




MIRCEA ZLOTEANU

Lecturer Investigative Psychology, PhD, FHEA

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RESEARCH PROFILE

I am an experimental psychology researcher interested in emotions, decision-making, and deception detection. My research focuses on the behavioural cues used to ascertain if people are being truthful or deceptive. My work involves investigating differences in judgements and perceptions made alone or in groups, embodied effects on attention and information processing, the impact of situational factors on accuracy and bias, the production of deceptive facial expressions, and improving forensic interviewing practices. Recently, my research has focused on the role of trust and reputation in the Sharing Economy and online user behaviour.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2020 – Present **Lecturer Criminology & Investigative Psychology**
Dept. of Criminology and Sociology | Dept. of Psychology | *Kingston University London*
- 2018 – 2020 **Lecturer Forensic Psychology**
School of Social Science, Humanities & Law | *Teesside University*
- 2018 – 2019 **Visiting Researcher**
Financial Computing and Analytics Group | *University College London*
Academic Host: Prof. Tomaso Aste
- 2017 – 2018 **Research Associate**
Computer Science Department, Faculty of Engineering | *University College London*
EPSRC Project: The Role of Trust and Reputation in Sharing Economies | PI: Dr Giacomo Livan

EDUCATION

- 2012 – 2017 **PhD in Experimental Psychology**
Experimental Psychology Department | *University College London*
Thesis: Emotions and deception detection
Supervisors: Prof. Daniel C. Richardson & Dr Eva G. Krumhuber
- 2011 – 2012 **MSc in Social Cognition (Distinction)**
University College London
Dissertation: The effect of body posture on facial expression recognition and deception detection
Supervisor: Prof. Daniel C. Richardson
- 2007 – 2010 **BSc (Hons) in Psychology (First Class, 1:1)**
Goldsmiths College, University of London
- 2002 – 2007 International School of Bucharest (ISB)
First in Graduating Class | 4 A Levels, 2 AS Levels, 6 IGCSEs

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Zloteanu, M., & Krumhuber, E.G.** (2021). Expression authenticity: The role of genuine and deliberate displays in emotion perception. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 611248. DOI: [10.3389/fpsyg.2020.611248](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.611248)
- Zloteanu, M., Bull, P., Krumhuber, E.G. & Richardson, D.C.** (2020). Veracity judgment, not accuracy: Reconsidering the role of facial expressions, empathy, and emotion recognition training on deception detection. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*. DOI: [10/ghk9h4](https://doi.org/10/ghk9h4) [2 citation]
- Zloteanu, M., Krumhuber, E.G., & Richardson, D.C.** (2020). Acting surprised: Comparing perceptions of different dynamic deliberate expressions. *Journal of Nonverbal Behavior*. DOI: [10.1007/s10919-020-00349-9](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10919-020-00349-9) [3 citation]
- Lodge, C., & **Zloteanu, M.** (2020). Juror's expectations and decision-making: Revisiting the CSI effect. *BPS: The North of England Bulletin, Issue 2*, Autumn, 19-30.
- Zloteanu, M., Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G.** (2018). Digital identity: The effect of trust and reputation information on user judgement in the Sharing Economy. *PLOS ONE*, 13, e0209071. DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0209071](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0209071) [28 citations]
- Zloteanu, M., Krumhuber, E.G., & Richardson, D.C.** (2018). Detecting genuine and deliberate displays of surprise in static and dynamic faces. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 1184. DOI: [10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01184](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.01184) [16 citations]

Book Chapters

- Zloteanu, M.** (2020). Reconsidering facial expressions and deception detection. In A. Freitas-Magalhaes & J. Borod, *Handbook of Facial Expression of Emotion, Vol. 3* (pp. 238-284). Porto: FEELab Science Books.
- Zloteanu, M.**, Krumhuber, E.G., & Richardson, D.C. (2020). Detecting genuine and deliberate displays of surprise in static and dynamic faces. In W. Sato, E. G. Krumhuber, T. Jellema, & J. H. G. Williams, *Dynamic Emotional Communication* (pp. 106–114). Lausanne: Frontiers Media SA. DOI: [10.3389/978-2-88963-460-6](https://doi.org/10.3389/978-2-88963-460-6)
- Zloteanu, M.** (2015). The role of emotions in detecting deception. In E. Williams & I. Sheeha, *Deception: An Interdisciplinary Exploration* (pp. 203-217). Oxford: Inter-Disciplinary Press. DOI: [10.1163/9781848883543_021](https://doi.org/10.1163/9781848883543_021) [7 citations]

Preprints / Submitted

- Zloteanu, M.**, Salman, N., Krumhuber, E.G., & Richardson, D.C. (2021 – pending revisions; *The Journal of Investigative Psychology and Offender Profiling*). Looking guilty: Handcuffing suspects influences judgments of deception. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/mz76p](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/mz76p)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Krumhuber, E.G., & Richardson, D.C. (2020 – in prep.). Deception detection in pairs: Exploring multi-decoder veracity judgments. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/ykc5x](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/ykc5x)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2020 – in prep.). Sitting in judgment: How body posture influences deception detection and gazing behavior. Preprint: [10.31234/osf.io/dwf38](https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/dwf38)
- Zloteanu, M.**, Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G. (2019 – in prep). Accuracy and bias: User’s ability to judge the quality of Sharing Economy profiles.

RESEARCH

Principal Investigator

- Zloteanu, M.**, Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G. (in progress). How cultural differences shape the Sharing Economy.
- Zloteanu, M.**, Ong, J., Krumhuber, E., & Richardson, D.C. (in progress). Dynamic expressions database.
- Zloteanu, M.**, Aste, T., & Livan, G. (in progress). Monetary risk and information bias in Sharing Economy interactions.
- Zloteanu, M.**, Jones, A., & Livan, G. (in progress). Staying with a criminal: Effects of violent and non-violent offender host profiles on user behaviour in Sharing Economy platforms.
- Zloteanu, M.** (in progress). Deception Detection and Emotion Recognition: A dual-systems approach.

Collaborations / Multi-Labs

- Marmolejo-Ramos, F., [...], **Zloteanu, M.** (in progress). Many Labs: Replication of ‘Embodiment of Abstract Concepts: Good and Bad in Right- and Left-handers’.
- Namba, S. & **Zloteanu, M.** (2020 – submitted to *Scientific Reports*). Morphologic and dynamic properties of deceptive expressions of surprise.
- Patterson, A. & **Zloteanu, M.** (TBD). Perceived lie detection ability: Wizards and laypersons in negotiations.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Zloteanu, M.**, Krumhuber, E., & Richardson, D.C. (2019). The Importance of Posed Facial Expression Production and Presentation Method on Authenticity Discrimination. *Talk presented at ISRE 2019, Amsterdam, Netherlands*. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.3397225](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3397225)
- Zloteanu, M.**, Tuckett, D., Harvey, N., & Livan, G. (2019). Digital Identity: The Effect of Trust and Reputation Information on User Judgement in the Sharing Economy. *Talk presented at SARMAC XIII, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, United States*. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.3398259](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3398259)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2017). Passive Lie Detection. *Talk presented at SARMAC XII, Sydney, Australia*. doi: [10.5281/zenodo.3401314](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3401314)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2015). Looking Ready for Jail – The Influence of Handcuffs on Deception Detection and Suspiciousness. *Talk presented at SARMAC XI, Victoria, BC, Canada*.
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2015). “Surprise! I’m not actually surprised” – the ability to fake an emotion. *Talk presented at ISRE 2015, University of Geneva, Switzerland*.
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2015). The Effect of Handcuffs on Deception Detection – Visual and

Audio Differences. *Poster presented at DECEPTICON I, Cambridge, UK.*

- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2015). Looking Ready for Jail – The Influence of Handcuffs on Deception Detection and Suspiciousness. *Poster presented at the UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences Annual Post-Graduate Research Symposium, London, UK.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.29663.41122](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.29663.41122)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2015). “Surprise! I’m not actually surprised” – the ability to fake an emotion. *Poster presented at the Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Long Beach, California.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.1.4758.3127](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.1.4758.3127)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2014). Emotion Recognition Training and Deception Detection: Importance of the type of lie told. *Poster presented at the UCL Faculty of Brain Sciences Annual Post-Graduate Research Symposium, London, UK.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.17499.92960](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.17499.92960)
- Zloteanu, M.** (2014). Deception Detection in low-stakes lies. *Talk presented at the Cumberland Lodge Conference, West Berkshire, UK.*
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2014). Investigating the role of emotion in deception detection. *Poster presented at the International Association for Conflict Management (IACM), Leiden, Netherlands.*
- Zloteanu, M.** (2014). The role of emotions in detecting low-stakes lies. *Talk presented at the 1st Global Inter-Disciplinary Deception Conference, Oxford, UK.*
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2013). Difference in Single vs. Pair judgements on Deception Detection, Confidence and Bias based on the Level of Communication. *Poster presented at the Thirty-Fifth Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Berlin, Germany, Cognitive Science Society.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.21274.80327](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.21274.80327)
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2013). Difference in Single vs. Pair judgements on Deception Detection, Confidence and Bias based on the Level of Communication. *Poster presented at the Joint Action Meeting 5 (JAM), Berlin, Germany, Humboldt University.*
- Zloteanu, M.** & Richardson, D.C. (2013). The effect of Body Posture and Empathy on the Recognition of Facial Expressions of Emotions and Deception Detection. *Poster presented at Embodied & Situated Language Processing (ESLP), Potsdam, Germany.* doi: [10.13140/RG.2.2.31341.13280](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.31341.13280)
- Zloteanu, M.** (2013). The effect of Body Posture and Empathy on the Recognition of Facial Expressions of Emotions and Deception Detection. *Poster presented at the Cumberland Lodge Conference, West Berkshire, UK.*

HONOURS, FUNDING, & AWARDS

- 2019 ISRE Travel Grant - €100
- 2019 Teesside External Research Fund & UCL SRF – £1,512
- 2018 Students As Researchers Scheme (SARS | Teesside): Project Leader – £647
- 2018 Strategic Research Fund – £16,851
- Project: Monetary Risk and Information Bias in Sharing Economy Interactions– £9,964
 - Project: How Cultural Differences Shape the Sharing Economy – £6,887
- 2017 PsyPAG Workshop Grant – £1,139
- 2017 SARMAC Student Travel Award – \$500
- 2015 SPSP Diversity Travel Award – \$250
- 2015 UCL Graduate School Student Conference Award – £600
- 2014 FBS Poster Symposium – Best Poster (Runner up) – £200
- 2014 Cumberland Lodge Bursary – £100
- 2013 UCL Graduate School Student Conference Award – £404
- 2012 Impact award, UCL Graduate School – £32,500

Grants

- 2021 (in prep) - ERC Early Career Grant - “Accurate Affective Judgments in Online and Offline Environments”
- 2021 (in prep) - AHRC Leadership Fellow - “Dangerous Decisions in Peer-to-Peer Networks”
- 2021 (in prep) - Leverhulme Research Project Grant - “Deception Detection and Situational Factors”

TEACHING

Lecturer | Kingston University London

2020 BSc (Hons), MA, MSc | Module(s):

- Crime, Law and Justice; Dissertation Prep.; Criminology/Sociology Dissertation; Introduction to

Forensic Psychology; Introduction to Research Methods; Researching Everyday Life

Module Leader | Teesside University

2020 MSc Forensic Psychology | Module(s):

- The Psychology of Investigations; Law, Justice, and Psychology

Lecturer | Teesside University

2019 BSc (Hons) Psychology & MSc Forensic Psychology | Module(s):

- 2018
- The Psychology of Criminal and Sexual Offending; Applied Forensic Psychology; Psychology of Investigations; Law, Justice, and Psychology; Applied Quantitative Research Methods; Conducting Research in Psychology

Demonstrator | University College London

2018 MSc Computer Science | Module(s):

- 2017
- Data Analytics

2017 BSc (Hons) Psychology | Module(s):

- 2013
- Intro. to Psychological Experimentation; Research and Quantitative Methods in Psychology

MENTORING

Principal Investigator / Project Lead

2019 Student as Researchers Scheme (SARS)

2018 Research Assistant (1 Student) – Project “SAR25 – Staying with a Criminal”
Teesside University, Swansea University, UCL

Supervisor

2020 MA Criminology: Dissertation (3 student)
Kingston University London

2020 MSc Forensic Psychology: Dissertation (18 students)

2018 BSc Psychology: Dissertation (17 students)
Teesside University

2018 MSc Financial Risk Management: Dissertation (5 students)

2013 MSc Computational Finance: Dissertation (1 student)

MSc Social Cognition: Dissertation (2 students)

MSc Psychological Sciences: Dissertation (1 student)

BSc (Hons) Psychology: 2nd year Mini-Research Projects (3 student)

BSc (Hons) Psychology: 3rd year Final Projects (7 students)

Undergraduate Summer School: Research Assistants (4 students)

University College London

2013 BSc (Hons) Psychology: 3rd year Affiliate Research Project (1 student)
University of Pennsylvania

Group Coordinator

2014 Post-Graduate Peer Group (PPG) co-chair

2013 *University College London* | Psychology and Language Sciences (PaLS)

Examiner and Invigilator

2018 BSc (Hons), MSc, MRes, and PhD students (multiple programmes)

2013 *University College London*

Academic Tutor

2018 MSc Forensic Psychology (5 students)

2020 BSc Psychology (33 students)

Teesside University

2014 Private tutor | Statistics, SPSS, and Psychology

Present *The Profs Tuition Ltd*

LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS

2018 Invited Lecture on “The Role of Emotions in Deception Detection”

Affective Neuroscience and Psychophysiology Colloquium | University of Göttingen

2018 Lecture on “The Sharing Economy: How Trust and Reputation Shape our Behaviour”

- Financial Computing & Analytics Seminars* | University College London
- 2018 Invited Lecture on “The Sharing Economy: How Trust and Reputation Shape our Behaviour”
ICN Seminars - Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience | University College London
- 2017 Lecture on “The Science of Deception Detection”
Understanding Individuals and Groups module / MSc Social Cognition | University College London
- 2016 Lecture on “Detecting Deception – Physiological, Verbal, and Nonverbal Techniques”
- 2015 Lecture on “Emotions in Deception Detection”
Cognitive Psychology Course / MSc in Research Methods | University College London
- 2014 Lecture on “Methods of Detecting Deception – Physiological, Verbal, and Nonverbal”
Introduction to Social Psychology Course / BSc in Psychology | New York University
- 2014 Guest speaker on “Applied Social Psychology”
Understanding Individuals and Groups module / MSc Social Cognition | University College London
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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editor

Frontiers in Psychology | *Personality and Social Psychology* | 2018 – Present

Research Topic Editor

Frontiers in Psychology | *Theoretical and Experimental Developments in Deception Research* | TBD

Ambassador

COS Ambassadors, Center For Open Science, Open Science Framework (OSF)

FREYA Project Ambassador, Connected Open Identifiers

CRedit (Contributor Roles Taxonomy) Interest Group Member

Psychological Science Accelerator (PSA) Member

ReproducibiliTea Open Science Journal Club Kingston branch Member

Research & Entrepreneurship

Research Reading Group – Research Excellence Framework (REF) – Review committee

Digital and Creative Economies – Research Grand Challenge – Steering committee

The Centre for Crime, Harm Prevention and Security – Panel member

Art, Cognition/Creativity and Emotion Research Group (ACERG)

Consultancy

Expert Consultant, *BBC 50:50 Project*

Advisor for Data Collection, Analysis, and Interpretation, *OECD Digital Economy Outlook 2017*

Expert Behavioural Scientist, *Brainpool AI*, London, UK

Reviewer [P]

Journals: Law & Human Behavior; PLOS ONE; Frontiers; Sage Open; Acta Psychologica; Journal of Nonverbal Behavior; Information & Management; Information, Communication & Society; BMC Public Health.

Conferences: Decepticon 2015 (Cambridge), UCL PPG mini-conference 2014 (Cumberland)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Educational or Professional Qualifications:

2019 Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE)

2018 Fellow – Advance.HE / Higher Education Academy (FHEA)

2015 Associate Fellow – Higher Education Academy (AFHEA)

2014 Teaching in Higher Education – PGCE Certified – Centre for Advancing Learning and Teaching (CALT)

Professional Associations and Society Memberships:

2019 ISRE – International Society for Research on Emotion

2018 SARMA – The Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition

2015 Decepticon – International Conference on Deceptive Behavior

2014 IACM – The International Association for Conflict Management

2014 Inter-disciplinary.net Deception – 1st Global Deception Conference

2014 SPSP – The Society for Personality and Social Psychology

2013 PsyPAG – Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group

2013 CogSci – Cognitive Science Society

2013 ESLP – Embodied and Situated Language Processes

2013 JAM – Joint Action Meeting

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- 2019 BPS Careers in Psychology Event
Teesside University, Bronze Representative
Institute of Education, London
- 2017 Workshop Organiser – “Good Practices for PhD Students”
Co-funded by PsyPAG’ “Workshop Grant” and UCL’s Public Engagement Scheme.
University College London
- 2016 Invited Speaker – “The Science of Deception Detection”
The Psychology of Spying Event | UCL Culture
Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology

Media Coverage

- Expert commentary – “AI lie detector developed for airport security”, *Financial Times* [\[link\]](#)
- Expert commentary – “Experts analyse the best celebrity Poker faces”, *Unibet.eu* [\[link\]](#)
- Interview – “Spotlight Interview - Using Gorilla for Research”, *Gorilla.sc* [\[link\]](#)
- Kudos Articles 🏆 – “Can people detect if an expression of surprise is real or fake from photos or videos?” [\[link\]](#)

Community Impact [📈]

- Ranked top 2% Open Access, with all published papers being free to read online.
- Ranked top 1% for Open License, with all research outputs licensed for a wide range of reuse.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Research:

iMotions Eye-tracking Workshop
Matlab for Cognitive Neuroscience
Scientific Programming in Python
R Studio Advanced Statistics
Skills for Conflict Resolution
RED250 Mobile Eye-tracker Workshop

Teaching:

Teaching in Higher Education
Context and Problem Based Learning
Students’ Mental Health Support
Using Audience Response Systems for Teaching
Negotiation & Conflict Management Skills
Managing PhD Students’ Thesis Anxieties

FURTHER QUALIFICATIONS

IELTS Examination (2008) Academic Module: Grade 8
BEC (Business English Certificate) Vantage: Grade A
Romanian Computer Programming Olympiad (2006)

SKILLS & TRAINING

Statistical & Data Analysis Programs

SPSS, MatLab, R studio, Stata, MorePower, G-Power, BayesFactor, JASP, Jamovi, Interaction!, SMI
BeGaze, iMotions, WinBUGS, OpenBUGS, JAGS.

Computer Skills

Canvas, Moodle, Blackboard, Qualtrics, Gorilla, Prolific, Amazon Mturk, e-Prime, Android SDK,
Advanced knowledge of Windows, iOS, and Linux environment, Microsoft Office, Photoshop CC,
InDesign, GIMP, Outlook, Thunderbird, basic programming (C++, Python, MatLab), Website design
(CSS, Java, JavaScript, HTML), Content Management systems (Drupal, etc.), cPanel.

Languages

Romanian (mother tongue) | English (fluent) | French (intermediate level) |
Spanish (intermediate level) | Japanese (basic level) | German (basic level)

REFERENCES

Prof. Daniel C. Richardson
(PhD supervisor)
Department of Experimental
Psychology
University College London
dcr@eyethink.org

Dr Matt Watson
(Past Line Manager – HoD)
School of Social Sciences,
Humanities, and Law
Teesside University
m.watson@tees.ac.uk

Dr Giacomo Livan
(Postdoc Employer - PI)
Department of Computer Science
University College London
g.livan@ucl.ac.uk