

Xi Tian
Curriculum Vitae
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Department of Communication
University of Delaware
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. The Pennsylvania State University Communication Arts and Sciences	2021
M.S. Texas Christian University Communication Studies	2015
B.A. University of Missouri – Columbia Communication	2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-present	Assistant Professor, University of Delaware
2022-2023	Research Assistant Professor, Hong Kong Baptist University
2015-2021	Graduate Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University
2013-2015	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Texas Christian University

PUBLICATIONS

Cruz, S., Zhu, X., Smith, R. A., Dillard, J. P., Shen, L., & Tian, X. (in press). Different politics, different realities? The structure of partisan sensemaking about COVID-19. *Negotiation and Conflict Management Research*.

Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2023). The role of person-centered messages, parallel disclosures, and reactance when communicating support for parental death. *Communication Research*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00936502231200554>

Tian, X., Li, Y., & Solomon, D. H. (2023). How do qualities of supportive conversations affect heart rate variability during conversations about the death of a parent? *Health Communication*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2023.2252639>

- Dillard, J. P., Tian, X., Cruz, S., Smith, R. A., & Shen, L. (2023). Persuasive messages, social norms, and reactance: A study of masking behavior during a COVID-19 campus health campaign. *Health Communication, 38*(7), 1338-1348. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2021.2007579>
- Brisini, K., Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2023). Marital experiences and parental “highs” and “lows” when a child with autism starts school. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 53*(10), 3932-3942. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-022-05697-7>
- Shen, L., Dillard, J. P., Tian, X., Cruz, S., & Smith, R. A. (2022). The role of fatigue in a campus COVID-19 safety behaviors campaign. *American Behavioral Scientist*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00027642221124668>
- Kim, Y., Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2022). Coping with COVID-19 at the community level: Testing the predictors and outcomes of communal coping. *Journal of Community Psychology, 50*(7), 2790-2807. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22797>
- Brisini, K., Solomon, D. H., & Tian, X. (2022). Relational turbulence and openness to social network support for marital conflicts. *Western Journal of Communication, 86*(1), 83-102. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10570314.2021.1994638>
- Tian, X., Kim, Y., & Solomon, D. H. (2021). The effects of type of pronouns and hope appeals in supportive messages about COVID-19. *Journal of Language and Social Psychology, 40*(5-6), 589-601. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0261927X211044721>
- Hesse, C., Mikkelsen, A. C., & Tian, X. (2021). Affection deprivation during the COVID-19 pandemic: A panel study. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 38*(10), 2965-2984. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02654075211046587>
- Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2020). A relational turbulence theory perspective on women’s grief following miscarriage. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 37*(6), 1852-1872. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0265407520910792>
- Tian, X., Solomon, D. H., & Brisini, K. (2020). How the comforting process fails: Psychological reactance to support messages. *Journal of Communication, 70*(1), 13-34. <https://doi.org/10.1093/joc/jqz040>
- Hesse, C., & Tian, X. (2020). Affection deprivation in marital relationships: An actor-partner interdependence mediation analysis. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 37*(3), 965-985. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0265407519883697>
- Tian, X., Solomon, D. H., & Smith, R. A. (2020). A stress buffering perspective on the progression of Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency. *Health Communication, 35*(6), 747-755. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2019.1584782>

- Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2020). Grief and post-traumatic growth following miscarriage: The role of meaning reconstruction and partner supportive communication. *Death Studies*, 44(4), 237-247. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07481187.2018.1539051>
- Shen, L., LeVan, S., Quesnell, M., & Tian, X. (2020). A scale for a-holism in relational communication: Concept explication, scale development, and correlates. *The Social Science Journal*, 57(3), 350-366. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.soscij.2018.11.002>
- MacGeorge, E. L., Branch, S. E., Hill, C. C., Tian, X., Caldes, E. P., Miskovsky, M., Beaty, S., & Brinker, D. (2019). Verbal person-centeredness in interaction: Connecting micro- and macro-level operationalization. *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*, 38(2), 149-169. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0261927X18807508>
- Tian, X., Schrod, P., & Carr, K. (2016). The theory of motivated information management and post-traumatic growth: Emerging adults' uncertainty management in response to an adverse life experience. *Communication Studies*, 67(3), 280-301. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10510974.2016.1164207>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2023, November). *The role of person-centered messages, parallel disclosures, and reactance when communicating support for parental death*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, National Harbor, Maryland
- Tian, X., Li, Y., & Solomon, D. H. (2023, November). *How do qualities of supportive conversations affect heart rate variability during conversations about the death of a parent?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, National Harbor, Maryland
- Dillard, J. P., Tian, X., Cruz, S., Smith, R. A., & Shen, L. (2022, May). *Persuasive messages, social norms, and reactance: A study of masking behavior during a COVID-19 campus health campaign*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Paris, France.
- Tian, X., Kim, Y., & Solomon, D. H. (2021, November). *The effects of type of pronouns and hope appeals in supportive messages about COVID-19*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Seattle, Washington.
- Kim, Y., Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2021, April). *Coping with COVID-19 at the community Level: Testing the predictors and outcomes of communal coping*. Paper presented at the 2021 virtual conference of D. C. Health Communication Conference.
- Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2020, November). *Features of supportive messages that influence people's coping with the death of a parent*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Virtual Convention.

- Tian, X., Solomon, D. H., & Brisini, K. (2019, November). *How the comforting process fails: Psychological reactance to support messages*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Brisini, K., Solomon, D. H., & Tian, X. (2019, November). *Relational turbulence and openness to social network support for marital conflicts*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Hesse, C., & Tian, X. (2019, November). *Affection deprivation in marital relationships: An actor-partner interdependence mediation analysis*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Tian, X., Solomon, D. H., & Smith, R. A. (2019, May). *A stress buffering perspective on the progression of Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Washington, D.C.
- Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2018, November). *Grief and post-traumatic growth following miscarriage: The role of meaning reconstruction and partner supportive communication*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Tian, X., & Solomon, D. H. (2018, July). *Relational turbulence and bereaved mothers' experiences of supportive communication following a miscarriage*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Association Relationship Research conference, Fort Collins, Colorado.
- LeVan, S. Quesnell, M., Tian, X., & Shen, L. (2017, November). *Assholism in social relationships: Scale development and validation*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Dallas, Texas.
- Tian, X., & Hesse, C. (2017, April). *The role of affection in the cognitive processing, evaluation, and outcome of partner supportive communication after the loss of a loved one*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Death Education and Counselling, Portland, Oregon.
- Tian, X., Schrod, P., & Carr, K. (2016, June). *The theory of motivated information management and post-traumatic growth: Emerging adults' uncertainty management in response to an adverse life experience*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, Fukuoka, Japan.

TEACHING

Development of Pedagogical Materials

2021 Authored summaries of 23 theories for the “Connect with Theory” feature on the Companion Website for *Interpersonal Communication: Putting Theory into Practice, 2nd Edition* (By Denise Solomon and Jennifer Theiss). 10,479 words

Courses Taught at the University of Delaware

COMM 341 Theories of Interpersonal Communication

COMM 440 Relational Communication

COMM 604 Communication Research Methods: Analysis

Courses Taught at Hong Kong Baptist University

COMM 2007 Communication Research Methods

PRAD 3067 Health Communication and Information Campaigns

Courses Taught at the Pennsylvania State University

CAS 100 Effective Speech (Instructor of Record)

CAS 101 Introduction to Human Communication (Teaching Assistant)

CAS 202 Communication Theory (Teaching Assistant)

CAS 203 Interpersonal Communication (Instructor of Record)

CAS 204 Communication Research Methods (Teaching Assistant)

CAS 220 Persuasion (Instructor of Record)

CAS 271 Intercultural Communication (Teaching Assistant)

CAS 403 Interpersonal Communication Theory and Research (Instructor of Record)

CAS 405 Family Communication Theory and Research (Instructor of Record)

CAS 450 Group Communication Theory and Research (Teaching Assistant)

Course Taught at Texas Christian University

COM 10123 Basic Speech Communication (Instructor of Record)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Awards

- 2021 The Lombra Outstanding Graduate Research Award, College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2019 The Carroll C. Arnold Award for Academic Excellence, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2018 Research and Graduate Studies Office Dissertation Award, College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University
- 2016 Top Four Paper Award (Tian, Schrodtt, & Carr), Interpersonal Communication Division, International Communication Association
- 2015 Top Graduate Research Award, Bob Schieffer College of Communication, Texas Christian University
- 2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Department of Communication Studies, Texas Christian University
- 2013 Outstanding Senior in Interpersonal Communication, Department of Communication, University of Missouri – Columbia

Research Support

- 2019 Dissertation Research Award, \$3,000, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University.
- 2017 Specialized Training Grant, \$1,800, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University. Funding supported participation in the dyadic data analysis workshop taught by Debby Kashy and Rob Ackerman.
- 2017 Graduate Research Award, \$1,500, Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University.

SERVICE

Service to the University of Delaware

2023-2024 Graduate Committee Member

Service to the Pennsylvania State University

- 2020-2021 Assistant Director of the Communication, Science, and Society Initiative
- 2019-2020 Mentor for the Undergraduate Research Showcase

2017-2018 Communication Arts and Sciences Research Lab Coordinator

2016-2017 Graduate Forum, Community Relationships Chair

Service to the Discipline

2023 IARR Awards Committee Member

2023 Peer Reviewer, *Communication Reports*, *Communication Research*, and *Death Studies*

2022 Peer Reviewer, *Personal Relationships*, *Communication Methods and Measures*, and *Death Studies*

2021 Peer Reviewer, *Communication Methods and Measures*

2020 Peer Reviewer, *Human Communication Research*, *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, *International Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, and *Frontiers in Psychology*

2019 Chair for Panel Presentations, Interpersonal Communication Division, National Communication Association

2019 Reviewer, Interpersonal Communication Division, National Communication Association

2018 Peer Reviewer, *Communication Quarterly*

2018 Reviewer, Interpersonal Communication and Health Communication Divisions, International Communication Association

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

2015-2021 Group Facilitator, Tides Program, State College, Pennsylvania
Led discussions and planned activities for children ages 10-12 who have experienced the death of a loved one.

2014-2015 Group Facilitator, the WARM Place, Fort Worth, Texas
Facilitated discussions and activities for children ages 10-14 who have experienced the death of a parent.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Fox 29 News Philadelphia (2020, August 22). Knowing what to say when offering emotional support. Retrieved from <https://www.fox29.com/video/843210>

Psychologie Magazine (2020, June 8). Troosten voor gevorderden (Translation: Comfort for advanced users). Retrieved from <https://www.psychologiemagazine.nl/artikel/troosten-voor-gevorderden/>

Canvas8 (2020, May 21). What's wrong? The science of emotional support. Retrieved from <https://www.canvas8.com/content/2020/05/21/science-of-emotional-support.html>

The Doctor Will See You Now (2020, April 15). Come to their emotional rescue. Retrieved from <http://www.thedoctorwillseeyounow.com/content/stress/art6115.html>

Runners' World (2020, April 8). How to best comfort your friends and family. Retrieved from <https://www.runnersworld.com/news/a32065293/how-to-comfort-someone-study/>

Quartz at Work (2020, April 4). What to say to someone who loses their job because of the coronavirus pandemic. Retrieved from <https://qz.com/work/1829796/what-to-say-when-someone-is-laid-off-because-of-coronavirus/>

Psychology Today (2020, March 30). Why validation is the best way to show someone that you care. Retrieved from <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-athletes-way/202003/why-validation-is-the-best-way-show-someone-you-care?amp=>

Penn State News (2020, March 25). Validation may be the best way to support stressed out friends and family. Retrieved from <https://news.psu.edu/story/612979/2020/03/25/research/validation-may-be-best-way-support-stressed-out-friends-and-family>

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Communication Association

International Communication Association

International Association for Relationship Research