

# Abigail (Abby) Cassario

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## Current Position

*Graduate Student*, The Belief Systems Lab, Department of Psychology, Michigan State University

## Research Interests

Ideology, Ideological Development, Belief Systems, Attitude Moralization, Survey Research, Observational Causal Inference

## Education

2021 M.A. in Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
2019 B.A. in Political Science and Psychology, University of North Carolina at Asheville

## Grants, Honors & Awards

2022-2023 MSU Graduate Merit Assistantship  
2019 2024 UNC Chapel Hill Department of Political Science Thomas Uhlman Fellowship (declined 2022-2024)  
2019 UNC Chapel Hill Graduate School Doctoral Merit Assistantship Award  
2019 UNC Asheville Department of Psychology Nominee for Valedictorian of the Graduating Class  
2019 UNC Asheville Department of Political Science Outstanding Research Award  
2018 UNC Asheville Conference Travel Grant

## Publications

### PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 **Cassario, A.L.**, Vallabha, S., Thompson, J.L., Carrillo, A., Solanki, P., Gnall, S.A., Rice, S., Wetherell, G., & Brandt, M.J. Registered report: Cognitive ability but not cognitive reflection predicts political animosity and favouritism *British journal of social psychology*, (in press)
- 2024 **Cassario, A.L.**, & Brandt, M.J. (2024). Testing theories of threat, individual difference, and ideology: Little evidence of personality based individual differences in ideological responses to threat. *Social psychological and personality science*, (in press)
- 2023 **Cassario, A.L.** (2023). Perceived vulnerability to infectious disease and perceived harmfulness are as predictive of citizen response to COVID-19 as partisanship. *Politics and the life sciences*, 42(2), 277-290.
- 2019 Cox, K. S., Hanek, K. J., & **Cassario, A. L.** (2019). Redemption in a single low point story longitudinally predicts well-being: The incremental validity of life story elements. *Journal of personality*, 87(5), 1009-1024.

### EDITOR REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 Brandt, M.J., & **Cassario, A.L.** (2023) Distinguishing Between Worldview Conflict and Shared Alliances: Commentary on Pinsof, Sears, and Haselton. *Psychological inquiry*, 34 (3), 168-174

### ACCEPTED STAGE I REGISTERED REPORTS

- 2023 Wetherell, G., Thompson J.T., Brandt, M.J., **Cassario, A.L.**, Rice, S., Solanki, P., Carrillo, A., & Vallabha S. Do mismatches between individual and target group personality predict prejudice? *Collabra: Psychology*
- 2023 Thompson, J.L., **Cassario, A.L.**, Rice, S., Gnall, S.A., Carrillo, A., Solanki, P., Vallabha S., Brandt, M.J., & Wetherell G., Registered report: stress testing predictive models of ideological prejudice. *PLOS one*

### UNDER REVIEW

- 2023 Rice, S., **Cassario, A.L.**, Solanki, P., Gnall, S.A., Thompson, J.L., Carrillo, A., Vallabha, S., Brandt, M.J., & Wetherell, G. (National) pride predicts prejudice towards a variety of social groups. *Comprehensive results in social psychology*
- 2024 **Cassario, A.L.**, & Brandt, M.J., Mapping individual belief systems. *Journal of personality and social psychology*

## Current Projects

- 2024 **Cassario, A.L., & Brandt, M.J.**, Does personality moderate the effect of threat on political conservatism? Experimental evidence says no.
- 2024 **Cassario, A.L., & Brandt, M.J.**, Exploring the effects of downward mobility on attitudes, behaviors, and life outcomes
- 2024 **Cassario, A.L., Mulwa, K., & Brandt, M.J.**, Does a competitive presidential campaign increase interest in, desire to consume, and desire to share misinformation?
- 2024 **Cassario, A.L., Mulwa, K., & Brandt, M.J.**, Asymmetrical perceptions? Do Co and Out-partisans view Republicans as more likely to believe and be interested in misinformation?

## Conference Presentations

- 2024 “Testing Theories of Threat, Individual Difference, and Ideology: Little Evidence of Personality Based Individual Differences in Ideological Responses to Threat.” Poster presented at SPSP Annual Conference 2024, San Diego, California.
- 2023 “What is Central to Within Subjects Political Belief Systems?” With Mark J. Brandt., Paper Presented at the ISPP Annual Conference 2023, Montreal, Canada.
- 2023 “What is Central to Within Subjects Political Belief Systems?” With Mark J. Brandt., Paper Presented at the Midwest Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.
- 2023 “What is Central to Within Subjects Political Belief Systems?.” With Mark J. Brandt., SPSP Political Psychology Pre-conference, Atlanta, GA.
- 2022 “Do Distinct Emotions Reliably Predict Political Engagement? Testing Predictions from Affective Intelligence Theory, Basic Emotions Theories, Causal Appraisal Theories and Psychological Constructionism.” International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) Annual Meeting 2022. Athens, Greece.
- 2022 “Not all Motivated Reasoning is Partisan: Personality and Harm Perceptions Limit the Influence of Partisanship in Shaping Citizens’ Perceptions of COVID-19” Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) 2022. Chicago, IL.
- 2021 “Not all Motivated Reasoning is Partisan: PVD and Perceived Harm Limit Partisan Motivated Reasoning About COVID 19.” International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) Annual Meeting 2021. Montreal QC, Canada (Virtual due to COVID 19)
- 2020 “Moral Partisan Stereotypes vs. Policy Stereotypes in Candidate Evaluation.” NC Cognition Society 2020 Meeting. Durham, NC. (Canceled due to COVID 19.)

2018

“Does the Right Wing Authoritarianism Scale Function Differently in White American and African American Samples? Maybe So”. Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) Political Psychology Preconference. March 2018. Atlanta, GA

## Teaching

Introduction to Social Psychology (MSU)

Introduction to Personality Psychology (MSU)

Psychology of Women (MSU)

Introduction to R Programming and Statistics (MSU, TA, section instructor)

Introduction to American Politics (UNC)

Introduction to R Programming and Statistics (UNC, Undergraduate, Grader)

Race, Innocence and the Death Penalty (UNC)

## Reviewer

*Legislative Studies Quarterly*

*Political Behavior*

*American Journal of Political Science*

*Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*

*British Journal of Social Psychology*

*Politics and the Life Sciences*

*Psychological Science*

## Computer Skills

R (Advanced)

Qualtrics (Advanced)

SAS (Intermediate)

SPSS (Intermediate)

MATLAB (Beginner)

Github (Beginner)

Python (Beginner)

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