

# BELGIN UNAL

📍 603 East Daniel St. Champaign, IL 61820

✉ [bunal2@illinois.edu](mailto:bunal2@illinois.edu) **in** [linkedin.com/in/belginunal](https://www.linkedin.com/in/belginunal)  [belginunal.github.io/](https://github.com/belginunal)

## EDUCATION

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<b>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</b> Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology (with minor in Quantitative Psychology)	<i>August 2019 - Present</i> <i>Expected: May 2025</i>
<b>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</b> M.S. in Cognitive Psychology	<i>August 2019 - May 2022</i>
<b>Bilkent University</b> 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

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

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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<b>Graduate College Conference Presentation Award</b> <i>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</i>	<i>Fall 2022</i>
<b>Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students</b> <i>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</i>	<i>Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021</i>
<b>Top Scoring Student in the Department of Psychology</b> <i>Bilkent University, Graduation with High Honor</i>	<i>Class of 2019</i>
<b>Comprehensive Scholarship (100%)</b> <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>
<b>Erasmus+ Study Mobility Program Grant</b> <i>University College Dublin, Ireland</i>	<i>June 2018 - August 2018</i>
<b>TUBITAK 2209A / Research Projects Fellowship for Undergraduate Students</b> <i>Project Title: Episodic Counterfactual Thinking and Memory: The Effects of Thinking “What Might Have Been” on Episodic Memory and Metamemory.</i>	<i>2017-2018</i>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology**  
Title: Instructor, Coordinator: Lisa Travis

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

**PSYC 248 Learning and Memory**  
Title: Teaching Assistant, Instructor: Aaron Benjamin

Summer 2022

**BCOG 200 Introduction to Programming for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences with Python**  
Title: Teaching Assistant, Instructor: Babu Adhimoolam

Spring 2022

**PSYC 230 Sensation and Perception**  
Title: Teaching Assistant, Instructor: Simona Lleras Buetti & Alejandro Lleras

Summer 2020, Summer 2021

**PSYC 398 Junior Honors Seminar**  
Title: Teaching Assistant, Instructor: Frances Wang

Spring 2019

**PSYC 205 Statistics I & II**  
Title: Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Instructor: Sezer Kadayıfçılar

Fall 2017, Spring 2018

## SKILLS

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

## PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

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Papers:

- Ünal, B., & Benjamin, A. S. (Under Review). Judgments of Learning Reflect the Encoding of Contexts, Not Items: Evidence from the Relationship between Judgments of Learning and Forgetting Functions on a Test of Recognition Exclusion.
- Ünal, B., & Benjamin, A. S. (Under Review). Improving Contact Tracing with Directed Recall.
- 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. (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

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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

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### **Bilkent University's Social Awareness Projects – Friends Without Barriers**

*Providing necessary psychological support to mentally disabled individuals*