

## **Phuong Nhi Nguyen**

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Greetings! I'm a Master's student in Clinical, Social, and Intercultural Psychology at the University of Padova, originally from Vietnam. My academic journey has taken me across the globe, starting with my BA in Psychology in Hungary, followed by an enriching exchange semester in Belgium, and currently in Italy. Immersed in diverse cultures and perspectives, I've developed a deep cross-cultural understanding and profound influence of cultural context on individuals' lives.

My prior role as a Career Counselor has fueled my dedication to assisting individuals in aligning their values with their professional aspirations. As a member of the migration research group, I'm eager to investigate the challenges and opportunities migrants face. My focus lies in fostering resilience, promoting well-being, and advocating for inclusive policies and interventions that support their overall well-being.

Research interests: Career Counseling / Positive Psychology / Migration / Strength / Well-being / Adaptation / Ageism / Suicidal Behavior

## **Sarah Mae Harrison**

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I have spent the majority of my life between the United Kingdom and United States, with the last 10 years spent in London. While in London I set up a social enterprise giving women employment primarily through baking. My latest ventures were a product business Zalmon Ltd and a coffee shop Sazzy and Fran Ltd. At the present I am enrolled in the Clinical, Social and Intercultural Psychology course at Padova University.

For my master's thesis I look forward to conducting in-depth research on individuals who have left fundamentalist groups. I hope to cover the liminal space they find themselves in, and how this experience shapes their ongoing life stories.

Similarities can be drawn between the experience of leaving such a group and migration processes, and working with our research group I aim to gain new perspectives and insights.

Specific areas of further research include: understanding the differences between life in a fundamentalist group with an "all or nothing approach" and a society that values a balanced approach to life, loss of/and building of identity, and the impact of life events on adult development.

## **Yavar Fadavi Asghari**

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I was born and raised bilingual in Azerbaijani-Turkish and Persian in Urmia, Iran. I relocated to Tehran to complete a bachelor's degree in psychology at Shahid Beheshti University. Afterward, I moved to Italy and graduated summa cum laude from the Clinical, Social, and Intercultural Psychology master's program at the University of Padua.

My thesis explored the majority acculturation orientation of Italians and their expectations of Iranian migrants in Italy. During this time, I also completed an enriching research internship at the Mannheim Center for European Social Research (MZES) in Germany, where I continue to collaborate on studying the relational trust between Muslims and Christians through survey-based data, field experiments, and economic games.

My current research interests lie in two distinct but related areas:

- 1) Intercultural Relations; Mutual Acculturation; Attitudes towards Immigration; Immigrant Integration; Cultural Identity; Ideological Beliefs.
- 2) The Psychology of Religion; Extremism; Fundamentalism; Islamophobia.

## **Hanna Reisch (she/her)**

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I grew up in Cologne (Germany), participated in a school exchange in La Paz (Bolivia) and lived in Ashaiman (Ghana) during a civil service programme. I did my B.Sc. in Psychology at the University of Münster (Germany) including two semesters at the University Paris-Nanterre (France) and am currently enrolled in the master programme "Clinical, Social and Intercultural Psychology" at the University of Padova. I form part of the Critical Psychology Collective Padova where we focus on power-critical approaches in psychology and their practical application.

My aim in writing my master thesis is to learn from and engage in a co-constructive, critical, and meaningful research process in interaction with the participants of the research as well as this research group.

Research interests: social justice and inclusion, migration studies, psychosocial/sociopsychological interventions, semiotic cultural psychology, psychology of

borders/liminality, ethnopsychology, critical consciousness, decolonial resilience, qualitative methodology

**María Emilia Montaña Córdova (she/her)**

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My name is Maria Emilia Montano, I am a clinical psychologist. I grew up in Quito, Ecuador and I lived a year abroad in Graz, Austria. When I came back, I studied my Bachelor's degree in Clinical Psychology in Ecuador, where I was also trained as a CBT and Humanistic psychotherapist. In my previous role as a psychotherapist I discovered the need for a communitarian approach to psychology, that is what led me to studying the Master's degree in Clinical, Social and Intercultural Psychology in Padova, Italy.

My main focus of research for my masters thesis is migration and human mobilization. Within this topic, I am very interested in grief and mourning processes during migration, the creation of meaning in a new and hybrid space, artistic expressions of identity in new host countries and the process and role of recognition of immigrants in new spaces. My aim for research is participating in critical spaces that foster communication and interaction between researchers and communities, leading to meaningful and positively impacting results.

**Paula Victoria Cramer (she/her)**

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Hello everyone! I grew up in Stuttgart, Germany, and had the opportunity to live in Portland, OR, in the USA for a year during high school. I then moved to the Netherlands, where I pursued my Bachelor's in Psychology at Leiden University. After this, I decided to complete a Master's in Sociology, specializing in "Governance of Migration and Diversity" at Erasmus University in Rotterdam. wanting to understand more about migration from a psychological view, I chose to continue my studies with a Master's degree in Clinical, Social, and Intercultural Psychology here in Padova. I am particularly interested in exploring the dynamics between migrants and "locals," and the underlying processes involved. During my time here, my involvement with the Critical Psychology Collective

has provided invaluable insights into research methodologies and the importance of engaging in power-critical approaches that promote social justice. I am eager to apply this perspective to our project and collaborate with a team from around the world. Together, we aim to deconstruct and reconstruct our ideas while fostering positive relationships among ourselves and with the participants involved in our research.