

Ümit Ege Atakan

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EDUCATION

University of St Andrews, St Andrews and Stirling Graduate Programme (SASP) 2025- Present

Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Philosophy

MPhil Thesis (40,000 words) (in Progress): *on the 'Logicality of Modal Operators'*

Supervisors: *Dr. Alessandro Rossi, Prof. Franz Berto*

Koç University, College of Social Sciences and Humanities 2020 – 2025

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, *first of the class, second of the faculty (summa cum laude)*

Graduated with an area GPA of 4.0 / 4.0, and a cumulative GPA of 3.96 / 4.0

Koç University, College of Social Sciences and Humanities 2020 – 2025

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, *second of the faculty (summa cum laude)*

Graduated with an area GPA of 3.93 / 4.0, and a cumulative GPA of 3.96 / 4.0

Koç University, College of Administrative Sciences and Economics 2020-- 2025

Track Certificate [Equivalent to a Minor] Programme in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE)

Graduated with an area GPA of 4.0 / 4.0, and a cumulative GPA of 3.96 / 4.0

Ludwig Maximilian University (MCMP), Munich Autumn 2023

Erasmus Exchange Student

STATEMENT OF RESEARCH INTERESTS

My primary research interests are in the *philosophy of logic*. I am interested in the demarcation problem of logicality. Currently, I am working on the logicality of modal operators with a focus on normal modal logics interpreted in Kripke semantics. In my future work, I hope to explore the logicality of operators in non-normal modal logics (interpreted in more general semantics than Kripke semantics, such as the neighborhood semantics) and see what different notions of structural invariance yield as a result. In this regard, I am particularly curious to explore the potentials of bisimulation invariance.

My secondary interests are in the *philosophy of mathematics* and *metaphysics*, broadly construed. Finally, I enjoy reading and thinking about the issues in the *philosophy of mind* and *phenomenology*, especially about conscious experience.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Under Review

[1] Atakan, Ümit Ege. 2026. 'Bivalence is the Culprit: Intuitionism Can Help Us Avoid "Moral Confusion" and "Moral Inertia" in the Presence of Vague Moral Predicates'. **Under Review at *Thought: A Journal of Philosophy*.**

[2] Atakan, Ümit Ege. 2026. 'Reconciling Indispensability with Pluralism: A Modified Indispensability Argument for Pluralist Mathematical Realism'. **Under Review at *Erkenntnis*.**

Major Publications

- [3] Atakan, Ümit Ege. 2024. 'A Merleau-Pontian Critique of Sartrean Philosophy of Negation.' *Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy* 32, no. 1/2: 110–120. Available [here](#).

Other Publications

- [4] Atakan, Ümit Ege. 2025. 'What Is A Logical Notion?: Invariance Under Potential Isomorphisms and its Extension to Modal Logic.' *Logos: The Undergraduate Journal of Philosophy at Cornell University* 21: 65-74. Available [here](#).
- [5] Atakan, Ümit Ege. 2025. 'I Do Not Exist, Never Existed, and Shall Never Exist.' *Prokopton: Undergraduate Journal of Philosophy at Bilkent University* 6: 21-28. Available [here](#).
- [6] Atakan, Ümit Ege. 2023. 'How is Sociological Knowledge Possible? Influences of Kantian Epistemology in Max Weber's "Verstehende Soziologie" and the Problem of Objectivity.' *Reinvention: an International Journal of Undergraduate Research* 16, no. 1: 58–72. Available [here](#).
- [7] Atakan, Ümit Ege. 2022. 'Ontological Understanding of Truth, Perspective and Morality in Nietzsche the Anti-Relativist.' *Aletheia: Texas A&M Journal of Undergraduate Philosophy* 6: 27–37. Available [here](#).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

[1] University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Nineteenth Annual Cambridge Graduate Conference on Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic.

Presentation Title: 'What Is A Logical Notion?: Invariance Under Potential Isomorphisms and its Extension to Modal Logic'

24-25 January 2026

[2] Vilnius University, Lithuania

3rd International Conference in Logic and Philosophy.

Presentation Title: 'Going Beyond the Logicality Orthodoxy: An Attempt to Extend First-Order Invariance to Modal Bisimulations Using Potential Isomorphisms'

22-23 May 2026

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey

As an Undergraduate Teaching Assistant:

- PHIL 338: Philosophy of Mind
- EQUR 121: Introduction to Symbolic Logic

(*Empirical and Quantitative Reasoning Core Program*)

Spring 2025

Autumn 2021 – Spring 2023

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Philosophy Memorial Fund Research Prize, University of St Andrews
- Deans' List Award for Academic Excellence, University of St Andrews

June 2026

2025 – 2026

(granted each academic year for students with a credit-weighted mean of 16.5 or above [Distinction])

- Second Ranking Student Award in CSSH Faculty, Koç University Spring 2025
- Top Ranking Student Award in Sociology, Koç University Spring 2025
- Erasmus Study Mobility Grant, Koç University Autumn 2023
- Fiat Italia Summer Study Abroad Grant, Koç University Summer 2023
- Vehbi Koç Scholar Award for five consecutive academic years, Koç University 2020 – 2025

(granted each academic semester for students with a SPA greater than 3.75/4.00)

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Koç University. *Ergon: An Undergraduate Philosophy Journal*, Editorial Board Member. 2021 – 2023

OTHER SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Languages: Turkish (Native), English (Fluent), Italian (Fluent), German (B1)

Computer: MS Office Programmes, IBM SPSS, LaTeX.

Other Interests: Theatre.

In my earlier life, I was a semi-professional actor. Between 2016 and 2018, I performed on stages throughout Istanbul, Turkey. During my high school years, I published articles on theatre theory. I wrote about diverse acting methods, especially those of Stanislavski, Brecht, and Grotowski.

REFERENCES

Zeynep Direk

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