



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF TURKIC LANGUAGES

◆ NEWSLETTER, ISSUE 2024 ◆

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Ilknur Lider

Dear AATT members and supporters,

As I reflect on the past year, it is with immense gratitude and a deep sense of appreciation that I am writing this message to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who has generously dedicated your time, energy, and expertise to the AATT. We began this year with profound sorrow as we mourned the immense devastation and loss of life caused by the earthquakes in Türkiye and Northern Syria in February. Our heartfelt wishes and prayers go out to those who are still healing and grappling with the aftermath of the earthquakes.

In this issue of the newsletter, we share highlights from AATT events and activities in 2023 along with inspiring news from our growing community of scholars, practitioners, and students. This year, we welcomed new FLTAs with an orientation, hosted the 8th AATT Conference, participated in the Annual MESA Meeting with a roundtable, a panel and a reception to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Turkish Republic. Student achievements were acknowledged through awards and prizes, including a new tuition scholarship for graduate students to study Ottoman Turkish in Türkiye, thanks to a generous donation from Melinda Andrews in memory of the late Walter G Andrews. We also revised and implemented our enrollment survey and maintained an active online presence through our website and social media sharing the latest news.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedicated volunteers who served on the AATT committees and at various events we held. We express our sincere thanks for your time, commitment, and hard work, which have been

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S NOTE

Ilknur Lider

invaluable in carrying out our mission and fostering a collaborative spirit within our community!

This marks my first year as the AATT Executive Secretary and it has been a true privilege, serving alongside the dedicated members of the AATT Executive Board under the leadership of our President Saadet Ebru Ergül. I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to Honorary President Erika Gilson and former president Feride Hatiboğlu for the guidance and support they have generously provided throughout this year.

AATT is grateful for the support from our esteemed institutional and individual members as well as our generous donors. Your contributions have been instrumental in furthering our mission to serve the needs of our vibrant community. We kindly invite you to renew your membership, or if you're not already a member, we warmly welcome you to join us by following this link.

<https://www.aatturkic.org/membership>

Wishing each of you joy and prosperity in 2024!

THE PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Saadet Ebru Ergül

Dear AATT Members and Supporters,

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, we extend our warmest wishes to every one of you for a prosperous and fulfilling 2024. May this message find you in good health and high spirits.

In this significant year, as we commemorate the centennial of the Turkish Republic, we take a moment to reflect on the inspiring legacy of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. His guiding principles continue to light our path towards global peace, human rights, prosperity, and unity. We understand and respect even more today as we witness a big tragedy in the Middle East.

On February 6th, 2023, we are deeply saddened by the devastating earthquake that struck Türkiye and Syria. Our hearts go out to the families and friends who have lost their loved ones. In these challenging times, our thoughts are with the affected communities, and we extend our sincere condolences.

Despite the challenges faced globally, AATT has had a busy year marked by significant achievements:

- AATT held an Open Platform Virtual Vigil to share the sorrow of the community, acknowledging global help, unity, and rescue efforts. This also provided an opportunity to delve into the history of 'Antakya.' February 2023.
- AATT Orientation Meeting with Turkish Fulbright Teaching Assistants was held in August 2023.
- 8th AATT Conference featured quality presentations from around the world. Esteemed scholar and Director of the University of Chicago Language Center, Prof. Catherine Baumann honored our conference as the keynote speaker and Prof. Deborah Azaryad from Tel Aviv University, a longtime



member and supporter of AATT lead a successful plenary session, October 2023

- The proceedings of the 7th AATT Conference by Turco Tatar Press will be published soon. Thanks to our Former President Uli Shamiloglu and Former Executive Board Member Funda Güven, editors Beyza Lorenz and Zeynep Elbasan.
- AATT also held a panel to honor Walter Andrews for his groundbreaking work of more than 50 years and touching many lives in academia and a successful roundtable. 'Teaching Turkish Language in North America on the Centennial of the Republic' at Annual MESA Conference, Montreal 2023
- The centennial of the Turkish Republic Reception at MESA brought together many old and new faces together. This was not just an anniversary celebration but a poignant reminder that we are part of a legacy that extends beyond borders. Thank you for joining us in this celebration, and we encourage you to relish the memories captured during this special occasion.
- AATT also celebrated AATT Awards winners and new Walter Andrews graduate student ottoman language summer school tuition scholarships recipients at the Annual Business Meeting held virtually in November.
- AATT Enrolment Survey Results are ready. A heartfelt thank you to all the participating institutions and individuals.

We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to our individual and institutional members, former president Feride Hatiboglu, Honorary President Erika Gilson for their all-time support and guidance and to AATT's biggest donor, Melinda Andrews.

Melinda Andrews' generous donation has paved the way for the creation of the 'Walter Andrews Graduate Student, Ottoman Language - Summer School Tuition Scholarship,' offered for the first time in early 2023. This scholarship represents a significant stride in supporting the next generation of scholars.

As we embark on a new year filled with promise and opportunities, let us continue to work together for stronger collaboration and unity.

Wishing you a wonderful New Year ahead!

FAREWELL TO OUTGOING AATT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER BEYZA LORENZ AND WELCOME TO KAGAN ARIK.

The AATT 38th Annual Business Meeting was held virtually on November 10th. It was also a moment where we said farewell to our outgoing EB member Beyza Lorenz. We are grateful to Beyza, for all her work during her presence especially for her editorial job for 7th AATT Conference Proceeding by Turco Tatar Press. She also expressed that she is willing to continue serving in the selection committee of Walter G. Andrews Ottoman Turkish Translation Award. We appreciate her hard work and all-time support of AATT.



Beyza Lorenz

After leaving her position at UCLA, Beyza is currently working at the Coordinator of Distance Learning at the University of North Georgia, where she teaches courses on English and World

Now, it is a great pleasure and enthusiasm that we extend a warm welcome to Kagan Arık (University of Chicago) the newest addition to our executive board. We are thrilled to have him on board and are confident that his expertise and dedication will contribute significantly to the continued success of AATT.



Kağan Arık

Dr. Kağan Arık is the Ayaslı Instructional Professor in Modern Turkish and Turkic languages, and coordinator for the Modern Turkish language program at the University of Chicago since 2008. He has also been teaching various Turkish and Ottoman, Turkic, and Central Asia-themed courses there since 2000. Dr. Arık has 30 years' experience in language pedagogy for Modern Turkish Language and Literature. He has designed courses for intensive Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced Turkish language, as well as Modern Turkish literature. He has developed Proficiency Tests for Modern Turkish and is doing so for Uzbek and Kazakh at present. He is also interested in the historical development of the Turkish language and its various dialects. Besides language pedagogy,

Dr. Arık has a background as an anthropologist (socio-cultural, linguistic, medical) of Central Asia, and has studied the region since 1987. He has investigated pre-Islamic elements in the culture of the Turkic peoples of Central Asia and Turkey and has published on the culture of the Kazak nomads in China, the oral literature of the Kirghiz, and on traditional healing among the Turkic peoples. He is at present conducting ethnographic research among rural populations in Muğla province, Türkiye. His regional languages of interest include Turkish, Uzbek, Kazak, Kyrgyz, Tatar, Turkmen, Azeri, Tuvan, Altai, Persian/Tajik, and Chinese. In addition to his activities in Turkish and Turkic language pedagogy, he teaches courses on the

anthropology and history of Central Asia, Ottoman History, Turkic Oral Literature, and on Old and Middle Turkic texts in the original.

2023 NCOLCTL NEWS

BY FERIDE HATIBOĞLU

NCOLCTL Delegate Assembly Meeting and “LCTL’S Reach All Teach All” in 2023 took place in Northbrook Illinois between April 19-23, 2023. This conference aimed to advocate innovative approaches in research and practices to cooperate and collaborate among disciplines, maximize professional exchanges, and share the ideas in the less commonly taught languages community.

AATT was represented with a large presence of members from the organization. Feride Hatiboglu, former President of AATT, from University of Pennsylvania, Ebru Ergul President of AATT, from Stanford University, Oya Topcuoglu, AATT Newsletter Committee, from Northwestern University, Banu Ozer Griffin, AATT Newsletter Committee, from Cornell University, Esra Predolac, AATT website Committee, from Kansas University all took part at the Conference by presenting, organizing, and attending meetings and sessions.

At the conference our colleagues from AATT Ebru Ergul and Esra Predolac presented “Developing a LCTL Textbook -- the Case of a Turkish Online OER Textbook”. Presentation explained and announced their project OER, an online Turkish textbook, that takes a process oriented and student-centered

approach to language teaching. They discussed how they structured their textbook and talked about the guiding principles and provided advice to those who would like to write language textbooks for LCTLs.



Also, Banu Ozer Griffin, presented “Integrating TV series to Elementary Level syllabus: Rationale, Materials, and Challenges”. Her presentation outlined the design, development, and challenges of creating material that are integrated with the Turkish TV series for the Elementary Turkish classes.

During the conference “Shared LCTL Symposium - Instructor-to-Instructor Strategic Sharing and Collaboration” organized and presented by Catherine Baumann and Emily Heidrich Uebel, from University of Michigan was very well attended. Various ways instructors sharing both instructional and personnel resources across institutions were discussed by featuring panelists from a wide range of languages and institutions. Banu Ozer Griffin (Cornell University), and Oya Topcuoğlu Judd (Northwestern University), were among the presenters in this symposium.



We also would like to congratulate our colleague and AATT treasurer Jeannette Okur, Assoc. Prof. of Instruction, University of Texas at Austin whose media-rich Intermediate Turkish textbook, was among the MAFLT LCTL Innovation Award winners, Okur received an honorable mention with her project “Her Şey Bir Merhaba ile Başlar!”, COERLL in the OER category at the 2023 MAFLT LCTL Innovation Awards ceremony.

At the beginning and end of the conference NCOLCTL Executive Board meetings took place and former President of AATT Feride Hatiboglu was nominated and later elected as the President-Elect of NCOLCTL.



NCOLCTL ANNOUNCES DR. FERIDE HATIBOGLU AS VICE PRESIDENT

EDITORS' NOTE



We congratulate AATT's immediate past president Dr. Feride Hatiboglu, who has been elected as the Vice-President/President-Elect of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages, of which AATT was a founding member in 1990.

Dr. Hatiboglu Teaching who teaches modern Turkish Language & Culture and Ottoman Turkish courses at the University of Pennsylvania, spent the early part of her life in Istanbul, where she earned a law degree from the Faculty of Law at Istanbul University and a Ph.D. in Banking & Insurance from Marmara University.

Formerly Board Member, Treasurer and President of the AATT and currently serving as the Individual At-large Board Member at NCOLCTL. Dr. Hatiboglu is also a member of the American Research Institute in Turkey, Ottoman Turkish Studies Association, Middle East Studies Association, American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and NCOLCTL. She holds full Oral Proficiency Interview and Writing Proficiency Test Certifications for Turkish from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Dr. Hatiboglu has organized and participated in national and international conferences, and academic committees and represented AATT and her departments (Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and Penn Language Center) at the University of Pennsylvania in many events throughout her terms in the institutions she has been serving. She has received many grants and developed Turkish teaching material for online and in person Turkish language courses during her teaching at the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently teaching Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced level Turkish Language and Culture and Ottoman Turkish courses at the University of Pennsylvania.

REPORT ON THE 8TH AATT CONFERENCE, “TEACHING TURKIC LANGUAGES IN A CHANGING WORLD”

BY GÜLDEN TÜM



As a private, non-profit, non-political organization, the American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT) has been wholeheartedly endeavoring for over three decades. In addition to teaching

individuals in the US interested in the languages and literatures of the Turks the objective of the Association includes conducting or contributing to several research projects to connect distinguished scholars worldwide. The projects share knowledge gathered through lifetime experiences with others. No doubt, all these efforts find concrete bases in the field as each scholar puts insights and efforts in the Turkic literatures as an inseparable part of learning cultural diversity. What makes me proud of being a member of the Association is how the interests of individuals are fulfilled and new inspirations are launched for the following years. In this manner, AATT opens a path via conferences welcoming scholars, experts, linguists, researchers, and novice teachers. I have always been delighted to be part of the AATT Conferences since the 5th AATT Conference that focused on 21st Century Language Learning Standards and Curriculum Design.

Since then, my participation in the conferences,



broadened my horizons about what was going on in teaching Turkish as a foreign language and what was vital in different periods.

For each conference, the topic is carefully chosen regarding the most common and important issue in the world. Topics range from curriculum design, teaching Turkish and Turkic languages during the pandemic: past, present, and future directions to teaching Turkic languages in a changing world and reach all teach all: Turkish and Turkic languages. As seen, each conference launches the inspiration in different points to a specific extent so that the instruction could be designed as a whole.

Last but not least, AATT Conferences give to all of us the privilege to strengthen our friendships. The last one, 8th AATT Conference had a great role as it aimed at reaching all to teach without regarding the ethnicity, religion, or race of those who will join to learn. What makes the conference a success is the great support by several institutions: American Research Institute in Turkey, Duke University, Indiana University, Nazarbayev University, New York University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of Arizona, University of Chicago, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Pennsylvania, University of Pittsburgh, University of Texas at Austin, University, University of Toronto, and University of Washington Seattle.



With the support of these institutions, at this year's conference there were four sessions wherein fourteen important and distinguished scholars shared their experiences and knowledge. Indeed, all these scholars presented their papers in a very friendly manner, which made the audience have a deep desire to join the conference to be held in the future. International scholars from Nazarbayev University & University of Wisconsin-Madison, Harvard University,

Michigan State University, University of Toronto, University of Florida, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Çukurova University, and Ankara University presented important papers that set the tone for the conference from different perspectives.

All in all, these make me stick with the calendar to participate in all the AATT Conferences to feel academically and socially delighted.

AATT 2023 MESA REPORTS

AATT ROUNDTABLE

“Teaching Turkish in North America on the Centennial of the Republic”

BY GÖZDE MERCAN

As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Turkish Republic in 2023, this year's AATT Roundtable at the Middle East Studies Association (MESA)'s Annual Conference had the theme “Teaching Turkish in North America on the Centennial of the Republic”. The aim was to reflect on the past, provide a critical analysis of the current issues and identify main priorities for the future for our discipline. The roundtable was held on November 3rd in Montreal, Canada.



The session was chaired by Veysel Şimşek, our colleague from McGill University. Contributors were Roberta Micallef from Boston University, Jeannette Okur from the University of Texas at Austin, Saadet Ebru Ergül from Stanford University, and Gözde Mercan (organizer) from the University of Toronto. Roberta Micallef unfortunately could not be there due to a health issue but kindly shared her paper and notes with us, and Ebru Ergül, our AATT president, kindly provided an introduction by presenting the historical context of teaching Turkish in North America and by also conveying Roberta Micallef's notes. Then, Jeannette Okur presented preliminary results of her study involving interviews with Turkish language instructors at various institutions, shedding light on the reflections of these instructors on the recent institutional changes and other aspects of the field. Gözde Mercan talked about the context of Canada by highlighting its similarities and differences with the US, and the comparison got enriched by the contributions of Veysel Şimşek.

Overall, the roundtable led to extremely fruitful discussions on the past and the present, provided critical insights into current issues and the state of the field, and concluded with a preview of our priorities for the future. We are grateful to AATT for sponsoring this roundtable and all the participants for a very engaging session.

AATT CENTENNIAL RECEPTION

The American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages invited its members and other special guests to join in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye on Saturday, November 4, 2023, at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal, the venue where the 2023 Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Meeting was taking place. Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres were served at the reception, which began at 7:30 p.m., immediately following the AATT panel commemorating Walter G. Andrews. AATT roundtable and panel participants, board members, and many other guests enjoyed the opportunity to network and socialize!



AATT PANEL

BY DİDEM HAVLIOĞLU



The "AATT Panel in Memory of Walter G. Andrews (1939-2020)" was held at the 57th Annual Meeting of MESA in Montreal, Canada, serving as a tribute to the

groundbreaking work and invaluable contributions of Walter G. Andrews to Ottoman Turkish Studies.

Prof. Andrews, recognized for his impactful translations and pioneering efforts in digital humanities, emerged as one of the most prolific scholars, reshaping the understanding of Ottoman poetry today.

As an educator, he shared his knowledge with numerous students and collaborated with scholars from both Turkey and the United States. Organized by one of Prof. Andrews' students, Didem Havlioğlu (Duke University), the panel was chaired by Virginia Aksan (McMaster University), and discussions were led by another student, Erdağ Göknaç (Duke University). The presentations by junior scholars Hacı Osman Gündüz (Harvard University), Efe Balıkcıoğlu (NYU), Oscar Aguirre Mandujano (University of Pennsylvania), and Sergen Avcı (University of Washington) showcased the diverse and impactful scholarship inspired by Prof. Andrews. This panel not only served as a celebration but also provided an opportunity to highlight the translation award and scholarship for studying Ottoman Turkish in Walter G. Andrews' name, both administered by the AATT.

2023-2024 FLTA ORIENTATION MEETING

BY ELIF SAYAR



Çisem Arda, 2023-2024 FLTA- Syracuse University

Although the language you are teaching is your mother tongue and you have a high level of language proficiency, teaching it can be challenging in several ways. Therefore, you may feel the need to exchange ideas with people teaching it. In this regard, AATT has been a savior for me to meet and solidarize with people working in the field and to learn about innovations and resources in the field of Turkish language and culture. Thanks to the invaluable efforts of AATT members, I had the opportunity to access plenty of Turkish teaching materials and utilize them in classes with pleasure.

Selin Tanış, 2023-2024 FLTA- Northwestern University

Attending the orientation organized by the American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT) has

significantly contributed to my professional and personal development as a new Turkish foreign language teacher assistant.

I gained a new perspective on teaching Turkish after listening to former FLTAs from the 2022-2023 academic year. They shared their vivid experiences of teaching Turkish in different contexts, showed some exemplary extra-curricular activities and explained the ways in which they engaged with their communities. Also, they shared a pool of different teaching materials geared towards several teaching contexts. Last but not least, I have built connections with valuable members of AATT, learned about AATT's activities and discovered the website as an invaluable source.

Zeynep Maden, Alumni FLTA- University of California, Santa Barbara

The orientation conducted by AATT was enlightening for me regarding getting more profound insight into teaching Turkish as a foreign language. During the orientation, I had a chance to meet academics in the field and get familiar with the study areas. Being introduced to improvements and studies conducted and the professional community formed in the field, gave me the idea of combining teaching Turkish as a foreign language with my current study area, educational sciences. Besides its contributions to my academic perspective, I also benefited from the rich teaching materials and ideas shared with us. I also attended two AATT conferences following the orientation, which were significant assets as I had a chance to broaden my horizons and network.

FLTA MID-YEAR CONFERENCE 2023

This year the Fulbright Language Teaching Assistantship (FLTA) Conference took place in Washington D.C between November 16-20. Over 350 teachers from 51 countries participated in the conference. During the conference, Fulbrighters engaged in workshops, gave presentations on navigating an array of classroom needs and shared their traditions and customs at the Culture Fair. One of the Turkish FLTAs, Şebnem Cengiz, from the University of Arizona gave a presentation entitled "The Power of Authentic Materials in Language Teaching". The Turkish Fulbrighters represented Turkish culture through various materials including paper marbling at the Culture Fair. Vincent Pickett, the Branch Chief for Fulbright Multi-Regional Programs, thanked Turkish FLTAs for their hard work and wished continued success in their studies in the Welcome and Conference Kick-Off Speech.

A VISIT TO THE TURKISH ROOM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURG

BY DR: FERİDE HATİBOĞLU

Visiting the University of Pittsburg in June, 2023 was one of the highlights of my summer. My dear colleagues Ilknur Lider, Turkish Program Coordinator, Turkish Minor Advisor and the AATT Executive Secretary and Elif Sayar, Summer Program Coordinator welcomed me. I learned about the Summer Language Institute at Pitt and its events.

<https://www.sli.pitt.edu/turkish>

I was able to attend The US Karagöz theater which is the first traditional Turkish puppet theater in the United States. The show was amazing! Dating back almost 700 years in Anatolia, Karagöz theater is recognized as one of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO. The theater company has succeeded to reach a wide-ranging audience in several parts of the world and in the universities such as NYU, Cornell, Harvard (performances taking place at Harvard every academic year regularly), MIT, Berkeley, University of California, Iowa State, Connecticut, Maryland University and University of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh Turkish Program brought this unique theater to campus, and I was fortunate to see the show when I was there during my visit on June 30, 2023

I am happy to see that the University of Pittsburgh Turkish Language Program lead by Ilknur Lider is very strong and popular at the university among other languages and successfully improving and growing with the addition of a Turkish Minor in 2018 for students to connect the study of Turkish language with their academic pursuits. Intensive Turkish classes at Pitt's Summer Language Institute is another success story and continuing since 2011 and growing under Elif's hard work.

The Turkish Room (Turkish *Başodası*) which is one of the Nationality Rooms at the University of Pittsburgh was another wonderful surprise for me. Located on the third floor of the historical Cathedral of Learning, the room is a must-see place for anyone who is interested in Turkish culture and language. Planning for its construction began in 2001 with the formation of a committee of volunteers who raised the necessary funds for the design and construction of the room, and it was completed in 2012. Dr. Ömer Akın, who was a distinguished professor of architecture and chairperson at the Carnegie Mellon University's Department of Architecture, led the committee as the designated Architect of Record for the room's design. Working with a team of volunteers to maintain the project through fundraising and community engagement, Dr. Akın received the Jefferson Award for Public Service in 2010 for his invaluable contribution during this decade-long project to build the Turkish Nationality Room.

The design for the Turkish Nationality Room incorporates authentic elements from the historical legacies and conventions of Turkish architecture. The design concept was based on the *Başodası* which refers to the principal room in the traditional Turkish house. *Kündekari* and *Çitakari* carpentry techniques were used for interior design of the room. Dating back to the nomadic Turkic tribes of Central Asia and the Ottoman expansion upon the ancient, fitted wood scheme that characterized yurts, these woodworking techniques involve interlocking small wooden pieces to create exquisite larger wooden panels and symbolize the transformation of historical Turkish interiors from a nomadic lifestyle to permanent settlements. Inspired by the concept of living area that was commonly found in Uighur yurts, the layout of the seats along the room's perimeter symbolizes equality with all seated people facing each other for face-to-face conversation.

The windows facing the outer wall are decorated with tulip patterns on glass panels designed by master artisans in Türkiye representing the imperial flower of the 18th century Ottomans while a 6-by-20-foot mural depicts a view of Istanbul behind the picture windows on another wall. There is an entry hall with ceramic floors and a threshold step known as 'seki' to the *Başodası*. It is decorated with large tile murals that highlight various aspects of Turkish culture and history including a depiction of 9th-century Uighur princesses, symbolic of the importance of women in Turkish culture and a large panel depicting Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founding father of modern Türkiye, illustrating the

new Turkish alphabet that was introduced in 1928 in place of the Arabic script that had been in use during the Ottoman Empire.

The Turkish Nationality Room is used as a classroom during the academic year, and it serves as a venue for the Turkish community in the Pittsburgh area to organize cultural events and activities. It continues to pay tribute to traditional Turkish architecture, and it offers a unique example of the cultural heritage brought to the United States with our Turkish communities. It also contributes to the cultural richness and diversity on campus and in the city. It is open to visitors with free admission.

OBITUARY FOR CELIA KERSLAKE

BY ASLI GÖKSEL



Celia Kerslake (b. 1946-d. 2023), Emeritus Fellow of Turkish, St. Antony's College, Oxford, was a British scholar who specialized in Turkish linguistics. Kerslake was born and raised in London. She studied at Girton

College, Cambridge where she specialized in Turkish and Arabic, and in 1968 she began her doctoral studies at St Anne's College, Oxford. In 1980, she took up a permanent position at the University of Edinburgh and following the death of Prof. Geoffrey Lewis she became University Lecturer in Turkish with a Fellowship at St Antony's College, Oxford. She remained in this position until her retirement in 2011.

For her dissertation, Kerslake worked on the six known copies of a chronicle written in the second half of the

16th century by Celalzade Mustafa Çelebi, and during the first decade of her career her main interest was texts written in Ottoman Turkish. She sustained this interest throughout her life with the many book reviews and encyclopedia entries she wrote. In the mid-1980s, she turned her attention to modern Turkish linguistics. Her research was on the semantic aspects of Turkish, in particular tense, aspect, modality, the reference of pronouns, and subordinate clauses. Her books on Turkish grammar co-authored with Aslı Göksel, *Turkish A Comprehensive Grammar* (2005) and *Turkish: An Essential Grammar* (2010), both published by Routledge, brought together the findings in these works and her insights from her decades long experience as a lecturer in Turkish.

In the UK, Kerslake was one of the most prominent British academics researching and teaching Turkish. She was instrumental in promoting Turkish studies and trained generations of students in Britain. She visited Turkey regularly in the last 50 years, updating her already fluent Turkish and making many friends. Those of us who knew her will remember her for her caring personality, her green politics, and for her unfaltering belief in perfection, which contributed to every single endeavor she undertook.

SORROWFUL EVENT: A VIGIL FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

BY EMRAH ŞAHİN

In the evening of 24th of February of 2023, the American Association of Turkic Languages organized a somber vigil of thoughts and prayers following the earthquakes that struck Turkey on February 6, 2023. Participants reported the magnitude of the apocalyptic quakes, observed a moment of silence, and conveyed deep condolences to the victims including AATT members and students' international relief efforts were also acknowledged during the event.



The sorrowful event spirited even more emotional moments with the recitation of poem *Hüzün Geldi* and a discussion of heartfelt feelings by those who lost families and hometowns to the catastrophe.

RECIPIENTS OF 2023 AATT AWARDS & PRIZES

WALTER G. ANDREWS

GRADUATE STUDENT OTTOMAN LANGUAGE SUMMER SCHOOL TUITION SCHOLARSHIP

Selin Aran is a PhD student in Art History at Rutgers University. She is studying American Archeological Missions in the Ottoman Lands. She studied Ottoman Turkish with Dr. Nilüfer Hatemi at Princeton University. She has received the Walter G Andrews Tuition Scholarship to study at the Intensive Ottoman-Turkish Summer School in Cunda held by the Ottoman Studies Foundation every summer.

Darragh Winkelman is a PhD student in Linguistics at the University of Chicago. His dissertation research focuses on analyzing Ottoman poetry and rhyme prose using linguistic theories that investigate the role played by cognitive linguistic systems in the composition of literary works. He received the Walter G. Andrews Tuition Scholarship to continue his study of Ottoman language and poetry at Istanbul Bilgi University's Ottoman Summer School.

WALTER ANDREWS OTTOMAN TURKISH TRANSLATION AWARD

	Student name	School	Translation Title
1	Ardashis Kashishian	University of Toronto	Anadolu'nun Taksimi, parts from Chapter 1

THE REDHOUSE PRIZE FOR BEST PROGRESS IN TURKISH

	Student name	School	Instructor
1	Svetlana Ostroverkhova	University of Washington	Melike Yücel Koç
2	Wajiha Masroor	University of Texas at Austin	Jeannette Okur
3	Aziza Barkuschwabe	Boston University	Roberta Micallef
4	Teagan Cameron	University of Toronto	Gözde Mercan

NORMAN ITZKOWITZ TURKISH SHORT STORY AWARD

	Student name	School	Story Title
1	Shimaa Abdelrahman	University of Texas at Austin	Sihirli Arkadaş

REFLECTIONS FROM PRIZE WINNERS

AJ Naddaff

PhD Student, Comparative Literature, Stanford University

This past summer I attended the Ottoman Summer School at Bilgi University and was placed in the beginner level as I had no prior exposure to Ottoman and only one year of reading Turkish under my belt. The amazing instructors made the program more than worthwhile; My first teacher, İpek Hüner Cora hoca, is a literary scholar and was therefore more focused on putting texts in their literary context; the second, Yaşar Tolga Cora hoca, is a social historian and his background was also lightly infused into the classroom. Yet the intimate classes (only five students) were overwhelmingly philological, and we spent class time and homework going word-by-word, line-by-line through an array of 19th century texts (lexicographical, journalistic, novel-like, etc). During our last week, we focused on Ottoman typographies and reading rika' script. Bringing in a new instructor at week 4, typically the week where students feel the most fatigued, was the perfect push and renewal of energy to help us continue apace. In addition, one of the immense benefits of the program was the in-built visits to the top Ottoman archives. Additionally, being surrounded by graduate students with diverse interests and backgrounds connected in the common goal of Ottoman language and studies, was another added aspect; I not only gained great colleagues but also friends.



Selin Aran, PhD Student, Art History, Rutgers University

The Intensive Ottoman Turkish Summer School in Cunda allowed me to participate in a vibrant and diverse summer school environment, immersing myself in the intricacies of Ottoman Turkish alongside fellow students and under the guidance of skilled instructors. The days were filled with linguistic exercises and deep dives into Ottoman history. The challenges were rigorous, with long homework sessions, but the rewards were equally profound. The feeling of accomplishment at deciphering a complex Ottoman text and the joy of engaging in discussions with my cohort have made lasting impressions. When I translate Ottoman texts now, I miss the sense of camaraderie of hunching over several dictionaries with the other students and bouncing ideas off each other. Our instructor Professor Selim Sirri Kuru managed to make even the most serious land agreement interesting. His passion for poetry is infectious, and it ignited in me a new interest in Ottoman poetry. The island of Cunda provided an excellent setting for this summer school. We had plenty of opportunities to explore and enjoy Ayvalik. I left the summer school eager to further study the nuances of Ottoman language and history. I am honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Walter G. Andrews Scholarship, and I am excited about the positive impact this summer will have on my future research. I want to thank AATT and Mrs. Melinda Andrews – your belief in my potential motivates me to approach my academic career with diligence and passion.

Darragh Winkelman, University of Chicago



"The Ottoman Summer School at Bilgi University was a transformative experience for my understanding of Ottoman Turkish. Through intensive paleographic and philological training, as well as additional instruction in Modern Turkish and Classical Persian, the Summer School provided me with the tools to pursue my research on Ottoman language more thoughtfully and rigorously. I am grateful for the support provided by the American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages for making this experience possible."

Evan Alterman

PhD Student, Slavic Languages and Literature, Stanford University

This summer I had the privilege of participating in Boğaziçi Üniversitesi's Turkish Language and Culture Program, thanks to a generous fellowship provided by the American Research Institute in Turkey. Between the superlative instruction and attention provided by professors and teaching assistants at Boğaziçi Üniversitesi, as well as the innumerable lectures and cultural activities organized by the university and by the Research Institute alike, not only did I improve my language (especially my writing and speaking) by leaps and bounds, but I also had the opportunity to consolidate my knowledge on Turkish culture (especially contemporary socio-political happenings and the development of Turkish literature). This was especially rewarding for someone like me who is not in a Middle Eastern Studies department. This intensive language program was truly such an enriching, edifying, and fun experience, and I would recommend this program to everyone. My gratitude to the faculty and staff at Boğaziçi and at the American Research Institute in Turkey for making this incredible, unique summer happen!"

Ryan Schweitzer, Harvard University

Learning Uzbek changed my life. Coming from a small town in Missouri, I never imagined how a country on the other side of the world would impact me; however, from day one of learning the Uzbek language, I began to see the world differently. I began my Uzbek journey in the classrooms of Dr. Adilova and Dr. Usmanova. At first, learning a Turkic language was daunting since the sentence structure is so different than in English. However, both of my instructors helped create a solid foundation for me to travel to Uzbekistan and experience all it had to offer. Once in the country, I continued to learn the language through the “Methodica Uzbek Language School,” which helped me to grow more confident in my language abilities. While in Uzbekistan, I found knowing the Uzbek language invaluable, especially as a foreigner—it allowed me to access the Uzbek community in such unique ways that I would not have gotten if I did not know the language. I gained so many Uzbek friends because of my language knowledge, all of which I consider lifelong friendships. Overall, learning Uzbek opened doors for internships, jobs, and research opportunities, including the Fulbright program and master’s programs at the OSCE Academy and Harvard University. If I had not learned Uzbek, my life would be completely different today. Learning a Turkic language has been invaluable to my academic and professional career, in addition to my personal relationships. There are so many useful languages in the Turkic language family, and I encourage all students to start studying one today. I will forever be grateful to my past language instructors and the Uzbek friends I have met along the way.

Tom Abi Samra- Princeton University



I spent Summer 2023 in Istanbul at Boğaziçi University studying modern Turkish. Being immersed in Turkish culture, as well as traveling around and exploring, was an absolute thrill. In as much as my experience was about learning Turkish, it was also about applying what I learned in class on the streets, and bringing what I learned in the streets into the classroom. I especially enjoyed going into bookstores, using whatever Turkish I knew to speak with booksellers, and meeting other graduate students who are interested in various aspects of Turkish and Ottoman literature, history, architecture, culture, and so on. Back in the US, I am continuing my Turkish education, and I can’t wait to be back next summer!

A PIECE FROM A CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Hyrum Edwards-The Department of Near Eastern Studies- Cornell University



This summer, I have the opportunity to study the Turkish language in Ankara, Türkiye. The program is with the United States Department of State’s Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) - it is fully funded, so if you like languages, cultures, or getting to see new places, you should most definitely apply.

"As a Near Eastern Studies major, visiting Turkey is a major opportunity that I have looked forward to for a long time. For most of my life, studying and understanding different world religions has also been a major passion. This area of the world has long been a crossroads of many religious communities; the many groups which have called this area home include Greek Orthodox Christians, Sephardic Jews, Armenian

Christians, Assyrian Christians, Kurdish Muslims, and Turkish Sunni Muslims. Much of that storied history is still there today, to be studied and understood.

NEW BOOKS AND MATERIALS IN THE FIELD

KONUŞAN PARAGRAFLAR

BY ESRA PREDOLAC, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, SAADET EBRU ERGÜL, STANFORD UNIVERSITY



Dear AATT Family,

Konuşan Paragraflar is an online, open-resource Turkish textbook specifically tailored for Anglophone learners seeking to progress from intermediate to advanced levels. Developed with a process-oriented and student-centered approach, this resource integrates the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) to provide a comprehensive learning experience.

Clear Learning Outcome:

Each unit begins with clearly defined learning outcomes, setting the stage for focused and purposeful learning.

Gradual Introduction of Grammar and Vocabulary:

Grammar and vocabulary are introduced in a carefully controlled manner, allowing learners to build their skills gradually.

Authentic Texts and Cross-Cultural Comparison:

Units include authentic texts with warm-up activities and comprehension questions, encouraging learners to work with the text and make cross-cultural comparisons.

Spotlight and Culture:

Explore cultural practices, products, and perspectives within each unit, enhancing your understanding of Turkish culture.

Task Based Learning Activities:

At the end of each unit, engage in task-based, communicative activities designed to develop your speaking skills, including information gap, choice, and feedback activities.

Extended Writing Assignments:

Each unit concludes with an extended writing assignment, activating your vocabulary, syntax, and cultural knowledge across various text types.

A special thanks to Kenan Tamer, a professional Turkish tour guide, for providing the captivating cover image. You can explore more of his work on Instagram: @kenan_tamer.

KONUŞAN PARAGRAFLAR can be accessed <https://opentext.ku.edu/konusanparagraflar/>

The contents of Konuşan Paragraflar were developed by University of Kansas, under grant P229A180008 from the U.S. Department of Education.

We invite you to embark on this exciting journey of Turkish Learning and Teaching with Konuşan Paragraflar. Happy learning and teaching!

THE ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK ON TURKISH LITERATURE

BY DİDEM HAVLIOĞLU

(Routledge, 2023), co-edited by Didem Havlioğlu and Zeynep Uysal, includes 29 articles penned by experts in the field, offering a comprehensive survey of Ottoman Turkish literature spanning from the 13th century to the present. This collaborative volume represents the inaugural effort to furnish a guide for reading Turkish Literature in the English language. Each section and its corresponding chapters delve into critical issues and the current state of the field while proposing methodologies for approaching and studying Turkish literature. Structured to trace the narrative of Turkish literature through its linguistic and literary genealogies, the book combines a thematic and chronological organization to

explore its historical evolution. Each section intricately interconnects with others thematically, addressing diverse issues such as gender, socio-economic and political contexts, and genres including poetry, novels, and non-fictional works. Beyond highlighting major literary milestones and figures, the volume sheds light on marginal voices in various languages as integral legacies of Turkish literature. Significantly, the book purposefully situates itself as a source offering an informed perspective to read Turkish literature within the context of world literature today.

Designed as a handbook, the volume targets university students and scholars interested in Turkish literature, Ottoman literature and history, Middle Eastern literatures, literary history, intellectual history, and cultural studies. Its applicability extends to English-language courses in North America, Europe, and Turkey, making it a valuable resource for a broad academic audience.

ARTICHOKE: OTTOMAN AND TURKISH LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION



In late November of this year, Professor Roberta Micallef of Boston University's Department of World Languages and Literatures launched [Artichoke](#), a website which provides an ever-

growing database of Ottoman and Turkish literature in English translation. Efe Murad Balıkcıoğlu, Nilüfer Hatemi and Esra Özdemir are founding members of this project. All members of North American institutions of higher education who have dedicated themselves to studying different aspects of Ottoman or Turkish language, literature or intellectual history, they continue to help facilitate the website.

The website itself provides English translations, biographical notes about the writers and translators, and when possible, the original texts or links to translations that are already available online

All these documents are organized in PDF format within the easily navigated structure of the site. This project aims to demonstrate the diversity and depth of Turkish

BY EMMA B. HARDY, WEB EDITOR OF ARTICHOKE
literature and its various literary traditions spanning from Asia to Europe and the many diasporic Turkish communities with roots in the Ottoman Empire or Türkiye. Additionally, Artichoke intends to promote discussions on the art of translation and how different types of translations and translation choices can reveal distinct elements of an original work. Professor Micallef hopes that learners, instructors, and readers interested in Turkish and Ottoman literature will find that Artichoke is a user-friendly and helpful tool. Therefore, the website also includes information about resources for translation projects and links to valuable digital archives regarding the Ottoman and Turkish literary worlds. The website aims, above all, to spread the joy and sense of community that comes with sharing beautiful literary texts.

Artichoke is actively receiving submissions. Anyone wishing to have their translation of Ottoman or Turkish literature published on the website should submit the original text and their translation via the submission form available on the website. Or simply email the materials to our email address: Artie@gmail.com.

2022–2023 ENROLLMENT SURVEY REPORT FOR TURKIC LANGUAGE COURSES AT POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

BY SIBEL CRUM

The members of the AATT Language Enrollment Survey committee (Sibel Crum, Nilay Sevinç, and Emrah Şahin) extend their gratitude to all the faculty and administrators who actively contributed to our organization’s annual report by participating in the online survey.

The survey data presented in this report relate to the 2022-2023 Academic Year (AY) and are based on responses gathered from 29 colleges and universities in North America. These institutions were contacted via the AATT listserv with the survey link distributed three times. Additionally, individual emails were sent to language faculty and administrators to request their input.

Please refer to Table 1 for a list of participating colleges and universities.

Table 1

List of Participating Colleges and Universities in AY 2022–2023 Enrollment Survey

Binghamton University	University of Chicago
Boston University	University of Florida
Brigham Young University	University of Kansas
Brown University	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Columbia University	University of Michigan
Cornell University	University of Pennsylvania
Duke University	University of Pittsburgh
Georgetown University	University of Texas, Austin
Harvard University	University of Toronto
McGill University	University of Washington
Indiana University, Bloomington	University of Washington
New York University	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Northwestern University	Princeton University
University of California, Los Angeles	Rutgers University
	Stanford University

Table 2

Total North American Colleges and Universities with Enrolled Students in Turkish, Turkic and Ottoman Turkish Languages for the AY 2022–2023

Throughout the academic year 2022-2023, Modern Turkish language courses at different proficiency levels were taught at 28 colleges and universities in North America. Please refer to Table 2 for a breakdown of the institutions offering Modern Turkish, Turkic and Ottoman Turkish languages.

Course	# of Universities Offering
Turkish I	28
Turkish II	25
Turkish III	13
Ottoman	9
Kazakh	2
Kyrgyz	1
Uzbek	1
Uyghur	2

Figure 1 Turkish and Ottoman Turkish Language Enrollment Numbers, AY 2022-2023

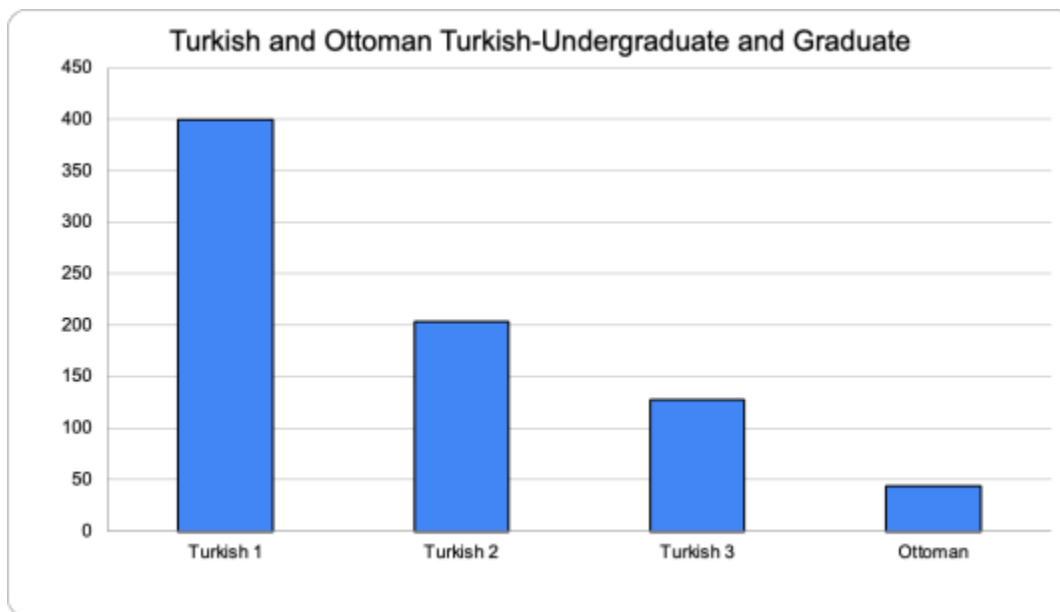


Figure 1 and Table 3 offer a combined overview of language enrollment figures for both undergraduate and graduate students in Turkish and Ottoman Turkish. Figure 2 and Table 4 break down the enrollment numbers based on language levels, and they also combine students not enrolled in courses under the 'other' category.

Table 3: Undergraduate and Graduate Combined Enrollment in Turkish and Ottoman Turkish, AY 2022–2023

Language Courses	Enrolled students (Undergraduates and graduates combined)
Turkish 1	400
Turkish 2	204
Turkish 3	128
Ottoman	44

Figure 2: Student Language Levels in Turkish and Ottoman Turkish, AY 2022-2023

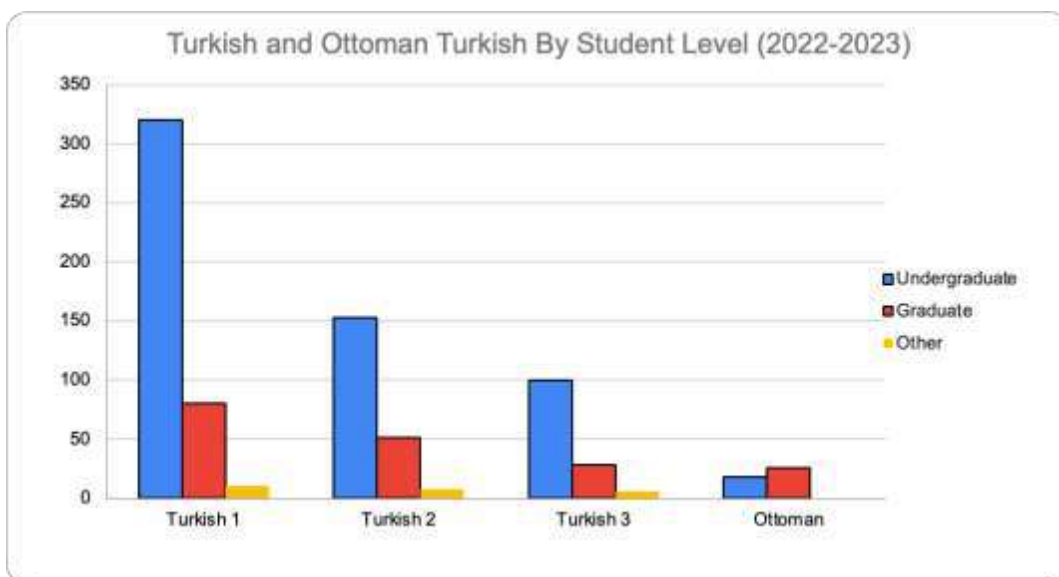
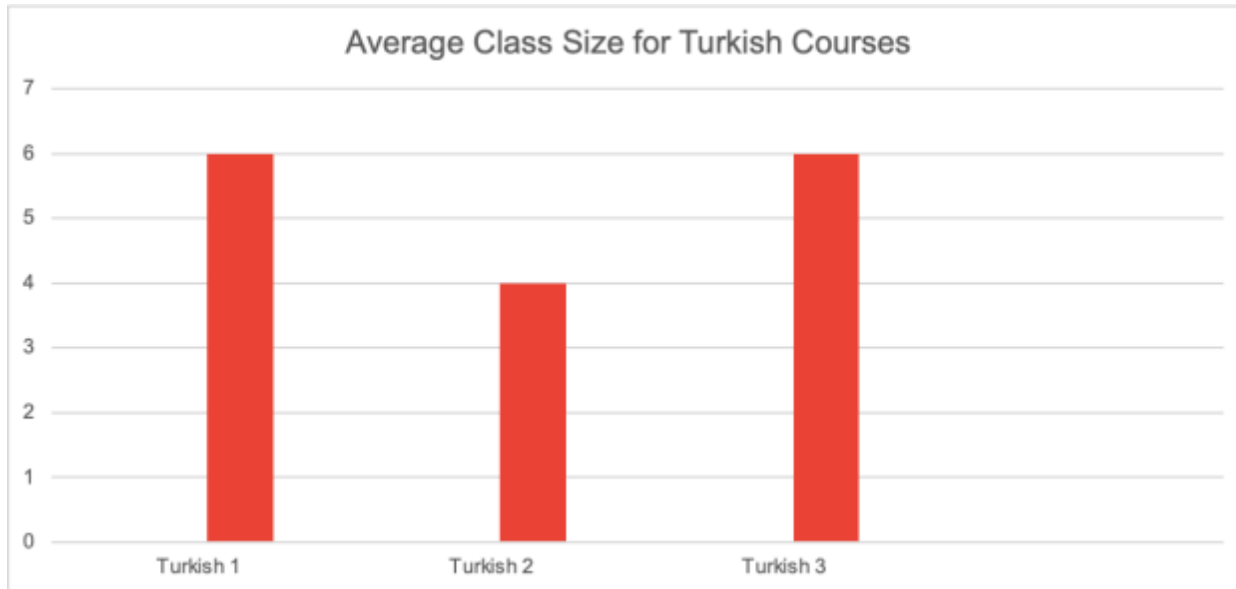


Table 4: Total Enrollment Numbers for Turkish, Turkic, and Ottoman Turkish Languages, Including ‘Other’ Categories

2022-2023 Academic Year	Total number of students including the category of others	Total universities with enrolled students for each language and level
Turkish 1	410	28
Turkish 2	212	25
Turkish 3	134	13
Ottoman	44	9
Kazakh	19	2
Kirghiz	7	1
Uzbek	8	1
Uyghur	18	2

Figure 3 presents an overview of the average class sizes for Turkish courses, combining both undergraduate and graduate students. In the academic year 2022-2023, Turkish 1 classes averaged 6 enrolled students, Turkish 2 classes averaged 4, and Turkish 3 classes averaged 6.

Figure 3: Average Class Size for Turkish Courses for Enrolled Undergraduate and Graduate Students, AY 2022-2023



2022–2023 AY content and area studies course offerings were as follows:

Courses Offered in English	Courses Offered in Turkish
Berlin-Istanbul Connections: Reimagining Germany	Advance Readings in Turkish
Contemporary Issues in Turkey	Advanced Readings and Communication
Contested Istanbul	Advanced Turkish-English Translation
Cultural History of Turkey	Conversational Turkish: Oral Communication in Context
Islam and Islamism in Turkey	Conversational Turkish: Oral Communication in Context (Advanced)
Introduction to Old Turkic	Graduate Seminar in Turkish Academic Reading and Translation
Modern Turkey Through Films	Intermediate to Advanced Conversational Turkish
Modern Turkish Literature in Translation	Language and Culture in Turkey
Modern Turkish Readings	Post-Advanced Turkish
Poetics of the Ottoman Court	Reading Turkish I
Reading course: Old Anatolian Turkish Religious-epic	Reading Turkish II
Turkey: Myths and Realities	Translating Turkish Literature
Turkish Cinema	
Turkish Culture & Society	
Turkish Literature	
World Cities Istanbul - Literature and Film	

Note to the report: One institution had to be excluded from the data analysis because of missing information.

Thank you

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Nazarbayev University
New York University
North Carolina Consortium for Middle East Studies
Princeton University
Stanford University
University of Arizona
University of California-Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Texas at Austin
University of Toronto
University of Washington-Seattle
Yale University

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