

Ozan Kuru, Ph.D.

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Academic Appointments

Postdoctoral Fellow, Annenberg Public Policy Center, Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania (2018 -)
 Research Fellow, Cultural Cognition Project, Yale University (2018 -)

Education

Ph.D. in Communication. University of Michigan. (2018). Communicating Public Opinion in Post-Fact Politics: Biased Processing of Public Opinion Reports and Potential Journalistic Remedies. Committee: Josh Pasek (Chair), Michael Traugott, Stuart Soroka, Arthur Lupia.
 Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research - ICPSR. (2016). University of Michigan.
 Institute for Social Change, Program in Public Scholarship. (2016). University of Michigan.
 Summer Institute in Political Psychology. (2011). Stanford University.
 Inaugural Summer Academy of International Society of Political Psychology. (2011).
 B.A. in Psychology. (2008-2012). Koc University.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., & Traugott, M. (Accepted, Forthcoming in 2020). When Pundits Weigh In: The Influence of Expert and Partisan Commentaries on Electoral Perceptions. (Preregistered experiment). *Mass Communication and Society*.

Stecula, D., **Kuru, O.**, Jamieson, K. H. (2020). How trust in experts and media use affect acceptance of common anti-vaccination claims. *The Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review*. <https://doi.org/10.37016/mr-2020-007>

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., & Traugott, M. (2019). When Polls Disagree: How Competitive Results and Methodological Quality Shape Partisan Perceptions of Polls and Electoral Predictions. (Preregistered experiment). *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., & Traugott, M. W. (2017). Motivated Reasoning in the Perceived Credibility of Public Opinion Polls. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 81(2), 422–446. doi: 10.1093/poq/nfx018
 *Also re-printed/featured in the 2018 “Media Coverage of Polls” Virtual Issue of *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

Kuru, O., Bayer, J., Pasek, J., & Campbell, S. (2017). Understanding and Measuring Mobile Facebook Use: Who, Why, and How? *Mobile Media & Communication*, 5(1), 102–120. doi: 10.1177/2050157916678269

Kuru, O., & Pasek, J. (2016). Comparing Social Media Use and Political Engagement: Toward a Valid Measurement Strategy. In Richardson (Ed.) *Social Media and Politics: A New Way to Participate in the Political Process*. Santa Barbara: CA, ABC-CLIO.

Kuru, O., & Pasek, J. (2016). Improving Social Media Measurement in Surveys: Avoiding Acquiescence Bias in Facebook Research. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 57, 82–92. doi: 10.1016/j.chb.2015.12.008

Policy Reports / White Papers

Kuru, O., Campbell, S., Bayer, J. Baruh, L., Ling, R. (2020). Beyond the Forward: The Social Shaping of (Mis)information through WhatsApp. Report for Facebook Research, WhatsApp Research Division.

Ayers, W., Bren-Porath, E., Blum, M., Cohen, J., Darling, J., Dunwoody, S., Enten, H., Greenberg, A., Johnson, T., **Kuru, O.**, McGeeney, K., Ormson, E., Pasek, J., Traugott, M., & Waddington, B. (2018). Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Attacks on Survey Credibility. American Association for Public Opinion Research Ad Hoc Committee on Attacks on Survey Credibility.

Other Publications

Kuru, O. (2018). Perceptions of Public Opinion and Polls: Which Numbers Should Voters Pay Attention To? Op-ed on 2018 Turkish election (written in Turkish: Kamuoyu algısı ve anketler: Seçmen hangi sayıyı dikkate almalı?). Analiz, Diken.

Kuru, O. (2018). Why Twitter Polls Should Have a Warning Label. PoliticalShift, The MediaShift.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., & Traugott, M. (2017). Journalists should stop highlighting individual polls and focus on polling averages. The Huffington Post.

Kuru, O. (2016). What the Failure of Election Predictions Could Mean for Media Trust and Data Journalism. Global View, The MediaShift.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., & Traugott, M. (2016). If my candidate is behind, the poll must be biased. Monkey Cage, The Washington Post.

Kuru, O. & West, C-A. (2016). Motivated Reasoning in Perceived Credibility of Public Opinion Polls. Center for Political Studies Blog, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

Under Review and Working Papers

Kuru, O., Stecula, D., Lu, H., Ophir, Y., Chan, S., Albarracin, D., Winneg, K., Jamieson, K. H. An Experimental Study of Vaccination Attitudes. (Preregistered experiment). (**Under Review**).

Kuru, O., Lu, H., Stecula, D., APPC 2018-2019 ASK Group*, Jamieson, K. H., Albarracin, D. (**To be submitted**). Religiosity and Vaccine Evaluations.

McGregor, S. C., **Kuru, O.**, Perceptions of Public Opinion and Journalism.

Kuru, O., Stecula, D., Jamieson, K. H. Trust in Science and Science in Crisis Perceptions: A National Survey

Stecula, D., Motta, M., **Kuru, O.** Alternative Health Media Consumption, Behaviors, and Vaccination.

Kuru, O., Campbell, S., Bayer, J. Baruh, L., Ling, R. A cross-national study of WhatsApp Messaging Groups and Spread of Misinformation: WhatsApp group dynamics / Privacy perceptions and information sharing / News habits and misinformation (multiple working papers at analysis and writing stage).

Rhee, L. Bayer, J., Lee, David. S., **Kuru, O.** Platform essence and social media use.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., Traugott, M. Look at the Polling Averages! Public Perceptions of Individual vs Aggregated-Contextualized Evidence on Public Opinion (preregistered experiment).

Contributions through Group Authorship in the ASK Group*:

Lu, H. et al. (Under review). Information Seeking and Vaccination Intentions.

Stecula, D. et al. (Under review). Political Polarization and Vaccination.

White, B. et al. (Under review). Social Norms and Timing of Vaccination within a Flu Season.

* APPC 2018-2019 ASK Group (Annenberg Public Policy Center, Annenberg Science Knowledge Studies Group) includes the survey design and administration team which includes Ozan Kuru, Ph.D., Dominik Stecula, Ph.D., Hang Lu, Ph.D., Yotam Ophir, Ph.D., Man-pui Sally Chan, Ph.D., Ken Winneg, Ph.D., Kathleen Hall Jamieson, Ph.D., and Dolores Albarracín, Ph.D.

External Research Grants

Kuru, O. (Principle Investigator), Campbell, S. (Principle Investigator). (2018). Bayer, J., Baruh, L., Ling, R. Beyond the Forward: The Social Shaping of (Mis)Information through WhatsApp. WhatsApp Research Awards for Social Science and Misinformation by Facebook Research.

Kuru, O. (Principle Investigator), Pasek, J. (Principle Investigator), Traugott, M. (Principal Investigator). National Science Foundation, Time Sharing Experiments in Social Sciences (2016). Polls that Matter: Dynamics of Horse Race Polling and Public Evaluation of Poll Reports. Short Studies Program Grant. NSF Grant 0818839, Jeremy Freese and James Druckman, Principal Investigators.

Invited Talks

Kuru, O. (2020). Diverse Public Opinion Metrics and Public Perceptions. Workshop and seminar in the course “New Media and Politics, Spring 2020” (Dr. Ken Winneg) at the University of Pennsylvania. (Guest lecture).

Kuru, O. Campbell, S.W., Bayer, J. Baruh, L. Ling, R., Cemalcilar, Z. (2019). Understanding Information and News Processing in WhatsApp Groups: A Comparative Survey of User Perceptions and Practices in Turkey, Singapore, and the USA. Berkman Klein Center for Internet

& Society; Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy, Harvard University in Cambridge, MA. (Invited Workshop Presentation)

Kuru, O. (2019). Biased Processing of Quantitative Reports in the Media and Mitigation Strategies. Psychology Department Brown Bag Seminar. University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. (Brown Bag Seminar).

Kuru, O. Campbell, S.W., Bayer, J. Baruh, L. Ling, R. (2019) Understanding Political Informational Processing in WhatsApp Groups: A Comparative Study of User Perceptions and Practices in Turkey, Singapore, and the USA. Digital Threats to Democracy Workshop. Social Science Research Council, New York, NY. (Workshop)

Kuru, O. (2019). Problems with Predictive Polling. Workshop and seminar in the course “New Media and Politics, Fall 2019” (Dr. Ken Winneg) at the University of Pennsylvania. (Guest lecture)

Kuru, O. (2018). Biased Processing of Public Opinion Reports and Potential Journalistic Remedies. University of Houston.

Conference Presentations

Rhee, L., Bayer, J., Lee, D., **Kuru, O.** (2020) Are Social Media Still Social? How Platform Essence Shapes Perceived Affordances. International Communication Association. Gold Coast, Australia.

Kuru, O., Campbell, S.W., Bayer, J. Baruh, L. Ling, R. (2019) Understanding Political Informational Processing in WhatsApp Groups: A Comparative Study of User Perceptions and Practices in Turkey, Singapore, and the USA. Political Communication Preconference of the 2019 Conference of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C.

Kuru, O., Lu, H. Stecula, D., APPC 2018-2019 ASK Group,* Jamieson, K. H., Albarracin, D. Religiosity and Vaccine Evaluations (2019). Society for Risk Analysis Annual Meeting, Arlington, VA.

Kuru, O. Campbell, S.W., Bayer, J. Baruh, L., Ling, R., Cemalcilar, Z. (2019). Understanding Information and News Processing in WhatsApp Groups: A Comparative Survey of User Perceptions and Practices in Turkey, Singapore, and the USA. Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., Traugott, M. (2018). Perceptions of Elections in Repeated Exposure to Singular vs Aggregate Evidence of Public Opinion. American Association for Public Opinion Research, Denver, CO.

Ayers, W., Bren-Porath, E., Blum, M., Cohen, J., Darling, J.*, Dunwoody, S., Enten, H., Greenberg, A., Johnson, T., **Kuru, O.,** McGeeney, K., Ormson, El., Pasek, J., Traugott, M., Waddington, B. (2018). Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Attacks on Survey Credibility.

Presented at the Annual Conference of American Association for Public Opinion Research, Denver, CO.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., Traugott, M. (2018). Perceptions of Elections in Repeated Exposure to Singular vs Aggregate Evidence of Public Opinion. Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

McClain, C. **Kuru, O.** Pasek, J. (2017). Gauging the Horserace Buzz: How the Public Engages with Polls on Twitter. Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., Traugott, M. (2017). Singular vs Aggregate Evidence of Public Opinion. Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J. Traugott, M. (2017). Motivations and Belief Updating in Voter Expectations: Polls vs Polling Averages. American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA.

Kuru, O. (2017). De-monopolization of Polls: What Do Ordinary Citizens Make of Different Quantifications? American Association for Public Opinion Research, New Orleans, LA.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., Traugott, M. (2017). Perceptions of Polls and Voter Expectations: Competitive Poll Results, Methodology, and Opinionation. American Association for Public Opinion Research, New Orleans, LA.

Kuru, O. (2016). Complexity of Public Opinion in the Digital Age: Public Perceptions of Diverse Quantifications. Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. Chicago, IL.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J., Traugott, M. (2016). Perceptions of Polls and Voter Expectations: Competitive Poll Results, Methodology, and Opinionation. Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. Chicago, IL.

Kuru, O., Bayer, J. Pasek, J. Campbell, S. W. (2016). What is so different about Mobile Facebook use? And how should we measure it? National Communication Association Conference. Philadelphia, PA.

Kuru, O., Pasek J. (2016). Understanding and Measuring Social Media Use and Political Engagement: A Systematic Review of Conceptualization and Operationalization. National Communication Association. Philadelphia, PA.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J. Traugott, M. (2016). Motivated Reasoning in the Perceived Credibility of Public Opinion Polls. American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J. Traugott, M. (2016). Motivated Reasoning in the Perceived Credibility of Public Opinion Polls. American Association for Public Opinion Research. Austin, TX.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J. (2015). Meta-analysis of Facebook Studies: Civic-Political Participation, and Social Capital. (Poster Presentation). Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL.

Kuru, O., Traugott, M., Pasek, J. (2015). Motivations, Expectations, and Transparency Effects in the Public Interpretations of Poll Results. American Association for Public Opinion Research. Hollywood, FL.

Kuru, O., Traugott, M., Pasek, J. (2015). Transparency, Survey Literacy, and Motivated Reasoning in the Public Interpretations of Poll Results. Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. Chicago, IL.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J. (2013). Acquiescence Bias in Facebook Research and Implications for Predicting Social-Political Variables: Social Capital. Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. Chicago, IL.

Kuru, O., Pasek, J. (2013). Acquiescence Response Bias in Facebook Research: Circumventing a Pernicious Problem with Item-Specific Measures. European Survey Research Association, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Kuru, O. (2012). Personality, Ideology and Incumbent Evaluation Effects on Different Types of Participation. Processes Influencing Democratic Ownership and Participation – PIDOP Conference (European Commission’s 7th Framework Program), Surrey, UK.

Kuru, O. (2011). Political Knowledge and Partisanship: 2010 Referendum in Turkey. The Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Istanbul, Turkey.

Kuru, O. (2011-poster presentation). Political Socialization, Political Efficacy and Political Involvement of University Students. Processes Influencing Democratic Ownership and Participation – PIDOP Conference (EC 7th Framework Program), Bologna, Italy.

Invited Reviewer

New Media and Society (1 *time*)
Public Opinion Quarterly (1)
Communication Research (2)
Journal of Information, Technology, and Politics (1)
International Journal of Public Opinion Research (3)
American Politics Research (1)
Political Psychology (2)
Field Methods (1)
Mobile Media and Communication (1)

Other Awards and Grants

Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship Winner. University of Michigan. (2017-2018). Fellowship awarded to 82 outstanding doctoral dissertations among all departments at the University of Michigan.

Best Student Paper Award Winner. (2017). Seymour Sudman Best Student Paper Competition of the American Association for Public Opinion Research Conference.

Best Student Paper Award Winner. (2016). Doris Graber Student Paper Competition of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research Conference.

Helen F. Weber Fellowship, Communication Studies, University of Michigan. (2017).

University of Michigan Regents' Fellowship. (Fall'2012, Winter'2013, Fall'2015, Winter'2016).

Spring/Summer Fellowship, Communication Studies. (2013, 2016)

Departmental Candidacy Level Research Award. (2017)

Chamberlain Graduate Research Grants. (2013, 2015)

Rackham Pre-Candidacy Level Research Award. (2014)

Rackham Candidacy Level Research Award. (2016)

Departmental Travel Support Fund for the 6th year. (2017-18)

Rackham International Travel Grants. (2013, 2014)

Rackham National Travel Grants. (2015, 2016)

Departmental Jay Payne, Louis Tandler & Phillip Slomovitz Travel Scholarships - Conference Travel Funds, 2013 (1), 2014 (2), 2015 (2), 2016 (3), 2017 (1)

Social Science Research Council, Workshop Travel and Lodging Grant. (2019)

TUBITAK Scholar. Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (2008-12)

Vehbi Koc Foundation Scholar. Koc University (2008-2012).

International Society for Political Psychology TOBB University Workshop Travel-Lodging Grant (2012).

German-Atlantic Association, Conference Travel-Lodging Grant (2011).

Fiat Scholarship by Koc University – Conference Travel Grant (2011)

Service

Committee Member (2017-2019). False Accusations Against Surveys Ad-Hoc Committee. The American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Graduate Student Representative (2015-16). Communication Studies, University of Michigan.

Graduate Student Coordinator for Political Communication Lab (2012-2017). University of Michigan. Interdisciplinary lab with faculty and graduate students from communication, political science, and survey design departments.

Peer-mentor of a first-year PhD student in Communication Studies (2015-2016). University of Michigan.

Research Supervisor – 2 Undergraduate research assistants – Fall’13-Winter’14

Research Supervisor – 4 Undergraduate research assistants – Fall’16-Winter’17

Panel Chair/Moderator MAPOR 2013, ISPP 2014; MAPOR 2016 conferences.

Selected Media Mentions

Nieman Journalism Lab (1/17/2020), The Hill (11/14/2019), Science Daily (11/08/2019), Quartz (11/05/2018), Business Insider (10/04/2018), Salon (10/02/2018), American Press Institute (01/11/2018), Poynter (01/11/2018), Nieman Journalism Lab (01/11/2018), Huffington Post (10/11/2017), Huffington Post (9/9/2016), Huffington Post (10/6/2016), Pew Research Center (11/29/2016)

Professional Memberships

National Communication Association. (2016-)

American Association for Public Opinion Research. (2015-)

Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. (2015-)

American Political Science Association. (2016-)

Other Training, Research, and Professional Experience

Political Psychology Methodology Workshop. (2012). TOBB University of Economics and Technology, with funding from International Society of Political Psychology.

Research Assistant in Turkish Election Study. (2011-2012). Media Content Analysis.

Research Assistant in the Political Socialization of University Students Project. (2011-2012), Koc University.

Documentary Production on Forensic Psychology Interviewer and Project Assistant. (2011-2012). Turkish Psychological Association.

Research Assistant at Language, Communication, and Development Lab. (2008-2010). Koc University.

Workshops, Focus Groups, and Representation at NATO-ISAF International Afghanistan Student Conference. (2011). German-Atlantic Association. University of Bonn, Germany and the NATO Meeting.

Key Graduate Courses Taken in Theory and Methods

Media Theory: Social Sciences – Nojin Kwak
 Media Theory: Humanities – Paddy Scannell
 Attitudes, Persuasion, and Social Influence – Tarcan Kumkale
 Public Opinion – Donald Kinder
 Public Opinion in the Media – Michael Traugott
 Political Psychology – Ted Brader
 Social Media, Self, and Society – Scott Campbell
 Cognition, Communication, and Survey Measurement – Frederick Conrad
 Quantitative Research Methods in Communication – Sonya Dal Cin
 Qualitative Research Methods in Communication – Robin Means Coleman
 Sampling Theory – James Lepkowski
 Statistical Methods in Psychology I – Joshua Rabinowitz
 Statistical Methods in Political Research II – Rocío Titunik
 Advanced Regression III – David Armstrong (ICPSR)
 Mixed Mode Surveys – Tuba Suzer-Gurtekin (Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques)
 Structural Equation Modeling – Nazli Baydar

Teaching

Pedagogical Training. I have taken various pedagogical courses and training workshops at my department as well as at the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (CRLT) (2013-2014).

Courses taught as a graduate student instructor.

Academic Term	Course
Fall 2016	Comm 121: Social Science Research Methods
Spring 2015	Comm 281: Views on the News: What Shapes our Media Content
Winter 2015	Comm 121: Social Science Research Methods
Fall 2014	Comm 102: Media Effects
Winter 2014	Comm 122: Social Science and Qualitative Research Methods - 2
Fall 2013	Comm 121: Social Science and Qualitative Research Methods - 1