

# Lucía Macchia

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| 2020-     | <b>Postdoctoral Research Fellow</b><br>Women and Public Policy Program<br>Harvard Kennedy School   Harvard University |
| 2019-2020 | <b>Research Fellow</b><br>Wellbeing Research Centre<br>University of Oxford   |
| 2017-2018 | <b>Research Associate</b><br>Wellbeing Programme, Centre for Economic Performance<br>London School of Economics       |

## ADDITIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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| 2020- | <b>Research Affiliate</b><br>Wellbeing Research Centre<br>University of Oxford  |
| 2020- | <b>Research Affiliate</b><br>Sustainability, Transparency, and Accountability Research (STAR) Lab<br>Harvard University |

## EDUCATION

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| 2016-2020 | <b>PhD in Psychology</b><br>City, University of London  |
| 2019      | <b>Visiting scholar</b><br>Harvard Business School  |
| 2014-2015 | <b>MSc in Behavioural Economics</b><br>City, University of London   |
| 2006-2010 | <b>BSc in Business Administration</b><br>School of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina |

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Subjective wellbeing, inequality, public policy, behavioural science

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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2021	ISQOLS 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize for the Best Dissertation on Quality-of-Life, Well-being, and Happiness. USD 1,500
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

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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**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), eaax2615.

**Macchia, L.**, & Whillans, A.V. (2019). Leisure beliefs and the subjective well-being of nations. *Journal of Positive Psychology*, 16(2), 198-206.

**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., & 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.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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**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.

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.

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW OR REVISION

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**Macchia, L.,** & Oswald, A. Physical pain, gender, and the business cycle in 146 nations. Under review: *Social Science & Medicine*.

**Macchia, L.** Educational opportunities, meritocracy, income, and happiness: Evidence from a worldwide sample. Under review: *Social Psychological and Personality Science*.

**Macchia, L.,** & Ariely, D. Eliciting preferences for redistribution across domains. Under review: *Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy*.

Gonzalez, A., **Macchia, L.,** & Whillans, A.V. The developmental origins and behavioural consequences of attributions for inequality. Under review: *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*.

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

## SELECTED RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

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**Macchia, L.,** Plagnol, A.C., & Easterlin, R.A. Trends and fluctuations of subjective well-being and macroeconomic indicators in Latin America.

**Macchia, L.** Whether and how college opportunities shape the wellbeing and policy preferences of the rich: Cross-national and experimental evidence.

## POPULAR OUTLETS

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Gómez, M., & Macchia, L. (2020). The importance of trust in government. *Contribution to Dispatches from the Behavioral Scientists Fighting Coronavirus in the Global South. Behavioral Scientist.*

Soto Mota, P. I., Macchia, L., & Gómez, M. (2020). Building trust to face the COVID-19 pandemic in developing countries. **Behavioral Scientist.**

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.**

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

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**Forbes** (2019). The 10 happiest countries in the world, and how they got there.

**The Telegraph** (2019). You don't need a lot of money to be happy, as long as you're richer than your friends, study finds.

**Tech Round** (2019). Earning more than your peers buys more happiness in countries with a larger rich-poor divide.

**Financial advisor** (2019). It's not how much you make, it's how you rank among peers.

**Finanzwelt** (2019). Einkommensungleichheit fördert Zufriedenheit.

**ANSA Latina** (2018). La desconfianza ciudadana reina en Sudamérica.

## CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

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2021	Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) – Annual Convention (Virtual)
2020	Wellbeing Research Centre – Weekly seminar University of Oxford, United Kingdom
2020	Behavioral Insights Group Doctoral Workshop Harvard Kennedy School, United States
2019, 2020	MSc in Behavioural Economics Seminar City, University of London, United Kingdom
2018	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
2017	15 <sup>th</sup> Conference of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS) University of Innsbruck School of Management, Innsbruck, Austria

## TEACHING

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### *Postgraduate*

2021	Lecturer. MB36 <i>The Science of Wellbeing: Individual, Work, and Policy Implications</i> MBA. Universidad Torcuato Di Tella
2020/2021	Teaching Assistant. MLD304 <i>Science of Behavior Change</i> Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University
2019/2020	Lecturer. PEM102 <i>Cognitive and Economic Science of Rational Choice</i> MSc in Behavioural Economics. City, University of London

- 2016-2020 Teaching Assistant. PEM104 *Behavioural Research Methods: Design and Analysis*  
MSc in Behavioural Economics. City, University of London
- 2016-2018 Teaching Assistant. PEM107 *Applied Econometric and Psychological Research Methods*  
MSc in Behavioural Economics. City, University of London
- 2016-2018 Teaching Assistant. PEM101 *Principles of Economics*  
MSc in Behavioural Economics. City, University of London

### ***Undergraduate***

- 2019 Lecturer. MG101 *Marketing Summer School*  
London School of Economics
- 2018, 2019 Guest Lecturer. SAM003 *Introduction to Quantitative Inference*  
BSc in Psychology. City, University of London
- 2016, 2017 Guest lecturer. PS3031 *Topics in Behavioural Economics*  
BSc in Psychology. City, University of London
- 2016 Lecturer. *Decision Making: Rationality or Intuition?*  
BSc in Business Administration. School of Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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- 2016-2017 IPSOS Mori – Behavioural Science Consultant  
London, United Kingdom
- 2012-2014 Petrobras Argentina S.A. – Strategic Planning Analyst  
City of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2011-2012 Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu – Enterprise Risk Services Consultant  
City of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina

### **STATISTICS SOFTWARE**

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R, Stata.

### **LANGUAGES**

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