

# BALAM NEDİM KENTER

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## EDUCATION

- 2019- **PhD Candidate**, Interdisciplinary Humanities.  
Humanities PhD Program (HUMA), The Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture (CISSC), **Concordia University**.  
Fields: Philosophy (major), Critical Disability Studies, Critical Animal Studies  
Tentative Dissertation Title: Capitalism, Animals, and Disability: A Materialist Intersectional Paradigm of Domination  
Supervisor: Emilia Angelova  
Candidacy: 2023. Degree expected: 2025
- 2018 **M.A.**, Philosophy.  
Department of Philosophy, **Boğaziçi University**.  
Thesis Title: Understanding Oppression and Exploitation Through Disability: Intersectionality, Surplus Populations, and Radical Needs  
Supervisor: Yıldız Silier
- 2010 **M.A.**, Culture and Performance.  
World Arts and Cultures Program (WAC), **University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)**  
Thesis Title: Dessert on an Empty Stomach: A Consideration of Alimentary Ethics  
Supervisor: Michael Owen Jones
- 2001 **B.A.**, History of Art.  
**Cornell University**.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 **Instructor**. WSDB 398 - Feminism and Disability: Intersections and Critical Encounters (designed and sole-taught). Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University, Montréal, January-April.
- 2023 **Teaching Assistant**. Philosophy 275 - From Modern to Postmodern: Philosophical Thought and Cultural Critique. Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal, January-April. (Instructor: Dr. Natalie Helberg)
- 2022 **Teaching Assistant**. Philosophy 210 – Critical Thinking. Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal, September-December. (Instructor: Dr. Olivia

Sultanescu)

- 2022 **Teaching Assistant.** Philosophy 235 - Biomedical Ethics. Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal, January-April. (Instructor: Dr. Jing Iris Hu)
- 2021 **Teaching Assistant.** Philosophy 235 - Biomedical Ethics. Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal, September-December. (Instructor: Dr. Jing Iris Hu)
- 2003 **Teaching Assistant.** Introductory Course in LGBT Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, CA, September-December.
- 2002-2003 **Student Coordinator.** Undergraduate course in Arts Practice and Community Service, CEESL (Center for Experiential Education and Service Learning), University of California, Los Angeles, CA, September-March.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2025 **Doctoral Intern.** Library Accessibility Enhancement Internship, Concordia University Library, Montréal. Conducted applied research informed by a Disability Justice framework to identify structural accessibility barriers across library services, collections, and physical spaces. Authored a 50-page report of recommendations, presented to the Library Cabinet for integration into Concordia Library's 2025 Strategic Objectives. Project Supervisor: Megan Fitzgibbons. January-April.
- 2024 **Research Assistant.** Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal. Originally organized to support Professor Emilia Angelova's Kristeva research, the role shifted to assist with the Kristeva Circle's 10th Annual Meeting. Provided technical and logistical support for the three-day conference, including managing sessions, coordinating speakers, and assisting with presentation setup. 24-26 October.
- 2022 **Research Assistant.** Society, Politics, Animals, and Materialities (SPAM) Working Group, Concordia University, Montréal. Disseminated information to the public via the SPAM website on research related to the supervisor's FRQ grant. Project Supervisor: Jesse Arseneault. 01-31 March.
- 2022 **Research Assistant.** Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal. Conducted research and literature review for the "Stigma Project." Project Supervisor: Jing Iris Hu. February-March.
- 2021 **Research Assistant.** Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal. Supported Insight Grant application: drafted sections, compiled bibliographies, copy-edited and proofread grant materials. Project Supervisor: Jing Iris Hu. September-October.

2020-21 **Research Assistant.** Department of Philosophy, Concordia University, Montréal. Conducted extensive literature review, developed annotated bibliographies, and co-drafted multiple iterations of a peer-reviewed article manuscript (unpublished). Project: Moral Progress and Community Resilience: A Self-cultivating and Community-empowering Perspective on Shame. Project Supervisor: Jing Iris Hu. June 2020- September 2021.

2004 **Graduate Researcher.** Department of World Arts and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles, CA. Conducted research for book on kinesthesia and choreographic literature. Project Supervisor: Susan Foster. January-April.

**Graduate Researcher.** Wayland Hand Folklore Library, University of California, Los Angeles, CA. Conducted archival and organizational work for the library's collection. January-March.

## PUBLICATIONS

### PROCEEDINGS

2020 "Marx ve Spinoza'da Yabancılaşma ve Hayvanlar" [Alienation and Animals in Marx and Spinoza]. Abstract published in the proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> Practical Philosophy Conference organized by Society for Practical Philosophy, Turkey.

2018 "Radikal İhtiyaçlar Olarak Özel İhtiyaçlar: Engelliliği ve Bağımlılığı Merkezileştiren Devrimci bir İhtiyaç Kuramına Doğru" [Special Needs as Radical Needs: Towards A Revolutionary Theory of Need that Centralizes Disability and Dependency]. Turkish version of conference paper published in the proceedings of Association for Monitoring Equal Rights (AMER) International Conference on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

2018 "Engellilik Çalışmaları ve Felsefe" [Disability Studies and Philosophy]. Abstract published in the proceedings of Disability Studies Conference: Disability From Past to Present, Istanbul University.

### NON-REFEREED

2023 "Marx and Foucault Go to the Movies: Horror as Method in Understanding Anthropocentrism and Ableism." Commissioned essay on [Moving Across Thresholds website](#).

2022 "Hello, Good Evening, and Welcome to The Middle of the Film!" Commissioned essay on [Moving Across Thresholds website](#).

2013 "Yiyen Kadınlar, Etik Bedenler, Sindirilemeyen Pratikler" [Eating Women, Ethical Bodies, Indigestible Practices] *Amargi* 27, pp. 55-59.

## PRESENTATIONS

### CONFERENCES & TALKS

- 2025 “Engaging Foucault’s Biopolitics: Implications for a Materialist Intersectional Politics of Disability.” **Annual Meeting of The Canadian Philosophical Association**, George Brown College, Toronto, ON, Canada. 1-4 June.
- “Introduction to MarxoFoucauldian CripAnimal Studies.” Papers in Progress Session (W13). **The 121st Meeting of the American Philosophical Association Eastern Division**, New York City, NY, US. 8-11 January.
- 2022 “A Prelude to a Philosophy of the Margin: Foucault and Marx on Disability and Animality.” **The Social Justice Centre Graduate Fellows Lunchtime Seminar Series**, Concordia University, Montréal. Hybrid, 13 May.
- “Rendering Surplus, Rendering Flesh: Capitalism, Animals, Disability.” **Research Group in Environmental and Animal ethics (GRÉEA)**, Montreal. Online, 25 May.
- 2021 “Exploitation That Doesn’t Look Like Exploitation: Superfluity, Disability, Animality”. **12th Braga Summer School in Political Philosophy and Public Policy** (The Workings of Capital: Perspectives on Exploitation in Law, Labor, and Distribution), University of Minho, Braga – Portugal. Online, 15-17 July.
- “Access & Excess: Queering & Crippling Towards Pervtopia”. **Looking Forward in Hope and Despair: Critical Approaches to Utopia and Dystopia in Philosophy and the Arts Conference**, Centre for Ethics, Pardubice University, Czech Republic. Online, 14-16 April.
- 2020 “Complicating Global North Disability Models: Disability Experience in Turkey.” **Alternative Explanations: Disability Research in the Global South Postgraduate Webinar**, Disability and Inclusion Africa Network. Online, 6 November.
- “Triaj Etiğinde Yaşlı ve Engelli Ayrımcılığı: Faydacılığın Ötesinde Bir Alternatif” [Ageism and Ableism in Triage Ethics: An Alternative Beyond Utilitarianism]. **International Conference on Discrimination**, Association for Monitoring Equal Rights (AMER). Online, 31 October.
- “Marx ve Spinoza'da Yabancılaşma ve Hayvanlar” [Alienation and Animals in Marx and Spinoza]. 1. Pratik Felsefe Lisansüstü Araştırmacı Konferansı [**1<sup>st</sup> Practical Philosophy Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Researcher Conference**], Society for Practical Philosophy, Turkey. Online, 7-8 August.
- 2018 “Special Needs as Radical Needs: Towards A Revolutionary Theory of Need that Centralizes Disability and Dependency.” **International Conference on the Rights of**

**Persons with Disabilities**, Association for Monitoring Equal Rights (AMER), Novotel, Istanbul, Turkey, 15-16 December.

“Engellilik Çalışmaları ve Felsefe Neden ve Nasıl Bir Araya Gelmeli” [How and Why Should Disability Studies and Philosophy Come Together]. **Disability Studies Conference: Disability From Past to Present**, Istanbul University, Turkey. 15-16 November.

“Understanding Oppression and Exploitation Through Disability: Intersectionality, Surplus Populations, and Radical Needs.” **Autumn School in Disability Studies**, Boğaziçi University Social Politics Forum & Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Istanbul, Turkey. 20-22 September. (Certificate Awarded.)

“Autism as a Prelude Rather Than a Post-Script: Towards a Phenomenology of Difference.” **Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind**, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. 13-17 August. (4 ECT credits and Certificate Awarded).

#### INVITED TALKS & WORKSHOPS

- 2020 **Speaker, Co-facilitator.** “Access & Excess.” Workshop for [Moving Across Thresholds](#). Socratic method of questioning and creative exercises combined to engage with the concept of access following a 20-minute presentation on the Social Model of Disability. Online, 12 December.
- 2019 **Guest lecturer.** “What is Oppression?”. PHIL 543: Philosophical Approaches to Issues in Feminism. Department of Philosophy, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey. 26 March. (Instructor: Yıldız Silier).

#### SERVICE

##### PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2021 **Co-organizer.** Leadership role in organizing a 3-day international graduate conference attended by 60 participants, featuring 12 papers, 5 interactive workshops, and a poetry event. [Contested Imaginaries: Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Conference](#), The Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Society and Culture, **Concordia University**. Hosted across multiple online platforms (Zoom, Discord, Gather.town). 17-19 June.

##### COMMENTARY DUTY

- 2025 **Commentator.** Tang, Y. (2025). Ontological Pluralism without Metaphysics: A Phenomenological Investigation of Nietzsche’s Ontology of Perspectives. Colloquium: Perspectives and Pluralism. **122<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the American Philosophical Association Central Division**. Online, 21 February.

## AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2024-2025 Miriam Aaron Roland Family Scholarship in PhD Humanities (20,000 C\$)
- 2023-2024 Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC)[Quebec Research Fund – Society and Culture] Doctoral Research Scholarship (B2Z) (33,333 C\$)
- 2021-2022 Concordia University Social Justice Centre Fellowship (5,000 C\$)
- 2019-2023 Concordia International Tuition Award of Excellence (38,000 C\$)
- 2019-2023 Faculty of Arts & Sciences Graduate Fellowship (14,000 C\$/year)
- 2019 Miriam Aaron Roland Fellowship in PhD Humanities (2,500 C\$)
- Concordia Merit Scholarship (10,000 C\$)
- Faculty of Arts and Sciences Graduate Fellowship in Ethnic Studies and Social Diversity (10,000 C\$)
- 2018 Master’s Thesis Award in Disability Studies, Raoul Wallenberg Institute & Boğaziçi University Social Politics Forum (1,000 C\$)
- 2002-2006 MA Fellowships, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2020 **Seminar on University Teaching** (GPTK703), Concordia University Graduate and Professional Skills Program Seminar, (35 hours), 16 January-25 February. (Certificate Awarded). Skills & Tasks: Teaching Philosophy Statement, Concept Mapping, Lesson Planning, Syllabus Writing, 10-minute Mini Lesson.
- Universal Design for Learning for University Teaching** (GPTK 756), Concordia University Graduate and Professional Skills Program Workshop, (2 hours), 25 September (online).
- Decolonizing the Academy: Implications for Concordia's Community** (GPTK765), Concordia University Graduate and Professional Skills Program Workshop, (1.5 hours), 23 September, (online).
- Best Practices: Grading/Feedback** (GPTK705), Concordia University Graduate and Professional Skills Program Workshop, (2 hours), 20 February.
- Perspectives on University Teaching for Neurodiverse Learners** (GPTK702), Concordia University Graduate and Professional Skills Program Workshop, (2hours),

17 January.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Canadian Philosophical Association  
American Philosophical Association

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (Transferable skills: leadership, strategic planning, project management, organization, communication, problem-solving)

2009-2020 **General Manager.** Kenter Theater, Istanbul, Turkey.  
Kenter Theater, founded in 1968, was one of Turkey's first and most renowned private theaters. In my role as general manager, I supervised all aspects of theater production in a low-resource environment (e.g., art-averse social context, deep economic crisis). My responsibilities included managing the physical theater space, finances, and personnel; handling public and press relations; securing funding and sponsors; organizing national and international tours; and curating the repertoire. In 2020, I oversaw the successful transfer of Kenter Theater's historic building to the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, ensuring its renovation and preservation as a cultural center and performance space.

TRANSLATION EXPERIENCE (Transferable skills: analytical skills, attention to detail, time-management)

2017-2018 **Freelance Translator.** Pinhan Yayınları (Pinhan Publishing House), Istanbul, Turkey. Lou Andreas-Salomé's *Freud Journal* (English-Turkish).  
2014-2018 **Freelance Translator and Editor.** Nonviolent Education and Research Center, Istanbul, Turkey.  
2009-2011 **Performer, Guide, and Interpreter.** Istanbul International Puppet Festival, Istanbul, Turkey.  
2008-2009 **Freelance Translator.** INDIVIDEOS, Portugal. Translated interviews for documentary "The Road Less Traveled" about conscientious objection in Turkey.  
2007-2008 **Freelance Translator.** Zed Books, UK. Translated part of the proceedings of Conscientious Objection Conference, Istanbul Bilgi University (2007) for the book *Conscientious Objection: Resisting Militarized Society* published April 2009.  
2007-2008 **Freelance Translator.** İletişim Yayınları (Publishing House), Istanbul, Turkey. Translated part of the proceedings of Conscientious Objection Conference, Istanbul Bilgi University (2007) for the book *Çarklardaki Kum: Vicdani Red* published February 2008.  
2004-2008 **Freelance Translator.** NTV Dubbing Studios, Istanbul, Turkey.  
2004 **Freelance Translator.** Nokta Yayınları (Nokta Publishing House), Istanbul, Turkey. Garrett Wald Sheldon, *Jefferson and Atatürk: Political Philosophies* (English-Turkish), published in 2005 as *Atatürk ve Jefferson: Siyasi Felsefeleri*.

## REFERENCES

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