

Melike Yucel-Koc, Ph.D.
Assistant Teaching Professor,
Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures
University of Washington
yucelm@uw.edu
503-568-2943
<https://nelc.washington.edu/people/melike-yucel-koc>

Education

Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, WA
Ph.D. in School of Education, August 2015.
Dissertation: *Morphological Awareness, Vocabulary and Reading in Second Language Learning*
Advisor: Prof. Dr. William Nagy

Portland State University, Portland/OR
M.A. in Applied Linguistics, TESOL Program, June 2011
Thesis: *Emotion Narratives of Turkish-English late bilinguals*
Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lynn Santelman

Cukurova University, Adana/Turkey
M.A. in Second Language Education
Thesis: *Teaching Critical Thinking Skills through Task-based learning*
Advisor: Dr. Hasan Bedir

Hacettepe University, Ankara/Turkey
B.A. in English Language Teaching
Thesis: *Vocabulary teaching and task-based learning*
Advisor: Mehmet Oz

Work

- 2015-present Assistant Teaching Professor, Near Eastern Languages and
Civilization University of Washington, Seattle/WA
- 2013-2014 ESL (English as a second language)
instructor, A.C.E. Seattle Pacific University
- 2012-2014 Part-time Lecturer, Near Eastern Languages and
Civilization University of Washington, Seattle/WA
- 2011-2013 Graduate Research Assistant, School of Education
Seattle Pacific University, Seattle/WA
- 2010-2011 English Language Tutor for TOEFL Exam in Intensive English
Language Program (IELP), IELP Learning Center/Portland State
University, Portland/OR
- 2009-2010 Community ESL teacher, Alder Elementary School, Portland/OR
- 2008-2009 Fulbright Turkish Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) of Professor
K. Pelin Basci, (level 2nd year Turkish), Department of World
Languages & Literatures, Portland State University, Portland/OR
- 2005-2008 English as a Foreign Language (EFL) Teacher (Grades 4 to 8), State
Secondary School, Tarsus/Mersin/Turkey

CONFERENCES

Oral History Association, Annual Conference, Moving Stories, Paper presented: An Oral History Project on History, Memory and Identity: Immigrants in Seattle, October, 2021

6th AATT Annual Conference, TEACHING TURKISH AND TURKIC LANGUAGES DURING THE PANDEMIC: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS, Paper presented: Reimagining the Turkish Language Instruction in US: Using Popular TV Serials to teach Turkish,

MLA Annual Convention, 2020, Language and Literature Program Innovation, Seattle/WA

Presented at MESA Conference, AATT Roundtable, November, 2017
Turkish Language Learner Needs & Expectations

Local Community Service (including presentations):

Turkey in Seattle: An Oral History Project, (2019), Turkfest, Turkish American festival organized by TACAWA, Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington.

A Brief History of Turkish Music, (2018), Turkfest, Turkish American festival organized by TACAWA, Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington.

“Diversity in Turkey”, Linguistic Diversity in Turkey (2017), presented at Turkfest, Turkish American festival organized by TACAWA, Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington.

COFTL Conference “ELT Instruction Abroad”, Oregon, the USA, Certificate, December 2008 (presenter)

The American University in Cairo, English Studies Division, The Twelfth Skills Conference, “Critical Learning: Implications for Students, Teachers and Educational Systems”, Egypt, Certificate, January 2007 (presenter)

IATEFL Research SIG Conference “Exploring English Language Learning and Teaching”, Poland, Certificate, October 2007

Certifications

- COFTL Conference “ELT Instruction Abroad”, Oregon, the USA, Certificate, December 2008 (presenter)
- Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship, August 2008 (Foreign language teaching assistant)
- IATEFL Research SIG Conference “Exploring English Language Learning and Teaching”, Poland, Certificate, October 2007 (presenter)
- The American University in Cairo, English Studies Division, The Twelfth Skills Conference, “Critical Learning: Implications for Students, Teachers and Educational Systems”, Egypt, Certificate, January 2007 (presenter)
- The University of Amsterdam, Graduate School of Linguistics, The Netherlands, LOT Summer School Certificate, June 2006 (graduate student)

Book Reviews:

“Let’s Read and Write Turkish” in AATT Bulletin.

Projects

- **The Turkey in Seattle: Oral History Project:** The Turkey in Seattle Oral History Project is an archival study. I have been interviewing Turkish American community members, immigrants from Turkey. It is a diverse project including Sephardic Jews, Armenians, Kurds who immigrated from that region. The project works with 15 interns, with the goal of creating an archive for the immigrant stories. We are also working in collaboration with Ann Lally, our librarian at UW Suzzallo Library.
- **Digital Library:** Any documents, scrapbooks, diaries, newsletters, photo albums that are related to the community in PNW who emigrated from Turkey are being collected and digitized in collaboration with Suzzallo Library.
- **Online Curriculum Development:** Online curriculum with a focus on Turkish TV series for Elementary and Intermediate levels.

Grants

- Live-Streaming Turkish Language Project, funded by US Department of Education

Scholarships

- Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship Scholarship (08/2008-06/2009)
- International Student Retention Scholarship/ PSU (2010-2011 academic year)

Research interests

- Oral History
- Morphological awareness and academic vocabulary
- Teaching academic vocabulary to second language learners
- Improving reading comprehension skills of second language learners •
Explicit Instruction versus Communicative Language Teaching

Mentoring

Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTAs)

Yagmur Damla Aslan, 2017-2018 Academic Year

Aydan Soycan Yuksel, 2018-2019 Academic Year

Derya Devrimsel, 2019-2020 Academic Year

Gizem Yolcu, 2020-2021 Academic Year

Merve Cengizhan, 2021-2022 Academic Year

Menekse Pervaz, 2022-2023 Academic Year

Interns who work for the Oral History Project

Beril Ozhan

Carla Braunlich

Ayla Schwartz

Nur Schwartz

Dila Bostanci

Ragdah Alane

Kaan Bakkal

Nava Khademisyan

Lara Yildiz

Gabriella Chamberland

Griffin Alexander Hehmeyer

Jason Su

Evelyn Miklosovic

Service

Turkish & Ottoman Studies Lecture Series: I have been organizing Turkish & Ottoman Studies Lecture Series since 2017 in order to attract Turkish American community members to the university more as well as to attract UW faculty & students to our Turkish & Ottoman Studies. Each year, we have a guest speaker who is an expert in his/her field and who can give a talk about topics related to Turkey and Turkish culture, politics, literature etc.

Turkish & Ottoman Studies Program Fundraising Project: I have been leading this project for three years. I have been working on building good relationships with the Turkish American community and strengthening the ties between UW Turkish and Ottoman Studies Program & Turkish American Community in WA State. Our goal is to establish an endowment for the Turkish Lecturer position.

Community Service

- 2019-2020 Volunteer Teacher, ATAWA Turkish School
- 2013- 2015 Volunteer Coordinator & Executive Committee Member in International Children's Friendship Festival, Turkish American Cultural Association of WA (TACAWA)
- 2011-2013 Director of Public Affairs, Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington (TACAWA), Seattle/WA
- 2008-2009 The executive board member in Turkish American Association of Student Organization (TASCA), Portland/OR