

Daniel A. DeCaro, Ph.D.

University of Louisville

Department of Urban and Public Affairs
426 W. Bloom Street
Louisville, KY 40208

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
2301 S. Third Street
Louisville, KY 40292

Social Decision Making and Sustainability Lab
daniel.decaro@louisville.edu
Office: 502-852-2927

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor Department of Urban and Public Affairs Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences University of Louisville	2016 - Present
Term Assistant Professor Department of Urban and Public Affairs Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences University of Louisville	2013 - 2016
Research Associate Center for Land Use and Environmental Responsibility (Director, Tony Arnold) Louis D. Brandeis School of Law University of Louisville	2013 - 2015
Postdoctoral Researcher, Visiting Scholar Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis Indiana University, Bloomington - Advisors: Elinor Ostrom, Eduardo Brondizio, Jerome Busemeyer	2010 - 2013
Assistant Director, Interdisciplinary Experimental Lab (IE-Lab) Director: Jimmy Walker Indiana University, Bloomington	2011 - 2012

Education

Ph.D. Psychological Science (Social Cognition) Advisor: Dr. Joseph G. Johnson Miami University	2010
Visiting Scholar (Political Psychology) Summer Institute in Political Psychology, Stanford University	2008
M.A. Psychological Science (Social Cognition) Advisor: Dr. Joseph G. Johnson Miami University	2007
B.A. Psychology and Philosophy Summa cum Laude, Honors Western Kentucky University	2005

Research Interests

My research examines interdisciplinary social, psychological, and institutional (e.g., legal, rule-governed) foundations of environmental sustainability, social-ecological resilience, and governance. I am especially interested in understanding the psychological processes involved in self-governance, community-based governance, and broad-scale societal cooperation in complex social and ecological dilemmas.

Selected Topics:

- Cooperative Decision Making (e.g., group decision making, social dilemmas)
- Social Cognition (e.g., motivation, perception)
- Community-Based Governance and Public Participation (participatory democracy)
- Social-Ecological Resilience and Sustainability
- Adaptive Governance, Environmental Law (e.g., water governance)

Grants

National Science Foundation: Decision, Risk & Management Sciences #1658608 (\$690,551). Psychosocial, motivational, and cooperative effects of communication, enforcement, and participatory decision making in resource dilemmas. DeCaro (Lead), Marco A. Janssen and Allen Lee (Co-PIs, Arizona State University)	2017-2022
Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research. Faculty Grant Fellowship (\$7500). University of Louisville. Learning how the community leads: evaluating and informing city-based participatory engagement in West Louisville. Angela Storey, DeCaro (Co-PI), Allison Smith, David Johnson, Jeremy Jackson	2017-2018
Multidisciplinary Research Grant, University of Louisville (\$9,902) The role of law and public participation in the evolution of resilient watershed Institutions in Kentucky and Tennessee. With Tony Arnold (University of Louisville)	2013
Dissertation Research Grant, Miami University, \$600	2010
SPSSI Field Research Grant in Aid, \$2,000 Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues With Mike Stokes (Western Kentucky University)	2009
Psychology Travel Small Grant Fund, Miami University, \$250 Department of Psychology	2009
Conference Travel Grant, Society for Judgment and Decision Making, \$500 University of Chicago Graduate School of Business	2009
Psychology Travel Small Grant Fund, Miami University, \$250 Department of Psychology	2009

Publications

	Impact Factor ¹
DeCaro, D. A., Arnold, C. A., Boamah, E., & Garmestani, A. S. (2017). Understanding and applying principles of social cognition and decision making in adaptive environmental governance. <i>Ecology and Society</i> 22(1):33. https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-09154-220133	4.64
DeCaro, D. A., Chaffin, B. C., Schlager, E., Garmestani, A. S., & Ruhl, J.B. (2017). Legal and institutional foundations of adaptive environmental governance. <i>Ecology and Society</i> 22(1):32. https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-09036-220132	4.64
Craig, R. K., Garmestani, A. S., Allen, R., Arnold, C. A., Birgé, H., DeCaro, D. A., Fremier, A. K., Gosnell, H., & Schlager, E. (2017). Balancing stability and flexibility in adaptive governance: An analysis of tools available in U.S. environmental law. <i>Ecology and Society</i> 22(2):3. https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-08983-220203	4.64
Cosens, B., Craig, R. K., Hirsh, S., Arnold, C. A., Benson, M. H., DeCaro, D. A., Garmestani, A. S., Gosnell, H., Ruhl, J.B., & Schlager, E. (2017). The role of law in adaptive governance. <i>Ecology and Society</i> 22(1):30. https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-08731-220130	4.64
DeCaro, D. A., Janssen, M. A., & Lee, A. (with Ostrom, E). (2015). Synergistic effects of voting and enforcement on internalized motivation to cooperate in a resource dilemma. <i>Judgment and Decision Making</i> , 10(6), 511-537.	2.62
DeCaro, D. A., DeCaro, M. S., & Rittle-Johnson, B. (2015). Achievement motivation and knowledge development during exploratory learning. <i>Learning and Individual Differences</i> , 37, 13-26.	2.16
Arnold, C. A., Green, O. O., DeCaro, D. A., Chase, A., & Ewa, J.-G. (2014). The social-ecological resilience of an eastern urban-suburban watershed: the Anacostia River Basin. <i>Idaho Law Review</i> , 51(1), 29-90.	0.36
DeCaro, D. A., & Stokes, M. K. (2013). Public participation and institutional fit: a social-psychological perspective. <i>Ecology and Society</i> , 18(4), 40. [online] http://dx.doi.org/10.5751/ES-05837-180440	4.64
DeCaro, D. A. (2011). Considering a broader view of power, participation, and social justice in the Ostrom Institutional Analysis Framework. <i>Grassroots Economic Organizing Newsletter</i> , 2(9). [online] http://geo.coop/node/651 .	—
DeCaro, D. A. (2010). The promise and challenge of applying community psychology's praxis of empowerment to the burgeoning field of community-based conservation. In N. Lange & M. Wagner (Eds.), <i>Community Psychology: New Developments</i> , (pp. 143-160). New York: Nova Publishers, Inc.	—
DeCaro, D. A., Bar-Eli, M., Conlin, J., Diederich, A., Johnson, J. G., & Plessner, H. (2009). Toward a unitary theory of embodied decision making. In M. Raab, J. G. Johnson, H. Heerkeren (Eds.), <i>Progress in Brain Research: Mind and Motion – The Bidirectional Link Between Thought and Action</i> , Vol. 174 (pp. 189-203). Elsevier Publishing.	5.01
DeCaro, D. A., & Stokes, M. (2008). Social-psychological principles of community-based conservation and conservancy motivation: Attaining goals within an autonomy-supportive environment. <i>Conservation Biology</i> , 22(6), 1443-1451.	4.67
DeCaro, D. A. (2003). What is capitalist exploitation? A critique of John Roemer's property-relations definition of exploitation. <i>AGORA: Online Undergraduate Research Journal of Humanities</i> , 4(2), 1-19.	—

¹ 5-Year Impact Factor at time of publication if available (otherwise, impact factor for that year or most recent).

Conference Proceedings

DeCaro, D. A., DeCaro, M. S., & Rittle-Johnson, B. (2013). Achievement motivation and strategy selection during exploratory learning. In M. Knauff, M. Pauen, N. Sebanz, & I. Wachsmuth (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 35th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 370-375). Berlin, Germany: Cognitive Science Society.

Presentations

Invited Colloquia

- DeCaro, D. A.** (2014, February). Department of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- DeCaro, D.A.** (2013, November). School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- DeCaro, D.A.** (2013, October). Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University, Bloomington
- DeCaro, D.A.**, Stokes, K. M. (2012, March). Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University, Bloomington
- DeCaro, D.A.** (2011, February). Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University, Bloomington
- DeCaro, D. A.** (2010, September). Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University, Bloomington

Conference Talks

- Weaver, J. P., Chastain, R., DeCaro, M. S., & **DeCaro, D. A.** (2016, March). The impact of explore-first versus instruct-first in large enrollment introductory courses. Paper to be presented at the *Kentucky Association of Physics Teachers Conference*, Centre College, KY.
- DeCaro, D.A.** (2015, May). Psychological and contextual determinants of effective community-based participatory decision making. *International Association for the Study of the Commons, Biannual Meeting*, Alberta, Canada.
- DeCaro, D. A.**, Janssen, M. A., and Lee, A. (2014, June). Using interdisciplinary psychological science to understand decisions in the social-ecological laboratory. *Fifth Workshop on the Ostrom Workshop (WOW5)*, Indiana University, Bloomington.
- DeCaro, D. A.**, DeCaro, M. S., & Rittle-Johnson, B. (2013, August). Achievement motivation and strategy selection during exploratory learning. *Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, Berlin, Germany.
- DeCaro, D. A.**, Hotelling, J. M., & Johnson, J. G. (2012, May). Accounting for procedural utility: When decision procedures alter the evaluation of outcomes in consequentialist choice. *Midwestern Cognitive Science Conference*, Bloomington, IN.
- DeCaro, D. A.**, Stokes, K. M., Kimwele, C. M., & Kasaine, S. (2011, December). Diagnosing the importance of participation across social-ecological settings: A commitment-based social-psychological approach. *Y673 Mini-Conference, Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis*, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.
- DeCaro, M. S., **DeCaro, D. A.**, & Rittle-Johnson, B. (2011, September). Preparing to learn from math instruction: Mastery-oriented students benefit most from exploratory activities. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the *Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness*, Washington DC.

- DeCaro, D. A.** (2010, December). Participatory inclusion in management as the means and ends to sustainable self-governance. *Y673 Mini-Conference, Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2008, November). In pursuit of procedural utility: The role of autonomy in felt utility during decision making. *Society of Judgment & Decision Making, Chicago, IL.*
- Joseph, J. G., **DeCaro, D. A., & Koop, G.** (2008, November). Decision making under time pressure: Implications for dual systems and strategy-switching. *Society of Judgment & Decision Making, Chicago IL.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2008, May). On the problem-solving behavior of extrinsically-motivated intrinsics: Reconceptualizing self-determination theory's underlying model of control motivation. *Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2007, November). Motivation in judgment and choice: Strategy, duration, and accuracy of judgment as a function of intrinsic and extrinsic motives. *Society of Judgment and Decision Making, Long Beach, CA.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2007, November). Self-Determination Motivation Inventory (SDMI): A new measure of extrinsic and intrinsic motivation. *Midwestern Psychological Association, Long Beach, CA.*
- DeCaro, D. A., Korschova, K., & Mutter, S. A.** (2004, July). The effects of working-memory loads on the feature-positive effect in young adults. *REU Psychology Mini Conference, Bowling Green, KY.*

Conference Posters

- DeCaro, D. A., Janssen, M., & Lee, A.** (2015, November). Synergistic effects of voting and enforcement on internalized motivation to cooperate in a resource dilemma. *Society for Judgment and Decision Making, Chicago, IL.*
- DeCaro, D. A., Hotaling, M. J., & Johnson, J. G.** (2012, November). Accounting for procedural utility: When decision procedures alter the evaluation of outcomes in consequentialist choice. *Society for Judgment and Decision Making, Minneapolis, MN.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2011, January). Chronic task interest buffers autonomy and intrinsic motivation against the undermining effects of coercion. *Society of Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2010, November). Procedural utility—Decisions driven by competing concerns for fair decision-procedures and attractive outcomes. *Society for Judgment and Decision Making, St. Louis, MO.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2010, August). Tradeoffs between fair decision making procedures and attractive instrumental outcomes. *Cognitive Science Society Annual Meeting, Portland, OR.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2009, November). Chronic intrinsic motivation qualifies the effect of situational extrinsic incentives on problem solving. *Psychonomic Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G., & Stokes, M.** (2008, November). Freedom of choice: Procedural utility from a ubiquitous human need. *Pre-conference, Society of Judgment and Decision Making, Chicago, IL.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2008, June). Motivational and social justice frameworks: Lessons from community-based conservation. *Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Chicago, IL.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2008, May). Intrinsic motivation in judgment process and accuracy. *Association for Psychological Science, Chicago, IL.*
- DeCaro, D. A., & Johnson, J. G.** (2007, May). Validating a new measure of autonomous and heteronomous motivation: The Self-Determination Motivation Inventory (SDMI). *3rd International Conference on Self-Determination Theory, Toronto, ON, Canada.*

Raab, M., Johnson, J. G., & **DeCaro, D. A.** (2007, May). Modeling option generation and resulting choices in realistic, dynamic sports situations. *Society of Judgment and Decision Making*, Long Beach, CA.

Reese, G., **DeCaro, D. A.**, & Johnson, J. G. (2007, April). Computer software for testing a computational model of judgment and choice. *Center for the Advancement of Computational Research*, Oxford, OH.

Interdisciplinary Research Groups

Adaptive Water Governance Project 2013-Present
National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC)
- Leads: Barbara Cosens (University of Idaho), Lance Gunderson (Emory)

Contextualizing Compliance 2015-Present
San Diego State University, Indiana University-Purdue University
- Leads: Salvador Espinosa (SDSU), Saba Siddiki (IUPUI)

Teaching Experience

Graduate Courses

Introduction to Sustainability Fall 2015-2016
Department of Urban and Public Affairs
University of Louisville

Behavioral Dimensions of Sustainability (Environmental Decision Making) Spring 2014-2016
Department of Urban and Public Affairs
University of Louisville

Sustainable Social-Ecological Systems Fall 2013- Present
Department of Urban and Public Affairs
University of Louisville

Undergraduate Courses

Quantitative Methods Fall/Spring 2014-2016
Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences
University of Louisville

Quantitative Methods (Lab) 2005, 2007, 2008
Department of Psychology
Miami University

Cognitive Psychology 2009
Department of Psychology
Miami University

Student Mentorship

Graduate Student Research (Chair)

Betsy Ruhe, M.A. Interdisciplinary Studies: Concentration Sustainability 2016-2017

Willow Dietsch, M.A. Interdisciplinary Studies: Concentration Sustainability 2016-2017

Undergraduate Independent Research

Independent Study in Environmental Psychology

- *University of Louisville*: 2017 (2 students), 2016 (3), 2015 (2), 2014 (1)
- *Indiana University – Bloomington*: 2012 (2)
- *Miami University*: 2006-2010 (5)

Student Awards

Jeremy Jackson, Research Fellowship, \$2000 2017
Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research,
University of Louisville

Natasha Messinger, Undergraduate Research Award, Miami University, \$450 2009

Teaching Development

Green Threads Teaching Enhancement, University of Louisville, \$500 2015
Sustainability Council

Teaching Development Grant, Miami University, \$250 2009
Graduate Student Teaching Enhancement Program

Alumni Teaching Scholars Program, Miami University 2008

APA-Sponsored Preparing Future Faculty Program, University of New Hampshire 2006

Non-Traditional Venues

Interdisciplinary Research Methods, Discussion Group Coordinator 2011-2012
Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis
Indiana University - Bloomington

Honors and Awards

Teaching

Faculty Favorite Award, Quantitative Methods in Psychology 2014-2015
Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning
University of Louisville

Graduate

Graduate Student Achievement Award, Miami University 2009, 2010

Graduate Assistantship, Miami University 2005-2010

Undergraduate (Western Kentucky University)

Ogden Trustees' Award, Graduating senior with highest cumulative GPA 2005
Senior Psychological Sciences Academic Achievement Award 2005
Excellence in Philosophical Scholarship Award 2005
Jaggers-Cave Academic Scholarship (Full Tuition Waiver) 2003-2004

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College Heights Foundation Award	2002, 2004
Honors Program Tuition Scholarship	2001-2005
President's Scholar	2001-2005
Dean's Scholar	2001-2005
Kentucky Education Excellence Scholarship	2001-2005
National Dean's List	2001-2005

Leadership and Service

Academic and Research Program Development

Chair (Spring 2017), Co-Chair (Fall 2016), Sustainability Council's Education & Research Committee Fall 2016-Present
University of Louisville
- With: Margaret Carreiro

B.A. Sustainability Program Development Fall 2015-Present
University of Louisville
- Assisted Chair, David Simpson

Community Service and Partnership

Co-Director, Partnership for a Green City, Behavioral Sustainability Team Fall 2016-Present
Partners: University of Louisville, Louisville Metro Government,
Jefferson County Public School District, Jefferson Community and Technical College
- With: Russ Barnett, Brent Fryrear

Organizer, Sustainability Roundtable Fall 2016-Present
Sustainability Council, University of Louisville
- With Justin Mog (Assistant to the Provost on Sustainability Initiatives)

Ad-hoc Handling Editor

Conservation Biology

Ad-hoc Reviewer (Sustainability Science, Environmental Governance)

African Journal of Political Science and International Relations
Biodiversity Conservation
Conservation Biology
Ecological Economics
Ecology and Society
Environmental Management
Environmental Politics
International Journal of the Commons
Idaho Law Review
Journal of Rural Studies
Land Use Policy
Policy Studies Journal

Ad-hoc Reviewer (Psychological Science)

Basic and Applied Social Psychology

Journal of Psychology and Marketing
Journal of Sports Sciences
Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin
Pragmatics and Cognition

Professional Affiliations

<i>Workshop Affiliated Faculty</i> Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis Indiana University – Bloomington	2013 - Present
<i>Affiliate, Center for Land Use and Environmental Responsibility</i> University of Louisville	2015 - Present
<i>International Association for the Study of the Commons</i>	2015 - Present
<i>Society for Judgment and Decision Making</i>	2005 - Present
<i>Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues</i>	2017 - Present