

VASFİ ONUR ÖZEN

LAST UPDATE: AUGUST 24, 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 Dissertation: <i>On willing and the phantasy of empathy</i> Chair: Scott Jenkins Committee: Bradford Cokelet, Jason Raibley, Sarah Robins, Ari Linden	May 15, 2022
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

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* (held online)	April 2021
"Nietzsche on mimicry, alliance, and the phantasy of empathy" Central APA: Symposium* New Orleans, Louisiana (held online due to Covid-19)	February 2021
"Nietzschean Compassion" Eastern APA: Symposium* New York City, New York (held online due to Covid-19)	January 2021
"On the Contingency vs Universality of Compassion" Central APA: North American Schopenhauer Society Conference* The Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois	March 2016

COMMENTARIES

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

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 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 September 2025–May 20, 2026
Committee on Academic Integrity
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 January 2025–May 2025
Course Content Review Committee
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 August 2022–May 2023
Advisory Committee for the CSM Public Leadership Seminar
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

Noman Baig*

Associate Professor
Habib University
Comparative Humanities, Social Development & Policy
School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
noman.baig@ahss.habib.edu.pk

Paul Katsafanas

Professor
Boston University
Department of Philosophy
pkatsa@bu.edu

Muhammad Haris*

Former Program Director & Assistant Professor
Habib University
Comparative Humanities
School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
dr.muhammadharishu@gmail.com

Patrick Hassan

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

Scott Jenkins

Professor
University of Kansas
Department of Philosophy
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Associate Editor, *The Journal of Nietzsche Studies*
jenkinss@ku.edu