

F. Ece Özkan

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University of Toronto, 3359 Mississauga Road, CC 4025, ON L5L1C6, Canada

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Student in Psychology	2022-Present
University of Toronto Mississauga	
<i>Specialization:</i> Developmental Science	
<i>Supervisor:</i> Assistant Prof. Samuel Ronfard	
http://www.utmchildlab.com	
Master of Arts (with thesis) in Psychology	2019-2022
Koç University, İstanbul	
GPA: 4.00 /4.00	
<i>Supervisor:</i> Professor Aylin Küntay	
Bachelor of Science in Psychology	2014-2019
Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara	
GPA: 3.92/4.00	
Minor in Logic and Philosophy of Science	2016-2019
Middle East Technical University, Ankara	
GPA: 3.92/4.00	
Erasmus Student	2018 Spring
Ghent University, Belgium	

HONORS & AWARDS

June and David Scott Fellowship Award	
University of Toronto (2024) 4.000 CAD	
(Focus: research in early human development)	
North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership Award	
Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) (2022) 48.000£ (declined to start Ph.D. at the University of Toronto).	
<i>Project Title:</i> “A cross-linguistic approach to children’s social learning and reasoning”	
Koç University Scholarship (merit-based)	2019- 2021
Erasmus Grant (merit-based)	2018 Spring
High Honor’s in B.S. in Psychology, METU (all semesters)	

Third rank among psychology students at graduation, B.S. Psychology, METU, 2019

Top 50 in the National Philosophy Olympiad Turkey, 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Özkan, F. E., Hartwell, K., & Köymen, B. (2023). A cross-linguistic approach to children's reasoning: Turkish-and English-speaking children's use of metatalk. *Developmental Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.13374>

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Özkan F. E., Ronfard, S. & Köymen, B. Turkish- and English-speaking 3-year-old children are sensitive to the strength of claims when revising their beliefs (**under review**).

Özkan, F. E. & Ronfard, S. What do you mean when you say it's okay? Children's and adults' reasoning about evaluative testimony (**data collection for study 2 ongoing**).

Özkan, F. E. & Ronfard, S. Getting it right versus being right: Biases in information seeking across the lifespan (**data collection ongoing**).

Özkan, F. E., Küntay, A. C., & Köymen, B. Children have epistemic trust in the informants who reason like them (**in prep**).

CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, & TRAINING

Presentations:

Özkan, F. E. & Ronfard, S. Talk titled "Children's developing ability to use a speaker's past comments to make speaker-specific inferences" (May 31- June 2, 2024), **Jean Piaget Society (JPS)**, Toronto, Canada.

Özkan, F. E. & Ronfard, S. Poster presentation titled "When you say it's okay, does it really mean it is okay? How do children and adults reason about evaluative testimony?" (21-23 March 2024), **Cognitive Development Society (CDS)**, Pasadena, California.

Özkan, F. E., Ronfard, S., & Köymen, B. Poster presentation titled "Turkish- and English-speaking children's belief revision based on the reliability of the counter-evidence" (4-6 October 2023), **Crossing the Borders**, University of Potsdam, Germany.

Özkan, F. E., Küntay, A. C., & Koymen, B. Poster presentation titled "Young children's predictions about explanations and epistemic trust in informants" (4-6 October 2023), **Crossing the Borders**, University of Potsdam, Germany.

Özkan, F. E., Ronfard, S., & Köymen, B. (26-29 July 2023). Virtual poster presentation titled "Turkish- and English- speaking children's belief revision based on their evaluation of

counterarguments". **CogSci 2023**, Sydney, Australia.

Özkan, F. E., Ronfard, S., & Köymen, B. (24 March 2023). Poster presentation titled "Turkish- and English-speaking children's belief revision based on the reliability of the counterargument". **SRCD 2023** Biennial Meeting, Salt Lake City, US.

Özkan, F. E., Küntay, A. C., & Köymen, B. (29 May 2022). Poster presentation titled "Young children's selective epistemic trust in informants who offer explanations in line with their predictions". **8th International Symposium on Brain and Cognitive Science**, Koç University, İstanbul.

Özkan, F. E., Küntay, A. C., & Köymen, B. (virtual presentation, 10-14 January 2022). "Young children selectively trust informants who explain as they predicted". Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development (**BCCCD2022**).

Özkan, F. E., Küntay, A. C., & Köymen, B. (November 30-December 3, 2021). Poster presentation titled "Young children favor informants who explain as they predicted". **The Active Child: A workshop on active learning in early development**, Göttingen, Germany.

Özkan, F. E., Küntay, A. C., & Köymen, B. (7-8 September 2021). "Küçük çocukların bilgiye dair seçici güvenlerinde öngörülebilirliğin etkisi". Deneysel-Bilişsel Psikoloji Sempozyumu [**Experimental-Cognitive Psychology Symposium**], Ankara, Turkey.

Özkan, F. E., Küntay, A. C., & Köymen, B. (18-21 May 2021). Asynchronous presentation titled "Predictability as a determinant of young children's selective epistemic trust". 12th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science (**DUCOG**): Linguistic and Cognitive Foundations of Meaning

Özkan, F. E., Hartwell, K., Ronfard, S., & Köymen, B. (February 1, 2024). "A cross-linguistic approach to reasoning: Turkish-speaking and English-speaking children's metatalk and belief revision". Brown Bag, University of Toronto Mississauga

Özkan, F. E. & Ronfard, S. (2023, Winter). "When you say it's okay, does it really mean it is okay? How do children interpret evaluative testimony?" Departmental PCL Seminars, University of Toronto Mississauga

Özkan, F. E. & Ronfard, S. (2023, Summer). "Biased information seeking in children and adults: Our tendency to confirm" Departmental PCL Seminars, University of Toronto Mississauga

- Summer Research Program, Koç University 2020 & 2021: presentations about children's epistemic preferences and selective social learning
- Undergraduate poster presentation on the models of the bilingual lexicon, METU, 2019

Training:

- R Workshop, Koç University (1-5 February 2021)
- Python Certificate Program, Koç University (Spring 2020)
- CITI Training Program, Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research (November 2020)
- EEG Training at Aysel Sabuncu Brain Research Center, UMRAM, Bilkent University (December 2018)

Participation:

27th International Summer School in Cognitive Science, New Bulgarian University, July 2021
 Online OpenSesame Workshop, Leibniz Institute for Psychology Information, August 2020
 Video-chat Studies for Developmental Research: Options and Best Practices, Stanford University & Yale University, June 5, 2020
 Experimental Psychology Society, July 2020
 7th International Symposium on Brain & Cognitive Science (ISBCS), May 2020
 EyeTR 2019: Symposium on Eye Tracking Research and Applications, METU Informatics Institute, June 2019
 International Symposium on Brain & Cognitive Science (ISBCS) 2017, Hacettepe University

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher **September 2022-Present**

University of Toronto Mississauga, Childhood Learning and Development Lab

PI: Assistant Prof. Samuel Ronfard

- Worked on a project examining preschoolers' belief revision.
- Working on a project examining children's and adults' reasoning about evaluative information.
- Working on a project examining the lifespan development of biases in information-seeking.

Full-time Graduate Research Assistant **July 2021- July 2022**

The University of Manchester

PI: Associate Prof. Bahar Köymen

- Worked on a cross-linguistic project examining young children's reasoning.
- Worked on a project examining young children's belief revision.

Graduate Research Assistant **2019-2022**

Koç University, Language and Communication Development Lab

PI: Prof. Aylin Küntay

- Worked on my master's project on young children's selective social learning.
- Supervised undergraduate research interns during the summers for ongoing projects.

Volunteer Undergraduate Research Assistant**2018-2019**

Language and Cognitive Development Lab, METU

PI: Associate Prof. Duygu Özge

Undergraduate Intern**2017 Summer**

Koç University, Language and Communication Development Lab

- Worked in the international project L2TOR, examining social robots' role in facilitating second language learning of children.

PIs: Prof. Aylin Küntay & Prof. Tilbe Gökşun

Collected data from preschoolers and their parents**2019 Spring**

via home visits for a Ph.D. project at METU examining the effects of social gender roles on children's toy preferences

Supervisor: Assistant Prof. Başak Şahin-Acar

Worked in the annotation part of a medical ontology project**2019, January**

Laboratory for Computational Ontology, METU

PI: Prof. Aziz F. Zambak

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Teaching Assistant****2019-2021**

Koç University

- PSYC321 Social Cognition (2020-2021 Spring)
- PSYC301 Research Methods in Psychology (2020-2021 Fall)
- PSYC101 Introduction to Psychology (2019-2020 Spring)
- PSYC208 Family Studies (2019-2020 Fall)

Duties: preparation of course materials, grading assignments and exams, proctoring exams, conducting lab sessions (for statistics) and office hours, and mentoring students throughout their research projects.

OTHER VOLUNTARY DUTIES

Reviewed abstracts for BCCCD 2024, Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development.

Reviewed abstracts for BCCCD 2023, Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development.

Volunteered in the Diversity Open House, University of Toronto, 2022 and 2023

Poster Judge, Undergraduate Poster Day, University of Toronto Mississauga, April 24, 2024

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

Languages: Turkish (Native), English (Advanced)

Computer Skills: Languages/Softwares for Statistics: R, SPSS

Other: PsychoPy, Python (basics), Qualtrics, ELAN, Pavlovia, Audacity

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Soprano in Hart House Singers, Toronto

Former Soprano in TPCA Youth Choir (10 years)

Former member of the Company Musicals, METU (violin)

Former translator at Evrim Ağacı (Tree of Evolution, a scientific community and website targeting science outreach)

REFERENCES

Assistant Prof. Samuel Ronfard

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