

CURRICULUM VITAE

AHMET OKAL

Assistant Professor | The School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies
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EDUCATION

- 08/2017** **Ph.D., Second Language Acquisition and Teaching**
University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, United States
Dissertation: Turkish Global Simulation: A Modern Strategy for Teaching Turkish Language and Culture Using Web Technologies.
Advisors: Peter Ecke, David Gramling, Janet Nicol (Chair)
Major fields: Teaching Turkish Language and Culture; 2nd Language Acquisition; Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL); Global Simulation; Study Abroad; Teaching Critical Languages
- 08/2015** **DML, Doctor of Modern Languages Candidate, Summer Program**
ABD Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, United States
Advisor: Diana Luele-Colilli
Major fields: Teaching Italian and German; Computer Assisted Language Learning
- 05/2009** **M.A., Second Language Acquisition and Teaching**
University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, United States
- 2005** **M.A., Italian Studies, Summer Program**
Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, United States
- 12/2004** **M.A., Applied Linguistics**
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, United States
- 12/2003** **M.A., German Language and Literature**
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, United States
- 07/1987** **B.Sc., World Political Geography**
Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey

EMPLOYMENT

- 2019–** **University of Arizona, Assistant Professor**
The School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENAS)
- 2012–2019** **University of Arizona, Instructor**
The School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENAS)
- 2018, 2019** **Indiana University, Adjunct Instructor**
Turkish Immersion Course, Summer Language Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana
- 2016** **Arizona State University, Critical Languages Institute (CLI), Adj Instructor**
Intensive Turkish Language Course, Tempe, Arizona
- 2015** **CLI IZMIR, Arizona State University, Resident Director**
Summer Study Abroad Program, Izmir, Turkey
- 2015, 2014** **Arizona in Turkey (AZIT), Director**
University of Arizona, Faculty-led Study Abroad Program, Izmir, Turkey
- 2014, 2013** **Institute of International Education (IIE), Country Expert**
Dorrance Study Abroad Program, Turkey & Italy
- 2005–2012** **University of Arizona, Graduate Teaching Assistant**
The School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENAS)
- Spring 2005** **Texas Tech University, Instructor**
Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures (CMLL)
Lubbock, Texas
Taught first and second year Italian language courses.
- 2002–2004** **Texas Tech University, Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures (CMLL)
Lubbock, Texas
Taught first and second year German and Italian courses.
- 2001–2002** **Telecom Italia Mobile (TIM), Department Manager**
Corporate Headquarters, Process & Procedures, Istanbul, Turkey

- 1995-2001 Sümerbank, Department Manager**
Corporate Headquarters, Organization & Quality Assurance, Istanbul, Turkey
- 1992-2005 Emlak Bank, Assistant Manager**
Corporate Headquarters, Organization & Quality Assurance, Istanbul, Turkey
- 1990-1992 Emlak Bank, Diplomatic Representative**
Turkish Consulate General, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- 1988-1990 Emlak Bank, Specialist**
Corporate Headquarters, International Relations Department, Istanbul, Turkey

HONORS & AWARDS

- 07/2016 Professional Certification in Education Abroad**
The Forum on Education Abroad
- 2010-2011 Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award**
The Social & Behavioral Sciences (SBS)
- 01/2009 Grant for Digital Material Development for the Turkish Global Simulation**
Center for Middle Eastern Languages (CMES)
- 07/2007 Grant for Digital Material Development for the Turkish Global Simulation**
Center for Educational Resources in Culture, Lang. & Literacy (CERCLL)
- 2004-2011 Full Grant for the Doctoral Program in Italian and German**
Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont
- Summer 2004 Italian Language Studies, funded by TTU**
Lorenzo de Medici, Florance, Italy
- Summer 2001 Italian Language Studies, Dante Alighieri Scholarship**
University of Camerino, Macerata, Italy

SERVICE / OUTREACH

National Outreach

- 2012– **American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT)**
Committee on Membership and Public Relations on Facebook
- 2012 **American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT)**
Student Enrollments National Data Collection Committee

Departmental Service

- 2013– **Undergraduate Committee Member**
- 2013– **Language Committee Member**
- 2008 **Faculty Search Committee Member**

College Service

- 2014– **Arizona Center for Turkish (ACTS), Faculty Member**

CREATIVE MEDIA PRODUCTS

- 2008– ***Turkish Global Simulation website***
Designed and developed the website as well as the multimedia materials to teach the second year 4th semester Turkish class in computer assisted language learning environment.
- 2009– ***Elementary Turkish textbook website***
Designed and developed the website as well as the multimedia materials to teach the first three semesters of Turkish classes in computer assisted language learning environment.

WORKSHOPS

- 10/2018** **Western Consortium of Middle Eastern Studies Centers**
University of Texas, Austin, Texas
- 10/2018** **The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)**
Curriculum & Lesson Planning Workshops
Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
- 04/2018** **Center for Educational Resources in Culture, Language and Literacy (CERCLL)**
LaTes: Language Teacher Symposium: Performance Towards Proficiency
Title VI Language Resource Center, University of Arizona
- 06/2016** **ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Assessment Workshop**
ACTFL Certified OPI Tester Training
Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah
- 02/2016** **The Forum on Education Abroad**
Overview of the Standards of Good Practice
Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona
- 01/2016** **CERCLL Intercultural Competence Conference, Tucson, Arizona**
Using Technology for Increasing Students' Multiple Literacies and Intercultural Competence
- 01/2016** **CERCLL Intercultural Competence Conference, Tucson, Arizona**
Developing Intercultural Competencies: Common Goals for Language and Intercultural Educators
- 03/2013** **Western Consortium Language Workshop (CMES)**
Engaging Language and Culture through Innovative Technologies
University of Arizona
- 03/2012** **Middle East Studies Center (MESOC), Content-Based Language Instruction**
Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
- 11/2011** **Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES)**
Film Clips Workshop for College Language Instructors
University of Arizona

07/2011 National Middle East Language Resource Center (NMELRC)

Program Building and Maintenance Workshop

University of Texas, Austin, Texas

07/2011 Western Consortium Evaluation Workshop

University of Texas, Austin, Texas

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

11/2019 American Association Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT) Conference

Presenting Pedagogical Approaches to Turkic Languages

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana

11/2017 American Association Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT) Conference

Challenges in Teaching Turkic Languages and Literatures

Georgetown University, Washington D.C.

11/2017 Middle East Studies Association (MESA), Washington D.C.

Focus on the Learner

04/2016 Western Consortium Middle East Language Pedagogy Workshop (CMES)

Multiliteracies and world language education today: Why, what, and how?

“From the Traditional Classroom to the Virtual Classroom: Online Distance Education to Teach Turkish at the University of Arizona”

11/2015 Middle East Studies Association (MESA), Denver, Colorado

Technology in the Service of Pedagogy

06/2010 14th World Congress of Comparative Education Societies, Istanbul, Turkey

Bordering, Re-Bordering & New Possibilities in Education and Society

Turkish Global Simulation

07/2010 3rd International Turkish Education and Teaching Conference, Izmir, Turkey

Turkish Global Simulation

04/2010 CMES/CERCLL Western Consortium of Middle Eastern Studies Centers

Invited Keynote speaker; Turkish Global Simulation

University of Arizona