

## Özge Savaş

Ph.D. Candidate in Psychology and Women's Studies

University of Michigan  
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### Education

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- 2013-present **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**  
*Ph.D. in Psychology and Women's Studies (expected defense date in January, 2020)*  
Committee: Abigail J. Stewart (chair), Andrew Shryock, Kay Deaux, Sara I. McClelland  
Thesis Title: Negotiating belonging: Attitudes towards immigrants and refugees, and experiences of displaced Syrians in the U.S.
- M.S. in Psychology and Women's Studies (2016)*  
Chair: Abigail J. Stewart  
Thesis Title: Pathways to activism: A developmental, transnational, and feminist approach
- 2010-2015 **Koç University, Istanbul**  
*M.A. in Developmental Psychology (2015)*  
Chair: Aylin Küntay  
Thesis Title: The nature of early child-directed interactions in advantaged and disadvantaged households
- 2005-2010 **Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara**  
*B.S. in Psychology (2010)*  
Minor in (History of) Philosophy

### Research Interests

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Belonging || Immigration || Gender & Citizenship  
Intergroup relations || Political participation || Activism  
Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed methods

### Publications

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- Savaş, Ö. & Stewart, A. J. (2018) Alternative pathways to activism: Intersections of social and personal pasts in the narratives of women's rights activists. *Qualitative Psychology*, 6(1), 27-46. DOI: 10.1037/qup0000117
- Blankenship, B., Savaş, Ö., Frederick, J., Stewart, A. J., (2018) Piecing together the American voting puzzle: How voters' personalities and judgments of issue importance mattered in the 2016 Presidential Election. *Analysis of Social Issues and Public Policy*, 18(1), 172-191. DOI: 10.1111/asap.12157

Blankenship, B., Frederick, J., Savaş, Ö., Montgomery, S., Stewart, A. J. (2017) Privilege and marginality: How group identification and personality predict right- and left-wing political activism. *Analysis of Social Issues and Public Policy* 17(1), 161-183. DOI: 10.1111/asap.12132.

Sümer, N., Sakman, E., Harma, M., & Savaş, Ö., (2016). Turkish mothers' attachment orientations and mental representations of their children. *Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology* 34(1), 49-63.

## Manuscripts Under Review

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Savaş, Ö., & Stewart, A. J. (under review) Finding affinity with immigrants: Common in-group identity, perception of historical continuity, and voters' choices in the 2016 Presidential Election.

Savaş, Ö., Greenwood, R. M., Blankenship, B. T., Stewart, A. J., Deaux, K. (under review) All immigrants are not alike: Intersectionality matters in views of immigrant groups.

Savaş, Ö. & Al-Midani, S. (forthcoming) Syrian refugees on the margins: Everyday practices of homemaking and citizen-making. To be published in Y. Hanoosh, S. Howell, & A. Shryock (Eds.) *Uncertain Refuge: Vitality and Vulnerability in Arab Detroit*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press.

## Manuscripts in Preparation

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Savaş, Ö. & Al-Midani, S. (in preparation) Lost in epistemologies: Ethical translation practices for a decolonized psychology.

Savaş, Ö. & Stewart, A. J. (in preparation) Who deserves to belong? The role of U.S. citizens' beliefs about acculturation, deservingness and social representations of Syrian refugees.

## White Papers/Reports

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McClelland, S., Rubin, J., Savaş, Ö., & Bell, S. (2015). A mixed method study of faculty attitudes about qualitative research methods in U.S. psychology graduate programs. *Report submitted to the Executive Committee of the Society for Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology (SQIP)*. See: <http://qualpsy.org/graduate-training-in-qualitative-methods-in-us-psychology-a-report-by-the-task-force/>

University of Michigan's ADVANCE Program\* (2014-2018). Faculty Exit Interview Study. *Co-authored 3 reports, once each year, from 2014 to 2018*. See for 2016 report: <http://advance.umich.edu/resources/UM-Exit-Interview-Study-2014-Report-executive%20final.pdf>

University of Michigan's ADVANCE Program\* (2014-2018). Department climate assessments for faculty, postdocs, staff, and graduate students. *Co-authored 5 departmental- and college-level climate assessment reports from 2014 to 2018*. See examples: <http://advance.umich.edu/climatestudies.php>

\*Co-authored as part of the Research and Evaluation Team, ADVANCE Program.

## Awards & Grants

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- 2019      **Public Scholarship Grant (\$8000)**  
*This grant is awarded by Rackham Program in Public Scholarship in support of researchers who work with a broad spectrum of community partner organizations. The expectation is the co-creation of public goods as a result of the partnership between the researcher and the community organization. The grants are generously supported by the University of Michigan Office of Research.*
- 2018      **Dr. Philip M. Kayal Fund for Arab American Research (\$1500)**  
*This grant was established by Center for Arab American Philanthropy in the name of Dr. Philip Kayal, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology. The grant supports young Arab American scholars and/or social science research on the Arab American community.*
- 2018      **Patricia Gurin Award (\$500)**  
*This award was established in honor of Patricia Gurin by the University of Michigan Psychology Department. It is a competitive award given annually to graduate students who conduct research in any of the areas that characterize Gurin's research. These include the areas of identity, diversity, self-efficacy and control.*
- 2018      **Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (\$3000)**  
*The Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant is designed to support Rackham graduate students who need assistance to carry out research that advances their progress toward their degree.*
- 2017-2018      **Barbour Scholarship (\$19,738)**  
*The Barbour Scholarships were endowed at the University of Michigan in 1917 by Levi Lewis Barbour "for women of the highest academic and professional caliber from the countries encompassing the large region extending from Turkey in the west to Japan and the Philippines in the east to study modern science, medicine, mathematics and other academic disciplines and professions critical to the development of their native lands."*
- 2017      **Nan Donald Award (\$2000)**  
*Given by the University of Michigan Psychology Department. The purpose of the Nan Donald Award is to encourage continuing interdisciplinary study in Psychology and Sociology.*
- 2017      **Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues Graduate Student Travel Grant (\$500)**
- 2016      **Rackham International Students Fellowship (\$10,000)**  
*"The Rackham International Student Fellowship assists outstanding international students, particularly those who may be ineligible for other kinds of support because of citizenship."*

- 2011            **Best Abstract Award, V. National Psychology Graduate Students Conference**  
(TL 500)  
Title: Language, memory and emotion: Emotional intensity of the autobiographical  
memories vary depending on language competence  
*Awarded by the psychology graduate student sub-committee of the Turkish  
Psychological Association.*
- 2010            **Best Poster of the Year Award**  
*Awarded by the Psychology Department at Middle East Technical University.*

## **Conferences & Workshop Presentations**

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- Savaş, Ö.**, (June, 2019). Who is “worthy” of belonging? Paper presented as part of the  
symposium in M. Okuyan & Ö. Savaş (co-chairs), *Dominant groups’ reactions to a  
changing society: Maintenance and confrontation* at 14<sup>th</sup> Society for Psychological Study  
of Social Issues Convention in San Diego, CA.
- Savaş, Ö.**, (June, 2019). *Doing research, policy, activism in/for/from the Majority World.*  
Facilitated interactive discussion in Ö. Savaş, P. Salter & A. Dutt (co-chairs) at 14<sup>th</sup> Society for  
Psychological Study of Social Issues Convention in San Diego, CA.
- Savaş, Ö.**, Greenwood, R. Blankenship, B. T., Stewart, A. J., & Deaux, K. (June, 2018).  
Immigrant representations in the United States: Capturing the heterogeneity. Paper  
presented as part of the symposium in K. Deaux (chair), *Immigrant representations in the  
making* at 13<sup>th</sup> Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues Convention in Pittsburgh,  
PA.
- Savaş, Ö.** & Stewart, A. J. (September, 2017). Creating affinity with immigrants: Perceptions of  
historical similarity and personal salience. Paper presented in the EASP-SPSSI Joint  
Meeting *To be both (or more): Immigration and Identity Multiplicity* in Utrecht,  
Netherlands.
- Savaş, Ö.** & Stewart, A. J. (June, 2017). Changing attitudes about immigrants before the  
2016 U.S. election. Paper presented as part of the symposium in A. J. Stewart (chair),  
*Making the U.S. home in the changing immigration context* at 12<sup>th</sup> Society for the  
Psychological Study of Social Issues Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Savaş, Ö.** & Stewart, A. J. (June, 2017). Overcoming internalized oppression:  
Transnational experiences for developing a feminist praxis. Paper presented as part of the  
symposium in T. Kurtis (chair), *Transnational feminist psychology approaches to social  
justice* at 12<sup>th</sup> Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Convention in  
Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Savaş, Ö.** & Stewart, A. J. (November, 2016). Decolonizing psychological theory of  
political socialization with evidence from global women’s movements. Paper presented as  
part of the symposium in A. J. Stewart (chair), *Challenging what is given: Narratives of  
feminist activists in the Global Feminisms Project* at Annual National Women’s Studies  
Association Conference in Montreal, Canada.

**Savaş, Ö.** & Stewart, A. J. (June, 2016). Alternative pathways to political activism: A contextual-developmental approach. Paper presented as part of the symposium in A. Stewart (chair), *Commitments to advocacy and activism: Political, relational and developmental contexts* at 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Rubin, J., McClelland, S., Bell, S., & **Savaş, Ö.** (June, 2016). Faculty attitudes about qualitative research methods in U.S. psychology graduate programs. Paper presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Frederick, J., **Savaş, Ö.**, Stewart, A. J., Montgomery, S. & Blankenship, B. (July, 2015). Privilege and marginality: How group identification and personality predict right- and left-wing political activism. Paper presented at Annual meeting of International Society of Political Psychology in San Diego, California.

Montgomery, S., Blankenship, B., Frederick, J., **Savaş, Ö.**, & Stewart, A. J. (June, 2014). Movers and shakers: Personality, identity, and political activism. Poster presented at 10th Biennial Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues convention in Portland, Oregon.

### **Pre-PhD Conference Presentations**

**Savaş, Ö.**, Altinok, N., Küntay, A., & Liszkowski, U. (June, 2012). Within-culture differences in caregiver-infant triadic joint actions. Paper presented at the Fifth International Conference on Language, Culture and Mind, Young Researchers Workshop, Lisbon, Portugal.

Okuyan, M., Cingoz-Ulu, B., & **Savaş, Ö.** (April, 2012). Kolektif eylemi etkileyen faktörler: Psikoloji öğrencileri örneği [The factors contributing to collective action: The case of psychology students]. Paper presented at the 17th National Psychology Congress, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey.

**Savaş, Ö.**, Altinok, N. & Bilgin, A. (April, 2012). Dil, bellek ve duygu: Anılara atfedilen duygu yoğunluğunun anının anadil ve ikinci dilde anlatılmasına göre farklılaşması [Language, memory and emotion: Emotional intensity of the autobiographical memories vary depending on language competence]. Poster presented at the 17<sup>th</sup> National Psychology Congress, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey.

**Savaş, Ö.** (January, 2012). The effect of caregiver gesture-talk integration on communicative development in infancy. Paper presented at The British Academy Latin America Link Programme Communicative Development: A cross-linguistic, cross-cultural comparison, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK.

**Savaş, Ö.**, Altinok, N. & Bilgin, A. (September, 2011). Anılara atfedilen duygu yoğunluğunun anının anadil ve ikinci dilde anlatılmasına göre farklılaşması. [Emotional intensity of the autobiographical memories vary depending on language competence] Paper presented at the V. Graduate Psychology Students Congress, Dogus University, Istanbul, Turkey.

**Savaş, Ö.** (July, 2009). Uzman otoritesinin sahte anı oluşturmada etkisi: Bellekte

uy macılık [Influence of expert power on forming false memories: Does memory conform?]  
Paper presented at the XIV. National Psychology Students Congress, Istanbul University,  
Istanbul, Turkey.

## Invited Talks

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2019 *Multiple belongings, multiple perspectives.* Psychology Department, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Turkey.

2019 *Belonging: From citizens to refugees.* Psychology Department, the American University of Paris, Paris.

### Internal

2018 *Listening to/from refugee women: Reshaping the discourse of “vulnerability.”* Women’s Studies Department. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

2018 *Forms and processes of othering and belonging in the context of social inequality.* Gender and Feminist Psychology Area Brown Bag Seminar. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

2016 *Alternative pathways to activism: Intersections of history and personal pasts in the narratives of women’s rights activists.* Gender and Feminist Psychology Area Brown Bag Seminar. Department of Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

## Teaching Interests

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### *In Psychology:*

Introduction to Psychology  
Social Psychology  
Personality Psychology  
Developmental Psychology  
Cultural Psychology  
Introduction to Psychology of Women, Gender, and Sexuality  
Psychology of Belonging  
Research Methods  
Qualitative Research Methods

### *In Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies:*

Introduction to Women’s Studies  
Feminist Methods in the Social Sciences  
Gender, Power & Violence  
Gender, Race & Citizenship  
Transnational Feminisms & Women’s Movements

## Teaching Experience

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2019 **Psychology of Belonging**

(Instructor of Record)

- 2015-2016     **Introduction to Women’s Studies, GSI\***  
(lead instructors: Maria Cotera & Ruby Tapia)  
Teaching ratings for the statement "*Overall, the instructor was an excellent teacher.*"  
Fall 2016, two sections: median 4.83/5.00; 4.67/5.00  
Winter 2016, two sections: median 4.69/5.00; 4.13/5.00  
Fall 2015, two sections: median 4.68/5.00; 4.00/5.00
- 2015           **Introduction to Psychology of Women & Gender, GSI\***  
(lead instructor: Jennifer Yim)  
Teaching ratings for the statement "*Overall, the instructor was an excellent teacher.*"  
Winter 2015: three sections: median 3.75/5.00; 4.08/5.00; 3.75/5.00
- 2014           **Political Psychology, GSI\***  
(lead instructor: David Winter)  
Teaching ratings for the statement "*Overall, the instructor was an excellent teacher.*"  
Fall 2014: three sections: median 4.67/5.00; 4.50/5.00; 4.50/5.00
- 2012           **Abnormal Psychology, TA\*\***  
(lead instructor: Banu Çankaya)
- 2011           **Learning and Cognition, TA\*\***  
(lead instructor: İlke Öztekin)
- 2010-2011     **Brain and Behavior, TA\*\***  
(lead instructor: İlke Öztekin)

\*GSI: Graduate Student Instructor. Responsibilities included: Creating a section syllabus and lesson plans with in-class activities; facilitating in-class discussions of readings and reviewing lecture materials in the sections; grading written assignments, evaluating group projects and grading midterms/final exams; holding office hours.

\*\*TA: Teaching Assistant. Responsibilities included: Grading exams and quizzes, holding office hours.

## **Mentoring Experience**

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- 2018-present   **Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Mentor**  
Supervised students: Arielle Sturr, Rebecca Wong
- 2015- present   **Student Advising in Gender and Personality in Context Lab**  
Supervised students: Pinar Kolacanli, Alexandra Mangus, Sarah Abdel-Wahab O’Brien, Sydney Eisenberg, Haya Akbik, Hidaya Zeaiter, Salma Al-Midani.
- 2018-2019      **Graduate Student advisor of Honor’s Thesis**  
Supervised student: Alexandra Mangus  
Title of thesis: “The Link Between Primary Prevention Programming and College Students’ Attitudes towards Sexual Assault Survivors.”
- 2017            **Michigan Association of Psychological Scholars (MAPS) Mentor**

A program that offers guidance and support to undergraduates in the Psychology Department.

Supervised students: Shiren Ang

2012 **Koç University Summer Research Program MA Student Supervisor**

Supervised students: Gönül Atlı

2012 **Student Advising in Koç University Language and Communication Development Lab**

Supervised students: Demet Özer, Meltem Nazlı Yücel.

## Guest Lectures

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2019 *Seeking refuge in Southeast Michigan.* Invited to talk in the course “Refugees of Unjust Worlds: Race, Gender, and Nation” (instructor: Dr. Amal Fadlalla; ~18 students)

2018 *Asking Questions in Interviews: The Roles of Researcher Identity, Stigma, and Emotions in Qualitative Research.* Invited to talk in the course “Identity and Stigma in Society: Theoretical Foundations and Methodological Approaches in Psychology” (instructor: Dr. Benjamin T. Blankenship; ~10 students).

2016 *Gender-based Violence: Intimate Partner Violence.* Invited to talk in the course “Introduction to Women’s Studies” (instructor: Dr. Maria Cotera; 300 students).

2016 *Gender-based Violence: Global and State Violence.* Invited to talk in the course “Introduction to Women’s Studies” (instructor: Dr. Prof. Maria Cotera; 300 students).

2012 *Coding Audio and Video Data with ELAN, an Annotation Software.* Workshop delivered to an audience from different disciplinary backgrounds as part of Language and Communication Development Lab Workshop Series, Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey.

## Professional Experience

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2018-2019 **Center for Arab American Studies, University of Michigan, Dearborn**  
*Visiting Scholar (Participation and contribution to the activities organized by the Center; sharing resources, knowledge, and expertise)*

2018-2021 **Internationalization Committee of SPSSI**  
*Role: Committee member. (Goals are to increase and serve SPSSI’s international membership and to develop international activities. This committee also selects recipients for international travel awards to attend SPSSI conferences.)*

2014-2018 **ADVANCE Program**  
*Role: Graduate Student Intern*  
*University of Michigan ADVANCE Program aims to improve campus environment for faculty, students and staff, focusing on recruitment, retention, climate, and leadership practices.*



- 2018            **Public Scholarship Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop**  
*Role: Student coordinator. Co-organizer with three other graduate students.*
- 2017-2018      **Department of Psychology Graduate Student Leadership Council**  
*Role: Representative of Gender and Feminist Psychology Area*
- 2016-2017      **Studies on Turkey Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop**  
*Role: Student coordinator. Co-organizer with two other graduate students.*
- 2016            **Brown Bag Organizing Committee**  
*Role: Student member, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan*
- 2015            **Society for Qualitative Inquiry in Psychology (SQIP) Taskforce**  
*Role: Assisting with data collection and analysis, and report writing in the service of the discipline of psychology as part of the taskforce formed by APA Division 5.*
- 2009-2010      **Middle East Technical University Psychology Student Association**  
*Role: President (2009-2010), Executive member (2008-2009)*
- 2008-2009      **Turkish Psychology Students Study Group (TPSSG)**  
*Role: Representative of Middle East Technical University Psychology Department.*
- 2009            **Organizing Committee for METU Psychology Days**  
*Role: Lead Organizer, Conference theme: “Universality and Diversity”*

## **Professional Memberships**

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Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)  
International Society for Political Psychology (ISPP)

## **References**

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### **Prof. Abigail J. Stewart**

Sandra Schwartz Tangri Distinguished University Professor of Psychology and Women's Studies  
University of Michigan  
Email: [abbystew@umich.edu](mailto:abbystew@umich.edu)

### **Prof. Kay Deaux**

Distinguished Professor Emerita  
The Graduate Center of the City University of New York  
New York University  
Email: [kdeaux@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:kdeaux@gc.cuny.edu)

### **Prof. Sara I. McClelland**

Associate Professor of Women's Studies and Psychology  
University of Michigan  
Email: [saramcc@umich.edu](mailto:saramcc@umich.edu)

**Prof. Andrew Shryock**

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of Anthropology  
University of Michigan

Email: [ashryock@umich.edu](mailto:ashryock@umich.edu)

**Prof. Aylin Küntay**

Professor and Dean of College of Social Sciences and Humanities  
Koç University

Email: [akuntay@ku.edu.tr](mailto:akuntay@ku.edu.tr)

**Teaching-specific Reference**

**Prof. Maria E. Cotera**

Associate Professor of American Culture and Women's Studies  
University of Michigan

Email: [mcotera@umich.edu](mailto:mcotera@umich.edu)