VASFİ ONUR ÖZEN

LAST UPDATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2026 • WWW.VASFIOZEN.COM • : 0000-0002-7621-4481

EMPLOYMENT (* = ALL LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION IS ENGLISH)

Bilkent University*, Ankara
Lecturer in Academic Writing, Department of Foreign Languages — September 16, 2026–
Habib University*, Karachi
Global Postdoctoral Fellow, Comparative Humanities Program — July 21, 2025–May 20, 2026
Koç University*, İstanbul
Lecturer in Academic Writing — February 1, 2024–July 31, 2025
Middle East Technical University*, Ankara
Lecturer of Philosophy — October 2, 2023–January 29, 2024
Boğaziçi University*, İstanbul
Lecturer of Philosophy — September 27, 2023– January 22, 2024
College of Saint Mary, Omaha, Nebraska
Visiting Lecturer of Philosophy — August 1, 2022–May 26, 2023

EDUCATION

Ph.D. **University of Kansas**
Philosophy, Honors — May 15, 2022
Dissertation: *On willing and the phantasy of empathy*
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, *cum laude* — February 26, 2014

B.A. **Katholieke Universiteit Leuven**, Belgium
Philosophy, *cum laude* — 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

Economics & Ethics, Meta-Ethics, Normative Ethics, Philosophy of Mind, Social & Political Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

1. "**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

2. "**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

3. "**Nietzsche's Theory of Empathy**"
Philosophical Papers
Vol. 50, Issue 1-2, July 2021: 235-280.
https://doi.org/10.1080/05568641.2021.1938649

4. "**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

1. "**David Bather Woods and Timothy Stoll (eds.), The Schopenhauerian Mind" (Routledge, 2025)**
Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews, November 2025
https://ndpr.nd.edu/reviews/the-schopenhauerian-mind/

2. "**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, September 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

"Self- and World-Understanding in Schopenhauer"
The Society for European Philosophy, Conference 2023, Budapest* — July 2023
(held online)

"Schopenhauer on Inner Awareness and World-Understanding"
Online Schopenhauer Working Group: Inaugural Meeting — March 2023
North American Division of the Schopenhauer Society (invited)

"Introspection and Self-knowledge in Schopenhauer"
Central APA: Symposium* — February 2022
The Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois

"A Theory of Supra-Cultural Reflexivity"
North American Society for Social Philosophy, 38th Annual Conference* — July 2021
(held online due to Covid-19)

"Nietzsche's Theory of *Mitempfindung*"
European Phil. Society for the Study of Emotions, 8th Annual Conference* — June 2021
(held online)

"Reflexivity in migrant identity formation"
Intl. Migration, Integration & Social Cohesion in Europe Workshop* — April 2021
(held online)

"Nietzsche on mimicry, alliance, and the phantasy of empathy"
Central APA: Symposium* — February 2021
New Orleans, Louisiana
(held online due to Covid-19)

"Nietzschean Compassion"
Eastern APA: Symposium* — January 2021
New York City, New York
(held online due to Covid-19)

"On the Contingency vs Universality of Compassion"
Central APA: North American Schopenhauer Society Conference* — March 2016
The Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois

COMMENTARIES

"Anger: Scary Good," Samuel Reis-Dennis
Eastern APA: Moral Psychology Colloquium — January 2018
Savannah, Georgia (invited)

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 — October 2022
Brown University

Chair, "Capitalism vs. Solidarity," Session 3
North American Society for Social Philosophy: — July 2021
Revolutions and Reparations
(held online)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

HU Global Fellow Research Grant — October 2025
Habib University, Office of Research

Faculty Conference Travel Grant — November 2022
College of Saint Mary, Faculty Professional Development Committee

Doctoral Travel Stipend Award for Symposium Presentation — November 2021
The American Philosophical Association

The Olin Templin Summer Research Award — May 2021
University of Kansas, Department of Philosophy

Robinson Essay, Prize Winner April 2019
Department-wide essay contest
University of Kansas, Department of Philosophy

Summer Research Scholarship March 2018
Competitive, university-wide, summer research grant
University of Kansas, The Office of Graduate Studies

The Olin Templin Fellowship Conference Travel Grant February 2016,2017,2018,2022
University of Kansas, Department of Philosophy (x4)

International Summer Research Award April 2016
Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany

Summer Research Travel Grant April 2016
University of Kansas, Office of International Programs

Conference Travel Grant October 2015
University of Kansas, Office of Graduate Studies

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Bilkent University

As Instructor of Record
ENG-101: English and Composition I (Theme: Language and Identity), Fall 2026

Habib University

As Instructor of Record
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–May 20, 2026
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; European Journal of Political Theory; 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

Muhammad Haris*
Lecturer
Aga Khan University (based in Karachi, Pakistan)
Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
haris.anwar@aku.edu

Noman Baig*
Associate Professor
Habib University (based in Karachi, Pakistan)
Comparative Humanities, Social Development & Policy
School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
noman.baig@ahss.habib.edu.pk

Patrick Hassan
Senior Lecturer
Cardiff University
School of English, Communication & Philosophy
School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
HassanP1@cardiff.ac.uk

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