

Name: Verena Graupmann
Institutional affiliation: DePaul University
Area of specialization: Social and Cultural Psychology
[Website](#)



Brief (1 paragraph) summary of professional interests:

With a profound interest in the psychological sense of self, I study how people respond to threats to self-motives (e.g. belonging, freedom) across cultures. I explore cultural variation in what is experienced as threat to the self and how threat response provides insight into what constitutes the self. Building on this research I employ the perspective of self-relevant, context-bound threat to various applied issues. My teaching of psychology connects students' diverse lived experience with immersive learning environments. Integrating social psychological scholarship with intercultural perspectives, is solidly at the core of my work in research, mentoring, teaching, and service.

Representative publications (no more than five):

- Kim, Y., Dulaney, E. S, Wangchuk, G., Kim, K. & Graupmann, V. (2024). True self or non-self? Self-essentialism and well-being in Tibetan Buddhist monks. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/00220221241252629>.
- Graupmann, V., & Pfundmair, M. (2022). When ostracism is mandated: COVID-19, social distancing, and psychological needs. *The Journal of Social Psychology*, 163(1), 39–51
- Graupmann, V. (2018). Show me what threatens you and I can tell who you are: Perception of threat and the self. *Self & Identity*, 17 (4), 407-417.
- Pfundmair, M., Aydin, N., Frey, D., Du, H, Yeung, S., & Graupmann, V. (2015). Exclude me if you can – cultural effects on the outcomes of social exclusion. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 46 (4), 579-596.
- Graupmann, V., Jonas, E., Meier, E., Hawelka S. & Aichhorn, M. (2012). Reactance, the self and its group: When threats to freedom come from the in-group versus the out-group. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 42, 164-173.

Representative honors or awards (no more than five):

- Midwestern Psychological Association Fellow, 2025
Excellence in Teaching Award for College of Science and Health, DePaul University, Chicago Illinois, 2023
DePaul University Civics Initiative Teacher-Scholar, 2023
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' (DePaul University) Art Institute of Chicago Innovation in Teaching Award, 2022

Involvement in MPA:

I attended my first MPA conference in 2003, (and on that occasion gave my first ever conference presentation). Since then, I have attended nearly all Annual Meetings (even while living abroad for several years). Over time, I have had the opportunity to participate in the conference program with

my undergraduate and graduate students in the form of over 50 contributions. I served a three-year term on the program committee (2018-2020). In 2025, I was awarded the honor of becoming an MPA Fellow.