

# Ece Yüksel

University of Florida | Department of Psychology

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## Education

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- 2021 - Master of Science in Psychology** in Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience,  
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, United States  
**Advisor:** Steven Weisberg, Ph.D.
- 2020 Bachelor of Science in Psychology**  
TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara, Turkey
- 2020 Bachelor of Architecture**  
TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara, Turkey
- 2017 Erasmus+ Exchange Student**  
Politechnika Gdańska, Gdańsk, Poland

## Professional Appointments and Research Experience

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- 2021 - Ph.D. Student**  
Advisor: Steven Weisberg, Ph.D.  
*Spatial Cognition and Navigational Neuroscience (SCANN) Lab*  
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, United States
- 2023 - Graduate Research Assistant, 2023**  
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, United States
- 2019 Research Assistant**  
PI: Başak Şahin-Acar, Ph.D.  
*Child & Adolescent Development Laboratory*  
Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey  
Second coder for two different developmental qualitative psychology studies.
- 2019 Research Assistant, 2019**  
PI: Münire Özlem Çevik, Ph.D.  
*Behavioral Neurobiology Laboratory*  
TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara, Turkey  
Conducted a study in screening *drosophila melanogaster* gene mutants addressing attention modulation.

## Teaching Experience

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**2021 – 2022 Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, United States**  
 Lab Sensory Processes, Dr. Brian Odegaard, Fall 2022  
 Cognitive Psychology, Dr. Brian Odegaard, Spring 2022  
 Physiological Psychology, Dr. Ryan Mears, Fall 2021

*Undergraduate students supervised:* Merrill Garlington, Karina LaRubbio

## Guest Lectures

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**2022 Cognitive Psychology (Visual Knowledge), University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

## Awards

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**2022 Certificate of Outstanding Merit, International Student Achievement Awards**

The awards were established to highlight the accomplishments and contributions of international students at the University of Florida.

**2021 – 2024 Foundation Scholarship, University of Florida**  
 An award per year for three years, distributed by the Department of Psychology.  
 Foundation awards are scholarships used to supplement other funding for outstanding graduate students.

## Scholarships

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**2023 Full Scholarship for Moving Boundaries Course in Venice and Umbria, Italy (\$1,800)**

This winter program offers an intensive two-week course in the interface between disciplines concerned with design of the built environment and scientific disciplines concerned with human perception and behavior (<https://www.mb2023.org/>).

**2015 - 2020 Merit-Based Scholarship, TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara, Turkey**  
 Until graduation - Includes a full tuition waiver

## Conference Presentations

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**Yüksel, E., Boogart, Z., Weisberg, S.M. (2023, February).** *This is not the way: Global directional cues do not improve spatial navigation in an immersive virtual environment.* [Conference presentation]. 13<sup>th</sup> Annual North Central Florida Society for Neuroscience Chapter Conference, Gainesville, FL, United States.

**Yüksel, E., Boogart, Z., Weisberg, S.M. (2022, June).** *This is not the way: A global directional cue does not improve spatial navigation in an immersive virtual environment.* [Conference presentation]. 4th Interdisciplinary Navigation Symposium (virtual).

**Yüksel, E., Kadihasanoglu, D. (2021, August).** *Affordance for sitting: Perception of preferred and maximum sitting heights in a virtual reality environment.* [Conference presentation abstract]. European Conference on Visual Perception (virtual). <https://journals.sagepub.com/pb-assets/ECVP%202021%2003010066211059887-1641553299747.pdf>

## Talks

**Yüksel, E., Boogart, Z., Weisberg, S.M.** (May 2022). *This is not the way: A global directional cue does not improve spatial navigation in an immersive virtual environment.* [Data Blitz Talk]. Florida Consortium on the Neurobiology of Cognition (virtual).

## Additional Training & Certifications

<b>2021, April</b>	<b>Syntax_101</b> <i>Space Syntax</i> Introduction to the principles & methodologies used by Space Syntax in urban planning & building design.
<b>2020, June</b>	<b>3D Models for Virtual Reality</b> <i>Coursera / University of London</i> The basics of 3D graphics in Unity.
<b>2020, May</b>	<b>Introduction to Virtual Reality</b> <i>Coursera / University of London</i> The basics of VR- the hardware and the history of VR- to different applications of VR.

## Service

### Mentored Journal Reviews

**Spring 2021** **Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition**

### University Service

<b>2022 - 2023</b>	<b>Communications Team Member</b> <i>Graduate Assistants United (<a href="#">GAU</a>), University of Florida</i> The GAU communications team is responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive communications strategy for all aspects of the Union's internal and external communications.
<b>2022</b>	<b>Social Media Coordinator</b> <i>Turkish Student Association (TSA), University of Florida</i> Mission of TSA is to publicize and promote Turkish culture and language throughout the campus, to organize events that bring Turkish community together, and to gather the non-Turkish students with the Turkish community members in Gainesville to enhance the cultural exchange.

### Other

<b>2020 - 2022</b>	<b>Editor, Journal of European Psychology Students (<a href="#">JEPS</a>)</b> <i>EFPSA (European Federation of Psychology Students Association)</i> JEPS is an open-access, double-blind, peer-reviewed journal for psychology students worldwide.
<b>2018 - 2021</b>	<b>Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator, Executive Board Member</b> <i>Turkish Psychology Students Study Group (<a href="#">TPÖÇG</a>)</i> TPÖÇG is a national psychology students group in Turkey, promoting psychology as a science and providing a network between students.

## Professional Affiliations

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Society for Neuroscience

## Skills

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### Statistical Packages

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R, JASP

### IT Skills

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Autodesk AutoCAD, Revit Architecture, Adobe Photoshop CC, Unity3D

Questionnaire creation and administration: Qualtrics

### Languages

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Turkish (Native) | English (TOEFL: 111/120, September 2020) | Italian (A2)