

NORA SUREN
nsuren@umass.edu
norasuren@gmail.com

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences August 2019 – Present
Ph.D. in Communication

- Entered the department with a full-tuition scholarship and a graduate teaching assistantship position

North Carolina State University, College of Humanities and Social Sciences May 2019
M.S. in Communication

- Entered the department with a full-tuition scholarship and a graduate teaching assistantship position
- M.S. thesis title: “An Actor-Network Approach to the Gezi Protests.” Committee members: Adriana de Souza e Silva (Chair), Stephen B. Crofts Wiley, Grant Bollmer

Istanbul University, Faculty of Letters 2013
B.A. in English Language and Literature

- Entered the department as one of the top 5 students
- Final thesis on women in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century England analyzed through Jane Austen’s Emma

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Research Assistant for Dr. Jonathan Ong	Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024
Instructor of Record for Writing as Communication (COMM 375)	UWW Summer 2023
Instructor of Record for Writing as Communication (COMM 375)	Fall 2022
Instructor of Record for Writing as Communication (COMM 375)	Spring 2022
Instructor for Intro Interper Comm & Cult (COMM 118)	UWW Summer 2021
Instructor of Record for Interpersonal Comm & Cult (COMM 250)	Spring 2021
Teaching Assistant for Intro Interper Comm & Cult (COMM 118)	Fall 2020
Teaching Assistant for Indstu-Film Festival (COMM 296F)	Fall 2020
Teaching Assistant for <i>Sci Fi Cinema</i> (COMM 297SF)	Spring 2020
Teaching Assistant for <i>Film & TV Production Concepts</i> (COMM 231)	Fall 2019
Teaching Assistant for <i>Intro to Media Industries & Inst</i> (COMM 122)	Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

North Carolina State University

Teaching Assistant for <i>Introduction to Communication Theory</i> (COM 230)	Fall 2017
Teaching Assistant for <i>Critical Analysis of Communication Media</i> (COM 327)	Spring 2018
Instructor of Record for <i>Intro to Public Speaking</i> (COM 110)	Fall 2018 & Spring 2019

PUBLICATIONS IN REVIEW

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Suren, N. (2023, in review). “Love from me and my belly.”: Audience reactions to body positive images on Instagram.” *International Journal of Communication*.

Scharrer, E., Ali Durrani, A., & Suren, N. (2023, in review). Remixing gender in advertising: A qualitative study of early adolescents’ views of gender targeting in LEGO commercials. *Advertising & Society Quarterly*.

PUBLICATIONS

Yalin, A., Suren, N., & Ong, J.C. (2024). “Medical populism, nationalism, and parody: Unmasking digital dissent in Turkey’s COVID-19 landscape”. In Briant, E. & Bakir, V. (eds.) *Routledge Handbook on the Influence Industry*. London & New York: Routledge.

Scharrer, E., Ali Durrani, A., Suren, N., Kang, Y., Zhou, Y., & Butterworth, E. (2023). Early adolescents’ views of gender on YouTube in the context of a critical media literacy program. *The Communication Review*, 1-20.

Suren, N. (2022). ““This is the kind of influencer we want to see!” A study of body representation among Instagram influencers’. In S. S. LeBlanc & K. M. Hopper (Eds.), *One size does not fit all: Undressing the performance of bodies in popular culture* (pp. 47-66). Lexington Books.

Scharrer, E., Kang, Y., Zhou, Y., Durrani, A. A., Suren, N., & Butterworth, E. (2022). Tough guys and trucks: Early adolescents’ critical analysis of masculinity in a TV commercial. *International Journal of Communication*, 16(0), 20.

Suren, N. (2022). ‘An actor-network approach: The role of art in public spaces in the Gezi protests’. In V. A. Newsom & L. M. Lengel (Eds.), *Embodied activism: Performative expressions of political and social action* (pp. 151-173). Lexington Books.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Ong, J., & Suren, N. Unveiling Narratives: Asian American TikTok Creators Resisting Anti-Black Crime Stereotypes and Cultivating Solidarity. Presented at the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy in Harvard Kennedy School. October 2023.

Suren, N. Navigating double oppression online: How digital content creators maintain their ideological integrity under algorithmic bias and Turkish authoritarianism. Presented at the Conference Global Perspectives on Platforms, Labor & Social Reproduction. June 2023.

Suren, N. “Love from me and my belly.”: Audience reactions to body positive images on Instagram. Presented at the Feminist Scholarship Division of ICA 2023.

Ong, J., & Suren, N. COVID influencers in global context. Presented at MIT Media Ecosystems Analysis group. July 2022.

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Suren, N. ‘This isn’t a MAGA rally. It’s the Emmys.’: Recreating the white masculine elite public sphere at the opening monologues of entertainment award ceremonies. Manuscript presented at the Language and Social Interaction Division of NCA 2021. (Top Student Paper Award)

Scharrer, E., Suren, N., Durrani, A., Kang, Y., & Zhou, Y. A qualitative study of early adolescents’ views of gender expression and representation on YouTube. Manuscript presented at 71st Annual ICA Conference, *Engaging the Essential Work of Care: Communication, Connectedness, and Social Justice*. (Virtual Conference)

Scharrer, E., Suren, N., Durrani, A., Kang, Y., & Zhou, Y. A K-12 Educator/University Partnership: The Pros and Cons for Media Literacy Education North East Media Literacy Conference 2020.

Suren, N. The Role of Art and Bodies against Authoritarianism: Crossroads of Hybrid Spaces to Constructing Counter-Hegemony in the Gezi Protests. Manuscript presented at the Activism and Social Justice Division of NCA 2020. (Virtual Conference)

Suren, N. Redefining Viewer Gaze: The Case of Fleabag. Manuscript presented at Northeast Popular Culture Association. (Virtual Conference)

BOOK REVIEW

Suren, N. (in press). Book Review of *Mediated Misogynoir: Erasing Black Women’s and Girls’ Innocence in the Public Imagination* by Kalima Young. *Critical Studies in Media Communication*.

Suren, N. (2021). Book Review of *Distributed Blackness: African American Cybercultures* by André Brock, Jr. *Lateral*, 10(2). <https://doi.org/10.25158/L10.2.21>

GRANTS

Suopis Graduate Fellowship	(2024)
OEI Advancing Community, Democracy, and Dialogue Grant	(2024)
Armenian Student Association, the George Keverian Scholarship	(2023)
Research grant from the MIT Media Ecosystems Group	(2021)

SERVICE

Member/Graduate Fellow of GloTech Lab at UMass Amherst	(2023- Present)
Co-organized Asian American Digital Politics Workshop at UMass Amherst	(2023)
Secretary of Communication Graduate Student Association at UMass Amherst	(2020 – 2021)
Created content and taught Media Literacy Program at Deerfield Elementary School	(2020)
Ad-Hoc Manuscript Reviewer for Social Media + Society	(2020 – Present)
Curator for Student Film Showcase at UMass Amherst	(2019)
Member of NC State Communication Graduate Student Association	(2017 – 2019)
Presented the culmination of my thesis research at the M.S. Student Colloquium at NC State	(2019)

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ARCK, non-profit organization providing arts education for kids, Boston, MA May – August 2018
PR & Marketing Volunteer

- Planned content and created brand narratives, written copy, mailing templates, visuals, newsletters and reminders to keep our audience engaged.
- Created weekly social media content plans and strategies to keep the ARCK branding consistent and to convey the ARCK principles clearly to build a professional and credible brand for the audience.
- Searched sponsors and reached out to potential donors and highlighted the upcoming ARCK events for better visibility and awareness towards the foundation's activities.

J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency, Istanbul, Turkey 2012-2017
Digital Account Executive & Social Media Specialist

- Managed the social media accounts of several well known local and global brands including Turkey's one of the leading FMCG brands, Ülker as well as Miller Genuine Draft and Sunsilk (hair care brand produced by the Unilever group).
- Handled the year-round projects of Ülker and Unilever brands, attended brief meetings and analyzed the expectations in detail.
- Facilitated design related operations and digital projects
- Worked closely with the client and kept them informed regarding the status of the project.
- Prepared monthly Excel reports to track the key performance metrics for the social media accounts.

Agos, Armenian bilingual weekly newspaper, Istanbul, Turkey 2012- 2014
Freelancer, Writer & Editor

- Created content for the Culture & Art section of the newspaper, participated in popular events and wrote my take on those.
- Interviewed several bands, actors and actresses and prepared articles about them.

Disturbed People Advertising Agency, Istanbul, Turkey February – June 2012
Internship, Copywrite

- Reviewed and edited various materials.
- Contributed to the creative process by writing innovative content.

Time Out Magazine, Istanbul, Turkey September – November 2011
Internship, Writer & Editor

- Prepared the "This Month" section of the magazine about cultural events of the month.
- Conducted interviews with famous individuals.
- Translated texts from the English edition of *Time Out* for publication in the Turkish version.

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