBL_Leadership_and_Formidability_Cognition_Holbrook_Fessler_2013.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2013). Friends shrink foes: The presence of comrades decreases the envisioned physical formidability of an opponent. *Psychological Science*, *24*, 797-802.
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- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2013). Bound to lose: Physical incapacitation increases the conceptualized size of an antagonist in men. *Public Library of Science ONE*, *8*(8): e71306.
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- Holbrook, C., & Sousa, P. (2013). Supernatural beliefs, unconscious threat, and judgment bias in Tibetan Buddhists. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, *13*, 33-56.
http://colinholbrook.com/Unconscious_Vigilance_Tibetan_Buddhism_JCC_Holbrook_So usa_2012.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2013). Baumard et al.'s moral markets lack market dynamics [Commentary]. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, *36*, 89-90.
http://colinholbrook.com/BBS_Baumard_Commentary_Fessler_Holbrook_2013.pdf
- Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Gervais, M. (2013). Revenge without redundancy: Functional outcomes do not require discrete adaptations for vengeance or forgiveness [Commentary]. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, *36*, 22-23.
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- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., & Snyder, J.K. (2012). Weapons make the man (larger): Relative formidability influences perceived size and strength. *Public Library of Science ONE*, *7*(4): e32751.
<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0032751>
- Holbrook, C., Sousa, P., & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2011). Unconscious vigilance: Worldview defense without adaptations for terror, coalition or uncertainty management. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *101*, 451-466.
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- Hahn-Holbrook, J., Holt-Lunstad, J., Holbrook, C., Coyne, S., & Lawson, E. T. (2011). Maternal defense: Breastfeeding, diminished stress and heightened aggression. *Psychological Science*, *22*, 1288-1295. http://colinholbrook.com/Maternal_defense_Psych_Science.pdf
- Hahn-Holbrook, J.*, Holbrook, C.*, & Haselton, M. (2011). Parental precaution: Adaptive ends and neurobiological means. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews*, *35*, 1052-1066.
 (“*” equal authorship.) http://colinholbrook.com/Parental_Precaution_NBR_2011.pdf
- Sousa, P., & Holbrook, C. (2010). Folk concepts of intentional action (in the contexts of amoral and immoral luck). *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, *1*, 351-370.
<http://colinholbrook.com/FolkIntentionAmoralVsImmoralLuck.pdf>
- Hahn-Holbrook, J., Holbrook, C., & Bering, J. (2010). Snakes, spiders, strangers: How the evolved fear of strangers may misdirect efforts to protect children from harm. In J. M. Lampinen & K. Sexton-Radek (Eds.) *Protecting children from violence: Evidence-based interventions*. New York: Psychology Press.
http://colinholbrook.com/Hahn_Holbrook_Holbrook_Bering_Snakes,%20Spiders%20&%20Strangers.pdf
- Sousa, P., Holbrook, C., & Piazza, J. (2009). The morality of harm. *Cognition*, *113*, 80-92.
<http://colinholbrook.com/TheMoralityofHarm.pdf>

Professional Experience

- 2021–present *Associate Professor of Cognitive and Information Sciences*, University of California, Merced.
- 2017–2021 *Assistant Professor of Cognitive and Information Sciences*, University of California, Merced.
- 2015–2017 *Research Scientist*, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2010–2015 *Postdoctoral Research Fellow*, Center for Behavior, Evolution and Culture, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles.
Mentor: Dr. Daniel M. T. Fessler.
- 2006–2010 *PhD Candidate*, Institute of Cognition & Culture, Queen’s University, Belfast.

Professional Service

Ad Hoc Reviewer: Nature; Trends in Cognitive Sciences; Cognitive Science; Cognition; Transactions on Intelligent Interactive Systems; Psychological Science; Cognition and Emotion; Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience; Journal of Personality and Social Psychology; Biological Psychology; Biology Letters; Evolution and Human Behavior; Human Nature; Perspectives on Psychological Science; Social Cognition; European Journal of Social Psychology; Aggressive Behavior; Journal of Cognition and Culture; Journal of Theoretical Social Psychology; Personality and Individual Differences; Evolutionary Psychology; Journal of Applied Social Psychology; Social Behavior and Personality; Neuroscience Letters; Public Library of Science; Scientific Reports; Technology in Society

Doctoral Student Committee Member:

- Dr. Jeffrey K. Snyder, UCLA, 2010-2012
- Dr. Jordan Clark, UN Reno, 2017-2020
- Dr. Umesh Krishnamurthy, UC Merced, 2018-2021
- Dr. Theo Samore, UCLA, 2017-2024
- Joshua Clingo, UC Merced, 2021-present
- Helia Hosseinpour, UC Merced, 2021-2023
- Zoe Griffith, UC Merced, 2021-present

Doctoral Student Advisor (UC Merced):

- Kaylee Davis, 2023-present
- Joshua Clingo (co-advisor with Dr. Carolyn Jennings), 2020-2021
- Dr. Emilio Lobato (co-advisor with Dr. Daniel Hicks beginning 2021), 2018-2024
- Dr. Shadab Tabatabaieian (co-advisor with Dr. Carolyn Jennings) 2018-2020

Vice Graduate Chair, Department of Cognitive and Information Sciences (UC Merced, 2022-present)

Primary organizer, Cognitive Science for the Common Good (UC Merced, 2017-2024)

Member, Cognitive and Information Sciences Communications Committee (UC Merced, 2017-present)

Member, Cognitive and Information Sciences Community Committee (UC Merced, 2020-present)

Teaching Experience

Spring, 2024	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (U)
Fall, 2023	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of Religion</i> (U)
Spring, 2023	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>Mind, Technology and Society</i> (G)
Fall, 2022	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of Religion</i> (U)
Spring, 2022	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (G)
Spring, 2022	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (U)
Fall, 2021	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of Religion</i> (U)
Spring, 2021	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (G)
Fall, 2020	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of Religion</i> (U)
Spring, 2020	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (G)
Spring, 2020	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (U)
Fall, 2019	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of Religion</i> (G)
Spring 2019	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>Mind, Technology and Society</i> (G)
Spring 2019	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (U)
Fall, 2018	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of Religion</i> (G)
Spring, 2018	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (U)
Spring, 2018	UC Merced, Instructor: <i>The Cognitive Science of the Emotions</i> (G)
Winter, 2017	Chapman University, Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> (U)
Winter, 2016	Chapman University, Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> (U)
Summer, 2014	Chapman University, Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> (U)
Fall, 2013	Chapman University, Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> (U)

- **U = Undergraduate course G = Graduate seminar**

Invited Presentations

Holbrook, C. (2023, May). *Robot anthropomorphism and trust under realistic threat*. Presentation for the Association for Psychological Science, Washington D.C.

Holbrook, C. (2022, April). *Not hard-wired: Emotion adaptations are contextually sensitive to situation, self, and society*. Invited presentation for the Society for Affective Science.

Holbrook, C. (2020, September). *Political attitudes predict COVID-19 precaution and misinformation*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychological Sciences, University of California, Merced.

Holbrook, C. (2019, November). *Size, strength and status estimates implicitly index racial bias*. Invited presentation for the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts, University of California, Merced.

Holbrook, C. (2019, November). *Size, strength and status estimates implicitly index racial bias*. Invited presentation for the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts, University of California, Merced.

Holbrook, C. (2017, February). *Social cognition under threat*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada.

- Holbrook, C. (2016, November). *Reason under peril*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, CUNY-Hunter College, New York.
- Holbrook, C. (2016, March). *God and group prejudice in the threatened brain*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, Chapman University, Orange.
- Holbrook, C. (2015, December). *When foes loom large: Representations of relative formidability and social cognition*. Invited presentation for the Research Center for Group Dynamics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- Holbrook, C. (2015, December). *Serial homology and social judgment under threat*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of Warwick, Coventry, England.
- Holbrook, C. (2015, January). *Reason's shadow: Threat adaptations shape concepts of social prestige and displays of ideological zeal*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- Holbrook, C. (2014, December). *Conceptual mediators of threat assessment and judgment bias*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of Toronto.
- Holbrook, C. (2012, June). *Worldview defense and unconscious alarm*. Invited presentation for the European Science Foundation Expert Meeting on the Motivational Foundations of Worldview Defense. University of Salzburg, Austria.
- Holbrook, C. (2012, May). *Why thoughts of death or isolation magnify group prejudice*. Invited presentation for the Center for Behavior, Evolution, and Culture. University of California, Los Angeles.
- Holbrook, C. (2011, October). *Selection or serendipity? Reframing apparent psychological adaptations for terror, uncertainty or coalition management as evolutionary by-products*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles.
- Holbrook, C., & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2009, May). *Relationships with God and altruistic violence*. Invited presentation for the Psychology and Religion Research Group, Cambridge University, UK.

Professional Development

Member: UCLA Experimental Biological Anthropology Lab, 2010-2017.
Participant: AHRC Culture and the Mind Project, 2010-2014.

Professional Affiliations

Society of Experimental Social Psychology; Human Behavior and Evolution Society

Selected Press Coverage

- Plain, C. (2024, August 9). Belief in God has been overwhelmingly linked with this specific behavior. *The Debrief*. Retrieved from: <https://thedebrief.org/belief-in-god-has-been-overwhelmingly-linked-with-this-specific-behavior/>
- Dolan, E. W. (2023, May 26). Study on Black Lives Matter protests provides insight into the link between coalitional affiliation and moral elevation. *PsyPost*. Retrieved from: <https://www.psypost.org/study-on-black-lives-matter-protests-provides-insight-into-the-link-between-coalitional-affiliation-and-moral-elevation/>
- Imbler, S. (2021, July 27). Ever feel your skin crawling? Maybe you can thank evolution. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/27/science/skin-crawling-itching-parasites.html>
- Wu, K. J. (2021, July 27). Do not read this at lunch: Scientists teased out a new dimension of disgust by showing people gross videos of rotting meat, bugs, and other very unappetizing prospects. *The Atlantic*. Retrieved from: <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2021/07/what-defines-disgust/619580/>
- Coffey, R. (2021, July 8). Social scientists discover a dangerous truth about American politics hidden in new COVID-19 data. *Forbes*. Retrieved from: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/rebeccacoffey/2021/07/08/social-scientists-discover-a-dangerous-truth-about-american-politics-hidden-in-new-covid-19-data/?sh=7b3ea0b4490f>
- Brownstein, R. (2021, July 6). America's partisan fireworks will be hard for anyone to put out. *CNN*. Retrieved from: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/07/05/politics/america-partisan-divisions-widen/index.html>
- Lopes, R. (2020, June 22). Colin Holbrook: Threat, And Human-Robot Interaction (Part 1). *The Dissenter*. [Science Podcast Interview.] Retrieved from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIocAsPszzc&feature=emb_logo
- Edsall, T. (2020, May 20). When the mask you're wearing "Tastes Like Socialism". *The New York Times*. Retrieved from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/20/opinion/coronavirus-trump-partisanship.html>
- Free, C. (2019, October 30). Would you help a stranger? UCLA to study why people are kind or not. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved from: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2019/10/30/would-you-help-stranger-ucla-study-why-people-are-kind-or-not/>
- Gjersoe, N. (2017, May 26). Negativity bias: Why conservatives are more swayed by threats than liberals. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/head-quarters/2017/may/26/negativity-bias-why-conservatives-are-more-swayed-by-threats-than-liberals>

- Singal, J. (2017, February 3). Are conservatives more scared of stuff than liberals? *New York Magazine*. Retrieved from: <https://www.thecut.com/2017/02/are-conservatives-more-scared-of-stuff-than-liberals.html>
- Healy, M. (2017, February 2). Why conservatives are more likely than liberals to believe false information about threats. *The Los Angeles Times*. Retrieved from: <http://www.latimes.com/science/sciencenow/la-sci-sn-conservative-believe-false-threats-20170202-story.html>
- Khazan, O. (2017, February 2). Why fake news targeted Trump supporters. *The Atlantic*. Retrieved from: <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2017/02/why-fake-news-targeted-trump-supporters/515433/>
- Horton, H. (2015, October 16). Scientists find you can reduce peoples' belief in God by directing magnetic energy into the brain. *The Telegraph*. Retrieved from: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11935492/scientists-reduce-belief-god-hostility-immigrants-magnets.html>
- Newsday. (2015, October 15). Can magnets change your beliefs? *BBC World Service*. Retrieved from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0358ndn>
- Howard, J. (2015, October 8). New study confirms depressing truth about names and racial bias. *Huffington Post*. Retrieved from: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/black-sounding-names-study_561697a5e4b0dbb8000d687f
- Olney, W. (2015, October 7). Can a person's name influence racial bias? *National Public Radio*. Retrieved from: <http://www.kcrw.com/people/colin-holbrook>
- Mohan, G. (2014, October 9). Men and violence: Sizing up how men size up one another. *The Los Angeles Times*. Retrieved from: <http://www.latimes.com/science/la-sci-c1-evolution-fessler-20141009-story.html>
- Bohannon, J. (2014, August 26). Synchronized marching boosts confidence. *Science*. Retrieved from: <http://news.sciencemag.org/biology/2014/08/synchronized-marching-boosts-confidence>