

---

---

# | AHMET AKTAS |

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy, Purdue University  
100 N. University Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2098 USA  
aaktas@purdue.edu

---

---

## EDUCATION

- PhD, Philosophy | Purdue University (Indiana, US) | 2023-present | GPA 3.96
- M.A., Philosophy | Middle East Technical University (Ankara) | 2021 – 2023 | GPA 4.0
  - *Thesis Title:* Precarious Necessity: Deleuze and the Theory of Thought  
*Committee:* Assoc. Prof. Corry Shores, Prof. Daniel W. Smith, Assoc. Prof. Barış Parkan
- B.A., Philosophy (with a minor in French) | Boğaziçi University (Istanbul) | 2016 – 2021 | High Honors
- Exchange Student, Philosophy | Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris) | 2020 – 2021

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Fulbright PhD Scholarship (worth \$100.000) | 2023-2025
- PROMISE Grant (\$1.000) x2 | Purdue College of Liberal Arts | 2024, 2025
- APA Graduate Student Stipend (\$300) x2 | 2026
- 2210/E Graduate Scholarship (Continuation of the Undergraduate Scholarship) | The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) | 2021-2023
- 2205 Undergraduate Scholarship (supporting the best 0,01% of Turkish students) | The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) | 2016- 2021

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Articles

4. Aktas, Ahmet. Forthcoming. “Precarious Necessity in a Contingent World: Time, Thought, and Necessity in Deleuze” *Deleuze and Guattari Studies*.
3. Aktas, Ahmet. 2025. “Was Spinoza a Deleuzian: Rethinking the Politics of Emotions and Affects.” *Theory, Culture & Society*. 42 (3). pp. 95-114 <https://doi.org/10.1177/02632764241301334>
2. Aktas, Ahmet. 2024. “Thrown into the World, Attached to Love: On the Forms of World-Sharing and Mourning in Heidegger.” *Human Studies*. 47, pp. 479–499. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10746-023-09701-6>
1. Aktas, Ahmet. 2018. “A Critical Assessment of Spinoza’s Theory of Affect: Affects, Beliefs, and Human Freedom” (in Turkish), *Beytulhikme An International Journal of Philosophy* 8 (1), pp. 251-272. <https://doi.org/10.18491/beytulhikme.446507>

### Invited Journal Articles

2. Aktas, Ahmet 2025. "Rethinking the Spinoza–Machiavelli Encounter for the Twenty-First Century: Freedom within the Spiral of Governance, Friendship, and Law" [In Turkish, for a special issue on "Spinoza's Philosophers, Philosophers' Spinoza"], *Doğru Batı*. 115.
1. Aktas, Ahmet 2025. "Is Sadness Useful? Two Correctives on the Nature of the Affects and Their Relation to Good Life in Spinoza" [In Turkish, for a special issue on "Spinoza Problem"], *Doğru Batı*. 114. pp.136-169.

### Book Reviews

2. The Review of *Aesthetics in Grief and Mourning: Philosophical Reflections on Coping with Loss* by Kathleen Marie Higgins, Review of Metaphysics 78 (2).  
<https://doi.org/10.1353/rvm.2024.a947057>
1. The Review of *Insurrectionist Ethics: Radical Perspectives on Social Justice* Edited by Jacoby Adeshei Carter & Darryl Scriven, Forthcoming in The Journal of Moral Philosophy

## PRESENTATIONS

### Refereed Presentations

1. "Affective Challenges to Deliberative Democracy" | APA Central (Symposium Session) | 2026
2. "Affective Challenges to Deliberative Democracy" | APA Eastern (Poster Session) | 2026
3. "Governing Through Affects: Spinoza on The Political Uses and Abuses of Passive Joys" | North American Society for Spinoza (NASS) Conference | 2025 (May)
4. "One or Many Cognitions? A Theoretical Sketch for the Ontological Pluralism of Cognitions" | The Southern Society for Philosophy or Psychology (SSPP) 116<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting | 2025 (April) & Commentary on "Not quite dead yet: A Heideggerian take on the phenomenology of Obsessing"
5. "Was Spinoza a Deleuzian: Rethinking the Politics of Emotions and Affects" | Society for the Study of Affect (SSA) Conference | 2024 (October)
6. "World-Building and World-Losing" | Annual Conference of the Central and East European Society for Phenomenology | 2024 (September)

### Other Presentations

1. "Was Spinoza a Deleuzian: The Birth of Affect in Deleuze" | Purdue University | The Fall 2023 Graduate Symposium.
2. "Spinoza's Account of Grief?" | North American Society for Spinoza (NASS) Philosophical Salon for Junior Scholars | 2024 (May)

## POPULAR PHILOSOPHY WRITINGS

1. Aktas, Ahmet and Sibel Nisam Samli. 2023. "Bir Ders Arası Sohbeti: Değer mi Hiç?,"in *Gençlerle Başbaşa: Felsefenin Bahçesinde* by Yıldız Silier, Yordam Kitap, 2023. (A philosophical Essay in the form of dialogue discussing cynicism, appeared in one of the sections dedicated to the essays authored by students in a book by Yıldız Silier).
2. Aktas, Ahmet. 2021. "Moby Dick: A Spinozist Tritone Fugue", in *ThinKnow Magazine*, vol 2, pp. 23-27.

## LITERARY WRITINGS & TRANSLATIONS INTO TURKISH

1. Carol Ann Duffy, [Alem'in Karısı, Translation: Ahmet Aktas 160. Kilometre Yayınları](#). (Turkish Translation of Carol Ann Duffy's famous poetry collection World's Wife). 2025.
2. Turkish translation of “[12 Poems by Iryna Shuvalova](#)”, with Semiha Mengüllüoğlu, published online on [www.160incikilometre.com](#). 2022.
3. Turkish Translation of “[Communism and Poetry](#)” by Alain Badiou, in Bu Çağ (Bu Çağ Poetry Journal), vol. 2. pp. 1-5. 2022
4. Aktas, Ahmet and Mehmet Avcı. 2022. “Becoming-Verb of Poetry” (“Şiirin Eylem Oluşu,” Essay in Turkish on a Deleuzian analysis of two eminent contemporary Turkish Poets, co-authored with Mehmet Avcı), in Bu Çağ (Bu Çağ Poetry Journal), vol. 2, pp. 9-11.
5. Aktas, Ahmet. 2021. “Revealing Gesture” (“Açımlayıcı Jest”, Essay in Turkish on contemporary movements in Turkish poetry), in Bu Çağ (Bu Çağ Poetry Journal), vol. 1, pp. 89-97.
6. Turkish Translation of “Carol Ann Duffy: Interview by Andrew McAllister,” in Natama Şiir ve Eleştiri Dergisi (Natama Journal of Poetry and Literary Criticism), vol. 21, pp. 42-50. 2021.
7. Turkish Translation of Carol Ann Duffy's poem Mrs Faust, in Natama Şiir ve Eleştiri Dergisi (Natama Journal of Poetry and Literary Criticism), vol. 21, pp. 39-41. 2021
8. Aktas, Ahmet. 2021. “The Poet of the Other: Carol Ann Duffy” (An essay in Turkish on the poetry of Carol Ann Duffy), in Natama Şiir ve Eleştiri Dergisi (Natama Journal of Poetry and Literary Criticism), vol. 21, pp. 36-38.

## LANGUAGES

- Turkish (Fluent)
- English (Fluent)
- French (Full Research Command, Reading & Writing)
- German (Elementary)

## OTHER ACTIVITIES & SERVICE

- Founder and organizer of [Deleuze Research Group](#) at Purdue University | 2023- Present
- Conference Organizer [%100 Deleuze Symposium](#), Ankara | 2025
- Referee for *Body & Society*
- Undergraduate conference organizer and reviewer | Purdue University | 2024 & 2025
- A contributor of [Phil-Free Community](#)

## ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

- [Spinoza Circle in Turkey](#)
- APA Eastern Division