

Azra Deniz BAYRAKTAR

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About myself

Dedicated Psychology student aiming to specialize in cognitive neuroscience. Currently acquiring laboratory and clinical experience at Medipol Mega University Hospital. As an approved author for the Psychology Times UK, translating complex research into accessible scientific content. Demonstrating strong leadership and communication skills as Vice President of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, coordinating events, and facilitating student engagement. Actively involved in other volunteer initiatives focused on community outreach. Committed to pursuing a PhD and establishing a long-term academic research career.

Education & Training

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology | Istanbul Medipol University | 26/09/2022 - Current | Istanbul, Türkiye

- Expected Graduation: June 2026
- Medium of Instruction: 100% English
- Current CGPA: 3.54/4.00 (Honor Student)
- Relevant Coursework: Mathematics for Social Sciences, Cognitive Psychology, Research Methods in Psychology, Statistics for Behavioral Sciences I, Biological Psychology, Statistics for Behavioral Sciences II, Sensation and Perception, Practical Statistics, Introduction to Neuropsychology, Advanced Statistics, Memory, and Psycholinguistics

Experience

Psychology Intern | Medipol Mega University Hospital | 12/11/2024 - Current

- Acquired technical and practical insight into neuroimaging, specifically focusing on electroencephalography (EEG) data acquisition and protocols, while also developing a basic familiarity with interpreting magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) findings.
- Gained practical familiarity with non-invasive brain stimulation (NIBS) protocols, including transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) and transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS).
- Observed the administration and clinical interpretation of neuropsychological tests (NPT).
- Observed brain-behavior correlations in patients with diverse neurological lesions.

Author and Kucukcekmece District Representative | Psychology Times | 27/09/2025 - Current

- Author (27/09/2025 - Current), Kucukcekmece District Representative (03/10/2025 - Current)
- Recognized as an Approved Author for meeting the official editorial and ethical writing standards of Psychology Times UK.
- Authored English-language content in neuroscience, cognitive psychology, and neuropsychology; translated complex research findings into accessible content to enhance science communication.
- Represented Psychology Times at the district level, aiming to expand the reach of psychology through community engagement.

Psychology Intern | Kanuni Sultan Suleyman Training & Research Hospital | 19/08/2025 - 15/09/2025

- Observed the application of cognitive assessment tools such as the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE), Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA), and Wisconsin Card Sorting Test (WCST).
- Observed clinical assessment and reporting processes across a wide range of pathologies.

Publications

Our Brain As A Time Machine: How Do We Use The Past To See The Future?

Azra Deniz Bayraktar, 2026, Psychology Times UK.

The "Blue Dot" Trap: How We Are Erasing the Map of Our Brains

Azra Deniz Bayraktar, 2025, Psychology Times UK.

Leadership & Volunteering

Vice President (Previously Head of Events & Executive Board Member) | Istanbul Medipol University Cognitive Neuroscience Society | 25/10/2024 - Current

- Vice President (22/09/2025 - Current), Head of Events (16/12/2024 - 22/09/2025), Executive Board Member (25/10/2024 - 16/12/2024)
- Spearheaded the society's first English event and managed international communications.
- Directed large-scale events in the field of cognitive neuroscience and coordinated tours within the university's research laboratory.
- Played an active role in promoting student engagement in cognitive neuroscience and academic career pathways.

Working Team for High School Students (LOYCE) | Turkish Psychology Students Working Group (TPOCG) | 31/10/2025 - Current

- Aimed to deliver a series of interactive presentations designed to foster academic curiosity in psychological sciences and clarify students' future visions by substantiating their career goals in the field.

Better Together Campaign | European Federation of Psychology Students' Associations (EFPSA) | 30/12/2022 - 12/05/2023

- Engaged high school students through an interactive presentation on anti-discrimination to foster awareness and empathy.

Certifications

Principles of fMRI 2 | Johns Hopkins University (via Coursera) | 02/03/2026

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) | Rotary District 2420 - Edirne Mimarsinan Rotary Club | 21/02/2026

Principles of fMRI 1 | Johns Hopkins University (via Coursera) | 18/02/2026

Italian Level A1 Certificate | Busuu | 07/01/2026

Fundamental Neuroscience for Neuroimaging | Johns Hopkins University (via Coursera) | 29/12/2025

The Neuropsychology of Decision Making | University of Cambridge (via Coursera) | 10/12/2025

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology and Neuropsychology | University of Cambridge (via Coursera) | 09/12/2025

Writing Certificate - Official Author Recognition | Psychology Times UK | 02/12/2025

2nd International Cerrahpasa Neuroscience Days | Cerrahpasa Neuroscience Club | 19/06/2025

Better Together Campaign | European Federation of Psychology Students' Associations (EFPSA) | 26/07/2023

Advanced Level Ballet Course Completion Certificate (Accredited by the Turkish Ministry of National Education) | Sezai Irmak Private Art Music and Ballet Training Center | 21/12/2020

Skills

Technical and Academic Skills | Research Methods | Statistical Analysis (SPSS & Jamovi) | Neuroimaging Principles | Neuropsychological Assessment and Testing | Science Communication | Literature Research & Review | Academic Writing & APA Style Formatting

Soft Skills | Critical & Analytical Thinking | Leadership | Complex Problem Solving | Teamwork | Time Management | Adaptability

Language Skills

Mother tongue(s): **Turkish**

	Understanding		Speaking		Writing
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
English	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2
Italian	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

References

Asst. Prof. Hasan Galip Bahcekapili | Istanbul Medipol University, Department of Psychology

- E-mail: hgbahcekapili@medipol.edu.tr
- Role: Lecturer

Prof. Gokhan Malkoc | Istanbul Medipol University, Department of Psychology

- E-mail: gmalkoc@medipol.edu.tr
- Role: Department Head / Lecturer