

Gyulten Hyusein

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Work Address: Kadir Has University,

Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences Department of Psychology,

Kadir Has Cd., 34083 Cibali-Fatih, İstanbul, Türkiye

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Academic Employment

Assistant Professor

Kadir Has University, Department of Psychology, Istanbul, Türkiye

Sep 2026 - Present

Visiting Fellow in CRC 1646 Linguistic Creativity in Communication

Paderborn and Bielefeld Universities, Germany

Jun 2026 –Aug 2026

Instructor (Dr.)

Kadir Has University, Department of Psychology, Istanbul, Türkiye

Sep 2025 –Sep 2026

Education

PhD Cognitive Psychology, Koç University, Türkiye

Thesis Title: The Role of Hand Gestures and Mental Imagery in Creative Thinking

Supervisor: Prof. Tilbe Gökşun

Sep 2019 – July 2024

Fulbright Visiting Student Researcher

Penn Center for Neuroaesthetics (PCfN), University of Pennsylvania, USA

Supervisor: Prof. Anjan Chatterjee

Sep 2023 – Feb 2024

MSc Human Cognitive Neuropsychology, University of Edinburgh, UK

Thesis Title: Language and Cognition in Healthy and Pathological Brain Ageing:

Evidence from the Bulgarian-Turkish minority

Supervisor: Dr. Thomas Bak

Sep 2018 – Sep 2019

ERASMUS+ Exchange, Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK

Sep 2015 – June 2016

BA Psychology, Işık University, Turkey

Double Major in **BA Humanities and Social Sciences**

Oct 2012 – June 2017

Research Interests

Gestures; Creativity; Mental Imagery; Neuropsychology; Bilingualism and Cognition; Neuroaesthetics

Publications

Gökşun, T., Özer, D., Arslan, B., **Hyusein, G.**, & Akbuğa, Y. E. (2026). Gesture Use Across Different Concepts: Focusing on Cross-Linguistic Diversity. *Topics in Cognitive Science*, e70050. <https://doi.org/10.1111/tops.70050>

Hyusein, G., & Gökşun, T. (2025). The Role of Non-Representational Hand Gestures in Creative Thinking. *Languages*, 10(9), 206. <https://doi.org/10.3390/languages10090206>

Hyusein, G., & Göksun, T. (2025). Thinking Creatively in Two Languages: Effects of imagery vividness, foreign language proficiency, and hand gestures on bilingual creativity. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*. 1–16.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/s1366728925100151>

Hyusein, G., & Göksun, T. (2024). Give your ideas a hand: the role of iconic hand gestures in enhancing divergent creative thinking. *Psychological Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00426-024-01932-1>

Hyusein, G., & Göksun, T. (2023). The creative interplay between hand gestures, convergent thinking, and mental imagery. *Plos one*, 18(4), e0283859. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0283859>

Hussein, G., Kurtuluş, A., Yurtsever, T., & Peker, M. (2019). Dual identities: language, cognitive flexibility, and creativity. How acculturation strategies affect cognitive functions. *British Psychological Society North East Branch Bulletin No 9 Spring 2019*.

Manuscripts in prep

Koç, K., **Hyusein, G.**, Göksun, T., & Özer, D. (in prep). *Creativity Through Our Hands: Effects of Representational Gestures on Convergent Thinking*

Kılıç, B., Koç, K., **Hyusein, G.**, & Göksun, T. (in prep). *Does Observing Gestures Influence Creative Fixation?*

Hyusein, G., Meletaki, V., Cardillo, E.R., & Chatterjee, A. (in prep). *The Role of Gestures in Creative Fixation*

Hyusein, G., Meletaki, V., Cardillo, E.R., Göksun, T., & Chatterjee, A. (in prep). *Gestures and Creativity in Elderly Populations*

Talks

Hyusein, G. (2026, Jan.) *Takıntıların Fizyolojik Etkileri*. Seminar Talk at Psikoconnect'26, Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey

Hyusein, G., Meletaki, V., Cardillo, E.R., Altın, M., Tetik, E.O., Güçtaş, E. E., Göksun, T. & Chatterjee, A. (2025, Sep). *Jest ve Bilişin Kesişiminde: Yaşlı Bireyler ve Nörolojik Hasta Gruplarında Yaratıcı Düşünmeye Etki Eden Mekanizmalar*. Talk at the 9th National Experimental-Cognitive Psychology Symposium, Istanbul, Turkey.

Hyusein, G., Meletaki, V., Cardillo, E.R., Altın, M., Tetik, E.O. & Chatterjee, A. (2025, May). *Creativity and Gestures in Older Adults and People with Posterior Cortical Atrophy and Semantic Variant Primary Progressive Aphasia*. Talk at the 2025 Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity (SfNC) conference, Paris, France

Hyusein G. (2024, Nov). *The Mind's Eye in Your Creative Hands: The Role of Hand Gestures and Mental Imagery in Creative Thinking*. Talk at Fulbright Open Lectures “Transcending Boundaries – Expanding Knowledge”, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Hyusein, G. (2024, May). *Fulbright Experience and Bulgarian Culture*. Virtual presentation at the Fulbright in the Classroom Program, U.S. Fulbright Association Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter, USA

Hyusein G. (2024, Jan). *Creative Thinking & Gestures in Healthy and Brain-Damaged Populations*. Talk at the Fulbright Research Sharing Seminar, New York City, USA.

Hyusein, G. & Göksun, T. (2022, Nov.). *The Role of Hand Gestures in Divergent Thinking*. Sandbox Talk at the Fall Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity (SfNC) Virtual Event 2022, USA.

Hyusein, G. (2022, Sep). *Creativity Exercise and Solving a Case Study*. Invited presenter and workshop leader to a group of 50 Bulgarian undergraduate students at Nazım Hikmet Social Entrepreneurship Summer School, Kocaeli, Turkey

Hyusein, G., Özdemir, S., Türkmen, İ., Yalçın, Ö., Göksun, T. (2021, May). *Understanding the role of hand gestures in creative idea generation and across domains of creativity*. Virtual Talk at the 12th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science (DUCOG2021), Virtual Conference, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Hyusein, G., & Hume, I. (2016, April). *Are Psychopaths Mind-Blinded? Or Do Psychopathic Individuals Exhibit Deficits in Theory of Mind?*. Talk at the BPS Welsh Branch Annual Student Conference, Swansea, UK.

Hyusein, G., & Hume, I. (2016, April). *Are Psychopaths Mind-Blinded? Or Do Psychopathic Individuals Exhibit Deficits in Theory of Mind?*. Talk at the Internationalization Symposium, Athens, Greece.

Poster Presentations

- Hyusein, G.** & Göksun, T. (2025, July). *The Role of Non-representational Gestures in Creative Thinking*. Poster Presentation at the International Society for Gesture Studies 2025 Conference (ISGS 2025), Nijmegen, the Netherlands.
- Koç, K., **Hyusein, G.**, Göksun, T., & Özer, D. (2025, July). *Gestures and Mental Imagery Skills on Creativity: Observing Iconic Gestures Facilitates Convergent Thinking*. Poster Presentation at the International Society for Gesture Studies 2025 Conference (ISGS 2025), Nijmegen, the Netherlands.
- Koç, K., **Hyusein, G.**, Göksun, T., & Özer, D. (2025, June). *Creativity Through Our Hands: Observing Iconic Gestures Facilitates Convergent Thinking*. Poster Presentation at the 11th International Symposium on Brain and Cognitive Science (ISBCS 2025), Istanbul, Turkey
- Hyusein, G.** & Göksun, T. (2025, June). *The Role of Non-representational Gestures in Creative Thinking*. Poster Presentation at the 11th International Symposium on Brain and Cognitive Science (ISBCS 2025), Istanbul, Turkey
- Hyusein, G.**, Gürer, D., Yalçın, M., & Göksun, T. (2024, July). *Iconic Gestures – a Double-Edged Sword for Creative Imagery*. Poster Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2024), Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- Hyusein, G.**, Ayaz, B., Çallı, B., Altın, M., & Göksun, T. (2024, June) *Thinking Creatively in Two Languages: The Effects of Imagery Vividness, Foreign Language Proficiency, and Hand Gestures*. Poster Presentation at the 10th International Symposium on Brain and Cognitive Science (ISBCS 2024), Ankara, Turkey
- Hyusein, G.** & Göksun, T. (2023, May). *Give Your Ideas a Hand: How Gestures and Creative Thinking Interact*. Poster Presentation at the 9th International Symposium on Brain and Cognitive Science (ISBCS 2023), Istanbul, Turkey
- Hyusein, G.**, Erden, H., & Göksun, T. (2023, March). *Gesturing about Ideas Increases Fluency and Elaboration but Not Originality and Flexibility in Divergent Thinking*. Poster Presentation at the International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS) 2023, Belgium, Brussels
- Hyusein, G.** & Göksun, T. (2022, July). *The Creative Interplay between Hand Gestures, Convergent Thinking, and Mental Imagery*. Poster Presentation at the International Society for Gesture Studies 2022 Conference (ISGS 2022), Chicago, USA.
- Hyusein, G.** & Göksun, T. (2022, May). *The Role of Hand Gestures in Creative Thinking and Creative Imagery*. Poster Presentation at the 8th International Symposium on Brain and Cognitive Science (ISBCS 2022), Virtual Conference
- Hyusein, G.**, Yalçın, M., & Göksun, T. (2022, May). *Can Hand Gestures Enhance Creative Imagery?*. Poster presentation at the 7th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity (SfNC 2022), Virtual Conference, USA.
- Hyusein, G.** & Göksun, T. (2021, Sep). *El jestlerinin ve zihinsel imgelemenin yaratıcı düşünme becerileri üzerindeki etkisi*. Poster Presentation at the 6th National Experimental-Cognitive Psychology Symposium, Istanbul, Turkey.
- Hyusein, G.**, Türkmen, İ., Yalçın, Ö., Özdemir, S., Göksun, T. (2021, July). *Does encouraging gesture use help us connect remote associations?: The role of mental imagery*. Poster Presentation at the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2021), Virtual Conference, Vienna, Austria.

Teaching and Research Experience

Instructor

Kadir Has University, Department of Psychology, Istanbul, Türkiye

- PSYC104 Introduction to Concepts and Theories in Psychology II, Spring 2026
- PSYC311 Selected Topics in Cognitive Psychology I (Cognitive Neuropsychology), Spring 2026
- PSYC 344 Experimental Psychology, Spring 2026
- PSYC335 Physiological Psychology, Fall 2025
- PSYC345 Data Analysis in Psychology, Fall 2025
- PSYC 456 Psychology of Language, Fall 2025
- PSYC 541 Advanced Selected Topics in Cognitive Psychology I (Psychology of Language), Fall 2025

Sep 2025 - present

CogIST Language, Thought, and Bilingualism (Online Course)

Jan 2026

Koç University, Department of Psychology, Istanbul, Türkiye

Sep 2019 – Nov 2025

PhD Student and Postdoctoral Visiting Researcher, Language and Cognition Lab

- Have supervised and mentored 16 undergraduate and high-school research assistants
- Led Gesture Coding workshops and organized Summer Journal Clubs
- Conducted research projects on the intersection of gestures and creativity

Teaching Assistant

- PSYC301 Research Methods in Psychology, *Teaching Assistant*, Spring 2023
- PSYC206 Life-Span Development, *Teaching Assistant*, Fall 2022
- PSYC352 Language and Cognition, *Teaching Assistant*, Spring 2022
- PSYC453 Cognitive Neuropsychology, *Teaching Assistant*, Spring 2021
- PSYC445 Cognitive Development, *Teaching Assistant*, Fall 2020 & Fall 2021
- PSYC201 Scientific Methods in Behavioral and Social Sciences, *Teaching Assistant*, Spring 2020
- PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology, *Teaching Assistant*, Fall 2019

TED Çorlu College, Çorlu, Türkiye

Sep 2024 – May 2025

Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology Teacher

Awards and Funding

Türkiye Scholarships Research Fellowship

Nov 2024 – Nov 2025

Fulbright Bulgaria Visiting PhD Student Researcher Grant

Sep 2023 – Feb 2024

Teaching and Research Assistantship Excellence Award

Sep 2023

Türkiye Scholarships for Academic Success

Oct 2020 – June 2021

Koç University Postgraduate Scholarship for PhD Studies

Sep 2019 – Sep 2023

The University of Edinburgh Principal's Go Abroad Fund

Summer research project abroad grant

May 2019 – Sep 2019

The University of Edinburgh Drever Trust MSc Scholarship

Master's degree tuition fees – accepted

Sep 2018 – Aug 2019

QS Academic Excellence Scholarship

Master's degree tuition fees - declined

Sep 2018 – Aug 2019

Erasmus+ Grant for studying and internship abroad

Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK

Media Academy Cardiff, UK

Sep 2015 – Sep 2016

Cardiff Met Award with special achievements in **GlobalMind-Set**

Cardiff Met Psychological Literacy Award in Applied Psychology

April 2016

Professional Service and Volunteering Experience

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewer

May 2025 - present

- Bilingualism: Language and Cognition
- Studies in Psychology
- Acta Psychologica
- PloS One
- Gesture
- Türk Psikoloji Yazıları

Conference Reviewer

Feb/March 2025/2026

- International Society for Gesture Studies (ISGS)
- Cognitive Science Society (CogSci)

Grant/Award Reviewer

Jan 2026

- TÜBİTAK 2219 - International Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program for Turkish Citizens

Associate Editor

June 2021 – Present

EFPSA – Journal of European Psychology Students (JEPS)

Organizing Committee Support Team Member

June 2022 - Sep 2022

3rd Developmental Psychology Symposium, Istanbul, Turkey

Workshop Moderator

University of Edinburgh Learning & Teaching Conference, Edinburgh, UK
 "What is a global curriculum and how can we achieve it?" (Virtual Conference)
 "Joys, Challenges, and Opportunities of a Global University" (In-person conference)

June 2019/2020

University of Edinburgh, UK

Student Ambassador/ Go Abroad Peer-Support Project Team Leader

Sep 2018 – Aug 2019

European Federation of Psychology Students' Associations (EFPSA)

Better Together Project Local Coordinator for Istanbul, Turkey

Sep 2017 – Dec 2017

Media Academy Cardiff, UK

Criminal Justice Student Placement (ERASMUS+ Grant) in the Triage Project

June 2016 – Sep 2016

Headway Cardiff, Rookwood Hospital Wellbeing Centre, UK

Volunteer Support Worker (working with brain injury survivors)

Feb 2016 – Sep 2016

Student Volunteering Cardiff, Iorwert Jones Rehabilitation Centre, UK

Mental Health Project Volunteer (working with people with dementia)

Oct 2015 – May 2016

Psychology Club, Işık University, Istanbul, Turkey

Managing Editor of Psiko-Medya (Psychology Students' Bulletin)

Oct 2014 – May 2015

Affective Cognition Lab, Işık University, Istanbul, Turkey

Undergraduate Volunteer Research Assistant (supervised by Assoc. Prof. Robert W. Booth)

Nov 2013 – May 2015

Memberships

Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity (2020 – 2023; 2025);

Cognitive Science Society (2021; 2024);

Association for Psychological Science (2022 - 2023)

Language and Research Software Skills

Languages - **Bulgarian** (native), **Turkish** (native-like), **English** (fluent), **German** (lower intermediate)

Research Software - **R**, **Jamovi**, **ELAN**, **SPSS**, **Mplus**