

# Qingqing Yang

PhD student in Experimental Psychology | The Ohio State University

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## Research Interests

Visual attention, perception, and memory. Neural mechanisms of goal-directed visual behaviors. Behavioral measurements (psychophysics, eye-tracking) and neuroimaging (fMRI, TMS, EEG).

## Education

The Ohio State University, OSU Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology, 4/4 Advisors: Hsin-Hung Li, Julie Golomb	2024 – Present Ohio, USA
New York University, NYU M.A. in Psychology, 3.97/4 Advisor: Clayton Curtis	2021 – 2023 New York, USA
Zhejiang University, ZJU B.Sc. in Psychology, 3.92/4 Advisor: Hui Chen	2017 – 2021 Zhejiang, China

## Research Experience

Assistant Research Scientist, NYU Advisor: Clayton Curtis Conducted behavioral (eye-tracking) experiments on prioritization effect in working memory (WM), while temporarily perturbed parietal cortex activity (TMS). ( <i>In prep, talk at NMC 2022</i> ).	08/2023 – 04/2024
Assistant Research Scientist, NYU Advisors: Catherine Hartley, Noam Goldway Applied reinforcement learning models to quantify decision-making properties. Analyzed fMRI data to relate these properties to brain activities and clinical symptoms across development. ( <i>In prep, abstract at CCN 2025</i> ).	09/2023 – 04/2024
Undergraduate Research Assistant, ZJU Advisor: Hui Chen Conducted behavioral experiments and collected EEG recordings to study the mechanisms of attention guided by working memory contents. ( <i>Published on Behavioral Sciences 2023</i> ).	05/2019 – 06/2021

## Publications

\* denotes equal contributions.

**Yang Q**, Li HH (2025). Efficient Allocation of Working Memory Resource for Utility Maximization in Humans and Recurrent Neural Networks. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*. [html](#)

Zhu P\*, **Yang Q\***, et al. (2023). Working-Memory-Guided Attention Competes with Exogenous Attention but Not with Endogenous Attention. *Behavioral Sciences*, 13(5), 426. doi: 10.3390/bs13050426

## Manuscripts In Preparation

**Yang Q**, Curtis C (in prep). Effects of Interrupting Parietal Cortex Neural Activity on Working Memory Prioritization. *Talk presented at Neuromatch Conference (NMC), 2022*.

Goldway N, Harhen N, **Yang Q**, et al (in prep). Correspondence between reinforcement learning phenotypes and transdiagnostic clinical symptomatology across development.

Goldway N, ..., **Yang Q**, et al (in prep). Reliability of a reinforcement-learning task battery for computational phenotyping of decision-making in adolescent psychopathology.

Goldway N, ..., **Yang Q**, et al (in prep). Structural asymmetries in amygdala connectivity mediate valence-symmetry learning in humans.

## Conference Workshops & Abstracts

**Yang Q**, Li HH (2025). Reward Shapes Resource Allocation in Working Memory. *Vision Sciences Society (VSS) Annual Meeting Abstract*. [html](#)

Goldway N, Harhen N, **Yang Q**, et al (2025). Correspondence between reinforcement learning phenotypes and transdiagnostic clinical symptomatology across development. *Conference on Computational Cognitive Neuroscience (CCN) Extended abstracts*. [html](#)

Han H W\*, Dhar R\*, **Yang Q\***, et al. (2024). Investigating the role of modality and training objective on representational alignment between transformers and the brain. *NeurIPS Unireps Workshop*. [html](#)

## Fellowships and Awards

Elsevier/Vision Research Travel Award, VSS	2026
Graduate Student Research Enhancement Awards (GSREA), OSU	2026
University Fellowship, OSU	2024

## Professional Activities

Conference Reviewer: CCN, NeurIPS Unireps workshop.

Teaching Assistant

Sensation and Perception, OSU, undergrad	2026
Psychology of Creativity, OSU, undergrad	2025
Introduction to Psychology, OSU, undergrad	2025
Advanced Psychological Statistics, NYU, undergrad	2022