

Robert Ian Bowers

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Summary:

I study behaviour and cognition in specific ecological contexts, notably feeding and mate choice. My research employs a range of methods in several laboratory contexts, including conditioning techniques, cognitive modelling, and simulation of evolutionary processes. Some specific areas of focus include causal reasoning and social influences on mate choice. A general orienting basis for my research is a systems theoretic perspective, behaviour systems theory, which places focus on how multiple behaviours interrelate. Thinking in terms of structured, complex systems helps address questions about complex patterns of behaviour and cognition.

Education:

Ph.D. Cognitive Science, and Animal Behaviour, 2015
Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

Master of Arts, Cognitive Science, 2006
Boğaziçi Üniversitesi, İstanbul

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, 2001
Boğaziçi Üniversitesi, İstanbul

Professional roles:

Assistant Professor, Bilkent University (January 2021-present)

Postdoctoral fellow, University of Minho (September 2016-August 2019)

Visiting Lecturer, Boğaziçi Üniversitesi (June-August 2016)

- Taught the summer term course “Evolution and animal cognition”

Postdoctoral researcher at Indiana University (September 2015-June 2016)

Editorial Service:

Animals, Editorial board (August 2020-present)

Behavioural Processes, Managing Guest Editor

- Co-edited the 2019 Special Issue, “Legacy of William Timberlake”
- These 20 papers have garnered a total of 200 citations