

RUSSELL GOLMAN

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Office Contact Information

Department of Social and Decision Sciences (SDS)
Carnegie Mellon University
5000 Forbes Avenue, BP 208
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Academic Position:

- 2012-present Assistant Professor of Behavioral Economics and Decision Science, Department of Social & Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2010-2015 Director of Quantitative Social Science Scholars Program, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2010-12 Visiting Assistant Professor, Social & Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2009-10 Postdoctoral Fellow, Social & Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University

Education:

- 2004-09 Ph.D. In Applied and Interdisciplinary Mathematics, University of Michigan
Dissertation: "Essays on Population Learning Dynamics and Boundedly Rational Behavior"
- 2000-03 B.S., Mathematics, Stanford University

Research Interests:

Behavioral Economics, Complex Adaptive Systems, Decision Theory, Game Theory, Mathematical Modeling

My current research projects have me thinking about how strategic deliberation proceeds, how information can be extracted from one's social network, how fads emerge, how entrepreneurial culture forms, how uncertainty may be exciting or uncomfortable, and how curiosity arises.

Publications:

- Bhatia, Sudeep and Russell Golman. "Attention and Reference Dependence." *Decision* (2017): forthcoming.
- Golman, Russell and George Loewenstein. "Information Gaps: A Theory of Preferences Regarding the Presence and Absence of Information" *Decision* (2016): forthcoming.
- Golman, Russell, David Hagmann, and George Loewenstein. "Information Avoidance." *Journal of Economic Literature* 55 (2017): 96-135.
- Golman, Russell, George Loewenstein, Karl Ove Moene and Luca Zarri. "The Preference for Belief Consonance." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 30 (2016): 165-187.
- Golman, Russell and Steven Klepper. "Spinoffs and Clustering." *Rand Journal of Economics* 47 (2016): 341-365. Reprinted in *Innovation Policy, Systems and Management*, J. Niosi (ed.), Cambridge UP.
- Golman, Russell. "Good Manners: Signaling Social Preferences." *Theory and Decision* 81 (2016): 73-88.
- Golman, Russell, David Hagmann and John Miller. "Polya's Bees: A Model of Decentralized Decision Making." *Science Advances* 1 (2015).
- Golman, Russell and George Loewenstein. "An Information-Gap Framework for Capturing Preferences About Uncertainty." *Proceedings of the 15th Conference on Theoretical Aspects of*

Rationality and Knowledge (2015).

Loewenstein, George, Cass R. Sunstein and Russell Golman. "Disclosure: Psychology Changes Everything." *Annual Review of Economics* 6 (2014): 391-419.

Bhatia, Sudeep and Russell Golman. "A Recurrent Neural Network for Game Theoretic Decision Making." *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (2014).

Golman, Russell and Sudeep Bhatia. "Performance Evaluation Inflation and Compression." *Accounting, Organizations, and Society* 37 (2012): 534-543.

Golman, Russell. "Homogeneity Bias in Models of Discrete Choice with Bounded Rationality." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 82 (2012): 1-11.

Golman, Russell. "Quantal Response Equilibria with Heterogeneous Agents," *Journal of Economic Theory* 146 (2011): 2013-2028.

Golman, Russell. "Why Learning Doesn't Add Up: Equilibrium Selection with a Composition of Learning Rules," *International Journal of Game Theory* 40 (2010): 719-733.

Golman, Russell and Scott E. Page. "Individual and Cultural Learning in Stag Hunt Games with Multiple Actions," *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 73 (2010): 359-376.

Golman, Russell and Scott E. Page. "Basins of Attraction and Equilibrium Selection under Different Learning Rules," *Journal of Evolutionary Economics* 20 (2010) 49-75.

Golman, Russell and Scott E. Page. "General Blotto: Games of Allocative Strategic Mismatch," *Public Choice* 138 (2008): 279-299.

Working Papers:

Bhatia, Sudeep and Russell Golman. "Bidirectional Constraint Satisfaction in Rational Strategic Decision Making."

Chaudhry, Shereen and Russell Golman. "Team Chemistry: Apologizing Beats Blaming on the Basketball Court."

d'Adda, Giovanna, Yu Gao, Russell Golman, and Massimo Tavoni. "It's So Hot in Here: Information Avoidance, Moral Wiggle Room, and High Air Conditioning Usage."

Golman, Russell, Sudeep Bhatia, and Patrick Kane. "A Dual Accumulator Model of Strategic Deliberation and Decision Making."

Golman, Russell, Aditi Jain, and Sonica Saraf. "Hipsters and the Cool: A Game Theoretic Analysis of Social Identity, Trends, and Fads."

Golman, Russell, George Loewenstein, Andras Molnar, and Silvia Saccardo. "The Demand for, and Avoidance of, Information."

Golman, Russell and George Loewenstein. "The Desire for Knowledge and Wisdom."

Golman, Russell, George Loewenstein, and Nikolos Gurney. "Information Gaps for Risk and Ambiguity."

He, Lisheng, Sudeep Bhatia, and Russell Golman. "Noisy Time Preference."

Research In Progress:

"Understanding Curiosity." (with Andras Molnar, George Loewenstein, and Silvia Saccardo)

"The Wisdom of Social Networks." (with Stephen Broomell and Shu Huang)

"Singular Thinking in Belief Formation." (with Josh Tasoff)

“Evolving Risk Attitudes and Entrepreneurship.”

“Excitement and Disgust.” (with George Loewenstein and Olga Salodini)

Dormant Working Papers:

“The Good Life: Modeling the Role of Ideal Points in Life Decisions.” (with George Loewenstein)

“Expectations and Aspirations: Explaining Ambitious Goal-Setting and Nonconvex Preferences.”
(with George Loewenstein)

Research Advising:

2012-13 Sudeep Bhatia, “Attention and the Formation of Reference-Dependent Preferences.”
(Dissertation chair)

2013-present David Hagmann, “Non-Bayesian Persuasion.” (Dissertation committee)

2015-16 Rich Truncellito, “The Right Moment: Context-Sensitivities, Ease of Retrieval, and
Their Effects on Consumption.” (Dissertation committee)

2015-16 Liping Tang, “Value of Information and Value of Signals in Signaling Games.”
(Dissertation committee)

2014-16 Shereen Chaudhry, “Thanking, Apologizing, Bragging, and Blaming: The Currency of
Communication.” (Dissertation committee)

2012-15 Patricia Rich, “Rationality in Context: Practical Guidance Through a Hybrid Approach.”
(Dissertation committee)

2013-14 Jit Nandi, “Distinguishing Between Different Mechanisms of Network Evolution Using
Network Motifs and Machine Learning.” (Undergraduate honors thesis)

2011-12 Ashwin Kumar, “A Model of Binary Prediction Markets Based on Prospect Theory.”
(Dissertation committee)

2012 Soham Sengupta, “An Economic Methodology for Understanding and Predicting
Rebellion.” (Undergraduate research project)

2009-10 Arash Enayati, “Information Flow and Strategic Decisions in Social Networks.”
(Undergraduate research project)

Teaching Experience:

2009-present Faculty, Social & Decision Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University
Designed and taught: undergraduate lecture courses on decision analysis, on modeling complex
social systems, and on behavioral game theory; and freshman seminars on game theory and on
strategy

2013 & 2014 Faculty, Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science Modeling and
Complexity, Santa Fe Institute

2004-07 Instructor, Department of Mathematics, University of Michigan,
Independently taught Calculus I, Calculus II, and Data, Functions and Graphs (Pre-Calc)

Professional Consulting:

2017-18 Consultant for Guo Consulting, “Behavioral Economics Research Workshop”

2010 Consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton, “General Blotto Simulation” research project

Grants and Fellowships:

- 2017 Russell Sage Foundation Grant [with George Loewenstein] (\$35000)
- 2017 Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Grant [with George Loewenstein] (\$20000)
- 2014 CBDR Small Grant [with Shereen Chaudhry] (\$2270)
- 2013 CBDR Small Grant [with Sudeep Bhatia and Lynn Conell-Price] (\$1800)
- 2011 Russell Sage Foundation Small Grant in Behavioral Economics [with Peter Kriss] (\$7500)
- 2008-09 National Science Foundation IGERT Fellowship (Graduate Fellowship)
- 2008 Luthur Claborn Mathematics Endowment, University of Michigan (\$3000)
- 2007 Arthur Herbert Copeland, Sr. Memorial Scholar, University of Michigan (\$3000)
- 2006 Mathematics Alumni Scholarship, University of Michigan (\$3000)
- 2005 Arthur Herbert Copeland, Sr. Memorial Scholar, University of Michigan (\$3000)

Professional Activities:

Presentations:

- 2018 “Information Gaps and Belief-Based Utility.” *University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business Decision Processes Colloquium*, Philadelphia.
- 2017 “A Cognitive Model of Strategic Deliberation and Decision Making.” *Vanderbilt University Economics Seminar*, Nashville.
 - “Information Avoidance as a Window Into the Mind.” *Early Career Behavioral Economics Conference*, Pittsburgh.
 - “Information Gaps and Belief-Based Utility.” *Belief-Based Utility Conference*, Pittsburgh.
 - “Understanding Curiosity.” *Designing for Curiosity Workshop*, Denver.
 - “Information Gaps and Belief-Based Utility.” *University of Rochester Brain and Cognitive Sciences Seminar*, Rochester.
- 2016 “Information Gaps and Belief-Based Utility.” *Bowdoin College Economics Seminar*, Brunswick, ME.
 - “Spinoffs and Clustering.” *International Schumpeter Society Conference*, Montreal.
 - “Information Gaps for Risk and Ambiguity.” *Foundations of Utility and Risk Conference*, Warwick, UK.
 - “Information Gaps for Risk and Ambiguity.” *Early Career Behavioral Economics Conference*, Bonn.
 - “Commentary on ‘The Dynamics of Excessive Force.’” *University of Washington Legal Methods Workshop*, Seattle.
 - “Good Manners: Signaling Social Preferences.” *Network for Integrated Behavioural Science Conference*, East Anglia.
- 2015 “Polya’s Bees: A Model of Decentralized Decision Making.” *University of California at Irvine Mathematical Behavioral Sciences Colloquium*, Irvine.
 - “Polya’s Bees: A Model of Decentralized Decision Making.” *Conference on Complex Systems*, Phoenix. (**Star Presentation**)
 - “Good Manners: Signaling Social Preferences.” *International Game Theory Conference*, Stony Brook.
 - “Belief Consonance.” *Self-deception, Self-signaling, and Self-Control Workshop*, Toulouse.
 - “An Information-Gap Framework for Capturing Preferences About Uncertainty.”

- Theoretical Aspects of Rationality and Knowledge Conference*, Pittsburgh.
- “The Evolution of Institutions.” *Third NIMBioS Workshop on the Evolutionary Origins of Complex Institutions*, Knoxville.
- “Information Gaps for Risk and Ambiguity.” *Information and Decisions Workshop*, Pittsburgh.
- 2014 “Polya’s Bees: A Model of Decentralized Decision Making.” *Decision Bristol Conference*, Bristol, UK.
- “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *MathPsych Conference*, Quebec City.
- “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *Workshop on Epistemology, Logic, and Games*, Pittsburgh.
- “Spinoffs and Clustering.” *Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Industry Evolution Conference*, Pittsburgh.
- “Spinoffs and Clustering.” Santa Fe Institute Workshop in Computational Social Science, Modeling and Complexity, Santa Fe.
- “The Evolution of Institutions.” *NIMBioS Workshop on the Evolutionary Origins of Complex Institutions*, Knoxville.
- 2013 “Spinoffs and Clustering.” *First European Workshop on Entrepreneurship Economics*, Amsterdam.
- “Spinoffs and Clustering.” Santa Fe Institute Workshop in Computational Social Science, Modeling and Complexity, Santa Fe.
- “Performance Evaluation Inflation and Compression.” *Inform’s Annual Meeting*, Minneapolis.
- “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *Public Choice Society Conference*, New Orleans.
- 2012 “Basins of Attraction and Equilibrium Selection under Different Learning Rules.” *Evolution, Learning, and Games Conference*, Pittsburgh.
- “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *University of Pittsburgh Behavioral Economics Seminar*, Pittsburgh.
- “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *Ohio State Economics Behavioral / Theory Seminar*, Columbus.
- “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *Temple University Economics Seminar*, Philadelphia.
- “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *University of Michigan Complex Systems Seminar*, Ann Arbor.
- “Expectations and Aspirations: Explaining Ambitious Goal-Setting and Nonconvex Preferences.” *Econometric Society (ASSA) Meeting*, Chicago.
- 2011 “Curiosity, Information Gaps, and the Utility of Knowledge.” *Dauphine Workshop on Economic Theory*, Paris.
- “A Model of Decentralized Decision Making.” *Complex Adaptive Systems: Energy, Information, and Intelligence Conference*, Arlington, VA.
- “Expectations and Aspirations: Explaining Ambitious Goal-Setting and Nonconvex

Preferences.” *Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics Workshop: Psychology and Economics, 9.0*, Stanford.

“Performance Evaluation Inflation and Compression.” *Tournaments, Contests, and Relative Performance Evaluation Conference*, Raleigh.

2010 “Why Learning Doesn’t Add Up: Equilibrium Selection with a Composition of Learning Rules.” *Midwest Economic Theory Meeting*, Madison.

“Why Learning Doesn’t Add Up: Equilibrium Selection with a Composition of Learning Rules.” *International Game Theory Conference*, Stony Brook.

“Quantal Response Equilibria with Heterogeneous Agents.” *Behavioral & Quantitative Game Theory Conference*, Newport Beach.

2009 “Logit Equilibria with Heterogeneous Agents.” *Economic Science Association Conference*, Tucson.

“Quantal Response Equilibria with Heterogeneous Agents.” *International Game Theory Conference*, Stony Brook.

“Basins of Attraction and Equilibrium Selection under Different Learning Rules.” *Luce Symposium, Kalamazoo College Center for Complex Systems Studies*, Kalamazoo.

2008 “Quantal Response Equilibria with Heterogeneous Agents.” *Kenyon College Mathematics Colloquium*, Gambier.

“Quantal Response Equilibria with Heterogeneous Agents.” *Midwest Mathematical Economics and Theory Meeting*, Columbus.

“Quantal Response Equilibria with Heterogeneous Agents.” *University of Michigan Applied and Interdisciplinary Mathematics Seminar*, Ann Arbor.

Organizer:

Belief-Based Utility Conference, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh.

Referee:

Early Career Behavioral Economics Conference

Review of Economic Studies

Decision

Management Science

National Science Foundation: Decision, Risk, and Management Sciences

National Science Foundation: Economics

Economic Journal

Games and Economic Behavior

International Journal of Game Theory

Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization

Cognition

PLOS One

American Political Science Review

Journal of Marketing Research

Experimental Economics

Journal of Evolutionary Economics

Journal of Mathematical Economics

UCO Office of Research & Grants

TIC-STH Symposium on Engineered and Natural Complex Systems-Modeling, Simulation and Analysis