




MIRCEA ZLOTEANU

Lecturer Investigative Psychology, PhD, FHEA

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RESEARCH PROFILE

I am an experimental psychology researcher interested in emotions, decision-making, and deception detection. My research focuses on the behavioural cues used to ascertain if people are being truthful or deceptive. My work involves investigating differences in judgements and perceptions made alone or in groups, embodied effects on attention and information processing, the impact of situational factors on accuracy and bias, the production of deceptive facial expressions, and improving forensic interviewing practices. Recently, my research has focused on the role of trust and reputation in the Sharing Economy and online user behaviour.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2020 – Present **Lecturer Criminology & Investigative Psychology**
Department of Criminology and Sociology | *Kingston University London*
- 2018 – 2020 **Lecturer Forensic Psychology**
School of Social Science, Humanities & Law | *Teesside University*
- 2018 – 2019 **Visiting Researcher**
Financial Computing and Analytics Group | *University College London*
Academic Host: Prof. Tomaso Aste
- 2017 – 2018 **Research Associate**
Computer Science Department, Faculty of Engineering | *University College London*
EPSRC Project: The Role of Trust and Reputation in Sharing Economies | PI: Dr Giacomo Livan

EDUCATION

- 2012 – 2017 **PhD in Experimental Psychology**
Experimental Psychology Department | *University College London*
Thesis: Emotions and Deception Detection
Supervisors: Prof. Daniel C. Richardson & Dr Eva Krumhuber
- 2011 – 2012 **MSc in Social Cognition (Distinction)**
University College London
Dissertation: The Effect of Body Posture on Facial Expression Recognition and Deception Detection
Supervisor: Prof. Daniel C. Richardson
- 2007 – 2010 **BSc (Hons) in Psychology (First Class, 1:1)**
Goldsmiths College, University of London
- 2002 – 2007 International School of Bucharest (ISB)
First in Graduating Class
4 A Levels, 2 AS Levels, 6 IGCSEs

PUBLICATIONS

- Zloteanu, M.,** Krumhuber, E., & Richardson, D.C. (2018). Detecting Genuine and Deliberate Displays of Surprise in Static and Dynamic Faces. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 1184. doi: [10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01184](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01184) [7 citations]
- Zloteanu, M.,** Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G. (2018). Digital Identity: The Effect of Trust and Reputation Information on User Judgement in the Sharing Economy. *PLOS ONE*, 13, e0209071. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0209071](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0209071) [13 citations]
- Zloteanu, M.** (2015). The Role of Emotions in Detecting Deception. In E. Williams & I. Sheeha, *Deception: An Interdisciplinary Exploration* (pp. 203-217). Oxford: Inter-Disciplinary Press. doi: [10.1163/9781848883543_021](https://doi.org/10.1163/9781848883543_021) [4 citations]
- Zloteanu, M.** (2020 – in press). Reconsidering Facial Expressions and Deception Detection. In A. Freitas-Magalhaes & J. Borod, *Handbook of Facial Expression of Emotion*, Vol. 3.
- Zloteanu, M.,** Bull, P., & Richardson, D.C. (2020 – provisionally accepted (pending revisions) in the *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*). Emotion recognition and deception detection. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/crzne](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/crzne)
- Zloteanu, M.,** Krumhuber, E., & Richardson, D.C. (2020 – provisionally accepted (pending revisions) in

the Journal of Nonverbal Behavior). How to act genuinely surprised: A comparison of expression production methods. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/fps6w](https://osf.io/fps6w)

Zloteanu, M., Salman, N., & Richardson, D.C. (2019 – submitted). Looking guilty: Handcuffing suspects influences judgments of deception. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/mz76p](https://osf.io/mz76p)

Lodge, C., & **Zloteanu, M.** (2020 – in press). Juror's Expectations and Decision-Making: Revisiting the CSI Effect. *BPS North East of England Branch Bulletin, Summer Issue*.

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2019 – in prep.). Deception detection in pairs: Exploring multi-decoder veracity judgments. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/ykc5x](https://osf.io/ykc5x)

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2019 – in prep.). Sitting in judgment: How body posture influences deception detection and gazing behavior. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/dwf38](https://osf.io/dwf38)

Zloteanu, M., Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G. (2019 – in prep). Accuracy and Bias: User's Ability to Judge the Quality of Sharing Economy Profiles.

Zloteanu, M., Krumhuber, E., & Richardson, D.C. Emotional cue authenticity: The importance of genuine and deceptive emotions in social interactions. (2020 – submitted to *Frontiers in Psychology*, Research Topic: Advances and Obstacles in Contemporary Nonverbal Communication Research).

RESEARCH

Marmolejo-Ramos, F., [...], **Zloteanu, M.** (in progress). Many Labs: Replication of 'Embodiment of Abstract Concepts: Good and Bad in Right- and Left-handers'.

Namba, S. & **Zloteanu, M.** (in progress). Morphologic and Dynamic Properties of Deceptive Expressions of Surprise.

Zloteanu, M., Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G. (in progress). How Cultural Differences Shape the Sharing Economy.

Zloteanu, M., Ong, J., Krumhuber, E., & Richardson, D.C. (in progress). Dynamic Expressions Database.

Zloteanu, M., Aste, T., & Livan, G. (in progress). Monetary Risk and Information Bias in Sharing Economy Interactions.

Zloteanu, M., Jones, A., & Livan, G. (in progress). Staying with a Criminal: The Effect of Violent and Non-Violent Offender Host Profiles on User Behaviour in Sharing Economy Platforms.

Zloteanu, M. (in progress). Deception Detection and Emotion Recognition: A Dual-Systems Approach.

Patterson, A. & **Zloteanu, M.** (TBD). Perceived Lie Detection Ability: Wizards and Laypersons in Negotiations.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Zloteanu, M., Krumhuber, E., & Richardson, D.C. (2019). The Importance of Posed Facial Expression Production and Presentation Method on Authenticity Discrimination. *Talk presented at ISRE 2019, Amsterdam, Netherlands*. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.3397225](https://zenodo.org/record/3397225)

Zloteanu, M., Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G. (2019). Digital Identity: The Effect of Trust and Reputation Information on User Judgement in the Sharing Economy. *Talk presented at SARMAC XIII, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, United States*. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.3398259](https://zenodo.org/record/3398259)

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2017). Passive Lie Detection. *Talk presented at SARMAC XII, Sydney, Australia*. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.3401314](https://zenodo.org/record/3401314)

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2015). Looking Ready for Jail – The Influence of Handcuffs on Deception Detection and Suspiciousness. *Talk presented at SARMAC XI, Victoria, BC, Canada*.

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2015). “Surprise! I’m not actually surprised” – the ability to fake an emotion. *Talk presented at ISRE 2015, University of Geneva, Switzerland*.

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2015). The Effect of Handcuffs on Deception Detection – Visual and Audio Differences. *Poster presented at DECEPTICON I, Cambridge, UK*.

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2015). Looking Ready for Jail – The Influence of Handcuffs on Deception Detection and Suspiciousness. *Poster presented at the UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences Annual Post-Graduate Research Symposium, London, UK*. doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.29663.41122](https://rg.2.2.29663.41122)

Zloteanu, M. & Richardson, D.C. (2015). “Surprise! I’m not actually surprised” – the ability to fake an emotion. *Poster presented at the Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Long Beach, California*. doi: [10.13140/RG.2.1.4758.3127](https://rg.2.1.4758.3127)

- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2014). Emotion Recognition Training and Deception Detection: Importance of the type of lie told. *Poster presented at the UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences Annual Post-Graduate Research Symposium, London, UK.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.17499.92960](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.17499.92960)
- Zloteanu, M.** (2014). Deception Detection in low-stakes lies. *Talk presented at the Cumberland Lodge Conference, West Berkshire, UK.*
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2014). Investigating the role of emotion in deception detection. *Poster presented at the International Association for Conflict Management (IACM), Leiden, Netherlands.*
- Zloteanu, M.** (2014). The role of emotions in detecting low-stakes lies. *Talk presented at the 1st Global Inter-Disciplinary Deception Conference, Oxford, UK.*
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2013). Difference in Single vs. Pair judgements on Deception Detection, Confidence and Bias based on the Level of Communication. *Poster presented at the Thirty-Fifth Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Berlin, Germany, Cognitive Science Society.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.21274.80327](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.21274.80327)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2013). Difference in Single vs. Pair judgements on Deception Detection, Confidence and Bias based on the Level of Communication. *Poster presented at the Joint Action Meeting 5 (JAM), Berlin, Germany, Humboldt University.*
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2013). The effect of Body Posture and Empathy on the Recognition of Facial Expressions of Emotions and Deception Detection. *Poster presented at Embodied & Situated Language Processing (ESLP), Potsdam, Germany.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.31341.13280](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.31341.13280)
- Zloteanu, M.** (2013). The effect of Body Posture and Empathy on the Recognition of Facial Expressions of Emotions and Deception Detection. *Poster presented at the Cumberland Lodge Conference, West Berkshire, UK.*

HONOURS, FUNDING, & AWARDS

- 2019 ISRE Travel Grant - €100
- 2019 Teesside External Research Fund & UCL SRF – £1,512
- 2018 Students As Researchers Scheme (SARS | Teesside): Project Leader – £647
- 2018 Strategic Research Fund – £16,851
- Project: Monetary Risk and Information Bias in Sharing Economy Interactions – £9,964
 - Project: How Cultural Differences Shape the Sharing Economy – £6,887
- 2017 PsyPAG Workshop Grant – £1,139
- 2017 SARMAC Student Travel Award – \$500
- 2015 SPSP Diversity Travel Award – \$250
- 2015 UCL Graduate School Student Conference Award – £600
- 2014 FBS Poster Symposium – Best Poster (Runner up) – £200
- 2014 Cumberland Lodge Bursary – £100
- 2013 UCL Graduate School Student Conference Award – £404
- 2012 Impact award, UCL Graduate School – £32,500

Grants

- 2020 (in prep) - EPSRC Early Career Grant - “Accurate Affective Judgments in Online and Offline Environments”
- 2020 (in prep) - AHRC Leadership Fellow - “Dangerous Decisions in Peer-to-Peer Networks”
- 2020 (in prep) - Leverhulme Small Research Project Grant - “Deception Detection and Situational Factors”

TEACHING

Module Leader | Teesside University

- 2020 MSc Forensic Psychology | Module(s):
- The Psychology of Investigations
 - Law, Justice, and Psychology

Lecturer | Teesside University

- 2019 BSc (Hons) Psychology | Module(s):
- Conducting Research in Psychology
- 2018 BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology | Module(s):
- The Psychology of Criminal and Sexual Offending
 - Applied Forensic Psychology

- 2018 MSc Forensic Psychology | Module(s):
- The Psychology of Investigations
 - Law, Justice, and Psychology
 - Applied Quantitative Research Methods

Demonstrator | University College London

- 2018 MSc Computer Science | Module(s):
 --- Data Analytics (30 students)
 2017
 2017 BSc (Hons) Psychology | Module(s):
 --- 1st year - Introduction to Psychological Experimentation (10 students)
 2013 2nd year - Research and Quantitative Methods in Psychology (40 students)

MENTORING

Principal Investigator / Project Lead

- 2019 Student as Researchers Scheme (SARS)
 --- Research Assistant (1 Student) – Project “SAR25 – Staying with a Criminal”
 2018 *Teesside University, Swansea University, UCL*

Supervisor

- 2020 MSc Forensic Psychology Dissertation (18 students)
 --- BSc Psychology Dissertation (17 students)
 2018 *Teesside University*
 2018 MSc Financial Risk Management Dissertation (5 students)
 --- MSc Computational Finance Dissertation (1 student)
 2013 MSc Social Cognition Dissertation (2 students)
 MSc Psychological Sciences Dissertation (1 student)
 BSc (Hons) Psychology 2nd year Mini-research projects (3 student)
 BSc (Hons) Psychology 3rd year Final projects (7 students)
 Undergraduate Summer Research assistants (4 students)
University College London
 2013 BSc (Hons) Psychology 3rd year Affiliate Research project (1 student)
University of Pennsylvania

Group Coordinator

- 2014 Post-Graduate Peer Group (PPG) co-chair
 --- *University College London | Psychology and Language Sciences*
 2013

Examiner and Invigilator

- 2018 BSc (Hons), MSc, MRes, and PhD students (multiple programmes)
 --- *University College London*
 2013

Academic Tutor

- 2018 MSc Forensic Psychology (5 students)
 --- BSc Psychology (33 students)
 Present *Teesside University*
 2014 Private tutor | Statistics, SPSS, and Psychology
 --- *The Profs Tuition Ltd*
 2018

LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS

- 2018 Invited Lecture on “The Role of Emotions in Deception Detection”
Affective Neuroscience and Psychophysiology Colloquium | University of Göttingen
 2018 Lecture on “The Sharing Economy: How Trust and Reputation Shape our Behaviour”
Financial Computing & Analytics Seminars | University College London
 2018 Invited Lecture on “The Sharing Economy: How Trust and Reputation Shape our Behaviour”
ICN Seminars - Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience | University College London
 2017 Lecture on “The Science of Deception Detection”
Understanding Individuals and Groups module / MSc Social Cognition | University College London
 2016 Lecture on “Detecting Deception – Physiological, Verbal, and Nonverbal Techniques”
 2015 Lecture on “Emotions in Deception Detection”

- Cognitive Psychology Course* / MSc in Research Methods | University College London
2014 Lecture on “Methods of Detecting Deception – Physiological, Verbal, and Nonverbal”
Introduction to Social Psychology Course / BSc in Psychology | New York University
2014 Guest speaker on “Applied Social Psychology”
Understanding Individuals and Groups module / MSc Social Cognition | University College London
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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editor

Frontiers in Psychology | *Personality and Social Psychology* | 2018 – Present

Research Topic Editor

Frontiers in Psychology | *Theoretical and Experimental Developments in Deception Research* | TBD

Ambassador

COS Ambassadors, Center For Open Science, Open Science Framework (OSF)

FREYA Project Ambassador, Connected Open Identifiers

CRedit (Contributor Roles Taxonomy) Interest Group Member

Research & Entrepreneurship

Research Reading Group – Research Excellence Framework (REF) – Review committee

Digital and Creative Economies – Research Grand Challenge – Steering committee

The Centre for Crime, Harm Prevention and Security – Panel member

Consultancy

Expert Consultant, *BBC 50:50 Project*

Advisor for Data Collection, Analysis, and Interpretation, *OECD Digital Economy Outlook 2017*

Expert Behavioural Scientist, *Brainpool AI*, London, UK

Reviewer [P]

Journals: Law & Human Behavior; PLOS ONE; Frontiers; Sage Open; Acta Psychologica; Journal of Nonverbal Behavior; Information & Management; Information, Communication & Society; BMC Public Health.

Conferences: Decepticon 2015 (Cambridge), UCL PPG mini-conference 2014 (Cumberland)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Educational or Professional Qualifications:

2019 Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE)

2018 Fellow – Advance.HE / Higher Education Academy (FHEA)

2015 Associate Fellow – Higher Education Academy (AFHEA)

2014 Teaching in Higher Education – PGCE Certified – Centre for Advancing Learning and Teaching (CALT)

Professional Associations and Society Memberships:

2019 ISRE – International Society for Research on Emotion

2018 SARMAc – The Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition

2015 Decepticon – International Conference on Deceptive Behavior

2014 IACM – The International Association for Conflict Management

2014 Inter-disciplinary.net Deception – 1st Global Deception Conference

2014 SPSP – The Society for Personality and Social Psychology

2013 PsyPAG – Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group

2013 CogSci – Cognitive Science Society

2013 ESLP – Embodied and Situated Language Processes

2013 JAM – Joint Action Meeting

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

2019 BPS Careers in Psychology Event

Teesside University, Bronze Representative

Institute of Education, London

2017 Workshop Organiser – “Good Practices for PhD Students”

Co-funded by PsyPAG ‘Workshop Grant’ and UCL’s Public Engagement Scheme.

University College London

2016 Invited Speaker – “The Science of Deception Detection”

The Psychology of Spying Event | UCL Culture

Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology

Media Coverage

- Expert commentary – “AI lie detector developed for airport security”, *Financial Times* [\[link\]](#)
- Expert commentary – “Experts analyse the best celebrity Poker faces”, *Unibet.eu* [\[link\]](#)
- Interview – “Spotlight Interview - Using Gorilla for Research”, *Gorilla.sc* [\[link\]](#)

Community Impact

- Ranked top 2% Open Access, with all published papers being free to read online.
- Ranked top 1% for Open License, with all research outputs licensed for a wide range of reuse.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Research:

iMotions Eye-tracking Workshop
Matlab for Cognitive Neuroscience
Scientific Programming in Python
R Studio Advanced Statistics
Skills for Conflict Resolution
RED250 Mobile Eye-tracker Workshop

Teaching:

Teaching in Higher Education
Context and Problem Based Learning
Students' Mental Health Support
Using Audience Response Systems for Teaching
Negotiation & Conflict Management Skills
Managing PhD Students' Thesis Anxieties

FURTHER QUALIFICATIONS

IELTS Examination (2008) Academic Module: Grade 8
BEC (Business English Certificate) Vantage: Grade A
Romanian Computer Programming Olympiad (2006)

SKILLS & TRAINING

Statistical & Data Analysis Programs

SPSS, MatLab, R studio, Stata, G-Power, BayesFactor, JASP, Jamovi, Interaction!, SMI BeGaze, iMotions, WinBUGS, OpenBUGS, JAGS.

Computer skills

Moodle, Blackboard, Qualtrics, Gorilla, Prolific, Amazon Mturk, e-Prime, Android SDK, Advanced knowledge of Windows environments, iOS environment, Linux environment, Microsoft Office package, Photoshop CC, InDesign, GIMP, Outlook, Thunderbird, basic programming (C++, Python, MatLab), Website design (CSS, Java, JavaScript, HTML), Content Management systems (Drupal, etc.), cPanel.

Languages

Romanian (mother tongue) | English (fluent) | French (intermediate level) |
Spanish (intermediate level) | Japanese (basic level) | German (basic level)

REFERENCES

Prof. Daniel C. Richardson
(PhD supervisor)
Department of Experimental
Psychology
University College London
dcr@eyethink.org

Dr Eva Krumhuber
(PhD 2nd supervisor)
Department of Experimental
Psychology
University College London
e.krumhuber@ucl.ac.uk

Dr Giacomo Livan
(Employer - PI)
Department of Computer Science
University College London
g.livan@ucl.ac.uk