

Dr Sera Yelözer Kılıç

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Education

23/08/2016–01/07/2022 **Doctor of Philosophy in Prehistoric Archaeology**, İstanbul University, İstanbul, Türkiye. Dissertation title: Detecting individual and collective identities during the early Neolithic: gender, age, and the intersectionality of identities at Aşıklı Höyük.

01/05–30/06/2019 **Visiting PhD Researcher**, CNRS & Université Côte d'Azur, UMR 7264, CEPAM: Cultures et Environnements. Préhistoire, Antiquité, Moyen Âge, Nice, France.

01/02–31/03/2019 **Visiting PhD Researcher**, University of Edinburgh, School of History, Classics and Archaeology, Scotland, UK.

03/09/2013–27/06/2016 **Master of Arts in Prehistoric Archaeology**, İstanbul University, İstanbul, Türkiye. Dissertation title: Beads from Aşıklı Höyük: descriptive variables and social aspects.

28/09/2011–25/06/2013 **Minor Diploma in Prehistoric Archaeology**, İstanbul University, İstanbul, Türkiye.

03/09/2009–16/07/2013 **Bachelor's Degree in History**, İstanbul University, İstanbul, Türkiye.

Professional Experience

02/02/2026–ongoing **Part Time Lecturer**, Kadir Has University, Core Program

23/09/2024–ongoing **Research Associate**, National Geographic Society-funded 'Small things, big stories: embodying prehistoric identity in Turkey' Project, İstanbul, Türkiye. PI: Emma Baysal (Bilkent University). Responsibilities: synthesis of results and publication.

23/09/2024–15/06/2025 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Koç University, Research Centre for Anatolian Civilisations (ANAMED), İstanbul, Türkiye.

16/10/2023–23/09/2024 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, National Geographic Society-funded 'Small things, big stories: embodying prehistoric identity in Turkey' Project, İstanbul, Türkiye. PI: Emma Baysal (Bilkent University). Responsibilities: analysis, dissemination of results and updates from the project.

03/10/2022–01/10/2023 **Research Engineer**, CNRS & Université de Bordeaux, UMR 5199, PACEA: De la Préhistoire à l'Actuel: Culture, Environnement et Anthropologie, Pessac, France. PI: Solange Rigaud (CNRS). Responsibilities: data collection on West Asian prehistoric ornaments and database management as part of the 'Out of the core: exploring social networks at the dawn of agriculture in Western Asia' Project.

Research Outputs

Publications: Most of my publications are available open access at <https://ku.academia.edu/SeraYelözer>

Total number of publications: 1 co-edited book; 8 journal articles; 9 book chapters

H-indexes: WoS: 3 (30 citations); Scopus: 3 (34 citations); Google Scholar: 6 (91 citations)

Edited Books

1. Uzdurum, M., **Yelözer, S.**, Sezgin E. (eds.) (2023) Arkeolojide kimlikler/Identities in archaeology. TAG-Turkey Series, Proceedings of the 3rd Meeting of TAG-Turkey, İstanbul: Ege. ISBN-ISSN: 9786258056648.

Journal Articles

1. Baysal, E.L., & **Yelözer, S.** (2026) Invisible archaeologies of decolonisation: Western Asian archaeology, a view from Türkiye. *Public Archaeology*: 1-24. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14655187.2025.2594804>

2. Baysal, E.L., & **Yelözer, S.** (2024) From prehistoric shores: marine shell ornaments, landscape, interaction and the Neolithic transition in Anatolia. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 53: 104312. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2023.104312>
3. Özbaşaran, M., **Yelözer, S.**, Kayacan, N., & Duru, G. (2024) Aşıklı Höyük’ün çocukları. *Höyük* 13: 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.37879/hoyuk.2024.1.001>
4. Goring-Morris, N., Munro, N., Özbaşaran, M., Kayacan, N., Ergun, M., Uzdurum, M., **Yelözer, S.**, Kalkan, F., & Duru, G. (2024) Initial processes of sedentism atop the Central Anatolian plateau: recent results from Balıklı. *Antiquity* 98(401): 1163–1180. <https://doi.org/10.15184/aqy.2024.100>
5. Baysal, E.L., & **Yelözer, S.** (2023) Searching for the individual: characterising knowledge transfer and skill in prehistoric personal ornament making. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 30: 172–202. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10816-022-09589-z>
6. **Yelözer, S.** (2022) Kişisel süs eşyaları kimlikler hakkında ne söyler? Metodolojik yaklaşımlar ve Anadolu ve Levant’tan arkeolojik örnekler. *Anadolu* 48: 1-44. <https://doi.org/10.36891/anatolia.1098690>
7. Kodaş, E., **Yelözer, S.**, Çiftçi, Y., & Baysal, E.L. (2022) Symbolism in action: techno-typology, function, and human-artefact dynamics in figures/non-figured bone plaques from Pre-Pottery Neolithic Boncuklu Tarla, Turkey. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 65: 101393. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaa.2022.101393>
8. Duru, G., Özbaşaran, M., **Yelözer, S.**, Uzdurum, M., & Kuijt, I. (2021) Space making and home making in the world’s first villages: reconsidering the circular to rectangular architectural transition in the Central Anatolian Neolithic. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 64: 101357. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaa.2021.101357>

Book Chapters

1. Baysal, E.L., & **Yelözer, S.** (2026) Bodies and behaviours: archaeological material culture and the interpretation of identity at the Neolithic transition. In G. Longhitano, K. Grömer, A. Dickey, G. Muti, S. Hitchens (eds.), *Personal adornment in past societies: weaving and wearing identity*. *Interdisciplinary Contributions to Archaeology*. Springer, Cham: 227–243. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-03906-4_12
2. **Yelözer, S.**, & Özbaşaran, M. (2022) Entangled at death: beads, gender, and life cycles during the central Anatolian Early Neolithic; Aşıklı Höyük as a case study. In K. de Graef, A. Garcia-Ventura, A. Goddeeris, & B. Alpert-Nakhai (eds.), *The mummy under the bed: essays on gender and methodology in the Ancient Near East*. Zaphon: 289–323. ISBN: [978-3-96327-088-8](#)
3. **Yelözer, S.**, & Alarashi, H. (2021) Yaşamda ve ölümde: Akeramik Neolitik Dönem’de boncuklar ve kimlikler, Aşıklı Höyük örneği. In A. Günal-Türkmenoğlu, Ş. Demirci (eds.), *Türkiye arkeolojisinde takı ve boncuk: arkeometrik çalışmalar*. Ege: 81-93. ISBN: [605767376X](#)
4. Arslan, A., & **Yelözer, S.** (2021) Materyal kültür ve toplumsal cinsiyet ilişkisi. In A. Baysal (ed.), *Materyal kültür ve insan: yeni yaklaşımlar*. Bilgin Kültür Sanat: 61-100. ISBN: [9786257799355](#)
5. **Yelözer, S.**, & Christidou, R. (2020) The foot of the hare, the tooth of the deer and the shell of the mollusc: Neolithic osseous ornaments from Aşıklı Höyük (central Anatolia, Turkey). In M. Mărgărit, A. Boroneant (eds.), *Beauty and the eye of the beholder: personal ornaments across the millennia*. Cetatea de scaun: 197–222. ISBN: [978-606-537-461-4](#)
6. **Yelözer, S.**, Kayacan, N., Özbaşaran, M., & Duru, G. (2019) Volkanik Kapadokya’da Neolitiğin başlangıcı. In M. Hakman (ed.), *Kapadokya’da kimlik, hafıza ve kültürel miras*. Arkeoloji ve Sanat: 49-82. ISBN: [9786053964971](#)
7. **Yelözer, S.** (2018) The beads from Aşıklı Höyük. In M. Özbaşaran, G. Duru, M.C. Stiner (eds.), *The early settlement at Aşıklı Höyük: Essays in honour of Ufuk Esin*. Ege: 383–404. ISBN: [978-605-9680-83-7](#)
8. **Yelözer, S.**, & Sönmez, D. (2018) Continuity and change through personal ornaments: Aşıklı Höyük, central Anatolia, Turkey. In C. Douché, F. Pichon (eds.), *From the Caucasus to the Arabian Peninsula: Domestic spaces in the Neolithic*. Routes de l’Orient: 169–206. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15484466>
9. **Yelözer, S.** (2017) Şey-özne-arkeolog: geçmişin cinsiyetlendirilmesi ve eril önyargılar. In G. Duru, K. Eren, E. Koparal (eds.), *Arkeolojik şeyler*. TAG-Turkey Series, Proceedings of the 2nd meeting of TAG-Turkey, Ege: 83-96. ISBN: [9786059680455](#)

Reports

1. **Yelözer, S.** (2023) Detecting individual and collective identities during the early Neolithic: gender, age, and the intersectionality of identities at Aşıklı Höyük. *Neo-Lithics*, 22, A1–A5. <https://doi.org/10.48632/nl.2022.1.98882>

Manuscripts in press, review, and preparation stages

Edited Books

1. Kurzawska, A., Baysal, E.L., Sobkowiak-Tabaka, I., Cartolano, M., & **Yelözer, S.** (eds.) (in prep.) *Archaeological and anthropological approaches to body adornment, symbolic communication, and identity-making in past societies*. *Interdisciplinary Contributions to Archaeology*. Springer, Cham.

Journal Articles

1. **Yelözer, S.**, & Baysal, E.L. (submitted) Embodied identities at the Neolithic transition: the social lives of personal ornaments in central Anatolia. Submitted to the *Holocene*.
2. **Yelözer, S.**, Rigaud, S., Doyon, L., & et al. (submitted) A multiscale biographical analysis of Upper Palaeolithic engraved red deer canine ornaments from El Mirón Cave, Spain. Submitted to *Antiquity*.
3. **Yelözer, S.** (in prep.) Beyond power: framing gender, identity, and difference in the Central Anatolian Neolithic.
4. **Yelözer, S.**, Pereira, D., Rigaud, S., & Duru, G. (in prep.) Me and others: alterity and identities through the scope of bead diversity in Neolithic primary burials.
5. Aydoğan, A., Vural, K.B., ... **Yelözer, S.** ... Somel, M., & Erdal, Y.S. (in prep.) Shedding light on the “dark age” of Anatolian prehistory using paleogenomics: mobility and changing lifeways between 6000–3000 BCE.

Book Chapters (peer-reviewed)

1. Kay, K., & **Yelözer, S.** (submitted) Identity, intersectionality and kimlik: negotiating who-ness in life and death in prehistoric southwest Asia. In J-H. Plug, K. Croucher (eds.), *The Routledge handbook of prehistoric burials in Southwest Asia*. Routledge.
2. **Yelözer, S.** (in prep.) Becoming someone? Children’s adornment, personhood and identity in Neolithic Anatolia. In A. Kurzawska, E.L. Baysal, I. Sobkowiak-Tabaka, M. Cartolano, S. Yelözer (eds.), *Archaeological and anthropological approaches to body adornment, symbolic communication, and identity-making in past societies*. Springer.
3. **Yelözer, S.**, Pereira, D., Rigaud, S., & Duru, G. (in prep.) Sharing beads, making ties: mapping personhood and relational identities through ornament networks at Neolithic Aşıklı Höyük. In C. Mazzucato, S. Nett, F. Pichon (eds.), *The Routledge handbook of networks and material culture in Ancient Western Asia*. Routledge.

Presentations in International Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops (* = invited talks)

2025 A posthumanist feminist approach to the apotropaic power of the gorgon in the ancient Mediterranean. 31st EAA Annual Meeting, Belgrade, Serbia, 05/09/2025 (co-author, with E. Jones).

2025 [Decolonial perspectives on identity and archaeology: a view from within / Türkiye](#). University of Leicester School of Archaeology and Ancient History Wednesday Seminar Series, Leicester, UK, 22/01/2025. (*)

2025 Bodies in transition: diversity and multiplicity of identities in Neolithic central Anatolia. SIMEP Conference: Social Interactions in Mediterranean Prehistory, Barcelona, Spain, 21/10/2025.

2024 Beads and identities at Aşıklı Höyük: a network of relationships. 30th EAA Annual Meeting, Rome, Italy, 31/08/2024.

2024 Orta Anadolu erken Neolitik Dönem kişisel süs eşyaları: üretim ve kullanım izi analizi sonuçları. 44th International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry, Nevşehir, Türkiye, 29/05/2024.

2024 [More than just ‘pretty things’: Body adornment and identity construction in prehistoric Anatolia](#). ARWA lecture series: Anatolian identities, 01/02/2024 (online). (*)

2023 Merging narratives, unravelling identities: an intersectional approach to architecture, mortuary customs and body adornment at the dawn of sedentism. 13th International Congress of the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East, Untelling the Neolithic of Southwest Asia workshop, Copenhagen, Denmark, 25/05/2023. (*)

2022 Searching the light: characterising Neolithic polishing techniques of butterfly beads in northern Mesopotamia and Anatolia. PPN10: Advancing Current Methods in Lithics Analysis, Copenhagen, Denmark, 19/10/2022 (co-author, with H. Alarashi).

2022 Transformation and conservation: learning and memory at the Epipalaeolithic/Neolithic transition in Turkey. 28th EAA Annual Meeting, Budapest, Hungary, 03/09/2022 (co-author, with E. Baysal).

2022 Becoming someone? Entangling and disentangling materiality, personhood, and social age during the early Neolithic. Nordic TAG, Session: Personhood in 21st Century Archaeological Theory, 21/04/2022 (online).

2021 [Geç olsun, ‘güç’ olmasın—Türkiye arkeolojisinde toplumsal cinsiyet çalışmaları neden geç kaldı?](#) Kimlikler/Identities: 3rd Meeting of the Theoretical Archaeology Group-Turkey, 09/05/2021 (online).

2020 [Bodies, beads and identities: changing attitudes towards the display of identities at Neolithic Aşıklı Höyük \(~8350-7350 cal BC, central Anatolia\)](#). Moving Bodies Workshop held by IFEA and the University of Bordeaux, 25/09/2020 (online). (*)

2019 Detecting individual and collective identities: gender, age, crafts, and the intersectionality of identities at Aşıklı Höyük. University of Edinburgh School of History, Classics and Archaeology Seminar Series, Edinburgh, UK, 07/03/2019. (*)

2019 Entangled at death: beads, gender, and the dead at early Neolithic Aşıklı Höyük. Gender, Methodology, and the Ancient Near East-GeMANE3 Workshop, Ghent, Belgium, 09/04/2019.

2018 Original versus the imitated: a diachronic view of the red deer canine pendants and their skeuomorphs. Accessing the Inaccessible: 6th Annual Koç University Archaeology & History of Art Graduate Research Symposium, Istanbul, Türkiye, 23/03/2018.

2015 Continuity and change through personal ornaments: Aşıklı Höyük, central Anatolia, Turkey. Routes de l’Orient International Conference: From the Caucasus to the Arabian Peninsula: Studying Domestic Spaces in the Neolithic, Paris, France, 17/10/2015.

Workshop, Conference, and Academic Organisation

2024 Embodied identities: unravelling symbolic threads through ornaments, garments, and portable objects, EAA 30th Annual Meeting, Rome, Italy, 31/08/2024. Conference session exploring the role of personal ornaments and portable objects in identity-making practices through the ages, featuring 27 speakers. Co-organised with colleagues from Türkiye, Poland, and Italy.

2021 Kimlikler/Identities, TAG-Turkey 2021, 6-9/05/2021. Third meeting of the Theoretical Archaeology Group-Turkey, featuring 10 sessions, 52 speakers, and c. 300 attendees. Co-organised with colleagues from Türkiye. The event was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2020-22 #onliNEOLITHIC: reading the Western Asian Neolithic through differences. Two-year-long lecture series bringing together 25 speakers and c. 400 attendees. Co-organised with colleagues from Türkiye. The event was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. More information is available here: <https://www.onlineolthic.org>

Media Engagement and Science Communication: *I have produced blog entries, articles for popular magazines and exhibition catalogues, participated in podcasts and public engagement panels, and given invited lectures to NGOs, exploring the intersection of archaeology, arts, and the public. Below is a list of the most recent examples:*

2025 [Home-making at ANAMED—The joy and frustration of making, unmaking, and remaking “a room of one’s own”](#). Blog post for Koç University, Research Centre for Anatolian Civilisations website.

2023–24 [Small things, big stories: 2024 recap](#) (2023); [Delving into the magnificent world of the beads – 2023 museum study session](#) (2024). Blog posts for the ‘Small things, big stories’ project website.

2022 [Kazı izleri seminer serisi: bilim ve Sanat](#). Panel talk on dialogues between art and archaeology, Istanbul, Türkiye (18/02/2022).

2022 [Memory of the matter](#). Episode 2.11 of the Justice Atlas Podcast, 19/05/2022. Transcribed and published in a book by İletişim Yayınları in Türkiye in 2023.

2021 [Adımları atlamak: Türkiye’de arkeolojiyi feminizmle buluşturmakta neden “geç kaldık”?](#) Opinion piece for the 5Harfliler website on the relationship between archaeological practice and feminist activism in Türkiye (available on the website via the hyperlink).

Experience in Archaeological Fieldwork and Analysis of Personal Ornaments: *Since 2013, I have worked as an archaeologist and personal ornaments specialist on excavation and survey projects in Türkiye (115 weeks in total). I am currently a team member of the Aşıklı & Balıklı Research Projects in central Anatolia and serve as a specialist for two new projects investigating the Epipalaeolithic and Neolithic periods in Anatolia.*

Laboratory analysis of personal ornaments

2024–present Sırçalıtepe, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, Niğde, Türkiye.

2023 Analysis of ornaments from El Mirón Cave, Upper Palaeolithic, Spain, CNRS-PACEA, Pessac, France.

2022–present Eşek Deresi Cave, Epipalaeolithic, Mersin, Türkiye (microscopic analysis conducted at Koç University, İstanbul).

2022–2023 Boncuklu Tarla, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, Mardin, Türkiye.

2018–present Balıklı, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, Aksaray, Türkiye.
 2013–present Aşıklı Höyük, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, Aksaray, Türkiye.

Excavation/Fieldwork

2018–present Balıklı Excavation Project, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, Aksaray, Türkiye.
 2013–present Aşıklı Höyük Research Project, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, Aksaray, Türkiye.
 2016–18 Cappadocia Survey Project, Aksaray, Türkiye.
 2015 Göbekli Tepe Research Project, Pre-Pottery Neolithic, Şanlıurfa, Türkiye.

Grants, Awards, Scholarships

2024 **Funding for postdoctoral research** from Koç University, Research Centre for Anatolian Civilisations (ANAMED). Funding value: €13.819,01 (awarded as £512.860). Project title: Objects of memory: symbolic item depositional practices at the dawn of sedentism in Anatolia.

2023 **Project grant** from Koç University, Suna & İnan Kıraç Research Centre for Mediterranean Civilisations (AKMED). Project title: Stone bead production and use in prehistoric Anatolia: an experimental approach. Funding value: €566 (awarded as £21.000).

2023 **Funding for postdoctoral research** within the National Geographic Society-funded ‘Small things, big stories: embodying prehistoric identity in Turkey’ Project, PI: Dr Emma Baysal (Bilkent University) (currently working as a Research Associate in the same project). The amount allocated for my research: €25.591 (awarded as \$26.400).

2018 **George M.A. Hanfmann Fellowship Award** for PhD research, American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT). Funding value: €19.373 (awarded as \$20.000).

2016 **Erasmus+ Fellowship** for International Stay for MA Research at the University of Groningen (3 months). Funding value: €1.200.

Workshops and Certificates

“Researching, Writing and Publishing on Gender, Culture and Society” Workshop organised by the British Institute at Ankara, 23-24.10.2025 & 23-24.03.2026, Ankara, Türkiye.

“Beads and Seals: Technologies” International Winter School organised by Prof M. Vidale & Prof I. Angelini, 14-18.01.2019, Università Degli Studi di Padova, Venice, Italy.

Review and Editing Services

Associate editor: Arkeoloji Bilimleri Dergisi/Turkish Journal of Archaeological Sciences:
<https://www.arkelojibilimleridergisi.org> (2020–present)

Reviewer: Journal of Archaeological Sciences: Reports (04/25; 01/24); Mediterranean Journal of Gender and Women’s Studies (02/24); Antropoloji/Ankara University Faculty of Letters Anthropology Journal (06/23).

Published Translations

12/2022 Ege kıyılarının bilge sakinleri: İonialılar / The sages of the Aegean shore: Ionians. Edited by Yaşar Ersoy & Elif Koparal, Translated by G. Bike Yazıcıoğlu, Yiğit Adam, Hilal Gültekin & Sera Yelözer. Yapı Kredi Culture and Arts Publishing, Anatolian Civilisations Series (Scientific articles, English to Turkish translation).

12/2021 Neolitik süs eşyaları: boncuğa dönüßen taşlar / Neolithic ornaments: when stones become beads. Subtitle translation from English to Turkish for the animated documentary on Neolithic personal ornaments by Dr Hala Alarashi & Past and Curious.

01/2019 Göbekli Tepe: UNESCO dünya mirası alanı ve değişen yaklaşımlar by Lee Clare, Moritz Kinzel, Devrim Sönmez and Celal Uludağ, Mimarlık 405 (Scientific article, English to Turkish translation).

Memberships in Scientific and Professional Organisations

2023–present European Association of Archaeologists (EAA).
 2023–present British Institute at Ankara (BIAA).
 2016–20 World Archaeological Congress (WAC).

Languages: Turkish: mother tongue; English: fluent—completed primary, secondary, and high school education in an English-speaking institution (YDS score: 95).