

Erasmus BIP Program

Virginia Woolf and the Aesthetics of Sound: Transnational Networks

Istanbul Bilgi University, English Language and Literature Department – 2026 Host

Online (Pre-conference)

Introductory Lectures (on Zoom)

Pamela L. Caughie's lecture (2.5h), 18 May 2026: Focused on the role of sound in Woolf scholarship, this session situates Woolf's writing within broader debates on auditory aesthetics and modernist studies. Students gain exposure to how sound functions as a critical lens in literary analysis.

Assignments:

The students will react to and interpret sound, listening to papers, panels, the sound of the conference, the sound of Istanbul, and create an essay, either academic or creative writing and/or an artist book responding to the overall experiences with the conference. These tasks encourage creative engagement and critical thinking, while distributing grading responsibilities across faculty, and provide exposure to both academic and artistic research methods.

In-Person (Conference)

Conference Panels

Keynote talks (4h): Three keynote lectures with Q&A sessions provide authoritative insights into Woolf's work, sound studies, and transnational modernism.

Plenary speech (1h): A unifying address that frames the conference's intellectual agenda.

Thematic sessions (16h): Students attend at least eight panels, engaging with diverse scholarly and artistic perspectives and debates.

Workshops (2h): The students arrange practical, hands-on activities, such as paper mosaics, marbling paper, or simple book binding, developed and organized through the pre-conference activities.

Networking Events (2h): Structured opportunities to meet scholars, publishers, and peers, fostering professional connections and collaborative research possibilities.

Creative Project (5h): Work on developing artist books, practical work, and peer-reviewing. Exploring possible collaborations between artistic and scholarly approaches.

Online (Post-conference)

Reflection Seminar (2h): Students discuss what they learned from lectures and conference sessions, synthesizing insights and sharing perspectives across institutions.

Final Assignment (10h): A substantial academic essay or creative essay (3,000 words) or artist book connected to the topic Virginia Woolf & sound. This consolidates learning outcomes and demonstrates independent research.

Peer Feedback (5h): Students review each other's projects, practicing constructive critique and collaborative learning.

Timeline of the Training: (Draft)

Online Pre-Conference Lectures: 18 May 2026

In-person training: 24 – 28 June 2026