Merve Özçelik
Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Applied Linguistics
The Pennsylvania State University
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University Park, PA 16802
mzo5317@psu.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics **In-progress**
The Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA

M.A. in English Language Teaching **2021**
Boğaziçi University Istanbul, Turkey

B.A. in Foreign Language Education **2016**
Boğaziçi University Istanbul, Turkey

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Language, Trauma, and Affect
Language and Gender
Language and Migration
Language and Social Justice
Trauma-informed Language Pedagogies
Decolonial Knowledge Production
Narrative Inquiry
Discourse Analysis
Linguistic Anthropology
Feminist Methodologies
Epistemic Injustice

COURSES TAUGHT

- **APLNG 574: World Englishes: Pluralizing Policy, Pedagogy, and Proficiency**
  PhD level course co-taught with Dr. Suresh Canagarajah
  Fall 2024, Department of Applied Linguistics, The Pennsylvania State University

- **APLNG/WMNST 597: Language, Gender, and Sexuality**
  PhD level course co-taught with Dr. Ariana Steele
  Spring 2025, Department of Applied Linguistics, The Pennsylvania State University

- **ELT 113: Advanced Reading and Writing for Research**
  Undergraduate course
  Fall 2021, Department of English Language Teaching, MEF University, Istanbul, Turkey

- **Academic Reading & Writing in English**
  Undergraduate course
  Fall 2020-Fall 2022, School of Foreign Languages, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey

- **Academic Reading & Writing in English**
  Undergraduate course
  Fall 2019-Spring 2020, School of Foreign Languages, Beykoz University, Istanbul, Turkey

- **Academic Reading & Writing in English**
  Undergraduate course
  Fall 2018-Spring 2019, School of Foreign Languages, Beykent University, Istanbul, Turkey

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant **2023 – Present**
Department of Applied Linguistics
The Pennsylvania State University, USA

Language Consultant **2024 – 2025**
English for Professional Purposes Intercultural Center (EPPIC)
The Pennsylvania State University, USA

Tenured Faculty **2020 – 2022**
School of Foreign Languages,
Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey

Guest Lecturer **2021 – 2022**
English Language Teaching Department
MEF University, Istanbul, Turkey

English Instructor **2019 – 2020**
School of Foreign Languages,
Beykoz University, Istanbul, Turkey

English Instructor **2018 – 2019**
School of Foreign Languages,
Beykent University, Istanbul, Turkey

Freelance Linguist **2019 – 2021**
Starlang Software, Istanbul, Turkey

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Özçelik, M. (2025). Teaching English in the post-earthquake context of Turkey: A narrative inquiry with English teachers. *TESOL Quarterly*. https://doi.org/10.1002/tesq.70050

Özçelik, M. & Canjura, J. (2026). Unpacking the narrative complexities of YouTube: A multi-participant framework for social media analysis. *Narrative Inquiry*. https://doi.org/10.1075/ni.25120.ozc

Özçelik, M. (Under review). Research as affective space: Researchers with lived experiences of trauma reconfiguring affect through inquiry. *Emotion, Space and Society*.

Özçelik, M. (Under review). The personal, the political, and the academic in applied linguistics: A feminist autoethnography of doing trauma research as a survivor. *Applied Linguistics Review*.

Özçelik, M. (Under review). From semiotic vulnerability to epistemic action: A linguistic anthropological account of research engagement. *Language in Society*.

Özçelik, M. (Under review). Survival by death: Affective economies and the institutional uptake of gender-based violence narratives. *Discourse & Society*.

Special Issue

Canagarajah, S. & **Özçelik, M.** (2026). Trauma in TESOL: Theoretical, Methodological, and Pedagogical Perspectives. *TESOL Quarterly*.

Book Chapters

Özçelik, M. & Canagarajah, S. (Forthcoming). Words and wounds: Linguistic approaches to gender-based violence and trauma. In J. Purkarthofer, M. Oostendorp, & B. Busch (Eds), *The Routledge Handbook of Language and Trauma*.

Milani, T. & **Özçelik, M.** (Forthcoming). Linguistic citizenship and migration. In A. F. Selvi (Ed.), *The Palgrave Handbook of Critical Applied Linguistics and Language Education*.

Özçelik, M. & Milani, T. (Under review). Felt into being: Language, affect, and the gendered body. In P. Torres, & V. Ramanathan (Eds.), *Language and the Body: Learning, (Dis)Abilities, and Identities.* Routledge.

Özçelik, M. & Canagarajah, S. (Under review). Affective Economies of Multilingualism: Rethinking Listening, Perception, and Responsibility. In Y. Matsumoto & D. Kimura (Eds). *Entangled Assemblages of Multilingualism: Pursuing Equity in Theory and Practice*. Cambridge University Press.

Book reviews

Özçelik, M. (2023). [Review of the book Reflexivity in Applied Linguistics: Opportunities, Challenges, and Suggestions, by S. Consoli & S. Ganassin]. *Applied Linguistics*. https://doi.org/10.1093/applin/amad061

Özçelik, M. (Under review). [Review of the books Reviewing Untold Autoethnographic Stories of (In)Justice, Teaching and Scholarship, by Sherris & Peyton and Autoethnographic Explorations of Lived Raciolinguistic Experiences Among Multilingual Scholars by Zhang-Wu & Goodman. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*.

Conference Presentation and Invited Talks

Özçelik, M. (May 7, 2026). *Survival by death: Affective economies of survival in women's narratives and media discourse in Türkiye*. ASLA Symposium, Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden.

Özçelik, M. (May 1, 2026). *Turning Pain into Knowledge: Ethics and Transformation in Qualitative Research*. The Rock Ethics Institute Spring Research Workshop. The Pennsylvania State University.

Özçelik, M. (April 24, 2026). *Trauma research as an affective and embodied experience*. APLNG Roundtable. The Pennsylvania State University.

Özçelik, M. & Canagarajah, S. (March 24, 2026). *Trans-embodied translingualism: Desire, risk, and affective labor of meaning* [Paper presentation]. AAAL 2026, Chicago, IL.

Özçelik, M. (March 11, 2026). *Teaching English while traumatized: English teachers navigating affective regimes.* [Invited talk]. FULK – Flerspråkighet Undervisning Lärande i Kritiskt perspektiv/Multilingualism Teaching and Learning from a Critical perspective, Stockholm University, Sweden.

Özçelik, M. & Işeri, M. (May 2025). *Empowering teachers through a trauma-informed workshop after the February 6 earthquake in Turkey.* [Paper presentation]. Social Justice in ELT 2025, Istanbul, Turkey.

Canjura, J. & **Özçelik, M.** (March 2025). *Toward a multi-participant framework for social media narrative analysis.* [Paper presentation]. AAAL 2025, Denver, Colorado.

Canjura, J. & **Özçelik, M.** (July 2024). *Raciolinguistics and ridesharing: Race and language ideologies in a transient mobile contact zone.* [Paper presentation]. Association of Language Awareness 2024, Karlsruhe, Germany.

Özçelik, M. (2024, March 16-19). Teaching traumatized students in the post-earthquake context of Turkey: Qualitative action research with English teachers. In **M. Özçelik** & S. Canagarajah (Co-chairs), *The Nexus of Trauma and Tanguage: A Pedagogy for Survivors.* [Colloquium presentation]. 2024 American Association for Applied Linguistics Conference, Houston, TX.

Özçelik, M. & Canjura, J. (2024, January 17). *Creating the raciolinguistic other in Uber rides: Race, language, and nation in transient mobile contact zones*. [Paper presentation]. Migration Studies Project, The Pennsylvania State University.

Özçelik, M. (2023, March 18-21). *Discursive negotiation of power in the realm of patriarchy: Women's stories of survival from violence* [Paper presentation]. 2024 American Association for Applied Linguistics Conference, Portland, OR.

Özçelik, M., & Erduyan, I. (2023, March 8-10). *Linguistic manifestation of trauma within the narratives of violence survivor women* [Paper presentation]. Language and Trauma Workshop, Essen, Germany.

Özçelik, M., Canjura, J., Xiaozheng, D., Bastos, P., & Msimango, M. J. (2023, December 6). *Meeting Halfway: Strategies for Native English Speakers in Communication with Non-Native Speakers* [Paper presentation]. Migration Studies Project, The Pennsylvania State University.

Özçelik, M. (2023, January 8). *Investigating reciprocal reflexivity in trauma-related narrative inquiry through researcher development and empowerment* [Paper presentation]. APLNG Roundtable, The Pennsylvania State University.

Özçelik, M., Işeri, M. Sami, T., Tari, H., Kuzu, M., & Öztürk, B. (2023, June 10) *Öğretmenler için travma ile bilgilendirilmiş eğitim çalıştayı: Okullarda deprem travmasıyla mücadele [Trauma-informed Education Workshop for Teachers: Navigating Earthquake Trauma at School]* [Workshop Chair]. Adıyaman, Turkey.

Özçelik, M. (2022, July 13-16). *"I'm second-hand but he's brand-new": Linguistic construction of symbolic violence in divorced women's narratives* [Paper presentation]. Sociolinguistics Symposium 24, Ghent, Belgium.

Çetin, M. & **Özçelik, M.** (2021, March 23-25). *Women murder or men terror? A corpus-based critical discourse analysis of Turkish online media articles about femicide* [Paper presentation]. Gender Challenge Conference (Virtual).

Özçelik, M., Arıcan, B. N., Bakay, Ö., Sarmış, E., Bayazıt, N. G., Ergelen, Ö. & Yıldız, O. T. (2021). *HisNet: A Polarity Lexicon based on WordNet for Emotion Analysis*. Paper presented at Global WordNet Conference (Virtual Conference).

Arıcan, B. N., **Özçelik, M.,** Aslan, D. B., Sarmış, E., Parlar, S. & Yıldız, O. T. (2021). *Creating Domain Dependent Turkish WordNet and SentiNet*. Paper presented at Global WordNet Conference (Virtual Conference).

Bakay, Ö., Ergelen, Ö., Sarmış, E., Yıldırım, S., Kocabalcıoğlu, A., Arıcan, B. N., **Özçelik, M.,** Sanıyar, E., Kuyrukçu, O., Avar, B. & Yıldız, O. T. (2021). *Turkish WordNet KeNet.* Paper presented at Global WordNet Conference (Virtual Conference).

Marşan, B., Kara, N., **Özçelik, M.,** Arıcan, B. N., Cesur, N., Kuzgun, A., Sanıyar, E., Kuyrukçu, O. & Yıldız, O. T. (2021). *Building the Turkish FrameNet*. Paper presented at Global WordNet Conference (Virtual Conference).

Kara, N., Marşan, B., **Özçelik, M.,** Arıcan, B. N., Kuzgun, A., Cesur, N., Aslan, D. B. & Yıldız, O. T. (2020). *Creating A Syntactically Felicitous Constituency Treebank for Turkish.* Paper presented at the Conference on Innovations in Intelligent Systems and Applications (ASYU), 2020, Istanbul, Turkey.

Kuzgun, A., Cesur, N., Arıcan, B. N., **Özçelik, M.,** Marşan, B., Kara, N., Aslan, D. B. & Yıldız, O. T. (2020). *On Building the Largest and Cross-Linguistic Turkish Dependency Corpus.* Paper presented at the Conference on Innovations in Intelligent Systems and Applications (ASYU), 2020, Istanbul, Turkey.

Thesis & Dissertation

Özçelik, M. (In progress). *Researching Pain, Reclaiming Power: Applied Linguistic Approaches to Affective and Embodied Research Experiences* (Dissertation). The Pennsylvania State University, USA.

Özçelik, M. (2021). *Linguistic Construction of Oral Narratives in Turkish: Women's Stories of Survival and Power* (Master's Thesis). Boğaziçi University, Turkey.

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Awards & Fellowships

1. **Forrest S. Crawford Graduate Fellowship in Ethical Inquiry** **2025-2026**
   Two-semester release from assistantship service and $1000 scholarship for research related activities
   The College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University

2. **Superior Teaching and Research (STAR) Award** **2025**
   $2000 Scholarship Award
   The College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University

3. **The Karako Global Ambassadors Endowment** **2023**
   $1000 Monetary Award
   The College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University

4. **Fulbright PhD Scholarship** **2022-2024**
   Covers full tuition, stipend, health insurance, and roundtrip flights
   Turkish Fulbright Commission & Institute of International Education

5. **Graduate Scholar Award** **2023**
   $3000 Scholarship Award
   The College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University

6. **Graduate Scholar Award** **2022**
   $3000 Scholarship Award
   The College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University

7. **TUBITAK 2210-A Scholarship** **2019-2021**
   Monthly stipend
   The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey

8. **Korean Government Scholarship Program (KGSP)** **2016-2017**
   National Institute for International Education (NIIED)

Grants

1. **McCourtney Institute for Democracy's Research in Democracy Support Grant** **2025**
   Project title: The Digital Polis: Youth Civic Engagement in the Reddit Sphere
   Amount: $3650
   The Pennsylvania State University

2. **The Graduate Alliance for Diversity and Inclusion (GADI)** **2022**
   Project title: Meeting Halfway: Strategies for Native English Speakers in Communication

with Non-Native Speakers
Amount: $500
The Pennsylvania State University

3. **Conference Travel Grants** **2022 – Present**
   Department of Applied Linguistics, The Pennsylvania State University

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LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

AAAL 2026 Organization Team Member **2025 – 2026**

DEIB Student Representative **2024 – 2025**
Department of Applied Linguistics
The Pennsylvania State University

Student Organizer **2023 – 2024**
Migration Studies Project
The Pennsylvania State University

Roundtable Organization Committee **2022 – 2023**
Department of Applied Linguistics
The Pennsylvania State University

VOLUNTEERING & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteer English Teacher **Spring 2025**
Mid-State Literacy Council, State College, PA

Gender-based Violence Advocate & Counselor **2024 – 2025**
Centre Safe, State College, PA

Study Assistant for Visually Impaired Students **2013 – 2016**
GETEM, Boğaziçi University, Turkey