

ALEXANDER C. WALKER

Cognitive, Linguistic & Psychological Sciences • Brown University
 190 Thayer Street • Providence, RI, 02912 • United States
 alexandercwalker@brown.edu • www.alexandercwalker.com

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology	2018 - 2023
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada	
Advisors: Dr. Jonathan Fugelsang and Dr. Derek Koehler	
Master of Arts in Psychology	2015 - 2017
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada	
Advisors: Dr. Jonathan Fugelsang and Dr. Derek Koehler	
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology	2010 - 2015
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada	
Advisor: Dr. Launa Leboe-McGowan	

Employment

Banting Postdoctoral Fellow	2023 - Present
Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA	
Advisor: Dr. Oriel FeldmanHall	
Consultant	2020 - Present
HumanSystems Incorporated	

Research Summary

Academic scholarships and awards received: 17 since 2012 (\$295,130 total)

Peer-reviewed publications: 27 (8 first author; 2 shared first author)

Academic Scholarships, Awards, and Distinctions

Governor General's Gold Medal	2024
SSHRC Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship (value \$140,000)	2023
Moral Narratives Workshop Fellow (\$500 honorarium)	2022
Queen Elizabeth Scholarship in Science & Technology (value \$15,000)	2021
President's Graduate Scholarship (value \$5,000)	2021
Donald O. Hebb Graduate Student Award for Best Paper Presentation	2018
Runner-Up (value \$100)	
NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship-Doctoral (value \$63,000)	2017
President's Graduate Scholarship (value \$35,000)	2017

NSERC Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship-Master's (value \$17,500)	2016
President's Graduate Scholarship (value \$5,000)	2016
University of Manitoba Undergraduate Research Award (value \$6,000)	2014
Psychology Undergraduate Research Experience Award (value \$6,000), Declined	2014
University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU) Scholarship (value \$700)	2014
Isbister Scholarship in Arts (value \$330)	2014
Faculty of Arts Dean's Honour List Special Recognition	2014
University of Manitoba Students' Union Scholarship (value \$750)	2012
University of Manitoba Merit Award (value \$250)	2012

Publications

* Denotes equal contribution

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.ca/citations?user=l42Vv2wAAAAJ&hl=en>

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

26. Azevedo, F., Pavlovic, T., Rego, G. G., Ay, F. C., Gjoneska, B., Etienne, T., ... **Walker, A. C.**, ... Sampaio, W. M. (2023). Social and moral psychology of COVID-19 across 69 countries. *Scientific Data*, *10*(1), 272.
25. **Walker, A. C.**, Stange, M., Dixon, M. J., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (2023). Push outcomes bias perceptions of scratch card games. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, *39*(1), 49-73.
24. **Walker, A. C.**, Stange, M., Dixon, M. J., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (2023). Using icon arrays to communicate gambling information reduces the appeal of scratch card games. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, *39*(1), 363-382.
23. Mandel, D. R., Collins, R. C., **Walker, A. C.**, Fugelsang, J. A., Risko, E. F. (2022). Hypothesized drivers of the bias blind spot: Cognitive sophistication, introspection bias, and conversational processes. *Judgment and Decision Making*, *17*(6), 1392-1421.
22. Pavlovic, T., Azevedo, F., De, K., Riano-Moreno, J. C., Maglic, M., Gkinopoulos, T., ... **Walker, A. C.**, ... Van Bavel, J. J. (2022). Predicting attitudinal and behavioral responses to COVID-19 pandemic using machine learning. *PNAS Nexus*, *1*(3), 1-15.
21. Kara-Yakoubian, M., **Walker, A. C.**, Sharpinskyi, K., Assadourian, G., Fugelsang, J. A., & Harris, R. (2022). Beauty and truth, truth and beauty: Chiastic structure increases the subjective accuracy of statements. *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*, *76*(2), 144-155.

20. Majima, Y., **Walker, A. C.**, Turpin, M. H., & Fugelsang, J. A. (2022). Culture as a moderator of epistemically suspect beliefs. *Frontiers in Psychology, 13*, 745580.

19. Van Bavel, J. J., Cichocka, A., Capraro, V., Sjastad, H., Nezlek, J. B., Pavlovic, T., ... **Walker, A. C.**, ... Boggio, P. S. (2022). National identity predicts public health support during a global pandemic. *Nature Communications, 13*, 1-14.

- Highlighted in *Nature Communications* Editors' Highlights which aims to provide a snapshot of the most exciting work published in *Nature Communications*.

18. Gretton, J. D., Meyers, E. A., **Walker, A. C.**, Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (2021). A brief forewarning intervention overcomes negative effects of salient changes in COVID-19 guidance. *Judgment and Decision Making, 16*(6), 1549-1574.

17. **Walker, A. C.***, Turpin, M. H.*, Fugelsang, J. A., & Białek, M. (2021). Better the two devils you know, than the one you don't: Predictability influences moral judgments of immoral actors. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 97*, 104220.

16. Turpin, M. H.*, **Walker, A. C.***, Fugelsang, J. A., Sorokowski, P., Grossmann, I., & Białek, M. (2021). The search for predictable moral partners: Predictability and moral (character) preferences. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 97*, 104196.

15. **Walker, A. C.**, Turpin, M. H., Meyers, E. A., Stolz, J. A., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (2021). Controlling the narrative: Euphemistic language affects judgments of actions while avoiding perceptions of dishonesty. *Cognition, 211*, 104633.

14. Stange, M., **Walker, A. C.**, Fugelsang, J. A., Koehler, D. J., & Dixon, M. J. (2021). Unclaimed prize information increases the appeal of scratch card games. *International Gambling Studies, 21*(1), 119-132.

13. Turpin, M. H.*, Kara-Yakoubian, M.*, **Walker, A. C.**, Walker, H. E. K., Fugelsang, J. A., & Stolz, J. A. (2021). Bullshit ability as an honest signal of intelligence. *Evolutionary Psychology, 19*(2), 1-10.

12. Meyers, E. A., **Walker, A. C.**, Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (2020). Reducing the number of non-naïve participants in Mechanical Turk samples. *Methods in Psychology, 3*, 1-8.

11. Muda, R.*, **Walker, A. C.***, Pienkosz, D., Fugelsang, J. A., & Białek, M. (2020). Foreign language does not affect gambling-related judgments. *Journal of Gambling Studies, 36*(2), 633-652.

10. Turpin, M. H., Meyers, E. A., **Walker, A. C.**, Białek, M., Stolz, J. A., & Fugelsang, J. A. (2020). The environmental malleability of base rate neglect. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, *27*(2), 385-391.
9. Turpin, M. H., **Walker, A. C.**, Kara-Yakoubian, M., Gabert, N. N., Fugelsang, J. A., & Stolz, J. A. (2019). Bullshit makes the art grow profounder. *Judgment and Decision Making*, *14*(6), 658-670.
8. **Walker, A. C.**, Stange, M., Dixon, M. J., Koehler, D. J., & Fugelsang, J. A. (2019). Graphical depiction of statistical information improves gambling-related judgments. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, *35*(3), 945-968.
7. **Walker, A. C.**, Turpin, M. H., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (2019). Intuition speed as a predictor of choice and confidence in point spread predictions. *Judgment and Decision Making*, *14*(2), 148-155.
6. **Walker, A. C.**, Turpin, M. H., Stolz, J. A., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (2019). Finding meaning in the clouds: Illusory pattern perception predicts receptivity to pseudo-profound bullshit. *Judgment and Decision Making*, *14*(2), 109-119.
5. Stange, M., **Walker, A. C.**, Koehler, D. J., Fugelsang, J. A., & Dixon, M. J. (2018). Exploring relationships between problem gambling, scratch card gambling, and individual differences in thinking style. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, *7*(4), 1022-1029.
4. **Walker, A. C.**, Stange, M., Fugelsang, J. A., Koehler, D. J., & Dixon, M. J. (2018). Unclaimed prize information biases perceptions of winning in scratch card gambling. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, *34*(4), 1355-1375.
3. Alards-Tomalín, D., **Walker, A. C.**, Nepon, H., & Leboe-McGowan, L. C. (2017). Dual-task interference effects on cross-modal numerical order and sound intensity judgments: The more the louder? *The Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, *70*(9), 1943-1963.
2. Alards-Tomalín, D., **Walker, A. C.**, Kravetz, A., & Leboe-McGowan, L. C. (2016). Numerical context and time perception: Contrast effects and the perceived duration of numbers. *Perception*, *45*(1-2), 222-245.
1. Alards-Tomalín, D., **Walker, A. C.**, Shaw, J. D. M., & Leboe-McGowan, L. C. (2015). Is 9 louder than 1? Audiovisual cross-modal interactions between number magnitude and judged sound loudness. *Acta Psychologica*, *160*, 95-103.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings

1. Walker, H. E. K., **Walker, A. C.**, Muda, R., Turpin, M. H., Trick, L. M., Fugelsang, J. A., & Bialek, M. (2021). Improving the public's perception of autonomous vehicles by communicating the consistency of autonomous vehicle algorithms. *Proceedings of the 30th Annual Canadian Association of Road Safety Professionals / 14th Annual La Prévention Routière Internationale Joint Conference*.

Technical Reports

1. Cortes, K., **Walker, A. C.**, Fugelsang, J. A., & Thomson, M. H. (2022). *Anticipatory intelligence literature review* (Contract No. DRDC-RDDC-2022-C174). Defence Research and Development Canada.

2. Kim, J., Bennett, J., Chen, J., Coman, A., Currie, G., Dahlstrom, M., ... **Walker, A. C.**, ... Crockett, M. J. (2023). *Moral Narratives Workshop Proceedings*. 10.31234/osf.io/m59vz

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant For Dr. Derek Koehler (PSYCH 470 Psychology of Economic Decisions)	Winter 2022
Teaching Assistant For Dr. Derek Koehler (PSYCH 390 Research in Cognition and Perception)	Winter 2021
Instructor PSYCH 390 Research in Cognition and Perception	Winter 2020
Teaching Assistant For Dr. Derek Koehler (PSYCH 394 Research in Cognition and Perception)	Winter 2019
Teaching Assistant For Dr. Richard Eibach (PSYCH 253 Social Psychology)	Winter 2018
Teaching Assistant For Dr. Jonathan Fugelsang (PSYCH 391 Advanced Data Analysis)	Fall 2016
Teaching Assistant For Dr. Derek Besner (PSYCH 394 Research in Cognition and Perception)	Spring 2016
Teaching Assistant For Dr. Heather Henderson (PSYCH 211 Developmental Psychology)	Winter 2016
Teaching Assistant For Dr. Jennifer Stolz (PSYCH 207 Cognitive Processes)	Fall 2015

Honours Theses Co-Supervised

Nicholas Lee - Nothing but the truth? The effect of euphemistic language on sentencing judgments	2022 - 2023
Zuleykha Gasimova - <i>Perceptions of profit motive: Can messaging affect beliefs about profit-seeking</i>	2020 - 2021
Amiya Aggarwal - <i>Source information and doublespeak: How source cues influence moral judgments</i>	2019 - 2020
Garni Assadourian - <i>Ambiguity as a driving factor of the effectiveness of doublespeak</i>	2018 - 2019
Dorothy Chan - <i>Personality and the illusion of truth</i>	2017 - 2018
Jorjena Dankha - <i>The role of intuitive and analytic thinking on the illusion of truth</i>	2016 - 2017

Professional Service

Member of the Psychology Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Mentoring Program	2022 - 2023
Member of the Research Ethics and Integrity Advisory Committee	2017 - 2022
Faculty Liaison for the Undergraduate Psychology Students' Association	2013 - 2015

Selected Media Coverage

Culture moderates beliefs that are inconsistent with established scientific evidence. *PsyPost*, May 16th, 2022. URL: <https://www.psypost.org/2022/05/culture-moderates-beliefs-that-are-inconsistent-with-established-scientific-evidence-63149>

Euphemistic language can sway opinions while avoiding the reputational costs of outright lying, study finds. *PsyPost*, October 28th, 2021. URL: <https://www.psypost.org/2021/10/euphemistic-language-can-sway-opinions-while-avoiding-the-reputational-costs-of-outright-lying-study-finds-62032>

Research says your ability to 'bullshit' may be a sign of intelligence. *CNBC*, July 2nd, 2021. URL: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/30/your-ability-to-bullshit-may-be-sign-of-intelligence-study.html>

Good at blagging? You may be smarter than others, too. *The Guardian*, June 29th, 2021. URL: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2021/jun/29/good-at-blagging-you-may-be-smarter-than-others-too>

Bullshitting is actually a sign of intelligence, study finds. *Vice*, June 28th, 2021. URL: <https://www.vice.com/en/article/88nmvz/bullshitting-sign-intelligence-psychology-lying>

New psychology research indicates that bullshitting is sign of intelligence. *PsyPost*, June 25th, 2021. URL: <https://www.psypost.org/2021/06/new-psychology-research-indicates-that-bullshitting-is-sign-of-intelligence-61245>

Bluffing is a sign of being clever (no BS). *The Times*, May 20th, 2021. URL: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/bluffing-is-a-sign-of-being-clever-no-bs-ss2hp2xj5>

The truth about doublespeak: Is it lying or just being persuasive? *Waterloo News*, April 8th, 2021. URL: <https://uwaterloo.ca/news/media/truth-about-doublespeak-it-lying-or-just-being-persuasive>

Abstract art with “pseudo-profound” BS titles seen as more meaningful. *Ars Technica*, March 10th, 2020. URL: <https://arstechnica.com/science/2020/03/abstract-art-with-pseudo-profound-bs-titles-seen-as-more-meaningful/>

How we are fooled by pretentious titles on art. *The Times*, November 30th, 2019. URL: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/how-we-are-fooled-by-pretentious-titles-on-art-slscrj78d>

“Perceptive” people often believe nonsense: study. *Waterloo News*, April 11, 2019. URL: <https://uwaterloo.ca/news/news/perceptive-people-often-believe-nonsense-study>

Invited Talks

Walker, A. C. (2022). Controlling the narrative: Euphemistic language shapes judgments of actions while avoiding perceptions of dishonesty. Presented to Dr. Oriel FeldmanHall's Laboratory. Brown University, Providence, RI.

Walker, A. C. (2021). Controlling the narrative: How euphemistic language shapes judgments of actions while avoiding perceptions of dishonesty. Presented to Dr. Molly Crockett's Laboratory. Yale University, New Haven, CN.

Walker, A. C. & Meyers, E. A. (2018). The basics of Mechanical Turk. Presented to the Office of Research Ethics. University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.

Walker, A. C. (2017). An investigation into Amazon's Mechanical Turk. Presented to the Research Ethics and Integrity Advisory Committee. University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.

Conference Presentations

* Indicates presenting author

Oral Presentations (Presenter)

Walker, A. C.*, Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (July 2023). Partisan Language Provides Reputational Benefits to Individuals while Strengthening Partisan Divides. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*, Guelph, ON, Canada. (national; oral) [symposium presentation]

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Meyers, E. A., Stolz, J. A., Koehler, D. J., & Fugelsang, J. A. (July 2022). Controlling the narrative: Euphemistic language affects judgments of actions while avoiding perceptions of dishonesty. *Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Toronto, ON, Canada. (international; oral)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Grossmann, I., Fugelsang, J. A., & Białek, M. (October 2021). Better the two devils you know, than the one you don't: Predictability influences judgments of moral character. *International Wisdom Summit*, online. (international; oral)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Białek, M., & Fugelsang, J. A. (June 2021). Better the devil you know than the one you don't: Predictability influences moral judgments. *International Conference on Thinking*, online. (international; oral) [symposium presentation]

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Fugelsang, J. A., & Białek, M. (June 2021). The perceived predictability of immoral actors guides judgments of their moral character. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*, online. (national; oral)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Meyers, E. A., Assadourian, G., Stolz, J. A., Koehler, D. J., & Fugelsang, J. A. (June 2019). The good, the bad, and the manipulative: An initial investigation into the effectiveness of doublespeak. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*, Waterloo, ON, Canada. (national; oral)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Stolz, J. A., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (July 2018). Finding meaning in the clouds: Illusory pattern perception predicts bullshit receptivity. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*, St. John's, NL, Canada. (national; oral) [symposium presentation]

Poster Presentations (Presenter)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Meyers, E. A., Stolz, J. A., Koehler, D. J., & Fugelsang, J. A. (May 2022). Controlling the narrative: Euphemistic language affects judgments of actions while avoiding perceptions of dishonesty. *APS Annual Convention*, Chicago, IL, USA. (international; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Białek, M., & Fugelsang, J. A. (November 2019). Better the devil you know than the devil you don't: Predictability influences moral judgments. *Society for Judgment and Decision Making Annual Conference*, Montreal, QB, Canada. (international; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Stange, M., Dixon, M. J., Koehler, D. J., & Fugelsang, J. A. (November 2019). Graphical depiction of statistical information improves gambling-related judgments. *Psychonomics Society Annual Conference*, Montreal, QB, Canada. (international; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Białek, M., & Fugelsang, J. A. (June 2019). Better the devil you know than the devil you don't: Predictability influences moral judgments. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*, Waterloo, ON, Canada. (national; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Białek, M., & Fugelsang, J. A. (May 2019). Better the devil you know than the devil you don't: Predictability influences moral judgments. *Southern Ontario Behavioural Decision Research Conference*, Waterloo, ON, Canada. (regional; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Meyers, E. A., Turpin, M. H., Stolz, J. A., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (November 2018). The good, the bad, and the manipulative: An initial investigation into the effectiveness of doublespeak. *Psychonomics Society Annual Conference*, New Orleans, LA, USA. (international; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Stolz, J. A., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (November 2018). Finding meaning in the clouds: Illusory pattern perception predicts bullshit receptivity. *Society for Judgment and Decision Making Annual Conference*, New Orleans, LA, USA. (international; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Stange, M., Dixon, M. J., Koehler, D. J., & Fugelsang, J. A. (September 2018). Graphical Depiction of Statistical Information Improves Gambling-Related Judgments. *BEworks Summit for Science in Financial Services*, Toronto, ON, Canada. (national; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Stange, M., Dixon, M. J., Koehler, D. J., & Fugelsang, J. A. (July 2018). The biasing effects of unclaimed prize information: Investigating the harms and reducing the bias. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*, St. John's, NL, Canada. (national; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Turpin, M. H., Stolz, J. A., Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (April 2018). Illusory pattern perception predicts receptivity to pseudo-profound bullshit. *Graduate Psychology Discovery Conference*, Waterloo, ON, Canada. (institutional; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Stange, M., Koehler, D. J., Fugelsang, J. A., & Dixon, M. J. (November 2017). Unclaimed prize information biases perceptions of winning in scratch card gambling. *Society for Judgment and Decision Making Annual Conference*, Vancouver, BC, Canada. (national; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (November 2016). Intuitive confidence reflects speed of initial responses in point spread predictions. *Society for Judgment and Decision Making Annual Conference*, Boston, MA, USA. (international; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (June 2016). Intuitive confidence in a sports betting domain. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*; Ottawa, ON, Canada. (national; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (May 2016). Intuitive confidence in a sports betting domain. *Southern Ontario Behavioural Decision Research Conference*, London, ON, Canada. (regional; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Fugelsang, J. A., & Koehler, D. J. (April 2016). Intuitive confidence in a sports betting domain. *Graduate Psychology Discovery Conference*, Waterloo, ON, Canada. (institutional; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Alards-Tomalin, D., Kravetz, A., & Leboe-McGowan, L. C. (June 2015). Numerical context and time perception: Contrast effects and the perceived duration of numbers. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*; Ottawa, ON, Canada. (national; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Alards-Tomalin, D., Shaw, J., & Leboe-McGowan, L. C. (June 2015). Is 9 Louder than 1? Audiovisual cross-modal interactions between number magnitude and judged sound intensity. *The Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science Annual Meeting*; Ottawa, ON, Canada. (national; poster)

Walker, A. C. *, Alards-Tomalin, D., & Leboe-McGowan, L. C. (November 2014). Is 9 louder than 1? An audiovisual cross-modal interaction between number magnitude and sound amplitude. *Auditory Perception, Cognition, and Action Meeting*; Long Beach, CA, USA. (international; poster)

Reviewer

Journal of Experimental Social Psychology / Emotion / Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition / Journal of Behavioral Decision Making / Journal of Economic Psychology / Current Psychology / Journal of Gambling Issues / Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin / Social Influence

Professional Associations

Association for Psychological Science / Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science / Psychonomic Society / Society for Judgment and Decision Making