

CV

Full Name : Leyla Savsar

Academic Titles		
	University	Date
PhD (Rhetoric and English Literature)	State University of New York Binghamton, New York, USA	December, 2018
M. Ed. (Master of Education in TESOL-Applied Linguistics)	Boston University Boston, USA	July, 2015
BA (English Language and Literature)	Kuwait University, Kuwait	June, 2014
Work Experience-Academic		Dates
1. American Creativity Academy, Kuwait		02/2010-06/2010
2. Sylvan Learning Center, Kuwait		06/2010-08/2010 ... 09/2011-11/2011
3. Kuwait University, Kuwait		02/2014–06/2014
4. Boston University, Boston, USA		01/2015–06/2015
5. State University of New York, Binghamton		01/2016-06/2016
6. Şehir University		09/2016-01/2017
7. İstinye University		03/2019-
Published Academic Articles:		
1. Savsar, L. (2020) “Who Shall Return Us the Children? Picturing Home(lessness) and Postcolonial Childhoods in Children’s Narratives” published in the Center for Strategic Research of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey (SAM)		
2. Savsar, L. and Savsar, M. (2019) “Healthcare Quality and Narrative Medicine,” <i>IJASOS- International E-Journal of Advances in Social Sciences</i> , Vol. V, Issue 15, December 2019.		
3. Savsar, L. (2018) “Almost Home,” in the <i>Transnational Literature Journal Volume 10, Issue 2</i> .		
4. Savsar. L. (2017) “Mother Tells Me to Forget: Nostalgic Re-presentations,		

Remembering and Re-telling the Child Migrant's Identity and Agency in Children's Literature," in the journal *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* special issue, Vol. 43, No. 4, pp. 395-411.

5. Savsar, L. (2019) "From Third Space to No Space: Wedding Physical and Virtual Borders in Nell Freudenberger's *the Newlyweds* and Mohsin Hamid's *Exit West*" under review in the *Intermedialités Sensing Borders* issue.
6. Savsar, L. (2019) "The Immigrant as Art and Artist: Capturing Landscapes of Pain and Cultivating Affective Empathy through the Artistic Lens of a Syrian Refugee" under review for publication in the PARSE Journal Art and Migration series.
7. Savsar, L. (2013). "Effects of chemical agents can be predicted accurately" published in the Arab Times Newspaper, 26/09/2013

Conferences:

1. Savsar, L. (2016) "*Inside the Colonizer's Mind: Using the Postcolonial Text and Affective Neuroscience to Revive Empathy, Colonial Consciousness, and Repressed Emotions,*" Crossing the Boundaries: Sensation, Perception, Experience Conference at the State University of New York, Binghamton (March 18-19, 2016).
2. Savsar, L. (2017) "*Mother Tells Me to Forget: ' Re-membering and Re-telling the Child Migrant's Identity and Agency in Children's Literature,*" The Children and Childhoods Conference (2017) at the University of Suffolk, Ipswich, UK. July 18-19, 2017.
3. Savsar, L. (2017) "*Different Spaces, Shared Suffering: Mourning to Re-member and Re-membering to Mourn Unassimilated Bodies in Transnational American Literature,*" The University at Albany's 16th Annual EGSO Conference, October 28, 2017, Albany, New York.
4. Savsar, L. (2018) "Re-presenting Immigration Discourse Beyond Numbers: Enumerating Empathy One Narrative at a Time," Istanbul Şehir University's International Workshop Series on Migration, December 15, 2018.
5. Savsar, L. and Savsar, M. (2019) "Healthcare Quality and Narrative Medicine," Proceedings of the 5th International Conferences on Education and Social Sciences, 21-23 October, 2019, Istanbul, Turkey.
6. Savsar, L. (2019) "Different Spaces, Shared Suffering: Mourning to Re-member and Re-membering to Mourn Unassimilated Bodies in Transnational American Narratives," accepted for presentation in Modern Languages Association's 2019

International Symposium to be held in partnership with the Faculdade de Ciencias Humanas at the Universidade Catolica Potuguesa, Lisbon, Portugal, July 23-25, 2019.

7. Chaired for workshop titled “Eighteenth-Century Women’s Writing and the Novel Genre” supported by the Scientific and Technological Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) with grant no 119K007. April 11, 2022.

Published Books:

1. Savsar, L. *Moments of Being and Becoming* (2016): Featured as ‘author of the month’ at the State University of New York bookstore.
2. Savsar, L. *Dream a Little Dream* (2015): A Children’s book.
3. Savsar, L. (2018) “Mother Tells Me to Forget: Remembering and Retelling the Child Migrant’s Identity and Agency in Children’s Literature,” a book chapter to appear in the book titled *Challenging the Discourses* by Policy Press.
4. Upcoming book project: *The Immigrant as Art and Artist: A Compilation of Refugee Stories and Art in Turkey’s Refugee Camps*”.

Scholarships and Awards:

- Editorial Funding | Laura Bassi Scholarship (2022)
- MiRekoc (Koc University) International Summer School (Prospects for Good Governance Refugee Situations: The Local-Global Nexus 2018) merit-based scholarship.
- Oxford University partial award for Creative Writing Summer Program (2018).
- William V. Spanos Scholarship Award SUNY Binghamton (2016-2017).
- Merit-based scholarship, University of Pennsylvania, UPenn (2014).
- Merit-Based Scholarship, Boston University (2014-2015).
- Honor List, Kuwait University (2010-2014).
- Student of the Year, Kuwait University, English Lang. & Lit. Dept. (2012-2013).
- Board of Trustees Award for Best Essay, American Creativity Academy (2010).
- Kuwait Science Fair Participation Award (2009-2010).
- National History Day: Best Historical Paper Category Certificate (2008).
- English Subject Award (2009-2010).
- High School Honor Roll (2007-2010).

Research Interests:

- Diaspora Studies (Postcolonial; Globalization)
- Children's Literature studies
- Memory Studies
- Creative Writing (self-writing/autobiography/creative nonfiction)
- Multilingualism & Multiculturalism
- Narrative Medicine
- The (Circassian/Syrian/Kurdish) Diasporas in Turkey
- Transnationalism, hybridism, and belonging (other/otherness).

Journal Editorship and Editorial Boards, Reviews

- Associate Editor, Arab World English Journal (AWEJ) for Translation & Literary Studies
- Editor, Journal of İstinye University Language Issues

Teaching Interests:

- Academic Writing
- Contemporary American/Global fiction and poetry
- Cultural Studies
- Poetry
- Postcolonial Literature
- Creative/ESL writing

Classes Taught:

- Intro to Literary Theory & Criticism I & II
- British Literature I, II, III, IV
- Academic Writing
- Film Adaptations
- English Poetry

Defenses Attended as Jury/Committee Examiner:

- Served as committee examiner in the defense of Faruk Dunder presenting "The Representation of Migrant Youth and Families in Turkish and British Young Adult Novels" at the University of Glasgow. February, 2021.

- Served as member of the jury of MA student Şeyma Tosun presenting on “Myths of Women in Contemporary Dystopian Novels: Louise O’Neill’s *Only Ever Yours*, Christina Dalcher’s *Vox*, and Leni Zumas’s *Red Clocks* at Yeditepe University. February, 2021.

Other Miscellaneous Work & Activities:

- Researcher participating in EU project titled Edusign and SignEdu: Joint venture of curriculum studies and artificial intelligence in Sign Language (Project Code 2021-1-TR01-KA220-HED-000027580) funded by European Commission Erasmus Funding Programme (KA220-HED-Cooperation partnerships in higher education). (2022-2024)
- Initiation of a storytelling center for Syrian (and other) immigrants and refugee groups in Istanbul, Turkey (2023-2024). (In partnership with the Storytelling Center at Berkeley, California and with funding from Turkish NGO).
- Poetry reading and writing contest participation, Kuwait University (2011). (Poem title: Deaf is the Wind, Blind is the Sun).
- Senior project presentation, Kuwait University (2014). (Essay title: Honey, I’m Home: Re-establishing Identity and Redefining ‘Home’ through Intercultural Marriage in Nell Freudenberger’s The Newlyweds).
- English Literature Department Film Week Organizer Assistant/Usher, Kuwait University (2012-2014).
- Attended several extracurricular seminars and lectures on various Literary/Linguistics subjects.
- Attended “Critical Analysis in British Literature” workshop.
- Volunteered in a research titled “Intonational Variation in Arabic” conducted by faculty from the Department of Language and Linguistic Science, University of York (Kuwait University, Fall 2013).
- Attended pilot workshop training on ESL Pronunciation Tutoring, Boston University (Fall 2014).
- Volunteered at the 39th annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD November 2014).
- Poetry submitted to *Narrative Magazine* (N below 30 Contest 2010 and 2014).
- Poetry submitted to *The Madison Review* (Young Phyllis Award Contest, 2014).
- Poetry submitted to *Hour of Writes* organization (*hourofwrites.com*)
- Poetry submitted to the *Ithaca Lit* “Difficult Fruit Poetry Prize” contest, (2015).
- Six-word-story submitted to the *Narrative magazine* (2017).
- Essay and poetry submitted to *The Lascaux Review*. Essay title: Contrasting Social Norms, Shared Territory: Camus’s “The Outsider” and Pontecorvo’s film “The Battle of Algiers” (Individual Vs. Communal).
- Poetry reader for *Harpur Palate* (literary journal published bi-annually by the

Department of English at Binghamton University).

- Photographs submitted to the Smithsonian and National Geographic magazines contest.

References

- Professor Marnie Reed (tesol@bu.edu). Boston University
- Professor Steven Molinsky (sjm15@bu.edu). Boston University
- Professor Susan Strehle ([sstrehle@binghamton.edu](mailto:ssstrehle@binghamton.edu)). SUNY at Binghamton
- Professor Leslie Heywood (Heywood@binghamton.edu). SUNY at Binghamton.
- Professor Joseph Church (jchurch@binghamton.edu). SUNY at Binghamton
- Professor Praseeda Gopinath (gopinath@binghamton.edu) SUNY at Binghamton
- Professor Liz Rosenberg (lrosenb@binghamton.edu) SUNY at Binghamton
- Dr. Mai Al-Nakib (mai_alkakib@yahoo.com). Kuwait University
- Dr. Hani Azer (haniwasef@yahoo.co.uk). Kuwait University
- Jessica Halter, Former Director of Sylvan Learning (jessica.sylvan.kuwait@gmail.com). Kuwait
- Hodan Warfa, Director of the Somali Development Center. (sdcboston@gmail.com). Boston.