

MELİZ ERGİN
Curriculum Vitae

Associate Professor
Department of English Language and Comparative Literature
College of Social Sciences and Humanities
Koç University

Rumelifeneri Yolu, Sarıyer 34450, Istanbul/Turkey
mergin@ku.edu.tr

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Comparative Literature
University of British Columbia, 2009
Dissertation: “East-West Entanglements: Pamuk, Özdamar, Derrida”

M.A., Modern European Literature
University of Sussex, 2001
Dissertation: “The Difficult Self: Wittgenstein and the Philosophy of Autobiography”

B.A., Western Languages and Literature
Boğaziçi University, 2000
Dissertation: “Religious Belief and Existentialist Angst in *Nausea* by J.P. Sartre, *Crime and Punishment* by F. Dostoyevsky, and *The Waste Land* by T.S. Eliot”

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Ecocriticism and Turkey, under contract with Bloomsbury Academic, Environmental Cultures Series (Greg Garrard and Richard Kerridge, eds.).

The Ecopoetics of Entanglement in Contemporary Turkish and American Literatures. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017. ISBN: 978-3-319-63262-9. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-63263-6.

Articles

“Ecocriticism in Turkey.” Accepted for publication in *Ecozona* (2020).

“Disability and Storytelling in J.M. Coetzee’s *Slow Man*” (co-authored with Özen Nergis Dolcerocca). *Mediterranean Journal of Humanities* 7:2 (December 2017): 211-221. doi: 10.13114/MJH.2017.358.

“Reading’s Motions: From Robertson’s *Nilling* to Derrida’s *Sovereignities*.” *Gaziantep University Journal of Social Sciences (GAUN-JSS)* 16.3 (Fall 2017): 774-784. doi: 10.21547/jss.322221.

“Drought-Induced Migrations in Syria and Turkey.” *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* 24.2 (August 2017): 257-273. doi.org/10.1093/isle/isx009.

“Derrida’s Otobiographies.” *Biography: An Interdisciplinary Quarterly* 40.2 (Spring 2017): 342-365. doi.org/10.1353/bio.2017.0020.

“Bodies Erased in Hervé Gilbert’s Novel: *To the Friend Who Did Not Save My Life*.” *Hacettepe Üniversitesi Yabancı Dil Olarak Türkçe Araştırmaları Dergisi (HÜYDOTAD)* 4.3 (Summer 2017): 7-19. ISSN: 2148-1970.

“Edebiyata Ekoeleştiril Yaklaşımlar: Ekoşiir ve Elif Sofya” (co-authored with Özen Nergis Dolcerocca). *Selçuk University Journal of Faculty of Letters* 36 (December 2016): 297-314. doi.org/10.21497/sefad.285241.

“Heidegger’in Şiir Anlayışı ve İşaret Dili Şiiri.” *Dil ve Yazın Bilimine Türkiye Katkıları Dergisi* 1 (December 2016): 83-93. ISBN: 978-605-9965-64-4.

“Whose Hostage? Irregular Migration and the Struggle for Recognition.” *Forum Italicum: A Journal of Italian Studies* 50.1 (May 2016): 143-161. doi.org/10.1177/0014585815626863.

“Emine Sevgi Özdamar’s Translingual Poetics in *Mutterzunge*.” *Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies* 49.1 (February 2013): 20-37. doi.org/10.1353/smr.2013.0005.

“Cartographic Interventions: Construction of Identity through Spatial Reconfiguration in Post/colonial Italy.” *The Italianist* 32.1 (2012): 105-125. doi.org/10.1179/0261434012Z.0000000006.

Book Chapters

“Writing and Animal(ity) in Contemporary Turkish Fiction,” forthcoming in *Turkish Ecocriticism*, Lexington Books (Ecocritical Theory and Praxis Series), 2020.

“Orhan Pamuk’s Contribution to the Literary World.” *The Routledge Intermediate Turkish Reader: Political and Cultural Articles*. Ed. Şenel Şimşek. Oxford: Taylor & Francis/Routledge, 2012. 62-63. ISBN-13: 978-0415568173.

“Otherness within Turkey, and between Turkey and Europe.” *Europe and Its Others: Essays on Interception and Identity*. Eds. Paul Gifford and Tessa Hauswedell. Bern: Peter Lang, 2010. 245-262. ISBN-13: 978-3039119684.

Essays

“Ekoeleştirme ve Dolaşıklık Poetikası,” *Cogito* 93 (Bahar 2019): 128-135.

“Ekoşiir,” *Cin Ayşe* 14 (October 2015): 34-35.

“Görünmezlik Stratejileri: Hayaletler, Göçebeler, Göçmenler.” *Roman Kahramanları* 8 (2011): 20-25.

Book Review

“Poison in Lemon / Carbon and Monoxide in My Chest: Elif Sofya’s *Dik Âlâ*,” *The Capilano Review*, 3.26 (Spring 2015): 30-31.

Poems

One poem. *HCE Review* 3.1 (November 2018): 51. <https://hcereview.com/>

Four poems. *Bare Fiction* 11 (July 2018): 8.

One poem. *Konundrum Engine Literary Review* (November 2012). <http://lit.konundrum.com>

One poem. *The Enpipe Line: 70,000 Kilometers of Poetry Produced in Resistance to the Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline Proposal*. Smithers/British Columbia: Creekstone Press, 2012. 107.

Two poems, *Interim* 27.1&2 (2009): 208-211.

Five poems. *Locuspoint* 1 (May 2007). <http://www.locuspoint.org>.

One poem. *Bone*. Vancouver: Simon Fraser University Special Collections Library, 2006. 2.

Interview

“Karşılaştırmalı Edebiyatta Güncel Çalışmalar.” *Notos* 73.6 (December 2018-January 2019): 56.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Juliana Spahr’s ‘Poethic’ Practice: Ecopoetics Meets Ecopolitics,” *Disiplinlerarası 3. Ekolojik-Etik Temaslar*, Bogazici University, May 8-9, 2019.

On Spahr’s ecopoet(h)ics, poetry, and resistance.

“Ekolojik Metin ve Dolaşıklık Ekopoetikası,” *Disiplinlerarası 2. Ekolojik-Etik Temaslar*, Bogazici University, May 9-10, 2018.

On deconstruction and ecocriticism, and poetics of entanglement.

“*Lingua, Litera, Signum*: Dil Felsefesi ve ASL Şiiri Üzerine Notlar,” Hacettepe University, Ankara, October 22-24, 2015.

On Heidegger, philosophy of language, sign language poetry.

(Workshop attendant) *Flow and Fracture from North America to Europe and Beyond: Reflections, Refractions and Diffractions within the Ecopoetic Avant-Garde*, International Poetry Lab, ULB, Brussels, December 4-5, 2014.

“Social Ecology and Poetic Resistance,” *Capitals*, American Comparative Literature Association, New York, March 20-23, 2014.

On Spahr, Tekin, ecology, commons, urban resistance.

“Derrida’s Autobiographical Entanglements,” BAKEA 2013: Symposium of Western Cultural and Literary Studies, Gaziantep, October 9-11, 2013.
On Derrida, history, self-life-writing.

“Reading, Tracking and Dissipation,” in *Global Positioning Systems*, American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, April 4-7, 2013.
On Robertson, Arendt, reading and identity, temporality, displacement.

“Remembering toward the Future: Autobiographical Design of Memory and the Inexhaustible Self,” in *Archaeologies of the Future*, The International Association for Philosophy and Literature, Tallinn, May 28-June 3, 2012.
On Derrida, Nietzsche, autobiography, philosophy, writing and identity.

“Cartographic Interventions: Re-mapping Spaces and Identities in Post/colonial Italy,” in *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Migration: the Case of Italy*, Koç University, May 10-19, 2012.
On migrations to Italy, colonial history, spatial articulations of belonging and exile.

On Italian colonialism, contemporary transnational writers, identity narratives.
“Chronicle of a Coup Foretold: the Writing of History in *Snow*,” in *World Literature/Comparative Literature*, American Comparative Literature Association, Vancouver, March 31-April 3, 2011.
On Turkish literature and politics, relationship between memory and identity.

“Barbarian Invasions: Spatial Readings of Immigrant Narratives in Post/colonial Italy,” in *Creoles, Diasporas, Cosmopolitanisms*, American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans, April 1-4, 2010.
On migrations to Italy, post/colonialism, spatial articulations of belonging and exile.

“E.S. Özdamar’s Poetics and Its Ethical Force in *MutterZunge*,” in *Arrivals and Departures*, American Comparative Literature Association, Long Beach, California, April 24-27, 2008.
On Turkish-German literature, migration, translingual narrative.

“Writing of the Shadow,” in *Aesthetics and (Self) Deception*, University of Washington, Washington, October 12-13, 2007.
On Guibert, Bernhard, intertextuality, artistic uncertainty.

“Otherness within and outside Turkey,” in *Europe and Its Others*, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, July 6-8, 2007.
On Pamuk’s *Snow*, Islam and secularism, Turkey’s relationship to Europe.

“Autobiography of the Writing Machine,” in *The Human and Its Others*, American Comparative Literature Association, Princeton University, New Jersey, March 23-26, 2006.
On Derrida, Augustine, Wittgenstein, theories of autobiography.

INVITED TALKS

“A. H. Tanpınar ve *Saatleri Ayarlama Enstitüsü*,” *L’editoria italiana e la ‘scoperta’ degli scrittori turchi*, Italian Cultural Institute, Istanbul, February 11, 2015.

“Social Ecology, Ecopoetics and the Revised Sublime,” *Interdisciplinary Research Seminar*, Koç University, April 25, 2014.

(Roundtable) *Parole Migranti, Sconfinamenti Linguistici*, Italian Cultural Institute, Istanbul, May 18, 2012.

“Residence Programs for Writers and Poets,” *Artist in Residence Workshop - EU Culture Program* (2007-2013), Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, Koç University, February 25, 2012.

“Voltaire’s *Candide*,” *Teachers’ Roundtable*, Koç University, November 18, 2009.

“T.S. Eliot and Modernism,” Department of English, University of British Columbia, February 9, 2005.

“*Monolingualism of the Other*: Derrida and Autobiography,” Graduate Students’ Lecture Series, University of British Columbia, March 22, 2004.

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Modern and contemporary Turkish and European literature
Ecocriticism and ecopoetics
Critical theory
Literature and philosophy
Migration and transnational narratives

LANGUAGES

Turkish (Native)
English (Fluent)
Italian (Fluent)
French (Reading)
German (Basic Reading)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Koç University

“Introduction to Contemporary Literature,” “Humanities II: 500-1700 AD,” “Ottoman Turkish Literature,” “Modern Turkish Literature,” “Translating Literatures and Cultures,” “Topics in European Literature,” “Imagining the Other,” “Literature and the Social World,” “Independent

Study II: Readings in Modern European Literature,” “Readings in Critical Theory,” “Migration and Narrative,” “Honors Thesis Seminar” 2009-present

University of British Columbia

Co-Lecturer, “The Other Empires of Europe: Culture, History, Politics,” Department of Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies, Fall 2008

Teaching Assistant, “Approaches to Literature,” “Approaches to Non-Fictional Prose,” “Introduction to Literary Theory,” “Literature in the United States,” Department of English, 2004-2009

Boğaziçi University

Instructor of English as a Second Language, English Preparatory Division, School of Foreign Languages, 2001-2002

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Researcher and Test Writer, Testing Office, English Preparatory Division, School of Foreign Languages, Boğaziçi University, 2002-2003

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conference Coordinator and Moderator

Pulse: Comparative Literature Symposium, Koç University, Istanbul, May 24, 2014.

Turkish-German Frontiers of the Humanities: Migration, Integration and Access, co-organized by the Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung, Stiftung Mercator, and Koç University, Istanbul, November 27-30, 2013.

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Migration: the Case of Italy, Koç University, Istanbul, May 10-19, 2012.

“The Literary and the Political in Modern Turkey,” *World Literature/Comparative Literature*, American Comparative Literature Association, Vancouver, April 7-10, 2011.

Co-founder of Poetry Reading Series

Versify: a monthly gathering to promote the writing, reading, and performing of poetry, Koç University, 2014-2016

Organized poetry readings and writing workshops with established and emerging poets.

Play Chthonics: Contemporary Canadian Readings, University of British Columbia, 2007-2009
Secured funding from the Canada Council for the Arts to establish new monthly reading series; coordinated visiting writer arrangements, and managed public relations.

Member of the poetry collective *Vertigo West*, Vancouver, 2005-2008

Coordinator of Literary Events

Teachers' Roundtable, Koç University, 2010-2014

Annual Undergraduate Conference, Koç University, 2010-2015

Creative Writing and Translation Workshops, Koç University, 2010-2012

Writer-in-Residence Program, Koç University, 2010-2011

Referee

ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment

KADIN/WOMAN 2000

Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Advisory Board Member of the Environmental Humanities Series, Kapadokya University Press, 2019
- Editorial Board Member of Koç University Press, 2016-2018
- Hiring Committee Member, 2009-2017
- Advisory Board Member of the Career Center, Koç University, 2010-2016
- Freshmen Advisor, Koç University, 2011-2016
- Exchange Program Coordinator, Koç University, 2011-2015
- Departmental Coordinator, Koç University, 2010-2014
- Departmental Representative for the Bologna Process, Koç University, 2010-2014
- Co-established the Honors Program in Comparative Literature, Koç University, 2012

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE)