

Dr. Verena Niepel – Researcher, EDI Rep. and Teacher
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Born: 27.12.1992



PHD

Sep 2019 to June 2024 PhD researcher

Newcastle University (UK)

School of Arts and Cultures/ Department of Media-Culture-Heritage

Northern Bridge DTP / AHRC Fellowship

Thesis title: Turkish Artists in Berlin: Creative Journeys of Non-Belonging

Focus of thesis: I researched how contemporary artists from Turkey develop a visual language of non-belonging after moving to Berlin and thereby empower themselves. In this context I examined exclusionary economic and political conditions for art practitioners in Germany's capital between 2010-2019. In this way I reconceptualize what it means to embark on a creative journey whilst populism is on the rise and with neoliberalism framing a globalized art world. This framework is to challenge institutional perspectives on diversity and advances knowledge on belonging in the field of art.

Selection of accomplished courses: Creative Thinking and Idea Innovation for Resourceful Researchers, Strategies for Career Development in Creative Business & Social Enterprise for a post-PhD World, Thinking Theories and Methods: Knowledge Construction in Cultural Organisations, Communicating Your Research: Performing Research, Being Human masterclass: promotion and the media - feedback survey and resources

Supervisors: Professor Susannah Eckersley, Dr. Joanne Sayner, Dr. David Butler

Job Experience gathered during PhD:

Feb 2024 to Aug 2024	Holder of post-submission Doctoral College Research Enhancement Fund for publishing research output
Dec 2023 to June 2024	Research Assistant in the field of art activism
Jan 2021 to March 2023	Teacher in Art History
Nov 2021 to Feb 2022	Research Assistant on the project 'Heimat and Community Museums in the Global Contemporary'
Sep 2020 to Oct 2021	Project Manager, speaker and EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) representative
June 2021 to Nov 2022	Lecturer Cultural and Social Studies

PhD related (technical) skills: Interviewee recruiting, data protection, project management, creative thinking and writing, personal branding, NVivo, Digital teaching tools, Online fieldtrips, R software, SHRM, freeform, Miro

WORK EXPERIENCE

Jan 2019 to June 2019	Potsdam TV, Potsdam TV Presenter (live evening news), creating TV content/short films, managing camera teams, guiding apprenticeship programmes
Dec 2018 to Apr 2019	EDU Werkstatt, Berlin Media production and Webdesign: Production and marketing of educational online content, Webdesign (CSS)
Sep 2018 to Dec 2018	Orient Institute Istanbul, Istanbul Assistant of director: EDV support, Academic research, Organizing conferences, Website maintenance and design
Apr 2017 to Nov 2018	Taz.gazete, Berlin Internship + freelance work: Writing articles on international contemporary art
Nov 2016 to Aug 2017	Nachrichtenmanufaktur, Berlin Journalist: Writing articles with a focus on Turkey, SEO, Onboarding of new colleagues, developing feedback methods for onboarding processes
Nov 2015 to Dec 2015	ARTE G.E.I.E, Strasbourg Journalist: Writing press texts, Editing screenplays, Texts for subtitles and synchronisations
Aug 2014 to Feb 2016	Rosgartenmuseum, Constance Student job: PR, Marketing, Research, Curating
Feb 2014 to Mar 2014	Guggenheim Venice, Venice Internship: Art education, Research

ENGAGEMENT AND ADVANCED TRAINING

Sep 2023	‘AI for Everyone’ online course by DeepLearning.ai Foundations and applications of generative AI in a working context
Jan 2021 to July 2022	Advanced Training in preparation for a fellowship in Higher Education with the Newcastle Educational Practice Scheme (NEPS)
Apr 2019	Personal training for presenting on TV by media-trainer Rainer Maria Tauber
June 2019	Smartphone video production at electronic media school Babelsberg
Mar 2016 to Nov 2018	Author at Selbstdarstellungssucht.de , Platform on digital (re)presentations in the arts
Jan 2017	Guiding and Presenting in museums course at University of Constance
Sep to Jan 2017	Arts and Cultural Management course at University of Constance
Dec 2012 to Dec 2016	Responsible for Sponsorship/Funding at Kulturuni Konstanz , Cultural organization for literature, performance and visual arts
Apr 2015	Initiation and Organization of Filmfestival ‘Shivers’ , Constance
Sep 2015	Online Journalism and Social Media course at Hanns Seidel Stiftung
June 2014	Photoshop course at Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen

SKILLS

IT

Good knowledge in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, Teams, PowerPoint, Access) with a focus on the design of E-learning materials, Graphics Programs (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator), Text analysis with NVIVO, Video/Audio Editing Programs (Premiere), SHRM

Languages

German (native speaker), English (excellent knowledge, oral and written), French (good knowledge, oral and written), Turkish (good knowledge, oral and written), Spanish (basic knowledge, oral and written)

Hobbies

Oil painting (see 'painting' section on my website verenaniepel.de), modern dance, tennis, yoga

References

Professor Susannah Eckersley (Supervisor thesis), Senior Lecturer at Newcastle University/School of Arts and Cultures, E-Mail: Susannah.Eckersley@newcastle.ac.uk

Ayhan Kaya (Supervisor Master thesis), Lecturer at Bilgi University Istanbul/Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Funding Director of Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, Founding Director of European Institute at Istanbul Bilgi University E-Mail: ayhan.kaya@bilgi.edu.tr

Dr. Tobias Engelsing (mentor), Director of Rosgartenmuseum Constance, E-Mail: Tobias.Engelsing@konstanz.de

EDUCATION

Sep 2016 to Sep 2018	Viadrina University of Europe Frankfurt (Oder) & Bilgi University Istanbul (Double-Master's Degree) Master of European Studies: Political Studies with final grade 1,4 (Master's thesis: Manufacturing Culture: Cultural Agents from Turkey arriving in Berlin. (1,0))
Oct 2012 to Sep 2015	University of Constance Bachelor of Arts: Literature, Art, Media with final grade 1,4 (Bachelor's thesis: Cloud variations of Kandinsky: The Immaterial in Occultism and Natural Sciences. (1,7))
Sep 2005 to Jun 2011	Secondary School in Erlangen: Ohm-Gymnasium Abitur with final grade 1,9

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Post-submission Doctoral College Research Enhancement Fund. Bursary that covers time needed to publish research outputs of PhD.

Teaching Fellowship (FHEA) (2022). In recognition of attainment against the UK Professional Standards Framework for teaching and learning support in higher education.

Northern Bridge DTP / AHRC Fellowship. Studentship for covering university fees, training, research activities, conference participations, writing retreats.

Award Winner: **Gender Equality in the Labour Market in Europe and Turkey (2018)**
Hosted by the Bilgi University Istanbul, European Institute. Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Peer reviewed article for Visual anthropology journal: Translating Non-belonging: How contemporary artists from Turkey empower themselves (anticipated date of publication: fall 2024)

Book review: Banu Karaca, 'The National Frame: Art and State Violence in Turkey and Germany', Third text, <https://thirdtext.org/niepel-karaca>, 2022

(With Samantha Vaughn): Immerse Yourselves! Allegra.lab – Anthropology for Radical Optimism, <https://allegralaboratory.net/immerse-yourselves/>, 2021

Social effects of Art – perspectives from Helsinki, JAR – Journal for Artistic research, <https://jar-online.net/en/social-effects-art-perspectives-helsinki>, 2021

New Perspectives in Turkey Studies in the German-Speaking Countries VI
Between Conflict and Cooperation – State and Society in Contemporary Turkey/
Junge Perspektiven der Türkei-forschung im deutschsprachigen Raum VI.: Zwischen Konflikt und Kooperation. Staat und Gesellschaft in der zeitgenössischen Türkei, in H-Soz-Kult, Workshop Report, <https://cutt.ly/Qkkz35a>, 2021.

Manufacturing Culture. Cultural Agents from Turkey arriving in Berlin / Die Produktion von Kultur. Künstler aus der Türkei kommen nach Berlin, Frankfurt/ Oder: MESPerspektiven, 2019.

“Women in Leadership positions in Germany and Turkey – a comparison,” in Istanbul Bilgi University, European Institute: Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, <https://eu.bilgi.edu.tr/en/news/duyuru-ogrenci-makale-yarismas-sonuclar-gender.>, 2019

Journalistic publications available here: <https://www.torial.com/verena.niepel>

OTHER RESEARCH OUTPUTS

- Podcast 2021 **Against the Tide: Arts Research and Activism** with artist, activist and writer Pelin Tan(2021), supported by Northern Bridge DTP / AHRC and published with Newcastle University
- Workshop 2021 **‘Serious Women: a discussion with Crystal Abidin, Sarah Burton, Sarah Hill and Cassandra Phoenix’** at Newcastle University
- ‘The Imposter Syndrome with Dr. Maddie Breeze’** at Newcastle University
- Workshop 2020 Digital and open access **Kahvehane** (Turkish for Coffeshop) with Kübra Zeynep Sariaslan (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient) und Filmemacher Eren Aksu („Other Than That, I’m Fine“, 2020)

CONFERENCES & SUMMER SCHOOLS

- Jan 2023 **Symposium/Workshop at Goldsmiths University: Tensions in Societal Values of Culture: Can Value Conflicts Be Managed or Mitigated?**
Expertise: Constructions of ‘value’ in Berlin’s art scene considering the implications of migration
- Dec 2022 **Interculturalities – Association of Critical Heritage Studies Conference**
Title of presentation: Analysing Artistic heritage as a form of empowerment - Turkish migrants in Germany
- Sep 2022 **Arts in Movement - Sociology of the Arts Mid-term Conference**
Title of presentation: Art Practices of Non-belonging: The Case of Turkish/Kurdish Artists in Berlin
- Sep 2021 **European Sociological Association Conference 2021**
Title of presentation: **The ‘Value’ of Turkish Arts**
- June 2021 **Central European University Hungary Summer School**
Topic: Commoning Art and Culture
- Feb 2021 **Northern Bridge Consortium (UK) Conference**
Title of presentation: **Art and Sociology: How to map the Berlin-Istanbul Connection**
- Oct 2020 **University of Hamburg, Network Turkey**
Conference: New Perspectives in Turkey Studies in the German-Speaking Countries VI. Between Conflict and Cooperation – State and Society in Contemporary Turkey.
Title of presentation: **How much Agency does the Artist Diaspora have in Turkey’s Public Diplomacy?**