

Laith Al-Shawaf

The University of Colorado - Colorado Springs
Department of Psychology
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Academic Employment

- 2017-Present *Assistant Professor, tenure-track*
- Department of Psychology
 - University of Colorado – Colorado Springs
- 2015-2017 *Assistant Professor*
- Department of Psychology
 - Neuroscience Program
 - Bilkent University, Turkey
- 2015-2016 *Visiting Fellow*
- College of Life Sciences
 - Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin, Germany

Education

- 2009-Dec. 2014 *Ph.D., Psychology*
- The University of Texas at Austin
 - Adviser: David M. Buss, Ph.D.
 - Additional concentration: Applied Statistical Modeling
 - G.P.A.: 4.0
- 2006-2009 *B.A., Psychology (Penrose Award, high distinction)*
- The American University of Beirut, Lebanon
 - Minor: Cognitive Science
 - Minor: Philosophy
 - G.P.A.: 4.0
- 2006 *High School Graduation (Walter Prosser Award, valedictorian)*
- American Community School at Beirut
 - International Baccalaureate Diploma & US High School Diploma

Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

- 2019 *Rising Star*, Association for Psychological Science (APS)
2016 – *Elected member of AGYA*, the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences & Humanities
2015-2016 *Visiting Fellow*, College of Life Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin

(youngest Visiting Fellow in the institute's history)

- 2015 ResearchGate's *Most Viewed Researcher in Psychology* (two consecutive weeks)
- 2014 *Research Fellowship* (The University of Texas at Austin)
- 2013 *Research Fellowship* (The University of Texas at Austin)
- 2013 *Psychology Research Award* (The University of Texas at Austin)
- 2013 *Professional Development Award* (The University of Texas at Austin)
- 2012 *Professional Development Award* (The University of Texas at Austin)
- 2010 *Love of Learning award* (Phi Kappa Phi)
- 2010 *Liberal Arts Dean's Fellowship* (The University of Texas at Austin)
- 2006-9 *Dean's Honor List* (AUB; every semester from matriculation to graduation)
- 2006-9 *Full Merit Scholarship* (AUB; awarded to top 10 students in the university)
- 2008 *Fawzi Azar Award* (awarded to an undergraduate, first time since award's inception)
- 2009 *Penrose Award*, the American University of Beirut's most prestigious award

"This award is given to an outstanding student of the senior class in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences who completely embodies the following characteristics and requirements: Scholarship, Character, Leadership, and Contribution to University Life."

Publications ([Google Scholar](#): Total citations: 539, h-index: 13)

*Indicates student co-author

Al-Shawaf, L., Lewis, D. M. G., *Barbaro, N., & *Wehbe, Y. S. (in press). The Products of Evolution: Conceptual Distinctions, Evidentiary Criteria, and Empirical Examples. In Shackelford, T. K. (Ed.), *The SAGE Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*.

Lewis, D. M. G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Thompson, M. B., & Buss, D. M. (in press). Evolved psychological mechanisms. In T. K. Shackelford (Ed.), *The SAGE Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*.

*Atari, M., *Chaudhary, N., & **Al-Shawaf, L.** (2019). Mate preferences in three Muslim-majority countries: Sex differences and personality correlates. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*.

Lewis, D. M. G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, & Buss, D. M. (in press). Evolutionary personality psychology. In Corr, P., & Matthews, G. (Eds.), *The Cambridge Handbook of Personality Psychology (2nd ed.)*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Al-Shawaf, L., Lewis, D.M.G., *Wehbe, Y. S., & Buss, D.M. (2019). Context, environment, and learning in evolutionary psychology. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. New York: Springer.

Al-Shawaf, L., Lewis, D.M.G., Ghossainy, M.E. and Buss, D.M. (2018). Experimentally inducing disgust reduces desire for short-term mating. *Evolutionary Psychological Science*.

Al-Shawaf, L., *Zreik, K. A., & Buss, D.M. (2018). Thirteen misunderstandings about natural selection. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of*

Evolutionary Psychological Science. New York: Springer.

- *Chaudhary, N., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, & Buss, D.M. (2018). Mate competition in Pakistan: Mate value, mate retention, and competitor derogation. *Personality and Individual Differences*, *130*, 141-146.
- Al-Shawaf, L.**, & Lewis, D.M.G. (2018). The handicap principle. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. New York: Springer
- Al-Shawaf, L.**, & *Zreik, K. A. (2018). Richard Dawkins on constraints on natural selection. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. New York: Springer.
- Al-Shawaf, L.**, Lewis, D.M.G., & Buss, D. M (2017). Sex differences in disgust: Why are women more easily disgusted than men? *Emotion Review*, *10*(2), 149-160.
- Al-Shawaf, L.**, & Lewis, D.M.G. (2017). Evolutionary psychology and the emotions. In V. Zeigler-Hill and T.K. Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Personality and Individual Differences*. New York: Springer.
- Dietrich, A. & **Al-Shawaf, L.** (in press). The transient hypofrontality theory of altered states of consciousness. *Journal of Consciousness Studies*.
- Lewis, D. M. G., Russell, E. M., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Ta, V., Senveli, Z., Ickes, W., & Buss, D. M. (2017). Why women wear high heels: Evolution, lumbar curvature, and attractiveness. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *8*, 1875. <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2017.01875>
- Lewis, D.M.G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Conroy-Beam, D., Asao, K., & Buss, D. M. (2017). Evolutionary Psychology: A How-To Guide. *American Psychologist*, *72*(4), 353-373.
- Lewis, D.M.G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Janiak, M., & Akunebu, S. (2018). Integrating molecular genetics and evolutionary psychology: Sexual jealousy and the androgen receptor (AR) gene. *Personality and Individual Differences*, *120*, 276-282.
- Sell, A., Sznycer, D., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Lim, J., Krauss, A., Feldman, A., Rascanu, R., Sugiyama, L., Cosmides, L., & Tooby, J. (2017). The grammar of anger: Mapping the computational architecture of a recalibrational emotion. *Cognition*, *168*, 110-128.
- Sznycer, D., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Bereby-Meyer, Y., Curry, O. S., De Smet, D., Ermer, E., Kim, S., Kim, S., Li, N. P., Lopez Seal, M. F., McClung, J., O, J., Ohtsubo, Y., Quillien, T., Schaub, M., Sell, A., van Leeuwen, F., Cosmides, L., Tooby, J. (2017). Cross-cultural regularities in the cognitive architecture of pride. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *114*(8), 1874-1879.
- Lewis, D., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, & Anderson, M. (2017). Contemporary evolutionary psychology and the evolution of intelligence. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, *40*, E210.
doi:10.1017/S0140525X16001692
- Al-Shawaf, L.** (2016). The evolutionary psychology of hunger. *Appetite*, *105*, 591-595.

- Al-Shawaf, L.** (2016). Could there be a male commitment skepticism bias and a female sexual overperception bias? Novel hypotheses based on Error Management Theory. *Evolutionary Psychological Science*, doi 10.1007/s40806-016-0052-x
- Al-Shawaf, L.,** Conroy-Beam, D., Asao, K., & Buss, D.M. (2015). Human emotions: An evolutionary psychological perspective. *Emotion Review*, 1-14.
- Al-Shawaf, L.,** Lewis, D.M.G., & Buss, D.M. (2015). Disgust and mating strategy. *Evolution & Human Behavior*, 36, 199-205.
- Al-Shawaf, L.,** Lewis, D.M.G., Alley, T. R., & Buss, D.M. (2015). Mating strategy, disgust, and food neophobia. *Appetite*, 85, 30-35.
- Al-Shawaf, L.,** & Lewis, D.M.G. (2013). Exposed intestines and contaminated cooks: Sex, stress, & satiation predict disgust sensitivity. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 54, 698-702.
- Al-Shawaf, L.,** & Buss, D. M. (2011). Evolutionary psychology and Bayesian modeling. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 34, 188-189.
- Lewis, D.M.G., *Russell, E., ***Al-Shawaf, L.,** and Buss, D.M. (2015). Lumbar curvature: A previously undiscovered standard of attractiveness. *Evolution & Human Behavior*, 36(5), 345-350.
*The second and third author made equal contributions to the manuscript.
- Lewis, D.M.G., **Al-Shawaf, L.,** & Yilmaz, C (2015). The Openness-calibration hypothesis. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 81, 53-60.
- Lewis, D.M.G., **Al-Shawaf, L.,** Russell, E.M., & Buss, D.M. (2015). Friends and happiness: An evolutionary perspective on friendship. In M. Demir (Ed.), *Friendship and Happiness*, pp.37-57. Springer.
- Lewis, D.M.G., **Al-Shawaf, L.,** Conroy-Beam, D., Asao, K., & Buss, D.M. (2012). Friends with benefits II: Mating activation in opposite-sex friendship as a function of sociosexual orientation and relationship status. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 53, 622-628.
- Lewis, D. M., Conroy-Beam, D., **Al-Shawaf, L.,** Raja, A., DeKay, W. T., Buss, D. M., & Stone, V. (2011). Friends with benefits: The evolved psychology of same- and opposite-sex friendship. *Evolutionary Psychology*, 9(4): 543-563.

Grants Submitted (with collaborators)

1. "Health Awareness and Diseases of Affluence: A Multi-Regional Survey (Germany, Jordan, Iraq, Oman, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates)", 2016, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). *Status: funded. Amount awarded: 29,970 Euros.*
2. "Educational Reforms: Inclusiveness, Interdisciplinarity and Progress", 2016, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). *Status: funded. Amount awarded: 13,370 Euros.*

3. "Math Olympiad Camp", 2016, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). *Status: funded. Amount awarded: 20,120 Euros.*
4. "AGYA Math Olympiad Camp 2", 2019, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). *Status: funded. Amount awarded: 24,675 Euros.*
5. "The Effects of Hunger on Cognition and Perception", 2018, University of Colorado – Colorado Springs. *Status: funded. Amount awarded: \$4,000 USD.*
6. "The Effect of Anosmia on Mate Selection and Attachment", 2018, University of Colorado – Colorado Springs. *Status: not funded.*
7. "Deception and Lying in the Mating Arena", 2018, University of Colorado – Colorado Springs. *Status: not funded.*

Grants in Preparation

1. "Empowering young women in the Arab world through scholarly female role models", in preparation, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). *Status: in preparation. Amount requested: 12,430 Euros.*
2. "Phi Research and Innovation Summit", 2019, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). *Status: in preparation. Amount requested: 20,000 Euros.*
3. "What is the most effective way to reduce people's meat consumption?", 2020, Animal Charity Evaluators. *Status: in preparation. Amount requested: \$30,000 USD.*

Submitted Manuscripts

- Ghossainy, M.E., **Al-Shawaf, L.** & Woolley, J.D. Detecting deception: The role of nonverbal behavior in children's decisions of trust. *Manuscript submitted.*
- Lewis, D. M. G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Russell, E. M., & Buss, D. M.. The lumbar curvature hypothesis: Discriminative tests. *Manuscript submitted.*
- Lewis, D. M. G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Russell, E. M., & Buss, D. M.. Lordosis behavior in human females. *Manuscript submitted.*

Manuscripts in Preparation

- Al-Shawaf, L.**, Lewis, D.M.G., & Buss, D. M. Error management theory and the discovery of novel human biases. *Manuscript in preparation.*

Undergraduate Publications (Philosophy)

- Al-Shawaf, L. (2009). Enumerative induction as a subset of inference to the best explanation. *Lyceum*, 10, 2.

Al-Shawaf, L. (2009). Anti-Realism: Fundamentally flawed and inescapably incoherent. *Think*, 1, 9-16.

Summer Research Institutes

International Society for Human Ethology (ISHE) Summer Institute. Athens, Greece, May 13-17, 2015.

University of Texas Summer Statistics Institute. "Introduction to Data Analysis and Graphics Using R." Department of Statistics & Data Sciences, May 19-22, 2014.

International Society for Human Ethology (ISHE) Summer Institute. University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, August 6-9, 2013.

University of Texas Summer Statistics Institute. "Structural Equation Modeling." Division of Statistics & Scientific Computation, May 20-23, 2013.

Max Planck Summer Institute on Bounded Rationality. Center for Adaptive Behavior & Cognition, Max Planck Institute for Human Development. Berlin, 2012.

Conference Presentations

Al-Shawaf, L., & Williquette, H. (2019). Why do (some) women wear choker necklaces?. *Talk presented at the Human Behavior and Evolution Society (HBES) conference, Boston, USA.*

Al-Shawaf, L., & Williquette, H. (2019). Why do (some) women wear choker necklaces?. *Talk presented at the World Association for Personality Psychology (WAPP) conference, Hanoi, Vietnam.*

Mikloušić, I., **Al Shawaf, L.**, Hrkaločić, T.M. (2017). I'm big on Instagram: The effect of number of followers on perceived status and physical attractiveness. *Annual meeting of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Boise, USA.*

Al-Shawaf, L. (2016). Using evolutionary biology to inform philosophy. *Seminar presented at the Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin, Germany.*

Al-Shawaf, L., Lewis, D. M. G., & Buss, D. M. (2015). Disgust and short-term mating. *Talk presented at the International Society for Human Ethology, Athens, Greece.*

Al-Shawaf, L., Lewis, D. M. G., & Buss, D. M. (2014). Mating strategy predicts sexual disgust. *Data blitz talk presented at the evolutionary psychology preconference at SPSP, Austin, TX.*

Al-Shawaf, L., Buss, D. M., Chang, L., Kennair, L. E. O., Lewis, D. M. G., Negrodo, A. M., & DeBruine, L. (2013). Women's anti-coercion psychology: Evidence from Norway, Spain, and China. *Poster accepted for presentation at the 25th annual HBES conference, Miami, FL.*

Al-Shawaf, L., Lewis, D. M. G., & Buss, D. M. (2012). Down-regulated sexual disgust facilitates the pursuit of an uncommitted mating strategy. *Talk presented at the ISHE summer research institute, Ann Arbor, MI.*

Al-Shawaf, L., & Lewis, D. M. G. (2012). Contaminated cooks and exposed intestines: Sex, stress, and satiation interact to predict disgust sensitivity. *Talk presented at the 6th annual NEEPS conference, Plymouth, NH.*

Al-Shawaf, L., & Lewis, D. M. G. (2012). Exposed intestines and contaminated cooks: Sex, stress, and satiation interact to predict disgust sensitivity. *Talk presented at the 24th annual HBES conference, Albuquerque, NM.*

Al-Shawaf, L., & Lewis, D. M. G. (2012). Exposed intestines and contaminated cooks: Sex, stress, and satiation interact to predict disgust sensitivity. *Poster presented at the 11th annual Max Planck Summer Institute on Bounded Rationality, Berlin, Germany.*

Lewis, D. M., Conroy-Beam, D., Raja, A., & **Al-Shawaf, L.** (2011). Coalitions, mates, and friends: The evolutionary psychology of relationship preferences. *Poster presented at the 9th annual SPSP Evolutionary Psychology Pre-Conference, San Antonio, TX.*

Conroy-Beam, D., Asao, K., **Al-Shawaf, L., Lewis, D.M.G., Buss, D.M.,** (2012). One man's displeasure is another man's treasure: A model emotion by participant sex interaction in mate copying. *Poster presented at the 24th annual Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Albuquerque, NM.*

Teaching Experience and Employment

Consulting

2012-2013 *Independent scientific consultant, Intellidate, Inc.*

Instructorship Positions

2015 *Instructor, Evolutionary Psychology, the American University of Beirut (AUB)*
 2015 *Instructor, Cognitive Science, the American University of Beirut (AUB)*
 2015 *Instructor, Cognitive Psychology, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)*
 2014 *Instructor, Cognitive Psychology, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)*
 2013 *Instructor, Cognitive Psychology, Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (CTY)*
 2013 *Seminar Director, Evolutionary Biology & The Human Mind, SAGE Division of Continuing & Innovative Education, University of Texas at Austin*

University of Texas Teaching Assistantships and Lab Instructorships

2009-2014 *Cognition, Emotion, Introduction to Psychology, Statistics and Research Methods, Psychology of Sex, Evolutionary Psychology*

Tutoring Experience

2008-9	Private Tutor	Psychology, Logic
2007	Private Tutor	Psychology, Philosophy

Service

2018-Present	Psychological Science Faculty Search Committee, UCCS
2018-2019	Rosa Parks & Cesar Chavez Scholarship Committee (meets in Spring 2019), UCCS
2017-Present	Advisory Board, UCCS Museum of Cognitive Archeology & Human Evolution
2017-Present	Master's Program in Psychological Science Admissions Committee, UCCS
2017-Present	Psychological Science Undergraduate Studies Committee, UCCS
2011-2014	<i>Graduate student adviser</i> , undergraduate honors theses in psychology, UT-Austin
2011-2012	<i>Mentor</i> , Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) Pre-Grad Internship program, UT-Austin

Affiliations and Review

Reviewer – National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant Proposal

Reviewer – Trends in Cognitive Sciences

Reviewer – Cognition & Emotion

Reviewer – Evolution & Human Behavior

Reviewer – Human Nature

Reviewer – Adaptive Human Behavior and Physiology

Reviewer – Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences

Reviewer – Evolutionary Psychological Science

Reviewer – Psychology of Popular Media and Culture

Reviewer – Personality and Individual Differences

Reviewer – Journal of Personality

Member – American Psychological Society

Member – Human Behavior and Evolution Society

Member – Psi Chi, Psychology honor society

Member – Phi Kappa Phi, pan-academic honor society

Co-founder & former Recruitment Manager – Initiative for Cooperative Action & Dialogue
(Lebanese NGO, organized 1st Lebanese International Model UN conference)

Former Vice President – AUB International Model United Nations Society

Co-founder & former Vice President – AUB Freethought Society

Member – The Heterodox Academy

Member – The Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)

Member in Charge – AGYA Education Working Group

Academic Advisor – Ideas Beyond Borders

Advisor – University of Colorado Museum of Cognitive Archaeology and Human Evolution

Technical Skills

R, SAS, SPSS, Microsoft Office

Language Skills

English – native

Arabic – fluent
French – advanced

References

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