

# Julia M. Rohrer

---

[julia.rohrer@posteo.de](mailto:julia.rohrer@posteo.de)

I am a personality psychologist interested in broad range of topics, including the effects of birth order on personality, age changes in personality, and subjective well-being and its determinants. I am also interested in methodological issues (e.g., causal inference from observational data, transparency in secondary data analysis) and am an active advocate for Open Science practices.


## Education

- 2019 Doctor rerum naturalium, Leipzig University
- 2016 MSc Psychology, Leipzig University
- 2014 BSc Psychology, Leipzig University

## Professional positions & research visits

- June 2022-  
July 2023 On maternal leave
- October 2020-  
present Akademische Assistentin ( $\approx$  lecturer) at the Department of Psychology, Leipzig University.
- 2019 - 2020 On maternal leave at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development.
- 2016-2019 Fellow of the International Max Planck Research School on the Life Course, Max Planck Institute for Human Development (Berlin) with affiliation to the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW, Berlin).
- 2017 3-month research visit, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
- 2013 - 2016 Teaching & research assistant at the Leipzig University (statistics, personality psychology) and at the University of Mainz (personality psychology)
- 2016 2.5-month research visit, Personality & Well-Being Lab, Department of Psychology, Michigan State University
- 2013 1.5-month research internship, German Socio-Economic Panel Study, DIW Berlin

## Peer-reviewed publications



-  Rohrer, J. M., & Murayama, K. (2023). These are not the effects you are looking for: Causality and the within-/between-person distinction in longitudinal data analysis. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*. doi:10.1177/25152459221140842  
[Link to article](#)




- Deffner, D., Rohrer, J. M., & McElreath, R. (2022). A causal framework for cross-cultural generalizability. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*. doi:10.1177/25152459221106366  
[Link to article](#)

Haber, N. A., Sarah, E. W., Rohrer, J.M.,...& Fox, M.P. (2022). Causal and Associational Language in Observational Health Research: A Systematic Evaluation. *American Journal of Epidemiology*. doi:10.1093/aje/kwac137

[Link to article, preprint](#)

-   Dudek, T., Brenøe, A. A., Feld, J., & Rohrer, J. M. (2022). No evidence that siblings' gender affects personality across nine countries. *Psychological Science*. doi: 0.1177/09567976221094630

[Link to article](#)

-  Rohrer, J. M., Hünermund, P., Arslan, R. C., & Elson, M. (2022). That's a lot to process! Pitfalls of Popular Path Models. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*. doi: 10.1177/25152459221095827

[Link to article](#)

Seifert, I.S., Rohrer, J.M., Egloff, B., & Schmukle, S.C. (2022). The Development of the Rank-Order Stability of the Big Five Across the Life Span. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Personality Processes and Individual Differences*. doi: 10.1037/pspp0000398


[Link to article, preprint](#)

Rohrer, J., Schmukle, S., & McElreath, R. (2022). The only thing that can stop bad causal inference is good causal inference. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, doi:10.1017/S0140525X21000789





[Link to article, preprint](#)

Nosek, B. A., Hardwicke, T. E., Moshontz, H., Allard, A., Corker, K. S., Dreber, A., Fidler, F., Hilgard, J., Kline Struhl, M., Nuijten, M., Rohrer, J. M., Romero, F., Scheel, A., Scherer, L., Schönbrodt, F., & Vazire, S. (2021). Replicability, Robustness, and Reproducibility in Psychological Science. *Annual Review of Psychology*. doi: 10.1146/annurev-psych-020821-114157



[Link to article, preprint](#)

-  Atherton, O.E., Chung, J.M., Harris, K., Rohrer, J.M., Condon, D.M., Cheung, F., Vazire, S., Lucas, R.E., Donnellan, M.B., Mroczek, D.K., Soto, C.J., Antonoplis, S., Damian, R.I., Funder, D.C., Srivastava, S., Fraley, R.C., Jach, H., Roberts, B.W., Smillie, L.D., Sun, J., Tackett, J.L., Weston, S.J., Harden, K.P., & Corker, K.S. (2021). Why has personality psychology played an outsized role in the credibility revolution? *Personality Science*. doi: 10.5964/ps.6001

[Link to article](#)

-     Rohrer, J.M., Keller, T., & Elwert, F. (2021). Proximity Can Induce Diverse Friendships: A Large Randomized Classroom Experiment. *PLOS ONE*. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0255097













[Link to article](#)

-   Rohrer,\* J. M., & Arslan,\* R. C. (2021). Precise Answers to Vague Questions: Issues with Interactions. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*. doi: 0.1177/25152459211007368.

[Link to article](#)

\* contributed equally

-  Rohrer, J. M., Tierney, W., Uhlmann, E. L., DeBruine, L. M., Heyman, T., Jones, B., Schmukle, S. C., Silberzahn, R., Willén, R. M., Carlsson, R., Lucas, R. E., Strand, J., Vazire, S., Witt, J. K., Zentall, T. R., Chabris, C. F., & Yarkoni, T. (2021). Putting the Self in Self-Correction: Findings from the Loss-of-Confidence Project. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*. doi: 10.1177/1745691620964106  
[Link to article](#)
-  Engzell,\* P., & Rohrer,\* J. M. (2020). Improving Social Science: Lessons from the Open Science Movement. *PS: Political Science & Politics*. doi: 10.1017/S1049096520000967  
[Link to article](#)  
\* contributed equally
-  Grosz, M. P., Rohrer, J. M., & Thoemmes, F. (2020). The Taboo Against Explicit Causal Inference in Nonexperimental Psychology. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*. doi: 10.1177/1745691620921521  
[Link to article](#)
-   Botzet, L. J., Rohrer, J. M., & Arslan, R. C. (2020). Analysing Effects of Birth Order on Intelligence, Educational Attainment, Big Five, and Risk Aversion in an Indonesian Sample. *European Journal of Personality*. doi: 10.1002/per.2285  
[Link to article](#)
-  Weston, S. J., Ritchie, S. J., Rohrer, J. M., & Przybylski, A. K. (2019). Recommendations for Increasing the Transparency of Analysis of Pre-Existing Datasets. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*. doi: 10.1177/2515245919848684  
[Link to article](#)
-  Brown, N. J., & Rohrer, J. M. (2019). Easy as (Happiness) Pie? A Critical Evaluation of a Popular Model of the Determinants of Well-Being. *Journal of Happiness Studies*. doi: 10.1007/s10902-019-00128-4  
[Link to article](#)
-  Meyer, P., Schophaus, F. M., Glassen, T., Riedl, J., Rohrer, J. M., Wagner, G. G., von Oertzen, T. (2019). Using the Dirichlet Process to Form Clusters of People's Concerns in the Context of Future Party Identification. *PLOS ONE*. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0212944  
[Link to article](#)
-    Rohrer, J. M., Richter, D., Brümmer, M., Wagner, G. G., Schmukle, S. C. (2018). Successfully Striving for Happiness: Socially Engaged Pursuits Predict Increases in Life Satisfaction. *Psychological Science*. doi:10.1177/0956797618761660  
[Link to article](#), [preprint](#), [OSF project](#)

-  Rohrer, J. M. (2018). Thinking Clearly About Correlations and Causation: Graphical Causal Models for Observational Data. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*. doi: 10.1177/2515245917745629  
[Link to article](#)
-   Rohrer, J. M., & Schmukle, S. C. (2018). Individual Importance Weighting of Domain Satisfaction Ratings Does Not Increase Validity. *Collabra: Psychology*. doi:10.1525/collabra.116  
[Link to article](#), [OSF project](#)
- Rohrer, J. M., Brümmer, M., Schupp, J., & Wagner, G. G. (2018). Worries Across Time and Age in the German Socio-Economic Panel Study. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*. doi:10.1016/j.jebo.2018.02.012.  
[Link to article](#)
-   Rohrer, J. M., & Lucas, R. E. (2018). Only so Many Hours: Correlations Between Personality and Daily Time Use in a Representative German Panel. *Collabra: Psychology*. doi:10.1525/collabra.112  
[Link to article](#), [OSF project](#)
-   Rohrer, J. M., Egloff, B., Kosinski, M., Stillwell, D., & Schmukle, S. C. (2018). In Your Eyes Only? Discrepancies and Agreement Between Self- and Other-Reports of Personality from age 14 to 29. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Personality Processes and Individual Differences*. doi:10.1037/pspp0000142  
[Link to article](#), [preprint](#), [OSF project](#)
-  Rohrer, J. M., Egloff, B., & Schmukle, S. C. (2017). Probing Birth-Order Effects on Narrow Traits Using Specification Curve Analysis. *Psychological Science*. doi:10.1177/0956797617723726  
[Link to article](#), [preprint](#), [OSF project](#)
-   Rohrer, J. M., Brümmer, M., Schmukle, S. C., Goebel, J., & Wagner, G. G. (2017). „What Else Are You Worried About?“ – Integrating Textual Responses into Quantitative Social Science Research. *PLOS ONE*. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0182156  
[Link to article](#), [OSF project](#)
-   Rohrer, J. M., Egloff, B., & Schmukle, S. C. (2015) Examining the Effects of Birth Order on Personality. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. doi:10.1073/pnas.1506451112  
[Link to article](#), [OSF project](#)

## Conference contributions

- 2021 Keynote: [Tackling the Elephant in the Room: Better Science Needs Better Causal Inference](#), Conference of the Association for Interdisciplinary Meta-Research and Open Science (AIMOS).
- Discussant: [Correcting Historical Errors](#), Conference of the Association for Interdisciplinary Meta-Research and Open Science (AIMOS).
- Talk: [Making Sense of Interindividual Differences in Intraindividual Well-Being Associations](#), Meeting of the Personality Division of the German Association for Psychology.
- Discussant: [Panel “How may we actually DO better science?”](#), Meeting of the Personality Division of the German Association for Psychology.
- 2018 Talk: [Successfully Striving for Happiness](#), 19th European Conference on Personality.
- Talk: [Stolpersteine der automatischen Textanalyse – Pitfalls of Automated Text Analysis](#), Conference of the Center for Quantitative Empirical Social Sciences (QuanteL) at the Leipzig University.
- 2017 Chaired symposium: Pursuing Happiness. Old Questions, New Answers, Methodological Innovations.
- Talk: [Socially-Embedded Strategies Predict Positive Changes in Life Satisfaction](#), Meeting of the Personality Division of the German Association for Psychology.
- Poster: [Shifting Priorities. Age Changes in the Associations Between Domain Satisfaction and General Life Satisfaction](#), Conference of the Association for Research in Personality.
- 2016 Talk: [The Observer’s Perspective on Personality Maturation](#), 50. Congress of the German Association for Psychology.
- Poster: [In Your Eyes Only? Discrepancies and Agreement Between Self- and Peer-Reports of Personality from Age 14 to 29](#), 18th European Conference on Personality.
- 2015 Talk: [Worries and Personality. Results from the Analysis of Free Text Answers](#), Meeting of the Personality Division of the German Association for Psychology.
- 2014 Poster: [Birth Order Effects on Personality](#), 17th European Conference on Personality.

## Invited talks & workshops

- 2022 Keynote talk: [“Yes, but what’s your estimand?” – Improving Science Through Increased Research Goal Transparency](#), CIDER Spring Workshop, Leibniz Institute for Research and Information in Education
- Invited talk: [“Yes, but what’s your estimand?” – Improving Science Through Increased Research Goal Transparency](#), Jacobs/CIFAR Workshop “Causal Inference from Longitudinal Data”

- Invited talk: [Graphical Causal Models for Fun and Profit](#), Academy of the Max Planck School of Cognition, Berlin.
- Invited talk: [“Yes, but what’s your estimand?” – Improving Science Through Increased Research Goal Transparency](#), Research seminar KU Leuven.
- Invited talk: [The Only Thing that can Stop Bad Causal Inference is Good Causal Inference](#), Organizational Behavior & Human Resource Management, Justus-Liebig Universität Gießen.
- 2021 Invited talk: [Graphical Causal Models as a Reasoning Tool](#), Academy of the Max Planck School of Cognition, Berlin.
- Invited talk: [Bessere Wissenschaft braucht bessere Kausalinferenz](#), Herbsttagung AG Dank, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation (Data Science Society)
- Invited seminar session: [Open Science – Introduction](#), MSc Sport and Exercise Psychology, Leipzig University.
- Invited talk and panel discussion: [Open Science](#), Internationales Netzwerktreffen der DAAD-Fachlektor\*innen
- Invited talk: [The Loss-of-Confidence Project](#), Max Planck Digital Library Open Science Days.
- Keynote: [Less Casual Causal Inference](#), international workshop “From Data to Causes”, Methods Group Berlin, Humboldt University Berlin.
- Invited talk: [The Loss-of-Confidence Project](#), ReproducibilityTea Journal Club LMU.
- Invited talk: [Not Even Unreplicable: Vague Questions & Pseudo-Heterogeneity](#), UNSW Business School, UNSW Sydney.
- Invited talk: [Cool Things You \(Probably\) Didn’t Know You Needed: Graphical Causal Models](#), Experimental Psychology Seminar, University College London.
- Invited talk: [Made a Huge Mistake — What now? Fostering a Culture of Second Chance](#), MeWell Community Zürich.
- Invited talk: [Cool Things You \(Probably\) Didn’t Know You Needed: Graphical Causal Models](#), Melbourne School of Psychological Science Colloquium.
- Invited talk: [Less Casual Causal Inference](#), Quantitative Psychology Brown Bag, University of California Davis.
- Invited talk: [Less Casual Causal Inference](#), Advanced Methods Seminar, Princeton.
- Invited talk: [Less Casual Causal Inference](#), Chinese Open Science Network.
- 2020 Invited talk: [A Walk in the Garden of Forking Paths](#), RIOT Science Club.
- Webinar: [Thinking Clearly about Correlation and Causation](#), APA Division 34 webinar series.
- Invited colloquium talk: [Dealing with Researcher Degrees of Freedom in Data Analysis](#), Uni Erfurt.
- 2019 Keynote: [Tackling Bias with Preregistration and Registered Reports](#), Open Science Kick-off, Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Leipzig.

Invited colloquium talk: Wissenschaft in der Vertrauenskrise: Open Science als Schritt hin zu verlässlicher Forschung – [Science in the Credibility Crisis: Open Science as a Step Towards Reliable Research](#), Faculty of Sport Science, Leipzig University.

Keynote: [The Magnificent Seven Years of Replication Crisis in Psychology: Lessons to Learn for Other Social Sciences](#), Open Social Science Conference, Mannheim.

2018 Invited colloquium talk: [A Walk Through the Garden of Forking Paths](#), TU Dresden.

Invited colloquium talk: [Shifting Priorities: Age Differences in the Correlates of Well-Being](#), University of Tilburg.

Invited colloquium talk: [Interindividual Differences in the Correlates of Global Life Satisfaction](#), University of Bristol.

Invited talk: [Open Science – An Overview](#), Open Science Hardware Symposium at the Technical University of Munich.

2017 Invited talk: [Tackling Deep-Rooted Problems of Psychological Research](#), Workshop on Research Methods in Social Sciences and Business, University of New South Wales, Sydney.

Keynote: [How to Fix a Scientific Culture](#), European Conference on Python in Science, Erlangen.

Workshop given: [Stats crash course for journalism students](#), part of a data journalism course at the University of Mainz.

Invited colloquium talk: [Shifting priorities – The Impact of Domain Satisfaction on Life Satisfaction Across the Life Course](#), University of Basel.

## Teaching

- Personality psychology, bachelor course, Leipzig University SS21 and SS22
- Test design, master course, Leipzig University WS20/21 and WS21/22
- Pre-PhD:
  - Test design: Teaching assistant for master course at Leipzig University (winter terms 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18), sole instructor of intensive seminar for undergraduate students of University of Hagen (spring 2016).
  - Statistics: Teaching assistant for both bachelor and master courses at Leipzig University (2013-2015)

## Non-scientific audience

Media presence My research and Open Science engagement have been covered by a number of media outlets, among them, BBC, Deutschlandradio, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Huffington Post, Le Monde, MDR, NBC, NDR, NPR: Science Friday, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Radioeins, Süddeutsche Zeitung, SWR, The Guardian, Time Magazine, Vox.com, ZDF, Zeit online.

Podcast appearances ReproducibiliTea Podcast, SpecialiTea 3: Julia Rohrer ([link](#))

- Personality Psychology Podcast, #1 Introducing personality psychology with Julia Rohrer & Jaap Denissen ([link](#))
- Science Friday, When Scientists Get It Wrong ([link](#))
- Two Psychologists Four Beers, The C-Word (with Julia Rohrer) ([link](#))
- 2017 Newspaper article: [Hauptsache gesund und ein Leben in Frieden](#), Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, print issue 27 January; article about civic participation written together with Martin Brümmer and Gert G. Wagner.
- 2016 Talk: [Lebensqualität in Deutschland](#), Veranstaltung des Sachverständigenrats für Verbraucherfragen; talk on quality of life in Germany for the Advisory Council for Consumer Affairs together with Martin Brümmer and Gert G. Wagner.

## Additional training received

- 2022 [Train-the-Trainer Research Data Management](#), two days of training for the facilitation of workshops on research data management, DFG-funded project FDNNext
- 2018 [Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality](#), weeklong summer school organized by the Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group (HCEO), University of Chicago, and the briq Institute on behavior & inequality, Bonn
- 2017 [Predictive Modeling/Machine Learning](#), Florian Pargent and Clemens Stachl, held at the Meeting of the Personality Division of the German Association for Psychology
- 2016 [Multilevel Analyses in R](#), Jenny Wagner, held at Leipzig University
- 2015 [Causal Identification in Social Research](#), Felix Elwert, held at Zentrum für quantitative Methoden der empirischen Sozialforschung, Leipzig University
- [Strukturgleichungsmodelle mit R \(Structural equation modeling in R\)](#), Maike Luhmann, held at the Meeting of the Personality Division of the German Association for Psychology
- [Statische und dynamische Modelle zur Analyse von Längsschnittdaten in der psychologischen Forschung \(Static and dynamic models for the analysis of longitudinal data in psychological research\)](#), Manuel Völkle, held at the Meeting of the Methods & Evaluation Division of the German Association for Psychology

## Funding & Awards

- 2022 Pre-Doc Award, one year of funding to support my student Isabel Gebhardt in the preparation of her doctoral research
- 2021 Student teaching award (first place) at the Wilhelm Wundt Institute for Psychology, Leipzig University.
- 2021 Förderung „Digitale Hochschulbildung“ BMBF, „Was, wie warum? Einstiegskurs Kausale Inferenz“



- 2019 Tanaka Dissertation Award by the Association for Research in Personality.
- 2016 -2019 PhD scholarship, International Max Planck Research School on the Life Course.
- 2019 Grant for a research visit to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) – grant awarded but declined because of pregnancy.
- 2018 [Preregistration Challenge](#) prize awarded for Rohrer, Richter, Brümmer, Wagner, & Schmukle (2018).
- 2018 EAPP scholarship, Travel grant, 19th European Conference on Personality.
- 2017 Research visit grant, University of Michigan.
- 2016 PROMOS scholarship, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).  
EAPP travel grant, 18th European Conference on Personality.

## Roles

- Board membership Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science (2022), Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Personality and Individual Differences (2021), European Journal of Personality (2021), Personality Science (2021), Meta-Psychology (foundational advisory board member, since 2017), Journal of Personality (consultant editor since 2017).
- Reviewer Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science  
American Psychologist  
Archives of Sexual Behavior  
Asian Development Perspectives  
Child Development  
Collabra: Psychology  
European Journal of Personality  
Evolutionary Behavioral Science  
Evolutionary Psychological Science  
Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Interpersonal Relations and Group Processes  
Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Personality and Individual Differences  
Frontiers in Psychology  
Journal of Well-Being Assessment  
Language Learning  
Nature Human Behaviour  
PeerJ  
Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin  
Personality and Social Psychology Review  
Perspectives on Psychological Science  
Plos One  
Psychology Learning and Teaching  
Psychological Methods  
Psychological Science  
Psychology of Women Quarterly  
Public Opinion Quarterly  
Royal Society Open Science  
SAGE Open  
Scandinavian Journal of Psychology  
Social Psychology and Personality Science  
Wellcome Trust
- Member European Association of Personality Psychology

## Community & service

- 2022 Founder of the Open Science Network Leipzig, a collection of open science related initiatives, individuals and projects in Leipzig: [openscience-leipzig.org](http://openscience-leipzig.org)

- 2020 - present Organization of an early-career writing group at the Department of Psychology, Leipzig University
- 2019 - present Member of the Awards Committee of the Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science
- 2018 - 2020 Member of [Quantel](#), the Center for Quantitative Empirical Social Research at the Leipzig University
- 2017 - 2021 Advisory board member, Curate Science, crowdsourced platform to track, organize and evaluate replications of published findings in the social sciences.
- 2017 - present Blog on metascience, [the100.ci](#), together with Anne Scheel, Malte Elson and Ruben C. Arslan.
- 2017 Founder of the Open Science Initiative Leipzig at the Department of Psychology, Leipzig University, with Stefan Schmukle.
- 2016 - 2017 Associate editor, in-mind.org, (peer-reviewed) online magazine for psychology.
- 2010 - 2015 Organization and facilitation of seminars and workshops for long-term volunteers, Service Civil International (SCI).
- 2011 - 2015 Science editor, Leipzig's independent university newspaper *student!*