

MATTHEW R. LEITAO

1.818.919.8752 | mrl118@georgetown.edu | mrleitao.com

Education

Ph.D., Psychology

Expected Graduation: May 2024

Concentration: Human Development and Public Policy

Georgetown University

Research Interest: Human-Technology Interaction and Wellbeing

Dissertation Topic: Trust in Medical AI versus Trust In Doctors

M.P.P., Master of Public Policy

Graduated: May 2021

McCourt Georgetown University

Policy Interest: Technology Policy

M.A., General Experimental Psychology

Graduated: May 2019

California State University, Northridge (CSUN)

Research Interest: Human-Technology Social Interaction

B.A., Psychology

Graduated: June 2015

University of California, Riverside (UCR)

Publications

Larranaga, D., Doty, T., **Leitao, M.R.**, Rutchick, A.M., Drew, S.A. (In Prep). Raining cats, dogs, and metaphors: Creative language usage of synesthetes and non-synesthetes.

Montgomery, R.M., Torres-Pantoja, S., **Leitao, M.R.**, Rutchick, A.M. (In Prep). Inclusion of smartphone in the self: Associations with Smartphone-related cognition and behavior.

Logg, J.M., Tinsley, C.H., **Leitao, M.R.** (In Prep). Risk Creep: A COVID-19 Longitudinal Field Study.

Leitao, M.R., Proulx, J.D.E., Kushlev, K. (Accepted). Smartphones undermine social connectedness more in men than women: A mini mega-analysis.

Slipenkyj, M., **Leitao, M.R.**, Steimle, S., Lyons, I.M., & Moynihan, D. (Under Review). Beyond performance and blanket recommendations: The influence of autonomy and country-level development on science attitudes and outcomes.

Rarity, E., **Leitao, M.R.**, Rutchick, A.M. (2022). The effects of wishful identification on perceived personality traits among my little pony fans. *Psychology of Popular Media*. 11(2), 111. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ppm0000389>

Tibbets, M., Epstein-Shuman, A., **Leitao, M.R.**, Kushlev, K. (2021). A week during COVID-19: Online social interactions predict greater connection and more stress. *Computers in Human Behavior*. 4, 100133, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chbr.2021.100133>

Del Cid, D. A., Larranaga, D., **Leitao, M.**, Mosher, R. L., Berzenski, S. R., Gandhi, V., & Drew, S. A. (2020). Exploratory Factor Analysis and Validity of the Virtual Reality Symptom Questionnaire and Computer Use Survey. *Ergonomics*, 64(1), 69-77. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00140139.2020.1820083>

Kushlev, K., & **Leitao, M. R.** (2020). The effects of smartphones on well-being: Theoretical integration and research agenda. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 36, 77-82 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2020.05.001>

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Fellowships and Grants

"Inside the Grant Panel" Grant	2021
<i>Society of Personality and Social Psychology</i>	
Creative Endeavors Grant	2018
<i>California State University, Northridge</i>	
Chancellors Research Fellowship	June 2014 – June 2015
<i>University of California, Riverside</i>	

Honors and Awards

Fellow	2023
<i>Summer Institute of Social & Personality Psychology, Ohio State</i>	
Graduate Student Teaching Award	2023
<i>Office of Graduate Student Affairs</i>	
Conference Travel Grant	2022
<i>Office of Graduate Research & Fellowships – Georgetown University</i>	
Psychology Conference Travel Grant	2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
<i>Psychology Department – Georgetown University</i>	
Donald Butler Quantitative Research Award	2019
<i>Psychology Department – California State</i>	
Graduate Student Travel Grant	2018, 2019
<i>California State University, Northridge – Graduate Study Department</i>	
Psych Department Travel Award	2018, 2019
<i>California State University, Northridge – Psychology Department</i>	
Student Research & Travel Funding	2018, 2019
<i>California State University, Northridge – Associated Students</i>	
Best Reproducible Research	2018
<i>Data Jam - California State University, Northridge</i>	
Best Use of External Data	2017
<i>Data Jam - California State University, Northridge</i>	
Judges' Choice	2017
<i>California State University, Northridge</i>	
Best Poster	2015
<i>University of California Riverside's Undergraduate Research Symposium</i>	

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Research Experience

Graduate Researcher

May 2019 – July 2023

Dr. Kostadin Kushlev – Digital Health and Happiness Lab – Georgetown University

Lab Coordinator

August 2018 – August 2019

Graduate Researcher

June 2017 – August 2019

Dr. Abraham M. Rutchick – Applied Social Psychology Lab – California State University Northridge

Graduate Research Assistant

January 2018 – August 2019

Dr. Bradley D. McAuliff – CSUN Psychology Law Research Lab – California State University, Northridge

Graduate Research Assistant

May 2018 – August 2019

Dr. Stefanie Drew – VISN Lab - California State University, Northridge

Research Assistant

January 2014 – August 2017

Lab Manager

January 2014 – December 2014

Dr. Megan Robbins – OBSERVE Lab – University of California, Riverside

Research Assistant

August 2013 – April 2014

Dr. Carolyn Murray – African American Experience Lab - University of California, Riverside

Professional Experience

Institutional Research Fellow

January 2021 – November 2021

Office of Assessment and Decision Support – Georgetown University

- Compiled and cleaned longitudinal data concerning student and faculty outcomes and relationships
- Ran initial descriptive and inferential analyses to understand scholastic outcomes for student
- Used multilevel modeling to evaluate longitudinal student outcomes and trajectories

Data Analyst

May 2018 – August 2019

Office of Institutional Research – California State University, Northridge

- Merged, cleaned, and analyzed campus-wide student data of more than 100,000 students to determine academic outcomes based on student traits and choices (e.g., ethnic background, working or not working, types of courses taken)
- Wrote and presented internal reports about research findings to CSUN administration
- Created Tableau worksheets and dashboards for use for and by the university
- Prepared manuscripts based on reports for use in publication

Graduate Research Assistant

January 2018 – August 2019

AIMS² - Assessment Team – California State University, Northridge

- Prepared, recorded, and transcribed interviews for qualitative analysis
- Presented research at departmental meeting
- Led focus groups to ascertain the benefit of a new student summer skills workshop
- Created and administered surveys to incoming AIMS² students to evaluate a new student summer skills workshop

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Teaching Experience

Georgetown University

People Analytics – Guest Lecturer	Fall 2023
Psychology of Technology – Professor of Record	Fall 2022
Psychology Research Methods - Recitation Instructor	Spring 2021, Fall 2021
Learning Analytics – Guest Lecturer	Spring 2021
Introduction to Psychology - Teaching Fellow & Guest Lecturer	Fall 2020, Fall 2023
Health Psychology - Teaching Fellow & Guest Lecturer	Spring 2020

California State University Northridge

Social Psychology - Graduate Teaching Assistant	Fall 2017, Fall 2018
Psychology Research Methods - Graduate Student Tutor	Fall 2018

External Lectures

Psychology Research Methods – Kaplan High School	Fall 2022
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Student Mentorship

Honors Thesis Advisor – Emma Kikuchi Georgetown University	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Graduate Student Mentor Society of Personality and Social Psychology	Fall 2021 – Spring 2023

Chaired Sessions

Leitao, M.R. (2024). *Mechanisms Driving Aversion and Appreciation of AI in the Digital Age*. [Chaired Session]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

Conference Presentations

Leitao, M.R. (2024). *Artificial Intelligence, Humanization, and Health Beliefs*. [Symposia Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

Leitao, M.R., Logg, J., Ulu, C. (2023) *The Impact Of Choice On The Utilization Of AI In Decision-Making*. [Symposia Presentation]. INFORMS, Phoenix, AZ.

Leitao, M.R. (2022). *Information, Behavior, and Digital Belief*. [Symposia Presentation]. *Inside the Grant Panel*. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.

Leitao, M.R., Proulx, J., Kushlev, K. (2021). *Phone interference, well-being, and gender: A mega-analysis on the impact of phone use as moderated by gender*. [Data Blitz]. Psychology of Technology Institute, Santa Barbara, CA.

Leitao, M.R., Proulx, J., Kushlev, K. (2021). *Phone interference, well-being, and gender: A mega-analysis on the impact of phone use as moderated by gender*. [Symposia Presentation]. American Psychological Association: Technology Mind and Society Conference, Online.

Leitao, M.R., & Rutchick A.M. (2019). *Obedience to computerized authority*. [Symposia Presentation]. Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

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Leitao, M.R., & Rutchick A.M. (2018) *The effect of personalization on connection with a robot*. [Symposia Presentation] Western Psychological Association, Portland, OR.

Poster Presentations

Leitao, M.R. (2023). *The Role of Perceived Quantitative Reasoning and Intuition for Trust in Medical AI*. [Poster Presentation] Annual Conference of the Psychology of Technology Institute. Los Angeles, CA.

Rabil, K., **Leitao, M.R.**, Kushlev, K. (2023). *Virtual learning is not associated with lower happiness in college students: The role of in-person interactions with close others*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

Leitao, M.R., Proulx, J., Singh, K., Kushlev, K. (2022). *The negative effects of phones during in-person interactions are larger for men: A mega-analysis of nine studies*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.

Leitao, M.R., Kushlev, K. (2022). *The Effects of Humanizing Health Algorithms on Judgements and Belief*. [Poster Presentation]. Psychology and Technology Preconference. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Francisco, CA.

Leitao, M.R., & Kushlev, K., (2021). *Health algorithms, judgement, and behavior*. [Poster Presentation] Association of Psychological Science, Online.

Leitao, M.R., & Kushlev, K (2021). *Screen time in bed predicts better sleep outcomes in college students*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Online.

Slipenkij, M., **Leitao, M.R.**, Stemile S., Lyons, I.M., Moynihan D., (2020). *Beyond performance and blanket recommendations: The influence of autonomy and country-level development on science attitudes and outcomes*. [Poster Presentation]. Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, Online.

Leitao, M.R., & Kushlev, K., (2020). *Those on the other side of the tech divide*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

Levin, J., **Leitao, M.R.**, Katz, G.S., Parker, A.W., Hetzel, S.N., Khan, H., & Rutchick, A.M. (2020). *Facial and verbal reactions to killing*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

Leitao, M.R., & Rutchick, A.M. (2019). *All hail our robot overlords: compliance and computerized authority*. [Poster Presentation]. Psychology of Technology Institute, Washington, DC.

Montgomery, R., **Leitao, M.R.**, Rutchick A.M., (2019). *The inclusion of smartphone in the self (ISS) scale: Closeness with personal mobile devices is associated with poorer well-being*. [Poster Presentation]. Psychology of Technology Institute, Washington, DC.

Leitao, M.R., Larranaga, D., Awad, M.F., Armendariz, J.A., McGinnis, C.A., Drew, S.A., & Hinkel-Lipsker, J.W. (2019). *Hitting the virtual mark: An investigation of training effects in virtual reality*. [Poster Presentation]. Association of Psychological Science, Washington, DC.

Sanders, K., **Leitao, M.R.**, & Rutchick A.M. (2019). *The effect of technological sophistication and instruction on obedience*. [Poster Presentation]. Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

Valencia, L., Coronado M., **Leitao, M.R.**, & Rutchick A.M. (2019). *The hex games: Does personalization of machines lead to positivity or polarization*. [Poster Presentation]. Western Psychological Association, Pasadena, CA.

Montgomery, R., **Leitao, M.R.**, Rutchick, A.M., (2019). *Why tap that app? Smartphone application usage predicted by personality, well-being, and attitudes towards technology*. [Poster Presentation]. Technology and Media Preconference of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

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Leिताo, M.R., & Rutchick, A.M. (2019). *All hail our robot overlords: Compliance and computerized authority*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

Hetzel, S., Montgomery, R., **Leिताo, M.R.**, & Rutchick, A.M. (2019). *Function and effects of technology in the natural environments*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

Corando, M., **Leिताo, M.R.**, & Rutchick, A.M. (2019). *The effect of personalization on liking of and connection to robotic toys*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

Montgomery, R., **Leिताo, M.R.**, & Rutchick, A. M. (2019). *Why tap that app? Smartphone application usage predicted by personality, well-being, and attitudes toward technology*. [Poster Presentation]. Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Tech and Media Pre-Conference, Portland, OR.

Feldman, N., Saravia, D., **Leिताo, M.R.**, Costleigh, C., Ceroni, D., Hawley, N., & McAuliff, B. D. (2019). *The Effects of Refreshing Recollections on Children's Accuracy for Different Question Types Across Repeated Interviews*. [Symposia Presentation] American Psychology-Law Society, Portland, OR.

Leिताo, M.R., & Rutchick A.M. (2018). *Effects of personalization of robotic bugs on connection and liking*. [Poster Presentation]. Association for Psychological Science, San Francisco, CA.

Kaur, B., McManus, R.M, Esquenazi, R., **Leिताo, M.R.**, Melchor, Y., Parker, A.W., Ross B., & Rutchick A.M. (2018). *Dark triad traits, religiosity, political conservatism, and guilt about killing*. [Poster Presentation]. Western Psychological Association, Portland, OR.

Coronado, M., Rutchick, A.M., **Leिताo, M.R.**, & Lugo, Y. (2018). *Personalization increases connection to and liking of machines*. [Poster Presentation]. Western Psychological Association, Portland, OR.

Leिताo, M.R., & Rutchick A.M. (2018). *Thin-slice perception of autonomous machines*. [Poster Presentation] Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA.

Intramural Presentations

Leिताo, M.R., & Rutchick, A.M. (2019). *Obedience to computerized authority*. [Conference Presentation]. CSUNsymposium, Northridge, CA.

Leिताo, M.R., Larranaga, D, Reyna, K, & Manavi, R. (2018). *Dear Los Angeles, get well soon*. [Conference Presentation]. CSUN DataJam, Northridge, CA.

Leिताo, M.R., & Rutchick, A.M. (2018). *Hexbugs and the effects of personalization on connection and liking*. [Conference Presentation]. CSUNsymposium, Northridge, CA.

Leिताo, M.R., (2018). *Homo ex machina*. [Colloquia Talk]. Technology, Cognition, and Behavior Colloquium. California State University Northridge, Northridge, CA.

Leिताo, M.R., Larranaga, D, Reyna, K, Manavi, R & Awad, J. (2017). *Saving our future through observing our past: A predictive model for positive youth development and outcomes*. [Conference Presentation]. CSUN DataJam, Northridge, CA.

Leिताo, M. R., Karan, A, & Robbins, M (2015). *It's not what you say but how you say it: Vocal tone and emotion among women coping with breast cancer*. [Poster Presentation] Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA.

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Invited External Speaking

University of Virginia – Department of Psychology

October 2023

Alexandria Film Festival – Speaking on Happiness

June 2023

<https://alexfilmfest.com/news-1/alexandria-gets-happy-at-sold-out-film-event>

Professional Membership

American Psychological Association (APA)

Association of Psychological Science (APS)

International Society for Developmental Psychology (ISDP)

Society for the Improvement of Psychology (SIPS)

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

Western Psychological Association (WPA)

Workshops Attended

Latent Profile Analysis

2023

Pitt Methods – Dr. Sara K. Johnson

Harnessing Social Psychology to Understand and Improve Health

2023

SISPP – Dr. Lisa Jaremka & Dr. John Updegraff

Text Analytics: Uncovering Psychological Insights via Natural Language

2023

SISPP – Dr. Matthew Rocklage & Dr. Tessa Charlesworth

Longitudinal Multilevel Modeling

2021

Pitt Methods - Dr. Aidan Wright

Ambulatory Assessment

2021

Pitt Methods - Dr. Aidan Wright

Summer Psychology Forum

2021

Society of Personality and Social Psychology - Various

BrainHack Global DC

2020, 2021

Georgetown University

Skills

Research: SONA, Qualtrics, Mechanical Turk, Cloud Research, Prolific

Data Visualization: Tableau, GGPlot

Statistics: SPSS, R/R Studio, Stata, Jamovi, Jasp

Computer Languages: HTML5, JavaScript, Python, R

Productivity: Excel, Word, PowerPoint/Keynote, WordPress, Canva

Others: LIWC, PRAAT

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Service

APSSC Campus Representative Association of Psychological Science	Fall 2022 - Current
Graduate Student Representative to the Faculty <i>Georgetown University – Psychology Department</i>	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Sona Coordinator <i>Georgetown University - Psychology Department</i>	Fall 2021 – Spring 2023
Graduate Student Liaison to Visiting Faculty <i>Georgetown University - Psychology Department</i>	Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Initiatives

Gender Identity & Pronoun Task Force <i>Georgetown University – Data Governance Task Force</i>	Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
Graduate Student Representative <i>Georgetown Psychology Inaugural Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee</i>	2020 - 2022
Eliminating GRE Requirement Initiative at Georgetown University	Initiative Member (GRE was made optional)

Open Science Initiatives

Current Topics in Psychological Science Journal Club <i>Cofounder/Administrator</i>	2022-Current
Workshops/Events Conducted	
Power Analysis: How to construct a study to find an expected effect	November 2023
R From Scratch: An introduction into R	April 2023
An introduction to Open Science	December 2022
Georgetown Initiative for Open Science <i>Cofounder/Administrator</i>	2022-Current

Honor Societies

Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society <i>Secretary and Treasurer</i>	Member Since: January 2014 August 2014 – June 2015
Delta Epsilon Iota Professional Honor Society <i>Vice President</i>	Member Since: January 2014 August 2014 – June 2015
Tau Sigma Transfer Student Honor Society	Member Since: January 2014