

Ömer Emre KUSCU

Date of birth: 12/06/1999 | **Nationality:** Turkish | **Phone number:** (+90) 5379919095 (Mobile) | **Email address:** kuscuomeremre@gmail.com | **Website:** <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Oemer-Emre-Kuscu/research> | **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ömer-emre-kuşcu-25234221a/> | **Address:** United States (Home)

WORK EXPERIENCE

MED SCIENCE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS – ISTANBUL, TÜRKİYE

GEOGRAPHY TEACHER – 09/2023 – 01/06/2025

- Instructed Social Studies and Geography from 6th to 12th grade, including graduate classes, and lectured an average of 27 hours weekly.
- Coached students to gain an excellent high school and university education.
- Provided mentorship to 7th and 12th-grade students.

ORGANIZATION OF TURKIC STATES – ISTANBUL, TÜRKİYE

PROJECT ASSISTANT – 12/2023 – 01/2025

- Worked as a project assistant/researcher on an international project called "Children's Atlas of the Turkic World," accepted by the International Turkic Academy within the Organisation of Turkic States.
- Aimed to create a children's atlas to support the formation of common geographical awareness of the Organisation of Turkic States.
- Conducted the project with academicians, child psychology experts, sociologists, etc.
- Assisted in the process of sending the project to print and translating it into the native languages of 6 member and observer countries.
- The prepared atlas will be published in the official curriculum of the relevant countries.

ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY – ISTANBUL, TÜRKİYE

ASSISTANT STUDENT – 09/2021 – 06/2022

- Assisted my counsellor for a certain period at the university.
- Took part in the official affairs of the geography department and the processes related to the department courses.
- Attended modules with my lecturer, conducting presentations while honing my theoretical knowledge and practical abilities further.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

16/08/2025 – CURRENT United States

PHD IN GEOGRAPHY University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Website <https://ggis.illinois.edu/directory/profile/mkusc2>

10/09/2021 – 12/06/2024 Istanbul, Türkiye

MASTER'S DEGREE IN GEOGRAPHY Istanbul University

Attended Modules:

- Scientific Research Methods and Publication Ethics
- Regional Geopolitical and Geostrategic Developments
- Seeking Global Strategic Balance: Central Asia
- Global Strategy The Quest For Balance Caucasus
- Regional Structure of Internal Migration and Refugee Problem

Final grade 3.75/4.00 | **Thesis** Geographical Aspects of War: Military Geography (Savasin Coğrafi Yonu: Askeri Coğrafya)

15/08/2017 – 25/06/2021 Istanbul, Türkiye

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN GEOGRAPHY Istanbul University

Attended Modules:

- Political Geography

- Cultural Geography
- Historical Geography
- Central Asian Turkic Republics
- Regional Geography of South Asian Countries
- City Planning

Field of study 3.97/4.00

● SKILLS

ArcMap | Blender | Lumion | ArcGIS Pro | QuantumGIS | ArcGIS | Microsoft Word | Microsoft Excel | Microsoft Powerpoint | Outlook | Google Docs

● PUBLICATIONS

2025

Military Geography at The Intersection of War and Space

A book study on war and space, the impact of geography on war, and the role of war in the development of geographical thought and science.

Throughout the book, the methodologies of military geography, geopolitics, military history, geostrategy, and biopolitics are utilized.

Under the name of military geography, scientific background, historical development process, subject scope, and importance, applications in various world schools are discussed with case studies.

Analyzing many regions and historical cases comparatively, the book covers many topics from the origins of the desire to conquer geographical space to the changes it has undergone today and in the future.

In sum, this study aims to offer a different perspective on the roots of geography and traces the violent relationship between nature and space.

The book study will be published in international indexes and is planned to be published in 2025.

Authors: Ömer Emre Kuşcu, Kaan Kapan; Publisher: Istanbul University Press

2024

Emerging Powers In Indo-Pacific Geopolitics: A Political Approach

Ideal Publishing, ISBN: 978-625-8375-93-0

Book Chapter: From Asia-Pacific to Indo-Pacific: Geography-Driven Rivalry and the New Geopolitics

2024

Geography and Cartography in the Ottoman Empire

To be published by the Istanbul University Press in 2024.

Book Chapter: An Analysis of the Urban Use of Military Geography from the Ottoman Empire to the Present: The Case of Edirne

2021

Military geography in conceptual and historical terms: Geography or geopolitics?

Turkish Journal of Geography, Issue 78, Pages 145-154

Link <https://doi.org/10.17211/tcd.1006406>

2022

Spatial Use of Geostrategic Conditions in Military Geography

TUCAUM 2022 International Geography Symposium Proceedings Book, 439-454. ISBN: 978-605-136-618-0

2024

Tsarist Eyes on the Steppe: 19th Century Military Geographical Activities of the Russian Empire in Central Asia and Military Geographical Intelligence

Accepted by the International Geography Symposium (TUCAUM). To be published in 2024.

2025

Military Geography, Biopolitics and World War II

Popular military history magazine which published periodically in print. To be published in the 25th issue of the journal.

Journal of Anafartalar, 2025, Spring, 25th Issue.

● **NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

2024 – CURRENT

Contact Person for Young Geographers 3rd Region and Representative of Turkey

The Asian Geographical Association

3. Regional Contact Person (Turkey, Azerbaijan, Israel, Iran) and Turkey Representative

Link <http://www.aga-ygwg.com/JoinUs>

2022 – CURRENT

Deputy Head of Youth Unit

Turkish Geographical Society

It is an organization with representatives in the geography departments of approximately 30 universities in Turkey and approximately 3000 members.

2021 – 2022

Representative of Istanbul University Youth Unit and Board Member

Turkish Geographical Society

● **SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES**

2023

Al Jezeera Interview

In 2023, I conducted an interview with Al Jezeera newspaper on the physical and human geography of the region regarding the earthquake.

2023

Children's Atlas of the Turkic World

I assisted the international project by International Turkic Academy, Organization of Turkic States.

05/2024 – 06/2024

Middle East Academy

An academy on the sociological, political, and geographical structure of the Middle East was organized with competent political and academic figures in the field.

Role: Co-Organizer

Link https://www.cografya.org.tr/?post_type=post

2023

Academy of Geography and Earthquake

Within the Turkish Geographical Society, I participated in an academy aiming to discuss the causes and consequences of the Kahramanmaraş-based earthquake that occurred on 6 February 2023 and the measures that can be taken against possible disasters in the future. The project was attended by Prof Dr Celal Sengor, Prof Dr İlber Ortaylı, Prof Dr Yücel Yılmaz and numerous prominent academics.

Role: Co-Organizer

2023

Turkic World Academy

Within the framework of the Turkish Geographical Society, we organised an academy with Geographers, Politicians (Ambassadors, Undersecretaries, Deputy Ministers) and Historians from various disciplines such as Geography, International Relations and History, aiming to discuss the past, present and future of the Turkic World.

Role: Co-Organizer

2022

Climate Change: Green Transformation and Innovation

We organised a programme on Climate Change, Green Transformation and Innovation under the Turkish Geographical Society with the guests Thierry Hoppe, Consul General of Denmark and Peter Ericson, Consul General of Sweden in Istanbul. The programme was attended by the rectors and deans of various renowned universities, as well as a number of consuls.

Role: Co-Organizer

2022

Turkey's Space Strategy from the Perspective of Geographical Factors

In the event, which was held with the participation of Mr Serdar Huseyin Yildirim, President of the Turkish Space Agency, and moderated by me, we exchanged information about space geography and Turkey's space strategy.

Role: Co-Organizer and Moderator

2023

Turkish Naval Strategies and Geography in the 100th Year of the Republic

We held an event on "Turkish Naval Strategies and Geography in the 100th Year of Our Republic" with the participation of Mustafi Rear Admiral, President of Turkish Degs Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cihat Yayci in the Board Room of Istanbul University Faculty of Literature.

Role: Co-Organizer

2022

Blue Homeland and Geography

Our programme on "Blue Homeland and Geography" was held with the guest of Retired Rear Admiral Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cihat Yayci and moderated by me. The programme hosted Prof. Dr. Haluk Alkan, Former Vice Rector of Istanbul University and Prof. Dr. Hayati Develi, Former Dean of the Faculty of Literature.

Role: Co-Organizer and Moderator

2022

Urban Heat Island and Effects

The event was organised with the participation of Prof. Dr. Ihsan Cicek, Vice President of the Turkish Geographical Society and Lecturer at Ankara University, Department of Geography.

Role: Co-Organizer

2022

City-Culture-Space in the Light of Geography

It was conducted under the Turkish Geographical Society with the participation of Istanbul Provincial Director of Culture and Tourism Dr Coskun Yilmaz.

Role: Co-Organizer

2024 – 2024 Online

Use of Spatial Information Technologies in Geography Education

Role: Co-Organizer

2024 – 2024

Geography and Strategic Mapping

Engineer from the General Directorate of Mapping. "Geography and Strategic Mapping" with the participation of Colonel Polat Dalkiran from the General Directorate of Mapping.

Role: Co-Organizer

2022 – 2022 Online

Past, Present and Future of Geography

Role: Co-Organizer

2017 – 2022

Field Studies

During my undergraduate and postgraduate studies, I have participated in field studies organised in each region of Turkey. I have been involved in several field studies as responsible (route determination, team leadership, etc.)

● CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Military History Congress

I attended the congress organised by the *National Defence University*.

Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Change Seminar

I participated in the seminar organised by the *Turkish Ministry of National Education*.

International Geography Symposium

I participated in *Ankara University Symposium Proceedings Presentation*.

WebCBS Seminar

I attended the seminar held by the *Turkish Geographical Society*.

● HONOURS AND AWARDS

1st Place Award – Istanbul University

I was awarded the First Place Award in the Department of Geography at Istanbul University with a grade point average of 3.97 out of 4.

2nd Place Award – Istanbul University

I was awarded the second place award at Istanbul University Faculty of Literature.

Outstanding Achievement Award – Istanbul University

I received the Istanbul University Outstanding Achievement Award.

Postgraduate Scholarship – TUBITAK

I have been selected as a TUBITAK 2210 (Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey) Graduate Scholar.

YLSY Scholarship – Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Turkey

I have been awarded a scholarship by the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Turkey for the selection of students for postgraduate study abroad.

VOLUNTEERING

Representative at the Turkish Geographical Society

I have been volunteering at the Turkish Geographical Society since 2020.

ADDITIONAL COURSES AND CERTIFICATES

CitiesX: The Past, Present and Future of Urban Life

*Harvard University
(Continues)*

Climate Change, Peace and Security: Understanding Climate-Related Security Risks Through an Integrated Lens

United Nations

Data for Policymaking, Risk Analysis and Intelligence (For Migration)

International Organization for Migration/United Nation

Integrating Climate Change in UNICEF's Planning and Programming

United Nations

Cities and Climate Change

United Nations

International Relations: Exploring Territorial Divisions

The Open University

Global Warming and Its Effects

Middle East Technical University

Environmental Protection

Global Institute

Military History Summer School

National Defence University

TUBITAK (Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey) 4004 Project Participant

International Relations Council Association

16. Security Academy

Bogazici Institute

Effective Communication Techniques

Bilgeis METU

Leadership

Bilgeis METU

Crisis Management

Global Politics Centre

AUKUS Safety Pact and Changing Geopolitical Balances

Global Politics Centre

Minorities in the Caucasus

Global Politics Centre

The Impact of Turkey's Defence and Aerospace Industry on Foreign Policy

Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education

Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Change

Ankara University

TÜCAUM Symposium Paper Presentation

National Defense University

Military History Congress

● ONLINE ARTICLES

2021

China and the Struggle for Maritime Dominance

Published on the *Stratejik Ortak Dusunce Platformu (Strategic Common Thinking Platform)* website.

Link <https://stratejikortak.com/2021/12/cin-halk-cumhuriyeti-ve-deniz-hakimiyeti-mucadelesi.html>

2021

Geopolitical Struggle in Regional Geography: Arctic Ocean

Published on the *Stratejik Ortak Dusunce Platformu (Strategic Common Thinking Platform)* website.

Link <https://stratejikortak.com/2021/11/bolgesel-cografyada-jeopolitik-mucadele-arktik-okyanusu.html>

2021

The Impact of Geography on History and Politics: "Mini Ice Age"

Published on the *Stratejik Ortak Dusunce Platformu (Strategic Common Thinking Platform)* website.

Link <https://stratejikortak.com/2021/01/cografyanin-tarih-ve-siyaset-uzerindeki-etkisi-mini-buzul-cagi.html>

● MASTER'S THESIS

Geographical Aspects of War: Military Geography

I prepared my thesis based on the idea that the problems in the world of the coming period (climate change, migration, etc.) are based on geography; that is, serious geostrategic difficulties will be experienced in regions with fragile geopolitical environments in the world in the future. Therefore, I mentioned that knowledge of military geography, geopolitics, and their critical perspectives will be one of the paths to solving these problems. In this direction, I have made references to the future by mentioning the scope of military geography, its place in history, and its impact on conflict environments. I have developed a framework from a literature review, archival research on the history of military geography of countries in Europe and Asia, and interviews with military institutions and individuals. Among others, I have presented a comprehensive perspective from interviews with military institutions and individuals.