

Dyuthi Dinesh

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ABOUT ME

My research interests encompass social impact, psychology, and mental health, specifically- **social psychology, energy and climate, political ideologies, neuroscience, emotion and behavior, cognition, social media, and gaming**. I have worked on projects that considered political ideology and media consumption to assess belief in anthropomorphic climate change and COVID-19 beliefs. My work experience has entailed leading multiple projects in data analysis and statistical methods in Digital Mental Health.

EDUCATION

Columbia University

Master of Arts in Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences

September 2024 - Current

University of British Columbia, Canada

Bachelor of Science in Psychology (Hons)

Grade: **3.99 or 94.9%**; Dean's List (all four years); Member of "Society of Scholars"

September 2018 - April 2022

Sri Kumaran Children's Home

Higher Secondary School

June 2016 - June 2017

WORK EXPERIENCE

Clinical Researcher, Research and Clinical Development, Wysa

September 2022 - July 2024

- Clinical researcher at Wysa, an AI conversational agent for mental health support.
- Tested efficacy and usage using mixed-method approaches and Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) using qualitative and quantitative data analysis.
- Conducted statistical testing- sample size calculations, regression models, analyses of variance, logistic regressions, and simple descriptive and inferential statistics.
- Worked with longitudinal data; maintained confidentiality.
- Conducted R programming training sessions for the team.
- **Learning Outcomes:** MongoDB Atlas; Academic research paper writing; R programming; Scientific writing; Presentation skills.

Research Assistant, University of British Columbia

September 2019 - September 2022

Volunteer Research Assistant at various labs

- Worked as a research assistant in various labs (see below for projects).
- **Learning Outcomes:** SPSS, R, Qualtrics, Scientific Writing, Presentation skills, Communication skills, Time management skills, Working independently, Working in a lab.

Math and Science Tutor, UBC

January 2022 - April 2022

Tutor for Math (100 level), Chemistry (100 and 200 levels) & Biology (100, 200 and 300 levels)

- Hosted tutor sessions for Math, Chemistry, and Biology. Explained complex concepts to students. Helped with subject knowledge. Directed students to beneficial resources.

Teaching Assistant, UBC

January 2022 - April 2022; September 2020- April 2021

- **PSYO 271: Introduction to Data analysis;**
- **PSYO 121: Introduction to Psychology: Personal Functioning**
- **PSYO 270: Introduction to Research Methods and Design;**
- **PSYO 111: Introduction to Psychology: Basic Processes**

Taught statistics. Hosted review sessions. Graded assignments. Invigilated examinations. Helped with subject matter during office hours: statistics and basic psychology concepts. Taught research methods and basic psychological concepts.

Volunteer tutor, UBC

January 2021 - April 2021

- **Tutor for PSYO 271: Introduction to Data Analysis**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Dr. Carolyn Szostak's lab, UBC

September 2020 - September 2022

- **Honours Student (PSYO 490B):** Studied individual differences that contribute to COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and conspiracy beliefs. Conducted literature reviews, compiled measures, and developed questionnaires using Qualtrics. Created consent and debriefing forms. Considered appropriate statistical tests for analysis, and conducted data analysis. Presented the results in two conferences, and completed an honors thesis manuscript.
- **Directed Studies (PSYO 381B):** Helped conduct research for the "Media & Climate Change" study: including literature review, data analysis, and writing an academic IMRD paper.
- **Volunteer:** Conducted a scoping review (using Covidence) regarding student well-being and academic accommodation.
- **Learning Outcomes:** Literature review, Scoping review, Research design, Research ethics application, Qualtrics, Scientific writing, Data analyses, Quantitative method, Statistical testing, SPSS, R, Covidence, Presentation skills, Working independently, Holistic research skills.

The Truth and Trust Lab, UBC

January 2020 - April 2022

- **Directed Studies Student (PSYO 481A):** Designed study to facilitate lie and truth conditions during a dyadic conversation to evaluate deception detection in real-life conversations.
- Presented the study design and methods to the research team.
- Moderated interview-styled conversations between participants on Zoom.
- **Volunteer:** Continued to run participants for the above study on Zoom.
- **Learning Outcomes:** Research design, Survey creation (Qualtrics), Ethics application (IRB), Lab presentation, Working in a lab, Communication skills, Deception research, Literature review, Teamwork, Working independently.

The Psychopathology Lifespan and Neuropsychology (PLAN) Lab, UBC

Sept-Dec 2019; Oct 2020 - Feb 2021

- **Volunteer:** Ran participants for the "Gratitude study" which evaluated the effects of gratitude-focused mindfulness on body image perceptions.

The Health Psychology Lab, UBC

September 2019 - February 2020

- **Volunteer:** Ran participants for the "Lean on Me" study which studied the effects of social support on stress. Collected data on tweet deck for a Twitter-based study exploring the use of crisis text line. collected data from Facebook for a study based on chronic fatigue syndrome and the emotions expressed on Facebook posts.
- **Learning Outcomes:** Data collection from social media.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- *Language Adaptations of Mental Health Interventions: User Interaction Comparisons with an AI-enabled Conversational Agent (Wysa) in English and Spanish.*
Dinesh DN, Rao MN, Sinha C. Language adaptations of mental health interventions: User interaction comparisons with an AI-enabled conversational agent (Wysa) in English and Spanish. DIGITAL HEALTH. 2024;10. doi:10.1177/20552076241255616
- (Submitted for publication) *Examining a Brief Web and Longitudinal App-Based Intervention [Wysa] for Mental Health Support in Singapore during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Mixed-Methods Retrospective Observational Study.*
Sinha et al. Examining a Brief Web and Longitudinal App-Based Intervention [Wysa] for Mental Health Support in Singapore during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Mixed-Methods Retrospective Observational Study. Frontiers in Digital Health (Submitted).

CONFERENCES

- Interdisciplinary Student Health Conference (ISHC), UBC.** March 2022
- Role:** Delivered a presentation investigating the relationship between COVID-19 beliefs, vaccine beliefs, scientific literacy, belief in science, media usage, and belief in COVID conspiracy theories.
- Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference (PURC), UBC.** March 2022
- Role:** Presented findings on the intricate interplay between COVID-19 beliefs, vaccine beliefs, political ideology, scientific outlook, social media usage, and conspiracy mentality. Received the "Best Honours Presentation" award.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

International Major Entrance Scholarship	2018-2022
Outstanding International Student Award	2018W
First-year Mathematics Award (Nominated)	2019W
International Student Faculty Award	2019W
Deputy Vice-Chancellor Scholarship for International Students	2019W, 2020W, 2021W
The Faculty of Science International Student Award	2020W
First-Year Physics Award (Nominated)	2020
International Undergraduate Research Award*	2021S
*Could not accept due to COVID-19 travel restrictions	
Best Honours Presentation (PURC, UBC)	2022W

INTERNSHIPS & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Google, Coursera** *Conduct UX Research and Test Early Concepts* June 2022
- Heart It Out, Bangalore** November 2021 - February 2022
Intern
Observed therapy sessions and wrote SOAP reports. Reviewed activity resources for depression and anxiety. Conducted research about intersections between MH and medical science: dermatology, oncology, dentistry, gynecology, and pediatrics.
- Turning Point- Centre for psychological assessments and therapies, Bangalore** June 2020 - July 2020
Intern
Wrote client reports. Supported the administration of psychological tests under supervision: disability testing, and various psychological and psycho-educational tests for children (ADHD, learning disability, memory).

SKILLS

Research:	Mixed Methods, Quantitative, Qualitative, Statistical Analyses
Programming:	R, HTML, TeX (LaTeX), Python
Database Management:	MongoDB Atlas
Software & Tools:	SPSS, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Qualtrics
Spoken languages:	English, Kannada, Hindi
Other skills:	Working in a team, Working independently, Time management, Teaching