

# *Lucía Macchia*

Wellbeing Research Centre  
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## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Subjective well-being, prosocial behaviour, inequality, public policy.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

- 2019 - **Research Fellow** - Wellbeing Research Centre  
University of Oxford
- 2017-2018 **Research associate** - Wellbeing Programme, Centre for Economic  
Performance.  
The London School of Economics and Political Science

## **EDUCATION**

- 2016-2020 **PhD in Psychology (Behavioural Economics)**  
City, University of London
- Spring 2019 **Visiting scholar**  
Harvard Business School
- 2014-2015 **MSc in Behavioural Economics**  
City, University of London
- 2006-2010 **Bachelor in Business Administration**  
School of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina

## **PUBLICATIONS**

*\*Shared first authorship.*

**Macchia, L.**, Plagnol, A.C., & Powdthavee, N. (2020). Buying happiness in an unequal world: Rank of income more strongly predicts wellbeing in unequal countries. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 46(5), 769-780.

Whillans, A.V., & **Macchia, L.**, Dunn, E. (2019). Valuing time over money predicts happiness after a major life transition: A pre-registered longitudinal study of graduating students. *Science Advances*, 5, 9.

**Macchia, L.**\*, & Whillans, A.V.\* (In press, 2019). Leisure beliefs and the subjective well-being of nations. *Journal of Positive Psychology*.

**Macchia, L.**, & Plagnol, A.C. (2019). Life satisfaction and confidence in national institutions: Evidence from South America. *Applied Research in Quality of Life*, 14(3), 721-736.

**Macchia, L., & Plagnol, A.C.** (2019). The subjective well-being political paradox: Evidence from Latin America. Chapter in: Mariano Rojas (ed.). *The Economics of Happiness: How the Easterlin Paradox Transformed our Understanding of Wellbeing and Progress*. Oxford University Press.

**Macchia, L., Plagnol, A.C. & Reimers, S.** (2018). Does experience with high inflation affect intertemporal decision making? Sensitivity to inflation rates in Argentine and British delay discounting choices. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, 75, 76–83.

Plagnol, A.C., & **Macchia, L.** (2018). Economics of subjective well-being: Evaluating the evidence for the Easterlin Paradox. Chapter in: Ayse K. Uskul and Shige Oishi (eds.). *Socioeconomic Environment and Human Psychology: Social, Ecological, and Cultural Perspectives*. Oxford University Press, ISBN: 9780190492908.

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW OR REVISION

*\*Shared first authorship.*

**Macchia, L., & Whillans, A.V.** Understanding whether and when income inequality is associated with happiness: The case of Latin America. Under review: *World Development*.

**Macchia, L.** Educational opportunities, social mobility, and the happiness of the rich around the world. Under review: *Management Science*.

**Macchia, L., & Oswald, A.** Physical pain, gender, and the business cycle in 146 nations. Under review: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science of the USA*.

Proulx, J. \*, **Macchia, L. \***, Aknin, L.B., & Whillans, A.V. Can youth-focused prosociality interventions increase generosity? A pre-registered field experiment. Under review: *Comprehensive Results in Social Psychology*.

Giurge, L. \*, **Macchia, L. \***, Whillans, A. V. \*, & Yemiscigil, A. \* How COVID-19 shapes students' extrinsic and prosocial work values: The role of uncertainty, worry and reflection. Under review: *Journal of Vocational Behavior*.

**Macchia, L. \***, & Whillans, A.V. \* Whether & when income & income inequality shape generosity around the world: A multiverse approach. Under review: *American Psychologist*.

Gonzalez, A., **Macchia, L.**, & Whillans, A.V. The perpetuation of inequality: Parental transmission and behavioral consequences of children's inequality attributions. Under review: *Psychological Science*.

## SELECTED RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

**Macchia, L., & Ariely, D.** Sense of justice differs across domains: Implications for redistributive policy support. Target journal: *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.

Whillans, A.V., **Macchia, L.**, Vanderwheele, T., Chen, Y., & Kim, E. How charitable giving shapes health and well-being: An outcome-wide longitudinal analysis. Target journal: *Psychological Science*.

**Macchia, L.**, Easterlin, R.A., & Plagnol, A.C. Trends and fluctuations in subjective well-being in Latin America since the 1990s. Target journal: *World Development*.

Plagnol, A., Kanji, S., Chung, H., & **Macchia, L.** The gendered division of the mental load among couples: Development and validation of a quantitative measure.

## **PRESS ARTICLES**

Whillans, A., Giurge, L.M., **Macchia, L.**, Yemiscigil, A. (2020). Why a Covid-19 world feels both tiring and hopeful for college students. *Harvard Business Review Ascend*.

**Macchia, L.**, Plagnol, A.C., & Powdthavee, N. (2019). Why do people tolerate income inequality? *Harvard Business Review*.

**Macchia, L.** & Whillans, A.W. (2019). Happiness after graduation. *Thrive Global*.

**Macchia, L.**, & Plagnol, A.C. (2018). Life ratings and trust in institutions in South America. *Gallup*.

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

**Forbes:** The 10 happiest countries in the world, and how they got there

**The Telegraph:** You don't need a lot of money to be happy, as long as you're richer than your friends, study finds

**Tech Round:** Earning more than your peers buys more happiness in countries with a larger rich-poor divide

**Financial advisor:** It's not how much you make, it's how you rank among peers

**Finanzwelt:** Einkommensungleichheit fördert Zufriedenheit

**ANSA Latina:** La desconfianza ciudadana reina en Sudamérica

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Common Cents Lab - Centre for Advanced Hindsight  
Duke University, North Carolina, United States. 2018.

USC Happiness Conference in honour of Richard A. Easterlin  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, United States. 2018.

15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS)  
University of Innsbruck School of Management, Innsbruck, Austria. 2017.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

- 2018 *ESRC South East Network for Social Sciences (SeNSS) & Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) Business Boost Industry Engagement Fund.* £5,000.
- 2018 *Worshipful Company of Saddlers travel bursary.* £1,000.
- 2016-2019 *School of Arts and Social Sciences Doctoral Studentship/Teaching Fellowship.* City, University of London. £48,000.
- 2014-2015 *School of Arts and Social Sciences International Excellence Scholarship for the MSc Behavioural Economics.* City, University of London. £5,000.
- 2014-2015 *MSc Behavioural Economics bursary.* City, University of London. £5,000.

## TEACHING

### Postgraduate teaching:

- 2019/2020 Lecturer *PEM102 Cognitive and Economic Science of Rational Choice* MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London
- 2016-2020 Teaching assistant *PEM104 Behavioural Research Methods: Design and Analysis* MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London
- 2016-2018 Teaching assistant *PEM107 Applied Econometric and Psychological Research Methods* MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London
- 2016-2018 Teaching assistant *PEM101 Principles of Economics* MSc Behavioural Economics. City, University of London

### Undergraduate teaching:

- Summer 2019 Lecturer *MG101 - Marketing Summer School.* The London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2018/2019 Guest lecturer *Introduction to Quantitative Inference.* City, University of London
- 2016/2017 Guest lecturer *Topics in Behavioural Economics.* BSc Psychology. City, University of London
- Summer 2016 Lecturer *Decision making: rationality or intuition?* Bachelor in Business Administration. School of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2012-2014     *Petrobras Argentina S.A.*  
City of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

2011-2012     *Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.*  
City of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

## **STATISTICS SOFTWARE**

R, Stata, LIAM2.

## **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native), English (fluent), French and Italian (intermediate).

## **REFERENCES**

Dr. Anke C. Plagnol, Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology, City, University of London. E-mail: [anke.plagnol.1@city.ac.uk](mailto:anke.plagnol.1@city.ac.uk)

Prof. Peter Ayton, Professor, Department of Psychology, City, University of London. E-mail: [p.ayton@city.ac.uk](mailto:p.ayton@city.ac.uk)

Prof. Ashley V. Whillans, Assistant Professor, Negotiations, Organizations and Markets Unit. Harvard Business School. E-mail: [awhillans@hbs.edu](mailto:awhillans@hbs.edu)

Prof. Dan Ariely, James B. Duke Professor, Duke University: The Fuqua School of Business. E-mail: [dandan@duke.edu](mailto:dandan@duke.edu)