

# GİZEM DAMLA ÇAKMAK

Sabancı University, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Orta Mahalle, Tuzla 34956 Istanbul

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## EDUCATION

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**Sabancı University** Istanbul, Turkey  
Ph.D in Gender Studies July 2024  
Thesis Title: Female Corporeality, Abjection and the Grotesque at the  
Intersection of the Gothic and Ecocriticism in Contemporary Women's Fiction  
Advisor: Prof. Sibel Irzik

**The University of Edinburgh, the School of LLC** Scotland, UK  
Visiting Postgraduate Research Student Sep. 2023 - Feb. 2024

**Marmara University** Istanbul, Turkey  
M.A in International Relations December 2016

**Marmara University** Istanbul, Turkey  
B.A in Political Science and International Relations July 2010

**Stockholm University** Stockholm, Sweden  
B.A Erasmus Exchange, Department of Political Science 2008-2009

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Feminist Ecocriticism / Queer Ecology / Feminist Psychoanalytic Theory / Gothic Ecocriticism /  
Contemporary Queer and Feminist Speculative Fiction / Climate Change Fiction

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Full-Time Visiting Instructor, Sabancı University 2024 Fall - Ongoing**

SPS101 - Humanity and Society I Course Coordinator

### **Teaching Assistant, Sabancı University, 2023 Spring**

ANTH 255: Local Cultures, Global Forces

### **Teaching Assistant, Sabancı University, 2018 Fall - 2023 Fall**

SPS101 - Humanity and Society I, 25 undergraduates per section, 2 sections each semester

- Facilitate weekly face-to-face and live online discussions
- Hold weekly office hours and assist students with course material
- Organize one-on-one tutorials to provide feedback on written (both content and academic writing related) assignments and examinations
- Grade midterm/final exams and summary paper/response paper and weekly assignments

### **Research Assistant, Okan University, 2016-2017 Fall**

**IRL337 Gender and Politics, 1 semester, 30 undergraduates**

- Co-taught the class with the department chair
- Assisted the faculty to prepare the course syllabus
- Graded midterm and final exams

### **Guest Lecturer, Marmara University, March 2020**

**PSIR 4028 Gender Studies**

History and Theory of Feminism: Examples of Feminist Activism from Turkey and the World  
Ecofeminism as Philosophy, Epistemology and Activism

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Research Assistant, Department of International Relations, Okan University, 2015-2018

- Conducted semi-structured interviews with internally displaced Kurdish women in three different districts of Istanbul.
- Participated in the creation of the Committee for Prevention and Support against Sexual Harassment at the university.
- Assumed the role of assistant coordinator of Şirin Tekeli School of Politics Certificate Program, organized collaboratively by the Association for the Support and Training of Women Candidates (Kadın Adayları Destekleme Derneği / KA.DER) and Okan University

### Independent Study, February 2010

- Worked in multinational research teams as part of the Erasmus Intensive Program Project in 2010: "Towards a Diversified or Standardized Europe?"
- Conducted short surveys among tourist and pensioners in Albir, Spain and interviewed expats about their culinary habits

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

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- [1] Eres, G. D. and Koraltürk, N. G. (2015). Forced Displacement and Changing Socio- Economic Status of Migrant Women in the Urban Kurdish Communities of Istanbul. *PEOPLE: International Journal of Social Sciences*, 1(1), 797-810.
- [2] The Vegetarian: Reading Abject as a Site of Agency Through a Gothic Ecocritical Lens. *Gothic Nature Journal* (May 7, 2021).

## BOOKS CHAPTERS

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- [1] Ekogotik, Ekokorku, Gotik Ekoeleştiri. İncinde B. Ağin ve Z. Gizem Yılmaz (Ed.), *Yirmi Birinci Yüzyılda Beşeri Bilimlerin Elli Rengi: Çevreci, Dijital, Tıbbi ve Posthüman Sesler*. 2nd ed. Kapadokya Üniversitesi Yayınları. Forthcoming.

## BOOK REVIEWS

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- [1] Review of *Salt Fish Girl: Unruly Bodies: Reading Mobility through Trans-corporeal Becomings*, by Larissa Lai, *Transfers: Interdisciplinary Journal of Mobility Studies* 13, no. 3 (December 2023), <https://doi.org/10.3167/TRANS.2023.130307>.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- [1] Han Kang'ın *Vejetaryen* Adlı Eserinde Kadın Bedeninin Ekogotik Bir İncelemesi. Toplumsal Cinsiyet ve Edebiyat Seminerleri 2024 (26 Ekim-30 Kasım).
- [2] Re-envisioning Commons in Anita Desai's *Fire on the Mountain*: A Postcolonial Appropriation of the Nature-Culture Divide. Reclaiming the Commons: ASLE + AESS 2023 Conference (9-12 July 2023).
- [3] A Non-Anthropocentric and Non-Heteronormative Reading of Female Sexuality and Desire in Julia Ducournau's *Raw*. GenderEX / The 2nd International Gender for Excellence in Research Conference (10-11 June 2023).
- [4] Imagining a Queer Dys(u)topia: An Ecogothic Reading of the Female Body in Larissa Lai's *Salt Fish Girl*. Queer and Feminist Studies in Southeastern Europe (QueerFemSEE) II International Conference (28-30 April 2023).
- [5] Antroposende Grotesk ve İğrenç Bedenler: Han Kang'ın *The Vegetarian* Romanının Gotik Ekoeleştirel İncelemesi. POEDAT Konferansı 2023 (7-9 Nisan)
- [6] 1990'lardaki Zorunlu Kürt Göçü ve İstanbul'daki Kürt Göçmen Kadınların Sosyoekonomik Statüsündeki Değişimler. [Forced Displacement and Changing Socio-Economic Status of Migrant Women in the Urban Kurdish Communities of Istanbul], Siyasi İlimler Türk Derneği XIII Lisansüstü Konferansı [Turkish Political Science Association – the 13th Graduate Conference] (November 2015).
- [7] Forced Displacement and Changing Socio-Economic Status of Migrant Women in the Urban Kurdish Communities of Istanbul. The 9th International Conference on Advances in Social Sciences [ICASS] (September 2015).

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

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[1] A Non-Anthropocentric and Non-Heteronormative Reading of Female Sexuality and Desire in Julia Ducournau's *Raw*. International Gender for Excellence in Research Conference Proceedings Part 2, Lunds Universitet, Media-Tryck, 2024.

[2] Antroposende Grotesk ve İğrenç Bedenler: Han Kang'ın *The Vegetarian* Romanının Gotik Ekoeleştirel İncelemesi. In POEDAT Konferansı 2023 Bildiri Özeti Kitabı, 15. Postane, İstanbul: POEDAT.

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

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The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), International Research Fellowship Programme for PhD Students (2023)

## MEMBERSHIPS

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The Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE)

## SKILLS

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Language: Turkish (native), English (fluent)

## REFERENCES

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Prof. Sibel Irzik  
Cultural Studies, Sabancı University  
sibeli@sabanciuniv.edu

Assoc. Prof. Nurşen Gürboğa  
Political Science and International Relations (English), Marmara University  
ngurbogamarmara.edu.tr