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Dr. SUKRU NURAL

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EDUCATION

- **PhD TESOL & Applied Linguistics** **University of Leicester, UK.** Jan, 2014
Thesis: EAP teachers' cognitions about lexis teaching in two private universities: an exploratory qualitative study.
- **MA TESOL Studies** **University of Leeds, UK.** Nov, 2007
Thesis: "The Use of Short Stories to Promote Language Skills in English Language Teaching"
- **BA English Language & Literature** **University of Istanbul.** Türkiye, June, 2005
Paper: "A portrait of Tess as an Epitome of Altruism in Thomas Hardy's *Tess of D'Urbervilles*"
- **ELT Certificate** **University of Istanbul.** Türkiye, Aug, 2005
Project: "English Language Materials for Reading & Vocabulary Development"

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2017 - Present **Assistant Professor of EAP & TESOL** **MEF University, Istanbul** – Faculty of Education
Duties/Responsibilities:

- Delivered the following courses with 12-15 hours of teaching load each academic term: Teaching Second Language Reading & Writing, Teaching Second Language Listening & Speaking, Advanced Reading & Writing, Oral Communication, Vocabulary, Applied Linguistics, Language Acquisition, Scientific Research Experience, and Introduction to Linguistics.
- Syllabus design & curriculum development in the School of Education.
- Acted as the head of the Department of English Language Education in 2018-2021.
- Leading the initiative of MEF University English Language Olympics (MEFELO) in 2019-2026.

2015 - Present **Academic Skills Tutor** **Lexisperience Education, UK** – Self-employed Consultant
Duties/Responsibilities:

- Provided Academic English support in translation, proofreading, qualitative research methods, study abroad, language teacher cognition, vocabulary to international students, in-service & pre-service language teachers in the UK and Turkey.

2015-2016 **Post-Doctoral Fellow** **University of Oxford, UK** - Department of Education Centre for Research in English-Medium Instruction (EMI)
Duties/Responsibilities:

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- In collaboration with Prof. Ernesto Macaro, director of the Research Centre for English Medium Instruction (EMI), I explored the academic and specialized vocabulary learning processes of undergraduates at the Departments of International Relations and Business Administration.

2018-2019 English Teacher

Ayazağa Middle School & MEF Bahçeşehir High School, Istanbul

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Taught English at K-12 schools on a part-time basis (6 hours per week), as part of university-school partnership model called “University-within-School.”

2014-2015 EAP/EFL Instructor

Medipol University, Istanbul – Foundation Program

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Taught EAP and general English for 15 hours at the Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Law.
- Undertook research into teacher professional development and teacher language awareness.

2013-2014 EAP Instructor

Galatasaray University, Istanbul – School of Foreign Languages

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Taught EAP for 15 hours per week at the School of Law, Business Administration, Economics, International Relations & Politics, and Media & Communication.

2011-2012 EAP Instructor & Researcher

Sabancı University, Istanbul - School of Languages

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Taught Freshman English course for 10 hours a week: ‘Professional Communication Skills’.
- Observed EAP teachers using the in-house coursebook series: *Beyond the Boundaries, English in an Academic Environment*.

2009-2011 EAP Lecturer

De Montfort University, Leicester, UK – Centre for English Language

Duties/Responsibilities:

- At the Centre for English Language Learning (CELL), as a pre-sessional EAP tutor, prepared international postgraduate students for IELTS, graded exam papers, and provided feedback on academic essays.
- Provided bespoke English language courses for clients e.g. Agusta Westland – RAF project training around 200 helicopter pilots and technicians coming mainly from Algeria.

2007-2008 EAP Lecturer

Kocaeli University, Türkiye – Department of English

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Taught academic listening, short story, and advanced academic writing at undergraduate level at the Department of English Language and Literature.

2005- 2007 English Language Instructor

Dialogue Language Schools, Istanbul

Duties/Responsibilities: Teaching general English to university students at various language schools.

PUBLICATIONS

- Gezer, G. & Nural, S. 2026. On the Semantic Network of Prepositions: the prototypical meanings and extended senses of *by* and *over*. *International Journal of Language Academy*, 14 (1), ...-... DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.29228/ijla.89372>
- Nural, S., Nesi, H. & Cakar, T. (2022). Warning notes in a learners’ dictionary: a study of the effectiveness of different formats. *International Journal of Lexicography*, 35 (4), 449-467, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ijl/ecab033>
- Nural, S. (2018). Vocabulary in an English Medium Instruction context: selection and difficulty. *Rassegna Italiana di Linguistica Applicata (Italian Journal of Applied Linguistics)*, 2-3, 161-185. DOI:

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7312632>

- Nural, S. (2014). "Teaching Synforms (similar lexical forms) in an EAP context". *Theory and Practice in Language Studies*. 4(9), 1753-1762. DOI: <https://10.4304/tpls.4.9.1753-1762>
- Nural, S. (2014). *EAP teachers' cognitions and practices in teaching lexis in two Turkish private universities: an exploratory qualitative study*. Saarbrücken: Lambert.
- Nural, S., Koc, U., Compton, J. (Under review). Is university too late to learn Academic English? A longitudinal quantitative study at a private English-medium university in Turkey.
- Nural, S., Akay, M. and Yuksel, D. (Under review). Undergraduate students' perceptions of the role played by flipped learning in addressing the challenges in English-medium programs.
- Nural, S. (Under review). Teachers' tensions in second language vocabulary pedagogy.

SEMINARS

- Nural, S. (2026). Adapting News Texts for EFL/ESL: A Comparative NLP Analysis of ELT Professional vs. GenAI Versions. AAAL'26 Chicago, USA. March 21-24, 2026.
- Nural, S., Koc, U., Compton, J. 2025. "Is university too late to learn Academic English? A longitudinal quantitative study at a private English-medium university in Turkey". American Educational Research Association (AERA'25), Denver, USA.
- Nural, S. 2024. Undergraduate Students' Perceptions of The Role of Flipped Learning in Addressing Challenges at English-Medium Programs. American Educational Research Association (AERA'24), Philadelphia, USA.
- Nural, S. 2023. Tensions in second language vocabulary pedagogy from the teachers' perspective. 46th National Convention of TESOL SPAIN, 10-12 March, 2023, Madrid.
- Nural, S. 2022. Tensions between vocabulary teaching beliefs and classroom practices: A teacher cognition perspective. International Conference on Language Teacher Psychology: Teachers Matter! Mersin, 5-7 October. Çağ University & Community of Positive Psychology for English Language Teachers.
- Nural, S. 2022. The supportive role of flipped learning (FL) in English-medium-instruction (EMI) programmes: Students' perspective. AAAL 2022, Pittsburgh, USA.
- Nural, S. 2021. Warning notes in a learners' dictionary: a study of the effectiveness of different formats. AAAL 2021 Virtual Conference.
- Nural, S. & Yuksel, D. 2021. Students' views on challenges and contributions of Flipped Learning in an English-taught University. Flipped Learning Post COVID-19: Evolution of the Classroom. 6th Annual International Higher Education Flipped Learning Conference. Virtual Event. 3-4 June
- Nural, S. & Bush, J. 2021. Student teachers' perceptions and beliefs about participating in an online practicum during the COVID-19 pandemic. AAAL 2021 Virtual Conference.
- Nural, S. & Tolu, A.T. 2019. Pre-Service English Language Teachers' Learning Experiences and Perceptions During Their First Practicum. AAAL 2019, Atlanta, USA.
- Nural, S. 2018. Exploring English Teachers' Beliefs about Vocabulary Pedagogy in Preparatory Year Programmes. MITESOL'18 Reaching All Learners. October 26-27, 2018. Eastern Michigan University, USA.
- Nural, S. 2018. EAP Teachers' Cognitions and Practices in Teaching Lexis in Two Turkish Private Universities: An Exploratory Qualitative Study. 6th International Conference on New Trends in English Language Teaching and Testing. 8 Sep 2018. Istanbul.
- Nural, S. 2017. EAP Teachers' Cognitions and Practices in Teaching Lexis in Two Turkish Private Universities. Towards Higher Education (THE) Conference: Bridging the gap. 15 April 2017, Bosphorus University.
- Nural, S. 2016. Teacher beliefs about lexis teaching: Case Studies. University of Oxford Department of Education seminar series. March 1, 2016.

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CONSULTATION & SUPERVISION

- Founding Director of MEFELO (MEF University English Language Olympics)
- Mentor for a MOOC on *FutureLearn: Understanding English Dictionaries*. Coventry University, UK.
- Translation and proofreading for Pladis Global Inc.
- Research Supervision for undergraduate and post-graduate ELT projects.
- Organising member: Fifth International Postgraduate Students Research Conference, School of Education, 2nd July 2009.
- Organising member: Improving Teachers' Learning and Classroom Practices Workshop, Perceptum Education, 12th March 2016.
- Internship clinical supervision: School visits to MEF Bahçeşehir ELT interns for teacher training and supervision purposes.
- Tülay Adalı. 2020. *The effect of different types of exposure to English on pre-school students' success in listening, speaking and vocabulary*. (MEF University Masters in Learning Sciences Dissertation)
- Iftikhar Ahmed (No: 34842). "Effect of Training in Microteaching on the Performance of Prospective Teachers and their Self Efficacy in Teaching". Hazara University, Pakistan.

RELEVANT TRAINING

- English-medium instruction in tertiary education, Üsküdar American Academy. 2020.
- Flipped Learning 3.0 in higher education. MEF Centre for Excellence in Learning & Teaching.
- Blackboard and assessment. MEF Centre for Excellence in Learning & Teaching. 2017.
- Corpus and Language Classrooms, Birmingham University School of English. 2010.
- Content-Based Instruction. By Bill Bowler (Oxford University Press) Oct.2005.
- 'Teacher Knowledge Test' (TKT course) by Mary Spratt, Istanbul, 2005.

WORKSHOPS

- TED Talk-like public speaking performance for 1st year ELT students. 2019.
- Moderating Academic Vocabulary Contest for freshers at university. 2018.
- The distinctive characteristics of language teachers (DIA Academy), April 2017.
- Complexity and Holistic Approaches: Workshop (with Dr. Simon Gieve). School of Education Study School, University of Leicester, 2012.

MEMBERSHIP

- AERA American Educational Research Association
- AAAL American Association for Applied Linguists
- BAAL British Association for Applied Linguists

REFEREES:

Available upon request.
