

Belgin Ünal

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology (with minor in Quantitative Psychology)	<i>August 2019 - Present</i> <i>Expected: May 2025</i>
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign M.S. in Cognitive Psychology	<i>August 2019 - May 2022</i>
Bilkent University B.A., Psychology GPA: 3.98/4.00	<i>August 2014 - January 2019</i>
Minor Degree, Political Science GPA: 3.57/4.00	<i>January 2016 - January 2019</i>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign <i>Human Memory and Cognition Laboratory (Advisor: Aaron Benjamin, Ph.D.)</i>	<i>August 2019 - Present</i>
Research Assistant, Bilkent University <i>Memory Laboratory (Advisor: Miri Besken, Ph.D.)</i>	<i>June 2016 - July 2019</i>
Research Assistant Intern, University College Dublin <i>Attention and Memory Laboratory (Advisor: Ciara Greene, Ph.D.)</i>	<i>June 2018 - August 2018</i>
Research Assistant Intern, Koc University <i>Timing and Decision-Making Laboratory (Advisor: Fuat Balci, Ph.D.)</i>	<i>July 2017 - September 2017</i>

HONORS AND AWARDS

Psychonomic Society J. Frank Yates Student Conference Award <i>Received a stipend of \$1,000 to support participation in the annual meeting.</i>	<i>2023</i>
Sandy Goss Lucas Award for Excellence in Teaching Introductory Psychology <i>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</i>	<i>2022-2023</i>
Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students <i>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</i>	<i>Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2023</i>
Graduate College Conference Presentation Award <i>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</i>	<i>Fall 2022</i>
Top Scoring Student in the Department of Psychology <i>Bilkent University, Graduation with High Honor</i>	<i>Class of 2019</i>
Comprehensive Scholarship (100%) <i>Awarded all comprehensive scholarship (Tuition, monthly stipend, and health insurance) for five years funded by Bilkent University.</i>	<i>August 2014 - January 2019</i>
Erasmus+ Study Mobility Program Grant <i>Received €1200 for internship in University College Dublin, Ireland.</i>	<i>June 2018 - August 2018</i>

Project Title: Episodic Counterfactual Thinking and Memory: The Effects of Thinking “What Might Have Been” on Episodic Memory and Metamemory.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology

Fall 2023

Title: Curriculum Development Assistant, *Coordinator:* Lisa Travis

PSYC 248 Learning and Memory

Summer 2022, Summer 2023

Title: Teaching Assistant, *Instructor:* Aaron Benjamin

PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology

Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023

Title: Instructor, *Coordinator:* Lisa Travis

BCOG 200 Introduction to Programming for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences with Python

Spring 2022

Title: Teaching Assistant, *Instructor:* Babu Adhimoolam

PSYC 230 Sensation and Perception

Summer 2020, Summer 2021

Title: Teaching Assistant, *Instructor:* Simona Lleras Buetti & Alejandro Lleras

PSYC 398 Junior Honors Seminar

Spring 2019

Title: Teaching Assistant, *Instructor:* Frances Wang

PSYC 205 Statistics I & II

Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Title: Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, *Instructor:* Sezer Kadayıfçılar

SKILLS

Data Analysis and Visualization:	R, Python, SPSS, JASP
Experiment Design:	MATLAB, Python, Qualtrics, jsPsych
Other Technical Skills:	LaTeX, Git, Github
Language:	Turkish (native proficiency), English (professional working proficiency)

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Manuscripts in Progress:

- Ünal, B., & Benjamin, A.S. (in progress). A multivariate signal detection analysis of learning and forgetting in recognition memory.
- Ünal, B., Kelly, M. O., & Benjamin, A.S. (in progress). Investigating the effect of taking photographs on learning inferences.
- Ünal, B., Akan, M., & Benjamin, A.S. (in progress). Conceptual prior familiarity with varying faces enhances face recognition memory.

Manuscripts Under Review:

- Ünal, B., Kaya, S., & Besken, M. (under review). Mixed in a world of truth and lies: List composition moderates the effects of a lie fabrication manipulation on memory and metamemory.

Manuscripts Published:

- Ünal, B., & Benjamin, A. S. (in press). Judgments of Learning Reflect the Encoding of Contexts, Not Items: Evidence from a Test of Recognition Exclusion. *Memory*.
- Ünal, B., & Benjamin, A. S. (2023). Improving contact tracing with directed recall. *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*.

- Ünal, B., & Besken, M. (2020). Blessedly forgetful and blissfully unaware: a positivity bias in memory for (re)constructions of imagined past and future events. *Memory*, 28, 888-899.

Presentations:

- Ünal, B., & Benjamin A. S. (2023, November). *Judgments of Learning Reflect the Encoding of Contexts, Not Items: Evidence from a Test of Recognition Exclusion*. Poster presented at the 64th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, San Francisco, CA.
- Ünal, B., & Benjamin A. S. (2022, November). *Improving Contact Tracing with Directed Recall*. Poster presented at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Boston, MA.
- Ünal, B. (2022, April). *Improving Contact Tracing with Directed Recall*. Presentation at the Cognitive Brownbag at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL.
- Ünal, B. (2020, September). *What is the content of Judgments of Learning? Evidence from a test of exclusion*. Presentation at the Cognitive Brownbag at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL.

AFFILIATIONS

Women in Cognitive Science	January 2023 - Present
American Psychological Association	December 2022 - Present
Psychonomic Society	January 2020 - Present

CERTIFICATES

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- Graduate Teacher Certificate - *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
 - Data Visualization - *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Department of Computer Science - via Coursera*
 - Text Retrieval and Search Engines - *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Department of Computer Science - via Coursera*
 - Learning Technologies Foundations and Applications - *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Department of Education - via Coursera*

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Bilkent University's Social Awareness Projects – Friends Without Barriers
Providing necessary psychological support to mentally disabled individuals