

## C. Ceyhun ARSLAN

cceyhunarslan@ku.edu.tr

+90-212-338-0929

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**Koç University**, Istanbul, Turkey

- *Assistant Professor*, Comparative Literature, 2018-Present
- *Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellow*, 2018-2020
- *Postdoctoral Fellow*, Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, 2017-2018

### EDUCATION

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA, USA

**PhD**, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 2017

**Williams College**, Williamstown, MA, USA

**BA**, *magna cum laude*, Comparative Literature with Honors, 2011

### BOOK

*The Ottoman Canon and the Construction of Arabic and Turkish Literatures* (under contract with Edinburgh University Press; part of the Edinburgh Studies on the Ottoman Empire series).

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Spolia and Textual Reincarnations: A Reassessment of the Hagia Sophia’s History,” *Convivium: Exchanges and Interactions in the Arts of Medieval Europe, Byzantium, and the Mediterranean* 8 Supplementum/2 (2021): 60-75 [**WoS-indexed**].

“An Alternative Panorama of the Early Modern Ottoman Empire: Ruins and Sickness in Quṭb al-Dīn al-Nahrawālī’s *Journey to the Sublime Porte*,” *Gaziantep Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi* 19. COVID-19 special issue (2020): 661-670.

“Writing as if in the Center: World Literature and Orhan Pamuk’s *Istanbul: Memories and the City*,” *TURAS* 1.1 (2020): 18-33.

“Moving Beyond the ‘West/Rest’ Binary: Rifā‘ah Rāfi‘ al-Ṭaḥṭāwī’s Views on Turks and the French in *An Imam in Paris*,” *Hafiza* 2.2 (2020): 23-32.

“Ottoman Literature as Mediterranean Literature: Travel, Imperialism, and Comparison in *Hac Yolunda* by Cenab Şahabeddin,” *Journal of Mediterranean Studies* 28.2 (2019): 171-186 [**WoS-indexed**].

“Entanglements between *the Tanzimat* and *al-Nahḍah*: Jurjī Zaydān between *Tārīkh ādāb al-lughah al-turkiyyah* and *Tārīkh ādāb al-lughah al-‘arabiyyah*,” *Journal of Arabic Literature* 50.3/4 (2019): 258-284 [**WoS-indexed**].

“Hekim Yazarlar: *Hayal ve Hakikat*’te Histerik Şiir ve Şifalı Roman [Physician Writers: Hysteric Poetry and the Medicinal Novel in *Hayal ve Hakikat*],” *Akdeniz İnsani Bilimler Dergisi* 9.1 (2019): 33-41.

“Canons as Reservoirs: The Ottoman Ocean in Ziya Pasha’s *Harabat* and Reframing the History of Comparative Literature,” *Comparative Literature Studies* 54.1 (2017): 731-748 [WoS-indexed].

“Translating Ottoman into Classical Arabic: *Nahḍa* and the Balkan Wars in Ahmad Shawqi’s ‘The New al-Andalus,’” *Middle Eastern Literatures* 19.3 (2016): 278-297 [WoS-indexed].

## BOOK CHAPTERS

“Ka‘b ibn Zuhayr Cries for Sultan Murad IV: Baghdad, Heritage, and the Ottoman Empire in Ma‘rūf al-Ruṣāfi’s Poetry,” *The Routledge Companion to Arabic Poetry*, eds. Suzanne Stetkevych and Huda Fakhreddine (Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge, Forthcoming).

“Đurišin’s Interliterary Mediterranean as a Model for World Literature,” co-written with Charles D. Sabatos, *Sea of Literatures: Towards a Theory of Mediterranean Literature*, eds. Angela Fabris, Albert Göschl, and Steffen Schneider (Berlin: De Gruyter, Forthcoming).

“Between Mansions and Hospitals: Agency, Modernization, and Intertwined Spaces in Peyami Safa’s *Dokuzuncu Hariciye Koğuşu*,” *Places of Illness, Spaces for Healing: The Built Environment of Healthcare in Anatolia Through the Ages*, eds. Lucienne Thys-Şenocak and Inge Uytterhoeven (Istanbul: Koç University Press, Forthcoming).

“Amina Said: An Egyptian Feminist at an Indian Conference” co-written with Greg Halaby and Siobhan Lambert-Hurley, *Three Centuries of Travel Writing by Muslim Women*, eds. Siobhan Lambert-Hurley, Daniel Majchrowicz, and Sunil Sharma (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2022), 259-269.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Charles D. Sabatos, *Frontier Orientalism and the Turkish Image in Central European Literature*. *Tarih Dergisi-Turkish Journal of History* 73 (2021): 277-282.

E. Khayyat, *Istanbul 1940 and Global Modernity: The World According to Auerbach, Tanpınar, and Edib*. *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 52.3 (2020): 599-601.

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND RESEARCH AWARDS

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Individual Fellowship; funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation program for the project “OttMed: Reassessing Late Ottoman Literatures within a Mediterranean Framework,” 2018-2020.

Koç University Summer Visiting Scholar Fellowship for archival research at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, 2019.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions support fellowship from TÜBİTAK (Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey), 2017.

Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Fellowship; merit-based award given to qualified students in Islamic studies selected by the Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2012-2017.

## **SELECT CONFERENCE PAPERS**

“Family Matters: Oedipus, Tawfîq al-Ḥakīm, and Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar,” to be presented at the Thresholds to Arabic Literary Criticism Conference at Columbia University, New York, NY, USA, December 13-15, 2022.

“‘Osmanlı Edebiyatı Arap Edebiyatı Demektir’den ‘Araplar bir Edebiyata Malik’e: Kapitalizm ve Küresel Modernite Bağlamında Türk Edebiyatının İnşası,” Osmanlı ve Cumhuriyet Türkiye’sinde Bağlamsal Düşüncenin Doğuşu (1850-1960): Disiplinler, Yazarlar, Metinler Sempozyumu, Mimar Sinan Üniversitesi, Istanbul, Turkey, November 26-27, 2022.

“Algeria as the ‘Second Anatolia’: The Ottoman Lens on the French Colonization of the Maghreb,” Modern Language Studies Association Annual Convention, January 6-9, 2022 (Online attendance).

“Arabic and Turkish Literatures in the Twenty-First Century: Nostalgia, Neo-Ottomanism, and Syrian Refugees,” Global Publishing and the Making of Literary Worlds Conference, Princeton University, June 4-6, 2021 (Online attendance).

“Mediterranean Deployments of the Ottoman Algeria: Exile and Nostalgia in the Works of Halil Halid and Abd al-Qadir al-Jazairi,” Annual Mediterranean Studies Association Congress, May 27-30, 2021 (Online attendance).

“Aspirations for Freedom and Authenticity: Reception of the Cosmopolitan Past in the Works of Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar and Tawfîq al-Hakim,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, April 8-12, 2021 (Online attendance).

“Ottoman Literature as Mediterranean Literature: New Disciplinary Bridges,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, USA, March 19-22, 2020 (Conference cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak).

“Beyond a Monolingual Nahda: The Role of Translations in the Works of Maruf al-Rusafi,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, USA, November 14-17, 2019.

“Poetics of Spolia and Antiquities: Hagia Sophia and the Mediterranean Chronotope,” Currents and Currency: Cultural Circulations in the Mediterranean and Beyond Workshop, Koç University Suna & İnan Kıraç Center for Mediterranean Civilizations, Antalya, Turkey, June 13-15, 2019.

“Theorizing the Mediterranean,” Mediterranean Mobilities and Borders Conference, Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey, June 21-24, 2018.

“Translating Metamorphosis: Modernity and *Tebeddül* in Ahmet Midhat’s *Hasan Mellah*,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA, USA, March 29-April 1, 2018.

“The Genealogy of the Classical: Cultural Kinships between the *Turāth* and the Classical Mediterranean Heritage in Arabic and Turkish Literary Histories,” *Adab* as an Interdisciplinary Pursuit Conference, New York, NY, USA, April 13-15, 2017.

“Redefining the Ottoman Literature: Ziya Pasha’s *Harabat* and Comparative Middle Eastern Literatures,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, Boston, MA, USA, November 17-20, 2016.

“Imagined Networks: Ahmad Shawqi’s ‘Sister of Andalusia’ and Reading the World in Literature,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Cambridge, MA, USA, March 17-20, 2016.

“Poetics and Politics Reconsidered: Ruins and ‘*Imara* in Classical Arabic Qasida,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, Denver, CO, USA, November 21-24, 2015.

“The Rivalry Between the Poet and The Doctor: The Trope of Sickness in Late Ottoman Literature,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, Washington, DC, USA, November 22-25, 2014.

“Exile in the Past: Literary Heritage in Selim Ileri’s *Mel’un*,” Middle Eastern Literatures in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conference, Cambridge, MA, USA, April 3-4, 2014.

“Translating the City: World Literature as a Source Text in Orhan Pamuk’s *Istanbul*,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, New York, NY, USA, March 20-23, 2014.

“Turk-Arab Relations in Rifa’a Rafi’ al-Tahtawi’s *An Imam in Paris*: Identitarian Anxieties in intra-Middle Eastern Interactions,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, USA, October 9-13, 2013.

“On the Boundaries of the Unmappable: Re-envisioning the Postcolonial Readings of Albert Camus’s *The Stranger*,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, April 4-7, 2013.

## INVITED TALKS, SEMINARS, AND ROUNDTABLES

“Mediterranean Literature as a Model for World Literature,” to be presented at Yeditepe University, Istanbul, Turkey, December 2, 2022.

Discussant at the “Ottoman Language, Literature, and Carnivals” panel of the Western Ottomanists’ Workshop (WOW) conference, University of California Los Angeles, November 18–19, 2022 (Online attendance).

“Ka‘b ibn Zuhayr Cries for Sultan Murad IV: Baghdad, Translation, and the Ottoman Empire in Ma‘rūf al-Ruṣāfi’s Poetry,” The *Longue Durée* of Arabic Literature conference, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA, November 3–4, 2022.

“Algeria as ‘a Second Turkey’: Ottoman Perspectives on the French Colonization of the Maghreb,” Ottoman Africa Workshop, Rutgers University, April 20-27, 2022 (Online attendance).

“Area Studies Reconsidered: Silk Road and Mediterranean Studies as New Directions for Comparative Literature,” People-to-People Exchanges and Mutual Reference in Silk-Road Countries Conference, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China, December 9-11, 2019.

Chair and Discussant of the “Ottoman Genres Beyond the Literary: New Methodologies for Tracing Historical Change” panel, Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, USA, November 14-17, 2019.

“Reading Middle Eastern Literatures Comparatively” roundtable discussion, Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX, USA, November 14-18, 2018.

“The Canonization of Arabic Literature in the Late Nineteenth Century,” Ibn Haldun University, Istanbul, Turkey, November 7, 2018.

“Disguise, Ottoman Fashion, and the Wardrobe of Genres,” Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey, April 18, 2018.

“Disguise, Ottoman Fashion, and the Wardrobe of Genres,” Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA, February 1, 2018.

“Reading Middle Eastern Literatures Comparatively” roundtable discussion, Middle East Studies Association Annual Convention, Washington, DC, USA, November 18-21, 2017.

“Real-life Stories from the Academic Job Search,” The Office of Career Services, Harvard University, May 2, 2017.

“The Poet Cat: Cats in Turkish Literature,” 21<sup>st</sup> Boston Turkish Arts and Culture Festival, USA, November 19, 2016.

“Arabic Sources in Modern Middle East and North African Histories,” Harvard University Center for Middle Eastern Studies, September 25, 2015.

“Intersections between Turkish and Arabic Literatures,” Bilgi University, Istanbul, Turkey, January 11, 2015.

“New Frontiers in Women Writing from the Arabian Peninsula,” Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, November 17-18, 2014.

“Arabic Sources for Modern North African History Workshop,” Harvard University Center for Middle Eastern Studies, September 19, 2014.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Member of the Faculty Executive Council, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Koç University, 2022-.

Member of the Faculty Council, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Koç University, 2022-.

Search Committee Co-Chair, Department of Comparative Literature, Koç University, 2022.

Organizer of the “Bridging STEM and Humanities/Social Sciences Disciplines: Opportunities, Challenges, and Personal Experiences” webinar, July 8, 2022.

Co-organizer of the “Researchers Meet Innovators 2022” workshop, KWORKS, Koç University, May 9, 2022.

Graduate Program Co-Coordinator, Department of Comparative Literature, Koç University, 2021-.

Editorial Board Member, Koç University Press, 2021-.

Organizer of the “Attracting Researchers and Research Excellence at Koç University: Experience with Framework Programmes” online webinar, June 21, 2021.

Chair of the Turkish Chapter of Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA), 2020-2022.

Co-organizer of the HAT event, “Istanbul in the Early Modern Turkish Feminist Narrative: Halide Edib’s The Clown and His Daughter,” June 27, 2019.

One of the organizers of Marie Curie Alumni Association Turkish Chapter Annual Conference, Istanbul Technical University (ITU), Istanbul, Turkey, June 21, 2019.

Co-organizer of the HAT event, “Carnavalesque Istanbul Narratives from a Flaneur of Eyup: Pierre Loti and Aziyade,” Istanbul Research Institute, June 20, 2019.

Co-organizer of the HAT event, “From Barcelona to Istanbul, Themes of the City of a ‘World Exile’: Juan Goytisolo,” Istanbul Research Institute, Istanbul, Turkey, June 18, 2019.

Co-organizer of the international workshop, “Currents and Currency: Cultural Circulations in the Mediterranean and Beyond,” Koç University Suna & İnan Kıraç Center for Mediterranean Civilizations, Antalya, Turkey, June 13-15, 2019.

Secretary of the Turkish Chapter of Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA), 2018-2020.

Reviewer for manuscripts from *PMLA*, *Journal of Arabic Literature*, *Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies*, *Yıllık: Annual of Istanbul Studies*, *Folklor/edebiyat*, *Mukaddime*, *Symplokē*, *Al-Abhath*, and Koç University Press.

Co-organizer of the panel “Comparative Middle Eastern Literatures: Forging a Discipline,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Cambridge, MA, USA, March 17-20, 2016.

Researcher of the digital humanities project “Afkar: Mapping Out Intellectual Networks in Interwar Northern Africa and Egypt,” 2015-2016.

Co-coordinator of Harvard University Interdisciplinary Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop series, 2014-2015.

Student coordinator of the Middle Eastern Literatures in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conference, Cambridge, MA, USA, April 3-4, 2014.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Koç University**, Istanbul, Turkey

- *Instructor*, “Literature and Culture I,” Spring 2020.
- *Instructor*, “Selected Topics in Literature: Friendship,” Spring 2019.
- *Instructor*, “Ottoman Literature,” Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, and Fall 2021.
- *Instructor*, “Imagining the Other,” Spring 2018 and Fall 2018.

## TEACHING AWARDS

**Koç University**, Istanbul, Turkey

- Outstanding Teaching Award, 2019
- All courses that I taught were ranked within the top 10% at the College of Social Sciences and Humanities, based on Question 14 (“Overall, the instructor was...”) of student evaluations

## RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Turkish (native), Arabic (advanced; Modern Standard), Ottoman Turkish (advanced), French (advanced), German (intermediate), and Persian (elementary)