

Aytaç Karabay, Ph.D.

University of Birmingham Dubai
Dubai, UAE
+971 50 3114072
a.karabay@bham.ac.uk
[aytackarabay.com](mailto:a.karabay@bham.ac.uk)

EXPERIENCE

Assistant professor , University of Birmingham Dubai, Dubai, UAE	2025–Present
Visiting scholar , New York University, Abu Dhabi, UAE	2025–2026
Adjunct assistant professor (part-time) , Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, UAE	2024–2025
Postdoctoral researcher , New York University, Abu Dhabi, UAE <i>Supervisor: Dr. Daryl Fournie</i>	2022–2025
Postdoctoral researcher , University of Groningen, Groningen, NL <i>Supervisor: Prof. Elkan G. Akyürek</i>	2019–2022
Research assistant , CUNY-Brooklyn College, New York, USA <i>Supervisor: Dr. Daniel Kurylo</i>	2014–2015

Courses Taught

Research Methods C	Module lead	University of Birmingham	2026
The Neurobiology of Mental Illness	Lecturer	University of Birmingham	2026
Research Methods B	Module lead	University of Birmingham	2025
Research Methods D	Module lead	University of Birmingham	2025
Ideas, Concepts, and Ethics in Psychology and Neuroscience	Guest lecturer	University of Birmingham	2025
Introduction to Psychology	Lecturer	Zayed University	2024
Introduction to Psychology	Teaching assistant	New York University AD	2023
Thinking	Teaching assistant	New York University AD	2023
Cognition and Attention	Guest lecturer	University of Groningen	2021; 2022
Academic Skills (2 classes)	Lecturer	University of Groningen	2018–2019

Mentorship and supervision

Bachelors Thesis (x18)	Supervisor	University of Birmingham	2024–2026
Capstone Project (x2)	Mentor	New York University AD	2022–2025
PhD Thesis (x1)	Supervisor	University of Groningen	2020–Present
Master's Thesis (x3)	Supervisor	University of Groningen	2017–2022
Bachelor's Thesis (x3)	Mentor	University of Groningen	2017–2022
Honors Research Practicum (x3)	Mentor	University of Groningen	2017–2018

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Cognitive Neuroscience , University of Groningen, Groningen, NL <i>Supervisor: Prof. Elkan G. Akyürek</i>	2020
M.A., Experimental Psychology , CUNY-Brooklyn College, New York, USA <i>Supervisor: Dr. Daniel D. Kurylo</i>	2015
B.A., Psychology , Ankara University, Ankara, TR	2011

PUBLICATIONS

Student trainees are underlined

** indicates shared first authorship*

Preprints and submitted papers

Chen, I., Mathôt, S., van der Mij, R., Karabay, A. , Bowman, H., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed personally familiar face detection with eeg in rapid serial visual presentation. https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/axp4w_v1	2025
--	------

- Chen, I. *, Buchel, P. *, **Karabay, A.**, van der Mij, R., Mathôt, S., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed information detection in rapid serial visual presentation with oculomotor measures. 2023
<https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/rtyu6>
- Wang, S., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. Evaluating Working Memory Representations during the Attentional Blink: A Comparative Modeling Approach. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.09.15.508098>
- Fougnie, D. L., **Karabay, A.**, Alvarez, G., & Brady, T. F. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again: Second chances reveal more information in working memory. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/evqtn>

Journal papers

- Karabay, A.**, Wolff, M. J., Ruuskanen, V., & Akyürek, E. Behaviorally irrelevant feature matching increases neural and behavioral working memory readout. *Psychophysiology* 62(2). 2025
<https://doi.org/10.1111/psyp.70020>
- Akyürek, E. G., Altınok, A., & **Karabay, A.** Concurrent consumption of cocoa flavanols and caffeine does not acutely modulate working memory and attention. *European Journal of Nutrition*, 64(35). 1–17. 2025
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00394-024-03514-8>
- Karabay, A.***, Nijenkamp, R.*, Sarampalis, A., & Fougnie, D. Introducing ART: a new method of testing auditory memory with circular reproduction tasks. *Behavior Research Methods*, 56(8), 8330–8348. 2024
<https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-024-02477-2>
- Guérin, S. M. R., Tarlao, C., & **Karabay, A.** Our Journey as Intern Junior Editors at the Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance. *Science Editing*, 11(2), 160–163. 2024
<https://doi.org/10.6087/kcse.345>
- Kandemir, G.*, Wolff, M. J. *, **Karabay, A.**, Stokes, M. G., Axmacher, N., & Akyürek, E. G. Concurrent maintenance of both veridical and transformed working memory representations. *Imaging Neuroscience*, 2, 1–20. 2024
https://doi.org/10.1162/imag_a_00173
- Wang, S., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. Attentional blur and blink: Effects of adaptive attentional scaling on visual awareness. *Consciousness and Cognition*, 117(3), 1–15. 2024
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.concog.2023.103627>
- Altınok, A., **Karabay, A.**, Balta, G., de Jonge, J., & Akyürek, E. G. Effects of gamma-aminobutyric acid on working memory and attention: A randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled, crossover trial. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 37(6), 554–565. 2023
<https://doi.org/10.1177/02698811231161579>
- Chen, I. Y., **Karabay, A.**, Mathôt, S., Bowman, H., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed identity information detection with pupillometry in rapid serial visual presentation. *Psychophysiology*, 60(1). 1–14. 2023
<https://doi.org/10.1111/psyp.14155>
- Karabay, A.**, Wilhelm, S. A., de Jonge, J., Wang, J., Martens, S., & Akyürek, E. G. Two faces of perceptual awareness during the attentional blink: Gradual and discrete. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 151(7), 1520–1541. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0001156>
- Altınok, A., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. Acute effects of cocoa flavanols on visual working memory: Maintenance and updating. *European Journal of Nutrition*, 61(3), 1665–1678. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00394-021-02767-x>
- Karataş, O., **Karabay, A.**, & Alici, T. The effects of long-term cocoa flavanols intake on cognitive functions and mood, and the physiological mechanisms underlying these effects: A literature review. *Turkish Psychological Articles*, 25(49). 1–26. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.31828/tpy1301996120211203m000043>
- Karabay, A.**, & Kurylo, D. D. Discriminating global orientation of two element sets. *Journal of Cognition*, 3(1), 1–13. 2020
<https://doi.org/10.5334/joc.127>
- Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. Temporal integration and attentional selection of color and contrast target pairs in rapid serial visual presentation. *Acta Psychologica*, 196, 56–69. 2019
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actpsy.2019.04.002>

- Karabay, A., Saija, J. D., Field, D. T., & Akyürek, E. G.** The acute effects of cocoa flavanols on temporal and spatial attention. *Psychopharmacology*, 235(5), 1497–1511. 2018
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00213-018-4861-4>
- Karabay, A., & Akyürek, E. G.** The effects of Kanizsa contours on temporal integration and attention in rapid serial visual presentation. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 79(6), 1742–1754. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13414-017-1333-6> 2017

Books

- Karabay, A.** Duyum ve algı (Sensation and Perception). In . G. ZEREN (Eds.), *Fizyolojik Psikoloji (Physiological Psychology)* (pp. 203–233). Eğiten Kitap. Ankara, Turkey. 2022
- Cotton, R. (2013). *Learning R* (Sünbül, Ö., Sünbül, S. Ö., & **Karabay, A.**, Trans). Pegem Press. İstanbul, Turkey. 2021

PRESENTATIONS

Talks

Invited talks

- Karabay, A.** Taking a snapshot of the brain: Visual impulse reveals (non)persistent neural activity by perturbation and increasing signal-noise ratio. *CCN meeting, Ghent University* in Gent, Belgium. 08/2022

Conference talks

- Karabay, A., & Fougny, D.** Revisiting visual awareness: No evidence for levels of processing. *The 25th Vision Sciences Society Meeting (VSS)* in Florida, USA. 05/2025
- Chen, I., Mathôt, S., van der Mij, R., **Karabay, A.**, Bowman, H., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed familiar face detection with EEG in rapid serial visual presentation. *The 23rd Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Porto, Portugal. 09/2023
- Wang, S., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. Attentional blur and blink: Effects of adaptive attentional scaling on visual awareness. *The 23rd Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Porto, Portugal. 09/2023
- Akyürek, E. G., Kandemir, G., Wolff, M., **Karabay, A.**, & Wilhelm, S. Probing latent working memory representations in EEG. *The 22nd Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Lille, France. 08/2022
- Chen, I., Buchel, P., **Karabay, A.**, Mathôt, S., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed familiar face detection with pupillometry in rapid serial visual presentation. *The 22nd Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Lille, France. 08/2022
- Wang, S., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. Which working memory model accounts best for target representation during the attentional blink? *The 22nd Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Lille, France. 08/2022
- Karabay, A.**, Wolff, M. J., Ruuskanen, V., & Akyürek, E. G. A visual impulse reveals memoranda embedded in functional connectivity: Evidence for activity-silent WM states. Symposium *Interactions between sensory representations and cognitive control in working memory* at the *International Conference of Cognitive Neuroscience 2020 (ICON)* in Helsinki, Finland. 05/2022
- Karabay, A.**, Wang, J., Wilhelm, S., Martens, S., & Akyürek, E. G. Two faces of the attentional blink: Gradual and discrete loss of perceptual awareness. *The 17th winter conference of De Nederlandse Vereniging voor Psychonomie (NVP)* in Egmond, the Netherlands. 12/2019
- Karabay, A.**, Wang, J., Martens, S., & Akyürek, E. G. The attentional blink: Binary or gradual? *The 21st Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Tenerife, Spain. 09/2019
- Kandemir, G., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. Decoding sensory and abstract information from activity silent brain states. *The 21st Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Tenerife, Spain. 09/2019

- Karabay, A.**, Saija J., Field, D. T., & Akyürek, E. G. The acute effects of cocoa flavanols on temporal and spatial attention. *The 16th winter conference of De Nederlandse Vereniging voor Psychonomie (NVP)* in Egmond, the Netherlands. 12/2017
- Er N., **Karabay, A.**, Kaynar, G., Uysal, M. M., & Boyraz, F. U. İstemli & istemsiz otobiyografik anılarda yaşa bağlı değişimler (Variations of voluntary and involuntary autobiographical memories depending on age). *The 17th National Psychology Congress* in Istanbul, Turkey. 05/2012
- Karabay, A.**, & Çakmak, M. A. Engellenme karşısında verilen tepkiler ile kişilik tiplerinin ve yüklem çeşitlerinin ilişkisi (The relationship between frustration responses, personality types, and attribution). *The 14th Ulusal Psikoloji Öğrencileri Kongresi (The 14th National Conference of Psychology Students)* in Istanbul, Turkey. 12/2009

Posters

- Kalanoski, S., **Karabay, A.**, Chunharas, C., & Fougny, D. From repulsion to attraction: Object priority drives distinct memory biases in visual working memory. *The 47th European Conference on Visual Perception (ECPV)* in Mainz, Germany. 08/2025
- Karabay, A.**, & Fougny, D. Evidence against levels of processing theories of visual awareness. *Asia Pacific Conference on Vision (APCV)* in Singapore. 07/2024
- Sasin, E., Zhou, Y., **Karabay, A.**, Shrestha, S., & Fougny, D. Where's Waldo in the mind: Accessing perceptual and semantic attributes in perception and working memory. *The 24th Vision Sciences Society Meeting (VSS)* in Florida, USA. 05/2024
- Chen, I., Mathôt, S., van der Mij, R., **Karabay, A.**, Bowman, H., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed familiar face detection with EEG in rapid serial visual presentation. *The 45th European Conference on Visual Perception (ECPV)* in Paphos, Cyprus. 08/2023
- Fougny, D., **Karabay, A.**, Nijenkamp, R., & Sarampalis, A. Introducing ART: a new method of testing auditory memory with circular reproduction tasks. *The 23rd Vision Sciences Society Meeting (VSS)* in Florida, USA. 05/2023
- Chen, I., **Karabay, A.**, Mathôt, S., Buchel, P., van der Mij, R., Bowman, H., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed familiar face detection with oculomotor measures and EEG in rapid serial visual presentation. *The 23rd Vision Sciences Society Meeting (VSS)* in Florida, USA. 05/2023
- Karabay, A.**, Kandemir, G., Kovács, E.R., & Akyürek, E. G. Pinging attentional task rules: Neural mechanisms underlying attending and suppressing in visual search tasks. *The 22nd Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Lille, France. 08/2022
- Altınok, A., **Karabay, A.**, Lorist, M. M., Weiden, D., & Akyürek, E. G. The acute effects of caffeine and cocoa flavanols on working memory and attention. *The 22nd Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)* in Lille, France. 08/2022
- Chen, I., Buchel, P., **Karabay, A.**, Mathôt, S., Bowman, H., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed information detection with pupillometry in rapid serial visual presentation. *The International Conference of Cognitive Neuroscience 2020 (ICON)* in Helsinki, Finland. 05/2022
- Karabay, A.**, Wolff, M. J., Ruuskanen, V., & Akyürek, E. G. Visual impulse perturbation: Neural sonar or just noise-reducer? *The 18th winter conference of De Nederlandse Vereniging voor Psychonomie (NVP)* in Egmond, the Netherlands. 04/2022
- Chen, I., **Karabay, A.**, Mathôt, S., Bowman, H., & Akyürek, E. G. Concealed identity information detection with pupillometry in rapid serial visual presentation. *The 18th winter conference of De Nederlandse Vereniging voor Psychonomie (NVP)* in Egmond, the Netherlands. 04/2022
- Wang, S., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. (2022, April). Which working memory model accounts best for target representation in the attentional blink? *The 18th winter conference of De Nederlandse Vereniging voor Psychonomie (NVP)* in Egmond, the Netherlands. 04/2022
- Altınok, A., Balta, G., **Karabay, A.**, & Akyürek, E. G. The effects of gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) on working memory and attention. *The 18th winter conference of De Nederlandse Vereniging voor Psychonomie (NVP)* in Egmond, the Netherlands. 04/2022

Kandemir, G., Karabay, A. , & Akyürek, E. G. Seeing double? Activity-silent maintenance of mental rotation products and their originals. <i>The 17th winter conference of De Nederlandse Vereniging voor Psychonomie (NVP)</i> in Egmond, the Netherlands.	12/2019
Altınok, A., Karabay, A. , & Akyürek, E. G. The acute effects of cocoa flavanols on visual working memory. <i>The 21st Conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology (ESCoP)</i> in Tenerife, Spain.	09/2019
Kandemir, G., Karabay, A. , & Akyürek, E. G. Decoding visual working memory before and after mental operations. <i>The BCN Winter Meeting</i> in Twente, the Netherlands.	02/2019
Karabay, A. , & Akyürek, E. G. Target color and contrast influences temporal attention in rapid serial visual presentation. <i>The International meeting of the Psychonomics Society in Amsterdam</i> , Netherlands; <i>The 40th European Conference on Visual Perception (ECVP)</i> in Berlin, Germany.	08/2017
Karabay, A. , & Akyürek, E. G. Kanizsa effects on temporal integration and attention. <i>The Heymans Symposium</i> in Groningen, the Netherlands.	04/2017
Karabay, A. , & Kurylo, D. D. Perceptual grouping by orientation coherence. <i>The Science Day</i> , Brooklyn College in New York, USA.	05/2015
Er, N., Karabay, A. , Kaynar, G., Uysal, M. M., & Boyraz, F. U. Autobiography of aging mind: age-related effects on voluntary and involuntary autobiographical memories. <i>The IX International Cognitive Neuroscience Meeting</i> in Istanbul, Turkey.	04/2012

SUPERVISED MASTER THESES

indicates published projects

#Ruuskanen, V. <i>Investigating the functionality of visual impulses in decoding working memory using matching and non-matching impulse stimuli</i> . University of Groningen, the Netherlands.	2022
Bapoğlu, O. A. <i>Pinging individual features of multi-feature objects: an EEG study</i> . University of Groningen, the Netherlands.	2021
#McAllister, C. <i>Effect of cocoa flavanols on attention</i> . University of Groningen, the Netherlands.	2017

RELEVANT SKILLS

Technical skills: JASP (*advanced*); SPSS (*advanced*); R (*advanced*); Matlab (*moderate/advanced*); Python (*moderate/advanced*); OpenSesame (*advanced*); E-prime (*advanced*); MS Office (*advanced*); Memory modeling; EEG; Multivariate Pattern Analysis; Canvas; Blackboard; GitHub; Classification; WordPress

Language skills: Turkish (*native*); English (*professional*); Dutch (*beginner*)

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

<i>Travel Grant</i> from University of Birmingham for attendance to VSS 2025 (1,400 £).	2025
<i>YLSY Fellowship</i> from Ministry of National Education, Turkey. Complete coverage of tuition, stipend, and partial coverage of research costs for masters and Ph.D. degrees (200,000\$).	2011–2019

AWARDS

<i>Open research award</i> for the study 'Concealed familiar face detection with pupillometry in rapid serial visual presentation,' by Open Science Programme, University of Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands.	2022
<i>Best poster presentation award</i> in Searching for the Working Memory Engram workshop with the presentation 'A visual impulse reveals memoranda embedded in functional connectivity: Evidence for activity-silent WM states', Groningen, the Netherlands.	2022

ORGANIZED WORKSHOP & SEMINARS

- Searching for the Working Memory Engram*, University of Groningen, the Netherlands. 05/2022
Organized an international hybrid workshop with prof. Elkan G. Akyürek.
- Introduction to Python/OpenSesame*, Leibniz Institute for Psychology, Germany. 08/2020
Worked as a tutor for the workshop by dr. Sebastiaan Mathôt. Topics: Introduction to Python/Numerical Python, Introduction to OpenSesame, Advanced numerical Python, Building online experiment, Collecting data, Analyzing with Python.
- Mindwise Science Communication Workshop*, University of Groningen, the Netherlands. 2019; 2020
Organized a workshop with the Mindwise Science Communication PhD Committee.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Post-Graduate Researcher Lead*, School of Psychology, University of Birmingham Dubai, Dubai 2025–Present
- Ph.d. and postdoc representative*, Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Groningen, the Netherlands. 2021–2022
- Mind-wise science communication Ph.D. committee member*, University of Groningen, the Netherlands. 2018–2021
- Psychology Ph.D. council member*, University of Groningen, the Netherlands. 2016–2019

PEER REVIEW & EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Editorial experience

- Junior editor**, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance 2023–2024
Supervisor: Prof. Isabel Gauthier

Grant Reviews

- National Science Foundation (NSF), USA 2024; 2025

Journal Reviews

- Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics
Acta Psychologica
eNeuro
Journal of Cognition

SELECTED CERTIFICATES

- Teaching and mentoring in academic learning communities*, Teaching Unit Psychology of University of Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands. 2018
- Multivariate pattern analyses (MVPA) in EEG/MEG*, Experimenteel-Psychologische Onderzoekschool, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. 2018
- Autumn school: Attention*, Experimenteel-Psychologische Onderzoekschool, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. 2018