

CURRICULUM VITAE

DEMET KAYABAŞI

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CONTACT

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University of Michigan,

Department of Linguistics

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Standard Language Ideology Statement

RESEARCH INTERESTS

(Morpho)syntax, Syntax-Semantics
Interface, Multi-modal language,
Gesture

ORCID ID 0000-0002-8484-7158

EDUCATION

- 2020 – Present Ph.D. in Linguistics, University of Michigan. MI, Ann Arbor
Committee Chair: Assist Prof. Dr. Natasha Abner
- 2017 – 2020 M.A. in Linguistics, Boğaziçi University. İstanbul, Turkey
Thesis: The Causative-Inchoative in Turkish Sign Language and the Age-of-Acquisition Effects on Complex Clauses
- 2013 – 2017 B.A. in Linguistics, Dokuz Eylül University. İzmir, Turkey.

EXPERIENCE

Mentoring, Facilitation, Community Outreach

- 2025F – Present Master's Student Career Development Coordinator Graduate Student Staff Assistant
Developing career development content for master's programs initiative for the Career Center and Rackham webpages, facilitating workshops on career development, providing individual and group consultation to master's students on career development
- 2024F-2025S Engaged Learning Graduate Consultant
Facilitating workshops on community engaged project management and community service learning for graduate and undergraduate student populations
- 2023-2024 Organizing co-chair for Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory 2024 as Graduate Student Research Assistant in Sign Language & Multi-Modal Communication
Lab, PI & Co-chair: Assist. Prof. Dr. Natasha Abner
Coordinating submissions and review assignments, communications with attendees and presenters, coordinating media production agencies, venues, vendors, and rentals, training on-site staff
- 2023 Winter Graduate Student Mentor
Peer support for remote teaching & class observations, Event Organization

Teaching

- 2025 Winter Graduate Student Grader, LING316 Aspects of Meaning by Dr. Lisa Levinson
- 2025W, 2024F Graduate Student Grader, LING315 Introduction to Syntax by Assist. Prof. Dr. Doug Merchant
- 2022 Fall Graduate Student Assistant, LING315 Introduction to Syntax by Assist. Prof. Dr. Natasha Abner
- 2022 Winter Graduate Student Instructor, LING347 Talking Minds by Dr. Lisa Levinson
- 2021 Fall Graduate Student Instructor, LING347 Talking Minds by Dr. Lisa Levinson
- 2021 Fall Guest Lecturer, Syntactic Universals and Sign Languages for LING541 – Syntactic Theory by Assist. Prof. Dr. Ümit Atlamaz
- 2018 Fall Teaching Assistant, LING101 Introduction to Linguistics by Assist. Prof. Dr. Kadir Gökğöz
- 2020 Fall Guest Lecturer, *Sign Languages* module in ANTH-L200 Language and Culture by Sari Alper.

Research

University of Michigan, Department of Linguistics

- 2020F – Present Doctoral Researcher Sign Language & Multi-Modal Communication Lab, PI: Assist. Prof. Dr. Natasha Abner
Fieldwork, data collection, data organization, data analysis, academic writing, academic presentations
- 2022 Summer Graduate Student Research Assistant at the Summer Research Partnership on Creating Problem Sets with Creole, Sign, and Indigenous Languages for Classroom Use in Linguistics
Creating problem sets on selected topics in phonology, semantics, morphology, and syntax with data from Turkish Sign Language

Boğaziçi University, Department of Linguistics

- 2020 Assistant at SIGN-HUB Project, PI: Prof. Dr. Meltem Kelepir
Data organization, video editing
- 2018 – 2020 Project Assistant at the BAP Project “Supporting Sign Language Development of Deaf Children with Hearing Parents through Linguistically-informed Preschool Stories” at Boğaziçi University. (Project Code: 14458). PI: Assist. Prof. Dr. Kadir Gökgöz
Experimental design, creation of visual materials for experiment tasks, data collection, data organization, data analysis, creative writing, and academic writing

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 **Kayabaşı, D. & Gökgöz, K.** The Causative-Inchoative Alternation and Age-of-Acquisition Effects on Multi-predicate Constructions in Turkish Sign Language. *Language Learning and Development*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15475441.2022.2047690>
- 2022 **Kayabaşı, D.** The Emphatic Marker in Turkish: Two Readings. In *Proceedings of the 7th Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic (Tu+7)*, LSA Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.3765/ptu.v7i1.5324>
- 2022 **Kayabaşı, D. & Abner, N.** On The Reflexive KENDİ in Turkish Sign Language. *Frontiers Psychology: Language Sciences -Sign Language Research Sixty Years Later: Current and Future Perspectives*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2022.753455>
- 2020 **Kayabaşı, D., Sevgi, H., Özsoy, S.** Null Arguments in Turkish Sign Language. *Morphological Complexity within and across Boundaries*. In *honour of Aslı Göksel* (Eds. Güner, Aslı, Dilek Uygun-Gökmen and Balkız Öztürk), John Benjamins. <https://doi.org/10.1075/slcs.215.14kay>
- 2018 **Kayabaşı, D. & Özgen, M.** A Phase-Based Account of NPI Licensing in Turkish. *Poznan Studies in Contemporary Linguistics*, 54(1). De Gruyter Mouton. <https://doi.org/10.1515/psicl-2018-0003>
- 2016 Can, Ö. & **Kayabaşı, D.** The {-gA/Iç} and {-I/A}ç} Morphemes in Turkish: A Synchronic Approach to Derivation*. *Dilbilim Araştırmaları*, 2016/1, 17-38. Boğaziçi University Press. <https://doi.org/10.18492/dad.49646>
**Published in Turkish under the title “Türkçede {-gA/Iç} ve {-I/A}ç}Biçimbirimleri:Türetkenlik Çerçevesinde Eşsüremlili Bir Çalışma”.*
- 2015 **Kayabaşı, D. & Can, Ö.,** Contact Linguistics. *Tehlikedeki Diller Dergisi:Türk Dilleri*, vol. 4, 2015/6-7, pp. 7-21 Ankara & Astana. <https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/tdd/issue/44102/543625>

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- (2026) **Kayabasi, D. & Abner, N.** Phrasal Systematicity in Spontaneous Silent Gesture: Observations from Turkish Gesturers (Poster Presentation). *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. New Orleans, Louisiana. United States.
- 2025 **Kayabasi, D. & Abner, N.** Handshape representation strategies among signers and gesturers in Turkey. *Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR15)*. Addis Ababa University. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 2025 **Kayabasi, D. & Abner, N.** Handshape representation strategies among signers and gesturers in Turkey. *Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting*. Philadelphia, PA. United States.
- 2024 **Kayabasi, D. & Abner, N.** Handshape representation strategies for noun and verb targets among signers and gesturers in Turkey. *High Desert Linguistic Society 16*. University of New Mexico. Albuquerque, NM. United States.

- 2022 **Kayabaşı, D.** & Abner, N. The Functions of KENDİ in Turkish Sign Language. *The Seventh Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic. (TU+7)*. University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT. United States.
- 2022 **Kayabaşı, D.** & Abner, N. The Functions of KENDİ in Turkish Sign Language. (Poster presentation). *Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR14)*. National Museum of Ethnology. Osaka, Japan.
- 2022 **Kayabaşı, D.** The Emphatic Marker in Turkish: Two Readings. (Poster presentation). *The Seventh Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic. (TU+7)*. University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT. United States.
- 2021 **Kayabaşı, D.** & Abner, N. On The Syntactic Category of the Reflexive KENDİ in Turkish Sign Language. Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory (FEAST). The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Hong Kong, China.
- 2021 **Kayabaşı, D.** & Gökgöz, K. Valency-alternating Verbs in Turkish Sign Language and Age-of-Acquisition Effects*. *The 34th National Conference of Linguistics*. Middle Eastern Technical University. Ankara, Turkey.
*Presented in Turkish under the title “Türk İşaret Dilinde Geçişli-Geçişsiz Değişkenliği Gösteren Eylemler ve Dil Edinim Yaşı Etkileri”.
- 2020 **Kayabaşı, D.** & Gökgöz, K. The Causative-Inchoative Alternation in Turkish Sign Language and the Age of Acquisition Effects on Complex Clauses. *Chicago Linguistic Society 56 (CLS 56)*. University of Chicago. Chicago, IL. United States.
- 2020 **Kayabaşı, D.** & Gökgöz, K. The Causative-Inchoative Alternation in Turkish Sign Language and the Age of Acquisition Effects on Complex Clauses. *Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory (FEAST)*. Paris, France.
- 2019 Gökgöz, K., Özsoy, S., Sevgi, H., **Kayabaşı, D.**, S., Demirtaş, S., Yiğit, Z. G. The Process of Deaf Children’s Acquiring Signed and Spoken Language*. *The 33rd National Conference of Linguistics*. Mersin University. Mersin, Turkey.
*Presented in Turkish under the title “Sağır Çocuklarda İşaret ve Konuşulan Dil Edinim Süreçleri”.
- 2019 Özsoy, S., Demirtaş, S., Yiğit, Z. G., Sevgi, H., **Kayabaşı, D.**, Gökgöz, K. The Importance of Sign Language Acquisition for Deaf Children*. *The 10th National Congress of Language and Speech Disorders*. Medipol University. İstanbul, Turkey.
*Presented in Turkish under the title “Sağır Çocukların İşaret Dili Edinmesinin Önemi”.
- 2019 **Kayabaşı, D.** & Gökgöz, K. Causative-Inchoative Alternation in Turkish Sign Language. (Poster presentation). *Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research (TISLR13)*. University of Hamburg. Hamburg, Germany.
- 2018 **Kayabaşı, D.** Possessive Raising Subjects versus Partitive Quantifier Subjects in Turkish: Inclusive and Exclusive Readings on The Subject* *The 32nd National Linguistics Conference*. Dokuz Eylül University. İzmir, Turkey
*Presented in Turkish under the title “Türkçede İyelik Yükseltme ve Parçalı Niceleyici Yapıları: Kapsayıcı ve Dışlayıcı Özne Okuması”.
- 2018 **Kayabaşı, D.** Null Subjects in Turkish Sign Language (TID): Pro-Drop or Topic Drop? *The Boğaziçi University Student Conference on Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics (BUSCTEL)*. Boğaziçi University. İstanbul, Turkey.
- 2017 **Kayabaşı, D.**, Özgen M. NPI-Licensing in Turkish: A Phase-Based Mechanism Account*. *The 31st National Linguistics Conference*. Anadolu University. Eskişehir, Turkey.
*Presented in Turkish under the title “Türkçede Olumsuz Kutuplanma Birimlerinin Yetkilendirilmesi: Evre Tabanlı Bir Yaklaşım”.
- 2016 **Kayabaşı, D.** NPI-Licensing in Turkish: A Forgetting-Based Mechanism Account. *The 10th Student Conference of Linguistics*. Dokuz Eylül University. İzmir, Turkey.
- 2016 **Kayabaşı, D.** [The {-gA/Iç} and {-I/A}ç} Morphemes in Turkish: A Synchronic Approach to Derivation*. *The 10th Student Conference of Linguistics*. Dokuz Eylül University. İzmir, Turkey.
*Presented in Turkish under the title “Türkçede {-gA/Iç} ve {-I/A}ç} Biçimbirimleri: Türetilenlik Çerçevesinde Eşsüremlilik Bir Çalışma”.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2020 Gökğöz, K., **Kayabaşı, D.** & Sevgi, H. Part 5 (Syntax), Chapter 2: Clause Structure, Section 2.1: The syntactic realization of argument structure. In. (Ed. Meltem Keleşir). *A Grammar of Turkish Sign Language (TİD)*. 1st Edition. SIGN-HUB Sign Language Grammar Series. <https://thesignhub.eu/grammar/tid>
- 2018 **Kayabaşı, D.** Generative Grammar* in (Ed. Özge Can) *Theories of Linguistics: Two Paradigms, Five Theories**. İthaki: İstanbul. ISBN: 6053758099
*Published in Turkish under the title “Üretici Dilbilgisi” in “Dilbilim Kuramları: İki Düzlem, Beş Kuram”.

INVITED TALKS

- (2025) Navigating Career Resources at U of M. *Graduate Student Workshop*. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2023 Emphatic Markers & Encoding of Event Participants in the Syntax-Semantics Interface. *Graduate Student Colloquium*. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2021 On the Acquisition of Complex (multi-predicative) Clauses in Turkish Sign Language: A Comparison Between Early and Late Acquisition Groups Based on Production. Invited by the National Honor Society in Psychology Psi-Chi Chapter Meeting. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI.
- 2021 On The Syntactic Category of the Reflexive KENDİ in Turkish Sign Language*. *Dilbilim Öğrenci Platformu (The Platform of Linguistics Students)*. Ankara, Turkey.
*Presented in Turkish under the title Türk İşaret Dilinde Dönüşlülük Bildiren “KENDİ” nin Dilbilgisel Kategorisi Üzerine.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2016 **Kayabaşı, D.** (Transl.). Németh, M., Batı Karaycasının Lehçelere Ayrılma Süreci ve Dönemselleştirilmesi. From the original title “A Historical Phonology of Western Karaim: The Process of its Diversification into Dialects. *Tehlikedeki Türk Dilleri III*, Vol.4, p. 263-276, Ankara & Astana.
- 2015 **Kayabaşı, D.** Game localization: Where it stands within translation and interpreting, and prominent issues in localization*. Book chapter in *Çeviri Kitabı (The Translation Book)* (Ed. Funda Karabacak, Coord. Senem Kobyay). ISBN: 978-975-7391-16-6.
*Published in Turkish under “Oyun yerelleştirilmesi: Çeviri dünyasındaki yeri ve başlıca çeviri sorunları.”

SERVICE

University of Michigan

- 2024 Winter Member of the Graduate Student Committee. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. United States.
- 2023 Fall - 2024 Summer Member of the Organization Committee of FEAST 2024 (Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory). Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. United States.
- 2022 Fall - 2023 Winter Organizing the Syntax-Semantics Discussion Group (SynSem). Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. United States.
- 2021 Fall - 2022 Winter Organizing Language Across Modalities Discussion Group (LingAMod) at Sign Language & Multi-Modal Communication Lab. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI. United States.
- 2021, 2022 Summer Organizing ASL Chats at Sign Language & Multi-Modal Communication Lab. Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. United States.
- 2021 Fall - 2023 Winter President of Graduate Linguistics at Michigan (GLaM). Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.
A committee that organizes community-building activities for graduate students
- 2020 Fall - 2021 Winter Member of The Committee for Outreach and Inclusive Practice, Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan.

Reviewing

- 2023 Journal of Child Language Acquisition and Development (JCLAD)
- 2022 Student Conference on Linguistics (SCOL'22) Boğaziçi University. İstanbul, Turkey.

2022	The Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS58). University of Chicago. Chicago, IL. United States.
2019, 2018, 2017	Boğaziçi University Student Conference on Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics (BUSCTEL). Boğaziçi University. İstanbul, Turkey.
2016	The Olomouc Linguistic Colloquium (Olinco). Palacky University. Olomouc, Czechia.
Conference Organizing	
2023 - 2024	Steering committee member for Formal and Experimental Advances in Sign Language Theory 2024. University of Michigan, Department of Linguistics.
2022	On-site coordinator for the Student Conference on Linguistics (SCOL'22). Boğaziçi University. İstanbul, Turkey.
2020	On-site coordinator for Boğaziçi University Student Conference on Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics (BUSCTEL). Boğaziçi University. İstanbul, Turkey.
2019, 2018	Member of The Student Organization Committee of Boğaziçi University Student Conference on Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics (BUSCTEL). Boğaziçi University. İstanbul, Turkey.
2018	Registration & Info Desk at International Conference on Sign Language Acquisition (ICSLA). Koç University. İstanbul, Turkey.

CERTIFICATES

University of Michigan, The Center for Research and Teaching	
(2026 January)	Graduate Teacher Certificate (in progress) <i>Granted for completing the requirements for college level teaching, in progress</i>
University of Michigan, Michigan Online	
(2025 Oct)	Feedback Loops (in progress) <i>Structuring and delivering constructive feedback</i>
2025 Sep	Transforming Education in an Interconnected World <i>Community development in higher education, leadership</i> Credential ID: VJ8DROOX4WC
2025 Aug	Emotional Intelligence: Cultivating Immensely Human Interaction <i>Mentoring, leadership, communication</i> Credential ID: 1DJ8JBBSNKDK
2025 Aug	Translating Research to Communities <i>Science communication, community engagement</i> Credential ID: EFKIQG1BU5SO
2025 May	An Introduction to Learning Experience Design <i>Instructional design, curriculum development, accessible design</i> Credential ID: KQSTJY6YE1MM
2025 May	Generative AI as a Learning Design Partner <i>Instructional design, curriculum development, AI prompting</i> Credential ID: YTCYEM8YIO5O
Google Career Certificates	
2025 Sep	Google AI Essentials <i>AI prompting, Google AI tools, LLMs</i> Credential ID: 1AC4KYHWN2IO
2025 Sep	Project Management Professional Certificate <i>Agile project management, project planning, project documentation</i> Credential ID: 6XVESS1UHIAH

AWARDS & GRANTS

2025	Sarah Thomason Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Research <i>Granted for outstanding research in a first or sole-authored peer-reviewed publication</i>
2025	Ginsberg Graduate Impact Award <i>Granted for contributions to preparing undergraduate and graduate students for ethical and effective community engagement</i>
2024	Block Grant, Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan <i>Conference travel expenses</i>
2024	Rackham Conference Travel Grant <i>Conference travel expenses</i>

2024	Rackham Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan <i>A highly competitive fellowship awarded to outstanding doctoral students who have achieved candidacy and are actively working on dissertation research that is unusually creative, ambitious, and impactful</i>
2023	Rackham Humanities Research Candidacy Fellowship, University of Michigan <i>Advancement of research post-candidacy</i>
2022	Linguistics Summer Research Partnership Funding, University of Michigan <i>A graduate-student-led group project on creating course materials with data from under-represented languages</i>
2022	Block Grant, Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan <i>Fieldwork expenses</i>
2021	Rackham Pre-Candidacy Research Grant, University of Michigan <i>Open-access fees at Frontiers in Psychology</i>
2021	Block Grant, Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan <i>Open-access fees at Frontiers in Psychology.</i>
2021	Rackham Pre-Candidacy Research Grant, University of Michigan <i>Advancement of research and fieldwork expenses</i>
2020	Michigan Fellowship, University of Michigan. <i>First year of Ph.D. at the Department of Linguistics</i>
2019	Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research Student Scholarship Award <i>Waiver granted to a selected number of students who were accepted to present at TISLR13</i>

AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

2024 - <i>present</i>	Linguistics Beyond Academia Special Interest Group
2022 – <i>present</i>	Sign Language Linguistics Society
2021 – <i>present</i>	Linguistic Society of America

LANGUAGES

Turkish	native
English	fluent in all skills
German	experience in reading colloquial and academic texts
Turkish Sign Language	fieldwork, colloquial dialogue