

Mehmet Yıldız

Assistant Professor of English Language and Literature
Bilkent University

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AOS	Theory of Literature, World Literature, Literary Modernism.
AOC	Media Archaeology, Environmental History, Fantasy & Science Fiction. Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Science, Pragmatism.
Languages	English, French, German, Turkish (Proficient); Spanish, MS Arabic (Reading Knowledge)

Employment

2025 – Pres.	Assistant Professor Department of English Language and Literature Preceded by Part-Time Lectureship in Spring 2025.	Bilkent University Ankara, TR
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Education

2024	PhD Comparative Literature – Dissertation: <i>Correlative Object Ontology: Pragmatism and the Objects of Literary Interpretation</i> – Committee: David Damrosch, Verena Conley, John T. Hamilton	Harvard University Cambridge, MA
2018	BA Comparative Literature & Philosophy <i>Distinction in Comparative Literature & Distinction in Philosophy</i> – Thesis: “The Unexpected Virtue of Deceit: Misrepresentation in Sebald’s <i>The Rings of Saturn</i> ” – Advisor: Carol Jacobs	Yale University New Haven, CT

Research

Publications

– Work in Progress

...	A Paper on T. S. Eliot and Narrative Unity TBA; work in progress.
...	A Paper on Semantics of Fiction and World Literature TBA; work in progress.

Grants, Fellowships, and Research Awards

2022 – 2023	Dissertation Completion Fellowship @ Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	Harvard University Cambridge, MA
2018 – 2020	Douglas Dillon Fellowship @ Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	Harvard University Cambridge, MA
2016 – 2018	Charles W. Palmer Fellowship @ Davenport College	Yale University New Haven, CT
2013 – 2016	Undergraduate Scholarship @ Davenport College	Yale University New Haven, CT
2013 – 2016	Undergraduate Scholarship @ ———	STFA Group Istanbul, TR
2008 – 2013	TEV Scholarship @ TEV İnanç Türkeş Lisesi	Türk Eğitim Vakfı Istanbul, TR

Conference & Workshop Presentations

2024	“Enchantment of Distraction: Silly Questions and Narrative Immersion” Workshop: Silly Questions about Fiction University of Tilburg, 19/11/2024, Tilburg NL.
2024	“On the Origin of Authorization: Fictional Truths and Pragmatism” Perspectives About Truth III – Truth and Other Semantic Notions University of Bucharest, 16/11/2024, Online.
2020	“Aesthetics of Permanent Death in Video Games” NeMLA 51 st Annual Convention – Video Games and Literature: Beyond the Ludic Boston University, 07/03/2020, Boston MA.
2019	“Imperial Literary History: A Case on Gibb’s <i>A History of Ottoman Poetry</i>” Canon? Practice? Commodity? The Past, Present, and Future of the Literary Anthology Queen Mary University of London, 15/06/2019, London UK.

Invited Talks

2025	Lost in Imagination: Reality Principle and World Literature Department of English Language of Literature & Program in CCI Bilkent University, 24/04/2025, Ankara TR.
2024	“Lületaş, Sanat ve Şiir” [“Meerschaum, Art, and Poetry”] Panel Discussion: Lületaş: Taş ve Anlam [Meerschaum: Stone and Meaning] Odunpazarı Belediyesi 5. Ulusal Lületaş Festivali, 28/10/2024, Eskişehir TR.

Teaching

Teaching Experience

2025	Part-Time Instructor @ Program in Cultures, Civilizations, and Ideas	Bilkent University Ankara, MA
	– HUM 112: Modernity and Tradition explores the development of modernity in Europe since the 17 th century through an emphasis on close reading of major texts of the time.	
2020 – 2021	Teaching Fellow @ Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	Harvard University Cambridge, MA
	– GENED 1167 Climate Crossroads by James Engell and James Anderson explores interdisciplinary approaches addressing irreversible climate change and its impact on society with an emphasis on the need for sustainable pathways.	
	– GENED 1067 Creativity by David Atherton examines the origins, nature, and impact of creativity across disciplines, cultures, and time, incorporating insights from ancient texts to modern neuroscience, with personal creative projects.	
2016 – 2018	Undergraduate Research Assistant @ Digital Humanities Lab	Yale University New Haven, CT
	– Data collection and analysis (with Python) for multiple graduate-level research projects in Film Studies and American Studies.	

Teaching Awards

2021	Certificate of Distinction in Teaching @ Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning	Harvard University Cambridge, MA
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Professional

Journal Editorship

2025 – Pres.	Managing Editor <i>Journal of World Literature</i> (ISSN: 2405-6472); Co-Manager: Alice Xiang
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Conference Work

2020	Panel Chair NeMLA 51 st Annual Convention: <i>Video Games and Literature: Beyond the Ludic</i> Co-Chair: Michael O’Krent
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Memberships

- American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Modern Language Association (MLA).
- American Philosophical Association (APA), Aristotelian Society.

References

Research

David Damrosch

Harvard University

Ernest Bernbaum Professor of
Comparative Literature

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Verena Conley

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and Romance Languages and
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Teaching

James Engell

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