

# Minjae Seo

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& Department of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania  
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## ACADEMIC POSITION

**Martin Fishbein Postdoctoral Researcher** in Social Action Lab Aug 2024 – Present  
Annenberg Public Policy Center & Annenberg School for Communication & Department of Psychology  
*University of Pennsylvania, PA, USA*  
▪ Principal Investigator: Dr. Dolores Albarracín

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Social-Personality Psychology**, Minor in Quantitative Psychology 2024  
*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA*

- Dissertation Title: "Emotional common ground bridges cultural divides in couples: The facilitating effects of emotional match between romantic partners in intercultural (vs. monocultural) communication and relationships."
- Advisor: Dr. Dov Cohen
- Committee members: Dr. Kimberly M. Rios, Dr. Brian G. Ogolsky, Dr. Sean M. Laurent, Dr. Young-Hoon Kim
- Specialization: Social Psychology

**M.A. in Psychology** 2015

*Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea*

- Advisor: Dr. Young-Hoon Kim
- Specialization: Social Psychology

**B.A. in Psychology and Political Science**, with High Honors 2013

*Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea*

**Exchange Student Program (UCEAP)** in Psychology and Political Science Aug 2011 – Aug 2012

*University of California at Berkeley, CA, USA*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Culture, Diversity, Prosocial behavior, Intergroup relations, Intercultural communication, Close relationships

## PUBLICATIONS

Seo, M., Cohen, D., Briley, D. A., & Yakin, S. (2024). East Asians' lower satisfaction with homelife is plausibly related to lower attitude similarity within couples. *Social Psychology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1027/1864-9335/a000552>

Seo, M., Watanabe, S., Kim, Y.-H., & Laurent, S. M. (2024). Interdependent versus independent inconsistency: Cultural differences in how East Asian and Western people attribute hypocrisy. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 153(8), 2043–2067. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0001608>

Cohen, D., Seo, M., & Lawless, R. (2023). Institutional inversion and "demand-side" versus "supply-side" views of culture. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 32(3), 131–136. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09637214221136087>

Seo, M., Yang, S., & Laurent, S. M. (2023). No one is an island: Awe encourages global citizenship identification. *Emotion*, 23(3), 601–612. <https://doi.org/10.1037/emo0001160>

Lee, J., Seo, M., & Leahey, E. (2022). Who is worthy of protection? How naming potential beneficiaries influences COVID-19 vaccine intentions. *Socius*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23780231221082422>

Seo, M., Na, J., & Kim, Y.-H. (2021). Moral in whose eyes? Cross-cultural differences in moral decision making and behaviour. *International Journal of Psychology*, 56(1), 175–182. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ijop.12681>

Kim, Y.-H., Kwon, H., Seo, M., & Seo, D. (2017). The self in face and dignity cultures. In *the Praeger Handbook of Personality across Cultures*. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger publishers.

Seo, M., Kim, Y.-H., Tam, K.-P., & Rozin, P. (2016). I am dumber when I look dumb in front of many (vs. few) others: A cross-cultural difference in how audience size affects perceived social reputation and self-judgments. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 47(8), 1019–1032. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022022116659020>

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

### Talks

- Seo, M., & Cohen, D. (2023, March). *Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on satisfaction with love, work, and the self: Mediating role of positive (rather than negative) emotions*. Talk presented at the Society of Affective Science annual conference. Long Beach, CA, USA. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., & Cohen, D. (2023, February). *How intercultural couples navigate differences: Different effects of partner dissimilarities on intra- and intercultural romantic relationships*. Talk presented at the Advances in Cultural Psychology Pre-conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Atlanta, GA, USA. [PDF](#)
- Yang, S., Seo, M., & Laurent, S. M. (2021, July). *No man is an island: Awe encourages global citizenship identification*. Talk presented at the international congress of the International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology. Virtual Conference.
- Seo, M., Watanabe, S., Kim, Y.-H., & Laurent, S. M. (2021, February). *Hypocrisy is everywhere, for different reasons: When and why East Asian and Western cultures attribute hypocrisy*. Talk presented at Justice and Morality Pre-conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Virtual Conference.
- Seo, M., Lee, J., & Kim, Y.-H. (2013, December). *Koreans' morality concerned with others' eyes: The effects of face-culture context on individuals' moral behaviors*. Talk presented at the winter meeting of the Korean Social and Personality Psychology Association. Chungbuk National University, Chungbuk, South Korea.
- Seo, M., & Kim, Y.-H. (2013, October). *When do East Asians engage in immoral behavior? The basis of East Asians' morality from the perspective of face vs. dignity culture*. Talk presented at the 7th meeting of East Asian Law Psychology International Conference. Hallym University, Gangwon, South Korea.

### Poster Presentations

- Seo, M., & Cohen, D. (2023, February). *Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on self, work, and love mediated by emotional experiences*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Atlanta, GA, USA. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., Yang, S., & Laurent, S. M. (2022, March). *No one is an island: Awe encourages global citizenship identification*. Poster presented at the Society of Affective Science annual conference. Virtual Conference. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., Yang, S., & Laurent, S. M. (2022, February). *No one is an island: Awe encourages global citizenship identification*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. San Francisco, CA, USA. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., Yang, S., & Laurent, S. M. (2022, February). *No one is an island: Awe encourages global citizenship identification*. Poster presented at the Emotion Pre-conference of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology. Virtual Conference. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., Watanabe, S., Kim, Y.-H., & Laurent, S. M. (2020, February). *Instrumental inconsistency: Reasons for hypocrisy affect its attribution across cultures*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. New Orleans, LA, USA. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., & Kim, Y.-H. (2016, July-August). *Same Performance, different self-judgment: A cross-cultural difference in the effect of audience size on perceived social reputation and self-judgment*. Poster presented at the international congress of the International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology. Nagoya, Japan. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., & Kim, Y.-H. (2016, January). *Bigger audience, bigger failure: A cross-cultural difference in self-judgments when performing poorly in front of a large vs. small audience*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. San Diego, CA, USA. [PDF](#)
- Seo, M., & Kim, Y.-H. (2015, August). *A cross-cultural difference in perceived social reputation and self-judgment when performing poorly in front of a large vs. small audience*. Poster presented at the annual conference of Korean Psychology Association. Seoul, South Korea.

- **Seo, M.,** Kim, Y.-H., & Na, J. (2015, February). *When do people engage in immoral behavior? Exploring cross-cultural differences in the foundation of morality from the perspective of face versus dignity culture.* Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Long Beach, CA, USA. [PDF](#)
- **Seo, M.,** Lee, H., & Kim, Y.-H. (2014, February). *Too positive is as bad as too negative: The effects of positive performance feedback on students' performance and mental health.* Poster presented at the annual convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. Austin, TX, USA. [PDF](#)

**INVITED TALKS** Social-Personality-Organizational Psychology Brownbag, University of Illinois

- How intercultural couples navigate differences: Different effects of partner dissimilarities on intra- and intercultural romantic relationships, February, 2023
- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on self, work, and love: Mediating effects of positive and negative emotions, April, 2022
- Self-awareness and conformity to a standard: When East Asian and Western people conform to immoral standards, April, 2021
- Hypocrisy is everywhere, for different reasons: When and why East Asian and Western cultures attribute hypocrisy, February, 2021
- Initiation and maintenance in intercultural romantic relationship, March, 2018
- When do people engage in immoral behavior? Cross-cultural exploration of morality from the perspective of face versus dignity culture, April, 2017

- MEDIA COVERAGE**
- [The Top 10 Insights from the “Science of a Meaningful Life” in 2022.](#) *Greater Good Magazine*, Greater Good Science Center at UC Berkeley (Dec. 14, 2022)
  - [How a Sense of Awe Can Inspire Us to Confront Threats to Humanity.](#) *Greater Good Magazine*, Greater Good Science Center at UC Berkeley (Oct. 10, 2022)

- AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **American Psychological Foundation (APF) COGDOP Graduate Research Scholarship** 2023  
Charles and Carol Spielberger Scholarship, American Psychological Foundation
  - **Society for Affective Science (SAS) Diversity Trainee Award** 2023  
Society for Affective Science
  - **Department Conference Presentation Award** 2023  
Department of Psychology, University of Illinois
  - **Triandis Fellowship** Department of Psychology, University of Illinois Spring, Fall 2022
  - **List of Teachers Ranked Excellent by Their Students** 2021  
Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning, University of Illinois
  - **Psychology Alumni Advisory Board Graduate Student Travel and Research Award** 2020-2021  
Department of Psychology, University of Illinois
  - **Graduate College Conference Travel Award** 2020  
Graduate College, University of Illinois
  - **Department Fellowship** Department of Psychology, University of Illinois Fall 2016, Spring 2017
  - **Brain Korea 21 Plus Scholarship** National Research Foundation of Korea Spring 2014
  - **High Honors at Graduation** College of Social Science, Yonsei University 2013

- TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCES**
- Teaching experiences**
- Teaching Assistant to Dr. Chadly Stern and Dr. Thomas Srull, Fall 2017, Spring 2019, Fall 2021  
Department of Psychology, University of Illinois  
*Social Cognition*

- Teaching Assistant to iMBA, Gies College of Business, University of Illinois  
*Multiculturalism in Management and the Marketplace, Managing Organizations, Leadership and Teams, Fostering Creative Thinking, Strategic Innovation, Program Capstone*
Summer 2019-2021, Spring-Fall 2023-2024
- Lab instructor supervised by Dr. Dov Cohen, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois  
*Methodologies in Social Psychology*
Fall 2018
- Instructor supervised by Dr. Dolores Albarracín, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois  
*Introduction to Social Psychology*
Spring 2018

**Mentoring experiences**

- Undergraduate Thesis Advising, Department of Psychology, University of Illinois  
*Beomgyu Park (2019-20), Duoduo Qi (2020-21)*