



PACES 2024:
“NATURE”
Conference Programme

"Welcome Speech"

Prof. Şeyda Sivriođlu
Head of the Department



13. 05. 2024

09:40 – 09:50

İsmail Çetişli
Conference Hall

"Welcome Speech"

Assoc. Prof. Umay Oğuzhanoglu Akay
Vice-Dean of the faculty



13. 05. 2024

09:50 – 10:00

İsmail Çetişli
Conference Hall



Prof. Jeanne Dubino

“What are Literary Animal Studies?”



Keynote Speaker

10:00 – 10:50

İsmail Çetişli Conference Hall

Coffee Break 10:50 – 11:00





Morning Session A: Nature in Cultural and Mythological Contexts

Conference Room : 315

“Eco-Spirituality in Tolkien’s Legendarium: Analysing the Spiritual Significance of Nature through Songs and Prayers”

by

Fatih Can

11:00

11:15

Conference
Room

315



“This research will focus on the intricate eco-spiritual themes woven throughout J.R.R. Tolkien's legendarium, particularly highlighting the spiritual significance of nature expressed through music and language. As a philology professor, Tolkien masterfully combined his extensive knowledge of mythology, linguistics, and literary criticism with his fascination for constructed languages (conlangs), resulting in a highly detailed fantasy world that celebrates interconnectedness and reverence for the natural world. This study thoroughly examines Tolkien's mythology, along with his letters and notes, and briefly explores his constructed languages. By looking into the parts in which music has a significant role, and the usage of various words in Tolkien's conlangs, it illustrates how music, along with language, articulates a profound eco-spiritual ethos, revealing the transformative power of words and melodies in inspiring an appreciation for the sanctity of the natural world. Additionally, it explores how prayers and songs serve as conduits for unity or discord with nature by examining the characters and their interactions with their environment. Overall, this study highlights how Tolkien's incorporation of prayers and songs along with his conlangs enriches the exploration of eco-spirituality in his legendarium, revealing the depth of his vision and emphasising the spiritual link between living entities and Eä (the universe).”

Chair: Asst. Prof. Elçin Parçaoğlu

“The Personification of Destiny: Function of Witches in Macbeth”

by
Esra ÖZKAL

11:15

11:30

Conference
Room

315



“William Shakespeare's familiarity with the drama genre that has developed since the ancient Greek period is parallel to his use of Greek mythological references in his plays to point to cultural influence and represent symbolism and allegories. In one of his most-known tragedies, Macbeth, the audience witnesses many Greek mythological figures and also Greek tragedy references such as the characterization of the witches as a reflection of the “chorus”, or their personification of destiny as a reference to “The Fates” in Greek Mythology. This work aims to analyze mythological characters in Shakespeare’s Macbeth, especially by focusing on the function of his “Weird Sisters” throughout the play.”

Chair: Asst. Prof. Elçin Parçaoğlu

"Nature Symbolism in Emily Brontë's Wuthering Heights"

by

Yaren Rabia Akkus

11:30

11:45

Conference
Room

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"Symbolism is a literary tool that has long been used in literature with different techniques. By expressing an idea through an image or an object, symbolism both adds aesthetics to the writing and deepens the story. In Emily Brontë's Wuthering Heights, symbolism is used to indicate the characters' emotions, relationships and specific periods in their lives. Brontë managed to evoke quite intense emotions in the work by using nature symbolism. She conveyed different situations and emotions to the reader by using many elements of nature such as rain, trees, and wind. The aim of this study is to explain nature symbolism in Wuthering Heights and to discuss what nature symbolically contributes to a literary work. The study aims to emphasise the significance of nature symbolism in the novel and literature by using quotations from the book and other researchers' studies."

Chair: Asst. Prof. Elçin Parçaoğlu



**Review of the Session
Question and Answer Part**

11:45-12:00

Literaria - Part 1

"Literaria" is a trivia competition that focuses on the subjects of English Language and Literature. The competition has two parts. The first part is a multiple-choice question session between two teams, each comprising six members. The team with the most correct answers advances to the second part. In the second part, the winning team competes in a fill-in-the-blank session. The participant who answers the most questions correctly or accumulates the most points is declared the winner.

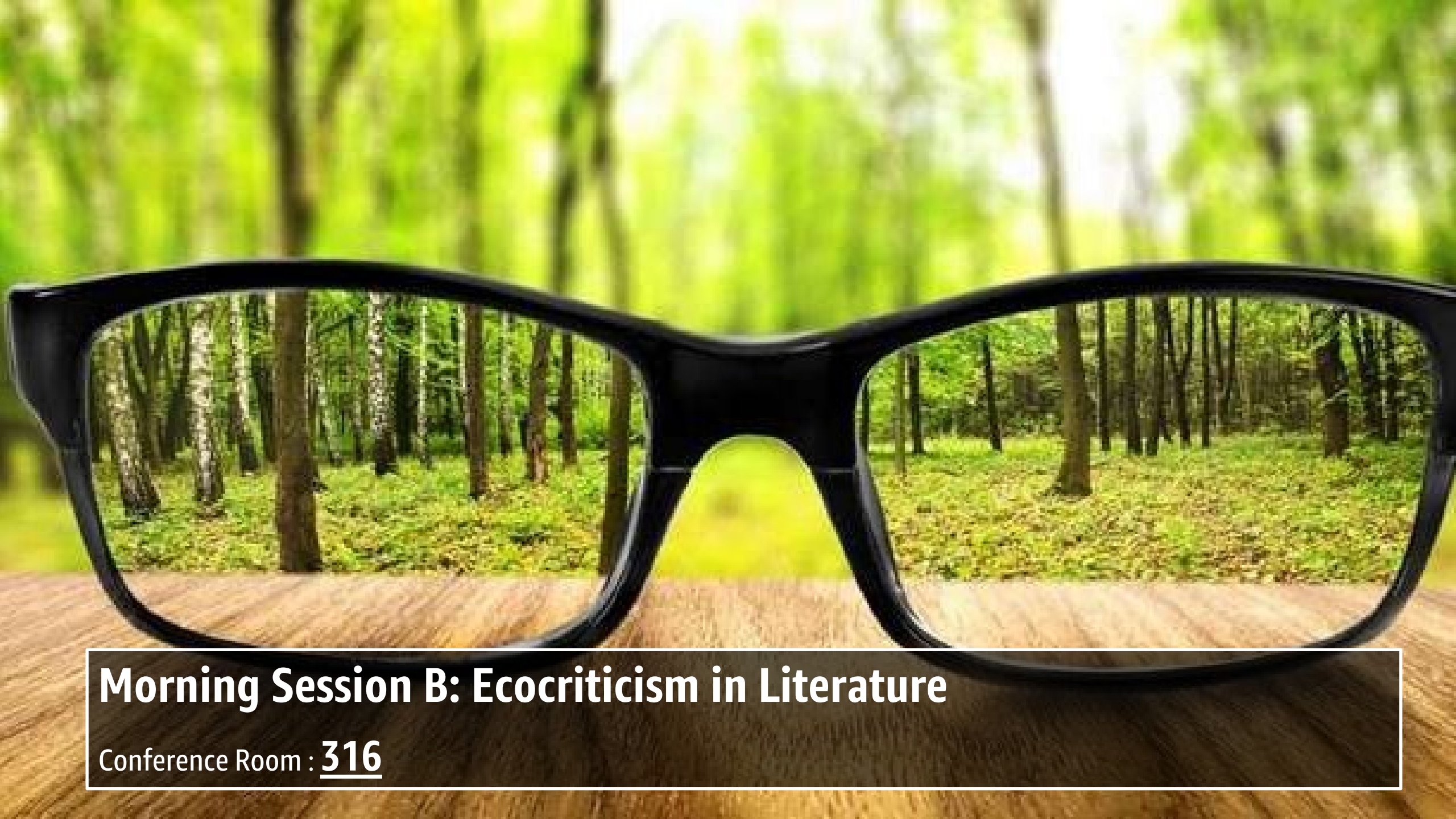
**Conference
Room 315**

12:00 - 12:15

To join the teams,

Send an e-mail to:

bahaatalayerasmus@gmail.com



Morning Session B: Ecocriticism in Literature

Conference Room : **316**

“Mourning with/in Nature: Ecological
Disasters and Ecological Grief in Doris
Lessing’s Mara and Dann”

by
Berivan Ayık

11:00

11:15

Conference
Room

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“Grief and mourning are as ancient as humanity itself. Every individual experiences loss, and encounters the emotion of grief at some point in their lives. The concept of “ecological grief” has emerged to describe the mourning and sorrow felt over the destruction of nature. As a consequence of environmental changes, catastrophes such as deforestation, glacial melting, desertification, ocean acidification, climate change, and the degradation of ecosystems are emerging. These catastrophes significantly impact the lives of humanity and other living beings. A significant part of these natural disasters are the consequence of humanity’s destructive behaviours towards nature.

The Anthropocene, a term that refers to human activity that has significantly impacted the biosphere, serves as a reminder of the environmental damage inflicted upon the planet since the Industrial Revolution. Doris Lessing’s dystopian novel, *Mara and Dann*, depicts a near-future world dramatically altered by the consequences of climate change. Lessing’s narrative vividly portrays the ecological catastrophes that threaten humanity’s future existence. The characters live a life of constant displacement due to natural disasters, water scarcity, and drought. Lessing very explicitly portrays the characters’ grief for the lost natural world. This study aims to show the ecological disasters portrayed in Lessing’s novel “*Mara and Dann*,” as well as the ecological grief and sorrow experienced by the characters as a result of these disasters.”

Chair: Asst. Prof. Çelik Ekmekçi



“The Daughter of Nature: Ecofeminist Interpretations on Kate Chopin's ‘The Awakening’”

by
Özge Cedit

11:15

11:30

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Room

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“Ecofeminism is a theoretical framework that connects feminism and ecology. It highlights not only the connection of all beings in nature but also draws attention to the relationship between the exploitation of nature and gender. In this context, the marginalization of nature by humans, the perception of humans as superior to nature, and the exploitation of natural resources can be re-interpreted within the framework of gender-based hierarchies. Within this context, Kate Chopin's ‘The Awakening’ provides the reader with a compelling lens for analysis. Kate Chopin was an outstanding American author renowned for portraying rebellious female characters. The Awakening is a notable work for her time, engaging readers because of its long-lasting impact on contemporary discourse about gender and social norms. In The Awakening, Chopin presents the story of Edna Pontellier, a woman imprisoned by conventional norms and standards. Edna stands in sharp contrast to the women around her, who conform to traditional notions of femininity. Notably, Edna's husband, who has frequently criticized his wife and dictated his decisions, refuses to stop limiting her social life. This dynamic reflects a broader societal attitude where males assert control over women, mirroring the dominion humans claim over nature. Both women and nature are subjugated by so-called higher powers—illustrating the hegemony exerted by men and human influence. This study aims to explore ecofeminism's historical development and theoretical foundations, applying these perspectives to analyze Kate Chopin's novel The Awakening.”

Chair: Asst. Prof. Çelik Ekmekçi



"The Permanence of Nature Through the
Eyes of A Romantic Soul: An Ecocritical
Reading of Percy B. Shelley's
"Ozymandias""

by
Zeynep Türkü Ekşi

11:30

11:45

Conference
Room

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English Romanticism was a movement that was strictly intertwined with nature. On account of the effects of industrialization and the growing population, young poets with their free souls wanted to escape from this corrupt world to the purified other, Mother Nature. In this binary opposition, they wanted to get rid of the harms of "culture", and they tried to do so by embracing nature. Thus, nature played a significant role both in their understanding of the world and their representation of it. This presentation aims to examine one of the most prominent poems of the English Romantic period, Percy Bysse Shelley's "Ozymandias", in relation to the theme of "nature" and from an Ecocritical perspective by focusing particularly on Shelley's criticism of the status quo of his times as a second generation Romantic poet. By doing so, one of the main purposes of this presentation is to discuss the representation of the Romantic idea of the "permanence" of nature in comparison with the "transience" of culture, with a primary focus on Shelley's thoughts regarding this discussion.

Chair: Asst. Prof. Çelik Ekmekçi



**Review of the Session
Question and Answer Part**

11:45-12:00

Lunch Break 12:30 – 13:00





Afternoon Session A: Literary Adaptations

Conference Room : **315**

“Grass Analogy in Nuri Bilge
Ceylan’s About Dry Grasses and
Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass”

by
Avni Turan

13:00

13:15

Conference
Room

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Leaves of Grass



““These nameless, worthless grasses that nobody cares about ... seemed important to me for the first time”. In Nuri Bilge Ceylan’s About Dry Grasses, it can be seen that the main character, near the movie’s end, makes a comparison between Anatolian people and dry grasses as he climbs a hill. The reason behind this is that he calls to mind their distressed and rough lives, thus he tries to depict them with the example of downtrodden grass. Differently, it can be asserted that Walt Whitman uses the same analogy in his poem Song of Myself, from his poetry collection Leaves of Grass. He states in his poem that every individual plays a part in the system of nature and that their energy in the universe never exterminates. When their body dies, they turn into grass and contribute to nature. Even though it can be seen that, in his poem, the grass has some connotations regarding death, he also depicts it with an indication of new life: “Or I guess the grass is itself a child, the produced babe of the vegetation” (Whitman, 7), signifying the renewal of life in nature. Even though Ceylan and Whitman use the same analogy in their works, they approach the matter with different perspectives. Ceylan uses it as an image to describe the tough life of Anatolian people, while Whitman uses it to exemplify the regenerative cycle of nature.”

Chair: Lec. Dr. Ali Güven

“Cold War Politics and The Correct Way of Living in Nature Through Cinema: A Comparison Between Dersu Uzala (1975) by Akira Kurosawa and Jeremiah Johnson (1972) by Sydney Pollack”

by

Tufan Ufuk Akin

13:15

13:30

Conference Room

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The discourse surrounding the correct way of living was always a debated issue upon the discussions of utopian concepts. Various disciplinaries such as economists, anthropologists, sociologists and philosophers believed in diverse perspectives upon their own utopian ideals, often taking a radical stance. Jeremiah Johnson (1972) an American-Western film directed by Sydney Pollack Jeremiah Johnson is based on the life of the mountain man called John Jeremiah Garrison Johnston also known as Liver-Eating Johnson, who lived in the mid-19th century in United States. Dersu Uzala (1975) a Soviet-Japanese film directed by Akira Kurosawa is based on the memoir of Vladimir Arsenyev, a Russian explorer, and tells the story of his friendship with an indigenous Goldi named Dersu Uzala in the vast unmapped lands of the Soviet Union in the early 20th century. In both movies, the main characters leave their society to connect with nature once again and they live their lives without any touch upon the industrial society. By juxtaposing these two similar texts from two divergent culture and geographies from the cold war era we will make an assumption for whether their living was correct or natural within “collectivist” and “capitalist” ideologies.

Chair: Lec. Dr. Ali Güven

Balancing Civilizations and Nature in Princess Mononoke

by

Pelin Demirel

13:30

13:45

Conference Room

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“This paper explores the Hayao Miyazaki’s “Princess Mononoke” through the lens of ecocriticism and film studies, focusing on the intricate dynamics between human civilization and natural integrity. It delves into the intricate dynamics of conflict and coexistence that define the relationship between the human inhabitants of Iron Town and the supernatural citizens of the surrounding forest. The film’s protagonist, Ashitaka, serves as a mediator between the conflicting forces, symbolizing the potential for humanity to reconcile its technological advancements with ecological sustainability. Lady Eboshi’s industrial endeavours in Iron Town and the mystical spirits of the forest underscore the ongoing conflict between human development and environmental preservation. This analysis highlights how the film articulates a vision of compromise and mutual respect, addressing relevant issues in today’s ecological crises.

Through a detailed analysis of humans and non-human interactions, the paper highlights the ongoing conflict between human developments and environmental ethics thus how it presented in the cinema culture. By drawing on ecocriticism and film studies, this analysis demonstrates how a movie, “Princess Mononoke” emerges as a profound commentary on the challenges of balancing human needs with the sanctity of the natural world. Miyazaki presents a relevant issue in today’s context of ecological crises. “Princess Mononoke” emerges as a profound commentary on the challenges of balancing human needs with the sanctity of the natural world.”

Chair: Lec. Dr. Ali Güven

“The Dichotomy Between Nature
and Civilization in the World of the
Movie Alice in Wonderland (2010)”

by

Nursena Berber

13:45

14:00

Conference
Room

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“Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland is a highly popular children’s book written by Lewis Carroll and first published in 1865. The plot briefly centers around the main character, a young girl called Alice, and her recurring fantastical dreams. Following the White Rabbit to Wonderland and falling down a long rabbit hole with him, Alice encounters a series of strange and complex situations. In 2010, the story was adapted for cinema under the direction of Tim Burton.

In my paper, focusing specifically on the movie adaptation, I aim to analyse the story on the basis of the dichotomy between nature and civilization. In order to emphasize this dichotomy, I will mention certain symbols and scenes in the story. In addition, I will also discuss the influence of these symbols on Alice’s character evolution. In a word, I suggest that for Alice, falling asleep symbolizes an escape from the world of orders to nature by leaving her consciousness behind and embracing her true self.”

Chair: Lec. Dr. Ali Güven



**Review of the Session
Question and Answer Part**

14:00-14:15



Afternoon Session B: Nature and Culture

Conference Room : 316

"Nature and Women in Emily Dickinson's Poetry: Ecofeminist Perspective"

by
Öykü Pirim

13:00

13:15

Conference
Room

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"Nature influences all aspects of human existence in a wide range of ways. It is present in every step and breath we take. The concepts of music, literature, language, and culture are only a few examples of all the themes that nature covers. Above all, it encompasses human beings, particularly the nature of women. In the world of literature, the relationships between nature and women are given a substantial amount of attention. In light of this, ecofeminism emerges as an essential discipline. Ecofeminism is a movement that explores the links between environmentalism and feminism. The traces of ecofeminism and connections between nature and woman can be observed in Emily Dickinson's poetry. Dickinson, one of the most prominent female poets of the nineteenth century, had profound effects on several academic disciplines through her poetry. Most of her works were highly valued after her death, and she is now regarded as one of the most influential figures in American literature. Her poetry has been the focus of multiple studies from a variety of perspectives. This paper focuses on the connections between nature and women in Emily Dickinson's poetry from an ecofeminist perspective."

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Meltem Uzunoğlu Erten

“More Than a Forest: Ecocritical
Approaches to As You Like It by
William Shakespeare”

by
Kardelen Öneren

13:15

13:30

Conference
Room

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“Forests during the late 16th century were subjected to many political protests by people who dressed like women and harm trees as a rebellion. This paper explores William Shakespeare’s play *As You Like It* from an ecocritical perspective with a touch of historical background of that era. It will show how the play depicts the interaction between nature and humanity focusing on the interpretations of the Forest of Arden rather than the forest itself, and its effect on characters. Despite being seen as a place of escape for courtiers, a deep look into the forest reveals a deeper meaning. We will delve into how the characters interact with the forest, concentrating on the portrayal of nature as both its being an ideal refuge and the risk of potential human threats which can be understood from the speeches of the character Jaques, who represents eco-consciousness. Since the characters like Rosalind, Celia, Oliver, and the dukes find peace and freedom in the forest, they experience personal growth and self-discovery within the natural world. This transformative power that nature has will be used as an example of contrasting views of nature as both the positive effects of nature on the characters and the threats posed by humans to nature. By analyzing the play in this way, we gain an understanding of humanity’s engagement with nature and our impact on the environment.”

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Meltem Uzunoğlu Erten

"Burdens on Human Backs"

by

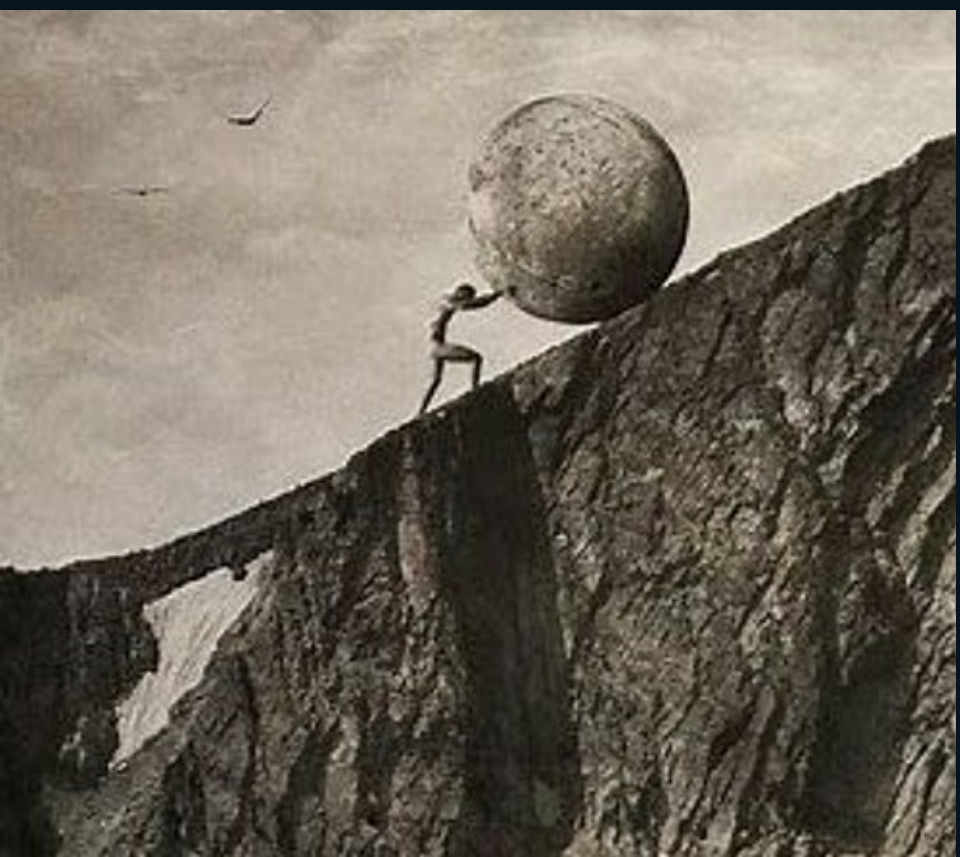
Kadir Eren Özgün

13:30

13:45

Conference
Room

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"As life goes on, humans cannot find a solution to their boredom. Likewise, humans cannot endure living on earth. Despair and the search for meaning are other burdens on human backs. Humans try to slip away from this dilemma by opening the gate that leads to the eternal void. For centuries, humans' inclination to suicide has become a controversial topic. The play *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett has unusual elements, and it delves into the specific controversial topic. The play consists of two acts, and nothing happens twice. However, the play offers insights into the aspects of human nature that drive humans to commit suicide. It is not easy to understand the main protagonists' minds. Still, existentialism could help the readers to go on a journey on the unknown fields of *Waiting for Godot*, especially Albert Camus' famous essay "The Myth of Sisyphus" may help readers to grasp human nature's inclination towards suicide."

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Meltem Uzunoğlu Erten



**Review of the Session
Question and Answer Part**

13:45-14:00

Coffee Break 14:15 – 14:30





Afternoon Session C: Interactions between Nature and Human Identity

Conference Room : 315

"A Distorted Nature and Identity, an
Endless Search For Self: The Love
Song of J. Alfred Prufrock by T.S.
Eliot"

by
Zeynep Aritoprak

14:30

14:45

Conference
Room

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T.S. Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" offers a profound exploration of identity disorder, loneliness and the relentless search for self-discovery. The poem analyses the chaotic state of mind of its protagonist, J. Alfred Prufrock, revealing a fragmented sense of self and an inevitable identity disorder. Prufrock's inner reflections reveal a deep sense of isolation, resulting not only from social pressures but also from his own insecurities and fear of judgement. Written under the influence of the modernist movement, the poem reflects the difficulties of the individual's connection with himself, turning them into living bodies rather than human beings.

Eliot uses a modernist literary style characterised by complex language and disjointed imagery, reflecting the dissolution of traditional values and the chaos of contemporary life. In the face of social changes, Prufrock's search for identity becomes an existential journey marked by hesitation, self-doubt and fear of losing his true self to social expectations. This poem is an important work about the loss of identity and the degraded nature of man, summarising the anxieties of a society witnessing the dissolution of accepted social norms.

In summary, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" is an excellent modernist work that clearly shows man as man, his emotions and his inner crises. It explores the deep corners of an individual's mind to shed light on various aspects of identity, the isolating effects of modern life and the persistent journey towards self-discovery between the conflict of social changes.

Chair: Res. Asst. İlkay Khalid

“The Concept of Apocalypse as a
Part of Nature: An Ecocritical
Reading of Death Stranding (2019)”

by
Irem Aküren

14:45

15:00

Conference
Room

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A HIDEO KOJIMA GAME
D E A T H
S T R A N D I N G™
D I R E C T O R ' S C U T



“Although nature is more likely to be accepted as only consisting of positive aspects, the concept of apocalypse, which is an inherent part of nature, illustrates the opposing view of this belief. Over the past few decades, nature and apocalypse have been a prominent topic among quite a number of media outlets. When compared to other types of media, video games provide a more engaging experience for the consumer; hence, it is possible to argue that the elements depicted in the video games provide a deeper impact on the consumer. Video games may be able to create a sense of empathy in the player by allowing them to contribute to the progress of the game. As a result of this feeling of contribution and the willing suspension of disbelief that is created in the player, they feel as if they are a part of the world, in this case, the world of Death Stranding which is haunted by post-apocalyptic components. In accordance with this, the concept of apocalypse and its relations to nature will be analysed in relation to the video game titled Death Stranding, and from an Ecocritical perspective.”

Chair: Res. Asst. İlkey Khalid

"Nature's Poetry : A Transformative Exploration"

by

Atilla Çetintürk

15:00

15:15

Conference
Room

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"This abstract delves into the symbiotic relationship between nature and poetry within the context of English and American literature. Focusing on key poetic movements and notable poets, it elucidates how nature's portrayal in poetry has evolved and influenced both literary works and cultural perspectives.

Beginning with the Romantic era, exemplified by luminaries like Wordsworth and Coleridge, the abstract highlights the glorification of nature's sublime beauty and its role as a source of inspiration and spiritual renewal. Moving forward, it examines the modernist period, characterized by poets such as T.S. Eliot and Ezra Pound, who presented a more fragmented and disillusioned view of nature, mirroring the dissonance of the modern age.

Drawing on contemporary voices like Mary Oliver and Wendell Berry, the abstract showcases a shift towards ecological consciousness in poetry, advocating for environmental stewardship and a reconnection with the natural world. Through meticulous analysis of selected poems and critical interpretations, it argues that poetry serves as a transformative lens through which to explore humanity's relationship with nature, offering insights that resonate deeply with readers and reflect the evolving ethos of each era."

Chair: Res. Asst. İlkey Khalid

“Türk Mitolojisinde Hayat Ağacının Önemi”

by

Şevval Nur Demirci

15:15

15:30

Conference
Room

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“Bu sunumda Türk kültüründe önemli bir yer tutan ağaç motifini, çoğunlukla “Hayat Ağacı” kavramını inceleyeceğiz. İlkel çağlardan beri sürmekte olan Türk kültüründe ağaç önemli bir yer tutmaktadır ve Türk destanlarının asıl motiflerinden birisi olarak yer almaktadır. Hayat ağacı, bir başka deyişle Yaşam Ağacı veya Kozmik ağaç, Türk kültüründe ve mitolojisinde Kayın-Çınar ağacıyla ilişkilendirilmektedir ve hayattan alınarak kutsallık kazandırılmıştır. Dünya eksenini oluşturmasının, ana/ata olarak kabul edilmesinin yanı sıra zor durumda kalan kahramanların sığınağı olarak da kabul edilmektedir. Hayat ağacına atfedilen bu kavramlar Dede Korkut Hikayelerinde de oldukça hissedilmektedir.”

Chair: Res. Asst. İlkay Khalid



**Review of the Session
Question and Answer Part**

15:30-15:45

A row of leaves is laid out on a dark, weathered wooden surface. The leaves are arranged in a sequence from left to right, showing a color gradient. On the far left, there are three vibrant green leaves. In the middle, there are three bright yellow leaves. On the far right, there are three leaves in shades of red and orange. The leaves are of various sizes and shapes, but all have a serrated edge and a prominent central vein. The background is a rustic, textured wooden plank with visible grain and some small holes.

Afternoon Session D: Nature and Language Evolution

Conference Room : 316

“Antarctic English: How Nature’s Imposed Isolation Affects the English Language”

by

Burak Kaan Karakoç

14:30

14:45

Conference
Room

316



“Human language is affected greatly by nature as nature affects many facets of human life. One of the most important aspects of nature’s influence on humanity is its ability to isolate people. This isolation, therefore, allows a language to branch off into a distinct, new version of itself. As an example of this phenomenon, we can think of how the English spoken by the colonies of America and Australia branched off from British English into their distinct variants. The Antarctic accent or Antarctic English is also a direct result of nature’s ability to isolate communities. This paper aims to display how Antarctic English differs from other English variants, such as American and British English in both spoken and written scenarios. Another important aim of this research into the Antarctic accent is to obtain up-to-date data on the language and to investigate the natural and manmade factors that shape the development of its unique lingo.”

Chair: Res. Asst. Seçil Çırak

"Nature's Earful Harmony: Exploring the Miraculous Connection Between Music and Nature"

by
Hüseyin Korkut

14:45

15:00

Conference
Room

316



"From the singing of the birds to the sounds of the waves of the oceans, to the whispers of the wind, nature is full of harmonies which have inspired the humanity to express their thoughts, improve their creativity and understand how they used their knowledges to use nature's child for the sake of its mother later on.

First, we will examine the evolutionary roots of music, considering how early humans drew inspiration from the sounds of their environment to create rhythmic patterns and melodies. From primal chants to tribal rhythms, we will uncover the ways in which music emerged as a means of expression deeply rooted in our connection to nature.

Building upon this foundation, we will explore how music has been utilized throughout history to evoke the beauty and majesty of the natural world. From classical compositions inspired by landscapes to modern environmentalist movements employing music as a tool for advocacy, we will highlight notable examples of musicians harnessing the power of sound to celebrate and protect nature.

Join us as we journey through the melodies of nature, exploring the timeless bond between music and the environment and discovering how it continues to shape our understanding and appreciation of the world around us."

Chair: Res. Asst. Seçil Çırak

“Linguistic Landscape” by Büşra Arslan

15:00
15:15

Conference
Room
316



“The term sociolinguistics, which is called linguistic landscape and is a field of linguistics, has attracted the attention of many researchers and has been the subject of many studies and articles, and many definitions have been made about it. “The language of public road signs, billboards, streets, names on government buildings, place names, commercial store signs, and public signs combine to form the linguistic landscape of a particular area, region, or urban agglomeration” (Landry&Bourhis,1997, p.25). The term linguistic landscape has gained momentum recently and has become the focus of attention of linguists, resulting in many studies in this field. In terms of sociolinguistics, the whole of the language images we encounter in social life is called linguistic landscape, and photographs are an important part of linguistic landscape studies (Gorter, Cenoz, 2023). In short, linguistic landscape is a term that includes the various forms of languages around us, words and images in many venues, signs and posters, but linguistic landscape is so broad that it cannot be defined in a few words. In this study, Osmaniye Korkut Ata University and its surroundings will be examined in terms of the languages used, the target audience with the use of these languages, and the messages intended to be given in linguistic indicators containing English. There have not been many studies in the field of English language teaching, especially in less populated cities such as Osmaniye, presenting language policies.”

Chair: Res. Asst. Seçil Çırak



**Review of the Session
Question and Answer Part**

15:15-15:30

Coffee Break 15:30 – 15:45





Evening Session A: Nature and Society

Conference Room : 315

"Cosmic Irony and Nature's
Indifference Toward Humanity in
the Short Story "To Build a Fire" by
Jack London"

by
Ece Bilge Aygöl

15:45

16:00

Conference
Room

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"To Build a Fire is a short story by Jack London that includes the literary device of cosmic irony and the theme of "Indifferent Nature." In the story, events that have happened to the protagonist, an unnamed old man, and his companion, which is a wolf-like dog, while they are traveling are narrated. By depicting the harsh conditions and freezing environment with a realistic tone and describing man's efforts to reach his goal, which is completing his journey successfully, the narrator lays the foundation of cosmic irony and indifferent nature.

In my paper, I will focus on how the narrator does that. I will mention the cosmic irony. I will analyze the character traits, symbols, and their functions, as well as all the conflicts that have arisen because of the cosmic irony. Even though i will question if man is a part of nature or not, my aim will be reflecting the idea that how man and nature oppose each other regardless of the place of man in nature."

Chair: Res. Asst. Selime Soyuçok

“Unveiling Colonial Realities: Nature's
Influence in Shaping Colonial
Understanding in Gulliver's Travels by
Jonathan Swift”

by
Çağla Ezgi Filiz

16:00

16:15

Conference
Room

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“Britain’s island geography, surrounded by water, with domestic resources that helped its people by providing materials for shipbuilding, in addition to its temperate climate that creates an adaptable population who are capable of surviving in diverse environments impacted its rise as a colonial power. This natural formation was crucial for exploring, conquering, and controlling vast overseas territories. Besides, nature also has a significant effect on humanity with its transformative power by making an individual realize that his own kind is in fact, a colonizer which is reflected in Jonathan Swift’s satirical work Gulliver’s Travels. This paper aims to examine this power and its effects on colonial understanding of humanity, with a closer look to the Houyhnhnms society which represents nature, unlike the humans among them, Yahoos’ being representative of the colonizers in the novel. Nature challenges humans’ self-importance by looking down on Yahoos through the perspective of the civilized Houyhnhnms.

The growing disillusionment of Gulliver throughout his journey, reflects the ignorance of the idea of colonial understanding. The more he encounters different ways of lifestyles, especially the rational Houyhnhnms, the more he questions the “civilized” nature of his own kind. By reading the novel through Gulliver’s eyes, we see nature’s role in realizing the primitive reality of colonialism.”

Chair: Res. Asst. Selime Soyuçok

"Thing Theory in Paradise Lost" by Begüm Kaymakçı

16:15

16:30

Conference
Room

315



"John Milton's epic poem *Paradise Lost* has been analyzed by various literary critics given its versatile exploration of human nature and the fall from grace. This paper re-examines Eve's transgressive act of eating the forbidden fruit through the lens of Bill Brown's *Thing Theory*. Brown (2001), establishes the transformative influence things have on subjects by demonstrating the dynamic relationship between subject and object. This cathartic process involves the object actively influencing the subject's identity, experiences, and worldview.

In *Paradise Lost*, the forbidden fruit becomes a potent "thing," its physical form imbued with symbolic meaning. Its "thingness" embodies Eros, the seductive promise of knowledge and self-definition that transcends its mere physicality. Just as Adam, before the fall, was incapable of understanding "death" and alienated from the idea of dying, from her birth Eve was foreign to emancipation. Through Eve's interaction with this "thing," the lines between object and subject blur, shaping her understanding of self. This transformative process, however, comes at a cost: the loss of free will and the permanent entanglement of her identity with Adam.

By applying *Thing Theory*, the recognition of the seductive power of "things" facilitates a deeper understanding of Eve's internal conflict and the limitations placed upon Eve's identity within the Edenic hierarchy."

Chair: Res. Asst. Selime Soyuçok



**Review of the Session
Question and Answer Part**

16:30 - 16:45

Literaria - Part 2

"Literaria" is a trivia competition that focuses on the subjects of English Language and Literature. The competition has two parts. The first part is a multiple-choice question session between two teams, each comprising six members. The team with the most correct answers advances to the second part. In the second part, the winning team competes in a fill-in-the-blank session. The participant who answers the most questions correctly or accumulates the most points is declared the winner.

**Conference
Room 315**

16:45 - 17:00

To join the teams,

Send an e-mail to:

bahaatalayerasmus@gmail.com

A close-up photograph of two butterflies perched on a green grass stem. The butterfly in the foreground is a blue butterfly with white and orange spots on its wings. The one behind it is a brown butterfly with orange and black spots. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

Closing Remarks

17:00 – 17:30



Dinner 18:00 - 21:00