

Laith Al-Shawaf

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

- 2017-Present *Assistant Professor*
- Department of Psychology
 - University of Colorado – Colorado Springs
- Advisory Committee*
- University of Colorado Museum of Cognitive Archaeology and Human Evolution
- 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

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 *Award for Creative Novel Hypothesis* (Evolutionary Psychology seminar)

2013 *Professional Development Award* (The University of Texas at Austin)

2012 *Award for Creative Novel Hypothesis* (Evolutionary Psychology seminar)

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."

Grants (co-awarded with collaborators)

"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). 25,000 Euros.

"Educational Reforms: Inclusiveness, Interdisciplinarity and Progress", 2016, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). 25,000 Euros.

"International Math Olympiad Camp: Using Psychology to Improve Teaching and Learning", 2016, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). 20,150 Euros.

Publications

Al-Shawaf, L., & Lewis, D.M.G. (in press). The Handicap Principle. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*.

Al-Shawaf, L., & Zreik, K. A. (in press). Richard Dawkins on Constraints on Natural Selection. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary*

Psychological Science.

- Dietrich, A. & **Al-Shawaf, L.** (in press). The Transient Hypofrontality Theory of Altered States of Consciousness. *Journal of Consciousness Studies*.
- Al-Shawaf, L.**, Lewis, D.M.G., & Buss, D. M (in press). Sex differences in disgust: Why are women more easily disgusted than men? *Emotion Review*.
- 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*. Springer.
- Lewis, D. M. G., Russell, E. M., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Senveli, Z., Ickes, W., & Buss, D. M. (in press.) Why women wear high heels: Evolution, lumbar curvature, and attractiveness. *Frontiers in Psychology*.
- Lewis, D.M.G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Conroy-Beam, D., Asao, K., & Buss, D. M. (in press). Evolutionary Psychology: A How-To Guide. *American Psychologist*.
- Lewis, D.M.G., **Al-Shawaf, L.**, Janiak, M., & Akunebu, S. (in press). Integrating molecular genetics and evolutionary psychology: Sexual jealousy and the androgen receptor (AR) gene. *Personality and Individual Differences*.
- 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. (in press). Cross-cultural regularities in the cognitive architecture of pride. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.
- Lewis, D.M.G., Anderson, M., & **Al-Shawaf, L.**, (in press). Contemporary evolutionary psychology and the evolution of intelligence. Commentary on Burkhardt et al. (2016). *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.
- 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.

Manuscripts under Review

- Al-Shawaf, L.,** Lewis, D.M.G., and Buss, D.M. Experimentally inducing disgust reduces desire for short-term mating. *Manuscript under review.*
- Al-Shawaf, L.,** & Lewis, D.M.G. The Importance of Context in Evolutionary Psychology. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science. Manuscript under review.*
- Zreik, K. A. & **Al-Shawaf, L.** Twelve Misunderstandings of Natural Selection. In T.K. Shackelford and V.A. Weekes-Shackelford (Eds.). *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science. Manuscript under review.*
- Ghossainy, M. E., **Al-Shawaf, L.** & Woolley, J. D. Detecting deception: The role of nonverbal behavior in children's decisions of trust. *Manuscript under review.*
- Alley, T. R., & **Al-Shawaf, L.** Hunger and family size do not predict disgust or food neophobia. *Manuscript under review.*
- Lewis, D. M. G., **Al-Shawaf, L.,** Russell, E. M., & Buss, D. M.. Lumbar curvature as a novel standard of attractiveness? A replication attempt and additional tests of the hypothesis. *Manuscript under review.*

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.*

Al-Shawaf, L., Buss, D.M., Chang, L., DeBruine, L., Kennair, L.E.O., Lewis, D.M.G., & Negredo, A.M. Women's defenses against sexual coercion: Evidence from Norway, Spain, and China. *Manuscript in preparation.*

Al-Shawaf, L., & Carter, G. How do the Dark Triad traits relate to fear, anger, disgust, and happiness? *Manuscript in preparation.*

Lewis, D.M.G., & **Al-Shawaf, L.** Not erotic, so neurotic? Mate value, infidelity, and neuroticism as an evolved response to social exclusion. *Manuscript in preparation.*

Lewis, D.M.G., & **Al-Shawaf, L.** The evolutionary psychology of sexual exploitation: Implications for preventing rape. *Manuscript in preparation.*

Mann, F.D., Carlson, M. M., **Al-Shawaf, L.,** Tucker-Drob, E., & Harden, P. Human life history: A longitudinal and behavioral genetic analysis. *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. (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., Negredo, 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

2011-Present *Graduate student adviser*, undergraduate honors theses in psychology
2011-2012 *Mentor*, UT Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) Pre-Grad Internship program

Affiliations and Review

Reviewer – NSF Grant Proposal 1551938
Reviewer – Evolution & Human Behavior
Reviewer – Cognition & Emotion
Reviewer – Personality and Individual Differences
Reviewer – Human Nature
Reviewer – Adaptive Human Behavior and Physiology
Reviewer – Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences
Reviewer – Evolutionary Psychological Science
Member – Psi Chi, Psychology honor society
Member – Phi Kappa Phi, pan-academic honor society
Member – American Psychological Society
Member – Human Behavior and Evolution 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
Elected Member – The Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)
Member in Charge – AGYA Education Working Group

Technical Skills

R, SAS, SPSS, Microsoft Office

Language Skills

English – native
Arabic – fluent

French – advanced

References

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