

William Stroebel
University of Michigan
Associate Professor
Modern Greek and Comparative Literature
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Education

2010-2017	Ph.D. Comparative Literature	University of Michigan
2005-2008	M.A. Comparative Literature	Aristotle University, Greece
2000-2004	B.A. Classics, English (dual major)	Grinnell College

Professional Appointments

Associate Professor, University of Michigan, 2026
Assistant Professor, University of Michigan, 2020-2026
Lecturer, Princeton University, 2019-2020
Postdoctoral Fellow, Princeton University, 2018-2019

Publications

Monograph

[*Literature's Refuge: Rewriting the Mediterranean Bordscape*](#) (Princeton University Press, March 2025).

Reviewed in:

- * *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* 44/1 (May 2026), by Panayiotis Xenophontos
- * *Nesir* no. 10 (2026), by Hilal Bektaş
- * *Mediterranean Historical Review*, 2025 40/2 (Dec. 2025), by Kristina Gedgaudaitė
- * *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 57/3 (Aug. 2025), by Enver Akova

Articles and Book Chapters

- "Toward a Book History of Migration." *Oxford Handbook on Literature and Migration* (forthcoming, early 2026).
- "Cavafy Returns to Turkey." *Cavafy as World Literature*. Bloomsbury, Dec. 2025.
- "Contingent Ruins in Leylâ Erbil's *Remnant*." *Diacritics*, vol. 52, number 3 (Sept. 2025). [Available online](#).
- "Borders, Belonging, and Refugee Memory since the Greco-Turkish War and Population Exchange." Co-authored with Kristina Gedgaudaitė. *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, vol. 40, no. 2 (Oct. 2022): vii-xxxvii. [Available online](#).
- "The Greek Vampire Goes East: Vampirism, Irredentism, and Language Politics in a Karamanli-Turkish Translation of Aristotelis Valaoritis' 'Thanasis Vayas'" *The Sources of Oriental Languages and Literatures* no. 150, vol. 1 (Dec. 2021): 223-256. [Available online](#).
- "Longhand Lines of Flight: Cataloging Displacement in a Karamanli Refugee's Commonplace Book." *PMLA* vol. 136 no. 2 (March 2021): 190-212. [Available online](#).
- "Some Assembly Required: Suspending and Extending the Book with Cavafy's Collections." *Book History* vol. 21 (2018): 278-316. [Available online](#).
- "The Hyphenated Hyphen: Turkish-in-the-Greek-Script American Literature." *Ergon*, 2018. [Available](#)

[online](#).

“Distancing Disaster: Trauma, Medium, and Form in the Greco-Turkish War and Population Exchange.” *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* vol. 32 no. 2, 2014, pp. 253-285. [Available online](#).

Journal Issues Edited

Special Issue of *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, vol. 40, no. 2 (October 2022): *1922—2022: A Century of Border Making and Refugeehood*. [Available online](#).

Book reviews

Kader Konuk. *East West Mimesis*. In *Türkisch-Deutsche Studien Jahrbuch* 2012, pp. 167-9.

Translations

Kosmas Çekmezoğlu. “The Ballad of Kosmas Tsekmezoglou” [Karamanli Turkish to English]. *Karamanlidika Legacies*. Edited by Evagelia Balta, Isis Publishers, 2018, pp. 209-228.

Christos Chrysopoulos. “A Light in the Mouth” [Greek to English]. *Absinthe* vol. 21, 2014, pp. 15-29.

Honors and Awards

- 2026 [Best Book in Mediterranean Studies](#), Mediterranean Seminar
- 2026 [High Commendation in Book History](#), SHARP
- 2023 [Rare Book School Critical Bibliography Essay Prize](#), Honorable Mention
- 2021 [MLA William Riley Parker Prize](#)
- 2019 [ACLA Bernheimer Award](#) for Best Dissertation in the Field of Comparative Literature
- 2019 [ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award](#)
- 2016 Translation Award, Middle East Studies and Contexts for Classics, University of Michigan
- 2011 [Best Graduate Student Essay](#), Modern Greek Studies Association
- 2004 Archibald Award (valedictorian), Grinnell College
- 2004 Seneca Scholarship (outstanding performance in Classics Department), Grinnell College
- 2004 The Selden Whitcomb Prize in Poetry, Grinnell College
- 2003 Phi Beta Kappa Academic Society

Fellowships and Grants

External

- 2018 Rare Book School Director’s Scholarship for Descriptive Bibliography
- 2015 Princeton Library Research Grant (with generous support from the Seeger Center)
- 2013-14 Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (Social Science Research Council)
- 2011 American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT) Summer Grant

Internal

- 2022-23 Institute for the Humanities, Helmut F. Stern Faculty Fellowship
- 2017 Humanities Research Candidacy Fellowship
- 2015-16 Rackham Pre-Doctoral Fellowship
- 2014 Jean Monnet Research Fellowship (from the Center for European Studies)
- 2013-14 Comparative Literature International Research Fellowship (*declined*)

- 2013 Rackham International Research Award
- 2012 Rackham Centennial Summer Research Fellowship
- 2011-12 FLAS Academic Year Fellowship for Serbo-Croatian
- 2011 FLAS Summer Grant for Turkish (*declined*)
- 2010 Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Fellowship
- 2010 FLAS Summer Grant for Turkish

Invited Lectures and Presentations

- 2026 Book Talk at Stanford University (May 11).
- 2026 Book Talk at CUNY Graduate Center (April 24).
- 2026 Book Talk at University of Leiden (March 5).
- 2026 Book Talk at American School of Classics in Athens (March 3).
- 2026 Keynote at CLIFF Conference, University of Michigan (February 20).
- 2026 Book Talk at University of Texas at Austin (February 17).
- 2025 Book Talk at Boğaziçi University (Dec 8).
- 2025 Book Talk at Chania Book Festival, Greece (June 25-29).
- 2025 Book Talk at Emily Apter's "Translation/Transnation at 25." NYU (May 5).
- 2025 Keynote for The Mediterranean Seminar. UIUC (Feb. 28-March 1).
- 2022 "Making Place for Greek Islam." Institute for the Humanities (Nov. 29).
- 2022 "Rewriting the Script." Columbia University (Sept. 30).
- 2022 *Twice a Stranger*. Film screening followed by lecture and Q&A (Sept. 25).
- 2022 Cavafy Summer School. Onassis Foundation. Athens, Greece (July 11-16).
- 2020 "Translating Islamic Piety with Greek Aljamiado." Princeton University (Sept. 14).
- 2019 "Lines of Flight: Karamanli Refugee Literature After 1923." Yale University (March 28).

Conference Papers and Webinars

- "Philology's Borderscape and the Making of Refugee Literatures."
MLA (New Orleans, January 2025).
- "The Mi'rājnāme in Arabic-script Greek."
Modern Greek Studies Association (Princeton, October 2024).
- "The Mediterranean is Dead. Long live the Mediterranean."
American Comparative Literature Association Conference (Montreal, March 2024).
- "Hellenic Debris: Ruins and Ruination in Leyla Erbil's Remnant"
Opening Lecture of *Greek Studies Now Conference*, Durham University, UK (July 2023).
- "1922-2022: A Century of Border Making and Refugeehood"
Webinar (Nov. 9, 2022).
- "After the War was Over: 1922 and its Legacies" (Special Panel)
Modern Greek Studies Association Conference (York, Canada, October 2022)
- "Deported Literature"
Greek Studies Now (Amsterdam, May 2022)
- "Translating Islamic Piety with Arabic-Script Greek"
American Comparative Literature Association Conference (virtual, March 2021)

“Elsewhat: Pluralizing Peninsular Modern Greece with Greek Aljamiado”

Modern Greek Studies in the 21st Century (Oxford, January 2020)

“Thou Shalt Not Read Me: The Greco-Turkish Medium”

American Comparative Literature Association Conference (Georgetown, March 2019)

“Rewriting the Script”

The Mediterranean Seminar (Princeton, March 2019)

“Books Behaving Badly”

Modern Greek Studies Association Conference (Stockton College, Nov. 2017)

“Some Assembly Required: Suspending and Extending the Book with Cavafy’s Collections”

First Annual International Cavafy Summer School: Cavafy in the World (Athens, July 2017)

“A Literature of Lost and Found: Reassembling the Commons in Greece and Turkey”

Modern Language Association (Philadelphia, January 2017)

“Pluralizing Testimonial: Textual Authorities in *Ateşten Gömlek* and ‘Η ιστορία ενός αλχμαλώτου’”

Princeton Seeger Center Graduate Conference in Modern Greek Studies (May 2016)

“What is a Minor Medium?”

American Comparative Literature Association Conference (Harvard, March 2016)

“Testimonial Fiction of the Greco-Turkish War: A Comparative Textual History of Truth-Telling and Myth-Making in the Mediterranean”

Middle Eastern Studies Association Conference (Denver, CO, November 2015)

“Re-Writing Europe or Re-Righting Turkey? Copyright and Authorship in Post-Ottoman Turkey”

American Comparative Literature Association Conference (Seattle, WA, March 2015)

Social Science Research Council Dissertation Workshop (Savannah, GA, March 2015)

“Remembering Objects and Objects Remembering in Greek and Turkish Literature”

International Society for Cultural History (Istanbul, Turkey, September 2013)

“Mediterranean Topographies”

The University of California Mediterranean Studies Multicampus Research Project (Santa Cruz, CA, May 2013)

“Imagined Materialities: A Community of Objects in Ahmet Hamdi Tanpınar’s *Huzur* and Melpō

Axiōtē’s To spiti mou”

American Comparative Literature Association Conference (Brown, March 2012)

“Aping Europe in the Early Greek and Ottoman Novel: The Crisis of Mimesis, Mimicry and National Identity in *Pithikos Xouth* and *Araba Sevdası*”

Modern Greek Studies Association Conference (New York, NY, November 2011)

Teaching Experience

- Literatures of the Mediterranean
(University of Michigan, 2026)
- Graduate Seminar in Ruins Studies
(University of Michigan, 2025)
- Greek Myth and Film

- (University of Michigan, 2025; 2026)
- Travels to Greece
(University of Michigan, 2023)
- East-West Istanbul
(University of Michigan, 2023)
- The Border Crossed Us
(University of Michigan, 2022)
- A Sea of Odysseys: Textual Travels and Transformations Across the Mediterranean
(University of Michigan, 2022)
- Translation and Migration
(University of Michigan, 2021; 2022; 2025)
- Modern Greek Language Instruction
(University of Michigan, 2021 forward)
- Graduate Seminar in Book History
(University of Michigan, 2020)
- Istanbul: City of Doubles
(Princeton University, 2020)
- Modern Greek Language Curriculum: HLS 101 to 107
(Princeton University, 2019-2020)
- Great Books (Section Instructor)
(University of Michigan, 2017)
- Great Performances (Section Instructor)
(University of Michigan, 2016)
- First-year Writing Seminar
(University of Michigan, 2012-2014)
- Latin Instructor
(Upward Bound, University of Minnesota; 2003, 2004)

Professional Service

Modern Greek Studies Association Executive Committee (2023-2029)
 Chair of Transnational Studies Committee, Modern Greek Studies Association (2023-2026)
 Co-Chair of Undergraduate Pedagogy Committee, Modern Greek Studies Association (2023-2026)
 Chair of MGSA Translation Award Committee (2024)
 Membership and Publicity Committee, Modern Greek Studies Association (2021-2023)
 Editorial Assistant for *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* (2018)
 Guest editor of “World Hellenisms,” a special issue of *Absinthe*, vol. 24 (2016-2018)
 Co-Organizer of seminar, “Book Histories from the Margins: Global Pluralities in Print Culture”
 (ACLA, March 2016)

University Service

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Comparative Literature (2025-2027)
 Faculty Leader for Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop “Meditopos” (2023-2026)
 Member of Collegiate Fellowship search committee, Classics DEI (2021)
 Invited and Interviewed Karla Cornejo Villavicencio for the Translate-a-thon Keynote Talk (2021)
 Co-authored Rackham Diversity Ally Grant, Comparative Literature DEI (2021)
 Co-Director of “Modern Greek Encounters,” a Greek Literature Working Group, Princeton (2019)
 Co-Organizer of Hellenic Studies graduate student conference, Princeton (2019)

Related Work Experience

Translator/Interpreter for “KEΘI” (Research Centre for Gender Equality) (Athens, 2009)
Freelance translator (Athens, 2007-2010)

Languages

Modern Greek (near native fluency)
Turkish (near native written fluency; spoken proficiency)
Latin (reading)
Ancient Greek (reading)
French (reading)
Ottoman Turkish (intermediate reading)