



Boğaziçi University Western
Languages and Literatures
2nd Undergraduate Conference

CALL FOR PAPERS

THEME: BORDERS

Possible topics may include;

- ◆ Geopolitical borders
- ◆ Linguistic borders
- ◆ Liminality
- ◆ Borderlands
- ◆ Literary borders
- ◆ Intercultural borders
- ◆ The ontological border
- ◆ Digital borders
- ◆ Bordered bodies

SUBMISSION FORMAT

To be sent to

bounwllundergradconf@gmail.com;

- ◆ .DOCX format
- ◆ 250-350 words
- ◆ Presentation title precedes abstract
- ◆ Biography of 50-100 words follows abstract
- ◆ Biography in 3rd person

**For more information on submission
format and requirements:
visit @ucowll.boun on Instagram or
scan the QR code.**

IMPORTANT DATES

8 SEPTEMBER 2025

Submission deadline
for abstracts

22 SEPTEMBER 2025

Announcement of participants

17 OCTOBER 2025

Conference date

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

PROF. SİBEL IRZİK



More Information: <https://westlanglit.bogazici.edu.tr/> IG: @ucowll.boun bounwllundergradconf@gmail.com



Boğaziçi University Western
Languages and Literatures
Undergraduate Conference

CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite you to the Undergraduate Conference of Western Languages and Literatures (UCOWLL'25)
This conference aims to bring together undergraduate students to share their academic work on the theme of borders.

Borders shape our world – not just as physical lines that divide us geopolitically, but as dynamic thresholds between languages, cultures, identities, modes of expression, and even emotions and imaginations. As much as they are shaped by human intention; borders are also the byproducts of lived experience, constantly being drawn, erased, and redrawn around us, and we often participate in this process, consciously or not, through our daily interactions and choices. They can serve as tools of division and control, either as the physical lines that divide us on a map or metaphorical boundaries like social norms and taboos. However, they can also be markers of what shapes our everyday lives and subjectivities. They can help structure our understanding of concepts and categories, drawing lines not just between nations, but between values, practices, and beliefs.

Borders define and divide, but they also create new identities, new ways of belonging, and new structures of meaning. At the same time, borders are rarely experienced as stark, immovable lines. More often, they are gradual, lived spaces – permeable thresholds we move through rather than simply observe. The slow, imperceptible nature of many borders often confuses and numbs our perception, creating a world of what seems like clearly defined black-and-whites without acknowledging the liminal gray zones that truly shape our existence. These liminal "Borderlands" not only gradually define what lies on each side of a specific border, but also become spaces of their own.

Still, borders are not just drawn and accepted – they are also crossed, challenged, and transformed. Some borders ignite resistance, solidarity, experimentation, and transformation. In the face of divisions, borders can inspire moments of subversion and transgression. Whether through art, migration, activism, or imagination, crossing a border can lead to its dismantling or reinvention. However, even when borders disappear, their traces continue to shape how we understand ourselves and the world around us.

Therefore, with the theme of "Borders," UCOWLL'25 invites you to consider how borders divide, define, and sometimes dissolve the categories that organize human life. We welcome reflections on all kinds of borders – whether territorial, cultural, textual, bodily, generational, or conceptual. How are borders formed, lived, challenged, or reimagined?

Topics for the presentations may include, but are not limited to:

- Geopolitical borders
- Linguistic borders
- Liminality
- Borderlands
- Literary borders
- Intercultural borders
- The ontological border
- Digital borders
- Bordered bodies
- Historical borders
- Visual borders
- Generational borders
- Borders of imagination
- Sacred borders
- Intracultural borders
- Psychological borders
- Consciousness as a border space
- Border as a metamorphosis

Your work may investigate the thematization of such topics in literature, film, and media. However, works from other disciplines of humanities and social sciences are also welcome for submission.

Please send a Word document (.docx) containing your abstract of 250-350 words that clearly summarizes your presentation topic and indicates how it contributes to the theme of extinction to bounwllundergradconf@gmail.com until 7 October 2024.

Add a working title for your presentation before your abstract, and your biography of 50-100 words after your abstract. Please use the third-person voice in your biography.

Presentations should not exceed 15 minutes and you are advised to rehearse your speech for this.

Dates:

Abstract submission deadline: 8 September 2025
Announcement of acceptance: 22 September 2025
Conference date: 17 October 2025

More Information: <https://westlanglit.bogazici.edu.tr/>

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