Stanford



Jonathan Lee (@ jonlee112)

Clinical Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

CLINICAL OFFICE (PRIMARY)

- **Stanford Dept of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences**

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Bio

BIO

Clincal:

Dr. Jonathan Lee, MD, PhD (@ jonlee112) is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Depression Clinic of Stanford University where he founded the "Am I Good? Examining life through the lenses of Philosophical Skepticism, Moral Philosophy, and Existentialism" philosophical psychotherapy group.

Jonathan Lee, MD, PhD (@ jonlee112) practices psychiatry, including psychotherapy, at Stanford University. He utilizes psychopharmacology alongside a particular approach to philosophical therapy, which he has termed ‘Decompositionism‘. Decompositionism is an approach to philosophical psychotherapy, developed by Jonathan Lee, MD, PhD (@ jonlee112), which is informed by knowledge from neuroscience, psychology, and philosophy…

Epistemology, Skepticism

Metaphysics, Ontology

Philosophy of Language

Philosophy of Mind

Moral Philosophy, Metaethics

Existentialism

…Decompositionism revolves around the use of analytical approaches aimed at decomposing cognitive concepts (words, phrases, thoughts, ideas, emotions, beliefs, etc) into their most fundamental components or features. Jonathan Lee, MD, PhD (@ jonlee112) designed Decompositionism to examine fundamental questions such as:

What is truth? What is reality? How do we know what we know? How do our brains/minds learn?

What actually exists in the universe?

What do we mean by the words, phrases, and concepts that we invoke in daily life?

What is right vs. wrong? What are our moral obligations?

What is good vs. bad?

What is the meaning of life? What is the point of life? What is the purpose of life?

Does free will exist?

Research:

His research focuses on the causes and consequences of, as well as solutions to, rising skepticism and distrust in sources of expert information (e.g., science, health). He has a special interest in exploring skepticism and persuasion at the intersection of health and politics, which includes studying phenomena such as the politicization of science and health, political polarization, filter bubbles/echo chambers, the emerging post-truth world, and information warfare. It also includes seeking heteorgeneity in the findings across particular demographics at high socioeconomic and health risk. He draws on theories and methods from his uniquely interdisciplinary set of educational, research, and professional experiences, including those from experimental and behavioral economics, political science, psychology, philosophy, and machine learning. He is currently using machine learning-based text analytics to explore how trust/distrust in sources of expert information is discussed on traditional and social media -- followed by the use of online randomized controlled survey experiments to test the causal effects of particular persuasion strategies on perceptions of trust/distrust, as well as other important behavioral outcomes of interest.

CLINICAL FOCUS

- Psychiatry

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Clinical Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Residency: Stanford University Psychiatry Residency (2018) CA
- PhD, Stanford University , Health Policy - Health Economics (2024)
- MA, Stanford University , Political Science (2024)
- PhD Minor, Stanford University , Economics (2024)
- Board Certification: Psychiatry, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (2018)
- MBA, University of Chicago - Booth School of Business , IL (2014)
- Medical Education: Pritzker School of Medicine University of Chicago Registrar (2014) IL

LINKS

- https://www.jonathanleemd.com/: https://www.jonathanleemd.com/
- https://www.philosophicalpsychiatry.com/: https://www.philosophicalpsychiatry.com/
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- https://www.jonlee112.com: https://www.jonlee112.com
- decompositionism.com: decompositionism.com

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **The effects of social media criticism against public health institutions on trust, emotions, and social media engagement.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*
  Lee, J. Y.
  2025; 122 (26): e2422890122

- **Verbigeration: An overlooked symptom of a "forgotten syndrome"?** *Bipolar disorders*
  Mason, D. P., Tan, M. n., Lee, J. n., Wolstencroft, P. n., Sanborn, K. n., Ballon, J. S.
  2017; 19 (8): 710–12

- **Development and Evaluation of an Electronic Health Record-Based Best-Practice Discharge Checklist for Hospital Patients** *JOINT COMMISSION JOURNAL ON QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY*
  Garg, T., Lee, J. Y., Evans, K. H., Chen, J., Shieh, L.
  2015; 41 (3): 126-+

- **Development and evaluation of an electronic health record-based best-practice discharge checklist for hospital patients.** *Joint Commission journal on quality and patient safety / Joint Commission Resources*
  Garg, T., Lee, J. Y., Evans, K. H., Chen, J., Shieh, L.
  2015; 41 (3): 126-121

- **Seven hundred days of startup: a day in the life of a medical student in Silicon Valley.** *Academic psychiatry : the journal of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training and the Association for Academic Psychiatry*
  Lee, J. Y.
  2014; 38 (1): 52-4