

Aran Arslan

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Philosophy, Boğaziçi University
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AOS: Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of AI (Mechanistic Interpretability), Philosophy of Science

AOC: Epistemology, Logic, Semantics, Cognitive Science, Kant's Theoretical Philosophy, Medical Ethics, Metaethics

Employment

Kadir Has University, Core Program Instructor & Lecturer	2026–Present
Bahçeşehir University, Faculty of Medicine Instructor & Lecturer	2025–Present
Boğaziçi University, Department of Philosophy Instructor & Lecturer	2022–Present
Boğaziçi University, Department of Philosophy Research Assistant (TÜBİTAK 2232 International Fellow)	2019–2022
Koç University, Department of Philosophy Teaching Assistant & Lecturer	2016–2019

Education

Boğaziçi University PhD Philosophy (Advisor: Prof. Stephen Voss) <i>Dissertation: Propositional Attitudes and Their Contents in the Midst of the De Se</i> Introduces <i>almost-impossible</i> and <i>almost-necessary propositions</i> within a modified Lewisian centered-worlds semantics to solve the communication problem for de se thought: how essentially perspectival first-person thoughts can be transmitted between speakers without misascription.	2019–2025
Boğaziçi University MA Philosophy <i>Thesis: A Critique of Hintikka's Reconstruction of Kantian Intuition in Logical and Mathematical Reasoning</i>	2014–2019
University of Barcelona — APHIL Program Graduate coursework with Tyler Burge, Manuel-Garcia Carpintero, Genoveva Marti, Stathis Psillos, Jose Diez	2011–2013
Koç University BS Physics	2003–2009

Research Fellowship

Supervised Program for Alignment Research (SPAR)

Sep 2025–Jan 2026

Research Fellow in Mechanistic Interpretability / Philosophy of AI

Mentor: Kola Ayonrinde, UK AI Security Institute

SPAR Project: Foundations for a Realist Interpretability: Applying the No Miracles Argument and Theories of Representation to AI

Co-authored a paper arguing that the predictive and explanatory success of Mechanistic Interpretability constitutes evidence for genuine representational structure in neural networks.

Publications

Journal Articles:

'Cohen's convention, the seriousness of errors, and the body of knowledge in behavioral science' (with Frank Zenker). *Synthese* 204, 163, 2024.

'Kant's Transcendental Theory of Moral Psychology Within Sellars' Manifest Image'. *The Journal of Kant Studies in Turkey* 1(1), 2022.

'Semantics through Reference to the Unknown'. *Croatian Journal of Philosophy* XVII(48), 2017.

Book Chapter and Translation:

'100 Turkish Philosophers in the 100th Anniversary of The Republic: An Investigation on İlhan İnan's Philosophy'. Book chapter (in Turkish). Philosophy Association of Turkey, 2024.

Translation, *The Philosophy of Curiosity* (Routledge, 2012) by İlhan İnan. Koç University Press, forthcoming 2026.

Manuscripts Under Review

'Foundations for a Realist Mechanistic Interpretability: Applying the No Miracles Argument to AI' (with Kola Ayonrinde). *Philosophical Studies*.

'Burge's Perceptual Anti-Individualism and the Limitation Problem'. *BeytülHikme*.

'Improvement of the Medical Ethics Education for Competence of Medical and Nursing Students' (with Kadircan H. Keskinbora). *Journal of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine*.

Work in Progress

'The Problem of Communication in De Se Thoughts' (in preparation)

'Counterpart-Theoretic Semantics for Counterfactual De Se Propositions' (in preparation)

'Propositional Interpretability of Neural Network Representations' (in preparation)

Presentations

- 'A Conflict Between Lewis's Account of De Se and Counterpart Theory'
1st National Logic Symposium, Pamukkale University, November 2025
- 'A Critique of Hintikka's Reconstruction of Kantian Intuition'
Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, October 2025
- 'The Problem of Communication in De Se Thoughts'
Boğaziçi University Colloquium Series, May 2024
- 'The Problems of Hintikka's Reconstruction of the Kantian Intuition'
Kant is 300 Years Old! Symposium, Mersin University, May 2024
- 'Cohen's Error Rates and the Body of Scientific Knowledge'
POND Workshop, Boğaziçi University, September 2022
- 'Semantics through Reference to the Unknown'
3rd International Gülnar Scientific & Cultural Events, August 2018
- 'The Problems of Hintikka's Reconstruction of Kantian Intuition'
LOGOS Graduate Conference, University of Barcelona, June 2018
- 'Semantics through Reference to the Unknown'
1st METU Young Academicians Meta-Philosophy Conference, April 2017
- 'Have I just stumbled on a new semantic distinction?'
LOGOS Graduate Conference, University of Barcelona, June 2016
- 'Scientific Realism: A Case Study: Caloric Theory of Heat'
LOGOS Graduate Conference, University of Barcelona, May 2012

Teaching

As Sole Instructor:

Mind and Artificial Intelligence (Kadir Has University, Spring 2026)
Philosophy of Medicine (Bahçeşehir University, Spring 2026)
Foundations of Medical Ethics (Bahçeşehir University, Fall 2025)
Philosophy of Language (Boğaziçi University, Summer 2025)
Informal Logic (Boğaziçi University, Summer 2024 & 2025)
De Se Thoughts — advanced seminar (Boğaziçi University, Fall 2022)

As Invited Lecturer:

Arab-Islamic Influence on the West — Turkish Music (NYU Shanghai, Fall 2023)

As Teaching Assistant (Koç University, 2016–2019):

Introduction to Philosophy, Deductive Logic, Symbolic Logic, Epistemology, Ancient Philosophy, Rationality & Irrationality, Critical Thinking, Curiosity

Research Grants

TÜBİTAK 2232 — International Fellowship for Outstanding Researchers 2019–2022

Grant: €680,000 | Supervisor: Dr. Frank Zenker

Project: Models, Theories, Research Programs (MTR), Boğaziçi University

TÜBİTAK 2214/A — Abroad PhD Research Grant 12 months

Grant: €20,400 | Supervisor: Prof. Manuel Garcia Carpintero

Project: Propositional Attitudes and Their Contents in the Midst of the De Se, LOGOS
Barcelona

Awards and Funding

TÜBİTAK 2232 International Fellowship for Outstanding Researchers (2019–2025)

Travel Grant, LOGOS Graduate Conference, Koç University (2018)

Travel Grant, LOGOS Graduate Conference, Boğaziçi University (2016)

Full Scholarship, Koç University (2003–2009)

Professional and Departmental Service

Refereeing for publication:

Foundations of Science; Argumentation; Cognitive Science; Frontiers in Psychology

Other service:

Volunteer Editor, PhilPapers.org

Translator, Turkish edition of The Philosophy of Curiosity (Routledge) by İlhan İnan (Koç
University Press, forthcoming 2026)

Organizer, Reading Group on İlhan İnan's The Philosophy of Curiosity, Boğaziçi University (Fall
2015)

Member, Logic Association in Turkey

International Research Collaborations

Supervised Program for Alignment Research (SPAR)

LOGOS Research Group, University of Barcelona

Languages

Turkish (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Intermediate)

References

Available upon request.