

Alp Aytuglu

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RESEARCH INTEREST

Parenting among diverse populations, early socio-emotional development, attachment, fathering, triadic relationships (co-parenting and child-mother-father interactions), transition to parenthood, intergenerational parenting processes, readiness for parenting, socio-cultural influences on families, biological synchrony, neural and hormonal correlates of fatherhood.

EDUCATION

- Expected 2023 **Ph.D.** Human Development and Family Science,
Certificate in Quantitative Methodology
University of Georgia
Advisor: Geoffrey L. Brown, Ph.D.
- 2018 **M.A.** Psychology
Concentration in Applied Developmental Psychology
Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey
Advisor: Ayfer Dost-Gozkan, Ph.D.
- 2014 **B.A.** Philosophy
Bilkent Universtiy, Ankara, Turkey

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2021 – present **Research Assistant**, Family Interactions Project,
PI: Drew Abney, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology, University of Georgia
- In this project, we use fNIRS neuroimaging techniques and collect stress physiology data (cortisol and respiratory sinus arrhythmia) during multiple joint interaction tasks to examine both neural and physiological synchrony between mother-child dyads, and associations between synchrony and early self-regulation in early to middle childhood.
- 2018 – present **Research Assistant**, Parents and Children Together Project,
PI: Geoffrey L. Brown, Ph.D. [NIH-NICHD, R01094879]
Department of Human Development and Family Science, University of Georgia
- I have served as lead research assistant on this NICHD-funded longitudinal study examining contextual factors affecting the transition to fatherhood and fathers' contributions to infant development among unmarried, African American men

living in resource-poor communities. In this project, I have been primarily responsible for data programming and management for four waves of data collection assessing families from pre-birth across the first two years of the child's life.

2017

Research Assistant, Youth and Adolescent Development Laboratory
 PI: Ayfer Dost-Gozkan, Ph.D. [TUBITAK¹ & European Commission].
 Department of Psychology, Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey

I worked on this longitudinal study investigating both individual and familial factors that influence adolescents' relationships with their parents and friends. In this project, I visited public schools in socio-demographically diverse districts in Istanbul and participate in collecting and analyzing qualitative data.

2014 – 2017

Research Assistant, Relationship Research Laboratory
 PI: Nilufer Kafescioglu, Ph.D. [TUBITAK 1001]
 Department of Psychology, Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey

My main role in this 4-year project was recruitment and retention, data collection, and management. In this project, we investigated socio-emotional and contextual factors influencing the marital relationship in the first years of marriage among newlywed couples with no previous experience of parenting. We observed newlywed couples' discussions and physiological reactions (e.g., heart rate variability, pulse, respiratory sinus arrhythmia, and skin conductance) to topics, such as the timing of becoming a parent and differing attitudes toward childrearing issues prenatally.

PUBLICATIONS

Aytuglu, A., Dost-Gözkan, A., Şengül-Tığ, P., Buğan-Kısır, B., & Brown, G. L. (2023). Narrative identity and positive youth development in Turkish emerging adults: The moderating role of cultural self-construals. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/02654075231170899>

Aytuglu, A., & Brown, G. L. (2022). Pleasure in parenting as a mediator between fathers' attachment representations and paternal sensitivity. *Journal of Family Psychology* 36(3), 427–437. <https://doi.org/10.1037/fam0000905>

Brown, G. L., Mangelsdorf, S. C., Neff, C., Shigeto, A., **Aytuglu, A.**, & Thomas, C. R. (2022). Infant attachment configurations with mothers and fathers: Implications for triadic interaction quality and children's parental preferences. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecresq.2021.09.004>

¹ Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye

Brown G. L., & **Aytuglu H. A.** (2020). Father-child attachment relationships. In H. E. Fitzgerald, K. von Klitzing, N. J. Cabrera, J. Scarano de Mendonça, & T. Skjøthaug (Eds.), *Handbook of fathers and child development* (pp. 273-290). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-51027-5_18

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES (UNDER REVIEW/REVISION)

Thomas C., Collins C., **Aytuglu A.**, & Brown G. L. (revised and resubmitted). Life stress and unmarried, African American fathers' prenatal childrearing attitudes: The moderating role of shift-and-persist. *Psychology of Men and Masculinities*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION (ALL ANALYSES COMPLETED)

Aytuglu, A., Thomas, C. R., Howard, C. J., Freeman J. Y., & Brown, G. L. (in preparation). *Predictors of unmarried, African American fathers' prenatal parenting self-efficacy: A moderated mediation model*.

Aytuglu, A., Brown, G. L., & Kogan, S. (in preparation). *Health Problems Mediate Associations between Low SES African American Fathers' Socio-Ecological Risk and Parental Engagement*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

13. **Aytuglu, A.**, Brown, G. L., Thomas, C. R., Howard, C. J., & Kogan, S. (2023, March). *Health Problems Mediate Associations between Low SES African American Fathers' Socio-Ecological Risk and Parental Engagement* [Paper presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Salt Lake City, UT.
12. Brown, G. L., **Aytuglu, A.**, Thomas, C., Howard, C., & Freeman, J. (2023, March). Social Networks and Prenatal Anticipated Parenting Efficacy Among Unmarried, African American Fathers. In G. L. Brown (Chair), *Fathering in the Prenatal Period: Elucidating Paternal Experiences and Contributions During Pregnancy and Childbirth* [Paper Symposium]. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Salt Lake City, UT.
11. Brown, G. L., **Aytuglu, A.**, Thomas, C., Howard, C., & Freeman, J. (2023, March). Pathways from Economic Distress to Paternal Engagement Among Unmarried, Black Fathers of Infants. In J. Lee (Chair), *Fathering, Mothering, and Family Dynamics in Low-Income Families* [Paper Symposium]. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Salt Lake City, UT.
10. Thomas, C., Brown, G. L., **Aytuglu, A.**, Howard, C. J. (2023, March). *Life Stress and Unmarried, African American Fathers' Prenatal Childrearing Attitudes: The Moderating Role of Shift-and-Persist* [Paper presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Salt Lake City, UT.
9. Howard, C. J., Brown, G. L., **Aytuglu, A.**, Thomas, C. R., Beugels, L., Oshri, A. (2023, March). *Observed parenting moderates associations between observed and reported youth psychosocial problems* [Poster presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Salt Lake City, UT.
8. **Aytuglu, A.**, Brown, G. L., Thomas, C. R., & Howard, C. J. (2022, June). Family of Origin Paternal Sensitivity as a Predictor of Prenatal Parenting Confidence among Unmarried, African American

Fathers. In G. L. Brown (Chair), *Paternal and Romantic Partner Sensitivity across Cultures* [Paper Symposium]. International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development (ISSBD), Rhodes, Greece.

7. ***Aytuglu, A.**, Thomas, C. R., Attridge, P. R., & Brown, G. L. (2021, April). *Predictors of Unmarried, African American Fathers' Parenting Confidence* [Poster presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Virtual Biennial Meeting.

*Received Strategic Poster recognition on Ethnic and Racial Issues

6. Brown, G. L., Kogan, S., Cho, J., & **Aytuglu, A.** (2021, April). *Father involvement moderates associations between OXTR methylation and alcohol use in unmarried, African American men* [Paper presentation]. Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Virtual Biennial Meeting.

5. ****Aytuglu, A.** & Brown, G. L. (2020, June/**Cancelled**). The mediating role of fathering attitudes in the association between fathers' attachment representation and paternal sensitivity. In N. Sumer (Chair), *Paternal and Romantic Partner Sensitivity across Cultures* [Paper Symposium]. International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development (ISSBD), Rhodes, Greece.

** Cancelled due to the global pandemic.

4. **Aytuglu, A.**, Brown, G. L., & Dost-Gozkan, A. (2019, November). *Moderating Effect of Self-Concepts on the Link between Emerging Adults' Narratives About Parents and Positive Development* [Flash Talk presentation]. National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) conference, Fort Worth, TX.
3. Elsharnouby, E. & **Aytuglu, A.** (2019, October). *Examining the changing parent-child relationship in Turkish emerging adulthood* [Paper presentation]. Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA), Toronto, Canada.
2. **Aytuglu, A.**, Dost-Gozkan, A., & Brown, G. L. (2019, February). *The Difference in Turkish Emerging Adults' Positive Development Indices with Respect to the Clusters of Cultural Self-Concepts* [Paper presentation]. Society for Cross-Cultural Research (SCCR) conference, Jacksonville, FL.
1. **Aytuglu, A.** & Dost-Gozkan, A. (2017, November). *The link between emerging adults' narrative identity in familial context and positive youth development* [Paper presentation]. Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA), Washington, D.C.

AWARDS & HONORS

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| 2023 | The Price Coker Excellence in Research Award (\$2100), UGA |
| 2022 | Student and Early Career Council (SECC) Dissertation Research Funding Award (\$2000), SRCD |
| 2022 | Graduate School GEAB (\$2500), UGA |
| 2022 | The Virginia Wilbanks Kilgore Scholarship (\$1000), UGA |
| 2022 | FACS Funds for Excellence Scholarship (\$1000), UGA |

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| 2022 | Graduate School Travel Award (\$1250), UGA |
| 2021 | The Virginia Wilbanks Kilgore Scholarship (\$900), UGA |
| 2021 | Elizabeth T. Sheerer Graduate Scholarship (\$1000), UGA |
| 2021 | FACS Funds for Excellence Scholarship (\$900), UGA |
| 2021 | Strategic Poster Recognition: Ethnic and Racial Issues related to children's development. The Society for Research on Child Development |
| 2019 | Costa and Creswell Travel Funds ((\$1100), UGA |
| 2017 | BIDEP Travel Fund, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey |
| 2015 – 2018 | Graduate School Scholarship (100% tuition waiver), Ozyegin University |
| 2009 – 2014 | Comprehensive Scholarship (100% tuition waiver and monthly stipend), Bilkent University |

TEACHING

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| Fall 2021 | Co-instructor , HDFS 4860/6860: Parenting and Child Guidance, Instructor: Dr. Geoffrey L. Brown, Department of Human Development and Family Science, University of Georgia |
| Spring 2016, 2017 | Teaching Assistant , PSY 304: Child Psychopathology, Instructor: Dr. Nilufer Kafescioglu, Department of Psychology, Ozyegin University |
| Fall 2015, 2016, 2017 | Teaching Assistant , PSY 301: Theories of Personality and Individual Differences, Instructor: Dr. Nilufer Kafescioglu, Department of Psychology, Ozyegin University |

OUTREACH & LEADERSHIP

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| 2020 - Present | Special Interest-Research Group on Father-Child Attachment & Relationships, Society for Emotion and Attachment Studies (SEAS). Coordinating Board member. |
| 2021 | Co-organizer of a virtual mini-conference on father-child attachment. |
| 2022 | Co-organizer of pre-conference panel discussions on father-child relationships. |

2023 **Co-organizer** of upcoming mini-conference on fatherhood.

2019 - 2020 Human Development and Family Science Graduate Student Organization (GSO),
UGA. Quint-state Representative

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND TRAINING

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

2021 Graduate Certificate in Quantitative Methods in Family Science (QMFS): Advanced quantitative methods training in structural equation modeling and multi-level modeling.

WORKSHOPS

2023 (registered, May 22) Multilevel Modeling: Dan Bauer, Ph.D. and Patrick Curran, Ph.D. *Curran-Bauer Analytics and the Center for Statistical Training*

2023 (registered, May 22) Introduction to Data Visualization: Michael Hallquist, Ph.D. *Curran-Bauer Analytics and the Center for Statistical Training*

2023 (registered, June 5) Modern Missing Data Analysis: Craig Enders, Ph.D. *Curran-Bauer Analytics and the Center for Statistical Training*

2022 Longitudinal Structural Equation Modeling: Dan Bauer, Ph.D. and Patrick Curran, Ph.D. *Curran-Bauer Analytics and the Center for Statistical Training*

2022 Latent Class/Cluster Analysis and Mixture Modeling: Dan Bauer, Ph.D. and Doug Steinley, Ph.D. *Curran-Bauer Analytics and the Center for Statistical Training*

2021 Introduction to Structural Equation Modeling Instructors: Dan Bauer, Ph.D. and Patrick Curran, Ph.D. *Curran-Bauer Analytics and the Center for Statistical Training*

2021 CardioEdit / CardioBatch (Plus) Training: Keri J. Heilman, Ph.D. *Brain Body Center for Psychophysiology and Bioengineering (BBCPB), UNC School of Medicine*

AD HOC REVIEWER

Journal of Early Adolescence

Journal of Family Psychology

SKILLS

Software SPSS, Mplus, CardioEdit/CardioBatch, NIRx (fNIRS systems), Biopac-AcqKnowledge

Languages English (fluent), Turkish (native)

REFERENCES

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