

Melinda Glsm Esen

PhD Candidate in Philosophy · Philosophy of Mind

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EDUCATION

Degree	Field	Institution	Year
PhD	Philosophy and Religious Studies	Sakarya University	2020 – present
MA	Philosophy and Religious Studies	Sakarya University	2017 – 2020
BA	Teaching of Religious Culture and Ethics (Primary Education)	Dokuz Eyll University	2005 – 2009

RESEARCH

- **Doctoral dissertation (in progress):** *The Metaphysical and Epistemological Foundations of David Chalmers's Fundamental View of Mind*. Sakarya University, Institute of Philosophy and Religious Studies.
- **Master's thesis:** *Bas van Fraassen's Conception of Constructive Empiricism*. Sakarya University, Institute of Philosophy and Religious Studies, June 2020.

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Position	Institution	Year
Teacher	ehit Murat Tuzsuz Vocational & Technical Anatolian High School	2025 – present
Teacher	Yavuz Sultan Selim Secondary School, Bozyk, Bilecik	2016 – 2025
Deputy Principal	Arif Nihat Asya Secondary School, Bozyk, Bilecik	2014 – 2016
Teacher	İky Secondary School, Bozyk, Bilecik	2012 – 2014
Teacher	National Education Foundation Secondary School, Van	2009 – 2012

CONFERENCE PAPERS & SYMPOSIA

- **"Quasi-Subject: Are Large Language Models Pseudo-Organismal Agents?"** 3rd National . Teoman Duralı Philosophy–Science Symposium: *Debates on the History and Philosophy of Biology from Antiquity to the Modern Era*, 5–6 February 2026.
- **"Are Neurons the Home of Consciousness?"** 10th Turkey Graduate Studies Congress, 3–6 November 2021, Konya, Turkey.
- **"Is Science a 'Miracle'?"** International Aegean Symposia on Social Sciences & Humanities, 15–16 February 2020, Izmir, Turkey.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS & INVITED TALKS

Summer Schools & Academic Programs

- **The Faraday Institute Summer Course 2025.** The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge, UK, 30 June – 4 July 2025. *Selected participant (student scholarship).*
- **SEMF Interdisciplinary School 2025.** Society for Multidisciplinary and Fundamental Research, Valencia, Spain, 13–20 July 2025. *Selected participant (scholarship).*
- **“From Cosmos to Christ: Reason, Faith, and the Academic Disciplines.”** Cambridge, UK, 29 July – 15 August 2026. Organized by 1517 and the Christian Education Charitable Trust. *Invited participant.*

Invited Talks

- **“The Hard Problem of Consciousness.”** Current Kalām Debates – 210 (moderator: Dr. Yasin Ramazan Başaran; respondent: Dr. Mehtap Doğan), 30 May 2025, online. Recording available on YouTube.
- **“Escaping the Merchants of Doubt: Constructive Empiricism.”** Contemporary Ontology Debates – 11 (moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Esra Kartal Soysal), 21 May 2024, online. Recording available on YouTube.
- **“If AI Is Flint, We Must Save Prometheus — But on What Grounds?”** Ankara Philosophy Radio. Recording available on YouTube.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Articles

- **“Metaphorizing the Mind: Does It Dethrone It?”** *Temaşa: Journal of the Department of Philosophy, Erciyes University* (forthcoming, 2025).
- **“The Origins of Morality According to Michael Tomasello: Why Are Humans Moral?”** *Kutadgubilig: Journal of Philosophy and Science Studies*, 2022.
- **“The Concept of ‘Observation’ from a Scientific Realist Perspective.”** *Academic Platform Journal of Islamic Researches*, 4(1), 2020.

Book Chapters

- **“Bas C. van Fraassen’s Understanding of Constructive Empiricism.”** In İbrahim Bahçi (ed.), *Scientific Realism [Bilimsel Realizm]*, pp. 227–270. Doruk Yayınları, 2026.

Book Reviews

- Review of *Mental Fictionalism: A New Approach to Understanding the Nature of the Mind*. *Philosophical Psychology*, 2024. DOI: 10.1080/09515089.2024.2403511.
- Review of Richard Swinburne, *Are We Bodies or Souls?* *Darulfunun İlahiyat*, 32(2), 2021, 647–654.
- Review of Adam Toon, *Models as Make-Believe: Imagination, Fiction and Scientific Representation*. *Artvin Çoruh University Journal of Theological Research*, June 2020.
- Review of Nils J. Nilsson, *Artificial Intelligence: Its Past and Future*. *Çukurova University Journal of the Faculty of Divinity*, 2019.
- Review of Nikolai Bukharin, *Philosophical Arabesques*. *Karabük University Journal of the Institute of Social Sciences*, 2019.

BOOK TRANSLATIONS

- David J. Chalmers, *Reality+: Virtual Worlds and the Problems of Philosophy*. Co-translated with Özlem Kırtay. Alfa Yayınları (forthcoming, 2026).

- Alva Noë, *The Entanglement: How Art and Philosophy Make Us What We Are*. Sel Yayıncılık (forthcoming, 2026; translation in progress).
- Geoffrey Gorham, *The Philosophy of Science: A Beginner's Guide*. Ed. Yasin Ramazan Başaran. Babil Kitap, 2022.

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY: ESSAYS & ARTICLES

- **"If AI Is Flint, We Must Save Prometheus — But on What Grounds?"** Essay, *Teklif*, 2025.
- **"Are You Among Those We Can Dehumanize? Dehumanization, Racism and Its Kinds."** Review essay on David Livingstone Smith, *On Inhumanity. Corpus*, 2024.
- **"Atlantis, or the Human Terrarium: Building a City on Mars."** Review essay, *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*.
- **"Could the Hidden Door to Consciousness Be Quantum?"** *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*, 2022.
- **"Science: Trust in Doubt."** *Ayasofya*, 2023.
- **"A Short Way to Know a Person."** *Ayasofya*, 2023.

TRANSLATIONS — ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

Articles

- Paul Bloom & Sam Harris, **"What's Wrong with Cruelty to Robots?"** *Düşünbil*, no. 69, 2018.
- Tim Weldon, **"The Forgiving Mind: The Secret of Sherlock Holmes's Success."** *Düşünbil*, no. 80, 2019.
- Pavlo Shopin, **"Why Is Truth Stranger Than Fiction?"** *Düşünbil*, no. 80, 2019.
- Pavlo Shopin, **"The Meaning of Language in the Age of AI, and Technotelepathy."** *Nöroblog*, 2020.
- Alison Fernandes, **"The Future Looks Wide Open with Possibilities — Or Does It?"** *Mahalle Mektebi*, no. 52, 2020.
- Paul Bloom & Matthew Jordan, **"Are We All 'Harmless Torturers' Now?"** *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*, March 2020.
- Amy Kind, **"The Imagination Is a Powerful Tool: Why Is Philosophy Afraid of It?"** *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*, May 2020.
- Pavlo Shopin, **"Rough, Soft or Deep: Why Is Hearing a Tone of Voice So Multisensory?"** *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*, May 2020.
- Onora O'Neill, **"Digital Hopes."** *Mahalle Mektebi*, 2024.

Book Chapters

- Donald Hoffman, **"The Case Against Reality: Why Evolution Hid the Truth from Our Eyes."** *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*, March 2020.
- Robert Kirk, **"Zombies and Consciousness."** *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*, January 2020.
- Richard Foley, **"When Is True Belief Knowledge?"** *Öncül Analitik Felsefe*, May 2020.
- Philip Ball, *How Life Works*. *Mahalle Mektebi*, 2024.
- John Toland, **"Deism and Christianity."** In R. Alpağıl (ed.), *Supplementary Reader for Philosophy of Religion: Classical and Modern Texts*. Istanbul: İz Yayıncılık, 2021.
- John E. Hare, **"Naturalism and Morality."** In W. L. Craig & J. P. Moreland (eds.), *Naturalism: A Critical Analysis* [Natüralizm: Eleştirel Bir Analiz], ch. 8, p. 303 ff. Albaraka Yayınları.

DIGITAL & PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY PROJECTS

- **Consciousness Studies: A Thematic Selected Bibliography.** *Creator, editor and designer.* An independent digital bibliography classifying the consciousness-studies literature by core themes and sub-topics — currently 1,311 entries across 9 themes and 63 sub-topics.
follow-the-white-rabbit.consciousness-bib.workers.dev
- **Philosophy of Mind: Interactive Map.** *Creator, editor and designer.* A conceptual roadmap for newcomers to philosophy of mind and for students choosing a research topic, organizing the field's core questions by theme and problem area.
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