

N. İlgi Gerçek

Date and place of birth: 04/08/1983, İstanbul

Nationality: Türkiye

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N. İlgi Gerçek is an Assistant Professor in Ancient Near Eastern Languages and History. She holds a BA in Archaeology and History of Art from Bilkent University, and obtained her MA and PhD in Hittite and Mesopotamian Studies from the University of Michigan. She is mainly interested in the social and political history of Anatolia and neighbouring regions in the 2nd millennium BCE and has written on diverse topics as imperialism, frontiers, identity, mobility, and religion in Hittite Anatolia. She is co-director of the İstanbul Sippar Project, which involves the cataloguing and publication of the cuneiform documents from ancient Sippar, housed in the İstanbul Archaeological Museums. She is invested in the public promotion of cuneiform studies in Türkiye and the academic dissemination of the cuneiform collections housed in Turkish museums. To this end she has been co-directing the İstanbul Sippar Project, the preliminary results of which are in preparation for publication.

ACADEMIC EDUCATION

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| 2005-2012 | PhD, Department of Near Eastern Studies [now Middle Eastern Studies], University of Michigan |
| 2008 | MA, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan. |
| 2001-2005 | BA, Archaeology and History of Art, Department of Archaeology and History of Art [now Department of Archaeology], Bilkent University, |

WORK EXPERIENCES

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|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2017- | Assistant Professor in Ancient Near Eastern History and Languages, Department of Archaeology, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey. |
| 2016- | Program Coordinator and Instructor for Summer Program "Ancient Languages of Anatolia: Hittite and Akkadian," ANAMED (Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations), Koç University, İstanbul, Turkey. |
| 2016-2017 | Adjunct (Part-time) Faculty Member, Department of Archaeology, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey. |
| 2014-2016 | Adjunct (Part-time) Lecturer, Department of Hittitology, İstanbul University, İstanbul, Turkey. |
| 2013-2014 | Senior Research Fellow, ANAMED (Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations), Koç University, İstanbul, Turkey. |
| 2012-2013 | Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Canon and Identity Formation, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark. |

TEACHING

Courses

Name of the Course

Where

Hittite I (Fall 2016, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022)	Bilkent University
Hittite II (Spring 2017, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023)	Bilkent University
Hittite III (Fall 2017)	Bilkent University
Hittite IV (Spring 2017)	Bilkent University
Latin I (Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 Spring 2020)	Bilkent University
Latin II (Spring 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023)	Bilkent University
Latin III (Fall 2017)	Bilkent University
Latin IV (Spring 2018)	Bilkent University
Readings from Latin Texts (Fall 2021)	Bilkent University
Akkadian I (Fall 2020)	Bilkent University
Akkadian II (Spring 2021)	Bilkent University
Hittite Archaeology (Spring 2022)	Bilkent University
Mythologies of the Ancient Mediterranean Worlds (Fall 2022)	Bilkent University
The Land of a Thousand Gods: History and Literature of Ancient Anatolia (Spring 2023)	Bilkent University
Studying Past Social Identities: Identity and Ethnicity in Bronze Age Anatolia (Fall 2019)	Bilkent University
Ancient Anatolia: History and Literature (Spring 2020)	Bilkent University
Writing and Literacy in the Ancient Near East (Fall 2021)	Bilkent University
Introduction to Hittite (2016-2023)	ANAMED, Koç University
Hittite Legal Texts (Spring 2015, 2016)	İstanbul University, Department of Hittitology
Hittite Laws (Fall 2014, 2015)	İstanbul University, Department of Hittitology
Introdcution to Akkadian (Spring 2014)	İstanbul University, Department of Hittitology

Fieldwork

When

What, where, nos. of students

- 2023- Porsuk Höyük Excavation. Philologist. (Director: Eric Jean)
2021- Tell-Atchana Excavation. Philologist. (Director: Murat Akar)

SUPERVISION
Master Thesis

Year of submission	Author, Title, 1st/2nd supervisor, University
2023	Muhammet Ali Akman, Quantitative Approaches to Hittite Historical Geography: A Network Analysis of Hittite Toponyms, N. İlgi Gerçek, Michele Massa, Bilkent University.
2021	Ege Dağbaşı, foreigners and Foreignness in Hittite Anatolia, N. İlgi Gerçek, Müge Durusu Tanrıöver, Bilkent University.
2021	Beril Özbaş, The Socio-political Structure of Western Anatolia During the (L)BA, N. İlgi Gerçek, Müge Durusu Tanrıöver, Bilkent University.
2019	Roslyn Sorensen, Rural Administration in Hittite Anatolia, N. İlgi Gerçek, Marie-Henriette Gates, Bilkent University

(FIELD) RESEARCH

When	What, where, position, cooperation partners
2024-	In search of the City of the Storm God: Tarhuntassa, the lost capital of the Hittite Empire, project member (with Alvise Matessi, Michele Massa, Gubaz Mustafa Kibaroglu, Michaela Schauer)
2023-	PITHOS: Online Collection of Anatolian Material Culture (Digital Humanities Project), project member (with Müge Durusu-Tanrıöver, Néhémie Strupler, Oya Topçuoğlu, Yağmur Heffron, Pinar Durgun, Nancy Highcock)
2019-2024	İstanbul Sippar Project, co-director (with Selim F. Adalı)

SELECTED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND GUEST LECTURES

When	Conference Title, Paper / Poster, include organizer/chair if applicable
14/05/2024	“Sippar in İstanbul: Recent Work on the İstanbul Sippar Collection,” University of Turin (lecture, invited)
28/03/2024	“Land, Landscape, Language: Social Identities in Late Bronze Age Anatolia,” ARWA (online lecture, invited)
22/02/2024	“The Limits of Hittite Dominion: Communities and Landscapes of Hittite Borderlands,” University of Florence (conference paper, invited)
05/09/2023	“Whose Dignitaries? LÚ.MEŠ DUGUD and Local Governance in Hittite Anatolia,” 12 th International Congress of Hittitology, İstanbul (conference paper)

- 17/11/2023 *Problematizing the end of the Middle Bronze Age in Anatolia*, ASOR 2023 Annual Meeting, Chicago (workshop co-chair with Müge Durusu-Tanrıöver and Yağmur Heffron)
- 13/07/2024 “Dealing in Absolutes? The State and its Discontents in Hittite Anatolia,” 16th Melammu Symposium, *Concepts of Governance and the Study of Ancient Near Eastern Societies*, Freie Universität, Berlin (lecture, invited)
- 28/06/2024 „Where there is Water: Sacred Landscapes of Hittite Anatolia,“ Department of Cultures and Civilizations, University of Verona, June 28, 2023 (lecture, invited)
- 22/06/2023 Rethinking the Hittite State (and its Governance),” Department of Humanities, University of Pavia, June 22, 2023 (lecture, invited)
- 04/05/2023 “The Language of Geography,” *Integrated Approaches to the Political Geography of Southern Anatolia, 1650-550 BCE*, Department of Archaeology, Bilkent University (conference paper)
- 04-07/05/2023 *Integrated Approaches to the Political Geography of Southern Anatolia, ca 1650-550 BCE*, co-organizer with Dr. Michele Massa, Ankara, Bilkent University
- 09/12/2022 “Rites Aquatic: The Role of Water in the Constructions and Perceptions of Sacred Landscapes in Hittite Anatolia,” International ANAMED Annual Symposium *Aquatic Worlds of Anatolia* (conference paper, invited)
- 17/10/2022 Curating the Past: Cities and Ancestral Nostalgia in the Hittite Empire,” with Müge Durusu-Tanrıöver, at the ASOR 2022 Annual Meeting, in the session Archaeologies of Memory (conference paper)
- 25/03/2022 Culture, Contact, and Identity in Hittite Anatolia,” in the workshop *Languages and Cultures in Contact in the Ancient Mediterranean*, University of Verona (conference paper, invited)
- 05/10/2021 Constructed, Conjured, Communicated: Textual Landscapes of Hittite Anatolia,” N. İlgi Gerçek and Müge Durusu-Tanrıöver, in *1st Congress of Ancient Near East Landscape Archaeology and Historical Geography*, Sapienza University of Rome (online paper, invited)
- 21/11/2020 Resistance and Resilience in Hittite Anatolia,” *Interdisciplinary Approaches to Collapse, Resilience, and Resistance in the Ancient Near East Saturday*, November 21st 2020, Virtual Annual Meeting of the American Schools of Oriental Research (online paper, invited)
- 26/11/2019 The Short Arm of the State: Dissent, Resistance, and Rebellion in Hittite Records,” lecture in the series Kolloquium zum Alten Orient, Institut für Assyriologie und Hethitologie, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, (lecture, invited)
- 04/10/2019 The Short Arm of the State: Power, Participation, and Resistance in Hittite Frontiers,” *At the Margins: Interconnections of Power and Identity in the Ancient Near East*, Brown University, Providence (paper, invited)

- 10/07/2019 The İstanbul Sippar Collection: Preliminary Observations of the İstanbul Sippar Project," with Selim F. Adalı, *65th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale "Gods, Kings and Capitals in the Ancient Near East"* Paris (conference paper)
- 04/07/2019 River Deities and River Rituals in Hittite Anatolia," *Cult, Temple, Sacred Spaces: Cult Practices and Cult Spaces in Hittite Anatolia and Neighbouring Cultures*, Academy of Sciences and Literature, Mainz (conference paper, invited).

PUBLICATIONS

EDITORIAL WORK

Gerçek, N. İ. and M. Massa (Eds., *in preparation*) *Integrated Approaches to the Political Geography of Southern Anatolia, 1650-550 BCE* (special issue of *Anatolian Studies*, scheduled for publication in late 2024-early 2025).

ARTICLES IN INTERNATIONAL PEER REVIEW JOURNALS

Gerçek, N. İ. (2024). Going Local: An Agency-based Approach to Collapse, Resistance, and Resilience in Hittite Anatolia. *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern History*, special issue on *Collapse, Resilience, and Resistance in the Ancient Near East*.

2018 Hittite Geographers: Geographical Perceptions and Practices in Hittite Anatolia. *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern History* 4, 39–60. <https://doi.org/10.1515/janeh-2017-0026>

BOOK CHAPTERS

Gerçek, N. İ. (2023). Citizenship in Late Bronze Age Hatti. In , J. Filonik, et al. (Eds.), *Citizenship in Antiquity: Civic Communities in the Ancient Mediterranean*, (pp. 98-110). London and New York: Routledge.

Gerçek, N. İ. and L. d'Alfonso (2022). *Tapariya-* and *tapariyalles*: Local Communities and Local Agency in the Hittite Period and its Aftermath. In M. Leonard-Fleckman, A.S. Monroe, L., Stahl, M. J., and R. Johnson, D. (Eds.), *"Community of Peoples,"* (pp. 100-122). Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill.

Gerçek, N. İ. (2020). Rivers and River Cults in Hittite Anatolia. In S. Görke and C. W. Steitler (Eds.), *Cult, Temple, Sacred Spaces: Cult Practices and Cult Spaces in Hittite Anatolia and Neighbouring Cultures*, (pp. 253-278). Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag.

Gerçek, N. İ. (2017) "A Goatherd Shall Not Enter!": Observations on Pastoralism and Mobility in Hittite Anatolia. In E. Kozal, et al. (Eds.), *Questions, Dialogues and Approaches in Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology*, (pp. 257-278). Münster: Ugarit-Verlag.

Gerçek, N. İ. (2017) "The Knees of the Storm-god": Aspects of the Administration and Socio-political Dynamics of Hatti's Frontiers. In M. Alparslan (Ed.), *Places and Spaces in Hittite Anatolia: Hatti and the East*, (pp. 123-136). İstanbul: Zero Books.

Gerçek, N. İ. (2017). Approaches to Hittite Imperialism: A View from the 'Old Kingdom' and 'Early Empire' Periods (c. 1650-1350 BCE). In Schachner, A., Schoop, U. and Genz, H. (Eds.), *Innovation vs. Persistence: What makes the difference of the Hittite Empire in 2nd Millennium BC Anatolia?*, (pp. 21-38). İstanbul: Ege Yayınları.

BOOK REVIEWS

Gerçek, N. İ. (2023). Review of *Officials and Administration in the Hittite World*. Tayfun Bilgin. Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter. 2019. *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 82. <https://doi.org/10.1086/726743>

Durusu-Tanriöver, M. and N. İ. Gerçek (2020). Review of *Hittite Landscape and Geography*. Edited by Mark Weeden and Lee Z. Ullmann. *Handbook of Oriental Studies* 1/121. Leiden: Brill, 2017. *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 79. <https://doi.org/10.1086/710154>

2012 Review of Roger Matthews and Claudia Glatz, eds., *At Empire's Edge: Project Paphlagonia* (London: 2009), *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 132.

IN PRINT

Gerçek, N. İ. (*submitted*). Borderlands and Mobility in Hittite Anatolia. In J. Mokrisova et al. (Eds.), *Mobility in Antiquity: Rethinking the Ancient World through Movement*. London and New York: Routledge.

Gerçek, N. İ. (*submitted*). Rites Aquatic: The Role of Water in the Constructions and Perceptions of Sacred Landscapes in Hittite Anatolia, In A. Rappas et al. (Eds.), *Aquatic Worlds of Anatolia*. İstanbul: Koç University Press.

Gerçek, N. İ. (*submitted*). Frontiers and Identity in Hittite Anatolia: The Case of the Kaška of the Black Sea Region. In J.-G. Dercksen (Ed.), *New Approaches to Migration in the Ancient Near East (24-25 May 2013)*, Leiden, May 24, 2013.