

# Theodore Samore, PhD

*Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
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## Education

2023 PhD Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles  
2017 MA Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles  
2015 B.A. Anthropology, Boston University

## Research Expertise

Pathogen avoidance; traditionalism; cooperation-related emotions; evolutionary political psychology; evolutionary anthropology; cross-cultural psychology

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

- In press* Samore, T., Fessler, D.M.T. Steps toward an interdisciplinary Anthropology of Mind: Intersections between evolutionary and psychological anthropologies. Invited submission for the Cambridge Handbook of Psychological Anthropology, Edward D. Lowe, Editor.
- 2023 Samore, T., Fessler, D. M. T., Sparks, A. M., Holbrook, C., Aarøe, L., Baeza, C.G., Barbato, M.T., Barclay, P., Contreras-Garduño, J., Costa Neves, B., del Pilar Grazioso, M., Elmas, P., Fernández, A.M., Garcia-Marques, L., Giraldo-Perez, P., Gul, P., Habacht, F., Hasan, Y., Hernandez, E.J., ... Wang, X.T. Greater traditionalism predicts COVID-19 precautionary behaviors across 27 societies. *Scientific Reports*.
- 2023 Holbrook, C., Fessler, D. M. T., Sparks, A. M., Johnson, D.L., Samore, T., Reed, L. Coalitionality shapes moral elevation: Evidence from the U.S. Black Lives Matter protest and counter-protest movements. *Royal Society Open Science*.
- 2022 Samore, T., Fessler, D.M.T. Implications of instrumental and ritual stances for traditionalism-threat responsivity relationships. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.

- 2021 **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D.M.T., Sparks, A.M., Holbrook, C. Of pathogens and party lines: Social conservatism positively associates with COVID-19 precautions among U.S. Democrats but not Republicans. *PLOS ONE*.
- 2021 Kupfer, T.R., Fessler, D.M.T., Wu, B., Hwang, T., Sparks, A.M., Alas, S., **Samore, T.**, Lal, V., Sakhamuru, T.P., Holbrook, C. The skin crawls, the stomach turns: Ectoparasites and pathogens elicit distinct defensive responses in humans. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.
- 2019 Fessler, D.M.T., Sparks, A.M., **Samore, T.**, Holbrook, C. Does observing reciprocity or exploitation affect elevation, a mechanism driving prosociality? *Evolutionary Human Sciences*.
- 2018 **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Sparks, A.M. Electoral fortunes reverse, mindsets do not. *PLOS ONE*.
- 2018 Hodges-Simeon, C., Richardson, G.B., Hanson Sobraske, K.N., **Samore, T.**, Gurven, M., Gaulin, S.J.C (2018) Response: Commentary: Facial width-to-height ratio (fWHR) is not associated with adolescent testosterone levels. *Frontiers in Psychology*.
- 2016 Hodges-Simeon, C., Hanson Sobraske, K., **Samore, T.**, Gurven, M., & Gaulin, S. (2016) Facial width-to-height ratio (fWHR) is not associated with adolescent testosterone levels. *PLOS ONE*.

## Academic Preprints & Manuscripts in Review

- In review* **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D. M. T., Sparks, A. M., Holbrook, C., Aarøe, L., Baeza, C.G., Barbato, M.T., Barclay, P., Contreras-Garduño, J., Costa Neves, B., del Pilar Grazioso, M., Elmas, P., Fernández, A.M., Garcia-Marques, L., Giraldo-Perez, P., Gul, P., Habacht, F., Hasan, Y., Hernandez, E.J., ... Wang, X.T. Accordance and conflict between religious and scientific precautions against COVID-19 in 27 societies. Preprint available at <https://psyarxiv.com/kr75f/>

## Invited Presentations

- 2023 **Samore, T.** Traditionalism, pathogen avoidance, and competing tradeoffs during a global pandemic. Invited presentation for the Center for Behavior, Evolution, and Culture. University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2023 **Samore, T.** Traditionalism, pathogen avoidance, and competing tradeoffs during a global pandemic. Invited presentation for the Department of Cognitive and Information Sciences. University of California, Merced.

## Conference Presentations

- 2021 **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D.M.T., Sparks, A.M., Holbrook, C. Traditionalism, religiosity, and COVID-19 precautionary behaviors across 27 countries. Paper presentation at the 2023 Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Palm Springs, California.
- 2023 **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D.M.T. Accordance and conflict between religious and scientific precautions against COVID-19 in 27 societies. Paper presentation at the Issachar Fund and Templeton Religion Trust Evolution of Science and Religion Conference, Dublin, Ireland.
- 2022 **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D.M.T. Tradition, religion, and pathogen avoidance behavior across 27 countries. Paper presentation at the Issachar Fund and Templeton Religion Trust Evolution of Science and Religion Conference, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2021 **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D.M.T., Sparks, A.M., Holbrook, C. Of pathogens and party lines: Social Conservatism and COVID-19 Precautions. Paper presentation at the California Workshop on Evolutionary Social Sciences, Fullerton, California.
- 2019 **Samore, T.**, Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Sparks, A.M. Electoral fortunes reverse, mindsets do not. Paper presentation at the 31<sup>st</sup> Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2018 **Samore, T.**, Sparks, A.M., Holbrook, C. & Fessler, D.M.T. The effects of observed responses to prosociality on the elicitation of elevation. Poster presentation at the 30<sup>th</sup> Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- 2018 Sparks, A.M., Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C. & **Samore, T.** Applying the sentiment model to study emotional response to exceptional prosociality. Poster presentation at the Amsterdam Brain and Cognition centre workshop on Evolution of Emotion, Amsterdam, Netherlands. [osf.io/rt9hd](https://osf.io/rt9hd)
- 2018 Sparks, A.M., Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C. & **Samore, T.** (2018, July 5). Applying the sentiment model to study emotional response to exceptional prosociality. Poster presentation at the 30<sup>th</sup> Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands. [osf.io/rt9hd](https://osf.io/rt9hd)
- 2017 **Samore T.**, Hanson Sobraske, K., Griffith, J., Gurven, M., Gaulin, S., Hodges-Simeon, C. Developmental associations between facial width-to-height ratio, testosterone, and strength. Poster presentation at the 29<sup>th</sup> Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Boise, Idaho.

2017 Sparks, A., Fessler, D.M.T., Holbrook, C., Pisor, A., **Samore, T.**, Tiokhin, L. Elevation: an emotion for adaptively recalibrating cooperativeness. Paper presentation at the 29<sup>th</sup> Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Boise, Idaho.

### Grants, Awards, and Honors

2022 University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology research grant (\$1,944)

2022 University of California, Los Angeles, Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$38,000)

2021 University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology research grant (\$2,653)

2020 Issachar Fund and Templeton Religion Trust research grant, Program on the Evolution of Science and Religion as Meaning-Making Systems (\$47,000)

2019 University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology research grant (\$2,246)

2018 University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Anthropology research grant (\$1,700)

2018 University of California, Los Angeles Doctoral Student Travel Grant (\$800)

2016 University of California, Los Angeles Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program (\$6,000)

2016 University of California, Los Angeles Doctoral Student Travel Grant (\$560)

2015-2016 Constantine and Perina Panunizo Fellowship

### Academic & Community Service

2022 - now Organizer, *UCLA Science Project Teacher Workshop “The Meaning of Race: Conversations about Evolution, Biology, and Culture”*

2020 - 2023 Member, *UCLA Biological Anthropology Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Graduate Group*

- 2021 Organizer, *Community Involvement & Representation(s) in Biological Anthropology Roundtable*
- 2018-2019 Campus representative, *California Workshop on Evolutionary Social Sciences*
- 2016-2018 Organizer, *California Workshop on Evolutionary Social Sciences*

## Media Coverage

- 2021 “America’s partisan fireworks will be hard for anyone to put *out*” *CNN*
- 2021 “Social scientists discover a dangerous truth about American politics hidden in new Covid-19 data” *Forbes*
- 2020 “When the mask you’re wearing ‘tastes like socialism’” *The New York Times*.
- 2018 “Voters have high tolerance for politicians who lie, even those caught doing it” *Los Angeles Times*

## Theses

- 2023 Samore, T. *Traditionalism, pathogen avoidance, and competing tradeoffs during a global threat*. PhD Dissertation. University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2017 Samore, T. *The effect of induced fear on culturally transmitted credulity assessments*. MA Thesis. University of California, Los Angeles.

## Professional Activities

### Ad-hoc reviewer:

- Evolution & Human Behavior
- Journal of Cognition and Culture
- Religion, Brain, and Behavior

### Research networks:

- 2023 - *now* The Evolutionary Dynamics of Religion, Family Size, and Child Success
- 2020 - *now* The Evolution of Science and Religion as Meaning-Making Systems

## Other Research Experience and Honors

- 2015 Magna Cum Laude, Boston University

2012-2015 Dean's List, Boston University

2014-2015 Independent Researcher, Boston University, *Adviser:* Carolyn Hodges-Simeon

2014 Independent Researcher, University of Utah, *Adviser:* Adrian Bell

2014 Research Assistant, Boston University, *Adviser:* Carolyn Hodges-Simeon