

# Afon (Mohammad) Khari

The Hague, NL • [afonkhari@gmail.com](mailto:afonkhari@gmail.com) • <https://afonkhari.github.io/>

Detail-oriented researcher with a strong background in **Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Philosophy, Education, and Language**.  
I bring a unique blend of academic expertise and practical teaching experience.

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## EDUCATION

**MSc – Brain and Cognitive Sciences**, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL Sep. 2023-Aug. 2025

- Specialization: **Cognitive Science**
- Coursework: *Computational Cognitive Neuroscience, Higher Cognitive Functions, Attentional Control and Decision Making, Philosophy of Cognition, Digital Twinning, Complexity Science*
- Research Intern at the Music Cognition Group ([MCG](#)), Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation ([ILLC](#)), [Donders Institute](#), and [Radboud University Medical Center, Developmental Neuroscience \(Lifespan Cognitive Dynamics lab\)](#)
- Panel Coordinator at the European Student Assembly ([ESA](#))
- Writing Team Leader and Proofreader for the [ABC Journal](#)

**MA – Philosophy of Art**, Art University, Tehran, IR Sep. 2009-Aug. 2012

- TA - English for Academic Purposes (**EAP**)

**BA – English Language and Literature**, Guilan University, Rasht, IR Sep. 2003-Jun. 2008

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Jan. 2024 – Aug. 2024

**Research Intern**, Music Cognition Group, ILLC, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

Focused on perceptual transformation of speech and music in tonal language users; dataset curation and design

Feb. 2025 – Aug. 2025

**Research Intern**, Lifespan Cognitive Dynamics Lab, Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition, and Behavior, Nijmegen, NL

Studied behavioral and neural data in **cognitive strategy shaping**; Used Dynamic Structural Equation Modeling (**DSEM**) to assess the impact of environmental noise on fluid intelligence task performance

Sep. 2012 – Aug. 2017

**Research Assistant**, Art University, Tehran, IR

Conducted interdisciplinary research linking cognitive science and artistic inquiry on perception and creativity; Assisted in curriculum design and taught English for Academic Purposes (EAP) and Research Methods; Completed advanced doctoral coursework in art research and cognitive studies.

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## EMPLOYMENT

**Editor – Mind Brain Ed Think Tanks**, Japan Jan. 2021-Present

- Content and language editor for a monthly **Neuroscience and Teaching** journal published by the [JALT Mind, Brain, and Education SIG](#)
- Collaboration with international academics to ensure high publication standards

**Lecturer and Project Manager – Özyeğin University**, Istanbul, TR Aug. 2018-Aug. 2023

- Taught English in preparatory and undergraduate programs; led professional development for students and staff
- Led tech integration as **TLDU Specialist** and co-designed a critical thinking project on *Human Rights*

**EFL and EAP Teacher – Various Institutions**, IR and TR Sep. 2008-Aug. 2018

- Delivered **IELTS** and **ESP** courses for diverse learners; developed tests, curriculum, and assessments; taught online with detailed feedback

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- *Research Methods* and *Philosophy* courses for MA students
- *English for Academic Purposes (EAP)* courses for BA students

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## SKILLS

- R and Python (Data Science & Computational Modeling)
- Academic Research Skills and Data Analysis
- Content and Language Editing
- Publication and Presentation
- Time Management and Teamwork
- Interpersonal Skills
- Attention to Detail
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Conflict Resolution and Adaptability
- Ethical Considerations
- Multicultural Collaboration
- Public Speaking

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## LANGUAGES

- English – Fluent
- Persian (Farsi) – Native Speaker
- Turkish – Good
- Dutch – Beginner

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## CERTIFICATES

<i>Neuroscience and Neuroimaging (fMRI)</i> – Johns Hopkins University	Oct. 2025
<i>MRI Fundamentals</i> – Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)	Aug. 2025
<i>Learn Python 2</i> – codecademy	Jun. 2024
<i>Machine Learning: Introduction with Regression</i> – codecademy	Jun. 2024
<i>Machine Learning: Perceptrons</i> – codecademy	Jun. 2024
<i>Linear Algebra</i> – codecademy	Jun. 2024
<i>Philosophy of Science</i> – University of Pennsylvania	May. 2024
<i>Consciousness and the Mind</i> – Independent study	Apr. 2023
<i>Python Programming for Data Science</i> – University of Helsinki	Mar. 2023
<i>Elements of AI</i> – University of Helsinki	Jan. 2023
<i>Fundamentals of Neuroscience</i> – Harvard University	May. 2022
<i>Fostering Student Motivation and Engagement</i> – University of Oregon	Apr. 2020
<i>Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA)</i> – Cambridge English	Nov. 2017

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## PUBLICATIONS AND TALKS

- Khari, M. (2026). Beyond the Algorithm: Educational Justice for Plurilingual Students in AI-Assisted Classrooms. In T. Rousoulioti, C. Pitsou, A. Saglam, & K. Finch (Eds.), *Language Education and Human Rights in Democratic Educational Settings* (pp. 405-444). IGI Global Scientific Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4018/979-8-3373-2670-2.ch015>
- Khari, M. (2025, October). *Clickbait Neuroscience: Lessons from “Your Brain on ChatGPT”*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2025, June). *Simulating Strife: Computational Models of Human Conflict*. ABC Journal of Amsterdam Brain and Cognition.
- Khari, M. and Daley, J. (2025, May). *The Four Pillars of Learning: A Teacher’s Guide to Cognitive Success*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2024, June). *Spirituality and Cyberspace: The Role of VR in Inducing Spiritual Experiences*. ABC Journal of Amsterdam Brain and Cognition.
- Khari, M. (2024, July). *What We Missed and Why?* Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2024, February). *The Reading Brain*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2024, January). *Hearts and Minds*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2023, May). *X = Y*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2023, March). *ChatGPT: The Double-Edged Sword of AI Language Models*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.

- Khari, M. (2023, January). *Fostering the Prosocial Neural Network Through Gratitude*. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2022, October). Validating Emotions: Towards Fostering Teachers' Affective Autonomy and Well-being [Webinar]. EAQUALS online.
- Khari, M. (2022, October). "Embracing the Uncertainty: Fostering Creativity and Responsibility Through Storytelling in Rhizomatic Model of Learning." Paper [presented](#) at the Third International Conference Why Still Education, Edulab, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, Serbia.
- Khari, M. (2022, October 1). Pigasus or Superswine: Body as a Mirroring Tool. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Kretschmer, H., Kelly, C., & Khari, M. (2022). The 3 Ks Explore Listening and the Brain. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002, August 1, 2022.
- Khari, M. (2022, June 1). 'We're All in This Together'. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2022, July). 'The Celestial Openness' [[Webinar](#)]. Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT).
- Khari, M. (2022, May 1). The Celestial Openness. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2022, January 1). Where the Comfort Zone Ends. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M., & Kelly, C. (2021, December 1). Neuroscience shows us drama is an effective language teaching tool. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT.
- Khari, M. (2021, Dec. 1). Let's 'Make a Drama out of it' this Time! Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, Oct. 1). The Kernel of Teaching: Human Connection. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, Oct. 1). The Magic of Care and Confidence. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, Sept. 1). Let the Brain Lead the Way! Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, July 1). An Earnest Investment. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M. (2021, April 1). The Power of Storytelling. Mind Brain Ed Think Tank+ of JALT, ISSN 2434-1002.
- Khari, M., & Kelly, C. (2021, Oct.). Neuroscience of Stories [[Webinar](#)]. İMBAT AKADEMİ.
- Khari, M. (2021, May). Cultural Context - Putting the Genie of Bias Back in the Bottle [[Webinar](#)]. Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT).
- Khari, M. (2021, Oct.). How to be an Effective Online Learner [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). Links to Strength [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). Psychology and Pedagogy [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). FSME [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Feb.). Enabling Learners' Autonomy [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Jan.). Neuroscience and Pedagogy I [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.
- Khari, M. (2021, Jan.). Neuroscience and Pedagogy II [Webinar]. Özyeğin University.

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## HOBBIES

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| • Hiking                 | • Volunteering       |
| • Reading                | • Cooking            |
| • Learning new languages | • Listening to music |
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## REFERENCES

**Prof. Dr. Rogier Kievit** – Developmental Neuroscience, Faculty of Medical Sciences (Radboudumc), Nijmegen, NL  
[rogier.kievit@radboudumc.nl](mailto:rogier.kievit@radboudumc.nl)

**Jessica Schaaf, PhD** – Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition, and Behavior, Nijmegen, NL  
[jessica.schaaf@radboudumc.nl](mailto:jessica.schaaf@radboudumc.nl)

**Makiko Sadakata, PhD** – University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL  
[M.Sadakata@uva.nl](mailto:M.Sadakata@uva.nl)

**Curtis Kelly, EdD** – Kansai University (emeritus), Portland, OR, US  
[ctskelly@gmail.com](mailto:ctskelly@gmail.com)

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