

VASFİ ONUR ÖZEN

LAST UPDATE: MARCH 30, 2026 • WWW.VASFIOZEN.COM •  : 0000-0002-7621-4481

EMPLOYMENT (* = ALL LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION IS ENGLISH)

Habib University* , Karachi	
Global Postdoctoral Fellow in Comparative Humanities	July 21, 2025–
Koç University* , İstanbul	
Full-Time Regular Lecturer in Academic Writing	February 1, 2024–July 31, 2025
Middle East Technical University* , Ankara	
Part-Time Lecturer of Philosophy	October 2, 2023–January 29, 2024
Boğaziçi University* , İstanbul	
Part-Time Lecturer of Philosophy	September 27, 2023– January 22, 2024
College of Saint Mary , Omaha, Nebraska	
Full-Time Visiting Lecturer of Philosophy	August 1, 2022–May 26, 2023

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Kansas	
Philosophy, Honors	May 15, 2022
Dissertation: <i>On willing and the phantasy of empathy</i>	
Chair: Scott Jenkins	
Committee: Bradford Cokelet, Jason Raibley, Sarah Robins, Ari Linden	
M.A. University of Kansas	
Philosophy, Honors	May 14, 2017
M.A. Katholieke Universiteit Leuven , Belgium	
Philosophy, <i>cum laude</i>	February 26, 2014
B.A. Katholieke Universiteit Leuven , Belgium	
Philosophy, <i>cum laude</i>	July 10, 2012
B.Sc. Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg , Germany	
Business-Economics	February 11, 2011

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

European Philosophy, Moral Psychology, Philosophy of Action

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Business Ethics, Economics & Ethics, Meta-Ethics, Normative Ethics, Philosophy of Mind (Bodily Awareness, Self-Knowledge, Theories of Consciousness), Social & Political Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

4. **"Schopenhauer on Inner Awareness and World-Understanding"**

British Journal for the History of Philosophy

Vol. 31, Issue 5, February 2023: 1005–1027.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/09608788.2023.2169656>

3. **"Nietzsche's Compassion"**

Nietzsche-Studien: Internationales Jahrbuch für die Nietzsche-Forschung
Vol. 50, Issue 1, August 2021: 244-274.
<https://doi.org/10.1515/nietzstu-2021-0010>

2. **"Nietzsche's Theory of Empathy"**

Philosophical Papers
Vol. 50, Issue 1-2, July 2021: 235-280.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/05568641.2021.1938649>

1. **"The Ambiguity in Schopenhauer's Doctrine of the Thing-in-Itself"**

The Review of Metaphysics: A Philosophical Quarterly
Vol. 74, Issue 294, December 2020: 251-288.
<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/774870>

Book Reviews

2. **"David Bather Woods and Timothy Stoll (eds.), The Schopenhauerian Mind" (Routledge, 2025)**

Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews
<https://ndpr.nd.edu/reviews/the-schopenhauerian-mind/>

1. **"Anas Karzai, Nietzsche and Sociology: Prophet of Affirmation" (Rowman and Littlefield, 2019)**

The Agonist: A Nietzsche Circle Journal
Vol. 16, Issue 1, July 2022: 53-58
<https://journals.tplondon.com/agonist/article/view/2787>

Public Writing

1. **"The legacy of Schopenhauer's metaphysics"**

The Official Blog of the American Philosophical Association, Sep. 2020.
<https://blog.apaonline.org/2020/09/24/the-legacy-of-schopenhauers-metaphysics/>

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (* = REFEREED)

"Nietzsche's pathos of distance and the limits of democratic compatibility"
Lisbon Nietzsche Group Workshop* May 2026
The NOVA Institute of Philosophy, NOVA University Lisbon, Portugal

"A work-in-progress exploring the compatibility of democracy with self-cultivation"
King's and Nova Nietzsche Seminar* November 2025
King's College London

<p>“Self- and World-Understanding in Schopenhauer” The Society for European Philosophy, Conference 2023, Budapest* (held online)</p>	<p>July 2023</p>
<p>“Schopenhauer on Inner Awareness and World-Understanding” Online Schopenhauer Working Group: Inaugural Meeting North American Division of the Schopenhauer Society (invited)</p>	<p>March 2023</p>
<p>“Introspection and Self-knowledge in Schopenhauer” Central APA: Symposium* The Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois</p>	<p>February 2022</p>
<p>“A Theory of Supra-Cultural Reflexivity” North American Society for Social Philosophy, 38th Annual Conference* (held online due to Covid-19)</p>	<p>July 2021</p>
<p>“Nietzsche’s Theory of <i>Mitempfindung</i>” European Phil. Society for the Study of Emotions, 8th Annual Conference* (held online)</p>	<p>June 2021</p>
<p>“Reflexivity in migrant identity formation” Intl. Migration, Integration & Social Cohesion in Europe Workshop* (held online)</p>	<p>April 2021</p>
<p>“Nietzsche on mimicry, alliance, and the phantasy of empathy” Central APA: Symposium* New Orleans, Louisiana (held online due to Covid-19)</p>	<p>February 2021</p>
<p>“Nietzschean Compassion” Eastern APA: Symposium* New York City, New York (held online due to Covid-19)</p>	<p>January 2021</p>
<p>“On the Contingency vs Universality of Compassion” Central APA: North American Schopenhauer Society Conference* The Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois</p>	<p>March 2016</p>

COMMENTARIES

<p>“Anger: Scary Good,” Samuel Reis-Dennis Eastern APA: Moral Psychology Colloquium Savannah, Georgia (invited)</p>	<p>January 2018</p>
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SESSION ORGANIZER / CHAIR

Organizer, "Character: What is it, how good are we, and how can we become better?" Christian B. Miller Habib University, Karachi	April 2026
Chair, "Nebraska High School Ethics Bowl" University of Nebraska, Omaha (invited)	January 2023
Chair, "Love in the Deepest Sense," Joel Van Fossen The North American Nietzsche Society Brown University	October 2022
Chair, "Capitalism vs. Solidarity," Session 3 North American Society for Social Philosophy: Revolutions and Reparations (held online)	July 2021

AWARDS AND GRANTS

HU Global Fellow Research Grant Habib University, Office of Research	October 2025
Faculty Conference Travel Grant College of Saint Mary, Faculty Professional Development Committee	November 2022
Doctoral Travel Stipend Award for Symposium Presentation The American Philosophical Association	November 2021
The Olin Templin Summer Research Award University of Kansas, Department of Philosophy	May 2021
Robinson Essay, Prize Winner Department-wide essay contest University of Kansas, Department of Philosophy	April 2019
Summer Research Scholarship Competitive, university-wide, summer research grant University of Kansas, The Office of Graduate Studies	March 2018
The Olin Templin Fellowship Conference Travel Grant University of Kansas, Department of Philosophy (x4)	February 2016,2017,2018,2022
International Summer Research Award Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany	April 2016

Summer Research Travel Grant
University of Kansas, Office of International Programs

April 2016

Conference Travel Grant
University of Kansas, Office of Graduate Studies

October 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Habib University

As Instructor of Record

PHIL 3XX: What are we? Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology, Fall 2026

PHIL 211: Who are you? Character and Philosophical Psychology, Spring 2026

CORE 102: What is Modernity? (Seminar), Spring 2026

CORE 111: Logical Problem-Solving, Fall 2025

CORE 101: Rhetoric & Communication (Seminar), Fall 2025

Koç University

As Instructor of Record

Academic Writing 101 (Theme: Robophilosophy), Fall 2024, Spring 2025

Academic Writing 101 (Theme: Economic Ethics), Spring 2024

Boğaziçi University

As Instructor of Record

PHIL49J.01: Philosophy of the Will, Fall 2023

Middle East Technical University

As Instructor of Record

PHIL 345: Philosophical Texts III, Fall 2023

College of Saint Mary

As Instructor of Record

PHL 388: 19th C. German Philosophy: Life, Suffering & Meaning, Spring 2023

PHL 335: Business Ethics, Fall 2022, Spring 2023 (semester-long online course)

PHL 310: Philosophy of Women, Fall 2022

PHL 206: Introduction to Philosophy, Spring 2023

PHL 200: Moral Reasoning, Fall 2022

University of Kansas

As Instructor of Record

Moral Issues in Business, Fall 2021 (8-week upper-level online course, x2)

Moral Issues in Sports, Summer 2020 (4-week upper-level online course)

Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy, Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Introduction to Ethics, Summer 2019

Reason and Argument, Spring 2019 (8-week online course, x2)

As Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Ethics, Jason Raibley, Spring 2022 (8-week online course, x2);
Ben Eggleston, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Reason and Argument, John Symons, Fall 2018

Introduction to Philosophy, Erin Frykholm, Fall 2016, Spring 2017

Philosophical Communications, Sarah Robins, Fall 2015, Spring 2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas August 2020–July 2021
Andrew W. Mellon Coordinator of Academic Programs

DEPARTMENTAL / UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Habib University

Committee on Academic Integrity September 2025–
The faculty committee responsible for hearing and deciding all cases
where students are charged with having violated the University's policies
on academic integrity

Koç University

Course Content Review Committee January 2025–May 2025
Involved in reviewing course content and redesigning course materials for
the Academic Writing Program to achieve greater consistency in teaching
and assessment among instructors who are responsible for teaching the
same content

College of Saint Mary

Advisory Committee for the CSM Public Leadership Seminar August 2022–May 2023
A year-long initiative of President Maryanne Stevens' office which
prepares undergraduate students to engage in inclusive dialogue about
the critical issue of women's reproductive health and abortion access

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referring for Journals:

Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review; Filozofia (Slovak Academy of
Sciences); Journal of Philosophical Research; Journal of the History of
Philosophy; The Journal of Nietzsche Studies; The Journal of Value Inquiry; The
Review of Metaphysics: A Philosophical Quarterly; The Southern Journal of
Philosophy

Reviewing Book Submissions:

Brill Academic Publishers (Series: Studies in Existentialism, Phenomenology, &
Hermeneutics)

Indexing:

The Moral Psychology of Guilt

Bradford Cokelet & Corey J. Maley (eds.), Rowman and Littlefield, 2019

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Philosophical Association; European Philosophical Society for the Study of Emotions; North American Division of the Schopenhauer Society; North American Nietzsche Society; North American Society for Social Philosophy

REFERENCES (* = TEACHING REFERENCE)

Bradford Cokelet – Professor

University of Kansas

Department of Philosophy

bradcokelet@ku.edu

Noman Baig* – Associate Professor

Habib University

Comparative Humanities, Social Development and Policy

School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

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Patrick Hassan – Senior Lecturer

Cardiff University

School of English, Communication and Philosophy

School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

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Paul Katsafanas – Professor

Boston University

Department of Philosophy

pkatsa@bu.edu

Scott Jenkins – Professor

University of Kansas

Department of Philosophy

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Associate Editor, *The Journal of Nietzsche Studies*

jenkinss@ku.edu