



Dafna Zur

Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures and, by courtesy, of Comparative Literature

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

Dafna Zur is an Associate Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Stanford University. She teaches courses on Korean literature, cinema, and popular culture. Her book, *Figuring Korean Futures: Children's Literature in Modern Korea* (Stanford University Press, 2017), traces the affective investments and coded aspirations made possible by children's literature in colonial and postcolonial Korea. She is working on a new project on moral education in science and literary youth magazines in postwar North and South Korea. She has published articles on North Korean science fiction, the Korean War in North and South Korean children's literature, childhood in cinema, and Korean popular culture. Her translations of Korean fiction have appeared in wordwithoutborders.org, *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Korean Short Stories*, and the *Asia Literary Review*.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Cultures
- Associate Professor (By courtesy), Comparative Literature

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Director, Center for East Asian Studies, Stanford, (2019-2025)
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, (2017- present)
- Faculty Fellow, Stanford Ethics, (2013-2014)
- Assistant Professor (Tenure Track), Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Stanford University, (2012- present)
- Lecturer, Department of Korean Literature, Keimyung University, (2011-2012)
- Language fellowship, Korea Foundation, (1998-1999)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Graduate Studies Fellowship, Korea Foundation (2009 - 2010)
- Outstanding Paper, Worldwide Consortium for Korean Studies, Hawai'i (2009)
- Graduate studies scholarship, Korea Foundation (2006 - 2007)
- Florence Tan Moesen Fellow, Library of Congress (2006)
- Graduate studies scholarship, Korea Foundation (2005 - 2006)
- 35th Korea Times Translation Award, First Place, Korea Times (2004)
- New Translator Award, First Prize, Korean Literature Translation Institute (KLTI) (2004)
- Translation Fellowship, ICF (2002 - 2004)
- University Graduate Fellowship, UBC (2002 - 2004)

- Graduate studies scholarship, Korea Foundation (2001 - 2002)
- Language scholarship, KLI, Yonsei University (1994)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Member, Luce Scholars Program Fellowship Selection Committee (2013 - present)
- Stanford Pre-major Advising, Stanford University (2013 - 2014)
- Reviewer, Seoul Journal of Korean Studies
- Reviewer, Journal of Korean Studies
- Reviewer, Acta Koreana
- Reviewer, Cornell UP
- Graduate fellowships committee, AY 13-14 fellowships, Stanford University (2013 - 2014)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for East Asian Studies

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- B.A., Hebrew University of Jerusalem , Asian Studies and General Studies (1998)
- M.A., The University of British Columbia , Asian Studies (2002)
- Ph.D., The University of British Columbia , Asian Studies (2011)

LINKS

- Library of Congress Lecture: <https://www.loc.gov/item/webcast-8306/>
- North Korean Translation of Anne Frank's Diary: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dk9qDdTKw40>
- NextGen Discussion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1p85b53aPbE&t=37s>
- GWIKS Book Talk part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziXbFVUTUHQ>
- GWIKS Book Talk part 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFoBxLRlkt0>
- Ecological Perspectives on Children's Literature: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xu1QaRrFZV0&t=7s>

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Beyond Pachinko: Japan's Korea and Korea's Japan: OSPKYOTO 88 (Spr)
- Kangnam Style: South Korea's Soft Power Empire: OSPGEN 21 (Sum)
- Topics in Korean Literary History: KOREA 250, KOREA 350 (Win)

2024-25

- Kangnam Style: K-pop and the Globalization of Korean Soft Power: KOREA 101N (Aut)
- Narratives of Modern and Contemporary Korea: COMPLIT 222, KOREA 120, KOREA 220 (Aut)

2023-24

- Core Seminar: Debates and Methods in East Asian Studies: EASTASN 330 (Aut)
- Kangnam Style: South Korea's Soft Power Empire: OSPGEN 21 (Sum)
- Proseminar in East Asian Humanities I: Skills and Methodologies: EALC 201 (Aut)

- Senior Colloquium: EALC 198 (Win)
- The Nature of Knowledge: Science and Literature in East Asia: CHINA 151B, CHINA 251B, JAPAN 151B, JAPAN 251B, KOREA 151, KOREA 251 (Win)

2022-23

- Core Seminar: Debates and Methods in East Asian Studies: EASTASN 330 (Aut)
- From Colonialism to K-pop: Race and Gender in South Korean Culture: COMPLIT 111K, CSRE 111A, FEMGEN 111A, KOREA 111, KOREA 222 (Win)
- Kanguam Style: South Korea's Soft Power Empire: OSPGEN 21 (Sum)
- Korean Studies Pedagogy: KOREA 301 (Aut)
- Proseminar in East Asian Humanities I: Skills and Methodologies: EALC 201 (Aut)
- Senior Colloquium: EALC 198 (Win)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Yan Chang, Alek Sigley, Shuwen Yang

Orals Chair

Yeseul Byeon

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Eunkyo Kang

Orals Evaluator

Alek Sigley

Master's Program Advisor

Shaphnah McKenzie, Emily Schwab

Doctoral (Program)

Heesang Yoon

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **North Korea's Translation of Anne Frank and the Politics of Self-Writing** *AJS REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES*
Zur, D.
2023; 47 (1): 149-175
- **When Songs Don't Work: Western Tonalities and Korean Breath in Children's Songs of the Colonial Period** *KOREAN STUDIES*
Hwang, Y., Zur, D.
2022; 46: 8-42
- **Fantasy, the Final Frontier: Making Science Moral in Postwar North Korean Youth Culture** *JOURNAL OF KOREAN STUDIES*
Zur, D.
2018; 23 (2): 275-98
- **Science and Literature in Korea: An Introduction** *JOURNAL OF KOREAN STUDIES*
Zur, D., Hanscom, C. P.
2018; 23 (2): 213-22

- **Writing the Real: Modernism in Korean Literature** *Modernism/Modernity*
Zur, D.
2018; 24 (2): 407-414
- **You Can't Write "Pak" on Television: Language as Power in Hebrew K-pop Fandom** *Telos*
Zur, D.
2018; 184 (Fall 2018): 139-162
- **MODERN KOREAN LITERATURE AND CULTURAL IDENTITY IN A PRE- AND POST-COLONIAL DIGITAL AGE** *ROUTLEDGE HANDBOOK OF KOREAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY*
Zur, D.
edited by Kim, Y.
2017: 193–205
- **Figuring Korean Futures Children's Literature in Modern Korea**
Zur, D.
Stanford University Press.2017
- **Landscape of the heart in Homeless Angels and Hometown of the Heart** *Journal of Japanese and Korean Cinema*
Zur, D.
2015; 7 (1): 10-27
- **Let's Go to the Moon: Science Fiction in the North Korean Children's Magazine Adong Munhak, 1956-1965** *JOURNAL OF ASIAN STUDIES*
Zur, D.
2014; 73 (2): 327-351
- **"They are still eating well, and living well": The Grimms' Tales in Early Colonial Korea** *Grimms' Tales around the Globe: The Dynamics of Their International Reception*
Zur, D.
Michigan: Wayne State UP.2014
- **Whose War Were We Fighting? Constructing Memory and Managing Trauma in South Korean Children's Fiction** *INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH IN CHILDRENS LITERATURE*
Zur, D.
2009; 2 (2): 192-209
- **Introduction: Children's Literature and Global Childhood Ecologies** *INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH IN CHILDRENS LITERATURE*
Weld, S., Zur, D.
2025; 18 (1): 1-7
- **Introduction to the Special Section Music That Moves: Sonic Narratives in Modern Korea** *KOREAN STUDIES*
Zur, D., Hwang, S.
2022; 46: 1-7
- **Rewriting Revolution: Women, Sexuality, and Memory in North Korean Fiction (Book Review)** *ACTA KOREANA*
Book Review Authored by: Zur, D.
2019; 22 (2): 399–403
- **ECOAMBIGUITY: Environmental Crises and East Asian Literatures (Book Review)** *PACIFIC AFFAIRS*
Book Review Authored by: Zur, D.
2013; 86 (4): 888-889
- **Literature and Film in Cold War South Korea. (Book Review)** *ACTA KOREANA*
Book Review Authored by: Zur, D.
2013; 16 (1): 269-272
- **Off to the Battle at Dawn**
Bang, H.
edited by Zur, D., Son-jae, A.
Seoul: Asia Publishers.2013

- **Ice Cream** *The Asia Literary Review*
Yŏngha, K.
2012; 23
- **The Sky** *Azaleas: Journal of Korean Literature and Culture*
Tök, H.
edited by Zur, D., McCann, D.
Harvard University Press.2012
- **Children's Literature in Late Colonial Korea** *Azaleas: Journal of Korean Literature and Culture*
Zur, D.
2012; 5: 347-353
- **The Korean War in Children's Picturebooks of the DPRK** *Exploring North Korean Arts*
Zur, D.
Nuremberg: Verlag für moderne Kunst.2011: 276–298
- **The Pager** *Waxen Wings: The Acta Koreana Anthology of Short Fiction From Korea*
Yŏngha, K.
edited by Zur, D., Fulton, B.
St.Paul: Koryo Press.2011: 143–160
- **Representations of the Korean War in North and South Korean Children's Literature** *Korea 2010: Politics, Economy, Society*
Zur, D.
2010: 271–300
- **Reading Korea: An Anthology of Modern Korean Literature**
Zur, D.
edited by Zur, D.
Anvil Press (Philippians).2008
- **The Toad Groom: Folk Tales from Old Korea**
Chŏng'o, S.
edited by Zur, D.
Bo-Leaf Press (USA).2008
- **Human Decency** *Acta Koreana*
Zur, D.
2008; 11 (3): 235-239
- **This Tree of Yours** *Azaleas: Journal of Korean Literature and Culture*
Yŏngha, K.
edited by Zur, D., McCann, D.
Harvard University Press.2007: 9–36
- **Their Last Visitor** *Azaleas: Journal of Korean Literature and Culture*
Yŏngha, K.
edited by Zur, D., McCann, D.
Harvard University Press.2007: 9–36
- **The Man Who Sold His Shadow** *Korean Literature Today*
Yŏngha, K.
2005: 102-124
- **Travel Across Time: Modern 'Rewrites' of Pak Chiwŏn's Yŏrha Ilgi** *Acta Koreana*
Zur, D.
2005; 8 (2): 49-64
- **Lizard** *Columbia Anthology of Modern Korean Short Stories*

Yöngha, K.
edited by Zur, D.
Columbia University Press.2005: 371–382