

Dr. AJITA SRIVASTAVA

Assistant Professor of Psychology
School of Liberal Arts and Sciences,
Ahmedabad University, Gujarat, India

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Nationality: Indian

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Psychology, Cross-Cultural Psychology, Ecology, Economic Psychology, Decision Making, Urbanization, Social Change, Fieldwork, Quantitative Social Measurement

EDUCATION

09.2024 – 05.2026 Adjunct Postdoctoral Position at Constructor University Bremen, Germany
(formerly known as Jacobs University, Bremen)

09.2023 – 08.2024 Affiliated Postdoctoral Position at Bremen International Graduate School of
Social Sciences (BIGSSS), Universität Bremen and Constructor
University Bremen

09.2017 – 12.2021 **Ph.D** in Psychology, Bremen International Graduate School of Social
Sciences (BIGSSS), Universität Bremen and Constructor University
Bremen, Germany (**Date of Degree Award: March 8th, 2022**)

Thesis: Srivastava A. (2021) *More or Enough: Maximizing and Satisficing in
Different Socio-Ecological Contexts* Doctoral dissertation, Universität Bremen
and Constructor University Bremen <https://doi.org/10.26092/elib/2016>

Supervisors:

Prof. Ulrich Kühnen (BIGSSS, Constructor University Bremen, Germany)

Prof. Klaus Boehnke (BIGSSS, Constructor University Bremen, Germany)

Prof. Shinobu Kitayama (University of Michigan, USA)

2012 **Passed National Eligibility Test (NET)** –Psychology University Grants
Commission, India, Exam for Lectureship

2010-2012 **Masters of Art (MA)** -2012 (Psychology) Psychology Department, Centre of
Advanced Study in Psychology, University of Allahabad India, First
Division

2006-2009 **Bachelors of Art (BA)** -2009 (Psychology & English Literature) Psychology
Department, Centre of Advanced Study in Psychology, University of
Allahabad, India, First Division

WORK EXPERIENCE

Editorial Experience

- 08.2024-09.2026 Section Editor with Prof. Klaus Boehnke, editor-in-chief, Dr. Sandip Sinharay for Encyclopedia of Measurement in Social Sciences, 2nd Edition, Major Reference works, Elsevier Science (to be published on October 1st 2026)
- 2013-2016 Editorial Assistant for Journal of Psychology and Developing Societies, Sage Publications

Teaching

Constructor University (formerly known as Jacobs University Bremen)

Lecturer for:

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| 2024 Spring | ● Undergraduate course on Data Collection and Empirical Research Methods |
| 2023, 2024 Spring | ● Undergraduate course on Culture and Cognition |
| 2023, 2024 Spring | ● Undergraduate and pre-Bachelors course on <i>Intercultural Competence and Cultural Sensitivity</i> |
| 2023, 2024 Spring | ● Masters courses on <i>Intercultural Training and Academic Writing</i> for Data Engineering, Supply Chain Management and Computer Science |
| 2022, 2023 Fall | ● Co-taught undergraduate course for <i>Social Cognition</i> |
| 2022 Fall | ● Co-taught Masters course for <i>Organizational Behaviour Across Cultures</i> |
| 2022 Spring | ● Undergraduate course of <i>Applied Statistics with SPSS</i> |
| 2020 Fall | Teaching Assistant for |
| | ● Dr. Mandi Larsen in the undergraduate course of <i>Academic Writing and Academic Skills</i> |

Research

- 2025-present Currently involved in various cross-cultural collaborative studies
- 2019-2020 Worked in a collaborative project on *Socially Engaging and Disengaging Emotions in Indian Context* with Prof. Krishna Savani, Dr. Kevin Nanakdewa and Prof. Shinobu Kitayama. Work involved discussing the research problem, adapting measures, and collecting field data in rural and urban regions for one of the studies.
- 2017-2021 BIGSSS Departs EU COFUND PhD Fellow, Universität Bremen, and Constructor University Bremen

University of Allahabad

- 2015-2017 Research Assistant in Centre of Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences (CBCS)
- for the project on Religion and Social Decision Making in collaboration with Arizona State University, USA
- 2015-2016 Research Assistant in Centre of Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences (CBCS)
- for Multilab Replication Project on Intuition and Cooperative

FUNDING EXPERIENCE AND DURATION

- 2017 – 2021 EU-COFUND PhD Fellowship at Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS), Germany funded by EU-Cofund program Horizon 2020, Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA) Program through BIGSSS
- 2015 – 2016 Research Assistant at Centre of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (CBCS), University of Allahabad, India for a project with *Association for Psychological Science (APS)*, funded by American Psychological Society and Arnold Foundation
- 2015- 2017 Research Assistant at Centre of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (CBCS), University of Allahabad, India for project in collaboration with Arizona State University, funded by National Science Foundation (NSF)

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIP

- 2022 Travel Grant awarded for presenting at *Regional Cultural Difference Conference*, Barcelona, Spain
- 2016 Scholarship awarded for attending one-month Summer School Program on *Intercultural Competencies* in Osnabrueck University, Germany

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles:

- Srivastava, A., Kühnen, U., Simunovic, D., Boehnke, K. (2025). Cultural and economic factors in maximizing: Differences in rural–urban contexts in India. *Psychological Studies*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12646-025-00827-4>
- Srivastava, A. (2024). Reflections from field surveys and ethnography in northern rural India. *Qualitative & Multi-Method Research*, 22(2). <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14062870>
(A publication section for American Political Science Association, APSA)
- Srivastava, A., Kühnen, U., Simunovic, D., & Boehnke, K. (2023). “More” or “enough”? Rural-urban differences in maximizing: The case of India. *Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology*, 5, Article 100140. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cresp.2023.100140>
- Bouwmeester, S., P., P., Aczel, B., Barbosa, F., Bègue, L., Brañas-Garza, P., ... E., C. (2017). Registered replication report: Rand, Greene, and Nowak (2012). *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 12(3), 527–542. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1745691617693624>

Book Chapters:

- Srivastava A., Kalyegira J. (2026) Field Studies in *Reference Module in Social Sciences*, Elsevier.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-443-26629-4.00290-2>
- Simunovic D. & Srivastava A. (2026). Implicit Bias in *Reference Module in Social Sciences*, Elsevier.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-443-26629-4.00293-8>

Srivastava A. & Simunovic D. (2026) **Urban Transitions: A Socio-Ecological Framework for Cultural Change in Urban Environments**. In F. E. B Alcántara, & I. R. Cantalapiedra (Eds.), *Urban Futures: Citizen Engagement, Mobility, and Sustainable Design* Springer Nature Switzerland AG (**accepted**)

Monograph and Books:

Boehnke K. & Srivastava A., Section Editors: Scales, Measures, Theories and Quality Metrics in Sandip Sinharay's *Encyclopedia of Measurement in Social Sciences, Second Edition*, Elsevier Ltd. Major Reference Works (**coming out in October 2026**)

Srivastava A. (2021). *More or enough: Maximizing and satisficing in different socio-ecological contexts*. [Doctoral dissertation, Universität Bremen and Constructor University Bremen] <https://doi.org/10.26092/elib/2016> (also available on Proquest)

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

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| 2026 | Paper accepted for oral presentation on <i>Social Change and Worries Revisited: A 40-Year Longitudinal Study with German Peace Movement Activists</i> at 15 th Annual Conference of Society for Longitudinal and Lifecourse Studies (SLLS) |
| 2026 | Poster accepted on <i>Social Cohesion and Change: A Comparison between Germany and India</i> at 31 st s International Conference of Applied Psychology |
| 2023 | Funding Laboratory – Workshop Series at Constructor University, Bremen Germany |
| 2023 | Workshop on the art of presenting for female scientists at BIGSSS, Universität Bremen |
| 2022 | Presented paper on <i>More or Enough? Rural-Urban Differences in Maximizing: The case of India</i> , at Regional Cultural Differences Conference, Spain Barcelona |
| 2021 | Presented paper on <i>Best or Good Enough: Cultural and Economic Factors in Maximizing in Rural and Metropolitan Contexts</i> , at (IACCP) International Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology |
| 2021 | Attended course on <i>Advanced Quantitative Methods</i> held at Constructor University Bremen |
| 2014 | Presented a paper on <i>Cultural Constructions of Physical Illnesses</i> at (NAOP) National Academy of Psychology, held at IIFM Bhopal & NITTR |
| 2014 | UGC Special Assistance Program for young researchers and supervisors on <i>Research Methodology</i> in education and social sciences |

RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS SKILLS

- Survey design (Scale construction and administration)
- Field surveys and interview administration
- Social experiments (online and in laboratory)
- Public goods game
- Statistical Package Social Science, SPSS, Software
- Structural Equation Modelling SEM (Intermediate)
- QUALTRICS software for surveys and experiments
- Ethnographic research

SERVICE TO ACADEMIA

Member of Doctoral Committee

- 2024 PhD candidate, Nils Tobias Henschel, BIGSSS on the topic *The negative secondary transfer effect: underlying processes and facilitating conditions*
- 2021 PhD candidate, Markus Klingel, BIGSSS on the topic *Negotiating the Life Course. Dyadic Life Course Decisions, Individualization and the Limits of Agency*

Bachelor Thesis Supervision

- 2024 BA student, Maria Clara Salomao Duarto Pinto, Constructor University Bremen on the topic *A discourse analysis of digitized narratives of trauma and recovery within topical Reddit communities* (Second Supervisor with Prof. Margrit Schreier, Adjunct Professor of Empirical Methods, Constructor University, Bremen)

Other Commitments

- 2026 **Reviewer** for Scientific Reports, Nature Portfolio
- 2025 **Reviewer** for Annual Conference of Cognitive Science (ACCS 12), India
- 2025 **Reviewer** for Frontiers in Behavioral Economics, section Behavioral Microfoundations
- 2023 **Reviewer** for Journal of Applied Psychology: Health and Well Being
- 2023 **Panel Expert** on BIGSSS Didactics Workshop
- 2021 **Fellow Representative** for PhD Program Selection Committee for BIGSSS Research Training Group: Social Dynamics of Self (SELF) PhD Program
- 2021 **Selection Committee (Fellow) Member** in BIGSSS Best Paper Award

Date: 01.06.2026