

Neslihan Sen

Department of Anthropology
University of Illinois at Chicago
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EDUCATION

Present Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago
2008 M.A., Anthropology with a concentration on Gender and Women's Studies,
University of Illinois at Chicago
2006 M.A. , Gender and Women's Studies, Istanbul University
2003 B. A. , English (with honors), Bogazici University, Istanbul

M.A. Thesis (Istanbul University, Turkey): "Reproduction of Patriarchy on Television: Dreams will Come True"

AREAS OF INTEREST:

Gender, Sexuality, Construction of bodies and disorders, Medical Anthropology, Turkey

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

2016 Kegan Travel Award, Gender and Women's Studies, UIC (Travel grant to join Southern Sociological Society's Meetings in Atlanta)

2015 Graduate College Dean's Scholar Fellowship UIC – \$22,000

2013 Koc University Research Grant on Gender Studies (KOC-KAM), ~ \$27,000.

2011 AAUW International Fellowship, for dissertation research process, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), \$20,000

2011 Wenner Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, for dissertation fieldwork, the Wenner Gren Foundation, \$ 17,374

2011 M. Rue Bucher Award, Travel fund, UIC Sociology Department

2010 Graduate Prize, Gender and Women's Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago for summer research in Istanbul

2010 Travel funds, University of Illinois at Chicago for attending 108th Annual Meetings of AAA and Thinking Gender at UCLA

2009 The Provost Award, University of Illinois at Chicago

2008 Charles Reed Pre-dissertation Fellowship, University of Illinois at Chicago for summer research in Istanbul

2007 Travel fund, University of Illinois at Chicago for attending the UCSRT Inaugural Conference

1998-2003 Scholarship from the Prime Ministry of Turkish Republic/monthly stipend

1998-2003 Scholarship from Women's Society in Izmir / monthly stipend

PUBLICATIONS

- Mutlu Burcu, **Neslihan Sen**, Nilay Erten, Nurhak Polat, Seda Saluk, Safak Kilictepe
2018 "Cinsellik, Üreme/Doğurganlık, ve Sağlık Politikaları Üzerine Sohbet (A Roundtable Discussion on the Politics of Sexuality, Reproduction, and Health)." *Kültür ve Siyasette Feminist Yaklaşımlar* (Feminist Approaches to Culture and Politics). 33-34 pp:123-154
- Sen, Neslihan
2013 "Turkey's Woman in Red Dress". *Middle East Report 268: Gender front Lines*: Fall 2013.
- Sen, Neslihan and Simsek, Cigdem
2009 "Vajinismus: Neye Engel, Kimin için Bela?" (Vaginismus: What is it a barrier before, Who is it a problem for?). *Feminist Politika* (Feminist Politics). No: 4
- Sen Neslihan
2005 "Sexism in Children's Books an Example of Indispensable Tool of Communication". in *Proceedings of 2nd International Children and Communication Congress: The Impact of Communication of Children*. Istanbul: Istanbul University Press.
- 2004 "Review of *Men Doing Feminism* by Tom Digby". *Toplum ve Bilim* (Society and Science). Vol:101 Fall. pp: 237-240

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Instructor, Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago
World Cultures, Summer 2018
- Instructor, Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago
Medicine, Culture, Society, Fall 2017, Spring 2018
- Instructor, Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago
Human Adventure, Summer 2011
- Teaching Assistant, Gender and Women's Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
Global Perspectives on Women and Gender, Fall 2007-Spring 2009
- Teaching Assistant, Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago
Concepts in Geography, Spring 2007
Human Evolution, Fall 2009, Fall 2010
World Cultures, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 204, Spring 2015
Human Adventure, Spring 2013, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2018
- Instructor, Department of Foreign Languages, Istanbul University, Turkey
Developing Reading Skills, Spring 2004 to Spring 2006
Introduction to Academic Essay Writing, Spring 2004 to Spring 2006
- ESL Teacher, SDM Language School, Istanbul, 2003-2004

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2007 Research Assistant to Gayatri Reddy, University of Illinois at Chicago
2005-2006 Testing Committee, Dept. of Foreign Languages Istanbul University
2002 Assistant Editor, Iletisim Publishing House, Istanbul

ETHNOGRAHIC EXPERIENCE

- 2013-2014 Interviews with men partnered with women with vaginismus.
- 2013 Follow-up interviews with treated women with vaginismus.

- 2011-2012 Interviews with health care professionals and women diagnosed with vaginismus in Istanbul for the dissertation fieldwork.
- 2010 Interviews with health care professionals in Istanbul about vaginismus to understand the biomedical perspective on the issue.
- 2008 Interviews with young, college educated women in Istanbul to understand the ways in which they perceive their bodies and sexuality.
- 2007 Assistant to Dr. Siim Soot. "An Investigation on Public Transportation in Chicago", Department of Urban Planning, UIC

POSTERS, PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES

- 2018 Sen, Neslihan, co-organizer of the panel: Conceiving or Contesting the Nation: Sexual and Reproductive Subjects in the "New" Turkey. at CSAS Annual Meeting, Bloomington, IN
- 2017 Sen, Neslihan, co-organizer of the panel: "Body Politics, Neoliberalism and Conservatism: Gendered Negotiations with Biomedicine in Turkey" at the 116th Annual meeting of AAA, Washington, D.C
- 2017 Sen, Neslihan, "Treating the Nation: Vaginismus and Construction of Modern Subjects in Contemporary Turkey": Paper presented at CSAS Annual Meeting, Bloomington, IN
- 2017 Sen, Neslihan, "It is a Piece of Cake": Diagnosing Vaginismus, Treating the Body in Contemporary Turkey: Paper presented at the 116th Annual meeting of AAA, Washington, D.C.
- 2017 Sen, Neslihan, "I believe in Vaginismus": How to Domesticate Medical Knowledge on Sexuality in Turkey: Paper presented at the 19th annual Chicago Ethnography Conference.
- 2016 Sen, Neslihan, "I am Zero Kilometer": Constructs of Women, Body, and Sexuality in Turkey. Paper Presented at Annual Meetings of Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2015 Sen, Neslihan, Taming of the Shrewd: Treating Vaginismus and Saving the Family in Turkey. Paper Presented at the 114th Annual meeting of AAA, Denver.
- 2014 Sen, Neslihan and Sultan Tepe: Sacred Motherhood, Cardinal Sins, and Reproduction of the Nation's Market: A Review of Ongoing Abortion Discussions in Turkey. Paper Presented at Reproductive Health Working Group Annual Meeting, Muscat, Oman.
- 2013 Sen, Neslihan. "Ben Sifir Kilometreyim": Turkiye'de Kadin, Beden, Cinsellik. ("I am Zero Kilometer": Woman, Body, Sexuality in Turkey). Invited Lecture at Bilgi University Wednesday Series, Istanbul.
- 2013 Co-chair of the organizing committee of Second City Anthropology Graduate Student Conference at UIC.
- 2012 Sen, Neslihan. Let's talk about sex: Appropriation of Medical Language in Turkish Women's Narratives of Vaginismus. Paper presented at 111th Annual meeting of AAA, San Francisco.

- 2012 Sen, Neslihan. Solidarity vs. Rivalry: Treating Vaginismus in Group Therapies. Paper presented at the 2012 meeting of Middle Eastern Reproductive Health Working Group, Tunisia.
- 2011 Sen, Neslihan. Talking through medicine: Vaginismus as a channel for public discourse of women's sexuality in Turkey. Paper presented for "Medicalization of Sex" sponsored by the Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver.
- 2011 Sen, Neslihan. Talking Through Medicine: The Internalization of Biomedical Discourse in Turkey. Paper presented at Society for Applied Anthropology Meetings, Seattle
- 2010 Co-organizer for Local Knowledge, Global Vision: 2010 Model World Conference on Women's and Girls Rights, UIC
- 2010 Sen, Neslihan and Elizabeth Abrams, Labiaplasty as a lens on the Construction of the 'Normal' Vagina. Paper presented for "Gender, Bodies & Technology" sponsored by the Women's and Gender Studies Program at Virginia Tech
- 2010 Sen, Neslihan. Public Visibility and its Dilemma: Disciplining Women's Sexuality and Language in Turkey. Paper presented at Central States Anthropological Society 2010 Annual Meeting, University of Wisconsin, Madison.
- 2010 Sen, Neslihan and Elizabeth Abrams, Labiaplasty and Construction of the 'Normal'. Paper presented at GWS Brownbag series, UIC.
- 2010 Sen, Neslihan and Elizabeth Abrams, Labiaplasty and Construction of the 'Normal'. Paper presented at Thinking Gender, Graduate Student Conference at UCLA.
- 2009 Sen, Neslihan. Public Visibility and its Dilemma: Disciplining Women's Sexuality and Language in Turkey. 108th Annual Meeting of the AAA, Philadelphia.
- 2009 Moderator of the Panel Hegemonic Masculinity at Queertopia, Graduate Student Conference, Northwestern University
- 2009 Co-organizer for Local Knowledge, Global Vision: 2009 Model World Conference on Women's and Girls Rights, UIC
- 2007 Moderator of the Panel Producing Resistance and Food at the Project Biocultures, Graduate Student Conference, UIC
- 2007 Sen, Neslihan. Medicalization of Sexuality in Turkey. Poster Presented at the UCSRT Inaugural Conference, The Future of Sexuality Research: Methodological to Social Policy Innovations
- 2005 Sen, Neslihan. Sexism in Children's Books an Example of Indispensable Tool of Communication. Paper presented at 2nd International Children and Communication Congress: The Impact of Communication of Children

INVITED LECTURES

- 2016 Guest Lecture on Medicalization and Construction of Femininity and Masculinity in Turkey for Islam, Gender, and Sexuality, Northwestern University, Chicago.
- 2013 Sen, Neslihan. Let's talk about sex: Appropriation of Medical Language in Turkish Women's Narratives of Vaginismus. Paper presented at Brown bag series, at UIC
- 2013 Invited Lecture on HIV and medical anthropology for Global Perspectives on Women and Gender, UIC.
- 2012 Invited Lecture on Vaginismus and conducting research in the field for Ethnographic Methods, UIC.
- 2012 Invited Lecture on Vaginismus and conducting research in the field for Feminist Methodologies, Loyola University, Chicago
- 2012 Invited Lecture on Vaginismus and the fieldwork experience for Sociology of the Body, Health and Illness, Bogazici University, Istanbul
- 2012 Invited Lecture on Vaginismus and the public discourse of women's bodies and sexuality for Sociology of the Reproductive Health, Bogazici University, Istanbul
- 2011 Invited Lecture on Women's sexuality, sexual disorders and the interactions with biomedical authorities for Purple Talk (Mor Muhabbet), Purple Roof Women's Organization (Mor Cati)
- 2011 Invited Lecture on HIV and medical anthropology for Global Perspectives on Women and Gender, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2010 Invited Lecture on the effect of diet on evolution of brain and behavior for Human Evolution, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2010 Invited Lecture on Consent and Plastic Surgery on Female Genitalia for Gender and Society, Roosevelt University, Chicago.
- 2008 Invited Lecture on Medicalization and Construction of The "Modern Turkish Woman" for Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Loyola University, Chicago.
- 2008 Invited Lecture on Feminism in Turkey for Performance and Feminist Theory, Chicago Art Institute
- 2008 Invited Lecture on Structural Violence through the lens of HIV / AIDS for Global Perspectives on Women and Gender, University of Illinois at Chicago

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Reproductive Health Working Group (RHWG)

American Anthropological Association

Social Science History Association (SSHA)

Languages and Skills:

Turkish (native)
English (very good)

Certificates:

Certified ESL Teacher by Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul 2003.

Certified First Step to Sex Therapy, Center of Sexual Education, Treatment, and Research, (CETAD), Istanbul 2011.

REFERENCES

Dr. Gayatri Reddy, Associate Professor, Depts. of Anthropology and Gender and Women's Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago. **Mailing address:** University Hall Room 1226, 601 South Morgan Street, Chicago, IL 60607, (312) 413-5658 gayatri@uic.edu

Dr. Mark Liechty, Professor, Depts. of Anthropology and History, University of Illinois at Chicago. **Mailing address:** 1007 West Harrison St. M/C276, Chicago, IL 60607, (312)413-3581 liechty@uic.edu

Dr. Zeynep Korkman, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Gender Studies, University of California, Los Angeles. **Mailing address:** 1312 Rolfe Hall, Box 951504, Los Angeles, CA, 90095 korkman@ucla.edu