

Ceren F. Eser

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive: Comparative Political Economy, Political Economy of Development, Distributive Politics, Historical Political Economy, State Capacity, Inequality and Redistribution, Political Behavior

Methods: Causal Inference, Experimental Design, Geospatial Analysis, Computational Social Science (LLM-based data construction)

EDUCATION

2025–present	University of California, San Diego Ph.D., Political Science	La Jolla, CA
2024	Boğaziçi University M.A., Political Science and International Relations <i>Thesis: “Political Credit Cycles and the Economic Vote in Turkey”</i>	Istanbul, Turkey
2020	B.A., Economics B.A., Political Science and International Relations	
2018	Sciences Po Paris Exchange Student	Paris, France

PUBLICATIONS

“Distributive Politics in Opposition: Electoral Targeting of Social Assistance in Istanbul.”
Forthcoming, *European Journal of Political Economy*.

WORKING PAPERS

“Governing to Win: The Electoral Returns to Opposition Service Provision under Authoritarianism.”
Draft in preparation.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“State Capacity in the Late Ottoman Empire: An Empire-Wide Panel from Provincial Yearbooks.”

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Murat Koyuncu, Boğaziçi University 2025–present
Projects: “Effects of Affective Polarization on Consumer Preferences” (TÜBİTAK 1001 Grant) and “A Meta-Analysis of the Effects of Experimental Interventions on Affective Polarization.”

Research Assistant, Mert Arslanalp and Deniz Erkmen 2022–2023
“Resistance under Confinement: Resilience of Protests and Their Limits in Authoritarian Turkey.” Published in *Third World Quarterly*, 2024.

Research Assistant, Mine Eder, Boğaziçi University Summer 2019
“Refugee Migration and Cities: Social Institutions, Political Governance and Integration.”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant UC San Diego
POLI 112A: Economic Theories of Political Behavior (Salam) – Winter 2026

POLI 140D: International Human Rights Law: Migrant Populations (Wong) – Spring 2026

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Boğaziçi University

Politics & Decision Theory (Taraktas) – Spring 2025
Political Science Research Methods (Taraktas) – Spring 2024, 2025
Quantitative Methods II, Graduate (Taraktas) – Spring 2024, 2025
Comparative State and Bureaucracy (Taraktas) – Spring 2024
Social Statistics (Taraktas) – Fall 2023, 2024
Advanced Research Methods, Graduate (Taraktas) – Fall 2023, 2024
Quantitative Methods I, Graduate (Taraktas) – Fall 2023, 2024
International Political Economy (Yağcı) – Fall 2023, 2024
Comparative Politics (Yağcı) – Fall 2023, 2024
Introduction to Turkish Politics (Yağcı) – Spring 2024
Political Behavior (Yağcı) – Spring 2024
Introduction to International Relations (Park) – Spring 2023
Game Theory and International Relations (Park) – Spring 2023

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Boğaziçi University

Introduction to Programming (Öztürk, Computer Engineering) – Spring 2020
Introduction to Political Science (Yılmaz) – Summer 2019, Fall 2017

EMPLOYMENT

Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science, UC San Diego	2025–present
Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, Boğaziçi University	2022–2025
Internal Auditor, Inspection Board, Türkiye İş Bankası	2022

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Dean’s High Honor List, Boğaziçi University	2024
Dean’s Honor List, Boğaziçi University	2020
Erasmus+ Programme Grant, Turkish National Agency	2018
Gallagher Foundation Outstanding Success Scholarship	2015–2019

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

UC San Diego: Analytic Theory I–II, Research Design, Quantitative Methods, Math & Statistical Foundations, Comparative Politics: Institutions, Historical Political Economy, Causal Inference, Designing Field Experiments

Boğaziçi University:

Methods: Mathematical Statistics, Econometrics, Applied Microeconometrics, Quantitative Research in Political Science, Advanced Research Methods, Advanced Research Methods in Applied Economics, Qualitative Research Methods, Computational Techniques for Social Science

Mathematics: Calculus, Linear Algebra, Microeconomics, Differential Calculus, Mathematical Logic

Substantive: Game Theoretical Models of Political Economy, Comparative Politics, Political Economy of Development, Political Economics, Inequality & Economics of Distribution

SKILLS

Programming: R, Python, Stata, L^AT_EX

Computational: LLM-based data extraction and archival digitization pipelines (Python, Anthropic API)

Languages: Turkish (native), English