

# Arunima Sarin

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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2023 – Present     **University College London**, London, United Kingdom  
Lecturer, Department of Experimental Psychology

## EDUCATION

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2017 – 2023     **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA  
Ph.D., Social & Cognitive Psychology

2014 – 2015     **University College London**, London, United Kingdom  
MSc Research Methods in Psychology, *Distinction*

2010 – 2013     **Jesus & Mary College**, University of Delhi, Delhi, India  
B.A. (honors) Psychology, *Distinction*

## HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

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2020 – 2021     Harvard Mind Brain Behavior Graduate Student Award (\$1,500)

2018             Restricted Funds Research Travel Award, Harvard University (\$500)

2017 – 2018     Amartya Sen Graduate Student Fellowship, Harvard University (\$34,000)

2017             Stimson Fund Research Grant, Harvard University (\$1,000)

2016 – 2019     Economic and Social Research Council Graduate Research Fellowship, UK (\$76,901; declined)

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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**Sarin, A.** & Cushman, F.A. (2024). One thought too few: An adaptive rationale for punishing negligence. *Psychological Review*, 131(3), 812-824. <https://doi.org/10.1037/rev0000476>

**Sarin, A.** & Cushman, F.A. (2023). Exploring teaching with evaluative feedback. In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (Vol. 45, No. 4).

**Sarin, A.**, Ho, M. K., Martin, J.W., & Cushman, F.A. (2021). Punishment is Organized around Principles of Communicative Inference. *Cognition*, 208.

Cushman, F. A., **Sarin, A.**, & Ho, M. K. (2019). Punishment as communication. *Oxford Handbook of Moral Psychology*.

**Sarin, A.**, Lagnado, D., & Burgess (2017). The Intention – Outcome Asymmetry Effect: How incongruent intentions and outcomes influence judgments of responsibility and causality. *Experimental Psychology*.

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

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**Sarin, A.** & Cushman, F.A. (2024). Punishment in negligence is multifactorial: influenced by outcome, lack of due care, and the mere failure of thought. Pre-print at <https://psyarxiv.com/59fer/>

## SELECTED MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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Trainee authors are underlined

Lim, Y. & **Sarin, A.** (in prep). Transparency and trust: Public perceptions of punisher legitimacy shape sentencing evaluations.

Sun, R. & **Sarin, A.** (in prep). Benefitting from punishment impacts the moral reputation of the punisher.

**Sarin, A.** & Cushman, F. (in prep). Teachers utilize rewards and punishments in intuitive pedagogy to shape learner beliefs.

**Sarin, A.** & Rai T. (in prep). Profiting from punishment distorts inferences and undermines cooperation: Evidence from behavioral experiments.

## INVITED TALKS

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2024	( <i>Forthcoming</i> ) Behavioral Science Group, Warwick Business School
2023	Social and Moral Cognition Lab, Columbia University
2023	Computational Cognition Neuroscience Lab, Harvard University
2023	Social Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2022	Causal Cognition Lab, University College London
2022	Computational Social Cognition Lab, Yale University
2021	Harvard Business School, Harvard University
2020	Reasoning Workshop, Boston College
2019	Social psychology brownbag series, Harvard University
2016	Moral Cognition Lab, Harvard University
2016	Cognitive Science Symposium, University of Göttingen
2015	Causal Cognition Lab, University College London

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Sarin, A., & Cushman F** (2025, February). *Teachers utilize rewards and punishments in intuitive pedagogy to shape learner beliefs*. Invited talk at the Moral Psychology Preconference at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Denver, Colorado, USA
- Sarin, A., Ho, M., Martin, J., & Cushman, F.** (2021, June) *Is Punishment an incentive or a tool for communication?* Invited talk at Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Princeton, New Jersey, USA.
- Sarin, A., Ho, M., Martin, J., & Cushman, F.** (2020, July) *Punishment: Incentive or Communication?* Paper presented at Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, Canada.
- Sarin, A., & Cushman, F.** (2019, February) *The role of moral valence in causal attributions*. Paper presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Portland, Oregon, USA.
- Sarin, A., & Cushman, F.** (2017, July) *Why do we punish negligent behaviors?* Paper presented at the Cognitive Science Society, London, United Kingdom
- Sarin, A., Lagnado, D., & Burgess, P.** (2016, August) *Intention-Outcome Asymmetry and its impact on Judgments of Responsibility and Causality*. Talk presented at the International Conference on Thinking, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### University College London

- 2023 – Present     **PSYC0283: Moral Cognition** (PhD and master's students)  
Course Instructor
- 2023 – Present     **Seminar in Social Cognition** (master's students)  
Course Instructor

### Harvard University

- 2021 – 2022     **PSY 3555: Instructional Styles in Psychology** (PhD students)  
Course Instructor
- 2021             **PSY 15: Social Psychology** (PhD and undergraduate students)  
Teaching Fellow
- 2020             **PSY 1519: Psychology of Competition and Peak Performance** (undergraduate students)  
Teaching Fellow
- 2020             **PSY 15: Social Psychology** (PhD and undergraduate students)  
Teaching Fellow

- 2019            **PSY 2500: Graduate Proseminar in Social Psychology** (PhD students)  
Teaching Fellow
- 2019            **PSY 1014: How Students Learn** (undergraduate students)  
Teaching Fellow

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## **SUPERVISION & MENTORING**

### ***MSc***

- 2023 – 2024    Efe Kant, UCL  
2023 – 2024    Line Kipp, UCL  
2023 – 2024    Yuhan Lim, UCL  
2023 – 2024    Ayaka Matsumoto, UCL  
2023 – 2024    Rui Sun, UCL

### ***Research Assistants***

- 2022 – 2023    Carter Allen, Brigham Young University  
2021 – 2022    Charumathi Badrinath, Harvard University  
2021            Sarah Levy Gottfredsen, New York University  
2020 – 2021    Janani Sekar, Harvard University  
2020            Madhulika Shastry, University of Michigan

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## **LEADERSHIP**

- 2020 – 2022    **Founder & Organizer**, Computational Approaches to Social Cognition Talk Series  
2018 – 2021    **Event Coordinator**, Harvard Women in Psychology  
2018, 2019     **Conference Co-Organizer**, Trends in Psychology Summit, Harvard University

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## **ADVISING**

- 2023 – Present    **Personal Tutor** (master's students), Department of Experimental Psychology, University College London  
2019 – 2022     **Psychology Concentration Advisor** (undergraduate students), Department of Psychology, Harvard University

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## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

- 2020 – 2023     **Diversity, Inclusion, & Belonging Committee**, Harvard Psychology Department  
2020 – 2023     **Prospective PhD & RA Event in Psychology (PPREP)** (x3), Harvard Psychology Department  
2017 – Present    **Ad hoc Reviewer**: Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, Cognition, Developmental Psychology, Business Ethics: European review, Perspectives on Psychological Science, International Journal of Psychology; Experimental Psychology

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## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2016 – 2017     **Lab Manager**, Moral Cognition Lab  
Department of Psychology, Harvard University
- 2015 – 2016     **Research Assistant**, Causal Cognition Lab,  
Division of Psychology and Language Sciences, University College London
- 2013 – 2014     **Intern**, Richmond Fellowship Society (India), India
- 2012 (summer)   **Research Assistant**, Carstensen Life-span Development Lab  
Department of Psychology, Stanford University
- 2011 (summer)   **Intern**, Department of Psychiatry  
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, India