

Matthew Kassner, a graduate student in Psychological Sciences, was recently awarded first prize in the Purdue Sigma Xi Graduate Student Research Awards Competition, Behavioral and Social Sciences division. [Sigma Xi](#) is an honors society which recognizes scientific achievement and promotes multidisciplinary research and cooperation among researchers in all fields of science and engineering. The Purdue chapter of Sigma Xi hosts an annual Graduate Student Research Awards Competition, in which students compete in one of four categories: Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Engineering, and Behavioral and Social Sciences. Matthew competed against research representing Nutrition, Health Sciences, Education Studies, Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences, Health and Kinesiology, and the College of Pharmacy.

Matthew is a fifth-year graduate student in Social Psychology, studying personality and social influence with his major advisor, William Graziano. He is interested in individual differences in responsiveness to social norms, especially reciprocity. The research presented at the competition examined cognitive moderators of compliance.