ÖZEN NERGİS SEÇKİN completed the Cultural Studies MA program in 2008 with a thesis titled “The Possibilities and Subversions of Subjectivity in the Modern Turkish Novel.” She is a graduate of the English Department of Boğaziçi University. While an MA student in our program, Nergis presented papers at several national and international conferences. She is currently a full-scholarship PhD student at New York University, Department of Comparative Literature.

MARC NICHANIAN is a philosopher and a literary critic. He received his PhDs in Mathematics and philosophy from University of Strasbourg in 1974 and 1979. He was an Associate Professor in the Middle Eastern Studies Department of Columbia University in New York from 1996 to 2007. He is the editor of GAM, a book series in Armenian, of which 8 volumes have been released from 1990 to 2009. He authored Writers of Disaster (2002) and edited two other volumes on the poet Charents and on Atom Egoyan’s Ararat.

ESRA DEMİRİÇ AKYOL received her M.A. degree in Cultural Studies from Sabancı University in 2008 with a thesis titled “The Role of Memory in the Historiography of Hatay.” Her thesis has been published by VDM Verlag, Germany in 2009. The book is titled “The Role of Memory in the Historiography of Hatay: Strategies of Identity Formation through Memory and History.” Esra is continuing her graduate studies in the Ph.D. program in history at Bilkent University.

ÖZGÜL AKINCI received her M.A. degree in Cultural Studies from Sabancı University in 2008 with a thesis titled “Remembering the Assos International Performing Arts Festival through the Iconic Memory of Hüseyin Katırcıoğlu.” Her thesis will be published by VDM Verlag, Germany in 2009. The book is titled “Reading the Urban-Rural Divide through Humor, Gender and Reflexive Ethnography.” Özgül plans to continue her graduate studies in the field of performance studies.

TUĞÇE ELLİALTI completed our program in 2008. Her M.A. thesis is entitled “The Stomachache of Turkish Women: Virginity, Premarital Sex and Women’s Responses to the Vigilance over their Bodies.” Tuğçe is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Sociology at UPenn with full scholarship. Her ongoing research explores how contemporary discourses of female sexuality are formulated and negotiated within distinct social networks and the ways in which globalized constructions are appropriated locally and reshaped to fit local patterns.
The Cultural Studies Program is committed to addressing the critical relations between culture, power, and history through multi-disciplinary engagement, innovative research, methodological openness, and critical pedagogical practice. It brings together an interdisciplinary group of scholars with a commitment to fostering new ways of analyzing and participating in contemporary cultural dynamics in Turkey and the world at large.

The program covers a wide range of topics and theories, but is particularly strong in gender and sexuality, nationalism and transnationalization, globalization, violence and trauma, memory, law, popular culture, and new media technologies.

Since the program’s inception, Cultural Studies at Sabanci University has been at once an intellectual endeavor and a medium of public involvement and engagement, occasioning the University to be both a site of innovation and a space for critical relations between culture, power, and history.

The program’s unique focus on critical pedagogical practice affords students the opportunity to carry out original research/writing projects.

**FACULTY**

Annabeth Schneider  
National identity and culture; postcolonial literatures; literature and migration; gender studies; representations of violence

Ayşe Gül Altunay  
Gender and sexuality; gender-based violence; militarism and militarization; nationalism; politics of culture

Ayşe Öncü  
Cultural politics in Turkey; media and public spheres; city cultures and spaces; transnational spaces of migration

Ayşe Parla  
Globalization and transnational processes; migration policies and state governmentality; citizenship and belonging: postcolonialism

Dicke Koçbaşoğlu  
Sociology of law; culture and gender; gender and sexuality; post-colonial studies

Hülya Adak  
Gender and sexuality; theories of autobiography and the novel; nationalism and national myths; World War I and Ottoman Armenians in history and literature

Lanfranco Aceti  
New media; digital culture; virtual reality environments; contemporary history of art and curatorial studies

Leyla Noyzi  
Cultural identity; oral history; memory studies; nationalism and minorities; Middle Eastern and Southeast European ethnography; urban anthropology; subjectivity; youth culture

Sibel Irzık  
Literary theory; modern European and Turkish literature; the theory and sociology of the novel;postcolonial novel; literature and politics; modernism and postmodernism

**Recent Visiting Faculty**

Cem Akas  
Catherine Collins  
Douglas Frantz  
Leyla Kesoglu  
Marc Nichanian  
Patricia O’Neill  
Dicle Koçbaşoğlu  
Ayşe Parla  
Ayşe Öncü  
Ayşegül Altınay  
Annedith Schneider  
Bilge Yeşil  
Asuman Suner  
Orin Starn  
Catherine Collins  
Cem Akas  
Lanfranco Aceti  
Hülya Adak  
Dicle Koçbaşoğlu  
Leyla Noyzi  
Sibel Irzık

**PROJECTS**

“Towards a New Model of Migrant Incorporation Premised on Legalization Processes among Irregular Migrants from Bulgaria to Turkey” (TÜBİTAK)

“Turkish-French Artists: A New Cultural Perspective” (TÜBİTAK)

“Access to Justice at Crossroads: Sociological Perspectives” (TÜBİTAK)

“Forms of Organization among ‘New’ Migrants: A Comparative Analysis of Bulgarian Turks, Iraqi Turkmen and Moldavians in Turkey” (TÜBİTAK)

“Redefining ‘Women’s Place’ in Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia: The Case of KAMEP” (TÜBİTAK)

“Gender-Based Violence: Analysing the Problem and the Struggle against It” with Boğaziçi University (TÜBİTAK)

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

Annabeth Schneider  

Ayşe Gül Altunay  

Ayşe Öncü  

Ayşe Parla  
“Broken Lines of Legitimation and the Reproduction of State Sovereignty: The Impact of Visa Policies on Turkish Immigrants from Bulgaria.”


Dicke Koçbaşoğlu  

Hülya Adak  

Leyla Noyzi  

Sibel Irzık  

**CONFERENCES ORGANIZED**

Heart Dink Memorial Workshops

2008 - Migrations, Connections, and Perspectives  
2009 - Gender, Ethnicity and the Nation-State

http://myweb.sabanciuniv.edu/hrantdink-workshop/

Lecture Series 2009, Testimonies and Literature (Twentieth Century) by Marc Nichanian

http://www.sabanciuniv.edu.tr/sosyolitarih/