

BAO HAN L. TRAN

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EDUCATION

M.S., Experimental Psychology with Quantitative Statistics Minor	2024 - Present
Texas Christian University	
Thesis Title: Exchanging Meaning for Time: The existential costs of time scarcity. (in prep).	
Masters Advisor: Dr. Cathy R. Cox	
B.S., Psychology with Philosophy Minor	2022
University of Houston	
Magna Cum Laude, Dean's List	

AREAS OF INTERESTS

Social Cognition; Existentialism; Time Perspective/Perception; Temporal Stress; Social Rejection; Women's Health; Racial Bias; Metaphoric Language; Mental Imagery; Religion

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant & Lab Manager	2024 – Present
<i>Existential Social Psychology Lab, Dr. Cathy R. Cox, Texas Christian University</i>	
• Lead research projects on time perspective, perception, temporal rootedness, and well-being	
• Manage collaborative projects with external researchers and hospital facilities	
• Mentor a team of research assistants, providing training in research design, Institutional Review Board (IRB) preparation, in-lab data collection, introductory data analysis, and grant writing	
Project Manager	2023 – 2024
<i>Black Lives Matter: Psychological, Social, & Societal, Perla Henderson, University of Houston</i>	
• Compiled lists of BLM subreddits to investigate political and social justice attitudes	
• Monitored the University of Houston's student participant credit management system (<i>SONA Systems</i>) to ensure accuracy and integrity of data collection	
• Conducted extensive literature review and contribute to publication's introduction	
• Identified project progress and challenges to report to Principal Investigator	
• Processed, interpreted, and discussed data results from <i>RStudio</i>	
Undergraduate Research Assistant	2021 – 2024
<i>Personality, Emotion, and Social Cognition Lab, Dr. Adam K. Fetterman, University of Houston</i>	

- Methodized and presented potential research projects about visual perception, mental transportation, fourth wall perspective, and temporal rootedness for consideration
- Consulted with graduate students to prepare IRB protocols, informed consent, participant recruitment statements, and analyze relevant literature for manuscript drafts
- Constructed *Qualtrics* surveys for remote and in-person data collection
- Trained to code metaphors in participant responses and steps of quantifying qualitative research

Undergraduate Research Assistant

2022 – 2022

1771: Genre Boundaries and Dispersion, Dr. David Mazella, University of Houston

- Investigated full cohort of writers and printers of major British Atlantic cities in 1771
- Researched writer biographies using various library databases to assemble *Excel* dataset
- Collaborated in small groups using *Microsoft Teams* with weekly check-ins
- Reflected on weekly tasks by upholding research journal

Principal Investigator under Dr. Adam K. Fetterman

2022 – 2022

Provost's Undergraduate Research Scholarship, University of Houston

- Produced detailed statement of research outlining strong objective of studying visual perspective and relation to nostalgia and mental transportation on mental well-being
- Developed research method and design with IRB clearance to conduct human subject study
- Designed remote contingency plan in consideration of COVID-19 and utilized online surveys
- Processed and analyzed data using *Excel* and *RStudio* to create visual aids (data tables & graphs)
- Consulted with mentor bi-monthly to monitor progress and outline future tasks
- Maintained accurate and organized project documents, datasets, and research reports

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

2025 – Present

Social Psychology Writing-Emphasis Course, Texas Christian University

- Read and provide detailed feedback on writing assignments (15 - 20 pages) for class of 15 students
- Guest-lecture classes on time perspective theory and perception research in social psychology

FELLOWSHIPS & FUNDING

Grants Under Review:

Funder: International Society for the Science of Existential Psychology

2025

Title: Exchanging Meaning for Time: The existential costs of time scarcity.

PI: Bao Han L. Tran

CoPI: Dr. Cathy R. Cox

Grants in Preparation:

Funder: National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities

2026

Title: The effects of aloneness on maternal health and infant bonding.

PI: Bao Han L. Tran

CoPI: Dr. Cathy R. Cox

CoPI: Dr. Erin VanEkanvort

Unfunded Grants:**Funder: International Society for the Science of Existential Psychology Grant**

2023

Title: Understanding true self time orientation and well-being in older adults.

PI: Bao Han L. Tran

CoPI: Dr. Joshua A. Hicks

Fellowships:

TCU Ida M. Green Fellowship	\$26,000	2024
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Research & Merit Scholarships:

Patience in Adversity Early-Career Fellowship Award	\$1,000	2025
TCU Stipends To Attract Remarkable Students	\$18,000	2024
UH Psi Chi Model Chapter Award	\$100	2022
UH Provost Undergraduate Research Scholarship	\$1,000	2021
UH Undergraduate Institutional Grant	\$2,862	2021
UH Transfer Excellence Scholarship	\$1,000	2020
Cy-Fair Educational Foundation Scholarship	\$1,000	2019

Travel Awards:

SPSP Graduate Registration Stipend	\$199	2025
TCU Graduate Student Travel Awards	\$2,400	2024 - 2025
ISSEP Undergraduate Student Conference Award	\$75	2023

PUBLICATIONS

*Undergraduate student under my mentorship

†These authors contributed equally

Published:Fetterman, A. K., Evans, N. D., Ravey, E. P., Henderson, P. R., **Tran, B. L.**, & Boyd, R. L. (2024).*The Topics of Nostalgic Recall: The benefits of nostalgia depend on the topics that one recalls.* Social Psychological and Personality Science**Under Review:**Espinosa, M., Bui, T. B.†, **Tran Nguyen, B. L.†**, & Cox., C. R. (under review). *Existential isolation and dehumanizing self-perceptions*. Department of Psychology, Texas Christian University.

Henderson, P. R., **Tran Nguyen, B. L.**, Harris, C., Lapish, C., Vail., K. E., & Fetterman, A. K. (under review). *Activism Imagery and Cues for Meaning in Life: Evidence from Black Lives Matter Stimuli*. Department of Psychology, University of Houston.

Ravey, E. P., Evans, N. D., Meier, B.P., Harris, C.†, Kharbanda, K.†, **Tran Nguyen, B. L.†**, & Fetterman, A. K. (under review). *In the Name of the Father: Endorsing fatherly metaphors for God predicts religious rule following, perceived parental control, and secure attachment to God*. Department of Psychology, University of Houston.

Xiao, J., Bui, T. B.†, **Tran Nguyen, B. L.†**, Cox., C. R., Sease, T. B., & Ekas, N. V. (under review). *Mattering and mental health in higher education: The mediating roles of burnout, stress, and frustration*. Department of Psychology, Texas Christian University.

In Preparation:

Espinosa, M., Ansley, O.*, **Tran Nguyen, B. L.**, & Cox, C. (in prep) *Social dominance orientation and prejudice prototypes*. Department of Psychology, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX.

Sease, T. B., Tran Nguyen, B. L., Cox, C. R. (in prep). *The pain of the present: Associations between anticipatory nostalgia and self-harm inclination*. Department of Psychology, Texas Christian University.

Swets, J. A., Bui, T. B., **Tran Nguyen, B. L.**, Espinosa, M., & Cox, C. R. (in prep). *Associations between nostalgia, forgiveness, and intimate partner violence*. Department of Psychology, Texas Christian University.

PRESENTATIONS

*Undergraduate student under my mentorship

Tran Nguyen, B. L., Gillespie, N. F., Hundley, O. H.*, Cox, C. R. (2026). *Home in Time? A first look at how we experience temporal rootedness*. [Poster presentation] To be presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.

Ansley, O.*, **Tran Nguyen, B. L.**, Cox, C. R. (2026). *The effects of I-sharing with same and opposite sex partners on sexist beliefs in men*. [Poster presentation] To be presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, United States.

Bynum, B. J.*, **Tran, B. L.**, Cox, C. R. (2025). *Empathizing with Black Mothers: The relationship between racial bias and maternal mortality*. [Poster presentation] Texas Christian University Research and Creative Activities Poster Session, Fort Worth, TX, United States.

Holden, M.*, Xiao, J., **Tran, B. L.**, Bui, T., & Cox, C. R. (2025). *Associations between mattering and dissatisfaction in graduate students and faculty*. [Poster presentation] Texas Christian University Research and Creative Activities Poster Session, Fort Worth, TX, United States.

Tran, B. L. & Cox, C. R. (2025). *Bleeding Votes: The power of period imagery in politics*. [Poster presentation] Texas Christian University Student Research Symposium, Fort Worth, TX, United States.

Dahmen, J.* , Bui, T. B., **Tran, B. L.**, & Cox., C. R. (2025). *When Yesterday Haunts Tomorrow: The ineffective anxiety-buffering mechanisms on well-being and psychological disorders in traumatized individuals.* [Poster presentation] Texas Christian University Student Research Symposium, Fort Worth, TX, United States.

Tran, B. L., Espinosa, M., Wrucke, M.* & Cox, C. R. (2025). *Time Heals All Wounds: How time perception influences recovery from social pain.* [Poster presentation] Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Denver, CO, United States.

Tran, B. L., Sease, T. B., & Cox, C. R. (2024). *Let Go and Let God: The psychological benefits of state of surrender.* [Poster presentation] Texas Christian University Research and Creative Activities Poster Session, Fort Worth, TX, United States.

Tran, B. L. & Fetterman, A. K. (2024). *Existing in Time, with Company: Exploring the social and temporal variables that lead to existential well-being.* [Poster presentation] Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Existential Psychology Preconference, San Diego, CA, United States.

Henderson, P. R., **Tran, B. L.**, Harris, C., Vail., K. E., Lapish, C., Fetterman, A. K. (2024). *The Impact of Black Lives Matter: Psychological, social, & societal.* [Symposium] Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Diego, CA, United States.

Tran, B. L., Evans, N. D., & Fetterman, A. K. (2023). *Visual Perspective: A possible moderator for nostalgia & mental transportation.* [Poster presentation] Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, GA, United States.

Henderson, P. R., Machado, M. F., Harris, C., **Tran, B. L.** & Fetterman, A. (2023). *Black Lives Matter: Exploring meaning-making through social justice imagery.* [Data blitz] Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Existential Psychology Preconference, Atlanta, GA, United States.

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORSHIP

Provide ongoing mentorship and supervision of 15 - 20 research assistants each semester in the Existential Social Psychology Lab, and serve as primary mentor to the following undergraduate research assistants as they designed independent research projects, prepared grant proposals, and successfully obtained internal funding:

Olivia Hundley (2025), *Temporal Rootedness Themes.* TCU College of Science & Engineering Student Research Award. Amount: \$1,440.00. (under review).

Ollie Ansley (2025), *The Effects Of I-Sharing With Same And Opposite Sex Partners On Sexist Beliefs In Men.* TCU College of Science & Engineering Student Research Award. Amount: \$1,495.20. (under review).

Roselyn Tentzohua (2025), *The Effects Of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder On Mortality Salience And Religious Beliefs.* TCU College of Science & Engineering Student Research Award. Amount: \$1,487.50.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

International Society for the Science of Existential Psychology

2023 - Present

The Society for Personality and Social Psychology	2022 - Present
Psi Chi: The International Honor Society in Psychology	2021 - Present
UH Clinical Psychology Program Diversity Committee	2021 - 2023
American Psychological Association	2021 - 2022
Texas Psychological Association	2021 - 2022

SERVICE

Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention <i>Reviewer</i>	2024 - present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review poster abstracts to ensure that submissions meets the SPSP's scientific standards Score submissions for graduate student poster awards 	
UNT Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine Research Appreciation Day <i>Judge</i>	2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judged student research posters for the annual competition and provided constructive notes for improvement in science communications 	
UH Clinical Psychology Program Diversity Committee <i>Director of Outreach</i>	2021 – 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared extensively for virtual graduate student panel events and graduate school information sessions dedicated to assisting minority students in Clinical Psychology 	
UH Psi Chi <i>Secretary</i>	2021 – 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processed membership applications, facilitated fundraisers, donation drives, and in-person service, and managed psychology tutoring service by assigning sessions and awarding points to tutors Researched and partnered with local organizations to coordinate volunteer events that advocated for ending homeless in Houston, child abuse survivor aid, medical supplies for lower developed countries, animal protection, and Alzheimer's awareness and research 	
Texas Psychological Association Conference <i>Student Volunteer</i>	2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managed members' attendance and points for their professional development certificates 	

CERTIFICATION & TRAINING

Graduate Level:

SPSS, RStudio, MPlus: AVOVA, Regression, LDA, SEM, Data Visualization Present

Audit:

SMaRT Workshops: NIH Fellowship Grant Application Workshop	2025
TCU Science Communication Workshop	2025
TCU Grant Writing Course	2025
Coursera: Statistical Inferences	2024
HarvardX Data Science: R Basics Course	2022

Certifications:

CITI Program – Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research Course	2024
Improving Cultural Competency for Behavioral Health Professionals	2022
Question, Persuade, and Refer – Gatekeeper Training	2021