

ZEYNEP OGUZ

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University of Lausanne
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2021 – present **Senior Postdoctoral Researcher**
Social and Cultural Anthropology Lab
University of Lausanne
- 2019 – 2021 **Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Humanities**
Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities
Northwestern University
- 2019 – 2021 **Postdoctoral Fellow in Anthropology**
Department of Anthropology
Northwestern University

EDUCATION

- 2012 – 2019 **PhD** Anthropology, The Graduate Center at the City University of New York.
PhD Thesis: “Sedimenting Territory: A Political Geology of Oil, Earth, and Spatial Politics in Turkey.”
Advisor: Gary Wilder
Committee Members: Mandana E. Limbert, Melissa Checker, Julie Livingston
- 2012 – 2016 **MPhil** Anthropology, The Graduate Center at the City University of New York.
- 2009 – 2011 **MA** Sociocultural Anthropology, Columbia University.
- 2005 – 2009 **BA** Sociology, Boğaziçi University.

PUBLICATIONS

MONOGRAPH

In Progress *Unsettling Grounds: Indeterminate Oil, State Power, and Earth Politics in Turkey*

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Under Review “Earth, Disjointed: Temporalities of War, Extraction, and Lithic Solidarity.”
Environmental Humanities. Special Issue: “Earth as Praxis” (Zeynep Oguz and Jerome Whittington, eds.).
- Revised and Resubmitted “The Speculative Underground: Petro-Politics, Territorial Imaginaries, and the Indeterminate Earth.” *Cultural Anthropology*.
- Forthcoming “Managing Oil Theft: Technomaterial Relations in Turkey’s Kurdistan.”
Journal of Cultural Economy.

2021 "Cavernous Politics: Geopower, Territory, and the Kurdish Question in Turkey" *Political Geography* 85.

BOOK CHAPTERS, ESSAYS, OTHER WRITING

Forthcoming "Catastrophic Formations: Political Cosmologies of the Great Flood in the Mountains of Anatolia," in *New Earth Histories*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Forthcoming "Tectonics," In *An Anthropogenic Table of Elements*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Forthcoming Book Review: "*The Book of Unconformities: Speculations on Lost Time*. Hugh Raffles. New York: Pantheon Books, 2020. 374pp." *American Anthropologist*.

Forthcoming "Speculative Matters: The Past and Presents of Oil in Turkey," In *Life Worlds of Oil in the Middle East*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

2021 "[Harnessing Indeterminacy: The Technopolitics of Hydrocarbon Prospects](#)." Platypus, July 20.

2020 "[The Unintended Consequences of Turkey's Quest for Oil](#)." *Middle East Report*, 296, October 13.

2020 "[Introduction: Geological Anthropology](#)." *Theorizing the Contemporary, Fieldsights, Cultural Anthropology*. September 22.

2020 "[Continental Collision](#)." *Theorizing the Contemporary, Fieldsights, Cultural Anthropology*. September 22.

SELECTED MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2021-2022 Post-PhD Research Grant. Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.

2019-2020 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies (declined)

2016-2017 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (#1624210), National Science Foundation.

2016-2017 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (#9265), Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.

INVITED PAPER PRESENTATIONS

2021 "Managing Oil Theft: Technomaterial Relations in Turkey's Kurdistan. *Kaçak: Forms of Informality and Commodity in Modern Turkey*. Centre for Spatial Justice, Istanbul, September 22-24

2021 "Turkey's Extractivist Frontiers: Militarized geographies of Oil and Gas in Anatolia and the Eastern Mediterranean Sea." *Cultures of Energy IX: New Directions in the Energy Humanities Symposium*. Rice University, May 27-28.

2021 "Geo-Politics of Oil: Political Ecologies of Petro-Nationalism, Territoriality, and Kurdish Dissent in Turkey." *Kaplan Conversation*, Northwestern University, March 3.

- 2020 “Managing Oil Theft: Technomaterial Relations in Turkey’s Kurdistan. *Kaçak: Forms of Informality and Commodity in Modern Turkey. A Virtual Symposium of Ethnography.* Northwestern University, November 14.
- 2020 “The Kurdish Question: Borders, Territories, and Statelessness.” Northwestern University. 13 January.
- 2015 Inanimate Life: Rocks, Time, and Geological Practice at Turkey's Mineral Research and Exploration Institute.” Science Studies Research Group (SSRG), Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

PODCAST INTERVIEWS

- 2021 Guest, The Lausanne Project Podcast, [Fueling Speculation](#), October 29.
- 2020 Host, Environmental Humanities Podcast, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.
[“Ashley Dawson on Climate Justice and Reclaiming the Energy Commons.”](#) October 20.
- 2020 Guest, Keyman Podcast, Keyman Modern Turkish Studies Program at Northwestern University.
[“Zeynep Oguz: COVID-19 and Oil in the Eastern Mediterranean, An Environmental Humanities Perspective.”](#) September 28.
- 2020 Host, Environmental Humanities Podcast, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.
[“Jerry Zee on Sand, Dust, and Sandstorms in China.”](#)

CONFERENCES AND PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

- 2021 “The Oceanic Frontier: Offshore Gas Fields, Extractivism, and Geo-Political Futures in a Divided Cyprus.” American Anthropological Association (AAA) Meeting, Baltimore, November 17-21.
- 2021 “Temporalities of Expiration, Expansion, and Excess in Turkey’s Oilfields.” The Material Life of Time: Second International Temporal Belongings Conference. March 15-17.
- 2019 “Catastrophic Formations: Political Cosmologies of the Great Flood in the Mountains of Anatolia.” New Earth Histories Conference, UNSW, Sydney. December 5.
- 2019 “Lithospheric Beings: Elemental Politics in Turkey.” Australian Anthropological Society (AAS) Meeting, Canberra. December 2.
- 2019 Session Convener: “Geological Anthropology.” Individual Paper title: “Geo-Political Collisions: How Plate Tectonics Becomes Political in Turkey’s Oilfields and Battlefields,” American Anthropological Association Meeting (AAA), Vancouver. November 24.
- 2019 “Earth Worlds: Plate Tectonics as an Elemental Process.” Society for the Social Studies of Science Meeting (4S), New Orleans. September 5.
- 2019 “Violent Geologies: Battlefields and Oilfields in Turkey’s Kurdistan.” Life-Worlds of Oil in the Middle East Workshop, NYU Abu Dhabi. April 16.

- 2019 “Violent Geologies: Battlefields and Oilfields in Turkey’s Kurdistan.” Energy and the Left Workshop, New York University, New York. March 30.
- 2018 “Decomposing Futures: Time, Work, and ‘Political Decay’ in Turkey’s Oilfields.” American Anthropological Association (AAA) Meeting, San Jose. November 16.
- 2018 Matters of Conspiracy: Oil Prospects, Geological Knowledge, and Temporality in Turkey.” Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth Annual Conference, Oxford University, Oxford. 19 September.
- 2018 “Violent Collisions: Geology, Oil, and Subterranean Power in Turkey’s Kurdistan.” Serbest Kurdish Studies Conference, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University, Evanston. June 2.
- 2018 “Geological Futures: Life of Oil in the Late Capitalist Colony.” American Association of Geographers (AAG) Meeting, Washington DC. April 12.
- 2017 “Wells of Failure: Oil Exploration, Conspiracy Theory, and Power in Turkey.” Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA) Meeting, Washington DC. November 19.
- 2017 “The Will to Predict: Oil Exploration, Temporality, and the Work of Imagination.” Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Meeting, Barcelona. September 2.
- 2016 Subterranean Futures: Geology, Materiality, and Temporality in Hydrocarbon Exploration in Turkey.” American Association of Geographers (AAG) Meeting, New Orleans. April 2.
- 2015 Unrealized Futures: Geo-Politics of Thorium’s Nuclear Potentiality.” Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Meeting, Denver, CO. November 13.
- 2015 Anticipating Radiance: Imaginaries of Energy Abundance and Power in Turkey.” American Anthropological Association (AAA) Meeting, Denver. November 20.
- 2015 Earth Enacted: Rethinking Fossil Fuels and Climate Change through Geology in Turkey.” Four Field Event: Animal, Vegetable, Mineral: The Environment as Anthropological Subject, The Graduate Center, CUNY. October 9.
- 2015 Common but Differentiated’ Burdens: Questioning Environmental Justice and Historical Responsibility through the Politics of Climate Change in Turkey.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh. March 26.

OTHER GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2018 – 2019 Climate Action Fellowship Center for the Humanities. The Graduate Center, The City University of New York
- 2018 – 2019 Dissertation Year Fellowship Center for Place, Culture, and Politics, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York.
- 2017 – 2018 Writing Across the Curriculum Fellowship, Medgar Evers College, The City University of New York.
- 2017 – 2018 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Committee on Globalization and Social Change. The Graduate Center, The City University of New York.
- 2015 – 2016 Provost’s Pre-Dissertation Summer Research Award. The Graduate Center, The City University of New York.

- 2015 Anthropology Department Summer Fellowship Award. The Graduate Center, The City University of New York.
- 2014 Doctoral Student Research Grant. The Graduate Center, The City University of New York.
- 2012 Enhanced Chancellor's Fellowship. The Graduate Center, The City University of New York.

DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2019 – 2020 Reviewer, Undergraduate Writing and Project Prize, Northwestern University.
- 2013 – 2019 President, Middle Eastern Studies Organization, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York
- 2017 – 2018 Student Representative, Anthropology Department Executive Committee, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York
- 2013 – 2014 Chair, Anthropology Department Elections Committee, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York

SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE

- 2020 – Present Reviewer, *Current Anthropology*
- 2020 – Present Reviewer, *American Ethnologist*
- 2020 – Present Reviewer, *Geophysics*
- 2020 – Present Reviewer, *Cultural Anthropology*.
- 2020 – Present Reviewer, *Society and Space*.
- 2020 – Present Reviewer, *YILLIK*.
- 2019 – Present Reviewer, *American Ethnologist*.
- 2019 – Present Reviewer, Spatial Justice Centre (*MAD*) Journal.
- 2018 – Present Mentor, Society for Social Studies of Science Mentorship Program.
- 2018 – 2019 Mentor, American Anthropological Association (AAA) Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing (CASTAC) Mentor-Mentee Program.

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

- 2019 Anthropocene River Campus: The Human Delta. Organized by HKW Berlin and the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Tulane University, New Orleans
- 2019 New Earth Histories Writing Retreat. New Earth Histories Working Group, UNSW.
- 2019 The Life Worlds of Middle Eastern Oil Workshop, NYU Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi.
- 2019 Energy and the Left Workshop, NYU, New York
- 2018 Writing Slow Disaster in the Anthropocene Workshop. Drexel University, Philadelphia.
- 2017 Anthropocene Campus Philadelphia. Organized by HKW Berlin and the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Drexel University, Philadelphia

TEACHING

COURSE DESIGN AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2021 Department of Anthropology and the Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.
Instructor (Spring). HUM 370-3-30 / ANTHRO 390-0 / ENVR_POL 390-0
“Becoming Planetary: Earth, Power, Imagination”
Lecture/discussion course. 15 students.
- 2021 Department of Anthropology and the Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.
Instructor (Spring). HUM 370-3-20 / ANTHRO 390-0 / ENVR_POL 390-0
“Fire and Blood: Political Ecologies of the Environment, Energy, and Life”
Lecture/discussion course. 15 students.

- 2020 Department of Anthropology and the Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.
Instructor (Winter). HUM 370-3-20 / ANTHRO 390-0-24 / ENVR_POL 390-0-20
 “Fire and Blood: Resources, Energy, and Society.”
 Lecture/discussion course. 17 students.
- Department of Anthropology and the Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.
Instructor (Spring). HUM 370-3-20 / ANTHRO 390-0-24 / ENVR_POL 390-0-20
 “Earth Politics and Poetics: Knowing, Shaping, and Imagining the Planet.”
 Lecture/discussion course. 16 students.
- 2016 Department of Anthropology, Brooklyn College.
Instructor (Fall). CORC 3208: Cultures in Transformation I
 Lecture/discussion course. 50 Students.
- Department of Anthropology, Brooklyn College.
Instructor (Spring). CORC 3209: Cultures in Transformation II
 Lecture/discussion course. 50 Students.
- 2015 Department of Anthropology, Brooklyn College.
Instructor (Fall). CORC 3208: Cultures in Transformation I
 Lecture/discussion course. 50 Students.
- Department of Anthropology, Brooklyn College.
Instructor (Spring). CORC 3209: Cultures in Transformation II
 Lecture/discussion course. 50 Students.
- 2014 Department of Anthropology, Brooklyn College.
Instructor (Fall). CORC 3208: Cultures in Transformation I
 Lecture/discussion course. 2 sections, 100 Students.
- Department of Anthropology, Brooklyn College.
Instructor (Spring). CORC 3209: Cultures in Transformation II
 Lecture/discussion course. 2 sections, 100 Students.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

- 2020 – present Attended “Teaching Certificate Program,” Northwestern University Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching, 20 September-30 November.
- 2020 Attended “Enacting Equity and Inclusion” Workshop, The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, Northwestern University, October 14.
- 2020 Attended “Social Science Data for Research”, Northwestern University Library, 15 May.
- 2017 Attended “Introduction to SPSS,” The Graduate Center, CUNY, 20 October.
- 2017 Attended “Writing Fellows Professional Development Workshop II”, Hostos Community College, CUNY, 20 October.
- 2017 Attended “Writing Fellows Professional Development Workshop,” Hostos Community College, CUNY, 23 August.
- 2013 Attended “Pedagogical Training Workshop II,” The Graduate Center, CUNY, 14 May.
- 2013 Attended “Pedagogical Training Workshop I,” The Graduate Center, CUNY, 20 March.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Social Studies of Science
STS IstanbulLab
STS Underground
American Anthropological Association
Anthropology and Environment Society
Society for Cultural Anthropology
American Ethnological Society
Middle Eastern Studies Association
American Association of Geography
Political Geography Specialty Group
Political Ecology Network
Political Ecology Working Group
Anthropocene Curriculum
Spatial Justice Centre (MAD)

LANGUAGES

Turkish (Native)
English (Fluent)
Kurdish (Basic)
German (Basic)

REFERENCES

Mark Goodale, Current Supervisor, mark.goodale@unil.ch
Gary Wilder, Advisor, gwilder@gc.cuny.edu, +1 (323) 496-2694
Julie Livingston, Dissertation External Reader, jl6877@nyu.edu, +1 (212) 998-8265
Mandana Limbert, Dissertation Committee Member, Mandana.Limbert@qc.cuny.edu, +1 (718) 997-5526
Nigel Clark, Colleague, n.clark2@lancaster.ac.uk
Ashley Dawson, Colleague, Ashley.Dawson@csi.cuny.edu