

**MARIA GULLESSERIAN**  
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## EDUCATION

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**PhD in Social Psychology** August 2025-Present  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL

**Bachelor of Science in Psychology** August 2021- December 2024  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL

## HONORS

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President's List August 2022 - December 2024

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Lab Manager** August 2024 - December 2024  
*Motivated Social Cognition Lab*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Research Assistant

*The March Lab*  
Florida State University  
PI: Dr. David March

### Research Assistant

*Motivated Social Cognition Lab*  
Florida State University  
PI: Dr. Irmak Olcaysoy Okten

## PUBLICATIONS

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Olcaysoy Okten, I., Lombard, J., Harkness, A., & **Gullessarian, M.C.** (2026). How do intellectually humble people form impressions?: Regulating initial intuitions through reflection. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 256, 113729. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2026.113729>

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Gullesserian, M.C. & March, D.S.** (February, 2026). *Perceived Political Misalignment and Group Conformity: The Role of Identity Fusion on Polarizing Beliefs*. Presented at SPSP annual conference in Chicago, Illinois.

**Gullesserian, M.C., Olivett, V.J., & March, D.S.** (November, 2025). *Left, Right and Ready to Fight: Physical Threat Perception Drives Aggressive Political Attitudes Across the Ideological Spectrum*. Presented at SSSP annual conference in St. Petersburg, Florida.

**Gullesserian, M.C., & March, D.S.** (February, 2025). *Perceived Political Misalignment and Group Conformity: The Role of Intragroup Threat on Polarized Political Beliefs*. Presented at FURC annual conference in Tampa, Florida.

**Gullesserian, M.C., & Olcaysoy Okten, I.** (November, 2024). *Bias Reduction Motives and Time Perception*. Presented at Fall Research Day at Florida State University.

**Gullesserian, M.C., Harkness, A., & Olcaysoy Okten, I.** (April, 2024). *Intellectual Humility and Regulation of Bias Impressions*. Presented at Undergraduate Research Symposium at Florida State University.

**Gullesserian, M.C., & March, D.S.** (February, 2024). *View From the Right: Automatic Association Between Black and Physical Threat*. Presented at SPSP annual conference in San Diego, California.

## SKILLS

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**Language** - Advanced written, reading, and verbal Spanish fluency

**Data Analysis and Collection** - SAS, SPSS, Qualtrics, Media Lab, E-Prime, IMotions

**Organization** - Scheduling, Protocol Creation, Training, Managing

## REFERENCES

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Dr. David March  
Florida State University  
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Dr. Irmak Olcaysoy Okten  
Florida State University

*Assistant Professor of Psychology*  
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Dr. Zuoxin Wang  
Florida State University  
*Distinguished Research Professor of Neurobiology*  
[zwang@psy.fsu.edu](mailto:zwang@psy.fsu.edu) • 850-644-5057