

HANDE SEVGI

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH METHODS, DATA & COMPUTATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher, Linguistics & Human Data

2019 – 2026

Harvard University

- Designed and executed elicitation tasks and experimental studies across spoken and sign languages, applying experimental design, cross-linguistic research methods, and multimodal analysis.
- Linked research questions to appropriate data and methods, including acceptability-judgment tasks, elicitation-based research, survey-style instruments, and qualitative coding.
- Annotated and analyzed multimodal datasets using ELAN, Praat, and linguistic annotation frameworks, supporting transcription, multimodal analysis, and dataset reliability.
- Managed data collection, cleaning, organization, and analysis for 10+ research projects, using R to analyze participant-response data, validate findings, and support reproducible workflows.
- Developed annotation guidelines, coding schemes, evaluation rubrics, and quality-control procedures for complex human-language and multimodal data.
- Conducted inter-annotator agreement analyses for annotation consistency and data reliability.
- Worked with human-subjects data and research protocols, maintaining attention to ethics, participant privacy, and responsible data handling.
- Published peer-reviewed research and presented at international conferences, translating complex methodological and theoretical findings into clear written and oral presentations.

Generative AI Evaluation Intern, Project Elephant

Jun 2025 – Nov 2025

Mercor.co

- Evaluated generative AI outputs for accuracy, consistency, reasoning quality, instruction following, conversational quality, and user-intent alignment using rubric-based assessment frameworks.
- Designed, tested, and reviewed human-in-the-loop evaluation workflows to identify model strengths, weaknesses, recurring failure modes, and quality gaps.
- Conducted qualitative error analysis of AI-generated outputs, identifying patterns related to ambiguity, inconsistency, hallucination, unsupported claims, and user-preference misalignment.
- Developed and refined evaluation criteria, rating guidelines, and rubric language to support consistent human judgment across model-evaluation workflows.
- Applied linguistic and empirical insights to support model evaluation, response-quality assessment, and iterative refinement.

Library Assistant

May 2025 – Sep 2025

Tozzer Library, Harvard University

- Provided user-centered patron services at the circulation desk, including check-in/check-out, account support, and first-line reference assistance.
- Assisted researchers in navigating catalogs, databases, citation-management tools, and resources.
- Supported collection maintenance through shelving, shelf reading, hold processing, and metadata-informed organization to improve resource discoverability.
- Delivered inclusive and accessible service to a diverse patron base in an academic library environment.

RESEARCH SUPPORT, INSTRUCTION & PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Lab Manager

2023 – 2024

Meaning and Modality Linguistics Laboratory, Harvard University

- Coordinated laboratory operations, including scheduling, logistics, communications, weekly programming, and semester-long research activities.
- Partnered with faculty, researchers, and guest speakers to plan meetings, prepare materials, and support accessibility needs, including ASL–English interpretation.
- Maintained and updated the laboratory website, distributed weekly announcements, and managed digital communications for members and affiliates.
- Administered procurement of laboratory equipment and resources to support research activities.
- Organized biweekly American Sign Language practice sessions to support community engagement, language learning, and professional development among lab members.
- Advised students and researchers on research design, data collection, annotation practices, and interpretation of results.

Graduate Teaching Fellow

2021 – 2024

Department of Linguistics, Harvard University

- Designed curricula, syllabi, assignments, and teaching materials for undergraduate linguistics courses.
- Delivered lectures, guest presentations, and weekly discussion sections, presenting complex concepts in accessible and engaging ways.
- Coordinated teaching fellows to support instruction, assessment practices, and student feedback.
- Mentored undergraduate students on research projects and academic development.
- Created inclusive classroom environments that promoted active learning and engagement.
- Completed the Bok Teaching Certificate, a structured pedagogical training program focused on inclusive teaching, feedback, assessment, and student learning.
- Received Harvard teaching awards, including the Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, recognizing excellence in instruction, student engagement, feedback, and learning support.

Departmental Pedagogy Fellow

2023 – 2024

The Bok Center, Harvard University

- Designed and facilitated instructor-development workshops on teaching, feedback, assessment, inclusive classroom practices, and student engagement.
- Created reusable teaching materials, workshop resources, and written guidance for instructors.
- Provided individualized consultations to Teaching Fellows on classroom practices, instructional design, student engagement, and feedback.
- Organized Teaching Fellow meetings to support a collaborative teaching community and share pedagogical best practices.
- Collaborated with the Bok Center for Teaching and Learning on departmental teaching initiatives, instructor-development programming, and pedagogy resources.

Assistant Director of Undergrad Studies

2022 – 2023

Department of Linguistics, Harvard University

- Supported program-level planning and curriculum coordination, working closely with faculty and administrators and handling confidential student information.
- Advised undergraduate students on academic planning, course selection, research opportunities, and professional development.

- Coordinated undergraduate-facing programming, outreach, and community-building initiatives to connect students with departmental resources, faculty mentors, and research opportunities.

SKILLS & TOOLS

Language, Text & Multimodal Analysis: syntax, morphology, experimental semantics and pragmatics, linguistic annotation, discourse/context analysis, ambiguity analysis, multimodal data, spoken language, sign language, gesture, ELAN, Praat.

Research Data & Methodology: Survey and experimental design, Qualtrics, human-subjects data, annotation guidelines, qualitative coding, inter-annotator agreement, participant-response data, metadata documentation, data acquisition, data cleaning, and data quality validation.

Computational & Statistical Methods: R, Python for data analysis, basic SQL, statistical analysis, mixed-methods analysis, data visualization, experimental design, data cleaning, reproducible workflows.

AI Methods: LLM evaluation, prompt/response assessment, prompt engineering, human-in-the-loop workflows, rubric-based evaluation, rating guidelines, failure-mode analysis, hallucination detection, instruction-following assessment, evaluation rubrics.

Research Ethics & Data Practices: Human-subjects research, participant privacy, documentation standards, responsible data handling, reproducible research practices.

Instruction & Research Support: Workshop design, tutorials, written guides, teaching materials, evaluator training, research consultation, accessible technical communication, academic library service.

Languages: Turkish (native); English (near-native); ASL (research proficiency); Turkish Sign Language (research proficiency).

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Linguistics

M.A. in Linguistics

B.A. in Translation & Interpreting Studies

Harvard University, 2026

Bogazici University

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