

Serdal Tmkaya, PhD
Curriculum Vitae

Institutional affiliation: Ibn Haldun University, Department of Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence. İstanbul.

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of mind, philosophy of artificial intelligence (large language models), philosophy of science, epistemology

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Neurophilosophy, metaphilosophy (naturalism and scientism), history of analytic philosophy (Quine), philosophy of cognitive science (predictive processing), cognitive robotics

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey, 2014–2022.

M.A. in Philosophy, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey, 2011–2014.

B.A. in Philosophy, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey, 2004–2011.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Ibn Haldun University, Department of Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence. Istanbul. August 2022 –

Middle East Technical University, Department of Philosophy, February 2013 – October 2020. Ankara, Turkey.

Ardahan University, Department of Philosophy, October 2020 – March 2022. Ardahan.

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Assistant Dean, School of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Ibn Haldun University (2025 – Present).

THESES

Master thesis: “Is Cultural Neurophilosophy Possible?” METU Department of Philosophy, September 2014. Ankara, Turkey.

Ph.D. thesis: “A Clarificatory Defense of Eliminative Materialism.” METU Department of Philosophy. March 2022. Ankara, Turkey.

PUBLICATIONS

International peer-reviewed journal articles (AHCI/SSCI)

1. (2026) “Method before Ontology: Reconstructing the Core of Eliminative Materialism.” *Acta Analytica*. [Journal rank: Q1] <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12136-026-00675-5>

2. (2025) “Beyond Physicalism? Quine’s Open-Ended Naturalism and the Possibility of the ‘Supernatural.’” *Metaphilosophy* [Journal rank: Q1] 57(1-2), pp. 119–128.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/meta.70027>
3. (2023) “In defence of Churchland-style eliminative materialism: Objections and replies.” *South African Journal of Philosophy*. 41(4), pp. 347–359. DOI: 10.1080/02580136.2023.2199607 [Journal rank: Q2]
4. (2022) “The United Shades of Eliminative Materialism.” *Philosophical Forum*, 53(2), pp. 95–113. DOI:10.1111/phil.12310 [Journal rank: Q3]
5. (2022) [Note] “Against Slagle’s Reading of Eliminative Materialism on Self-Defeating.” *Philosophical Investigations*. 46(1), pp. 99-111. DOI: 10.1111/phin.12351 [Journal rank: Q2]
6. (2021) “Churchland, Nagel, and Their Severe Critique of Folk Psychology.” *Teorema*, 40(3), pp. 5–27. [Journal rank: Q2]
7. (2021) “A Novel Reading of Thomas Nagel’s ‘Challenge’ to Physicalism.” *Organon F*, 28(4), pp. 802–818. DOI: 10.31577/orgf.2021.28403 [Journal rank: Q3]
8. (2019, online first) “On the Proper Treatment of the Churchlands.” *Erkenntnis*, 86(4), pp. 905–918 (in print 2021). DOI: 10.1007/s10670-019-00137-y [Journal rank: Q1]

National articles

1. (2023) “Quine’s Naturalism is More Inclusive than ‘Liberal Naturalism.’” *Kutadgubilig: Felsefe-Bilim Arařtırmaları*. 48, pp. 231–245.
2. (2023) “What does the continuity thesis really mean in Quine’s philosophy?” *FLSF Felsefe ve Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi*. 35(0), pp. 179–192. DOI: 10.53844/flsf.1224220
3. (2022) “Yapay Bilinç Tartıřmasında Biyolojik Doğalcı Yaklařımın Hataları.” *Kaygı*. 2(2), pp. 881–901. DOI: 10.20981/kaygi.1092807
4. (2022) “Çağdař Analitik Felsefede Sezgilerin Olumsuz Rolü zerine.” *Felsefe Dnyası*, 1 (75), pp. 118–138.
5. (2021) “Kaç Tane Metafelsefi Yaklařım Var?” *Drt ge*. 19, pp. 135–150.
6. (2021) “Nrofelsefe İndirgemeci mi Yoksa Eleyici midir?” [“Is Neurophilosophy Reductionist or Eliminativist?”] *FLSF*, 31, pp. 15–36.
7. (2021) “Analitik Felsefe Neden Natralizme Karřıdır?” *Kaygı*, 20(1), pp. 289–305.
8. (2020) “Analitik Felsefe Diye Bir Felsefe Okulu Var Mıdır?” [“Is There a Philosophical School Such as Analytic Philosophy?”] *Felsefe Dnyası*, 72, pp. 290–309.
9. (2018) “Thomas Kuhn ve Devrimler Yoluyla Birikimsel İlerleme.” *Maltepe niversitesi Fen-Edebiyat Fakltesi Dergisi*, 2017 1+2, pp. 238–256.

Under review

1. Article manuscript (in Turkish) on higher education in the age of large language models (LLMs). Title withheld during blind review. Under review.
2. Article manuscript (in Turkish) on synthetic psychology for large language models (LLMs). Title withheld during blind review. Under review.

Work in progress

1. “All Vocabulary, No Architecture: LLMs and the End of Residual Propositionalism.” Article manuscript, in preparation.
2. “Mdahale Edilebilir Zihin” [The Interventionist Mind]. Article manuscript, in preparation.
3. “Quine’s Web, Churchland’s Maps.” Article manuscript, in preparation.
4. Book chapter on perceptual plasticity and scientific realism, for an edited volume in the philosophy of perception. In preparation.
5. Editrlk. Nrofelsefe Antolojisi. Doruk Yayınları

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. (forthcoming) “2026’da Saygıya Deęer Bir Felsefe Nasıl Olamaz? Bilimle Entegrasyonu Reddeden Programın Çıkması.” İinde Bilişsel Bilim Antolojisi. Doruk Yayınları. Editr: Yunus Şahin
2. (2025) “Yanılsamacılık ve Eleyici Materyalizm: İki Marjinal Yaklaşım.” İinde Zihin Felsefesi Antolojisi. Doruk Yayınları. Editr: Erhan Demircioęlu
3. (2024) “Bilin ve Din: Çaędaş Felsefi Bilin Kuramları II” Edited by Betl Akdemir-Sleyman. Kre yayınları, pp.
4. (2017) “Analitiki Wittgenstein Kendi lmn Deneyimleyebildi mi?” Yaşam ve lm Felsefesi. Edited by A. Kadir Çen. Sentez Yayınları, pp. 425–435.
5. (2014) “Yaygın Yanılıęların Kıskaçında Nrofelsefe” [“Saving Neurophilosophy from Mumpsimus”], Gnmz Felsefe ile Dşnmek. Edited by Bahadır Glşen, Erkan Bozkurt, Glce Sorgu, and Umut Morko. İzmir: Ege niversitesi Yayınları, pp. 151–160.

BOOK REVIEW

1. (2021) “Science, Scientism, and Never-Ending Myths about the Scientific Stance.” Metascience. 30(2), pp. 323–326. DOI: 10.1007/s11016-021-00637-0

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. “Sezgilerin Glgesinde: Analitik Felsefenin Kaybolan Bilimsellięi.” XIV. Mantık alıştayı. 2025.
2. “Ontolojik Natralizm ve Yntemsel Natralizm Birbirini Dışlar: deneysel parapsikolojinin dşndrdkleri zerine.” VIII. Mantık alıştayı Kitabı, 2018.
3. “Doęalcı Epistemoloji: epistemolojinin inkarı mı asimilasyonu mu?” [Naturalized epistemology: denial or assimilation?] VII. Mantık alıştayı Kitabı, 2017.
4. “The Overlaps between (Proper) Philosophy and (Actual) Science” [Graduate Conference in Metaphilosophy —Budapest, 2015] On What It Is: Perspectives on Metaphilosophy, 2016.
5. “Bilim Aęında Tutarlılık” (Artvin, Mantık alıştayı, 2016). VI. Mantık alıştayı Kitabı, 2016.

CONFERENCES

1. “Quine’n Naturalizmi ve Parapsikolojinin Bilimsel Sınırlarını Zorlama.” XV. Mantık alıştayı. April 24 – 26, 2025. Gaziantep University. Gaziantep, Turkey.
2. “Sezgiler ve aędař Analitik Felsefe.” XIV. Mantık alıştayı. May 23 – 25, 2024. Bayburt University. Bayburt, Turkey.
3. “AHCI ve SSCI veritabanlarında endekslenen dergilerde tek kiřilik zgn arařtırma makalesi’ yayınlamış olmak ğretim yelięine atanmak iin zorunlu olmalı mıdır?” Trkiye’de Yksek ğretimde Felsefe Eęitimi Sempozyumu. October 26 – 28, 2023. İstanbul Medeniyet niversitesi, Felsefe Blm. İstanbul, Turkey.
4. “Quine’da Natralizmin Nrofelsefeye Doęru Evrimi.” Quine zerine Eleřtirel İncelemeler alıştayı. July 7 – 8, 2023. In-person. Speaker. Bursa Uludaę University. Bursa, Turkey.
5. “Quinean Naturalism and Experimental Parapsychology.” Writing for Publication in English-Language Journals. June 12–14 2023. In-person. Speaker. Ibn Haldun University. Bařakřehir, İstanbul, Turkey.
6. “Doęal Zeka Mmkn m?” XII. Mantık alıştayı. May 11–13, 2023. Van, Turkey
7. aędař Bilin Kuramları [The Contemporary Theories of Consciousness]. September 23–24, 2022. İstanbul, Turkey. (As a commentator)
8. “Eř-llmezlik hangi durumlarda en bariz halini alır?” XI. Mantık alıştayı. May 26–28, 2022. Kastamonu, Turkey.
9. “Bilim-perestlięin nesi kt?” X. Mantık alıştayı. September 2–4, 2021. Kapadokya, Turkey.
10. “Quine’s Naturalism Is More Liberal than Liberal Naturalism.” 4th Annual TiLPS History of Analytic Philosophy Workshop. December 14–15, 2020. Tilburg, Netherlands (online).
11. “Quine’s Ignored Challenge to Imaginability-Based Arguments” (poster session). Exploring the Mind’s Eye: An Interdisciplinary Conference on Imagination. October 25–26, 2019. Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey.

12. "The Neurophilosophical Approach to Morality: Elimination, Reduction, Revision, Unification, or Assimilation?" International Interdisciplinary Summer School 2018: The Neurobiology of Moral Conscience with Patricia Churchland. June 4–8, 2018. Tubingen, Germany.
13. "Quine Neden Ontolojik Natralizme Karşıydı?" VIII. Mantık Çalıştayı. May 9–11, 2018. Blent Ecevit University, Faculty of Letters, Zonguldak, Turkey.
14. "The Problem in the Philosophical Community of Turkey." Istanbul International Congress on Philosophy. May 2–4, 2018. Istanbul University, Faculty of Letters. Istanbul, Turkey.
15. "Doğalcı epistemoloji: epistemolojinin inkarı mı asimilasyonu mu?" ["Naturalized Epistemology: The Denial or Assimilation of Epistemology?"] VII. Mantık Çalıştayı. June 29 – July 1, 2017. Ondokuz Mayıs University, Samsun, Turkey.
16. "Thomas Nagel is, at Bottom, Not an Anti-Physicalist but a Defender of It." Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy 2016. September 7–9, 2016. University of Salzburg, Austria.
17. "The Overlaps between Philosophy and Science." On What It Is: The Philosophy of Philosophy. February 13–15, 2015. Etvs Jzsef Collegium, Budapest, Hungary.
18. "The Proper Place of Neurophilosophy within Philosophical Naturalism." 9th Annual Conference of the Postgraduate Philosophy Association of Southern Africa (PPA) 2014. July 19–20, 2014. University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa.

INVITED TALKS

1. "Eleyici materyalizm gerçekte nedir?" Bartın niversitesi Felsefe Blm. Dnya Felsefe Gn. Kasım 2025. Online.
2. "Analitik felsefe diye bir felsefe okulu var mıdır?" Cogist. 2025.
3. "On what actual eliminative materialism is not." August 1, 2023. Boğaziçi University. Beşiktaş, İstanbul, Turkey.
4. "İnsan Bilimleri, Beyin Bilimlerine İndirgenebilir mi?" December 14, 2022. İbn Haldun University. Çarşamba Buluşmaları. Başakşehir, İstanbul, Turkey.
5. "Nrofelsefe İndirgemeci Bir Kuram Değildir." [IV. Mind Symposium]. March 25–26, 2017. Neuroscience and Philosophy. Raymar Otel, Ankara, Turkey.
6. "Nrofelsefe Ne Değildir zerine." ("On What Neurophilosophy Is Not.") IV. Bilim Ve Felsefe Kampı [IV. Meeting of Science and Philosophy]. Topic: Philosophy of Science, Quantum Mechanics, Philosophy of Mind, and Psychoanalysis. September 11–14, 2015. Karaburun, İzmir, Turkey.
7. "Neden Felsefe?" ("Why Philosophy?") UNESCO World Philosophy Day. November 2014. Haymana Nuri Bektaş Anadolu Lisesi, Haymana, Ankara, Turkey.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

As primary instructor

1. Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence
2. Research Methods and Publication Ethics: AI-driven research techniques
3. Neurophilosophy
4. Philosophy of Science
5. Seminar
6. Philosophy of Mind
7. Scientific Method

As teaching assistant and occasional lecturer

1. Phil106: Theory of Knowledge
2. Phil108: Introduction to Philosophy (for Philosophy majors)
3. Phil108: Introduction to Philosophy (for Psychology majors, × 3)
4. Phil108: Introduction to Philosophy (for Sociology majors)
5. Phil241: Philosophy and Evolution
6. Phil442: Contemporary Philosophy (perception, epistemology, language)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (extra-university work)

1. “Ortadoęu Teknik niversitesi ile Eęitimde İřbirlięi.” Tzyeksav [a private primary and secondary school for highly gifted students]. For six months. 2015. METU, Ankara.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE

1. National Philosophy Graduate Conference. April 20 – 21, 2024. Ibn Haldun University. Sleymaniye, İstanbul, Turkey.
2. Writing for Publication in English-Language Journals. June 12 – 13, 2023. In-person. Organizer. Ibn Haldun University. Bařakřehir, İstanbul, Turkey.
3. International Philosophy Graduate Conference. May 6 – 7, 2023. Ibn Haldun University. Sleymaniye, İstanbul, Turkey.
4. Publication seminar series. March 2021 – May 2021, 10+ weeks. Organization committee member.
5. Akademik İř Olanakları. 14+ weeks. January 2021 – April 2021. Online. Organization committee member.
6. 3. ODT Lisans ęrencileri Felsefe Kongresi [3rd METU Undergraduate Students Philosophy Congress]. April 14–15, 2018. METU, Ankara, Turkey. Organization committee member.
7. 2. ODT Lisans ęrencileri Felsefe Kongresi [2nd METU Undergraduate Students Philosophy Congress]. December 9–10, 2017. METU, Ankara, Turkey. Organization committee member.
8. 2. ODT Lisansst Felsefe ęrencileri Kongresi [2nd METU Graduate Philosophy Students Congress]. December 7–8, 2017. METU, Ankara, Turkey. Organization committee member.

9. 1. ODT Gen Akademisyenler Meta-Felsefe Kongresi [1st METU Young Scholars Metaphilosophy Congress]. April 22–23, 2017. METU, Ankara, Turkey. Organization committee member.
10. 1. ODT Lisans ğrencileri Felsefe Kongresi [1st METU Undergraduate Students Philosophy Congress]. November 5–6, 2016. METU, Ankara, Turkey. Organization committee member.
11. 1. ODT Lisansst Felsefe ğrencileri Kongresi [1st METU Graduate Philosophy Students Congress]. June 11–12, 2016. METU, Ankara, Turkey. Organization committee member.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Journal referee for Philosophia, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, Philosophy and the Mind Sciences, Felsefe Dnyası, Kaygı, Drt ğ, Felsefe Arkivi, and Beytulhikme: An International Journal of Philosophy. External reviewer for BAP research projects.

AWARDS

Full scholarship for undergraduate study from İhsan Doğramacı Bilkent University, 2000–2011.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

1. The Philosophy of Science Association
2. European Philosophy of Science Association
3. The Society for Philosophy and Psychology

REFERENCES

Prof. Dr. David Grünberg
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Middle East Technical University
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