

Sabrina Gado

PHD CANDIDATE

Experimental Clinical Psychology, Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg, Marcusstraße 9-11, 97070 Würzburg, Germany

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Pursuing a PhD in the field of social and affective human neuroscience. Contributes to the understanding of the aetiology and maintenance of psychological disorders, particularly social anxiety. Examines (mal)adaptive approach and avoidance behavior in social contexts employing advanced research methods like mobile measurements and virtual reality. Passionate about leveraging the synergy between the fields of psychology and computer science. Experienced in conducting psychological experiments, analyzing and visualizing data, as well as presenting and publishing results.

Education

Julius-Maximilians-Universität of Würzburg

PHD. CANDIDATE, NEUROSCIENCE, PRIMARY SUPERVISOR: PROF. MATTHIAS GAMER

Würzburg, Germany

2021–Present

Julius-Maximilians-Universität of Würzburg

BSc & MSc, PSYCHOLOGY

Würzburg, Germany

2015–2020

University of Applied Sciences Würzburg-Schweinfurt

BSc, BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Würzburg, Germany

2018–2022

Research

Universität Bielefeld, Biological Psychology and Neuropsychology

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Bielefeld, Germany

11/2024–Present

- Investigating the influence of childhood maltreatment on social behavior

Julius-Maximilians-Universität of Würzburg, Experimental Clinical Psychology

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Würzburg, Germany

11/2021–Present

- Investigating social approach and avoidance behavior in naturalistic settings
- Employing advanced biopsychological research methods in the lab with stationary eye-tracking and concurrent physiological measurements
- Enhancing ecological validity by the use of immersive virtual reality and field research with unobstrusive mobile eye-tracking and sensors

University of British Columbia, Brain, Attention, & Reality (BAR) Lab

VISITING RESEARCHER

Vancouver, Canada

06/2024–07/2024

- Collaborative study on closeness regulating behaviors in dyadic interactions with a focus on automated behavioral coding procedures and the analysis of dyadic dynamics using cross-recurrence quantification analysis
- Piloting of a cross-country study on the effects of gaze on uninvolved pedestrians

Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering IAO, NeuroLab

GRADUATE RESEARCHER

Stuttgart, Germany

09/2020–02/2022

- Implemented experimental paradigms and machine learning algorithms to identify cognitive and affective states
- Experienced with EEG, fNIRS and physiological measurements

Julius-Maximilians-Universität of Würzburg, Work and Organizational Psychology

GRADUATE RESEARCHER

Würzburg, Germany

10/2018–02/2020

- Conducted a meta-analysis on the effect of learning goals on behavior in occupational contexts
- Investigated the acceptance of artificial intelligence in the field of psychology and designed an online training to foster the acceptance of AI and show persuading use-cases in my master's thesis

Teaching

EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH METHODS (BSc. PSYCHOLOGY)

2022

- Instructed a small group of students on how to plan, execute, analyze, and present their first psychological experiment

THESES

2021–Present

- Supervised 3 internships, 11 Bachelor's theses, and 3 Master's theses

Other Experiences

- COORDINATION OF A TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP

12/2022–05/2023

 - Organized and hosted weekly scientific exchange meetings where the PhD students and external guest speakers presented their work
 - Organized workshops and the yearly summer school for the PhD students to expand their knowledge and skill set
- WUERTUAL REALITY XR MEETING

04/2023

 - Organized and hosted the inaugural “Wuertual Reality” meeting with 126 participants
 - Provided a platform for the presentation and discussion of current XR research

Affiliations

- EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR COGNITIVE AND AFFECTIVE NEUROSCIENCE

2024–Present
- GERMAN PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (DGPs), DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

2022–Present
- GERMAN ALPINE CLUB (DAV)

2018–Present

Awards

- Summer School, RTG 2660

AWARD FOR RESEARCH PROPOSAL (500 €)

Marktbreit, Germany

2022
- Summer School, RTG 2660

POSTER AWARD (500 €)

Kloster Schöntal, Germany

2023
- Summer School, RTG 2660

TALK AWARD (500 €)

Burg Rothenfels, Germany

2024
- 7th Science Conference of the Center of Mental Health at the University Clinic Würzburg

POSTER AWARD (200 €)

Würzburg, Germany

2023
- 15th European Meeting on Human Fear Conditioning

POSTER AWARD

Heeze, Netherlands

2024

Skills

- PROGRAMMING

 - Experiments: PsychoPy (level: proficient), Unreal Engine 5 (level: competent)
 - Data analysis and visualization: Python (level: proficient), R (level: competent)
- LANGUAGE

 - English (level: C1, advanced)
 - German (level: C2, native speaker)
- INTEREST

 - Research: Social and affective neuroscience, naturalistic research, technology acceptance, artificial intelligence and machine learning
 - Leisure: (Classical) music, (road) cycling, triathlon

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Lingelbach, K., Gado, S., Wirzberger, M., & Vukelić, M. (2023). Workload-dependent hemispheric asymmetries during the emotion-cognition interaction: A close-to-naturalistic fNIRS study. *Frontiers in Neuroergonomics*, 4. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnrgo.2023.1273810>
2. Gado, S., Lingelbach, K., Wirzberger, M., & Vukelić, M. (2023). Decoding mental effort in a quasi-realistic scenario: A feasibility study on multimodal data fusion and classification. *Sensors*, 23(14). <https://doi.org/10.3390/s23146546>
3. Gado, S., Kempen, R., Lingelbach, K., & Bipp, T. (2022). Artificial intelligence in psychology: How can we enable psychology students to accept and use artificial intelligence? *Psychology Learning & Teaching*, 21(1), 37–56. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14757257211037149>

CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

1. Gado, S., Teigeler, J., & Gamer, M. (2024). How and when social anxiety manifests: A meta-analysis investigating the effects of social anxiety on subjective distress, autonomic and endocrine measures in different experimental settings. 64. *SPR Annual Meeting*. [Poster]
2. Gado, S., & Gamer, M. (2024). Studying the influence of single social interactions on approach and avoidance behavior - a multimodal investigation in immersive virtual reality. 49. *Annual Conference «Psychologie Und Gehirn»*. [Poster]
3. Gado, S., & Gamer, M. (2024). How do people adapt to social learning experiences? A multimodal social conditioning study in virtual reality. 7. *Bi-Annual ESCAN Meeting*. [Talk]
4. Gado, S., & Gamer, M. (2024). Studying the influence of single social interactions on approach and avoidance behavior - a multimodal investigation in immersive virtual reality. 15. *European Meeting on Human Fear Conditioning*. [Poster]
5. Gado, S., Teigeler, J., & Gamer, M. (2023). Socially anxious avoid gaze, don't they? The effect of gaze camouflage and social anxiety on attention and autonomic measures in naturalistic social situations. 48. *Annual Conference «Psychologie Und Gehirn»*. [Poster]
6. Gado, S., Lingelbach, K., & Vukelić, M. (2022). Classifying cognitive load in a quasi-realistic scenario based on multimodal neurophysiological data. 47. *Annual Conference «Psychologie Und Gehirn»*. [Poster]
7. Gado, S., Lingelbach, K., Bui, M., Rieger, J. W., & Vukelić, M. (2021). Real-time feedback of subjective affect and working memory load based on neurophysiological activity. In C. Stephanidis, M. Antona, & S. Ntoa (Eds.), *HCI International 2021 - Late Breaking Posters* (pp. 80–87). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-90179-0_11 [Poster]
8. Gado, S., Kempen, R., & Bipp, T. (2021). Development and validation of an online training on artificial intelligence for psychology students. 12. *Tagung Der Fachgruppen Arbeits-, Organisations- Und Wirtschaftspsychologie Sowie Ingenieurspsychologie Der DGPs*. [Talk]