

Colin Holbrook, PhD

Assistant Professor
Cognitive and Information Sciences
University of California, Merced
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Education

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| 2010 | PhD, Cognitive Science Queen's University, Belfast, Institute of Cognition and Culture |
| 2000 | B.A., Cognitive Science B.A., Religious Studies University of California, Berkeley |

Research Interests

Threat-detection, Group Bias, Social Neuroscience, Morality, Theory of Mind, Evolutionary Psychology

Awards or Grants

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| 2017 | Defense University Research Instrumentation Program. <i>Configurable Anthropomorphic Robot to Assess Threat-modulation of Trust in Machine Agents</i> . \$141,481. |
| 2015 | AFOSR Young Investigator Program. <i>Group Bias and the Attribution of Mental Properties to Allies, Antagonists, and Automata</i> . 3-year grant, \$360,000. |
| 2014 | UCLA Chancellor's Award for Postdoctoral Research, \$5,000. |
| 2012 | UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute Transdisciplinary Seed Grant. <i>Reducing Group Prejudice with Neuromodulation</i> . Dan Fessler (P.I.), Marco Iacoboni, Colin Holbrook, and Keise Izuma. 12-month grant period, \$25,000. |
| 2006 | Queen's University, Belfast. Overseas Research Student Award, \$110,000. |

Publications

Holbrook, C. (forthcoming). Adaptation, co-optation, variation: Emotions in evolutionary context. In A. Scarantino, (Ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Emotion Theory*. New York: Taylor & Francis.

- Hahn-Holbrook, J., & Holbrook, C. (forthcoming). The social neuroendocrinology of pregnancy and breastfeeding in mothers and others. In P. Mehta and O. Schultheiss, (Eds.), *International Handbook of Social Neuroendocrinology*. New York: Routledge Press.
- Sparks, A., Fessler, D.M.T., Chan, K.Q., Ashokkumar, A., & Holbrook, C. (in press). Disgust as a mechanism for decision making under risk: Illuminating sex differences and individual risk-taking correlates of disgust propensity. *Emotion*.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Disgust & Decision Making Under Risk.pdf>
- Holbrook, C., López-Rodríguez, L., Fessler, D.M.T., Vázquez, A., Gómez, A. (2017). Gulliver's politics: Conservatives envision potential enemies as readily vanquished and physically small. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 8, 670-678.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook et al Gullivers Politics SPPS 2017.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., Pisor, A.C., & Holbrook, C. (2017). Political orientation predicts credulity regarding putative hazards. *Psychological Science*, 28, 651-660.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Political%20Orientation and Credulity preprint.pdf>
- Holbrook, C., Izuma, K., Deblieck, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Iacoboni, M. (2016). Neuromodulation of group prejudice and religious belief. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 11, 387-394.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook Neuromodulating Ideology SCAN 2016.pdf>
- Holbrook, C. (2016). Branches of a twisting tree: Domain-specific threat psychologies derive from shared mechanisms. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 7, 81-86.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook Threat Management Current Opinion 2016.pdf>
- Fessler, D. M. T. & Holbrook, C. (2016). Synchronized behavior increases assessments of the formidability and cohesion of coalitions. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 37, 502-509.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler Holbrook Synchronized Others EHB 2016.pdf>
- Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Pollack, J. (2016). With God on your side: Religious primes reduce the envisioned physical formidability of a menacing adversary. *Cognition*, 146, 387-392.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook Fessler Pollack God and Threat Cognition.pdf>
- Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Navarrete, C. (2016). Looming large in others' eyes: Racial stereotypes illuminate dual adaptations for representing threat versus prestige as physical size. *Evolution & Human Behavior*, 37, 67-78.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook Fessler Navarrete Status Threat Size EHB.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2016). Dressed to kill? Visible markers of coalitional affiliation enhance conceptualized formidability. *Aggressive Behavior*. doi: 10.1002/ab.21624
<http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler Holbrook Dashoff Dressed To Kill.pdf>
- Sousa, P., Holbrook, C., & Swiney, L. (2015). Moral asymmetries in judgments of agency withstand ludicrous causal deviance. *Frontiers in Psychology*. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01380
<http://colinholbrook.com/Sousa Holbrook Swiney Moral Asymmetry Ludicrous Deviance.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Kanovsky, M., Barrett, H.C., Bolyanatz, A.H., Gervais, M., Gurven, M.,

- Henrich, J., Kushnick, G., Pisor, A.C., Stich, S., von Reuden, C., & Laurence, S. (2016). Moral parochialism misunderstood: A reply to Piazza and Sousa. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*. doi:10.1098/rspb.2015.2628
http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler_et_al_ProcB_2016_Moral_Parochialism_Misunderstood.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., Barrett, H.C., Kanovsky, M., Stich, S., Holbrook, C., Henrich, J., Bolyanatz, A.H., Gervais, M., Gurven, M., Kushnick, G., Pisor, A.C., von Reuden, C., & Laurence, S. (2015). Moral parochialism and contextual contingency across seven disparate societies. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 282, 20150907. doi:10.1098/rspb.2015.0907
http://colinholbrook.com/Moral_Parochialism_ProcB_2015.pdf
- Holbrook, C., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2015). The same, only different: Threat management systems as homologues in the tree of life. In P. J. Carroll, R. M. Arkin, & A. L. Wichman, (Eds.), *Handbook of Personal Security*. New York: Psychology Press.
http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_Fessler_Threat_Systems_Ideology_and_Homology.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., & Fleischman, D.S. (2015). Assets at risk: Menstrual cycle variation in the envisioned formidability of a potential sexual assailant reveals a component of threat assessment. *Adaptive Human Behavior & Physiology*, 1, 270-290.
http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler_Holbrook_Fleischman_Assets_at_Risk.pdf
- Holbrook, C., Hahn-Holbrook, J., & Holt-Lunstad, J. (2015). Self-reported spirituality correlates with endogenous oxytocin. *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality*, 7, 46-50.
http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_et_al_Spirituality_and_Endogenous_Oxytocin.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2014). Marching into battle: Synchronous walking diminishes the conceptualized formidability of an antagonist in men. *Biology Letters*.
http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler_Holbrook_Marching_Into_Battle_Biology_Letters.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Tiohkin, L., & Snyder, J.K. (2014). Sizing up Helen: Nonviolent physical risk-taking enhances the envisioned bodily formidability of women. *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 12, 67-80.
http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler_et_al_Risk_and_Envisioned_Size_in_Women_2014.pdf
- Holbrook, C., Galperin, A., Fessler, D.M.T., Johnson, K., Bryant, G., & Haselton, M. (2014). If looks could kill: Anger judgments are intensified by affordances for doing harm. *Emotion*, 14, 455-461.
http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_et_al_If_Looks_Could_Kill_Emotion_2014.pdf
- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., & Gervais, M. (2014). Men's physical strength moderates conceptualizations of prospective foes in two disparate human societies. *Human Nature*, 25, 393-409.
http://colinholbrook.com/Strength_formidability_Human_Nature.pdf
- Holbrook, C., Piazza, J., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2014). Further challenges to the "Authentic" / "Hubristic" model of pride: Conceptual clarifications and new evidence. *Emotion*, 14, 38-42.
http://colinholbrook.com/Holbrook_Piazza_Fessler_Pride_reply.pdf
- Holbrook, C., Piazza, J., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2014). Conceptual and empirical challenges to the

- “Authentic” and “Hubristic” model of pride. *Emotion*, 14, 17-32.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Challenges to Authentic Hubristic Pride Emotion 2013 Holbrook Piazza Fessler.pdf>
- Jonas, E., McGregor, I., Klackl, J., Agroskin, D., Fritsche, I., Holbrook, C., Nash, K., Proulx, T., & Quirin, M. (2014). Threat and defense: From anxiety to approach. In J. M. Olson & M. P. Zanna (Eds.), *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology* (pp. 219-286). San Diego, CA: Academic Press.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Anxiety to approach Jonas et al 2014.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Pollack, J., & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2014). Stranger danger: Parenthood and child presence increase the envisioned bodily formidability of menacing men. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 35, 109-117.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler et al Stranger Danger EHB 2014.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., Tiokhin, L., Holbrook, C., Gervais, M., & Snyder, J.K. (2014). Foundations of the Crazy Bastard Hypothesis: Nonviolent physical risk-taking enhances conceptualized formidability in two cultures. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 35, 26-33.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Crazy Bastard 2014 EHB.pdf>
- Holbrook, C., & Fessler, D.M.T. (2013). Sizing up the threat: The envisioned physical formidability of terrorists tracks their leaders' failures and successes. *Cognition*, 127, 46-56.
<http://colinholbrook.com/ObL Leadership and Formidability Cognition Holbrook Fessler 2013.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2013). Friends shrink foes: The presence of comrades decreases the envisioned physical formidability of an opponent. *Psychological Science*, 24, 797-802.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Fessler Holbrook 2013 Allies Formidability Psych Science.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2013). Bound to lose: Physical incapacitation increases the conceptualized size of an antagonist in men. *Public Library of Science ONE*, 8(8): e71306.
<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0071306>
- Piazza, J., Sousa, P., & Holbrook, C. (2013). Authority dependence and judgments of utilitarian harm. *Cognition*, 128, 261-270.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Morality Utility Authority Cognition 2013.pdf>
- Holbrook, C., & Sousa, P. (2013). Supernatural beliefs, unconscious threat, and judgment bias in Tibetan Buddhists. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*, 13, 33-56.
<http://colinholbrook.com/Unconscious Vigilance Tibetan Buddhism JCC Holbrook Sousa 2013.pdf>
- Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (2013). Baumard et al.'s moral markets lack market dynamics [Commentary]. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 36, 89-90.
<http://colinholbrook.com/BBS Baumard Commentary Fessler Holbrook 2013.pdf>
- Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Gervais, M. (2013). Revenge without redundancy: Functional

outcomes do not require discrete adaptations for vengeance or forgiveness [Commentary]. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 36, 22-23.

http://colinholbrook.com/Revenge_Commentary_BBS_Holbrook_Fessler_Gervais_2012.pdf

Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., & Snyder, J.K. (2012). Weapons make the man (larger): Relative formidability influences perceived size and strength. *Public Library of Science ONE*, 7(4): e32751. <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0032751>

Holbrook, C., Sousa, P., & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2011). Unconscious vigilance: Worldview defense without adaptations for terror, coalition or uncertainty management. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 101, 451-466.

http://colinholbrook.com/Unconscious_Vigilance_JPSP_2011.pdf

Hahn-Holbrook, J., Holt-Lunstad, J., Holbrook, C., Coyne, S., & Lawson, E. T. (2011). Maternal defense: Breastfeeding, diminished stress and heightened aggression. *Psychological Science*, 22, 1288-1295.

http://colinholbrook.com/Maternal_defense_Psych_Science.PDF

Hahn-Holbrook, J.*, Holbrook, C.*, & Haselton, M. (2011). Parental precaution: Adaptive ends and neurobiological means. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews*, 35, 1052-1066.

(*equal authorship.)

http://colinholbrook.com/Parental_Precaution_NBR_2011.pdf

Sousa, P., & Holbrook, C. (2010). Folk concepts of intentional action (in the contexts of amoral and immoral luck). *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*, 1, 351-370.

<http://colinholbrook.com/FolkIntentionAmoralVsImmoralLuck.pdf>

Hahn-Holbrook, J., Holbrook, C., & Bering, J. (2010). Snakes, spiders, strangers: How the evolved fear of strangers may misdirect efforts to protect children from harm. In J. M. Lampinen & K. Sexton-Radek (Eds.) *Protecting children from violence: Evidence-based interventions*. New York: Psychology Press.

http://colinholbrook.com/Hahn_Holbrook_Holbrook_Bering_Snakes,%20Spiders%20&%20Strangers.pdf

Sousa, P., Holbrook, C., & Piazza, J. (2009). The morality of harm. *Cognition*, 113, 80-92.

<http://colinholbrook.com/TheMoralityofHarm.pdf>

Submitted Manuscripts

Holbrook, C., López-Rodríguez, L., Gómez, Á. (under review). Wits of battle: Militaristic conservatism and warfare cues enhance the perceived intellect of allies versus adversaries.

Holbrook, C. (invited revision). Cues of violent intergroup conflict modulate perceptions of robotic personhood.

Fessler, D.M.T., & Holbrook, C. (invited revision). A cold wildfire: Declination and the spread of

antisocial behavior. *Evolution and Human Behavior*.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Holbrook, C., Fessler, D.M.T., & Navarrete, C. (in preparation). Stature or danger? Racial threat stereotypes influence the conceptual link between physical size and status.

Holbrook, C., & Fessler, D.M.T. (in preparation). Harm when sanctioned versus at a distance: Distinct affective pathways to attenuated moral condemnation.

Holbrook, C., Yoon, L., Fessler, D.M.T., & Kim, H. (in preparation). Moral condemnation and holistic causal attribution in Los Angeles and Seoul.

Holbrook, C., Hahn-Holbrook, J., & Rosch, E. (in preparation). Known unknowns: Inductive reasoning under conscious ignorance.

Professional Experience

- 2017–present Assistant Professor of Cognitive and Information Sciences, University of California, Merced.
- 2015–2017 *Research Scientist*, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2010–2015 *Postdoctoral Research Fellow*, Center for Behavior, Evolution and Culture, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles.
Mentor: Dr. Daniel M. T. Fessler.
- 2006–2010 *PhD Candidate*, Institute of Cognition & Culture, Queen’s University, Belfast.

Professional Service

Ad Hoc Reviewer: *Cognition; Psychological Science; Journal of Personality and Social Psychology; Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience; Biological Psychology; Biology Letters; Evolution and Human Behavior; Cognition and Emotion; Perspectives on Psychological Science; Neuroscience Letters; Public Library of Science; Social Cognition; European Journal of Social Psychology; Aggressive Behavior; Journal of Cognition and Culture; Personality and Individual Differences; Evolutionary Psychology; Journal of Applied Social Psychology; Social Behavior and Personality*

Doctoral Student Committee Member: Dr. Jeffrey K. Snyder, 2010-2012; Theo Samore, 2017-present

Teaching Experience

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| 2010 – 2017 | University of California, Los Angeles Co-Instructor: <i>Research Methods Seminar</i> |
| Winter, 2017 | Chapman University Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> |
| Spring, 2016 | Chapman University Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> |
| Spring, 2014 | Chapman University Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> |
| Fall, 2013 | Chapman University Instructor: <i>Motivation and Emotion</i> |

Invited Presentations

Holbrook, C. (2017, February). *Group prejudice in the threatened brain*. Invited presentation, University of California, Merced.

Holbrook, C. (2017, February). *Social cognition under threat*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada.

Holbrook, C. (2016, November). *Reason under peril*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, CUNY-Hunter College, New York.

Holbrook, C. (2016, March). *God and group prejudice in the threatened brain*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, Chapman University, Orange.

Holbrook, C. (2015, December). *When foes loom large: Representations of relative formidability and social cognition*. Invited presentation for the Research Center for Group Dynamics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Holbrook, C. (2015, December). *Serial homology and social judgment under threat*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of Warwick, Coventry, England.

Holbrook, C. (2015, January). *Reason's shadow: Threat adaptations shape concepts of social prestige and displays of ideological zeal*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of California, Santa Barbara.

Holbrook, C. (2014, December). *Conceptual mediators of threat assessment and judgment bias*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of Toronto.

Holbrook, C. (2012, June). *Worldview defense and unconscious alarm*. Invited presentation for the European Science Foundation Expert Meeting on the Motivational Foundations of Worldview Defense. University of Salzburg, Austria.

Holbrook, C. (2012, May). *Why thoughts of death or isolation magnify group prejudice*. Invited

presentation for the Center for Behavior, Evolution, and Culture. University of California, Los Angeles.

Holbrook, C. (2011, October). *Selection or serendipity? Reframing apparent psychological adaptations for terror, uncertainty or coalition management as evolutionary by-products*. Invited presentation for the Department of Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles.

Holbrook, C., & Hahn-Holbrook, J. (2009, May). *Relationships with God and altruistic violence*. Invited presentation for the Psychology and Religion Research Group, Cambridge University, UK.

Professional Development

Member: Experimental Biological Anthropology Lab. Drs. Haselton, Barrett, and Fessler, 2010-2017.
Participant: AHRC Culture and the Mind Project, 2010-2014.

Professional Affiliations

Society of Experimental Social Psychology; Human Behavior and Evolution Society

Selected Press Coverage

Khazan, O. (2017, February 2). Why fake news targeted Trump supporters. *The Atlantic*. Retrieved from: <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2017/02/why-fake-news-targeted-trump-supporters/515433/>

Newsday. (2015, October 15) Can magnets change your beliefs? *BBC World Service*. Retrieved from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0358ndn>

Howard, J. (2015, October 8). New study confirms depressing truth about names and racial bias. *Huffington Post*. Retrieved from: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/black-sounding-names-study_561697a5e4b0dbb8000d687f

Olney, W. (2015, October 7). Can a person's name influence racial bias? *National Public Radio*. Retrieved from: <http://www.kcrw.com/people/colin-holbrook>

Bohannon, J. (2014, August 26). Synchronized marching boosts confidence. *Science*. Retrieved from: <http://news.sciencemag.org/biology/2014/08/synchronized-marching-boosts-confidence>

Freeman, D. W. (2011, September 8). Breast-feeding moms more aggressive, study says. *CBS News*. Retrieved from: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-504763_162-20103370-10391704.html

References

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