

## Curriculum Vitae

### Basak Durgun

Ph.D. Candidate

Cultural Studies Department

College of Humanities and Social Sciences,

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#### RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS:

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Urban Studies | Mobilities and Spatial Practices | Political Ecology | Environmental Humanities | Social Movements | Garden and Landscape Studies | Cultural Studies | Globalization | Sociology | Food Studies | Gender, Sexuality and Queer Studies | Qualitative Methods |

#### EDUCATION:

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- Present** Ph.D. Candidate, Cultural Studies  
George Mason University College of Humanities and Social Sciences.  
Dissertation Title: “Cultural Politics of Urban Green Spaces: The Production and Reorganization of Istanbul’s Parks and Gardens.”  
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Johanna Bockman (chair), Dr. Tim Gibson, Dr. Craig Willse and Dr. Rashmi Sadana.
- 2011** M.A. Cultural Studies  
Istanbul Bilgi University Graduate School of Social Sciences  
Thesis Title: “Subjectivity and Politics of Women-Loving-Women in Istanbul”
- 2006** B.A. Sociology and International Studies  
The Ohio State University College of Arts and Sciences

#### PUBLICATIONS:

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##### Book Chapter:

(Under Advanced Contract) ““Bringing the World to the Classroom”: Cultural Studies and Experiential Learning” in *Cultural Studies in the Classroom and Beyond: Critical Pedagogies and Classroom Strategies*. Palgrave Macmillan. Edt. Jaafar Aksikas, Sean Johnson Andrews and Donald Hedrick

##### Digital Publications:

- 2018** (forthcoming in October) “Building Community, Cultivating Hope and Imaging the Future in Istanbul: The (short) story of Roma Bostan” in *LOFscapes* <http://www.lofscapes.com/>
- 2015** “Interview: Ella Shohat” in *The Edges*: <http://culturalstudies.gmu.edu/articles/8790>
- 2013** “Reclaiming the City: The Case of Gezi Park Resistance” in *Cities and Globalization*: <http://citiesandglobalization.org/reclaiming-the-city-the-case-of-gezi-park-resistance/>
- 2013** “Defending the City in Istanbul” in *Cities and Globalization*: <http://citiesandglobalization.org/defending-the-city-in-istanbul/>

## HONORS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

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- 2018-2019** Institute for Turkish Studies Dissertation Writing Grant
- Spring 2018** Field Research Grant - Mellon Fellowship in Urban Landscape Studies, Dumbarton Oaks
- Spring 2018** Office of the Provost Dissertation Completion Grant, George Mason University.
- Fall 2017** Mellon Fellow in Urban Landscape Studies, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington D.C.
- 2017** American Studies Association Annette K. Baxter Travel Grant.
- 2017, 2016** Office of the Provost Summer Research Fellowship, George Mason University.
- 2017, 2016** College of Humanities and Social Sciences Interdisciplinary Curriculum Collaborative Award, George Mason University.
- 2016, 2014** Cultural Studies Association Travel Grant.
- 2011-2015** George Mason University Cultural Studies Ph.D. Program Graduate Teaching Assistantship
- 2009-2011** 25% Tuition Reduction Scholarship, Istanbul Bilgi University.
- 2004-2005** Scarlet and Gray Scholarship, The Ohio State University.
- 2004-2005** The Ohio State University Dean's List (Summer and Autumn 2004, Spring 2005)
- 2004** Office of International Education Scholarship for the Spanish Language Program in Cuernavaca, Mexico, The Ohio State University.
- 2003** Diversity Services Office Academic Recognition, The Ohio State University.

## CONFERENCES AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

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### Featured / Invited Speaker:

- 2018** "Cultivating Community: Citizen Responses to Sustainability Challenges in Istanbul." Invited field expert, facilitator and speaker for *International Interdisciplinary Seminar and Knowledge Sharing on "Megacities as Partners for Development,"* Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany.
- 2014** "Introducing Cities and Globalization Working Group." *University Scholars Institute.* George Mason University.

### Conference Presentations:

- 2017** "Rethinking Heritage Conservation and Urban Greening in Istanbul through Food Sovereignty." *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting,* Washington D.C.
- 2017** "Struggle for Istanbul's Market Gardens: Urban Agriculture, Cultural Heritage and Food Security." *American Studies Association Annual Meeting: Pedagogies of Dissent,* Chicago.
- 2017** "Cultural Politics of Urban Green Spaces: The Production and Reorganization of Istanbul's Parks and Gardens." *Mellon Midday Dialogue,* Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington D.C.
- 2017** "'Are There Any Left?': Production of Istanbul's Green Spaces." *American Sociological Association Annual Meeting: Culture, Inequalities, and Social Inclusion Across the Globe,* Palais des Congrès de Montréal.

- 2017 “Green Stewards of Istanbul: Environmentalism, Public Parks and Urban Governance.” *Council for European Studies, 24<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Europeanists: Sustainability and Transformation*, University of Glasgow.
- 2017 “Urban Gardening as Food Sovereignty: Istanbul’s Historic Market Gardens and Contemporary Community Gardens.” *Initiatives in Critical Agrarian Studies Colloquium No. 7: The Future of Food and Challenges for Agriculture in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Europa Congress Palace, Vitoria Gasteiz. Álava, Basque Country.
- 2016 “Reinvention of Parks in Istanbul: Motivations, Contradictions and Implications of Metropolitan Green Space Development.” *Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference*. Villanova University.
- 2014 “Wellbeing and Academic Labor.” *(Re)Visions of the Future: Public Sociology, Environmental Justice & the Crisis of Climate Change*. George Mason University.
- 2014 “Gezi Park Resistance: Manifestation of the Technologies of Securitization in Istanbul.” *10th Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, Association for Cultural Studies*. University of Tampere, Finland.
- 2014 “Urban Informality and Crisis of Legitimacy in Istanbul: The Case of Gezi Park Resistance and Beyond.” *Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference*. University of Utah.
- 2014 “Legislating Sex and Anti-Black Governance.” *Queer Places, Practices and Lives Symposium II*. The Ohio State University.
- 2014 “Reclaiming the City: The Case of Gezi Park Resistance.” *Second City Anthropology Conference*. University of Illinois Chicago.
- 2013 “Reclaiming the City: The Case of Gezi Park Resistance.” *Critiquing Culture* George Mason University.
- 2010 “Collages and Fragments of Women in Turkey: A Critical Exploration into a Selected Group of Contemporary Artists.” *25<sup>th</sup> Annual Interdisciplinary Conference in the Humanities: Word/Image/Culture*, University of West Georgia.
- 2010 “*Being singular-plural as a Condition for Escape from Hetero-Normativity: How can Queer Resistance Benefit from Jean-Luc Nancy’s Thought?*” *5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Social Science Research*, New Orleans, LA.

## **TEACHING APPOINTMENTS:**

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2011-16 George Mason University, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

**New Century College** (now the School of Integrative Studies). Instructor of record

NCLC 101 Narratives of Identity (Fall 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015)

NCLC 103 Human Creativity: Science and Art (Spring 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016)

**Women and Gender Studies**. Instructor of record

WMST 200 Introduction to Women and Gender Studies (Spring 2016)

WMST 100 Representations of Women (Fall 2015)

**Cultural Studies**. Instructor of record

CULT 320 Globalization and Culture (Fall 2014)

**Global Affairs**. Instructor of record

GLOA 101 Introduction to Global Affairs (Spring 2014)

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE:**

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### **Conferences and Lectures Organized:**

- 2014** *Cities at the Center of the World*. George Mason University, and Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, Washington D.C.
- 2013-14** *Critiquing Culture Graduate Student Conference*. George Mason University.
- 2014** “Political Activism of Palestinians in Israel and Their Collective Memory” by Areej Sabbagh-Khoury; sponsored by Middle Eastern Studies Program

### **Committees:**

- 2013-15** Cultural Studies Student Organizing Committee Co-Chair.
- 2013-14** New Century College Equity and Sustainability Committee Chair.
- 2013-14** New Century College Dean's Council GTA Representative.
- 2013-14** Cities and Globalization Working Group Member.

## **LANGUAGES:**

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Turkish (native), English (like native), Spanish (beginner)

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

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- Cultural Studies Association (CSA)
- American Studies Association (ASA)
- Middle East Studies Association (MESA)