

# Diheng Zhang, M.A.

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Updated: March 23, 2023

## Research Interests

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- Cognitive biases/deficits in mood and anxiety disorders and related neural mechanisms
- Bio/behavioral markers of mood and anxiety disorders
- Computational modeling of brain functions/dysfunctions and predicting symptom/markers

## Summary of Professional Experience

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*Graduate Assistant* *Aug. 2018 – Present*  
Psychophysiology Lab, **University of Arizona** Tucson, AZ  
Supervisor: John J.B. Allen, Ph.D.

*Visiting Researcher* *Jun. 2019 – Aug. 2019*  
Penn Computational Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, **University of Pennsylvania** Philadelphia, PA  
Supervisor: Anna Schapiro, Ph.D.  
*Research projects dedicated to develop neural network model for memory reconsolidation during sleep to simulate process of emotional memories.*

*Project Coordinator* *Jun. 2015 – Jul. 2018*  
Program for Anxiety, Cognition, and Treatment (PACT) Lab, **University of Virginia** Charlottesville, VA  
Supervisor: Bethany Teachman, Ph.D.  
*Research projects dedicated to developing, evaluating and disseminating novel interventions for mood and anxiety disorders.*

*Research Assistant* *Jan. 2013 – Jun. 2014*  
Langone Medical Center, **New York University & Bellevue Hospital Center** New York, NY  
Supervisors: Isaac Robert Galatzer-Levy, Ph.D. & Uzma Samadani, M.D., Ph.D.  
*Research project for establishing for a neural model for predicting early stage brain trauma.*

*Research Assistant: Summer Intern* *Jun. 2013 – Aug. 2013*  
CEDAR Clinic, **Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center** Boston, MA  
Supervisor: Kristen Woodberry, M.S.W., Ph.D.  
*Research project for understanding the prodromal phase of early onset schizophrenia.*

*Research Assistant: Summer Intern* *May 2013 – Aug. 2013*  
Department of Psychology, **Harvard University** Cambridge, MA  
Supervisors: Jill Hooley, D.Phil. & Kenneth Allen, Ph.D.  
*Research project for underpinning relationship between cognitive deficits and Non Suicidal Self Injury.*

## Education

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**Ph.D. Student in Clinical Psychology, University of Arizona** **Tucson, AZ**  
School of Mind, Brain, and Behavior *Aug. 2018 - Present*

**M.A. Clinical Psychology, Columbia University in the City of New York** **New York, NY**  
Teachers College, GPA: 3.84/4.00 *Aug. 2012 - May 2014*

**B.Sc. Applied Psychology, Nanjing University** **Nanjing, China**  
School of Social and Behavioral Science, GPA: 3.80/4.00 *Sep. 2009 - Jul. 2012*

## Manuscripts and Publications

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- Zhang, D.**, & Allen, J.J. (Under Review). Computational modeling of Post-traumatic stress disorder: A Review of theoretical developments and clinical application.
- Baee, S., Eberle, J. W., Daniel, K., **Zhang, D.**, Funk, D., Barnes, L., & Teachman, B. (In Prep). Early attrition prediction for digital mental health studies.
- Zhang, D.**, & Allen, J.J. (2023). A Comparison of Nomothetic and Individualized Alpha Frequency Approaches to Measuring Frontal EEG Alpha Asymmetry. *Psychophysiology*, e14149.
- Eberle, J. W., Boukhechba, M., Sun, J., **Zhang, D.**, Funk, D., Barnes, L., & Teachman, B. (2023). Shifting Episodic Prediction With Online Cognitive Bias Modification: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *Clinical Psychological Science*, 21677026221103128
- Ji, L. J., Baee, S., **Zhang, D.**, Meyers, J., Funk, D., Portnow, S., Barnes, L., & Teachman, B. A. (2021). Multi-session online interpretation bias training for anxiety in a community sample. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 103864.
- Steinman, S. A., Portnow, S., Billingsley, A. L., **Zhang, D.**, & Teachman, B. A. (2019). Threat and benign interpretation bias might not be a unidimensional construct. *Cognition and Emotion*, 1-10.
- Chow, P.I., Portnow, S., **Zhang, D.**, Salemin, E., Wiers, R.W., & Teachman, B.A. (2018). Comorbid Interpretation and Expectancy Bias in Social Anxiety and Alcohol Use. *Anxiety, Stress, and Coping*
- Zhang, D.** (2014). *Identity formation as a mediator between early separation from parents and adolescence mental health issues*. Unpublished manuscript
- Geng, L., Zhang, L., & **Zhang, D.** (2011). Improving spatial abilities through mindfulness: Effects on the mental rotation task. *Consciousness and Cognition*, 20(3), 801 - 806. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.concog.2011.02.004>

## Presentations

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- Eberle, J.W., Boukhechba, M.O., Sun, J., **Zhang, D.**, Funk, D.H., Barnes, L.E. & Teachman, B.A. (2019, November). *Online Cognitive Bias Modification to Shift Negative Prospection: A Randomized Controlled Trial Using Technology to Extend Reach*. Poster to be presented at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies' 2019 convention in Atlanta, GA.
- Zhang, D.**, Allen, J.J. (2019, September). *A Comparison of Nomothetic and Individualized Alpha Frequency Approaches to Measuring Frontal EEG Alpha Asymmetry*. Poster presented at Society for Psychophysiological Research's 2019 convention in Washington D.C..
- Zhang, D.**, Shi, Y., Wang, H. & Teachman, B.A. (2017, November). *Predictors of Attrition in a Public Online Interpretation Training Program for Anxiety*. Poster presented at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies' 2017 convention in San Diego, CA.
- Werntz, A.J., **Zhang, D.**, Geyer, E. & Teachman, B. A. (2017, November). *Am I anxious?: Implicit and explicit self-concepts of anxiety predict symptom acknowledgement*. Poster presented at Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies' 2017 convention in San Diego, CA.
- Calicho-Mamani, C., **Zhang, D.**, Blaisdell, K.N., Friedmann, C.I., Werntz, A.J. & Teachman, B.A. (2017, November). *Gender and Age Differences in Social Media Advertising Reception: Using Facebook to Promote Free, Web-Based Interventions*. Poster presented at Diversifying Scholarship at UVA Interdisciplinary Conference in Charlottesville, VA.
- Calicho-Mamani, C., **Zhang, D.**, & Teachman, B.A. (2017, August). *Responding and Flexibility: Relationship between Variability on Interpretation Bias Measures and Anxiety and Depressive Symptoms*. Poster presented at University of Virginia Summer Research Symposium in Charlottesville, VA.
- Bacon, G., Teachman, B.A., **Zhang, D.** (2017, August). *The Impact of Education Level on Drinking Identity*. Poster presented at University of Virginia Summer Research Symposium in Charlottesville, VA.
- Matsuba, M., **Zhang, D.**, Graham, A., Hong, J., Dorfman, M. & Chen, X. (2014, August). *Analysis of Universal and Culture-Specific Negative Coping in Chinese Immigrants with Schizophrenia*. Poster presented at American Psychological Association's 2014 convention in Washington, D.C..

**Zhang, D.**, Luguya, C., Chhuon, R., Wang, L. & Matsuba, M. (2013, August). 'Excessive Thinking' as a Cultural Idiom Used by Chinese to Explain Relatives' Psychiatric Etiology. Poster presented at American Psychological Association's 2013 convention in Honolulu, HI.

**Zhang, D.** (2012, November). *Chinese Adolescence Depression and Identity Formation*. Poster presented at International Education Week at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY.

## Honors and Awards

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Galileo Circle Scholars <b>University of Arizona, College of Science</b>	Year of 2022
Departmental Scholarship <b>University of Arizona, Department of Psychology</b>	Spring 2021
GPSC Research and Project Grants <b>University of Arizona, Graduate &amp; Professional Student Council (GPSC)</b>	Fall 2019
GPSC Travel Grants <b>University of Arizona, GPSC</b>	Summer 2019
Departmental Scholarship <b>University of Arizona, Department of Psychology</b>	Spring 2019
Flexibility Fund Awards <b>Academy of Psychological Clinical Science</b>	Dec. 2018
Graduate Student Fellowship <b>University of Arizona, Department of Psychology</b>	Aug. 2018 - Present

## Research Experience

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<i>Research Assistant</i> TomCat Project, <b>University of Arizona</b> Supervisors: Emily Butler, Ph.D., Kobus Barnard, Ph.D. & Adarsh Pyarelal, Ph.D. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Employed psychophysiology modalities including EEG, EKG, fNIRS for collaborative teamwork research.</li></ul>	Aug. 2022 – Present Tucson, AZ
<i>Graduate Assistant</i> Psychophysiology Lab, <b>University of Arizona</b> Supervisors: John J.B. Allen, Ph.D. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Under training of psychophysiology research methods and data analysis techniques, including EEG signal preprocessing and alpha power asymmetry analysis.</li></ul>	Aug. 2018 – Present Tucson, AZ
<i>Visiting Researcher</i> Penn Computational Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, <b>University of Pennsylvania</b> Supervisors: Anna Schapiro, Ph.D. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developed and extended previous neural network models for mimicking memory reconsolidation during sleep to include emotional valence representation.</li><li>• Used the developed model to simulate memory reconsolidation process of emotional materials for both "depressive" and "normal" conditions as hypothesis testing for etiology theories of depression.</li></ul>	Jun. 2019 – Sept. 2019 Philadelphia, PA
<i>Project Coordinator</i> Program for Anxiety, Cognition, and Treatment (PACT) Lab, <b>University of Virginia</b> Supervisor: Bethany Teachman, Ph.D.	Jun. 2015 – Jul. 2018 Charlottesville, VA

- Developed and managed the MindTrails Project, an online platform for testing and delivering novel Cognitive Bias Modification (CBM) interventions for anxiety disorders, with a reach over 2,500 participants.
- Developed programs and packages in Python and R to automatize data management, data cleaning, and analyses for multiple research studies to ensure data integrity and streamlining data preparation. (See [Github](#)).
- Recruited participants, analyzed research data and facilitated grant writings for multiple grant applications which resulted in a R01 grant.
- Programmed and managed online studies with Project Implicit and Amazon Mechanical Turk to assist graduate students' research projects.
- Recruited, trained and supervised research assistants for daily lab tasks, including participant recruitment, data management, data cleaning, and programming.
- Administrated study IRBs, dataset codebooks, experiment documentations, and lab supplies to enable smooth lab functioning.

*Other collaborative projects at UVA:*

- Extended the current computational model of the hippocampus, to achieve a higher level of temporal resolution in simulation with Matlab/C++, with Professor William Levy.
- Applied machine learning (ML) algorithms on MindTrails datasets for multiple research topics, including users' dropout prediction and subgroup classification, with Professor Hongning Wang.
- Modeled participants' mood fluctuations with datasets from an ecological momentary assessment (EMA) study to predict optimized-timing for intervention, with Professor Laura Barnes' group.
- Programmed fMRI studies with PsychoPy to facilitate lab transition from Matlab to Python, with Professor James Coan.

*Research Assistant*

Jan. 2013 – Jun. 2014

Langone Medical Center, **New York University & Bellevue Hospital Center**

New York, NY

Supervisors: Isaac Robert Galatzer-Levy, Ph.D. & Uzma Samadani, M.D., Ph.D.

*Research project for establishing model to predict PTSD in early stage.*

- Assessed concussion or other trauma patients in emergency room (ER) to recruit eligible participants for research.
- Operated Eye-tracker to collect research data.
- Reviewed literature and collected trauma-related scales to facilitate experimental design.
- Administered data and case management including data entry, updating research logs, tracking new patients from patient regulation system and arranging further research appointment to assist project operation.

*Research Assistant: Summer Intern*

Jun. 2013 – Aug. 2013

CEDAR Clinic, **Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center**

Boston, MA

Supervisor: Kristen Woodberry, M.S.W., Ph.D.

*Research project for understanding prodromal phrase of early onset schizophrenia.*

- Setup EEG, biofeedback equipments and experiment environment for study data collection.
- Assessed clients with SIPS to recruit participants for research study.
- Organized interview toolkits and salivation and blood collecting kits to support study recruitment.
- Reviewed research articles and feedbacks from reviewers to assist grant application.
- Established online surveys to collect feedback about research outcome to help design future researches.
- Applied administrative tasks including case management, case follow up and data management to support center daily running.

*Research Assistant: Summer Intern*

May 2013 – Aug. 2013

Department of Psychology, **Harvard University**

Cambridge, MA

Supervisors: Jill Hooley, D.Phil. & Kenneth Allen, Ph.D.

*Research project for underpinning relationship between cognitive deficits and Non Suicidal Self Injury.*

- Operated portable EEG, delivered assessment (WAIS, etc.) and cognitive tests (Iowa Gambling Test, etc.) to collect experimental data.
- Scored questionnaires with Excel to establish dataset, calculated first-step research outcome and helped generate preliminary conclusion for research project.
- Coded case subjective responses to PANAS questions, discussed and proposed new ideas based on collected data to extend research project with further hypothesis.
- Conducted literature review on neuroimaging researches with fMRI targeting Default Mode Network to facilitate proposal writing.
- Organized case files, entered and cleaned up data to help with data management, storage and prepare for later analysis.

## Clinical Experience

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### *Therapist Trainee*

*Jul. 2021 - Oct. 2022*

#### **EPICenter, Banner Health**

Tucson, AZ

Supervisor: Cristian Garcia, Ph.D.; Gustavo Perez, Ph.D.

*Severe mental health outpatient clinic for early psychosis intervention*

- Provided Evidence Based Treatments (including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy) via individual therapy to improve client's psychosis symptoms and life quality.
- Provided group therapy for clients to implement social skill training and CBT for psychosis to facilitate clients' recovery.

### *Clinical Assessment Trainee*

*Jan. 2019 - Present*

#### **Department of Psychology, University of Arizona**

Tucson, AZ

Supervisor: John J.B. Allen, Ph.D.

*Suicidal risk assessment for Psy 150 mental health screening.*

- Assessed suicidal risk for freshmen who were identified as high risk at the Psy 150 mental health screening to promote campus mental health.

### *Therapist Trainee*

*Sept. 2018 - Aug. 2021*

#### **Behavioral Health Clinic, University of Arizona**

Tucson, AZ

Supervisor: Samantha Reznik, M.A.; Autumn Wiley-Hill, Ph.D.

*Clinical Assessment and Therapy Training Program*

- Provided Evidence Based Treatments (including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy) via individual therapy to alleviate clients' panic attacks and adjustment issues.

### *Group facilitator trainee*

*Jan. 2020 - May 2020*

#### **Pima County Juvenile Court Center**

Tucson, AZ

Supervisor: Caroline Shanholtz, M.A.; Erika Lawrence, Ph.D.

*BREAK: an ACT-based Intervention Program*

- Facilitate ACT-based intervention group for youths in probation to provide psycho-education and life coping skills.

### *Clinical Neuropsychology trainee*

*Sept. 2019 - Dec. 2019*

#### **Watermark Retirement Communities**

Tucson, AZ

Supervisor: Johnny Vanuk, M.A.; Matthew Grilli, Ph.D.

*Clinical Neuropsychology Assessment Training Program*

- Administered, scored neuropsychological assessments (Trail Making Test, Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test, etc.) and provided report and feedback for elders in a retirement community.

### *Clinical Assessment Trainee*

*Jan. 2019 - May 2019*

#### **Casa de Vida, La Frontera Center**

Tucson, AZ

Supervisor: Kathleen Prouty, Ph.D.  
*A substance abuse treatment program*

- Administered, scored, and interpreted neuropsychological assessments (WAIS-IV, WMS-V, etc.) and Structured Clinical Interview for inpatient substance abuse clients.

*Intern*

Sept. 2013 – May 2014  
 New York, NY

**Hamilton Madison House**

Supervisor: Angela Yeung, Psy. D.

*Personalized Recover-Orientated Services (PROS) Program*

- Designed and co-lead multiple training groups to assist participants who experiencing Schizophrenia or Schizoaffective disorders to ameliorate their cognitive function and prepare them for returning to the community.
- Facilitated annual assessment for participants, and updated cases and documentation to assist daily operations.
- Shadowed core staffs and sat in multiple skills-enhancement groups to gain clinical experience as a trainee.

## Teaching/Mentoring Experience

*Instructor*

PSY 450: *Drugs and the Brain*

PSY 450: *Drugs and the Brain*

PSY 430: *Advanced Psychological Measurement and Statistics*

Jan. 2020 - Jul. 2021

Winter 2021

Summer 2020

Spring 2020

*Teaching Assistant*

PSY 290: *Psychological Research Methods*

PSY 230: *Psychological Measurement & Statistics*

PSY 450: *Drugs and the Brain*

PSY 326: *Human Memory*

PSY 480: *Forensic Psychology*

PSY 381: *Abnormal Psychology*

PSY 352 : *Personality*

PSY 150A: *Structure of Mind & Behavior*

Aug. 2018 - Present

Spring 2022

Fall 2021

Summer 2021

Spring 2021

Fall 2020

Fall 2019

Spring 2019

Fall 2018

*Workshops*

*Data Management and Analysis with R - a Five Sessions Bootcamp*

Summer 2017

*Mentoring*

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**

Chloe Susannah Mei Cobb, *University of Arizona*

Cecelia Guthrie, *University of Arizona*

Erin Lessie, *University of Arizona*

Marissa Luna, *University of Arizona*

Valentina Andrea Correa Castillo, *University of Arizona*

Qihan Hu, *University of Arizona*

Yeuk Hei Ng, *University of Arizona*

Hualiang Qin, *University of Arizona*

Maryam Farooqui, B.S., *University of Virginia Class of 2017*

Kaitlin Wray, B.S., *University of Virginia Class of 2017*

Kellyn Blaisdell, B.S., *Princeton University Class of 2016*

Casey Michelle Baker, *University of Virginia Class of 2018*

Claudia Patricia Calicho-Mamani, *University of Virginia Class of 2018*

Imani Nichols, B.S., *University of Virginia Class of 2017*

Sept. 2021 - May 2022

Jan. 2020 - May 2021

Jan. 2020 - May 2021

Jan. 2020 - Sept. 2021

Jan. 2020 - May 2020

Aug. 2019 - May 2020

Aug. 2019 - Dec. 2020

Aug. 2019 - May 2020

Aug. 2017 - May 2018

Aug. 2017 - May 2018

Aug. 2017 - May 2018

Jun. 2017 - May 2018

Jun. 2017 - May 2018

Sep. 2016 - May 2018

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Anyi Zhang, M. Eng, *Graduate School of Engineering, University of Virginia*

Jan. - Jun. 2017

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**Committee/Departmental Leadership**

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*Member, Psychology Departmental Orientation Committee, University of Arizona*

*Aug. 2020 - Present*

*Member, Psychology Departmental Research Committee, University of Arizona*

*Sept. 2021 - Dec. 2022*

*Member, Psychology Colloquium Committee, University of Arizona*

*Sept. 2021 - May 2022*

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**Conference Attendance**

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*Computational Psychiatry Course Zurich 2021 in Zurich, Switzerland (Online)*

*Oct. 2021*

*Society for Psychophysiological Research's 2019 convention in Washington, DC*

*Nov. 2019*

*Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies' 2017 convention in San Diego, CA*

*Nov. 2017*

*Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies' 2016 convention in New York, NY*

*Oct. 2016*

*Social & Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting 2016 in New York, NY*

*Apr. 2016*

*Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies' 2015 convention in Chicago, IL*

*Nov. 2015*

*Social & Affective Neuroscience Society Annual Meeting 2015 in Boston, MA*

*Apr. 2015*

*American Psychological Association's 2014 convention in Washington, D.C.*

*Aug. 2014*

*Depression Among Asian Americans Conference in Edison, NJ*

*Apr. 2013*

*The 30th Annual Teachers College Winter Roundtable Conference in New York, NY*

*Feb. 2013*

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**Professional Associations**

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*Member, Society for Psychophysiological Research*

*Sept. 2019 – Sept. 2020*

*Member, Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies*

*Oct. 2015 – Oct. 2018*

*Member, The Social and Affective Neuroscience Society*

*Apr. 2015 – Apr. 2017*

*Member, Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology*

*Mar. 2013 – May 2014*

*Vice President, International Students' Psychology Association at Columbia University*

*Aug. 2013 – May 2014*

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**Professional Skills**

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**Experienced Working Environment:** Mac OS, MS Windows & Linux

**Programming Languages:** Python, R, Matlab, Go &  $\LaTeX$

**Online Service Package:** Amazon Mechanical Turk, Qualtrics & SurveyMonkey

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**References Available Upon Request**

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