

Nicolle Simonovic

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EMPLOYMENT

August 2022-2024 **Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellow**, University of Haifa, Israel
Health and Risk Communication Research Center, School of Public Health

EDUCATION

May 2022 **Ph.D., Psychological Science**, Kent State University, Ohio, United States
Dual specialization in Social Psychology and Health Psychology

August 2020 **M.A., Psychological Science**, Kent State University, Ohio, United States
Dual specialization in Social Psychology and Health Psychology

May 2016 **B.S., Psychological Science**, *summa cum laude*, John Carroll University, Ohio, United States
Specialization in Mental Health Services

AWARDS, HONORS, AND RECOGNITION

Spring 2022 US Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholarship Award
Spring 2022 Zuckerman STEM Leadership Postdoctoral Scholarship Award (Declined)
Fall 2021 Graduate Student Paper Award, Kent State University Applied Psychology Center
Summer 2021 Excellent Trainee Newsletter Feature, Society of Behavioral Medicine HDM SIG
Summer 2021 Emerging Student Leader Award, Society for Health Psychology
Spring 2020 Finalist, Psychological Science Accelerator Call for Rapid and Impactful COVID-19 Studies
Spring 2016 DiCaprio Award for Distinguished Graduate in Psychological Science, John Carroll University
Spring 2016 Psychological Science Scholastic Achievement, John Carroll University
Spring 2016 Research Recognition Award, John Carroll University
Spring 2015 Outstanding Student Leader Award, John Carroll University
Spring 2014 Outstanding Student Leader Award, John Carroll University
2012-2016 Dean's List Achievements, John Carroll University
2012-2016 Leadership Scholarship Award, John Carroll University

RESEARCH FUNDING

Spring 2022 \$11,400 Zuckerman STEM Leadership Postdoctoral Research Funding (Declined with award)
Fall 2021 \$1000 Lasser Graduate Psychology Research Award, Kent State University
Fall 2021 \$2000 Graduate Student Senate Research Award, Kent State University
Fall 2020 \$200 Graduate Student Senate Book Award, Kent State University
Fall 2020 \$500 Graduate Student Research Award, Kent State University Applied Psychology Center
Fall 2019 \$750 Lasser Graduate Psychology Research Award, Kent State University
Spring 2016 \$250 Student Research Grant, John Carroll University

TRAVEL FUNDING

Spring 2021 \$60 (Virtual Conference) Domestic Travel Award, Kent State University
Summer 2020 \$1500 International Travel Award, Kent State University
Spring 2020 \$500 Domestic Travel Award, Kent State University
Summer 2019 \$1500 International Travel Award, Kent State University

Summer 2019 \$500 Domestic Travel Award, Kent State University
 Fall 2018 \$1000 Special Contingency Travel Award, Kent State University

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Simonovic, N.**, Taber, J. M., Scherr, C., Dean, M., Hua, J., Howell, J., Chaudry, B., Wain, K., & Politi, M. (2022). Uncertainty in health decision making: Five methodological and conceptual recommendations from an interdisciplinary team. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10865-022-00384-5>
- Legate, N., Nguyen, T. T., Weinstein, N....**Simonovic, N.**, Taber, J.M.... (2022). A global experiment on motivating social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. *PNAS*. This study was conducted through the Psychological Science Accelerator and has 100+ authors. Our lab contributed to data collection and provided feedback on the manuscript. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.211109111>
- Thompson, C. A., Taber, J. M., Sidney, P. G., Fitzsimmons, C. J., Mielicki, M. K., Matthews, P. G., Schemmel, E. A., **Simonovic, N.**, Foust, J. L., Aurora, P., Disabato, D. J., Seah, T. H. S., Schiller, L. K., & Coifman, K. G. (2021). Math matters: A novel, brief educational intervention decreases whole number bias when reasoning about COVID-19. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, 27(4), 632–656. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xap0000403>
- Simonovic, N.**, & Taber, J. M. (2021). Psychological impact of ambiguous health messages about COVID-19. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*. Advance Online Publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10865-021-00266-2>
- Simonovic, N.**, & Taber, J. M. (2021). Effects of construal level on responses to ambiguous health information about alcohol consumption. *Health Communication*, 2, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2021.1945197>
- Wang, K., Goldenberg, A., Dorison, C.A....**Simonovic, N.**, Taber, J.M.... (2021). A multi-country test of brief reappraisal interventions on emotions during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Nature Human Behavior*. This study was conducted through the Psychological Science Accelerator and has 400+ authors. Our lab contributed to data collection and provided feedback on the manuscript. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-021-01173-x>
- Coifman, K. G., Disabato, D. J., Aurora, P., Seah, T. H. S., Mitchell, B., **Simonovic, N.**, Foust, J. L., Sidney, P. G., Thompson, C. A., & Taber, J. M. (2021). What drives preventive health behavior during a global pandemic? Emotions and worry. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 55(8), 791-804. <https://doi.org/10.1093/abm/kaab048>
- Simonovic, N.**, Taber, J. M., Klein, W. M. P., & Ferrer, R. A. (2020). Evidence that perceiving and being averse to medical ambiguity are distinct constructs: An analysis of nationally representative U.S. data. *Health Expectations*, 23(3), 603-613. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.13037>
- Taber, J. M., McQueen, A., **Simonovic, N.**, & Waters, E. A. (2019). Adapting a self-affirmation intervention for use in a mobile application for smokers. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 42, 1050-1061. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10865-019-00028-1>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- Cheng, I., Taber, J. T., **Simonovic, N.**, Coifman, K., Sidney, P., & Thompson, C. (Under Review). The associations of worldviews, political orientation, and trust with COVID-19 risk beliefs among U.S. participants.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- Simonovic, N.**, & Taber, J. M. (In Prep). Examining the relationship between perceived ambiguity and predictors of health behavior across three contexts: The COVID-19 pandemic, antibiotic regimens, and e-cigarette use.

Simonovic, N., Taber, J. M., & Scherr, C. (In Prep). Advancing research on ambiguity in health contexts.

Simonovic, N., & Taber, J. M. (In Prep). Perceptions of ambiguity about cigarettes and e-cigarettes among users and non-users.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Taber, J. M., **Simonovic, N.,** Foust, J. L., & O'Brien, A. (2021). Beliefs and health. In Gurung, R. A. R. (Ed.). *Routledge Encyclopedia of Psychology in the Real World*. Routledge.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Simonovic, N. (April, 2023). The role of ambiguity in health decisions. Oral Presentation at the School of Public Health Departmental Seminar, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel.

Simonovic, N. (December, 2022). Examining psychological determinants of and cultural factors involved in vaccine hesitancy. Oral Presentation at the Fulbright Program Seminar for Postdoctoral Fellows, Jerusalem, Israel.

Taber, J. M., **Simonovic, N.,** O'Brien, A. G., Foust, J. L., Coifman, K. G., Thompson, C. A. (April, 2022). Risk beliefs and COVID-19 vaccination among U.S. adults: A prospective study. Oral Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Baltimore, MD.

Simonovic, N., & Taber, J. M. (July, 2021). Perceived ambiguity about cigarettes and e-cigarettes: Associations with risk perceptions and use. Oral Presentation at the International Congress of Psychology, Virtual Conference.

Simonovic, N., & Taber, J. M. (May, 2021). Examining a “normalized-uncertainty” intervention for ambiguous health messages about COVID-19. Oral Presentation at the Association for Psychological Science, Virtual Conference.

Simonovic, N. (April, 2021). The role of ambiguity in health decisions. Oral Presentation at the Psychological Science Brownbag, Kent State University, Virtual Conference.

Simonovic, N., & Taber, J. M. (July, 2020). Smokers' defensive behavior to tobacco control as a perspective gap in healthcare. 4th Annual Conference of the Center for the Study of Medical Decision Making, Kiryat Ono, Israel. (Conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Simonovic, N., Taber, J. M., Klein, W. M. P., & Ferrer, R. A. (May, 2019). Perceiving and being averse to medical ambiguity: Associations with cancer perceptions. Oral presentation at the National Cancer Institutes' Health Information National Trends Survey Data Users Conference, Bethesda, MD.

Simonovic, N., & Taber, J. M. (November, 2018). Smoker stigmatization and reactance following a recently implemented tobacco free policy. Oral presentation at the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics 13th World Conference: Bioethics, Medical Ethics, and Health Law, Jerusalem, Israel. Co-chair of the session.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Simonovic, N., & Taber, J. M. (February, 2023). Examining the relationship between perceived ambiguity and predictors of health behavior across three contexts: The COVID-19 pandemic, antibiotic regimens, and e-cigarette use. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Atlanta, Georgia.

Simonovic, N., & Taber, J. M. (February, 2021). Effects of construal level on responses to ambiguous health information about alcohol consumption. Poster presentation at the annual meetings of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Virtual Conference.

Simonovic, N., Taber, J. M. (April, 2020). Perceptions of ambiguity about cigarettes and e-cigarettes among users and non-users. Poster presentation at Society of Behavioral Medicine's 41st Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions, San Francisco, CA. (Conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic).

Simonovic, N., Taber, J. M. (February, 2020). Self-moralization higher among cigarette than e-cigarette users. Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, New Orleans, LA.

Taber, J. M., McQueen, A., **Simonovic, N.,** & Waters, E.A. (February, 2019). Adapting a self-affirmation intervention for use in a mobile application: Smokers who self-affirm report greater intentions to smoke. Poster presented at the Annual Meetings of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, OR.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2022	Course Instructor, Kent State University Social Psychology
Fall 2021	Course Instructor, Kent State University Social Psychology
Summer 2021	Course Instructor, Kent State University Research Methods
Spring 2021	Course Instructor, Kent State University Health Psychology
Fall 2020	Course Instructor, Kent State University Psychology of Everyday Life (formerly called Psychology of Adjustment; this course is based on material from social psychology, health psychology, positive psychology, and clinical psychology)
Spring 2020	Course Instructor, Kent State University <i>Honors</i> Psychology of Everyday Life
Fall 2019	Course Instructor, Kent State University Psychology of Everyday Life
Spring 2019	Course Instructor, Kent State University Career Pathways in Psychology
Spring 2016	Teaching Assistant, John Carroll University Experimental Design and Analysis in Psychology
Fall 2015	Teaching Assistant, John Carroll University Experimental Design and Analysis in Psychology

CONTINUING EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Fall 2021	Cultural Competency Workshop, Rutgers University School of Social Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended sessions on healing racialized trauma and trauma in the Jewish community
Summer 2021	Curran-Bauer Analytics, The Center for Statistical Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtained instruction through a livestream workshop on how to conduct structural equation modeling

- Spring 2021 Society for Behavioral Medicine, Annual Meeting Pre-Conference Workshop
- Received training on enhancing behavioral health research studies through qualitative methods
- Fall 2020 Graduate Professional and Academic Development, Kent State University
- Completed assessments to receive a Research Fundamentals Certification
- Summer 2020 Center for Teaching and Learning, Kent State University
- Participated in a workshop to develop strategies for remote learning including synchronous vs. asynchronous engagement, communication, collaborative work, and student accountability
- Summer 2019 Summer Institute of Advanced Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Tel Aviv University
- Completed a week-long intensive course on uncertainty in medical decision making with a focus on judgment and choice biases, expected utility theory, and decision tree models
- Spring 2018 Graduate Professional and Academic Development, Kent State University
- Attended sessions on how to expand skills in online teaching
- Fall 2017 Teaching Assistant Training Program, Kent State University
- Viewed sessions on creating a syllabus, complex conversations, and student diversity

NATIONAL SERVICE

- Fall 2023 Student Poster Award Reviewer, SPSP 2023 Conference
- Fall 2022 Outstanding Research Award Reviewer, SPSP 2023 Conference
- Fall 2021 Outstanding Research Award Reviewer, SPSP 2022 Conference
- Spring 2021 Division 8 Programming Reviewer, APA 2021 Virtual Convention
- Fall 2020-Spring 2021 Campus Representative, APA Society for Health Psychology (Division 38)
- Fall 2020 Outstanding Research Award Reviewer, SPSP 2021 Conference
- Fall 2019 Graduate Student Poster Award Reviewer, SPSP 2020 Conference

DEPARTMENTAL & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Fall 2020-Spring 2022 Special Contingency Award Review Committee, Kent State Graduate Student Senate
- Fall 2020-Spring 2021 Health Psychology Representative, Psychological Sciences Experimental Training Committee
- Fall 2020- Spring 2021 Mental Health Subcommittee, Kent State Graduate Student Senate
- Spring 2019 Special Contingency Award Review Committee, Kent State Graduate Student Senate
- Fall 2019-Spring 2021 Chair of Recruitment and Retention, Multicultural and Diversity Committee
- Fall 2018- Spring 2019 Vice Chair of Recruitment and Retention, Multicultural and Diversity Committee
- Fall 2018-Spring 2019 Health Psychology Representative, Psychological Sciences Experimental Training Committee
- Fall 2018-Spring 2019 Public Health Student Alliance, Kent State University
- Fall 2018 Health and Wellness Subcommittee, Kent State Graduate Student Senate
- Fall 2018 International Travel Award Review Committee, Kent State Graduate Student Senate
- Spring 2016 Student Representative, Director of the University Counseling Center Hiring Committee
- Spring 2016 Student Representative, Center for Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee
- Fall 2015-Spring 2016 President, John Carroll University Psychology Club
- Spring 2013-2016 Student Representative, John Carroll University Sustainability Committee
- Spring 2013 Student Representative, John Carroll University Counseling Center Advisory Committee

MENTORING

- Fall 2019-Spring 2020 Mentor, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Peer Advising Program

Fall 2018- Spring 2021 Mentor, Multicultural and Diversity Undergraduate Mentorship Program

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

*Ongoing

Spring 2021*	Association for Psychological Science
Spring 2020*	Psychological Science Accelerator
Fall 2018*	American Psychological Association
Fall 2018*	American Psychological Association of Graduate Students
Fall 2018*	Society for Health Psychology, APA Division 38
Fall 2018*	Society for Personality and Social Psychology, APA Division 8
Fall 2017*	Social and Health Area Meeting Group, Kent State University
Spring 2014*	Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology

AD HOC MANUSCRIPT REVIEWING EXPERIENCE

- Social and Personality Psychology Compass
- PLOS ONE
- Patient Education and Counseling
- Journal of Behavioral Medicine
- Health Communication

RELEVANT SKILLS AND PROFICIENCIES

- Trained with several statistical software packages and add-ons including SPSS, SAS, and SUDAAN
- Use of multiple data collection sources including Qualtrics, Medialab, Actigraph, and Mturk
- Native proficiency in English language and professional working proficiency in Hebrew language