

MARIA GULLESSERIAN
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EDUCATION

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

President's List August 2022 - December 2024

WORK EXPERIENCE

Lab Manager August 2024 - December 2024
Motivated Social Cognition Lab

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

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

Research Assistant

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

PRESENTATIONS

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

Gullesterian, 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.

Gullesterian, 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

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

Dr. David March
Florida State University
Assistant Professor of Psychology
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Dr. Irmak Olcaysoy Okten
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Dr. Zuoxin Wang
Florida State University
Distinguished Research Professor of Neurobiology
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