





SARAH ASHCROFT-JONES

 sarahajones  osf.io/7pyuq  @sarahaj95.bsky.social  Sarah Ashcroft-Jones

Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, 10032

(+1) 929-591-9645 ◊ sarah.ashcroft-jones@columbia.edu

EDUCATION

The Queen's College, University of Oxford *Oct 2019 - Nov 2023*
DPhil *in* Experimental Psychology, Oxford ACCLab *Funded by the MRC DTP*
Thesis: "Exploring metacognitive confidence in categorisation judgements"

St. Cross College, University of Oxford *Oct 2018 - Sept 2019*
MSc *in* Psychological Research *Humphrey Prize for Best Research Dissertation*
Thesis: "Computing confidence: the role of category representation and perceptual uncertainty"

St. John's College, University of Cambridge *Oct 2014 - Jun 2017*
MA Cantab *in* Psychological and Behavioural Sciences *The Cambridge Double First*
Scholar of St. John's, Alfred Hall Prior Scholarship, Wright Prize

KEY SKILLS & STRENGTHS

Communication Presentation and knowledge dissemination to multi-level audiences.

Teamwork Working with and leading teams, managing task committees and projects.

Analytics Data wrangling, statistical programming, and computational modeling.

Organisation Time-sensitive tasks executed meticulously and independently.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Columbia University *Nov 2023 - Present*
Associate Research Scientist - HPM, Mailman School of Public Health

- Researching the individual and structural factors that influence financial and health behaviours.
- Leveraging the positive deviance framework to test effective interventions to reduce social inequality.
- Responsibilities include research design, quantitative analytics, and statistical programming.
- Working with community health stakeholders, policy advisors, and interdisciplinary research groups.

SaverLife *Sept 2024 - Jan 2025*
Research Consultant - Financial Technology Project

- Exploring the relationship between fintech product usage and financial well-being to brief.
- Leveraging statistical programming to produce re-usable scripts and data analytic reports.
- Responsible for merging datasets, running statistical analyses, and exploring patterns over time.

World Bank Group*Oct 2022 - Nov 2023**Research Consultant - Mind, Behavior & Development Unit*

- Systematic review and meta-review coding of the Behavioural Science of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Research reviews to inform policymakers and communicate intervention design to government bodies.
- Responsible for producing timely and audience sensitive research outputs.

Heidelberg University*Aug 2017 - Sept 2018**Research Assistant - Institute of Medical Psychology*

- Awarded a 14 month scholarship - the Baden-Württemberg Stipendium - to conduct research.
- Leveraged physiological data including heart rate, galvanic skin conductance, and salivary cortisol.
- Collected fMRI neuro-feedback data and co-authored related publication.

RESEARCH SKILLS

Programming Skills

R, Python, MatLab, JavaScript, HTML, CSS.

Software & ToolsL^AT_EX, RMarkdown, JASP, Tableau, SPSS, NVivo, ATLAS.**Writing Skills**

Writing in the Sciences (Hons) 2020.

Computational Training

ASSP 2024, ESS Bayesian Analysis, SysMIC Module 1 (Hons).

Languages

English (C2), Irish (C1), German (B2), French (A2), Japanese (A2).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Columbia University*April 2022 - Present**Course Lead - Graduate Analytics Course in Public Health (Spring Semester 2024 - Present):*

- Co-teaching analytics course to class of 50 students, overseeing assignments and examinations.
- Cultivating an analytic mindset and communicating statistical theory and practice.
- Includes workshops on statistical programming in R and the use of JASP software for analysis.

Program Director - Global Behavioral Science - GLOBES (Fall Semester 2024 - Present):

- Coordinating an overseas research stay at the University of Cambridge in the behavioural sciences.
- Co-leading a research project across country borders, supervising and teaching core research skills.
- Responsibilities included student selection, pastoral oversight, and logistic coordination.

Course Lead - Computing in Context using Python (Fall Semester 2024 - Present):

- Leading a skills-based graduate course on Python and its applications to the health policy context.
- Combining practical labs and theoretical lectures to build student analytic acumen.
- Establishing curriculum, assignments, and grading for Public Health Context.

Project Coordinator - Global Behavioral Science (GLOBES) (April 2022 - Aug 2022):

- Led the analysis teams for two related multi-country studies on financial decision-making.
- Created and curated analysis pipelines, built two high-impact policy relevant manuscripts.
- Utilised high levels of statistical knowledge and fluent data-wrangling skills.

University of Oxford

Oct 2020 - Oct 2023

Lab Demonstrator (Oct 2020 - Oct 2023):

- Assisted core practical demonstrations and marking coursework.
- Worked with course leader to assist in the smooth running of the modules across weeks and terms.
- Graded coursework, supervised classwork, and helped students understand the learning outcomes.
- *Courses:* Perception, Development, Individual Differences, Social Psych, Ethics, & Qual Methods.

Teaching Assistant (Oct 2022 - Dec 2022):

- Assisted on the graduate course “Quantitative Methods” for MSc in Experimental Anthropology.
- Course content focused on learning the skills of Statistical Programming in R.
- Assisted students during class, held weekly office hours, and supported the course leader throughout.

Admissions Interviewer (Nov 2022 - Dec 2022):

- Assisted in the undergraduate admissions process for the incoming cohort.
- Co-lead interviews with candidates for the BSc in Experimental Psychology.
- Included aspects of both academic and pastoral student support.

Undergraduate Tutor (Oct 2020 - Dec 2022):

- Supervised group tutorials to formally support lectures for the undergraduate “Cognition” course.
- Explored course content, taught essay writing skills, and developed understanding of complex topics.
- Adjusted teaching style to suit the needs of the students and their learning goals.

Polaris & Dawn International Educational Consulting

Jun 2018 - Nov 2023

Education Consultant

- Provided tailored mentorship for students aiming for international educational paths.
- Specialisms include personalised Psychology & Biology tuition, and academic English support.
- Curated university application support, interview preparation, and technical editing services.

MENTORSHIP & COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Framework for Open and Reproducible Research Training

Dec 2024 - Present

Community Contributor

- Administrative support for projects relating to the creation of a replications database.
- Organisational support for projects relating to community building in open and reproducible science.
- Community building, process formalisation, organisational restructuring.

Junior Researcher Programme

Oct 2019 - Present

Executive Director

- Leading a global organisation working to create opportunities for early career researchers.
- Oversee the management of six ECR research teams across the 13 month programme.
- Manage and execute an annual calendar of events and work to advance the programme’s aims.

Cambridge University

Oct 2024 - Present

Research Associate - Centre for Business Research, Judge Business School

- Organising annual international behavioural research projects spanning multiple countries.
- Responsible for the logistical coordination of a three-week research stay for almost 40 researchers.
- Liaising with Corpus Christi, Judge Business, the JRP and Columbia University, to coordinate.

Reproducible Research Oxford

Oct 2020 - Nov 2023

RROx Fellow

- Supporting local Open Science initiatives, leading lectures and groups, and building community.
- Established a long-running bookclub for skill acquisition and ECR community engagement.
- Gave annual MRC DTP open science lecture.

ReproducibiliTea

Oct 2019 - Nov 2023

Oxford Local Lead

- Organising the regular reproducibiliTea journal club: leading local sessions and workshops.
- Building term cards of journal club sessions and acquiring local funding for the initiative.
- Leading team and creating community among ECRs.

Oxford Experimental Psychology Departmental Committee

Oct 2019 - Oct 2021

Graduate Student Open Science Representative

- Advising and support the integration of Open Science practices into the department.
- Working within and across committees to include open science in the undergraduate curriculum.
- Targetting skills-based labs as well as the research thesis component of the curriculum.

PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

Yaoi, Q., Ashcroft-Jones, S., Pei, S., Ruggeri, K. Combining subjective and objective decision agency with choice preferences predicts behavior during major shifts in human mobility. *under review* (2025)

Stock, F., Pelica, S., Ashcroft-Jones, S., Stablum, F., Acosta, C., Aimable, A., *et al.* People in 26 countries prefer individual control to commercial or governmental control over online choice architectures *Preprint* (2024).
DOI: 10.31219/osf.io/haqu9

Ruggeri, K., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., Stock, F. Financial decision-making, income, cognitive biases: The impact of economic systems and environments on behavior in six countries. *Preprint* (2024).
DOI:10.31219/osf.io/f8hyk

van den Akker, O. R., Bakker, M., van Assen, M. A., Pennington, C. R., Verweij, L., Elsherif, M. M., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., ... & Wicherts, J. M. The potential of preregistration in psychology: Assessing preregistration producibility and preregistration-study consistency. *PsychologicalMethods* (2024)
DOI: 10.1037/met0000687

Ruggeri, K., Stock, F., Haslam, S.A., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., ... *et al.* A synthesis of evidence for policy from behavioural science during COVID-19. *Nature* (2023).
DOI: 10.1038/s41586-023-06840-9

Ashcroft-Jones, S., Ruggeri, K., Abate Romero Landini, G. *et al.* The persistence of cognitive biases in financial decisions across economic groups. *Sci Rep* **13**, 10329, (2023).
DOI: 10.1038/s41598-023-36339-2

Ruggeri, K., Tutuska, O.S., ... & Ashcroft-Jones, S. The psychology and policy of overcoming economic inequality. *Behavioural and Brain Sciences*, (2023).

DOI: 10.1017/S0140525X23001103

Pownall, M., Azevedo, F., König, L. M., Slack, H. R., Evans, T. R., Flack, Z., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., ... & FORRT. Teaching open and reproducible scholarship: a critical review of the evidence base for current pedagogical methods and their outcomes. *Royal Society Open Science*, 10(5), 221255, (2023).

DOI: 10.1098/rsos.221255

Buabang, E.K., Ashcroft-Jones, S., Esteban Serna, C., Kastelic, K., Kveder, J., Lambertus, A., Müller, T. S., “Validation and Measurement Invariance of the Personal Financial Wellness Scale: A Multinational Study in 7 Countries”, *European Journal of Psychological Assessment*, (2022).

DOI: 10.1027/1015-5759/a000750

Parsons, S., Azevedo, F., Elsherif, M.M., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., ... *et al.* A community-sourced glossary of open scholarship terms, *Nat Hum Behav.* (2022).

DOI: 10.1038/s41562-021-01269-4

Ruggeri, K., Panin, A., Vdovic, M., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., ... *et al.* The globalizability of temporal discounting. *Nat Hum Behav*, (2022).

DOI: 10.1038/s41562-022-01392-w

Ruggeri, K., Većkalov, B., Bojanić, L., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., ... *et al.* The general fault in our fault lines. *Nat Hum Behav*, (2021).

DOI: 10.1038/s41562-021-01092-x

Eckstein, M., Zietlow, A., Gerchen, M.F., ... Ashcroft-Jones, S., ... *et al.*, The NeMo real-time fMRI neurofeedback study: protocol of a randomised controlled clinical intervention trial in the neural foundations of mother–infant bonding, *BMJ Open*, (2019).

DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2018-027747

POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS

Ashcroft-Jones, S. “Behavioural Science in health and financial research.”

Presentation: UCL Behavioural Innovations Society, London, January 2025

Ashcroft-Jones, S. & Ruggeri, K. “Personalized, simple defaults using a positive deviance approach to optimize financial decisions.”

Poster: Society of Judgement and Decision Making, New York, November 2024

Ashcroft-Jones, S., “Open Science & Reproducibility: A practical introduction & a personal perspective.”

Presentation: MRC DTP Discussion Forum, Oxford, April 2023

Ashcroft-Jones, S. & Yeung, N., “Decision Confidence: Exploring the Distance-to-Bound Model of Confidence.”

Poster: ICPS, Brussels, March 2023

Ashcroft-Jones, S., “A multinational study exploring the relationship between poverty, stress, financial literacy, and decision making.”

Presentation: JRPC, Cambridge, August 2022

Ashcroft-Jones, S. & Yeung, N., “Decision confidence is sensitive to both distribution variance and distance to the category bound.”

Poster: MRC DTP Symposium, Oxford, June & JRP Open Conference, Siena, July 2022

Ashcroft-Jones, S., “Category information and confidence sensitivity: Beyond distance to bound.”

Presentation: Experimental Psychology DPhil Seminar Series, Oxford, May 2022

Ashcroft-Jones, S., “Open Science & Reproducibility: A practical introduction.”

Presentation: MRC DTP Discussion Forum, Oxford, March 2022

Ashcroft-Jones, S., Calder-Travis, J., & Yeung, N., “Computing Decision Confidence: The role of category membership and perceptual uncertainty.”

Poster: JRPC, Cambridge, August 2019: <https://osf.io/7vwb4>

Buabang, E.K., Ashcroft-Jones, S., Esteban Serna, C., Kastelic, K., Kveder, J., Lambertus, A., & Müller, T. S., “The poverty trap: A multinational study examining the relationship between poverty, decision making, stress, and well-being.”

Poster: UFV Madrid JRP Meeting, Madrid, March 2019: <https://osf.io/f5k6c>