

Xiaomeng (Mona) Xu

196 Richmond Street, Providence, RI 02903

Xiaomeng_Xu@Brown.edu; (401) 793-8237; Fax: (401) 793-8944

EDUCATION

- 2011 Ph.D. Social and Health Psychology with a Close Relationships Concentration, Stony Brook University
- 2007 M.A. Psychology, Stony Brook University
- 2005 B.A. Psychology with Honors, *magna cum laude*, New York University
Minors: English & American Literature, Gender & Sexuality Studies

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2011 – present Postdoctoral Research Fellow (2T32HL076134-06, NHLBI, NIH). Weight Control & Diabetes Research Center (WCDRC), Miriam Hospital, and the Warren Alpert Medical School, Brown University

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2011 Stony Brook University Psychology Department Award for Excellence in Advanced Research
- 2011 Stony Brook University President's Award to Distinguished Doctoral Students
- 2010 Stony Brook University President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student
- 2010 Sigma Xi Excellence in Research Award, Stony Brook University
- 2010 Sigma Xi (Scientific Research Society), Stony Brook University chapter
- 2007 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Honorary Mention
- 2005-2010 Stony Brook University Graduate Council Fellowship
- 2005 New York University Department of Psychology Lawrence Erlbaum Book Award for Distinguished Honors Thesis
- 2005 New York University Department of Psychology Certificate of Achievement
- 2005 New York University Founder's Day Award
- 2005 New York University President's Service Award for Volunteerism
- 2005 Phi Beta Kappa (Academic Honor Society), New York University chapter
- 2003 Psi Chi (Honor Society in Psychology), New York University chapter
- 2001-2005 New York University Dean's List

FUNDING

- 2009-2011 Predoctoral Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH (F31DA024941-01A2)
- 2010 American Psychological Association Dissertation Research Award
- 2010 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Student Travel Award
- 2009 American Psychological Foundation / Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology Graduate Research Scholarship

2009 Stony Brook University Psychology Dept. Retirees' Dissertation Fellowship
2005 New York University College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Fund for Honors
2001-2005 New York University Presidential Honors Scholarship

TEACHING

Instructor (Stony Brook University)

Summer 2010 Survey in Social Psychology
Summer 2009 Topics in Social Psychology: Close Relationships
Summer 2009 Research and Writing in Psychology

Teaching Assistant (Stony Brook University)

Fall 2009 Special Topics in Biopsychology: Drugs and the Brain, Patricia Whitaker
Fall 2008 Survey in Psychology: Psychology of Women's Health, Marci Lobel
Fall 2007 Research and Writing in Psychology, with Substantial Directed Instruction (taught twice-weekly recitations and received faculty feedback), Anne Moyer
Fall 2006 Survey in Social Psychology, with Substantial Directed Instruction (taught four classes and received faculty feedback), Antonio Freitas
Fall 2005 Survey in Developmental Psychology, Paul Kaplan

Guest Lectures and Panels

Fall 2012 Discussion with incoming minority freshmen at Brown University about minority issues in the sciences as part of the New Scientist Program's Catalyst project
Spring 2011 Panel discussant for Stony Brook University student group Minorities in Psychology on the topic of graduate school
Fall 2010 Psychology of Close Relationships, Stony Brook University, Arthur Aron
Fall 2009 Psychology of Close Relationships, Stony Brook University, Dylan Selterman

MENTORING

Undergraduate

2012-present Independent study, Hannah Riskin-Jones, Brown University
2010-2011 Honors student, Kelly Yu, Stony Brook University. Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URECA) Summer Research Program (\$3,500 stipend); Thesis: "Unrequited love in a college sample" presented at the 2011 URECA conference
2009-2010 Honors student, Janna Coronel, Stony Brook University. Thesis: "'Wanna grab a bite?' Eating and close relationships" presented at the 2010 URECA conference

Post-undergraduate

2012-present Research Assistant and collaborator, Katherine Boguszewski, WCDRC
2010-2011 Independent study, Lauren Cody, master's student, Stony Brook University

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- Alosco, M.L., Gunstad, J., Jerskey, B.A., Clark, U.S., Hassenstab, J.J., **Xu, X.**, Poppas, A., Cohen, R.A., & Sweet, L.H. (in press). Left atrial size is independently associated with cognitive function. *International Journal of Neuroscience*.
- Leahey, T.M., **Xu, X.**, Unick, J.L., & Wing, R.R. (in press). The role of self-control in behavioral weight loss treatment: A preliminary investigation. *Obesity Research and Clinical Practice*.
- Xu, X.**, Brown, L., Aron, A., Acevedo, B., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2012). Brain activations during early-stage intense romantic love predicted relationship outcomes 40 months later. *Neuroscience Letters*, 526(1), 33-38. [part of the 2013 Elsevier's Valentine's Special Monthly Research Selection]
- Xu, X.**, Wang, J., Lei, W., Aron, A., Westmaas, L., & Weng, X. (2012). Intense passionate love attenuates cigarette cue-reactivity in nicotine-deprived smokers: An fMRI study. *PLoS ONE* 7(7): e42235. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0042235
- Darlow, S.D., & **Xu, X.** (2011). The influence of close others' exercise habits and perceived social support on exercise. *Psychology of Sport & Exercise*, 12, 575-578. doi:10.1016/j.psychsport.2011.04.004
- Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Brown, L., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2011). Reward and motivation systems: A brain mapping study of early-stage intense romantic love in Chinese participants. *Human Brain Mapping*, 32(2), 249-257. doi:10.1002/hbm.21017
- Jagiellowicz, J., **Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Aron, E., Cao, G., Feng, T. & Weng, X. (2011). The trait of sensory processing sensitivity and neural responses to changes in visual scenes. *Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience*, 6(1), 38-47. doi:10.1093/scan/nsq001
- Xu, X.**, Floyd, A.H.L., Westmaas, J.L., & Aron, A. (2010). Self-expansion and smoking abstinence. *Addictive Behaviors*, 35, 295-301. doi:10.1016/j.addbeh.2009.10.019
- Riela, S., Rodriguez, G., Aron, A., **Xu, X.**, & Acevedo, B. P. (2010). Experiences of falling in love: Similarities and differences in culture, ethnicity, gender, and speed. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 27(4), 473-493. doi:10.1177/0265407510363508

Invited Contributions

- Xu, X.** (in press). The magic formula. In L. Bormans (Ed.), *The World Book of Love*. Belgium: Lannoo Publishers. (Collection on the topic of love by 100 researchers from 50 countries)
- Xu, X.** (in press). Does [or how does] the brain change after a break up? *Scientific American MIND*.
- Xu, X.**, Floyd, A.H.F., Westmaas, L., & Aron, A. (2010). Self-expansion as an aid in smoking abstinence and cessation. In L.V. Berhardt (Ed.) *Advances in Medicine and Biology Volume 12* (pp. 117-124), New York, NY: Nova Science Publishers.

Manuscripts Under Review or Revising for Resubmission

*undergraduate student

- Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Westmaas, L., Wang, J., & Sweet, L. (under review). Novel/exciting activity

with a romantic partner attenuates smoking-cue brain reactivity in smokers.

Xu, X., & Darlow, S.D. (under review). Let's talk about working out: An experiment designed to influence exercise perceptions.

Xu, X., & Riela, S. (under review). Eating during sleep loss is moderated by relationship interdependence, closeness, and self-expansion.

Xu, X., Jerskey, B., Cote, D., Walsh, E., Hassenstab, J., Ladino, M., Clark, U., Labbe, D., Gunstad, J., Poppas, A., Cohen, R., Hoge, R., Sweet, L. (under review). Whole brain cerebral perfusion among older adults is moderated by strength training and gender.

*Coronel, J., & **Xu, X.** (under review). Negative mood mediates the link between unhealthy eating attitudes and feeling less close towards close others.

Greenstein, M., & **Xu, X.** (under review) My lamp is valuable but my partner's is even more so: Economic decisions for close others.

Acevedo, B., Collins, N., Aron A., **Xu, X.**, Grafton, S., & Brown, L. (under review). Love, pair-bonding and commitment: An fMRI study of newlyweds.

Wang, J., Zhao, J., Li, D., Yang, Z., Li, J., **Xu, X.**, & Weng, X. (under revise and resubmit). Neural temporal processing of empathy for pain as evaluated with sLORETA.

Alosco, M.L., Gunstad, J., Jerskey, B.A., **Xu, X.**, Clark, U.S., Hassenstab, J., Cote, D.M., Walsh, E., Labbe, D., Hoge, R., Cohen, R.A., & Sweet, L.H. (under review). The adverse effects of reduced cerebral perfusion on cognitions and brain structure in older adults.

INVITED TALKS

2011 "Social factors and cardiovascular health." T32 Cardiovascular Behavioral Medicine Seminar, Warren Alpert Medical School, Brown University

2009 "Early-stage intense romantic love and relationship outcomes in Chinese participants: An fMRI study." Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience Colloquium, Stony Brook University

2009 "Reward and motivation systems: A brain mapping study of early-stage intense romantic love in Chinese participants." Columbia Couples Lab, Columbia University

2008 "The universality of early-stage intense romantic love." Social & Health Psychology Colloquium, Stony Brook University

2006 "The role of self-expansion as a potential aid in smoking cessation." Social & Health Psychology Colloquium, Stony Brook University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Conference Talks

Xu, X., Wang, J., Lei, W., Aron, A., Westmaas, L., & Weng, X. (2012, January). *Relationship Self-expansion Attenuates Cigarette Craving in Deprived Smokers: fMRI Evidence*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

Aron, A., Brown, L.L., Fisher, H.E., Acevedo, B., & **Xu, X.** (2012, January). *What fMRI Tells Social Psychologists about Romantic Love*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.

Brown, L., **Xu, X.**, Acevedo, B., Aron, A. (2011, April). *A role for the orbitofrontal cortex in romantic love and relationship longevity*. Meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences, New York, NY.

- Xu, X.**, Brown, L., Aron, A., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2011, January). *Brain Activations During Early-Stage Intense Romantic Love Predict Relationship Outcomes 40 Months Later*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.
- Xu, X.**, Brown, L., Aron, A., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2010, July). *Brain activations during early-stage intense love predict relationship outcomes 40 months later*. International Association for Relationship Research Conference, Herzliya, Israel.
- Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Fisher, H., Brown, L.L., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2008, July). *The Universality of Love and the Neural Correlates of Relational Outcomes: An fMRI study of Early-stage Intense Romantic Love in China with Follow-up Relational Data*. International Association of Relationship Research, Providence, Rhode Island.
- Jagiellowicz, J., **Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Aron, E., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2007, November). *Noticing the Little Things: Does Sensory Processing Sensitivity moderate brain activation during visual perception?* Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.
- Jagiellowicz, J., **Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Aron, E., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2007). *Sensory Processing Sensitivity and Neural Activation during Perceptual Tasks*. American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Xu, X.** (2005, May). *Why Do Self Reports Become Less Negative when Repeated?* New York University Undergraduate Research Conference, New York, NY.

Conference Posters

- Alosco, M.L., Gunstad, J., Jerskey, B.A., Clark, U.S., Hassenstab, J.J., **Xu, X.**, Poppas, A., Cohen, R.A., & Sweet, L.H. (2013, February). *Left arterial size is independently associated with cognitive function*. International Neuropsychological Society, Waikoloa, HI.
- Xu, X.**, & Riela, S. (2013, January). *Eating during sleep loss is moderated by romantic relationship interdependence, closeness, and self-expansion*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- Connell, P.M., Finkelstein, S., & **Xu, X.** (2013, January). *When variety is not the spice of life: Self-expansion motivation leads to increased loyalty and decreased preference for variety*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.
- Greenstein, M., & **Xu, X.** (2012, November). *This mug is more valuable because it's yours: Economic decisions for the self and others*. Psychonomic Society, Minneapolis, MN.
- Xu, X.**, Leahey, T.M., & Wing, R.R. (2012, September). *The power of tenacity: Behavioral perseverance is associated with successful weight loss and increases in physical activity*. The Obesity Society, San Antonio, TX.
- Xu, X.**, Jerskey, B., Cote, D., Walsh, E., Hassenstab, J., Ladino, M., Clark, U., Labbe, D., Gunstad, J., Poppas, A., Cohen, R., Hoge, R., & Sweet, L. (2012). *Whole Brain Cerebral Perfusion among Older Adults is Moderated by Strength Training and Gender*. Research Symposium on Mental Health Sciences, Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, RI; Organization for Human Brain Mapping, Beijing, China; and The Norman Prince Neurosciences Institute Inaugural Symposium, Providence, RI.
- Labbe, D., Jerskey, B., Cote, D., Walsh, E., Hassenstab, J., Ladino, M., Clark, U., **Xu, X.**, Gunstad, J., Poppas, A., Hoge, R., Cohen, R., Sweet, L. (2012, March). *Functional MRI Response to a Working Memory Task in Cardiovascular Disease*. Research Symposium on Mental Health Sciences, Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, RI.
- Xu, X.**, & Darlow, S.D. (2012, January). *Increasing Closeness and Talking about Exercise*

Influence Exercise Behaviors and Perception. Society of Behavioral Medicine, New Orleans, LA.

- Xu, X.**, Darlow, S., & Aron, A. (2010, January). *The Influence of Close Others' Exercise Habits*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Las Vegas, NV.
- Jagiellowicz, J., **Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Aron, E., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2009, July). *Individuals with the temperament trait of sensory processing sensitivity notice subtleties: Neural response to change in visual scenes*. Association for Research in Personality, Evanston, IL
- Jagiellowicz, J., **Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Aron, E., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2009, May) *Quickly noticing everything: Sensory processing sensitivity moderates brain activation when judging visual differences*. Canadian Association for Neuroscience, Vancouver, BC.
- Xu, X.**, Floyd, A.H.L., Westmaas, J.L., & Aron, A. (2009, April). *Self-expansion and Nicotine Abstinence*. Society for Behavioral Medicine, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- Xu, X.**, Floyd, A.H.L., Aron, A., & Westmaas, J.L. (2009, February). *Self-expansion and nicotine abstinence*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Tampa, FL
- Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Fisher, H., Brown, L.L., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2008, February). *Is love universal? An fMRI study of early-stage intense romantic love in China*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.
- Jagiellowicz, J., **Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Aron, E., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2008, February). *Noticing more: Sensory Processing Sensitivity moderates brain activation during visual perception*. Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.
- Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Cao., G. Feng, T., Fisher, H., Brown, L.L., & Weng, X. (2007, November). *Neural Correlates of early-stage intense romantic love in Chinese participants and the influence of traditionality and modernity*. Society for Neuroscience, San Diego, CA.
- Xu, X.**, Aron, A., Fisher, H., Brown, L.L., Cao, G., Feng, T., & Weng, X. (2007, May). *Reward/Motivation Systems Associated with Early Stage Romantic Love in Chinese Students: An fMRI Study*. Neural Systems of Social Behavioral, Austin, TX.
- Xu, X.**, Acevedo, B., & Aron, A. (2007, January). *Emotional Experiences Among Chinese Students: Is Love More than a Feeling?* Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Memphis, TN.
- Xu, X.**, Acevedo, B., & Aron, A. (2006, July). *Love—More than Just a Feeling: An Examination of Emotional Experiences using a Chinese Sample*. International Association of Relationship Research, Rethymno, Crete.

SERVICE

Review work

Basic and Applied Social Psychology

International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology

Journal of Health Psychology

Journal of Positive Psychology

Journal of Social and Personal Relationships

New School Psychology Bulletin (Editorial Board 2009-2010, ad hoc reviewer 2010-present)

Nicotine and Tobacco Research

Perceptual and Motor Skills

Psychological Reports

Self and Identity

Social Psychological and Personality Science

Departmental and University Service

Fall 2008 Social and Health Psychology Brown Bag Coordinator, Stony Brook University
2007-2008 Senator, Graduate Student Organization, Stony Brook University
2007 Laboratory Director, Interpersonal Relationships Lab, Stony Brook University

Symposia Chaired

2012 “The many benefits of self-expansion: Reduce nicotine craving, improve your relationship, cope with break-up, and make new out-group friends.” Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA.
2011 “As time goes on: Longitudinal predictors of relationship outcomes” Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Psychological Association
APA Division 2: Society for the Teaching of Psychology
APA Division 35: Society for the Psychology of Women
APA Division 38: Health Psychology
APA Division 47: Exercise and Sport Psychology
Association for Psychological Science
International Association for Relationship Research
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Society for Behavioral Medicine
The Obesity Society

MEDIA ATTENTION

My work has been covered by various outlets including the New York Times, CNN, Huffington Post, The Brown Daily Herald, and Life’s Little Mysteries.

REFERENCES

Arthur Aron, Ph.D. (doctoral advisor)
Professor of Psychology, Stony Brook University
Arthur.Aron@sunysb.edu; (631) 632-7707

Niall Bolger, Ph.D. (undergraduate advisor and collaborator)
Professor and Chair of Psychology, Columbia University
bolger@psych.columbia.edu; (212) 854-3608

Lucy L. Brown, Ph.D. (fMRI collaborator)
Professor of Neurology & Neuroscience, Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University
brown@acom.yu.edu; (718) 430-3728

Tricia M. Leahey, Ph.D. (secondary postdoctoral advisor)
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior (Research)
The Miriam Hospital and the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
tleahey@lifespan.org; (401) 793-8947

Anne Moyer, Ph.D. (faculty who has supervised my teaching)
Associate Professor of Psychology, Stony Brook University
anne.moyer@stonybrook.edu; (631) 632-7811

Patrick E. Shrout, Ph.D. (undergraduate honors thesis advisor and collaborator)
Professor of Psychology, New York University
pat.shrout@nyu.edu; (212) 998-7895

Lawrence H. Sweet, Ph.D. (secondary postdoctoral advisor, neuroimaging)
Gary R. Sperduto Professor of Psychology, University of Georgia
sweet@uga.edu; (706) 542-0746

Xuchu Weng, Ph.D. (collaborator on research conducted in China)
Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
The Chinese Academy of Sciences and Hangzhou Normal University
wengxc@psych.ac.cn; 86-10-64854476

J. Lee Westmaas, Ph.D. (secondary graduate advisor and collaborator)
Director, Tobacco Control Research
Behavioral Research Center, American Cancer Society
lee.westmaas@cancer.org; 404-329-7730

Rena R. Wing, Ph.D. (postdoctoral advisor)
Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior (Research)
Director, Weight Control and Diabetes Research Center
The Miriam Hospital and the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
rwing@lifespan.org; (401) 793-8959