Anglo-Turkish Society hybrid lecture, 23 September 2025, 6.00 pm (UK time)

Speaker: Dr. Sevinc Garner

Venue: Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy St, Fitzrovia, London W1T 5BT

Title: '**Language, Identity and Diaspora: Migrant Women from Turkiye in the UK**'

This project explores the identity challenges faced by migrant women from Turkiye in the UK, focusing on their perspectives on language maintenance and the negotiation of core values such as national, religious, ethnic, and gender identities after migration. By situating their lived experiences within wider debates on language, identity, and migration, the study examines how processes of linguistic adaptation both shape and are shaped by cultural, national, and gendered self-perceptions.

As a member of this community and researcher on women, language, and culture, Dr Garner observed how migrant women navigate identity, belonging, and cultural continuity in diaspora. Her work, also as an interpreter for women from Turkiye, has also highlighted the significant challenges many face, particularly those linked to limited language competencies. In light of this, this study asks questions such as 'How the host country's language shapes acculturation, values, and identities among women with a shared heritage and how these processes affect core values such as gender roles, cultural identity, national belonging.

By engaging with these questions, the project seeks to make a contribution to the field of diaspora linguistics while also fostering wider academic discussions on identity, language, and migration within diverse communities across the United Kingdom.

Booking essential: https://sevinc-garner-presentation.eventbrite.co.uk

Contact: contact@angloturkishsociety.org.uk





Dr. Sevinc Garner is a Lecturer in Linguistics and Cultural Studies at the University of Portsmouth, UK. Dr Garner holds a PhD in Discourse Analysis and Gender from the University of Manchester. Her doctoral research explored representations of 'New Womanhood' from both Western (U.S.A) and Middle Eastern (Turkish) perspectives in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Her research interests span literature, linguistics, gender and cultural studies. Her current research lies within applied linguistics and discourse analysis, with a sustained focus on the intersections of language, gender, and migration. She has published and presented internationally and has led award-winning projects promoting education and social inclusion, particularly for migrant women.

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