Istanbul Nişantaşı University Foreign Languages Department

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Istanbul Nişantaşı University Hosts FOAI-15



FOAI-15 (Forum on Assessment Issues) was successfully held at Istanbul Nişantaşı University on November 7–8, 2025, under the theme "*Practical Approaches to Assessing Writing Skills*".

Experts and educators from over 40 universities and institutions came together to discuss how writing skills can be assessed more fairly, consistently, and effectively. Throughout the two-day event, distinguished experts shared innovative methods and current approaches to assessing writing in language education. Participants engaged in productive discussions, exchanging insights and experiences from recent research and classroom practices in language assessment.

Our Academic Coordinator Siavash Bakhtshirin and Head of Department Assoc. Prof. İhsan İkizer welcomed participants at their opening speeches, expressing their pleasure in hosting the event and highlighting its significance for academic collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovative practices in the field. As part of the conference, Prof. Dr. Claudia Harsch delivered an inspiring speech on language assessment and learner development, which resonated deeply with the audience.

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the FOAI-15 Organizing Committee for their dedicated efforts and valuable contributions to the successful realization of this event.



Cambridge Türkiye's Event Held at Istanbul Nişantaşı University

Hosted by Istanbul Nişantaşı University, in collaboration with the university's Foreign Languages Department, Cambridge Türkiye and YDS Academy's "*Become a Linguaskill Trainer*" event was organized on 18 November 2025.

In this event, subject-matter experts in their field provided participants with key insights into the structure and application of the Linguaskill exam, along with how it contributes to assessing students' English language skills.

In addition, as part of the event, YDS Academy Founder Yücel Yılmaz, YDS Academy Kadıköy Branch Director Metin Önder, Cambridge University Press & Assessment Türkiye Country Manager Nicholas Ebden, Cambridge University Press & Assessment Regional Director Natasha Arain, Business Development Manager Ülkem Karaca Buckley made an official visit to the Head of the Foreign Languages Department Assoc. Prof. Dr. İhsan İkizer, and Istanbul Nişantaşı University's Rector Prof. Dr. Ayşegül Komşuoğlu Çıtıpıtıoğlu.



TESOL Türkiye LAMSIG Biennial Conference 2025

Organized by TESOL Türkiye LAMSIG on 15 November 2025, the LAMSIG Biennial Conference 2025 focused on themes such as leadership in language teaching, digital transformation, and change management.

The event brought together administrators and instructors from the Foreign Languages Departments of various universities in Türkiye. Conferences on change management, digital leadership, and a workshop on digital transformation processes were conducted throughout the conference. Representing our university, Sefanur Onur attended the event.

TOEFL Experience Days – Unlocking the Power of TOEFL

Our Academic Coordinator, Siavash Bakhtshirin, and Testing & Assessment Senior Specialist, Zarrin Khatibi, represented our department at the TOEFL Experience Days – Unlocking the Power of TOEFL event in Istanbul.

The event offered a deep dive into the enhanced TOEFL iBT® launching in January 2026, with guided walkthroughs, roundtable discussions, and hands-on demo stations.



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