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Curriculum Vitae

Aamir Sohail

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Education

2023 – 2027	**Ph.D. in Psychology** Advisors: Dr. Lei Zhang & Prof. Patricia L. Lockwood	University of Birmingham Birmingham, UK
	Visiting Student Researcher Supervisors: Prof. Russell A. Poldrack & Prof. Robb Willer	Stanford University Stanford, USA
2017 – 2018	**M.Sc. in Brain Imaging (First-class honours)** Thesis advisors: Dr. Claudia Danielmeier & Dr. Jan Derrfuss	University of Nottingham Nottingham, UK
2013 – 2016	**B.Sc. in Biomedical Science (Upper second-class honours)** Thesis advisors: Prof. Anne R. Lingford-Hughes & Dr. Samuel P. Turton	Imperial College London London, UK

Employment

Dec 2023 – Mar 2026	**Post Graduate Teaching Assistant**, School of Psychology Line Manager: Dr. Steven Frisson	University of Birmingham Birmingham, UK
Jul 2024 – Sep 2025	**MR Scanner Operator**, Centre for Human Brain Health Line Manager: Dr. Nina Salman	University of Birmingham Birmingham, UK
Oct 2021 – Sep 2023	**CINN Operations Support**, School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences Line Manager: Prof. Anastasia Christakou	University of Reading Reading, UK
Apr 2021 – Oct 2021	**Junior Research Fellow**, School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences Line Manager: Prof. Anastasia Christakou	University of Reading Reading, UK

Awards & Grants

2025 **Google Cloud Research Credits Program** (**£150**), Google

2024 **Graduate Student Bursary for UK Ethnic Minority Groups** (**£300**), BACN
Nationally competitive (1 awarded per year)

European Forum Alpbach Scholarship (**£2,500**), Club Alpbach London
Internationally competitive (5% acceptance rate)

2023 **MRC AIM DTP Scholarship** (**£100,000**), MRC/University of Birmingham
Internationally competitive

LGBT+ Inclusion Initiative Fund (**£300**), University of Reading

Teaching

2023 – present **Magnetic Resonance Imaging in Cognitive Neuroscience** (graduate course)
University of Birmingham. Module convenor: Dr. Magdalena Chechlacz

Jan 2023 – Apr 2023 **Introduction to Neuroscience Methods** (undergraduate course)
University of Reading. Module convenor: Prof. Anastasia Christakou

Mentoring & Outreach

2024 – present **Student Mentor**, Social Mobility Foundation

STEM Ambassador, STEM Learning

Project Access Mentor, Project Access

2023 – present **OHBM Mentoring Program**, OHBM

Jul 2022 **in2STEM Project Lead**, in2Science

2022 – 2023 **CINN Work Experience Placements**, University of Reading

Memberships & Affiliations

2025 – present **Associate Member**, The British Neuropsychological Society

Member, Society for Neuroeconomics

Member, European Society for Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience

2024 – present **LLM HPC Research Group**, University of Birmingham

ReproducibiliTea Board Member, University of Birmingham

Board Member, Club Alpbach London

Curriculum Vitae – Aamir Sohail

2024 – 2025 **Student Representative**, British Association for Cognitive Science

2023 – present **R User Group**, University of Birmingham

Publications

Journal papers

Sohail A, Magda A, Said M, Phillips L, Lu Y, Reynolds G, Comer-Fenn A, Russell J, Lu H, Sims T, Saulin AC & Zhang L (**2026**). Transdiagnostic factors differentially shape choices and reaction times in social evaluative learning. *Psychological Medicine*, doi: 10.1017/S0033291726106217

Lin Z & **Sohail A** (**2026**). Recalibrating academic expertise in the age of generative AI. *Patterns*, 7(1), doi: 10.1016/j.patter.2025.101473

Sohail A & Zhang L (**2025**). Using large language models to facilitate academic work in the psychological sciences. *Current Psychology*, 44(9): 7910-7918, doi: 10.1007/s12144-025-07438-2

Sohail A, Pancharatnam RA & Kapsetaki ME (**2025**). Going With the Flow: Achieving Peak Performance in Surgery. *Journal of Surgical Education*, 82(9): 103593, doi: 10.1016/j.jsurg.2025.103593

Rossetti GMK, Dunster JL, **Sohail A**, Williams B, Cox KM, Jewett E, Benford E, Lovegrove JA, Gibbins JM & Christakou A (**2025**). Evidence for direct control of neurovascular function by circulating platelets in healthy older adults. *The Journal of Physiology*, doi: 10.1113/JP288405

Sohail A & Zhang L (**2024**). Informing the treatment of social anxiety disorder with computational and neuroimaging data. *Psychoradiology*, kkae010, doi: 10.1093/psyrad/kkae010

Preprints / under review

König-Kersting C, Litovsky Y, Böhm R, Grossmann I, Huber J, Kirchler M & **WoCCAP Consortium** (**2026**). A many-designs study of 516 algorithms challenges the predictability of wisdom of the crowd forecast aggregation. No. 2026-05

Sohail A, Zhong X, Konovalov A, Lockwood PL & Zhang L (**2026**). Assessing mentalization in humans and large language models. *arXiv preprint*, arXiv:2608.26291

Zhang L & **Sohail A** (**2025**). BayesCog: A freely available course in Bayesian statistics and hierarchical Bayesian modeling for psychological science. *OSF*, doi: 10.31234/osf.io/ua5ng_v1

Sohail A, Saulin AC, Karataş KF, Zhang R & Zhang L (**2025**). Creating an engaging psychology-themed university placement for school students. *OSF*, osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/4mcga_v1

Sohail A (**2025**). Kierkegaardian anxiety in modern psychological research. *OSF*, doi: 10.31234/osf.io/dy92q_v1

Conference posters

Sohail A, Lockwood PL & Zhang L (**2026**). A transdiagnostic account of social influence in group-level decision-making. *Society for Neuroeconomics*, Pasadena, California, US.

Rossetti GMK, Dunster JL, **Sohail A**, Williams B, Cox KM, Jewett E, Benford E, Lovegrove JA, Gibbins JM & Christakou A (**2022**). Preliminary findings from the HAVEN Study: Investigating Haemostatic function, vessel health and neurocognitive health. *Interpreting BOLD III*, Oxford, UK.

Rossetti GMK, **Sohail A**, Bell T & Christakou A (**2021**). Differential haemodynamics responses in the human striatum during initial and reversal learning. *Interpreting BOLD*, Online.

Williams B, Lee O, Vanags P, **Sohail A**, Brady D, FitzGibbon L & Christakou A (**2021**). Test-retest reliability of model parameter estimates in human reinforcement learning. *Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science*, Online.

Sohail A, Myers JFM, Mick I, Clark L, Bowden-Jones HM, Nutt DJ, Lingford-Hughes AR & Turton SP (**2016**). Analysis of the reward system in Disordered Gamblers using MR and ^{11}C-carfentanil PET. *British Association for Psychopharmacology Summer Meeting*, Brighton, UK.

Invited talks

2026 PASCL Workshop (PI Robb Willer), Department of Sociology, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.

2024 Neuromethods Workshop (Director Anastasia Christakou), Centre for Integrative Neuroscience and Neurodynamics, University of Reading, Reading, UK.

Skills

Programming Python, R, MATLAB, bash, stan, LaTeX, HTML, JavaScript

Neuroimaging FSL, SPM12, CONN, mricro, Trained MRI Operator (SIEMENS 3T PRISMA)

Research / Organisation REDCap, SONA, Gorilla, Prolific, Pavlovia, Qualtrics, git/GitHub/GitLab, oTree, Heroku

References

Dr. Lei Zhang
Associate Professor
School of Psychology
University of Birmingham
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Professor Patricia L. Lockwood
Professor of Decision Neuroscience
School of Psychology
University of Birmingham
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Professor Anastasia Christakou
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