

SONIA YANOVSKY

Department of Psychology
Rutgers University - New Brunswick
53 Avenue E
Piscataway, NJ 08854
E-mail: sonia.yanovsky@rutgers.edu
Website: soniayanovsky.com

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. **Ph.D. Social Psychology**, expected October 2027
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Dissertation: Defining ideologically neutral authoritarianism
Advisor: Lee Jussim, Ph.D.
- M.S. **M.S. Social Psychology**, October 2025
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Master's Thesis: What do measures of authoritarianism measure? An examination of the factor structure underlying modern measures of authoritarianism
Advisor: Lee Jussim, Ph.D.
- M.A. **M.A. Political Science**, May 2022
Stony Brook University (SUNY), Stony Brook, NY
Advisor: Stanley Feldman, Ph.D.
- B.S. **B.S. (Magna Cum Laude) Psychology**, May 2019
University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL
Advisor: Gail Han, Ph.D.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Hartz, A., & Yanovsky, S. (2026). Psychotherapy populations that are overlooked due to sociopolitical bias. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 71.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2026.102331>
- Finkelstein, D., Yanovsky, S., Zucker, J., Jagdeep, A., Vasko, C., Jagdeep, A., Jussim, L., & Finkelstein, J. (2025). Information manipulation on TikTok and its relation to American users' beliefs about China. *Frontiers in Social Psychology*, 2. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frsps.2024.1497434>
- Yanovsky, S. (2025). The (de)merits of radical progressivism: Commentary on Negy & Ferguson (2025). *Journal of Open Inquiry in the Behavioral Sciences*, 4(2).
<https://doi.org/10.58408/issn.2992-9253.2025.04.02.0003>
- Bass, M., Ross, A. R., Wolfson, B., Finkelstein, J., Yanovsky, S., Finkelstein, D., Stevens, S. T., Honeycutt, N., Paresky, P., Feinberg, A., Small, C. A., & Jussim, L. (2024). Foreign funding of U.S. higher

education relates to sanctioning of scholars and antisemitism. *Frontiers in Social Psychology*, 2. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frsps.2024.1408913>

Rubinstein, R. S., Jussim, L., Mangracina, B., Shaw, K. M., **Yanovsky, S.**, & Bennett, S. (2024). Perceived controllability of group membership does not moderate individuating information effects in implicit person perception. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 15, 969382.

Yanovsky, S., Saulmon, T., Pham, P., Taylor, M., Han, H.-Y., & Pritchett, C. (2019). Stress mindset: Does it (or does it not) affect cognitive performance? [University of West Florida]. *Journal of Student Research*. <https://www.jofsr.org/index.php/path/article/view/657>

Saulmon, T. N., **Yanovsky, S. B.**, Pham, P. T., Taylor, M. A., Han, H.-Y., & Pritchett, C. (2019). Susceptibility of stress mindset in response to stress [University of West Florida]. *Journal of Student Research*. <https://www.jofsr.org/index.php/path/article/view/659>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Bork, N., Jussim, L., Finkelstein, D., Finkelstein, J., & **Yanovsky, S.** A theory of the social and political psychology of reciprocal radicalization. *Theory & Society*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

(limited to projects in which data collection is complete and the manuscript is being drafted)

Yanovsky, S., Finkelstein, D., Honeycutt, N., Careem, A., Jussim, L., Finkelstein, J., Stevens, S., Bork, N., & Tabarovsky, I. Left-wing authoritarianism predicts endorsement of Soviet anti-American and antisemitic propaganda.

Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Jussim, L., Fihrrer, G., Fedida, O., Zecher, M., Finkelstein, J., Viswanathan, I., & Paresky, P. DEI pedagogy and the hostile attribution bias.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Jussim, L., **Yanovsky, S.**, Finkelstein, D., Fedida, O., Fihrrer, G., Bork, N., McCaffree, K., Saide, A., & Finkelstein, J. (In press). Anti-prejudice extremism. In J. Forgas (Ed.), *The psychology of extremism*.

Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Dulburg, Z., Fihrrer, G., Finkelstein, J., & Jussim, L. (2026). Disrupted trust: The digital erosion of civic norms. In J. Forgas (Ed.), *The tribal mind: The psychology of trust*. Routledge.

Jussim, L., **Yanovsky, S.**, Honeycutt, N., Finkelstein, D., & Finkelstein, J. (2025). Academic misinformation and false beliefs. In J. Forgas (Ed.), *The psychology of false beliefs: Collective delusions and conspiracy theories* (pp. 171-187). Routledge.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003509257-13>

Jussim, L., **Yanovsky, S.**, Careem, A., Honeycutt, N., & Finkelstein, D. (2024). Limitations, contestations, failures, and falsification of dramatic claims in intergroup relations. In T.

Nelson (Ed.), *Handbook of prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003399162-3>

Jussim, L., Honeycutt, N., Careem, A., Bork, N., Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, & Finkelstein, J. (2023). The new book burners: Academic tribalism. In J. Forgas (Ed.), *The tribal mind: The psychology of collectivism*, Visegrad International Symposium on Social Psychology. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/mdgp7>

PUBLIC REPORTS

Dulberg, Z., **Yanovsky, S.**, Tabarovsky, I., Paresky, P., Finkelstein, D., Jussim, L., Nderitu, A., Moore, J., Finkelstein, J., Pearl, J., & Louis-Klein, A. (2026, April 10). *Moral inversion and the rise of authoritarian sympathy*. Network Contagion Research Institute. <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/moral-inversion-and-the-rise-of-authoritarian-sympathy/>

Jussim, L., Peterson, J. B., Moore, J., Finkelstein, J., Zucker, J., Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Goldenberg, A., Fedida, O., Firher, G., Lazarus, S., Jagdeep, A., Jagdeep, A. (2025, March 13). *Thy name in vain: How online extremists hijacked 'Christ is King'*. Network Contagion Research Institute. <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/3-13-25-thy-name-in-vain-how-online-extremists-hijacked-christ-is-king/>

Finkelstein, J., Jussim, L., Fedida, O., Fihrer, G., Vasko, C., Zeher, M., Paresky, P., Goldenberg, A., McCann-Phillips, C., Hawley, T., Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Gamil, F., Horan, H., Nimak, A., Shankar, S., Stroud, S., & Viva, H. (2024, December 18). *Killing with applause: Emergent permission structures for murder in the digital age*. Network Contagion Research Institute. <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/12-18-24-killing-with-applause-emergent-permission-structures-for-murder-in-the-digital-age/>

Jagdeep, A., Jagdeep, A., Lazarus, S., Zeher, M., Fedida, O., Fihrer, G., Vasko, C., Finkelstein, J., Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Jussim, L., Paresky, P., & Viswanathan, I. (2024, November 13). *Instructing animosity: How DEI pedagogy produces the hostile attribution bias*. Network Contagion Research Institute. <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/instructing-animosity-how-dei-pedagogy-produces-the-hostile-attribution-bias/>

Goldenberg, A., McCann-Phillips, C., Jagdeep, A., Lazarus, S., Zeher, M., Fedida, O., Fihrer, G., Finkelstein, J., Gamil, F., Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Rajpal, R., & Jussim, L. (2024, November 1). *The botification of the American mind*. Network Contagion Research Institute. <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/the-botification-of-the-american-mind/>

Finkelstein, J., Jussim, L., Farmer, J., Goldenberg, A., Zucker, J., Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Jagdeep, A., Jagdeep, A., Vasko, C., & Sohn, M. (2024, August 6). *The CCP's digital charm offensive: How TikTok's search algorithm and pro-China influence networks indoctrinate Gen Z users in the*

United States. Network Contagion Research Institute.

<https://networkcontagion.us/reports/the-ccps-digital-charm-offensive/>

Jussim, L., Finkelstein, D., **Yanovsky, S.**, Goldenberg, A., Finkelstein, J., Selby, E., Benson, R., Patel, S., Glover, T., Vasko, C., Jagdeep, A., Abdallah, L., Harley, S., Ibrahim, C., Kalisch-Cellai, C., Karra, P., Mehta, A., & Rajpal, R. (2024, January 31). *One click away: A study on the prevalence of non-suicidal self injury, suicide, and eating disorder content accessible by search engines*. Network Contagion Research Institute.

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/online-safety/illegal-and-harmful-content/one-click-away>

Small, C. A., Kolberner, W., Patterson, D., Reid-Ross, A., **Yanovsky, S.**, Finkelstein, D., Sudhakar, P., Stevens, S. T., Honeycutt, N., Paresky, P., Bass, M., Goldenberg, A., Finkelstein, J., & Jussim, L. (2023). *The corruption of the American mind: How concealed foreign funding of U.S. higher education predicts erosion of democratic values and antisemitic incidents on campus*. The Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy & Network Contagion Research Institute.

<https://isgap.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/The-corruption-of-the-american-mind.pdf>

MEDIA COVERAGE

Pemberton, N. T. (2026, April 23). Why has ‘Christ Is King’ become a controversial statement? *The New York Times*.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/04/23/style/christ-is-king-nick-fuentes-candace-owens.html>

Dulberg, Z., & Louis-Klein, A. (2026, April 20). Moral inversion and the Iran war. *The Free Press*.

<https://www.thefp.com/p/moral-inversion-and-the-iran-war>

Block, B., & Sulkin, M. (2025, April 27). Qatar and China are pouring billions into elite American universities. *The Free Press*.

<https://www.thefp.com/p/explosion-in-foreign-funding-for-american-universities>

Dilanian, K. (2024, November 1). American activists were behind efforts to spread conspiracies with bot networks, study finds. *NBC News*.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/2024-election/americans-are-using-bot-networks-manipulate-public-opinion-study-finds-rcna178333>

Clanton, A., & Counts, A. (2024, August 9). TikTok shows less ‘anti-China’ content than rivals, study finds. *Bloomberg*.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-08-09/tiktok-shows-less-anti-china-content-than-rivals-study-finds>

Maheshwari, S. (2023, December 21). Topics suppressed in China are underrepresented on TikTok, study says. *The New York Times*.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/21/business/tiktok-china.html>

Weiss, B. (2023, November 6). Is campus rage fueled by Middle Eastern money? *The Free Press*.
<https://www.thefp.com/p/campus-rage-middle-eastern-roots-qatar>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Instructor, Rutgers University, Department of Psychology
 Summer 2025 & 2026 *Quantitative Methods in Psychology* (Synchronous virtual instruction)

Recitation Instructor, Rutgers University, Department of Psychology
 Fall 2025 – Spring 2026 *Quantitative Methods in Psychology* (In-person instruction)

Teaching Assistant, Rutgers University, Department of Psychology
 Fall 2022 – Spring 2024 *Social Psychology*
 General Psychology (x2)
 Neuropsychology
 Drugs and Behavior
 Adolescent Development
 Infant and Child Development
 Media Psychology

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Independent Research Mentor, Lumiere Education
 Winter 2023-24 Korkem Zeinullina (Lumiere Research Inclusion Foundation)

AWARDS, GRANTS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

2026	School of Graduate Studies Research & Travel Award, Rutgers University [\$1,000]
2024	Social Psychology Service Award, Rutgers University [\$200]
2024	School of Graduate Studies Research & Travel Award, Rutgers University [\$815]
2021 – 2022	Koppelman Fellowship, Stony Brook University [\$3,000]
2020 – 2021	College of Arts and Sciences Fellowship, Stony Brook University [\$3,000]
2019	Psychology B.S. Outstanding Student Award, University of West Florida
2019	Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Award, University of West Florida
2018	Office of Undergraduate Research Project Award, University of West Florida
2018	Summer Undergraduate Research Program Stipend, University of West Florida
2018	Psychology B.S. Outstanding Student Award, University of West Florida
2018	Psi Chi SEPA Regional Travel Grant [\$400]
2018	A&S Fee Travel Grant, University of West Florida [\$700]
2017	Psychology Junior Excellence Award, University of West Florida
2014 – 2019	Dean's and President's Honor Roll, University of West Florida
2016 – 2019	Nautilus Scholarship, University of West Florida [\$3,000]
2016 – 2019	Florida Academic Scholars Award

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Yanovsky, S. (2026, May 27). *Training trouble: DEI trainings induce hostility bias* [Conference presentation]. Society for Open Inquiry in Behavioral Sciences 2026 Behavioral Science Speakeasy, American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., United States.

Yanovsky, S. (2024, February). *“What’s the harm, it’s just the Internet”: The prevalence of self-harm content accessible via search engines* [Conference presentation]. Society for Open Inquiry in Behavioral Sciences conference, San Diego, CA, United States.

Yanovsky, S. B., Saulmon, T. N., Pham, P. T., Taylor, M. A., Han, H., & Pritchett, C. (2019, April). *Stress mindset: Does it (or does it not) affect cognitive performance?* [Conference presentation]. National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Atlanta, GA, United States.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Yanovsky, S. B., Saulmon, T. N., Pham, P. T., Taylor, M. A., Han, H., & Pritchett, C. (2019, April). *Can a positive stress mindset positively affect cognitive performance?* [Conference presentation]. Student Scholars Symposium, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL, United States.

Barnes, A., **Yanovsky, S. B.,** & Rainey, V. (2019, April). *An anxiety-stricken past: Does anxiety hinder positive academic strategies in emerging adult translators?* [Conference presentation]. Student Scholars Symposium, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL, United States.

Pham, P. T., **Yanovsky, S. B.,** Saulmon, T. N., Taylor, M. A., Han, H., & Pritchett, C. (2019, April). *Susceptibility of stress mindset in response to stress* [Conference presentation]. Student Scholars Symposium, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL, United States.

Saulmon, T. N., **Yanovsky, S. B.,** Pham, P. T., Taylor, M. A., Han, H., & Pritchett, C. (2019, April). *Susceptibility of stress mindset in response to stress* [Conference presentation]. National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Atlanta, GA, United States.

Yanovsky, S. B., Saulmon, T. N., Pham, P. T., Taylor, M. A., Han, H., & Pritchett, C. (2019, March). *Can a positive stress mindset positively affect cognitive performance?* [Conference presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association, Jacksonville, FL, United States.

Yanovsky, S. B., Saulmon, T., & Han, H. (2018, August). *Stress mindset and its effect on cognitive performance* [Conference presentation]. Hal Marcus College of Science and Engineering Symposium, University of West Florida, United States.

Yanovsky, S. B., Steadman, K. M., Rondon Belmonte, E., & Han, H. (2018, April). *Stress mindset and its effect on cognitive performance* [Conference presentation]. Student Scholars Symposium, University of West Florida, United States.

Yanovsky, S. B., Steadman, K. M., Rondon Belmonte, E., & Han, H. (2018, April). *Stress mindset and its effect on cognitive performance* [Conference presentation]. National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Edmond, OK, United States.

Yanovsky, S. B., & Bernal, D. R. (2018, April). *Perceived income and zip code on social well-being* [Conference presentation]. National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Edmond, OK, United States.

Yanovsky, S. B., & Bernal, D. R. (2018, March). *Life satisfaction and perceived income on social connectedness* [Conference presentation]. Southeastern Psychological Association, Charleston, SC, United States.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

August 2023 – Present	<i>Administrative Editor</i> Journal of Open Inquiry in the Behavioral Sciences
August 2022 – Present	<i>Lab Manager</i> Social Perception Lab (PI: Lee Jussim, PhD) Rutgers University, Dept. of Psychology
Aug 2019 – Dec 2019	<i>Post-Graduate Intern</i> Sleep Research Lab (PI: Gail Han, PhD) University of West Florida
Nov 2017 – May 2019	<i>Research Assistant</i> Institute for Human and Machine Cognition Pensacola, FL

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Aug 2023 – July 2024	<i>Graduate Student Representative</i> Social Area, Dept. of Psychology, Rutgers University
Aug 2021 – May 2022	<i>Alternate Senator</i> Dept. of Political Science, Stony Brook University
March 2019	<i>Student Member of Steering Committee</i> Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA)
Aug 2019 – May 2019	<i>President</i> Psi Chi, University of West Florida
Aug 2016 – May 2017	<i>President</i> Active Minds, University of West Florida

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

2023 – Present	Society for Open Inquiry in Behavioral Science
2020 – 2022	American Political Science Association
2017 – Present	Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology
2017 – Present	National Society for Leadership and Success
2015 – Present	Active Minds