

SELİN GÜRDERE AKDUR, Ph.D.

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Research Interests: Social Design; Design for Social Innovation; Participation and Collaboration in Design Practices; Participatory Design; Co-design; Interdisciplinary Design; Socially Oriented Design Practices; Design, Technology and Society Studies; Social Entrepreneurship; Social Cooperatives; Design and Art Activism.



EDUCATION

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

Ph.D. in Industrial Design, 2014-2019

Dissertation Title: [Socially Oriented Design Practices in Turkey: A Critical Analysis of Participation and Collaboration](#)

Advisor: Assist. Prof. Dr. Harun Kaygan

Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey

M.A. in Design, 2010-2012

Thesis Title: Diverse Approaches to 'Publicness' in Public Art: A Reading on Public Art Projects in Istanbul

Advisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Didem Kılıçkıran

Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey

B.S. in Wood Product Industrial Engineering, 2002-2007

Thesis Title: Ergonomic Problems Experienced in Dwelling Kitchens and the Proposals for Their Solutions

Advisors: Prof. Dr. Erol Burdurlu and Prof. Dr. İlker Usta

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Izmir Institute of Technology, Faculty of Architecture, Dept. of Industrial Design, Izmir/Urla, Türkiye.

Full Time Faculty Member, Assist. Prof. Dr. (2025 – ongoing)

Istanbul Bilgi University, Faculty of Architecture, Industrial Design Department, Istanbul, Türkiye.

Full Time Faculty Member, Assist. Prof. Dr. (2020 –2023)

Coordinator & Instructor:

BID 402- Industrial Design Studio VI (*Graduation Projects Studio*)

BID 301 - Industrial Design Studio III (*focused on Mass Production with Industry Collaboration; e.g., Bosch-Siemens-Profilo*)

BID 412- Current Issues and Practices in Design (*Mandatory Course*)

BID 327 Social Design (*Elective Course*)

BID 190 Practice in Design and Production Technologies Internship

BID 290 Production Internship

BID 390 Design Office Internship

Vertical & Horizontal Transfer, Double Major and Minor Commission

TOBB Economics and Technology University / Faculty of Architecture and Design, Industrial Design Department, Ankara, Turkey - Part-time Instructor. (2016-2018)

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey, Guest Instructor and Invited Commentator, 2018, 2019.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

TOBB Economics and Technology University, Medical Products Design Center, Ankara, Turkey,

Full Time, Doctoral Research Fellow, 2015-2018.

Project title: Development of Outdoor Exercise Park Equipment in Relation to Users' Needs and Expectations (with Assist. Prof. Dr. Armağan Karahanoğlu)

Funded by: the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, Research Support Programs Presidency, TÜBİTAK ARDEB 1001 Research Projects Programme

Project Coordinator: Assist. Prof. Dr. Aydin Öztoprak

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey Researcher, 2016.

Project Title: Interdisciplinary Collaboration at METU: Evaluation of the Interdisciplinary Design Studio of Technology, Design and Innovation Center (with Assist. Prof. Dr. Arsev Umur Aydinoğlu and Özümcan Demir)

Funded by: Scientific Research Projects (BAP)

Project Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pınar Kaygan

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey Researcher, 2016.

Project Title: Management of Affordances in Product Design and the Critical Analysis of Affordances **Funded by:** Scientific Research Projects (BAP)

Project Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Harun Kaygan

Kadir Has University, İstanbul, Turkey

Full Time, Masters Research Fellow, 2012.

Project Title: DesignHEALS: Investigating Design Guidelines for Healthy Assisted Living Settings

Funded by: European Commission 7th Framework People Program (Marie Curie International Reintegration Grant)

Project Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Orçun Kepez

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

SCI/SCIE/ SSCI/AHCI Publications

Gürdere Akdur, S. 2023. Stakeholders' involvement in social design practices in Turkey, *The Design Journal*, doi.org/10.1080/14606925.2023.2225707

Gürdere Akdur, S. and Kaygan, H. 2019. Social Design in Turkey through a Survey of Design Media: Projects, Objectives, Participation Approaches, *The Design Journal*, 22(1), 51-71.
[DOI:10.1080/14606925.2018.1560592](https://doi.org/10.1080/14606925.2018.1560592)

Other Publications

Gürdere Akdur, S. 2020. Social Design in Coronavirus Pandemic. *XXI*, April.

Gürdere Akdur, S. 2020. Social Design in Times of Crisis. *XXI*, May.

Gürdere Akdur, S. 2016. Public Art and Public-ness. *NBeyin Dergisi* (3): 56-60.

Kaygan, P., Demir, Ö., **Gürdere, S.** and Tuna, N. 2015. Gender of products and Design. *Arredamento Mimarlık* (295): 110-118.

Conference Papers

Kaygan, P., **Gürdere Akdur, S.**, Aydinoglu, A., Kaygan, H. and Demir, Ö. 2016. "Do You Know What a Sensor is?": Peer Learning in Interdisciplinary Design Teams. Paper presented at the *Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching: Frameworks and Practice Conference*, 7 April 2016, University of Sheffield, UK.

Gürdere Akdur, S. 2016. Main Design Approaches Focused on Social Problems. In *UTAK 2016 Bildiri Kitabı: Sorumluluk, Bağlam, Deneyim ve Tasarım*, edited by N. A. G. Z. Börekçi, D. Özgen Koçyıldırım and A. Günay, 357-377. METU Faculty of Architecture Press, Ankara.

Karahanoğlu, A., Öztoprak A. and **Gürdere Akdur, S.** 2016. Investigation of Outdoor Exercise Parks Usage Patterns: The Example of Kavaklık Park. In *UTAK 2016 Bildiri Kitabı: Sorumluluk, Bağlam, Deneyim ve Tasarım*, edited by N. A. G. Z. Börekçi, D. Özgen Koçyıldırım and A. Günay, 57-69. METU Faculty of Architecture Press, Ankara.

Gürdere, S. 2010. Universal Design Oriented Storage Unit for Individuals with Disabilities. *I.Lisansüstü Sempozyumu*, 20-21 May 2010, Ankara University, Ankara.

Burdurlu, E., Elibol, C., Ulupınar, M., **Gürdere, S.** and Öz, B. 2007. Ergonomic Problems in Residential Kitchens and Their Solutions. *13. Ulusal Ergonomi Kongresi*, 6-8 December 2007, Kayseri.

WORKSHOPS & PROJECTS

Save the Children: Increasing the socio-economic resilience of disadvantaged communities in Esenyurt / İstanbul district Project. Social Design Workshop, 2022.

Coordinator, Facilitator.

Legal Design Workshop, April 2022. Coordinator, Facilitator.

Supporting Stakeholders: Bilgi Legal Design Lab, Bilgi ÇOÇA, Disabled Child Rights Network

Participating NGOs: Nesin Foundation, Genç Hayat Foundation, Roots & Shoots Turkey, PKU Family Association (Member of Disabled Child Rights Network and Rare Diseases Network)

Theme of the Workshop: Child Rights and Child Benefit

Number of Participating Students: 59 - from different classes, disciplines and nationalities, 48 are Industrial Design students & 11 volunteering Lab students; 1 from communication and the rest from law faculty.

Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Technology: Designing VR, AR, METAVERSE PROJECTS, 2021-2022. Coordinator, Facilitator.

Women Blending in Life Platform– Training Project, 2022.

ArtsMap: Sustain the Stage! - Train the Trainer Program, 2021. Co-design Workshop – Coordinator, Facilitator.

“Designing the Business Model” Workshop, 2020. Coordinator, Facilitator.

Social Design Workshop, 2020. Coordinator, Facilitator.

Universal Design Workshop, 2010. Coordinator, Facilitator. (With Turkey Paralytics Association members.)

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

INVITED SPEAKER

Legal Design Turkey Podcast Series/ Law podcast: **Social Design Conversation**, January 2022.

ArchCareer Summit 2021.

Social Cooperative Development Program Education (Funded by the European Union under the Civil Society Support Programme) 2020.

New Generation Cooperatives: Sustainability and Building a Business Model, 2020.

ROUND TABLE MEETINGS

Social Cooperatives Center of Excellence Project, 2022.

Establishing a Design-Oriented and Interdisciplinary Interface in Producing Innovative Solutions to Social Problems - Feasibility Study, TED University - Ankara Development Agency, 2019.

JURY ACTIVITIES

PhD Thesis Monitoring Committee Member

Institution: Istanbul Technical University – ITU Graduate School of Science, Engineering and Technology - Industrial Design Program

PhD Candidate: Sevcan Ekmekcioglu; **Supervisor:** Prof. Dr. Şebnem Timur

Title: Design Thinking Approach in Social Impact-Oriented Projects: An Evaluation on Social Entrepreneurship Projects in Turkey, 2021-2025.

Phd Thesis Defense Committee Member

Institution: Istanbul Technical University – ITU Graduate School of Science, Engineering and Technology - Industrial Design Program

PhD Candidate: Saniye Fişgin Korkmaz **Supervisor:** Prof. Dr. Hatice Hümanur Bağlı

Title: An Examination of Design School and Local Government Collaborations, 2020.

Commentator for several Master Theses at Middle East Technical University and Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, 2018-2021.

REFEREEING ACTIVITIES

Invited Manuscript Reviewer for

Art and Design (Istanbul University Journal), 2021-...

The Design Journal, 2019-...

Design for Health, 2019-...

DESIGN CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Member of the International Scientific Review Panel

DRS LEARN X DESIGN 2021 (Design Research Society) 6th International Conference for Design Education Researchers, 23-26 September 2021, Shandong University of Art & Design in Jinan, China. **Conference Theme:** Engaging with Challenges in Design Education

DRS LEARN X DESIGN 2019 (Design Research Society)

5th International Conference for Design Education Researchers, 9-12 July 2019, METU, Ankara, Turkey.

Co-Chair (with Harun Kaygan, Guy Julier, and Åsa Ståhl)

Conference Theme: Insider Knowledge

Track 12. Integrating Socially and Critically Oriented Approaches to Design Education

UTAK 2018 - 3rd National Design Research Conference, 12-14 September 2018, METU, Ankara

Co-Chair (with Harun Kaygan, Can Altay and Fatma Korkut)

Conference Theme: "Design and Hope"

Themed session Title: Is new collective creativity the return to the societal? Alternative Practices from Turkey.

SPACE and CULTURE

6th International Cultural Studies Conference, 8-10 September 2011, Kadir Has University, Faculty of Art and Design (with Cultural Studies Association)

Participation in Organizing Committee.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Designer, Interior Architectural Applications and Furniture Design, 2013

Anna Fresko Interior Design, Istanbul

Design Project Manager, Furniture Design, 2008-2011

Delta Office Furniture, Istanbul

Wood Products Industrial Engineer/Assistant Production Manager, 2008

Adnan Serbest Furniture and Decoration, Istanbul

Designer, Outdoor Lighting Design, 2007

2D Group: 2D Collection, Istanbul

Freelancer, 2007-2018 Selected Works

AFAD, Interactive Disaster Awareness Area, Space and Concept Design, Ankara, 2018

Kadir Has University, 3414 KHAS Rezan Has Museum Store (with Orçun Kepez), Istanbul, 2012

Bosch Built-In Home Appliances, Concept Kitchen Design (for website application), 2010

Bursa Metropolitan Municipality – Fair Stand Design, 2010

MEMBERSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Member of Social Design Network (2023)

Academic Fellowships

TÜBİTAK ARDEB 1001, Research Projects Programme, Ph.D. Research Fellow, 2015-2018

Design Research Scholarship, Kadir Has University, Masters Research Fellow, 2012

Design Awards

Exporters Union - Design for Export, 4th National Design Competition, Office furniture. Professional Category: Finalist, 2011

Association of Turkish Furniture Manufacturers (MOSDER), 5th National Home Furniture Design Competition, Furniture design for individuals with disabilities. Professional Category: Mention Price, 2009

Sports Awards

The Member of **Turkish National Swimming Team**. 1998-1999-2000

Turkey Swimming Championship, **1st Place**. 1998-1999-2000

European Youth Swimming Championship, France, 2000

Turkish National Swimming Record Holder-50 Meters Breaststroke, 1999

Balkans Junior Swimming Championship, **3rd Place**. Romania 1999

LANGUAGES

Foreign Language Proficiency Exam (e-YDS) English: 87.5/100

IELTS English: 7.00/9.00 (February 2014)

English Summer School, Harrow House International College, Swanage, England, 1996

CERTIFICATES

Safeguarding Essentials (December 2022), Humanitarian Leadership Academy.

SOCIAL AND ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS

Sports & Art

Ankara Equestrian Club, Horse Riding. 2017
Member of Divekolik Diving Center. 2010
Radio Atmosphere, Internet Radio, Manager. 2007 –2015
Kendim için Sanat, Art & Design Blog, Founder, Editor. 2011
Member of Hacettepe University Aviation Club, Paragliding. 2004
Founder Member of Hacettepe University Rock Music Community, HURAK. 2003
Member of İstanbul Yüzme İhtisas Club, Professional Swimmer. 2002
Bursa DSI Iznik Summer Camp, Swimming Trainer. 2000
Member of Turkish National Swimming Team, Professional Swimmer. 1998-2000
Member of Bursa DSI Swimming Team, Professional Swimmer. 1996-2000
Member of Bursa Equestrian Club, Horse Riding. 1994 -1996
Member of Folklore Team, Inal Ertekin Primary School. 1993-1996
Member of Skiing Team, Inal Ertekin Primary School. 1990-1996

Social Responsibility Projects

Volunteer of Needs Map.
Founder of Social Design Platform. March 2020.
Volunteer of 'Vote and Beyond' Association. 2014-2015
Volunteer of the 'Leave Us Alone' Anti-war multimedia photograph project, coordinated by Niko Guido. 2013
Volunteer of Turkey Paralytics Association (TOFD)
Volunteer for an audio library for visually impaired (Ataturk Library)
Volunteer for a special training centre for mentally challenged children (NEKSAV)