

# Ozan Isler

*Behavioural & Experimental Economist*

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## EDUCATION

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University of California, Riverside, USA

- Ph.D. in economics (2009)

University of California, Riverside, USA

- M.A. in economics (2006)

Yale University, New Haven, USA

- B.A. in economics with distinction (2003)

## OCCUPATION

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*Research Fellow*

2019-present

Centre for Behavioural Economics, Society and Technology (BEST)

School of Economics and Finance, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Brisbane, Australia

*Research Fellow*

2014-2017

Centre for Decision Research and Experimental Economics (CeDEx)

School of Economics, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK

*Assistant Professor*

2010–2019

Department of Economics and Finance

Dogus University, Istanbul, Turkey

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Experimental and behavioural economics
  - Financial literacy and decision-making
  - Reflective foundations of cooperation and morality
  - Preventive health behaviour and public policy

## RESEARCH FUNDING

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- Templeton Religion Trust International Grant: “Religion as Moral Compass” (\$235,000) 2022-23
- Think Forward Initiative International Grant: “Financial Scarcity & Preparedness” (€80,000) 2020-22
- QUT Business School Research Support: “Experiments on Labour Creativity” (\$10,000) 2020-22
- Network for Integrated Behavioural Science (NIBS) Various Research Awards (£12,000) 2016-2021
- C-SEB, University of Cologne, Start-Up Grant: “Shared Group Identity & Cooperation (€3,000) 2020-21
- TUBITAK Long-Term Grant: “Resource Scarcity & Cooperation” (Advisor) 2021-24
- TUBITAK Long-Term Grant: “Earthquake Threat & Cooperation” (Advisor) 2021-24
- TUBITAK Short-Term Grant: “COVID-19 Preventive Measures” (Advisor) 2020-21

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2021 Sabanci International Essay Award: “Behavioural Consequences of COVID-19 Threat”
- European Commission, Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship 2015-2017
- TUBITAK Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, 2014-2015
- Chancellor’s Distinguished Fellowship, University of California, 2004-2009
- Yale College Fellowship, 1999-2003

## PUBLICATIONS

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Hoogeveen S, Sarafoglou A, van Elk M, ... **Isler O**, ... Wagenmakers E. (2022) A many-analysts approach to the relation between religiosity and well-being. *Religion, Brain & Behavior*, 1-47.

Pavlovic T, Azevedo F, Coustav D, ... **Isler O**, ... Van Bavel JJ. (2022) Predicting attitudinal and behavioral responses to COVID-19 pandemic using machine learning. *PNAS Nexus*, 1-33.

**Isler O**, Rojas A & Dulleck U. (2022) Easy to shove, difficult to show: Effect of educative and default nudges on financial self-management. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*, 34, 100639.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbef.2022.100639>

**Isler O** & Gächter S. (2022) Peer influence in honesty and cooperation. *Journal of Economic Behaviour & Organization*, 195, 75-86. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2021.12.026>

Bago, B., Kovacs, M., Protzko, ... **Isler O**, ... Matibag, C. J. (2022). Situational factors shape moral judgements in the trolley dilemma in Eastern, Southern and Western countries in a culturally diverse sample. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1-16.  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-022-01319-5>

Van Bavel JJ, Cichocka A, Capraro V, ... **Isler O**, ... Hudecek MFC. (2022). National identity predicts public health support during a global pandemic. *Nature Communications*, 13(517)  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-27668-9>

**Isler O**, Yilmaz O & Maule AJ. (2021) Religion, parochialism and intuitive cooperation. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 5, 512-521. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-020-01014-3>

**Isler O**, Gächter S, Maule AJ & Starmer C. (2021) Contextualised strong reciprocity explains selfless cooperation despite selfish intuitions and weak social heuristics. *Scientific Reports*, 11: 13868.  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-93412-4>

**Isler O**, Flew T, Erol I & Dulleck U. (2021). Market news and credibility cues improve house price predictions: An experiment on bounded rationality in real estate. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*, 31, 100550. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbef.2021.100550>

Nurse MS, Ross RM, **Isler O** & Van Rooy D. (2021). Analytic thinking predicts accuracy ratings and willingness to share COVID-19 misinformation in Australia. *Memory & Cognition*.  
<https://doi.org/10.3758/s13421-021-01219-5>

**Isler O**, Yilmaz O & Dogruyol B. (2021) Are we at all liberal at heart? High-powered tests find no effect of intuitive thinking on moral foundations. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 92: 104050.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jesp.2020.104050>

**Isler O**, Yilmaz O & Dogruyol B. (2020) Activating reflective thinking with decision justification and debiasing training. *Judgment and Decision Making*, 15(6), 926-938.  
<http://journal.sjdm.org/20/201008/jdm201008.pdf>

**Isler O**, Isler B, Kopsacheilis O & Ferguson E. (2020) Limits of the social-benefit motive among high-risk patients: A field experiment on influenza vaccination behaviour. *BMC Public Health*, 20(240)  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-8246-3>

**Isler O**. (2020) Rational Actors. In: Shackelford T., Weekes-Shackelford V. (eds) *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-16999-6\\_2155-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-16999-6_2155-1)

- Isler O.** (2020) Bounded rationality. In: Shackelford T., Weekes-Shackelford V. (eds) *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-16999-6\\_2156-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-16999-6_2156-1)
- Yilmaz O & **Isler O.** (2019) Reflection Increases Belief in God through Self-Questioning among Non-Believers. *Judgment and Decision Making*, 14(6), 649-657.  
<http://journal.sjdm.org/19/190605/jdm190605.pdf>
- Isler O.** (2019) Resource scarcity. In: Shackelford T & Weekes-Shackelford V (eds) *Encyclopedia of Evolutionary Psychological Science*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-16999-6\\_1585-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-16999-6_1585-1)
- Isler O** & Yilmaz O. (2019) Intuition and Deliberation in Morality and Cooperation: An Overview of the Literature. In: J. Liebowitz (Ed.), *Developing Informed Intuitants*, Taylor & Francis, 101-113.  
<https://doi.org/10.1201/9780429298097>
- Isler O**, Maule AJ & Starmer C. (2018) Is intuition really cooperative? Improved tests support the social heuristics hypothesis. *PLoS ONE*, 3(1): e0190560. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0190560>

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## WORK IN PROGRESS

- Isler O** & Yilmaz O. (2022, February 21) How to activate intuitive and reflective thinking in behavior research? A comprehensive examination of experimental techniques. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/jcyt2>
- Isler O**, Yilmaz O & Dulleck U. Scarcity frames value when perceived: Direct replication of Shah et al. (2015) provides consistent results and new insights.
- Isler O**, Yilmaz O & Dulleck U. Does scarcity impede cognitive function? A comparison of resource scarcity perception manipulations.
- Isler O**, Yilmaz O & Alper S. The effect of the global COVID-19 threat on national group bias.
- Isler O**, Kopsacheilis O & van Dolder D. The Description-Experience Gap in Cooperation.
- Isler O** & Kubitz G. Effects of Managerial Feedback and Economic Incentives on Online Labour Creativity.
- Isler O** & Gächter S. Economic and Psychological Drivers of Individual Dishonesty.
- Isler O**, Gächter S, Yilmaz O & Maule AJ. Do the right thing regardless of what others do: Moral and social messages increase cooperation against collective threats.
- Isler O**, Yilmaz O, Maule AJ & Gächter S. Development of a Safe and Reliable Method for Activating Perceptions of COVID-19 Threat.
- Ugurlar P, Dorrough A, **Isler O** & Yilmaz O. The more we know, the more we cooperate: The effect of shared group memberships on cooperation.

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## THESIS ADVISOR

- Findlay E (2021). Effect of Human vs. Robo-Advisors on Financial Decision-Making. *QUT*.

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### ***School of Business, Economics & Law, University of Queensland***

- Behavioural Economics
- Behavioural Public Policy (Philosophy, Politics & Economics Capstone Course)
- Economics for Business

### ***Business School, Queensland University of Technology***

- Applied Behavioural Economics
- Contemporary Applications of Economic Theory (Economics Capstone Course)
- Introduction to Economics

***Department of Economics and Finance, Dogus University***

- Philosophy of Social Sciences (Ph.D.)
- Research Methods in Social Sciences (M.A., M.B.A.)
- Economic Analysis (M.A., M.B.A. & Ph.D.)
- Managerial Economics (M.A., M.B.A. & Ph.D.)
- Microeconomics
- History of Economic Thought
- Current Issues in World Economy
- Development Economics
- Introduction to Economics / Principles of Economics
- Macroeconomics

***Department of Economics, University of California, Riverside***

- Introduction to Microeconomics
- Intermediate Microeconomics II
- Introduction to Economics
- Money, Banking and Financial Systems

**CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS**

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- *2022 QUT BEST Conference on Human Behaviour & Decision Making*, February 2022; presented “Activating intuitive and reflective thinking in behavior research”.
- *QUT Brown-Bag Seminar*, October 2021; presented “Experiments on Creativity of Online Labour”.
- *TIBER 2021 Symposium on Psychology and Economics*, August 2021; presented “Contextualised Strong Reciprocity Explains Selfless Cooperation.”
- *Economic Science Association World Conference*, July 2021; presented “Contextualised Strong Reciprocity Explains Selfless Cooperation”.
- *RExCon21 Conference on Social Preferences and Social Norms*, July 2021; presented “Contextualised Strong Reciprocity Explains Selfless Cooperation”.
- *2021 QUT BEST Conference on Human Behaviour & Decision Making*, February 2021; presented “Religion, parochialism, and intuitive cooperation”.
- *Macquarie University Belief Formation Workshop*, October 2020; presented upon invitation “Prosocial intentions, risk perceptions, and vaccination behaviour”.
- *2020 QUT BEST Workshop on Digital Trust and Well-Being*, June 2020; organizer; presented “Preventing COVID-19: an Australian perspective”.
- *QUT Brown-Bag Seminar*, March 2020; presented “Financial preparedness under cognitive scarcity”.
- *2020 QUT BEST Workshop on Behavioural Health Economics*, February 2020; organizer.
- *2020 QUT Annual BEST Conference on Human Behaviour & Decision Making*, February 2020; presented “Intuitions and strong reciprocity explain cooperation in maintenance and provision dilemmas”.
- *Bosphorus University Workshop on Experimental and Behavioural Economics*, May 2018; presented “Individual Identification of Dishonesty: Economic and Psychological Determinants”.

- *Asia Pacific Economic Science Association Conference*, Queensland University of Technology, February 2018; presented “Identification of dishonesty at the individual level”.
- *European Meeting of the Economic Science Association*, Vienna University of Economics and Business, September 2017; presented “Is intuition really cooperative?”
- *TIBER 2017 Symposium on Psychology and Economics*, Tilburg University, August 2017; presentation on “Honesty, Cooperation and Social Influence.”
- *Behavioural Science Group 5<sup>th</sup> Summer School on Social Choice and Ethical Decision Making*, Warwick Business School, July 2017; presentation on “Honesty, Cooperation and Social Influence.”
- *European Group of Process Tracing Studies (EGPROC) Conference*, National University of Ireland, Galway, June 2017; presentation on “Is cooperation indeed intuitive? Investigating the issues of noncompliance and misunderstanding”.
- *CDR Invited Seminar Series*, Centre for Decision Research, Leeds University Business School, December 2016; presented “Is cooperation indeed intuitive?”
- *Workshop on the Economics of Corruption: Reinventing Trusted Governance*, University of Passau, November 2016; presented “A modified UG experiment to study in/out group bias”.
- *European Meeting of the Economic Science Association*, Norwegian School of Economics in Bergen, September 2016; presented “Abstract, Concrete & Loaded Framing of the Public Good Game”.
- *Behavioural Science Group 4<sup>th</sup> Summer School on Decisions from Experience*, Warwick Business School, August 2016; participant.
- *7<sup>th</sup> International Summer Course on Research Methodology and Ethics in Health Sciences*, Koc University, Istanbul, July, 2016; participant.
- *European Group of Process Tracing Studies (EGPROC) Symposium & Conference*, Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, Bonn, June 2016; presentation on “Decision Context & Depth of Processing: Is Cooperation Ecologically Intuitive?”
- *Experimentics Summer School*, University of East Anglia, June 2016; participant.
- *Cognitive Processes of Economic Decisions*, 7<sup>th</sup> Thurgau Experimental Economics Meeting, University of Konstanz, Kreuzlingen, April 2016; participant.
- *Assessing Well-Being When Preferences Are Incoherent*, Network for Integrated Behavioural Science Conference, University of East Anglia, April 2016; poster presentation on “Understanding Framing Effects in Public Good Game Instructions.”
- *Behavioural Game Theory Workshop & Summer School*, University of East Anglia, Norwich, June 2015; participant.
- *Summer Institute on Bounded Rationality*, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, June 2015; poster presentation on “Are Abstract Tasks Neutral Frames?”
- *Behavioural Science and Policy*, Network for Integrated Behavioural Science Conference, University of Nottingham, April 2015; poster presentation on “Is There a ‘Neutral’ Frame? Using Framing Designs to Study Task Construal in Experimental Economics.”
- *Brown-Bag Seminar*, Centre for Decision Research and Experimental Economics, University of Nottingham, March 2015; presented “Are ‘Abstract’ Tasks, ‘Neutral’ Frames?”

## **REFEREING**

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- Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization
- Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics
- Journal of Economic Psychology

- Journal of Economic Methodology

### **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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English (fluent), Turkish (native), German (intermediate), Spanish (beginner)

### **SOFTWARE SKILLS**

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Stata, R, z-Tree, o-Tree, LIONESS, ORSEE, Qualtrics, Prolific, MTurk, GPower, Jamovi, JASP