

# KARINA AGADZHANYAN

## CONTACT INFORMATION

---

Department of Psychology  
1354 Psychology Building, 502 Portola Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90095  
E-mail: karadefrost@ucla.edu

## EDUCATION

---

### University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

*September 2021 – Present, Cognitive Psychology Ph.D. Program*

- Major: Cognitive Psychology
- Memory and Lifespan Cognition Lab
- Advisor: Dr. Alan D. Castel

*September 2018 – June 2020, College of Arts and Sciences*

- Bachelor's of Arts in Psychology
- Minor: Cognitive Science
- College Honors
- Undergraduate Research Project: *Metacognition and Fluid Intelligence in Value-Directed Remembering*
- Faculty Mentor: Dr. Alan D. Castel

### Glendale Community College, Glendale, CA

*August 2015 – June 2018*

- Major: Psychobiology

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

---

Murphy, D. H., **Agadzhanyan, K.**, Whatley, M. C., & Castel, A. D. (2021). Metacognition and fluid intelligence in value-directed remembering. *Metacognition and Learning*, 26, 685-709.

Murphy, D. H., Hoover, K. M., **Agadzhanyan, K.**, Kuehn, J. C., & Castel, A. D. (2021). Learning in double time: The effect of lecture video speed on immediate and delayed comprehension. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION OR UNDER REVIEW

---

Murphy, D. H., Tesfamichael, N., **Agadzhanyan, K.**, & Castel, A. D. (under review). Value-based encoding and penalties for misremembering can reduce false memory while preserving true memory.

**Agadzhanyan, K.** & Castel, A. D. (in prep). The effect of perceptual processing fluency and emotional salience on memory performance.

Silaj, K. M., **Agadzhanyan, K.**, & Castel, A. D. (in prep). Value-directed learning: Schematic reward structure facilitates learning.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

---

### **Visiting Doctoral Student in Loftus Lab**

*April 2021 – Present, University of California, Irvine*

Principal Investigator: Dr. Elizabeth Loftus

### **Doctoral Student in Memory and Lifespan Cognition Lab**

*March 2021 – Present, University of California, Los Angeles*

Principal Investigator: Dr. Alan Castel

### **Research Assistant in Memory and Lifespan Cognition Lab**

*October 2019 – March 2021, University of California, Los Angeles*

*Principal Investigator: Dr. Alan D. Castel*

- Piloted, conducted, and provided input on lab research examining human memory, metacognition, attention, decision making, and how these processes change across the lifespan.
- Coded data for a project investigating how metacognition impacts adaptive selective memory.
- Trained other Research Assistants in lab procedures and operations.

## **ARTICLES**

---

**Agadzhanyan, K.**, & Zou, F. (2021, December). Make it Stick: How Intentional Usage of Encoding Strategies by Students and Instructors Can Improve Learning and Memory. [Web blog post].

<https://www.psychologyinaction.org/psychology-in-action-1/2021/12/12/make-it-stick-how-intentional-usage-of-encoding-strategies-by-students-and-instructors-can-improve-learning-and-memory>

**Agadzhanyan, K.**, & Doustmohammadi, D. (2021, August). False Memory Workshop – A Conversation With The Presenter. [Web blog post]. <https://dialoguesociety.us/false-memory-workshop-a-conversation-with-the-presenter/>

**Agadzhanyan, K.**, & Murphy, D. H. (2020, April). Memory Malfunctions: A Discussion of Research on False Memory. [Web blog post]. <https://www.psychologyinaction.org/psychology-in-action-1/2020/3/23/memory-malfunctions-a-discussion-of-research-on-false-memory>

## PRESENTATIONS

---

Agadzhanyan, K. (2021, February). Your brain is lying to you: A discussion of research on false memory. Lecture for UCLA Senior Scholars (virtual format).

Murphy, D. H., **Agadzhanyan, K.**, Whatley, M. C., & Castel, A. D. (2020, November). Metacognition and fluid intelligence in value-directed remembering. Poster presentation at the Psychonomic Society's 61st Annual Meeting (virtual format).

## HONORS AND AWARDS

---

### University of California, Los Angeles

- **Dean's Honors List** *This award is presented to students who have demonstrated high scholastic achievement for earning a 3.75 GPA in any one term; earned for three terms (2018-2020)*

### University of California, Irvine Regents' Scholarship

- *Selected as both a Regents' Scholar and a member of the Campuswide Honors Program. Regents' Scholarship is a two-year award that includes \$2,500 scholarship per academic year (2018)*

### Glendale Community College Scholars Program

- **Certificate of Recognition** *Recognized for outstanding participation in the Scholars Program Journal Committee (June 2017)*
- **Scholar Standout Award** *This award is presented to a student who demonstrated deep involvement within the program (October 2016)*

## SCHOLARSHIPS

---

### Glendale Community College

- Koploy Bonnie Scholarship (June 2018)
- Alpha Gamma Sigma Honors Society Scholarship (May 2016)

## INTERNSHIPS

---

### Internship in Biological Sciences at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles

*February 2018 – July 2018*

*Research Advisor: Dr. Javier Gago*

- Managed collections in Ichthyology and Malacology departments.
- Identified various species of fishes in the research laboratory.
- Conducted research on the evolution of ground sharks using techniques such as scanning electron microscopy (SEM), camera lucida and X-ray radiography.
- Presented the findings at a Research Seminar in Glendale Community College: Student Internships at the Natural History Museum (June, 2018)

## **FIELD EXPERIENCE**

---

### **Baja California Field Studies Program**

*Summer 2017, Baja California, Mexico*

- Researched biodiversity & ecology of marine and desert organisms.

## **WORK HISTORY**

---

### **California NanoSystems Institute at UCLA, Undergraduate Assistant**

*May 2019 – October 2019*

- Tested materials for experiments.
- Prepared experiment kits for teacher workshops.
- Stocking, inventory.

### **Glendale Community College, Learning Center, Student Tutor**

*February 2016 – February 2018*

- Provided resources to meet students' diverse needs in math, chemistry and biology.
- Used creative ways in explaining complex concepts.
- Attended monthly tutor training seminars to develop skills for effective tutoring.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

---

### **UCLA Alumni Mentor Program**

*October 2020 – Present*

- Provide mentorship to current UCLA students by sharing professional and personal experiences.

### **Dialogue Society at UCLA (Senior Outreach Program)**

*September 2020 – August 2021 (volunteer)*

- Organized and held workshops and discussion boards on lifelong learning for seniors.
- Presented on cognitive psychology topics at virtual events for senior scholars.

*September 2021 – Present (External Vice President)*

### **University of California, Los Angeles Honors Program**

*September 2018 – June 2020*

- Completed over 28 honors units.

### **Glendale Community College Scholars Program**

*September 2016 – June 2018*

- Contributed to the program's newsletter.
- Scholar Journal 2017 editor.

## **Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society**

*September 2016 – June 2017*

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

---

### **UCLA Pritzker Center for Strengthening Children and Families**

*August 2020 – June 2021*

- Provide online tutoring and mentorship to foster children and families in L.A. County.

### **Dignity Health Glendale Memorial Hospital and Health Center**

*May 2016 – November 2016*

- Certificate for completing over 100 hours of volunteer service.
- Assisted technicians, nurses and physicians.
- Observed procedures such as EKG and X-ray imaging.
- Restocked patient rooms with hospital supplies in the Emergency Department.
- Provided customer service to patients and their families in an Intensive Care Unit.

### **Elmcroft Senior Living – Heartland Village Program**

*April 2018 – June 2018*

- Provided guided activities to patients with Alzheimer's and dementia.

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

---

**Human Research - Social and Behavioral Researchers, CITI Program.** Certification completed through the University of California, Los Angeles to conduct research on or with human subjects in social and behavioral sciences (2019-2022)

**Tutor Training Seminar.** Certification completed through Glendale Community College's Learning Center (2016)

## **SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

---

### **Data Analysis**

- SPSS, R, JASP, C++, Excel

## **REFERENCES**

---

### **Dr. Alan Castel**

Professor of Psychology  
University of California, Los Angeles  
castel@ucla.edu  
(310) 206-9262

### **Dr. Elaine Morita**

Education Programs Coordinator at California NanoSystems Institute

University of California, Los Angeles  
elaine@cnsi.ucla.edu  
(310) 267-4838

**Dr. Javier Gago**  
Professor of Biology  
Glendale Community College, Glendale, CA  
fgago@glendale.edu  
(818) 240-1000 ext. 5369