

# EBRU EVCEN

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## EDUCATION

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**University of California San Diego**, San Diego, United States 2020 - 2026 (expected)  
Ph.D. in Linguistics  
**Committee:** David Barner, Caren Walker, Ivano Caponigro, Leon Bergen

**Middle East Technical University**, Ankara, Turkey 2016-2019  
M.A. in English Language Teaching  
Thesis title: Processing of Conditional Constructions in Turkish L2 speakers of English

**Middle East Technical University**, Ankara, Turkey 2012-2016  
B.A. in English Language Teaching

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (revise & resubmit). Conditional reasoning in children: The role of context and alternatives.

**Evcen, E.**, Bale, A. & Barner, D. (revise & resubmit). Conditional inference and access to alternatives: The role of QUD and speaker knowledge in conditional perfection.

Özge-Sarısoy, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (under review). Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs.

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (2025). Already perfect: Language users access the pragmatic meanings of conditionals first. *Open Mind*, 9, 1098–1120.

Yeter, Ö., **Evcen, E.**, Rabagliati, H. & Özge, D. (2024). Understanding cognitive and language development in refugees: Evidence from displaced Syrian children in Turkey. *Cognitive Development*, 69, 101412.

### Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings, Book Chapters

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (2025). Preschoolers compute literal and pragmatic meanings of conditionals with contextual support. *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Özge-Sarısoy, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2025). Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs. *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*.

**Evcen, E.** & Wittenberg, E. (2024). Two Negatives Make a Positive: Reducing Referential Uncertainty through Negation and Order Reversal Eases Processing in Counterfactuals. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 46.

**Evcen, E.** & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Making the Question Under Discussion explicit shifts counterfactual interpretation. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 44.

Özge, D. & **Evcen, E.** (2020). Referential form, word order and emotional valence in Turkish pronoun resolution. In U. Özge and D. Zeyrek (eds.), *Turkish Discourse, Structure and Meaning*. Trends in Linguistics Series, De Gruyter Publishing.

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (upcoming). Spontaneous interpretation of disjunction in preschoolers: One is preferred, both are fine. Poster at the 49th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 50), November 2025, Boston, MA, United States

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (2025). Preschoolers compute literal and pragmatic meanings of conditionals with contextual support. Poster at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2025), July 2025, San Francisco, CA, United States

Sarısoy, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2025) Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs. Poster at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2025), July 2025, San Francisco, CA, United States

**Evcen, E.** Bale, A. & Barner, D. (2025). Which alternatives matter? The role of QUD and speaker knowledge in conditionals. Poster at the 35th Semantic and Linguistic Theory (SALT 35), May 2025, Boston, MA, United States

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (2024). Conditionally literal: Exploring conditional reasoning in children. Talk at the 49th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 49), November 2024, Boston, MA, United States

**Evcen, E.** & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Two negatives make a positive: Reducing referential uncertainty through negation and order reversal eases processing in counterfactuals. Virtual poster at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2024), July, 2024, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (2024). Already Perfect: Conditional Statements. Poster at Experiments in Linguistics Meaning 3 (ELM 3), June 2024, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, United States

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (2024). Conditional inferences are derived without delay. Poster at the 6th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 6), January 2024, Stanford University, CA, United States

**Evcen, E.** & Barner, D. (2023). Time course of conditional inferences. Poster at the 10th biennial meeting of Experimental Pragmatics (XPRAG 10), September 2023, Université Paris Cité – CNRS, Paris, France

**Evcen, E.** & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Negation facilitates comprehension of English counterfactuals. Short talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 28), September, 2022, University of York, United Kingdom.

**Evcen, E.** & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Making the Question Under Discussion explicit shifts counterfactual interpretation. Short talk at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2022), July, 2022, Toronto, Canada.

**Evcen, E.** & Özge, D. (2022). Pronoun resolution in Turkish Transfer-of-possession verbs: Evidence from comprehension and production. Talk at the 3rd Cologne Ankara Discourse Meeting (CADiM3), July 2022, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2022). Implicit causality biases in Turkish psychological state events. Talk at the 3rd International Conference on Prominence in Language (ICPL3), June, 2022, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

- Evcen, E.** & Wittenberg, E. (2021). The Consideration of Alternatives During Incremental Comprehension of Counterfactuals. Short talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 27), September, 2021, Université de Paris, France.
- Özge, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2020). Referential form, word order and emotional valence in Turkish pronoun resolution. Poster at the 33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference (CUNY), March, 2020, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, United States
- Evcen, E.**, Özge, U. & Özge, D. (2019). Turkish *unless* is not biconditional unless the pragmatic context allows it. Poster at the 8th Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG), June 2019, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom.
- Özge, D., **Evcen, E.**, Kesici, A. & Köse, E. (2018). How do Turkish speakers interpret pronouns in Transfer-of-Possession contexts? Talk at the 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL14), October, 2018, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.
- Özge, D., **Evcen, E.**, Kesici, A. & Köse, E. (2018). How do Turkish speakers interpret pronouns in Transfer-of-Possession contexts? Talk at the 2nd International Conference on Prominence in Language (ICPL2), July, 2018, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

## TEACHING

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### Graduate Teaching Consultant

Summer 2024 - Present

*Engaged Teaching Hub, Teaching & Learning Commons, UC San Diego*

Introduction to College Teaching: Foundations of Equitable Teaching (Fall 2024, Winter 2025, Fall 2025)

Communication for Teaching (Spring 2025)

### Instructor of Record

Summer 2024

*Department of Linguistics, UC San Diego*

LIGN 170: Psycholinguistics: Experimental Approaches to Language and Cognition

### Graduate Teaching Assistant

2020 - 2024

*Department of Linguistics, UC San Diego*

LIGN 130: Semantics (Spring 2024) (2 sections)

LIGN 121: Syntax I (Winter 2024) (2 sections)

LIGN 101: Introduction to Linguistics (Winter 2020; Fall 2021; Spring 2021; Fall 2022; Winter 2022; Spring 2022; Fall 2023) (2 sections)

LIGN 8: Languages and Cultures of America (Fall 2020; Winter 2021)

### Mentorship

*UC San Diego*

Kayla Moreno (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Summer 2025 - Present

Grace Carlson (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Fall 2025 - Present

Jessica Nieblas (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Summer 2024 - Spring 2025

Raphael Dupa (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Spring 2024 - Spring 2025

Katherine Jamison (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Fall 2023 - Spring 2025

Victoria Hilke (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Summer 2024

Vaidehi Bhavaraju (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024

Maansi Narain (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024

Priscilla Lin (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Fall 2023 - Winter 2024

Ajax Asana (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Spring 2022 - Fall 2023

Piper Mahn (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Summer 2023

Miguel Mejia (Postbac Research Assistant)  
Lea Zaric (Undergraduate Research Assistant)

Fall 2020 - Spring 2021  
Fall 2020 - Spring 2021

**Language Instructor**

2016 - 2020

*Department of Foreign Languages, TOBB University of Economics and Technology*

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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**Grants**

Academic Senate General Campus Research Grant, UC San Diego March 2023  
*The Nature of Conditional Inferences* (PI: David Barner) (\$12000)

**Fellowships**

Anti-racist and Inclusive Pedagogy Fellowship, UC San Diego (\$500) Summer 2024  
Summer Graduate Teaching Scholars Fellowship, UC San Diego (\$500) Summer 2024

**Awards**

Distinguished Achievement in Service, Linguistics Department, UC San Diego 2025  
GPSA Travel Award, UC San Diego (\$300) September 2023  
Linguistics Department Travel Award, UC San Diego (\$750) Summer 2023  
TA Excellence Award, Linguistics Department, UC San Diego 2023

## RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

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**Language and Development Lab**

2021 - Present

UC San Diego

PI: David Barner, Department of Psychology

**Language Comprehension Lab**

2020 - 2022

Formerly at UC San Diego, now at Central European University

PI: Eva Wittenberg, Department of Cognitive Science

**SFB 1252 Prominence in Language**

June - July 2022

University of Cologne

PI: Klaus von Heusinger, Department of Linguistics

Guest in C04 - Conceptual and referential activation in discourse

**Language and Cognitive Development Lab**

2017 - 2019

Middle East Technical University

PI: Duygu Ozge, Department of English Language Teaching

**Language and Communication Development Lab**

June- August 2016

Koc University

PI: Aylin Kuntay, Department of Psychology

Summer Undergraduate Research Program (KUSRP)

## SUMMER SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATION

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<b>Student-Centered College Teaching &amp; Course Design</b> UC San Diego	March 2024
<b>Seventh Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology</b> , Potsdam, Germany Advanced methods in frequentist statistics with Julia	September 2023
<b>Göttingen Fall School in Linguistics: Anaphora and Presuppositions</b> University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany	August 2021
<b>Study Abroad</b> , Keele University, Staffordshire, United Kingdom TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)	January-June 2015

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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<b>Languages:</b>	Turkish (native), English (bilingual fluency), Southern Uzbek (fieldwork)
<b>Technical skills:</b>	R/RStudio (advanced modeling, data visualization), Praat, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, GitHub, PCIBex
<b>Research areas:</b>	Psycholinguistics, experimental semantics and pragmatics, quantitative methods