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Areas of Specialization: Philosophy of Mind, AI, Islamic Philosophy & Theology, Early Modern Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion

Areas of Competence: Medieval Philosophy, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Science, Interdisciplinary Critical Thinking, Public Philosophy

Languages

Turkish (native), English (fluent), Ottoman Turkish (reading), Arabic (reading), German (reading), French (reading)

Work Experience

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|-------------|--|
| (2024-) | Yale University, Philosophy Department, Associate Research Scholar |
| (2022-2023) | Harvard, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Department (NELC), Visiting Research Scholar |
| (2015-2022) | Bahçeşehir University, Lecturer |
| (2019-2022) | Mimar Sinan University, Lecturer |
| (2014-2016) | Boğaziçi University, Philosophy Department, Research Fellow |
| (2012-2014) | Harvard University, NELC, Post-Doctoral Fellow |

(2006-2012) University of Kentucky, Philosophy Department, Teaching Assistant

Education and Academic Degrees

(2021) Turkish Higher Education Council, Associate Professorship

(2006-2012) University of Kentucky, Philosophy, Ph. D.

Dissertation: *Islamic and Cartesian Roots of Occasionalism*

Committee: Brandon Look (chair), John Walbridge,

David Bradshaw, David Hunter, Daniel Breazeale, Jeremy Popkin

(2006-2009) University of Kentucky
M.A. in Philosophy

(2004-2007) Boğaziçi University (Istanbul, Turkey)
M.A. in Philosophy

Master's Thesis: *The Knowledge of Contingent A Priori*

Truths, Performatives and Pragmatic Inferences

Committee: İlhan İnan (chair), Stephen Voss, Ali Karatay

(1999-2004) Boğaziçi University (Istanbul, Turkey)
B. A. in Philosophy

Publications (International)

Edited Books

1. Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka and Nazif Muhtaroglu. *Classic Issues in Islamic Philosophy and Theology Today*, (Dordrecht: Springer, 2010).

2. Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka, Nazif Muhtaroglu and Detlev Quintern. *The Logos of Life and Cultural Interlacing*, (Dordrecht: Springer, 2014).

3. Nazif Muhtaroglu. *Occasionalism Revisited: New Essays from the Islamic and Western Philosophical Traditions*, 2nd Ed. (Atlanta: Lockwood Press), forthcoming.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. "Ibn Sīnā and al-Ghazālī on Causality as Necessary Connection, and Occasionalism" forthcoming in *Theology and Science*

2. “Guided Theistic Rationalism: Al-Ash‘arī’s View on Faith and Reason” *Philosophy East and West*, 2025. Project MUSE, <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/pew.2025.a949968>.
3. “Engaging Jeffrey Koperski’s Decretalism: Is Occasionalism Really Avoidable?,” co-authored with Dr. Shoaib A. Malik, *Religious Studies* (November, 2024): 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0034412524000635>
4. “Akkirmâni’s Occasionalist Approach to the Neuroscientific Research on the Human Will,” *Religions*, 15/9 (2024):1134. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel15091134>
5. “How Much Should or Can Science Impact Theological Formulations? An Ash‘arī Perspective on Theology of Nature” co-authored with Shoaib A. Malik, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*, 2022; 18/2 (2022): (SI8) 5-35. [10.31820/ejap.18.2.9](https://doi.org/10.31820/ejap.18.2.9)
6. “Al-Bāqillāni’s Cosmological Argument from Agency” *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy*, 26/2 (2016): 271-289. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0957423916000047>

Book Chapters

1. “Qādī ‘Abd al-Jabbār” co-authored with Mehmet Bulgen, forthcoming in *Islamic Science: Seven Perspectives*, ed. Shoaib A. Malik (Routledge), forthcoming.
2. “Late Ottoman Occasionalists on Modern Science”, (with Ozgur Koca), in *Occasionalism Revisited: New Essays from the Islamic and Western Traditions*, ed. Nazif Muhtaroglu, (Atlanta: Lockwood Press), forthcoming.
3. “Ash‘arites, Cartesians and Occasionalism” in *Occasionalism Revisited: New Essays from the Islamic and Western Traditions*, ed. Nazif Muhtaroglu, (Atlanta: Lockwood Press), forthcoming.
4. “Al-Māturīdī’s View of Causality” in *Occasionalism Revisited: New Essays from the Islamic and Western Traditions*, ed. Nazif Muhtaroglu, (Atlanta: Lockwood Press), forthcoming.
5. “God’s Existence and The Uniqueness Claim” a chapter in *Islamic Philosophy of Religion: Essays from Analytic Perspective*, ed. M. Saleh Zarepour (Routledge, 2024), 64-80.
6. “Ali Sedad Bey’s (d.1900) *Kavâidü’t-Tahavvülât fî Harekâti’z-Zerrât (Principles of Transformation in the Motion of Particles)*” in *Oxford Handbook of Islamic Philosophy*, eds. Khaled El-Rouayheb & Sabine Schmidke, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2016), 586-606.

7. “The Christian and Islamic Roots of a Holistic Rhetoric” in *Islamic Philosophy and Occidental Phenomenology in Dialogue vol. 6: Sharing Poetic Expressions*, ed. Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka, (Dordrecht: Springer, 2011), 139-148.
8. “An Occasionalist Defense of Free Will” in *Classic Issues in Islamic Philosophy and Theology Today*, eds. Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka and Nazif Muhtaroglu, (Dordrecht: Springer, 2010), 45-62.
9. “A Linguistic Analysis of the Omnipotence Puzzle” in *Logic, Language and Metaphysics: Selected Papers from the 1st SIFA Graduate Conference*, eds. Vittorio Morato and Massimiliano Carrara. (London: College Publication, 2009), 197-211.

Book Reviews

1. Mehmet Bulgen, *Criticisms of Atomism in Classical Islamic Thought*, in *Cumhuriyet Theology Journal*, vol: 22, no:1 (2018): 743-746.
 2. Khaled El-Rouayheb, *Islamic Intellectual History in the Seventeenth Century: Scholarly Currents in the Ottoman Empire and Maghreb*, in *Nazariyat*, vol: 2, no: 4 (2016): 193-197.
 3. Ibrahim M. Abu-Rabi, ed. *Theodicy and Justice in Modern Islamic Thought: The Case of Said Nursi*, in *Philosophy East and West*, vol: 62, no: 3 (2012): 608-610.
 4. Hamidreza Ayatollahi, *The Existence of God: Mulla Sadra’s Seddiqin Argument versus Criticisms of Kant and Hume*, in *Philosophy East and West*, vol: 58, no: 2 (2008): 283-285.
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Work in Progress

Books

1. *Islam and Science: A Sunnī Kalāmīc Framework*, co-authored with Shoaib Ahmed Malik, David Solomon Jalajel, (under contract with Routledge).
2. *Free Will and AI: A Māturīdite Perspective* (under contract with Palgrave).
3. *Principles of Transformation in the Motion of Particles* (the English translation of an Ottoman scholar, Ali Sedad Bey’s work, *Kavâidu’t-Taḥavvülât fî Ḥarekâti’z-Zerrât*) (under review with Palgrave).

Book Chapter

1. “Scientific Advances in Understanding Human Nature: An Islamic Occasionalist Perspective,” co-authored with Macksood Aftab, in the book *Bridging Bioscience & Islam: Engaging ‘Big’ Questions about the Human Being*. (under review with Palgrave).

Publications (Turkish)

Books

1. Nazif Muhtaroglu. *Aklın Üç Yüzü: Eleştirel, Çok-Yönlü ve Yenilikçi Düşünce* [*Three Aspects of Reason: Critical, Multifaceted, and Innovative Thinking*], (Istanbul: Bilge Kültür Sanat Yayınları, 2022).
2. Ali Sedad. *Kavâidü’-t-Tahavvülât fî Harekâti’z-Zerrât* [*Principles of Transformation in the Motion of Particles*, in Ottoman Turkish] edited and prepared by Nazif Muhtaroglu and Bilal Ayan, (Konya: Çizgi Yayınevi, 2020).
3. *Vesilecilik Birinci Kitap: İslam Düşüncesinden Seçme Metinler* [*Occasionalism First Book: Selected Texts from Islamic Thought*] (Istanbul: Küre Yayınları, 2024).
4. *Vesilecilik İkinci Kitap: Batı Düşüncesinden Seçme Metinler ve Eleştiriler* [*Occasionalism Second Book: Selected Texts from Western Thought and Criticisms*] (Istanbul: Küre Yayınları, 2024).

Articles

1. “Plantinga and Ash‘arites on Divine Simplicity”, *Kader (Kelam Araştırmaları Dergisi/Journal of Studies for Muslim Theology)*, no.18/2 (2020): 488-499.
2. “Tanrı’nın Tekliği’ne Dair Tartışmalar” (Discussions on the Uniqueness of God), *Tasavvur: Tekirdağ İlahiyat Dergisi (Tekirdağ Theology Journal)*, Aralık no:6/2 (2020): 1153-1164. (in Turkish)
3. “Tanrı’nın Tekliğine Dair Modal Argüman” (A Modal Argument for the Uniqueness of God), *Felsefe Arkivi*, no: 51 (2019): 179-186. (in Turkish)
4. “What is Wrong with Concurrentism?” *Kaygı*, 23 (2014): 129-144.
5. “An Occasionalist Approach to Miracles” *Turkish Journal of Islamic Studies*, vol. 22, (2009), 71-93.

Book Chapters

1. “Nicolas Malebranche” in *Düşüncenin Serüveni*, 10 vols., ed. by Bayram Ali Çetinkaya, (Istanbul: İnsan Yayınları, 2016), vol: 3, 115-124.
2. “Ebu’l-Hasan El-Eş’arî” in *Düşüncenin Serüveni*, 10 vols., ed. by Bayram Ali Çetinkaya, (Istanbul: İnsan Yayınları, 2016), vol: 5, 169-182.

Selected Presentations (Last 5 Years)

1. “Causality as a Necessary Connection, Occasionalism and A Response to Hume” *Global Philosophy Group-Lecture*, Yale University, October 2024.
2. “AI and Free Will: Kalāmīc Perspectives” *Arabic Philosophy Group-Lecture*, Yale University, Yale University, February 2024.
3. “AI and Free Will: Ash‘arite and Mātūrīdite Kalām Perspectives” *The American Society of Islamic Philosophy and Theology-Harvard University*, 5th Annual Islamic Philosophy Conference, Harvard University, December 2023.
4. “Qādī ‘Abd al-Jabbār’s View of Science” *The American Society of Islamic Philosophy and Theology-Harvard University*, 4th Annual Islamic Philosophy Conference, Harvard University, December 2022.
5. “Modern Bilim Bağlamında Son Dönem Osmanlı’da Teori ve Pratik Çatışması” (“The Conflict between Theoretical and Practical Concerns in Transferring Modern Science to Ottoman World”) Medeniyet University, OSARK Conference, Istanbul-Turkey, September 2022.
6. “Revisiting Kalam Foundationalism in Response to Contemporary Challenges” Cambridge Muslim College, *Imagining Islamic Epistemology for the 21st Century* Conference, Cambridge-UK, July 2022.
7. “The Meaning of ‘God’: A Kalāmīc Approach” *The American Society of Islamic Philosophy and Theology-Harvard University*, 3rd Annual Islamic Philosophy Conference, Online, December 2021.
8. “The Existence of God and Other Deities” Nazif Muhtaroglu (Islam), with Jessica Frazier (Hinduism), Sam Lebens (Judaism), Motsamai Molefe (African Religion), *Birmingham Center for Philosophy of Religion-University of Birmingham*, Closer To Truth Panel Discussions-Panel II, The Global Philosophy of Religion Project Online Conference, June 2021. Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPg_bj0SnBU [Invited]

9. "Plantinga, Ash'arism, and Divine Simplicity" interview with Shoaib A. Malik for Academic Access, January 2021. Link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TzCmMY8OpE>
 10. "A Modal Argument for the Uniqueness of God" *The American Society of Islamic Philosophy and Theology-Harvard University*, 2nd Annual Islamic Philosophy Conference, Online, December 2020.
 11. "Education in the 21st Century" *Mimar Sinan University* (Istanbul), December 2019.
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Teaching Experience (Courses taught)

Bahçeşehir University (Istanbul)

Logic I/Critical Thinking, 2016-2022
Modern (Symbolic) Logic, 2016-2022
Classical Logic, Fall 2015
Ethics, Summer 2022
Islamic Philosophy, 2015-2022
Philosophy of Religion, 2015-2022

Mimar Sinan University (Istanbul)

Medieval Philosophy II: Philosophy in the Islamic World, 2019-2022
Medieval Philosophy I: Philosophy in the Christian World, Fall 2021
Philosophy of Religion, 2019-2021

Boğaziçi University (Istanbul)

Ghazalian Synthesis, Fall 2013
Cartesian Tradition, Spring 2015
Main Intellectual Traditions in Islam, Fall 2015

29 Mayıs University (Istanbul)

Seminar: Occasionalism in Islamic and Western Philosophy, Fall 2013

University of Kentucky

Introduction to Logic, (Instructor) Spring 2012
Introduction to Philosophy, (Instructor) Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2010
Introduction to Philosophy, (TA for Brandon Look), Fall 2007
Introduction to Logic, (TA for Robert Sandmeyer), Spring 2008, Spring 2009

Ancient-Medieval Philosophy, (TA for Alan Perreiah), Fall 2008, Fall 2011
Asian Philosophy, (TA for Alan Perreiah), Spring 2010

Supervision of Student Research

Co-chair: Zahra Karandish. *A Critical Assessment of Hume's and al-Ghazālī's Views on Critique of Causation*. MA Thesis. Boğaziçi University, 2018.

Co-chair: Ahmet Halil Oğuzhan Gül. *Leibniz's Criticism of Occasionalism and a Response through a Reconstruction of al-Ghazālī's and Malebranche's Arguments*. MA Thesis. Boğaziçi University, 2019.

Leadership and Professional Affiliations

Founder of *Logos Criticos* (YouTube channel on critical thinking),
(<https://www.youtube.com/@logoscriticos/featured>)

Member, *American Philosophical Practitioners Association* (APPA), (<https://appa.edu>)

Member, *American Academy of Religion* (<https://aarweb.org/>)

Member, *American Philosophical Association* (<https://www.apaonline.org>)

Certificates

APPA Certificated Philosophical Counselig (*American Philosophical Practitioners Association*\ APPA)

Professional Service

Conference secretary,
University of Kentucky: "Islamic Philosophy and Theology Today", 23-24 September.

Conference secretary,
Harvard University: "Poetic Expressions: Saying the Same in Different Ways",
13-14 August 2009.

Conference organizer,
Harvard University: "Occasionalism East and West", 4-5 May 2013.

Conference and Workshop organizer,
Boğaziçi University: "Occasionalism and Theories of Causality", 2-7 June 2015.

Awards and Fellowships

- (2024-) Yale University, Research Fellowship
- (2023) Necati Öner Philosophy Service Award, Turkish Philosophy Association (Türk Felsefe Derneği), 2023
- (2022-2023) Harvard University, Research Fellowship
- (2015) Kalam Research & Media Center and John Templeton Foundation, Conference and Workshop Organization Grant, 2015
- (2014-2015) Kalam Research & Media Center and John Templeton Foundation, Book Writing Grant
- (2014-2016) Tübitak (Turkish Academy of Sciences) Bideb-2232 Research Fellowship
- (2013) Philosophy Department & Science, Religion and Culture Program at Harvard University, Conference-Organizing Support
- (2013) World Phenomenology Institute, Conference-Organizing Support
- (2011) University of Kentucky, Graduate School Academic Year Fellowship
- (2007) University of Kentucky, Commonwealth Research Award

Referee for

Religious Studies (2025), *AGATHEOS: European Journal for Philosophy of Religion* (2025), *Darülfunun İlahiyat Studies* (2025), *Theology and Science* (2023), *Philosophies* (2023), *I.B. Tauris* (2022-2023), *Religions* (2022), *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy* (2022, 2024), *Zygon* (2021), *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* (2015), *Kader (Kalam Araştırmaları Dergisi/Journal of Studies for Muslim Theology)* (2019-2021), *Tasavvur (Tekirdağ İlahiyat Araştırmaları Dergisi/Tekirdağ Theology Journal)* (2020), *İslam Araştırmaları Dergisi/Turkish Journal of Islamic Studies* (2015)

References

Prof. Brandon Look
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Philosophy Department
University of Kentucky

Prof. Khaled El-Rouayheb
(kel@fas.harvard.edu)
Near Eastern Lang. & Civil. Dept.
Harvard University

Dr. Shoaib Ahmed Malik
(shoaib.malik@ed.ac.uk)
Science and Religion
Program
School of Divinity
University of Edinburgh

Prof. Jeffrey K. McDonough
(jkmcdon@fas.harvard.edu)
Department of Philosophy
Harvard University

Assoc. Prof. M. Saleh Zarepour
(mohammadsaleh.zarepour@manchester.ac.uk)
Philosophy Department
Manchester University

Assit. Prof. Ilker Yildirim
(ilker.yildirim@yale.edu)
Psychology Department
Yale University