

ESRA ÇAKI

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EDUCATION

Doctoral Candidate in Learning Sciences

[October 2022 – Present]

Université Paris Cité, EURIP Graduate School

Paris, France

Thesis: Future of Skills Development - The Potential of AI-Driven VR Soft Skills Training Systems

Advisor: Franck Zenasni & Huyen Nguyen

- Working with two research laboratories in Île-de-France: Laboratoire de Psychologie et d'Ergonomie Appliquées (LaPEA) & Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire des Sciences du Numérique (LISN)

Master AIRE (Interdisciplinary Approaches in Research and Education)

[September 2020 – July 2022]

Université Paris Cité

Paris, France

Thesis: In-service Teachers' Perception of the Use of Virtual Reality as a Learning Medium

Erasmus Program in Adult Education and Human Resources Counseling

[September 2018 – Jan 2019]

University of Pécs

Pécs, Hungary

Bachelor's of Science in Science Teaching

[September 2015 – Jan 2020]

Hacettepe University

Ankara, Turkiye

- Qualified as a high honor student based on the GPA (3.70)

EXPERIENCE

Lecturer

[October 2022 – Present]

Université Paris Cité

Paris, France

- Teaching and assisting in academic courses at undergraduate and graduate level (i.e., Technologies for Learning (XR&AI), Psychology of Training, English for Psychologists, PhD Track for Master's students)

XR Research Intern

[May 2022 – August 2022]

Laboratoire Interdisciplinaires des Sciences du Numérique, Université Paris-Saclay

Paris, France

- Conducted extensive literature review to identify current research trends related to Virtual Reality (VR) in learning
- Gained hands-on experience with Unity and C# programming language

Research Intern

[OCT 2021 – April 2022]

Learning Planet Institute (LPI)

Paris, France

- Carried out research work contributing to the emerging field of innovative learning technologies, in particular research on immersive learning.
- Gained experience in research design and scientific paper writing.

Youth Community Engagement Intern

[Mar 2021 – August 2021]

Learning Planet Alliance

Paris, France

- Supported the co-creation of the Youth Voice Community.
- Assisted in building partnerships and collaborations within the #LearningPlanet community of youth organisations.
- Participated in onboarding meetings, youth empowerment circles, and documenting points of action around youth advocacy.

Science Teacher

[Jan 2019 – Jan 2020]

Necdet Seçkinöz Secondary School,

Ankara, Türkiye

- Assessed and selected the most effective training, instructional methods, and procedures to introduce new science topics.

Research Experiences

Immersive Technologies for Soft Skills Training: A Systematic Review. **Journal Submission [Pending]**

Immersive Learning Research Network (ILRN) **Doctoral Colloquium [Accepted, Jan 2023]**

California, US

- Title: Extended Reality in Learning: Effectiveness and Ethical Implications

International Conference of the Learning Sciences (ICLS) **Poster Submission [Accepted, Dec 2021]**

Hiroshima, Japan

- Title: Intertwining Research and Practice in Higher Education: Presenting LPI's Learning Sciences Master Program

Projects

- StandByMe: An AI-Driven Virtual Training for Soft Skills in Workplaces. **Funded by Carnot Cognition Institute. (+20.000€)** [Dec, 2023 – Present]
- PHC Bosphore 2023: Career Adaptability and Psychosocial Skills for Turkish University Students between France and Türkiye. **Supported by CAMPUS France & TUBITAK [2023-Present]**

Volunteering

- Co-leader of the Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Research on Extended Reality (LIXR) within the Learning Planet Institute [Sept 2022- Present]
- Europe & UK representative at International Learning Sciences Students Association (ILSSA) Committee [Sept 2022- Present]
- Volunteer Teacher at the Education Volunteers Foundation of Türkiye [Feb 2019- June 2019]

Honors & Awards

EURIP Scholarship (Eurip Graduate School, Université Paris Cité)

[Oct 2020-July 2022]

- A merit-based financial support given to talented EU/overseas students who wish to pursue a master's degree at Université de Paris/Learning Planet Institute. It awards a yearly stipend of 10.000 euros.

High Honor Student (Hacettepe University)

[February 2022]