

**SELİM SIRRI KURU**  
[selims@u.washington.edu](mailto:selims@u.washington.edu)

## **I. EDUCATION**

2000 Ph.D., Near Eastern Languages and Literatures,  
Harvard University, Cambridge MA, 2000

1993 M. A., Institute of Social Sciences,  
Boğaziçi University, İstanbul, Turkey, 1993

1999 B.A., Turkish Language and Literature Department,  
Boğaziçi University, İstanbul, Turkey, 1990

## **II. EMPLOYMENT**

2007-Present University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Associate Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization

2015-2021 University of Washington, Seattle WA  
Chair, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization

2000- 2007 University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization

1999-2000 University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
Acting Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

1997-98, 2000, 2002-Present Intensive Ottoman Summer School, Ayvalik, Turkey  
Instructor, Co-director

2004-2005 Invited lecturer at Boğaziçi, Koç Universities, İstanbul, Turkey

1999-1998 Lecturer, Harvard University, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization

## **III. RELATED PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

1999- Director of Turkish and Ottoman Studies Program

2021- Board Member, Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association

2015-2021 Director of Persian and Iranian Studies Program, NELC, UW

2013-2014 Director of Education Board in the Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington (TACAWA)..

2012 Winter- Spring Interim Chair, Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, University of Washington.

2011-2013 Director, Ottoman Studies Foundation, Ottoman and Turkish Summer School in Turkey.

2010-2015 Associate Member, Institute of Turkish Studies (ITS) Board.

## **IV. RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

1. “Sex in 16<sup>th</sup> Century Istanbul,” *Cambridge History of Sexuality*, vol. 2, edited by Merry E. Wiesner Hanks and Matthew Kuefler (forthcoming in 2023).
2. “A Geography of Desire: Difference among Nations of the World in an Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Verse Narrative,” *Giorgio Della Vida Conference Papers Honoring Zeynep Celik* (review comments received)
3. “Sex and Marriage: A View from the Early 16th Century Ottoman Empire,” co-authored with Leyla Kayhan Elbirlik in *Crafting History: Essays on Ottoman World and Beyond in Honor of Cemal Kafadar* ed.

by Rachel Goshgorian, Ilham Khouri-Makdisi and Ali Yaycıoğlu (Cambridge, MA: Academic Studies Press, 2022).

4. “City of Men: Istanbul,” *A Companion to Early Modern Istanbul* edited by Cigdem Kafescioglu and Shirine Hammadeh (Leiden: Brill 2022), 63-85.
5. “Reşat Ekrem Koçu’nun Bağlamları” *Toplumsal Tarih* (February 2022), 30-35.
6. “Male Discourses of Gender and Sexuality: How History Omits Ottoman Elites’ Love of Literature” *Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association* 7:2 (Winter 2020), 133-146.
7. “Generic Desires: Homoerotic Love in Ottoman Turkish Poetry,” in *Mediterranean Crossings: Sexual Transgressions in Islam and Christianity (10th-18th Centuries)* edited by Umberto Grassi (Rome, Italy: Viella English Series 2020), 43-63. Revised and expanded version of “Il genere del desiderio...”.
8. “Early, Yet Already Late: Literary Musings on Historical Questions,” *The Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies* (2020): 11-13.
9. “Les gitons d’Istanbul à la fin du XVIIIe siècle: Une sélection du Hûbânnâme d’Enderûnlu Fâzıl Bey,” co-authored with Irvin Cemil Schick in *Les Ottomans par eux-mêmes*, ed. By Nicolas Vatin (Paris, France: Belles Lettres, February 2020)
10. Three articles for *Encyclopedia of Islam* 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, to be submitted in August 2020.
11. *Hayat Ağacı: Makaleler 1* (Tree of Life: Collected Articles of Gönül Tekin) Coedited with Sibel Kocaer (April 2017).
12. “Yazma Mecmualarda Bulunan Kısa Eserlerde Kişisel ve Bu Eserlerin Yayılımı Üzerine Gözlemler (Some observations on short works in Ottoman Turkish miscellanies and their readership),” *Journal of Turkish Studies* 45 (2016), 177-187.
13. “Portrait of a Shaykh as Author in the Fourteenth-Century Anatolia: Gülşehri and His Falaknâma” Copy-editions submitted for A.C.S. Peacock, and Sara Nur Yıldız, eds. *Literature and Intellectual Life in Fourteenth- and Fifteenth-century Anatolia*. (Würzburg: Ergon Verlag Würzburg in Kommission 2016), 175-198.
14. *Eski Metinlere Yeni Bağlamlar: Osmanlı edebiyatı çalışmalarında yeni yönelimler* [New Contexts for Old Texts: New Approaches to Ottoman Turkish Literature], coedited with H. Aynur, M. Çakır, H. Koncu, A. Özemre (İstanbul: Klasik Yayınları, April 2015).
15. “Il genere del desiderio. L’amore per i bei ragazzi nella letteratura ottomana della prima età moderna [Genres of desire: Love among men in classical and modern Ottoman literature],” translated from English in *Le trasgressioni della carne: Il desiderio omosessuale nel mondo islamico e cristiano, secc. XII-XX*, edited by Umberto Grassi e Giuseppe Marcocci, (Collana: Viella 2015), 81-101.
16. *Metnin hâlleri: Osmanlı’da telif, tercüme ve şerh*. [States of the Text: Composition, Translation and Commentary in the Ottoman Empire] coedited with Hatice Aynur, Müjgân Çakır, Hanife Koncu, Ali Emre Özyıldırım. (İstanbul: Klasik, 2014). 502 s.
17. “The Literature of Rum: The Making of a Literary Tradition (1450-1600),” in *Cambridge History of Turkey* ed. by Suraiya Faroqhi and Kate Fleet (Cambridge UK: Cambridge University Press, 2013), 548-592.
18. “Reintroducing Hafez to readers in Rum: Sudi’s introduction to his commentary on Hafez’s poetry.” Coauthored with M. U. İnan, *Journal of Turkish Studies* 35:1 (2011), 12-40.

#### IV. RECENT ACADEMIC TALKS and CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

1. “Is there a Persianate Modernity” Commentator to two papers. University of Washington (January 28, 2022)
2. “Read Ekrem Kocu’s Istanbul Ansiklopedisi and its Archive,” Roundtable, Middle Eastern Studies Organization Annual Conference. Organizer and commentator (October 14, 2020).
3. “Istanbul: The Beloved City,” Duke University, John Hope Franklin Center (February 26, 2020).
4. “Hariç ez Akl-ı Beşer İstanbul: Enderunlu Fazıl’ın İstanbul’u (In Turkish)” Istanbul Research Institute (December 19, 2019).
5. “Conversation with Selim Kuru on Gazel form (In Turkish),” Universitat Wienn-Institut für

- Orientalistik (December 12, 2019).
6. "An Atlas of Desire: Versifying Europeans in the Ottoman Empire," Perspectives on French Colonial and Late Ottoman Cultural History, [The Giorgio Levi Della Vida Conference in Islamic Studies honoring the work of Zeynep Çelik](#), May 30-31, 2019.
  7. "A Poetics for the Empire: The Function of Poetry among the Ottoman Elite," University of Houston, April 19, 2019.
  8. Commentator, [Shared Practices, Common Legacies: Ottoman Science from a Global Perspective](#), University of Pennsylvania, April 5-6, 2019.
  9. "Dünyanın Sefilleri: Cinsel Eylemler Üzerine bir 16. Yüzyıl Başyapıtında Taşra Alimleri ve Anadolu Köylüleri [The Wretched of the World: Scholars and Anatolian Villagers in a 16th century Masterpiece on Sexual Acts," [Social and Cultural Life in Ottoman Anatolia](#), VEKAM, Ankara, Turkey, December 12-13, 2018.
  10. "In Praise of Cities: The Two Earliest Ottoman Turkish City-Thrillers on Edirne," Pre-organized Panel, In Search of Edirne, the 23rd Comité international des études pré- ottomanes (International Committee for Pre-Ottoman and Ottoman Studies) Sofia, Bulgaria, September 11, 2018.
  11. ["Outrageous Obscenities, Sexual Identities: Imposing Self over Ottoman Erotica."](#) PAMLA Panel, The Personal and Literary, November 11, 2018.
  12. "Ottoman Escatological Literature" [Texts and Manuscripts of the Muslim World](#)., Indiana University, October 17, 2018.
  13. "Comparative Middle Eastern Languages." Stanford University. Persian, Arabic, Turkish and Hebrew in the DLCL, Special Series 2016-2017 (March 16, 2017).
  14. "Stranger in a strange land: Austria in Memoirs of an Ottoman Slave." UW Germanics Department Interdisciplinary Lecture Series (April 28, 2017).
  15. "Masculine Topographies: Gendering Public Spaces in Early Modern Istanbul." UW The Middle East Center. Voices in Middle East Studies (May 15, 2017)
  16. "Men just wanna have fun: learned men and bureaucrats at play with words in premodern Istanbul." The Ottomans and Entertainment. The Skilliter Centre for Ottoman Studies, Newnham College, Cambridge. (29 June – 2 July 2016).
  17. "India and Anatolia as Persianate Lyric Frontiers: Poetry, Power and Ethnicity Between the 12th and the 17th centuries." With Sunil Sharma (Boston University), UCLA The Amuzegar Chair Lecture Series May 27, 2015.
  18. "Poets at the Gates: Patrons as Readers of Poetry in the Age of Süleyman I" in Middle Eastern Studies Organization Annual Conference for the panel Revisiting Ottoman Literary Culture in the Era of Kanuni Sultan Süleyman organized by Christiane Czygan(November 27, 2015)
  19. "Through a Text Darkly Ottoman Sexuality in the Sixteenth Century," UC Davis Middle East&South Asia Studies (February 28, 2014)
  20. "Unruly Acts of Desire: A Sixteenth-Century Vision of Sexuality in the Ottoman Empire" Stanford University, Islamic Studies Workshop Presentation. (February 27, 2014).
  21. "Şiirin Kaybolduğu Nokta: Mesnevinin Dizginlenemez Coğrafyası/The Unstoppable Geography of Masnawi: The Place Where Poetry Is Lost" [In Turkish] Klasik Türk Edebiyatı Konuşmaları. Bilim ve Sanat Vakfı (İstanbul October 18, 2014)
  22. "Şiirin Sınır Noktasında: Türkçe Gazelin Tarihselliği/Historicity of Turkish Ghazal: At the Frontier of Poetry" [In Turkish] Klasik Türk Edebiyatı Konuşmaları. Bilim ve Sanat Vakfı (İstanbul October 17, 2014)
  23. "A New Literature in Anatolia: Ottoman literary heritage", Presented at Tokyo University Foreign Languages School, Tokyo, Japan (December 17, 2012)

## VIII. PROJECTS

**David Collection, Copenhagen, Denmark. *Tuhfet'ül-müluk*** (International Collaborative Project about an illustrated compilation of erotic Ottoman Turkish stories, 2019-)

**[Middle East and North Africa Illustrated: A Bibliographical Database of Graphic Novels in English](#)**  
(Searchable Web Database 2020-)

**The Routledge Encyclopedia of the Renaissance World (RERW)** (Advisory Board Member for the Ottoman Empire section, 2022-)

**[Baki Project](#)** NELC, University of Washington, Seattle WA, USA (co-director)

**[Svoboda Diaries Project](#)**. NELC University of Washington, Seattle WA, USA (co-director)

**Resat Ekrem Kocu's Istanbul Ansiklopedisi and its Archive.** Kadir Has University and SALT Research, Istanbul, Turkey (advisor)

**Turkish Literature Handbook** (edited by Didem Havlioglu and Zeynep Uysal) (advisory board member and contributor, 2018-2019).

**Eski Edebiyat Çalışmaları 1-10 (2005-2015):** A series of 10 annual workshops on each on a specific topic in Pre-modern Turkish literature co-organized with two Turkish universities and took place in various campuses including University of Washington. The proceedings of each workshop published with additional commissioned articles within a year after the workshop in a co-edited volume.

## X. SERVICE

MESA Program Committee (2022) (National Service)

NELC Communications Committee (2021-)

NMES Admissions Committee (2022)

Reviewed manuscript,

External Committee Member, Serpil PhD, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey (2021-)

External Committee Member, Şule Pire M.A., Boğaziçi University, İstanbul Turkey (2020-)

External Reader, Taylan Güngör PhD, SOAS (2021)

Sawyer Seminars 2020-2021 "Global Humanitarianisms," Executive Committee, Member.

External reader/Committee Member, Baran Germen PhD, University of Oregon (2018)

Foreign Language and Area Studies Grants Admissions Committee (JSIS-Middle East Center, February 2019)

Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle Eastern Studies (NMES), Graduate School, Applications Committee, (two meetings, February 2019).

NMES Executive Committee member

Graduate Student Representative (Three Committees).

Persian and Iranian Studies Assistant Professor Search Committee, Member.

Arabic Language Lecturer Search Committee, Member

2019 Afrassiabi Lecture, Organizer

Various fundraising events and activities with Persian American and Turkish American communities of Seattle. (NELC participates Persian and Turkish festivals and continues to collaborate with Turkish American Cultural Association, WA, Seattle Isfahan Sister Cities Association, and Iranian American Community Alliance for cultural events). The Middle Eastern Studies Association Annual Conference 2019 Program Committee member (reviewed and ranked panel and paper applications in the fields of Literature, Ottoman Studies and Gender and Sexuality) (April 2019)

Reviewed articles for *Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies* (2), *Journal of Arabic Literature*, *Journal of Early Modern History*, and *New Perspectives on Turkey* and for an edited volume by *Proceedings of the British Academy*.

Reviewed manuscript for Edinburgh University Press (April 2019).

**Reviewer for** tenure promotion file for Tel Aviv University History Department (2016)

**Reviewer for** senior lecturer promotion file University of Washington Anthropology Department (2015)

**Organized** quarterly undergraduate professionalization seminars with Classics and Germanics Departments chairs (2016-2017).

Organized several events and wrote reports for Turkish and Ottoman Studies and Persian and Iranian Studies Programs as the director of both programs.

In the faculty of the JSIS Middle East Center, Graduate School Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle Eastern Studies and Comparative Literature, Cinema and Media department.

## **XI. TEACHING**

NELC Senior Seminar

Methodologies in Near and Middle Eastern Studies

COMP LIT Senior Seminar (Reading Others Narrating Selves: Prospects of World/Global Literature)

(NEAR)/Middle East Illustrated: Representations of Place, Culture and Society in Graphic Novels

Ottoman Cultural History

Modern Turkish Literature in Translation

Empire and Desire: Ottoman Literary History

Advanced Turkish course series (Türkiye’de İslam, Nazım Hikmet and Memleketimden İnsan Manzaraları, Şarkılı Türkiye Tarihi, Türk Dil Devrimi, İstanbul Dün ve Bugün, Modern Türkçe Edebiyat)

Ottoman Empire and Turkey (three weeks module in Near E 101: Gateway to the Near East)

Three Traditions of Film: Egypt, Iran, Turkey

### **M.A. Thesis (Chair)**

Elyakim Souza (NELC, 2022-)

Minsoo Jeon (NELC 2022)

Tasha Duberstein (JSIS\_Middle Eastern Studies).

Erin Kelleher (NELC 2020).

Bret Windhauser (NELC 2020).

White, Marita (NELC 2017).

Facer, Christopher (NELC 2017).

Harrington, Lydia (NELC 2014)

Altug, Bedii (NELC 2014).

Klempner, Peter (NELC 2013).

Burton, Josef (NELC 2013).

### **PhD Committees**

#### **(Chair)**

Oscar Aguirre Mandujano (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies 2011-2017)

Elizabeth Nolte (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies 2010-2016)

Zeynep Seviner (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies 2008-2016)

Sevim Kebeli (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies 2009-2015)

Müge Salmaner (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies)

Murat Umut Inan (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies, 2012-2015)

Didem Havlioğlu (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies, Fall 2008-2014)

Erdağ Gökner (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies, Fall 2001)

#### **(Member)**

William Bamber (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in NMES)

Melinda Cohoon (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in NMES)

Solmaz Shakerifard (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in NMES).

Mehmet Kentel (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies 2012-2019)

Monica Meadows (History)

Zeynep Akbulut (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies)

Ethan Spanier (History Department)

Elmira Kochumkulova (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near and Middle East Studies)

Nilüfer Patterson (Comparative Literature)