

A CONTENT ANALYSIS OF DOCTORAL THESES IN “COMMUNICATION” STUDIES: 1985–2024

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Abstract

People encounter the vital concept of communication at every stage of life. Communication is not just a social topic with defined boundaries; it is also a scientific field with various facets that attract the interest of different disciplines. Therefore, the eagerness to investigate and understand subjects of interest, produce concrete data and contribute to the world of science is reflected in the quantity of academic work. Such a broad field of study, particularly communication, has been the focus of numerous scientific studies. The number of studies produced by scientists and researchers has steadily increased over the years. Nevertheless, the lack of extensive, systematic studies in communication suggests that this knowledge remains scattered. From this perspective, it's important to classify and categorize the studies that have been carried out. In this study, which adopted a qualitative research approach, document analysis was conducted to collect materials, and the data were categorized using content analysis. This study aims to analyze doctoral theses with the word “Communication” in their titles and to present a systematic and comprehensive overview of the studies. It examined 1140 doctoral theses published at the National Thesis Centre between 1985 and 2024 (a 39-year period), and the data were revealed through content analysis between March 28 and April 26, 2025. The obtained data was processed using SPSS and Excel software, and then converted into tables and figures. Over the past 39 years, the concept of communication has consistently featured in the titles of interdisciplinary theses. The highest number of these theses were found to have been conducted at Marmara University, specifically within the Public Relations and Promotion Department of the Social Sciences Institute. It has been determined that the highest number of theses were submitted in 2023 and that the highest number of supervisors held the title of Professor.

Keywords: *Communication, doctoral theses, document review, content analysis, National Thesis Center*

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BAŞLIĞINDA “İLETİŞİM” GEÇEN DOKTORA TEZLERİNİN İÇERİK ANALİZİ İLE İNCELENMESİ: 1985-2024 YILLARI ARASI

Öz

Hayatın her aşamasında insanların karşısına çıkan ve önemli bir kavram olan iletişim, konuları ve sınırları olmayıp farklı yönleriyle de çeşitli disiplinlerin ilgisini çeken bilim alanıdır. Toplumsal konulardaki gelişmeler, bireyin iletişim sürecine yansımakta ve cevaplanması gereken sorular ortaya çıkartmaktadır. Dolayısıyla merak edilen konuları araştırma, öğrenme, ortaya somut veriler koyma ve bilim dünyasına katkı sunma arzusu akademik çalışma sayılarına da yansımaktadır. Bilim insanları ve araştırmacılar tarafından ortaya konulan birçok çalışma yıllar geçtikçe daha da artmıştır. Yaşanan artış bir zaman sonra verilerin yığılmasına ve karmaşıklığa neden olmaktadır. Bu durumun önüne geçilmesi için literatür tarama araçları kullanılmaktadır. Özellikle iletişim gibi geniş kapsamlı çalışma alanı, çok sayıda bilimsel araştırmaya konu olmuştur, lakin iletişim konusunda kapsamlı ve sistematik çalışmanın eksikliği nedeniyle bilgi birikimi dağınık halde görünmektedir. Yapılan çalışmaların tasnif ve kategorize edilmesi literatür için önem taşımaktadır. Nitel araştırma yaklaşımının benimsendiği çalışmada, materyallerin toplanması için doküman inceleme yapılmış, veriler, içerik analizi ile kategorize edilmiştir. Başlığında “*İletişim*” kelimesi geçen doktora tezlerini analiz etmeyi, çalışmaların sistematik ve kapsamlı bakış açısını sunmayı amaçlayan bu çalışmada, 1985-2024 yılları arasında (39 yıl) Ulusal Tez Merkezi’nde yayınlanan 1140 tane doktora tezi incelenmiş ve veriler, 28 Mart-26 Nisan 2025 tarihleri arasında içerik analizi ile ortaya konulmuştur. Elde edilen veriler, SPSS ve Excel programları ile işlenmiş, tablo ve şekil haline getirilmiştir. 39 yıl boyunca iletişim kavramının disiplinlerarası tez başlıklarında yer aldığı tespit edilmiştir. En fazla tezin Marmara Üniversitesi’nde, Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsünde, Halkla İlişkiler ve Tanıtım Anabilim Dalında gerçekleştirildiği görülmüştür. En fazla tezin, 2023 yılında ortaya konulduğu ve danışman ünvanının da en fazla Profesör olduğu belirlenmiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: *İletişim, doktora tezleri, doküman inceleme, içerik analizi, Ulusal Tez Merkezi*

Introduction

Communication is defined as the process by which individuals convey specific emotions, reflections, and behaviours to one another. The communication process, carried out between a source and a target via various tools, involves assessing whether messages are reciprocated by the target audience and correctly understood. A multitude of factors must be considered to ensure the technical correctness of communication. These include whether the message has been received by the intended recipients and the credibility of the source. Nevertheless, it should be noted that the significance of this information lies primarily in its theoretical underpinnings. The impact of communication is evident in many aspects of human life. The communication process is a multidimensional phenomenon that occurs in various settings: among individuals and in social relationships (Silsüpür, 2016, p. 726), in daily life, during dialogues among friends, in group conversations, and in face-to-face or remote meetings.

The study of communication is of increasing importance due to its inextricable association with the individual. Contemporary developments in society are generating a proliferation of current areas of inquiry, including the utilisation of communication in various technological domains and the communication process on social media platforms. A number of studies are currently underway to address these questions. Nevertheless, the proliferation of studies has the effect of making it difficult for researchers and readers to access the data they need, which in turn turns it into a veritable mountain of material.

Communication, an indispensable part of life, has encouraged researchers to work on this topic and to complete points that are needed or remain unaddressed.

Historically, communication has been a well-researched and significant field. Questions of particular importance include the following: when did interest in the concept first arise, in which areas did it gain value, and where have studies been limited. In this context, a holistic examination of “Communication” studies will contribute significantly to the existing literature. The objective of this study is to meticulously analyse doctoral theses containing the term “Communication” in their titles, as found in the Council of Higher Education National Thesis Center (YÖKTEZ) database. The objective of this analysis is threefold: Firstly, to reveal the evolution and structure of the field; secondly, to identify prevailing trends; thirdly, to offer a holistic overview by capturing the general landscape of these theses; and fourthly, to provide guidance for future research. In this study, which adopted a qualitative research approach, the data were obtained through document review and classified using content analysis.

Literature reviews have been shown to play a crucial role in the development of new methodologies, theories, and ideas in academic research (Callahan, 2014). Literature reviews offer a methodical and repeatable approach through systematic examinations, thus contributing to the advancement of various fields in conceptual, methodological, and thematic areas (Palmatier et al., 2018).

Document review is a systematic technique used to examine or evaluate both printed and electronic materials. This technique is utilized to systematically examine the content and structure of documents, and to collect data, preparing it for the analysis phase (Rapley, 2007; Corbin & Strauss, 2008).

Documents that can be used for systematic evaluation in scientific studies can take various forms. Examples of these include advertisements, participation records and meeting minutes, guides, books and brochures, diaries and journals, event programmes, letters, maps and charts, newspapers, press releases, radio and television programme scripts, and organisational or institutional reports (Bowen, 2009).

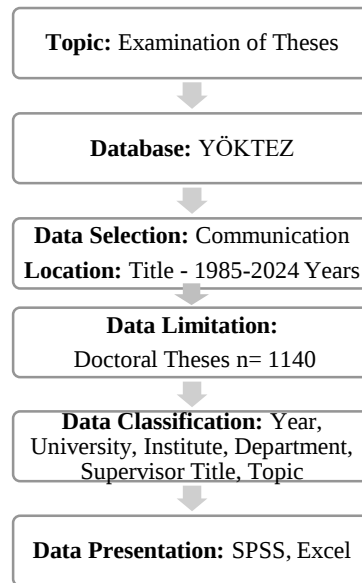
In the literature, content analysis is defined as the systematic, objective and quantitative analysis of a message (Berelson, 1952; Holsti, 1969; Krippendorff, 1980; Neuendorf & Kumar, 2016). Content analysis is the rigorous scrutiny of the meaning and context contained within messages (Prasad, 2008). Content analysis is a technique that categorises content according to specific criteria (Geray, 2014). Content analysis encompasses not only textual analysis, which is the systematic examination of written text or transcribed speech, but also the analysis of non-textual message content, including graphic elements, images, non-verbal behaviour, music, and sounds (Harwood & Garry, 2003; Hsieh & Shannon, 2005; Neuman, 2014; Neuendorf & Kumar, 2016). As a research technique, the purpose of content analysis is to organise data that is similar to each other into specific categories in a way that is understandable to the reader (Yıldırım & Şimşek, 2006). In this regard, the present study examined doctoral theses through content analysis. Specifically, doctoral theses bearing the title “Communication” were retrieved from the YÖKTEZ database.

1. Methodology

The objective of the research was to categorise doctoral studies on “Communication” that are documented in the YÖKTEZ database. The research population consists of doctoral theses available in the YÖKTEZ, with the sample comprising theses that include “Communication” in their title. Access to doctoral theses was permitted by entering search parameters into search fields situated on the homepage of the YÖKTEZ. **“Search Term: Communication, Search Field: Thesis Title, Permission Status: Approved, Thesis Type: Doctorate”** were the search parameters applied, and data was collected between 28 March to 26 April 2025. The study which adopted a qualitative research approach, the data were obtained through document review and classified using content analysis.

The research aims to reveal the distribution of theses with “Communication” in their titles, found in the YÖKTEZ, across universities, years, institutes, departments, supervisor titles, and subject areas. A detailed literature review revealed no study that classifies doctoral theses focusing on the concept of “Communication.” This finding constitutes the unique contribution of the research. Based on this gap in the literature, the present study aims to systematically present research trends in the field of communication. The steps to be followed in the research process are modeled and presented in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Methodological Modeling



In the first stage, the scope of the research should be determined. In other words, what exactly is aimed to be achieved must be clearly defined. The present study sought to obtain an exhaustive summary by employing an integrated approach. In the second stage, The YÖKTEZ was selected as the database. It was decided that only doctoral theses containing the term “Communication” in their title would be examined, excluding other thesis types like master’s theses or proficiency in art dissertations. A total of 1140 doctoral theses with unrestricted access were retrieved during the search process. The list of identities for the theses examined is included in the appendix (see Appendix 1). Due to the fact that

the year 2025 has not yet reached its conclusion, the data from that year was not incorporated into the research. This constitutes a limitation of the present study. It was determined that a thesis from 2004 had been duplicated in the YÖKTEZ database. To prevent data deviation in the analysis, the researchers identified the duplicate entry and processed it as a single thesis. In the third stage of the research, the keyword “Communication” was selected, and data were obtained through content analysis. The study data was categorized and visualized using SPSS, and Excel software.

The study sought answers to the following research questions (RQs):

RQ 1. How are the theses distributed by publication year?

RQ 2. How are the theses distributed by university of publication?

RQ 3. How are the theses distributed by the institutes where they were prepared?

RQ 4. How are the theses distributed by the departments where they were prepared?

RQ 5. How are the thesis supervisors distributed by their academic titles?

RQ 6. What subjects are the theses written on?

2. Findings

The data derived from the analysis are presented visually through the use of tables and graphs. Table 1 provides a detailed illustration of the annual distribution of doctoral theses.

Table 1. Distribution of Doctoral Theses by Year

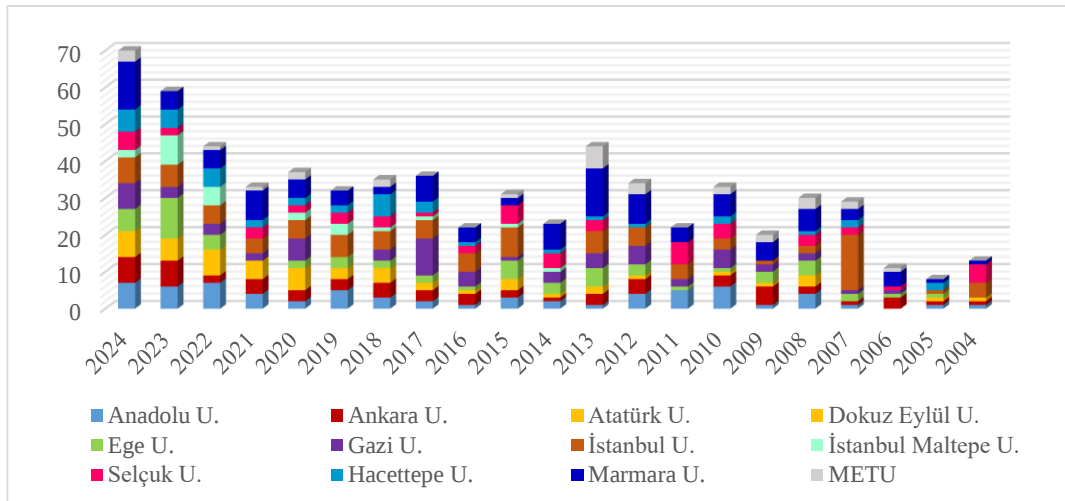
Years	n	Years	n	Years	n	Years	n
2024	113	2014	41	2004	14	1994	2
2023	114	2013	55	2003	9	1993	-
2022	85	2012	46	2002	5	1992	-
2021	70	2011	33	2001	4	1991	2
2020	72	2010	37	2000	2	1990	2
2019	66	2009	24	1999	9	1989	-
2018	71	2008	33	1998	3	1988	-
2017	61	2007	25	1997	7	1987	1
2016	42	2006	13	1996	4	1986	1
2015	57	2005	10	1995	6	1985	1

*In 2004, duplicate entries of the same thesis were consolidated into a single data point.

As demonstrated in Table 1, it's evident that doctoral theses bearing the title “Communication” were first written in 1985. A review of the literature from the 1988-1989 and 1992-1993 academic years revealed no studies featuring the term “Communication” in their titles. Despite fluctuations in the number of doctoral theses over recent years, the 2023-

2024 period is noteworthy for its particularly high volume of studies. Graph 1 illustrates the distribution of doctoral theses featuring the term “Communication” by university.

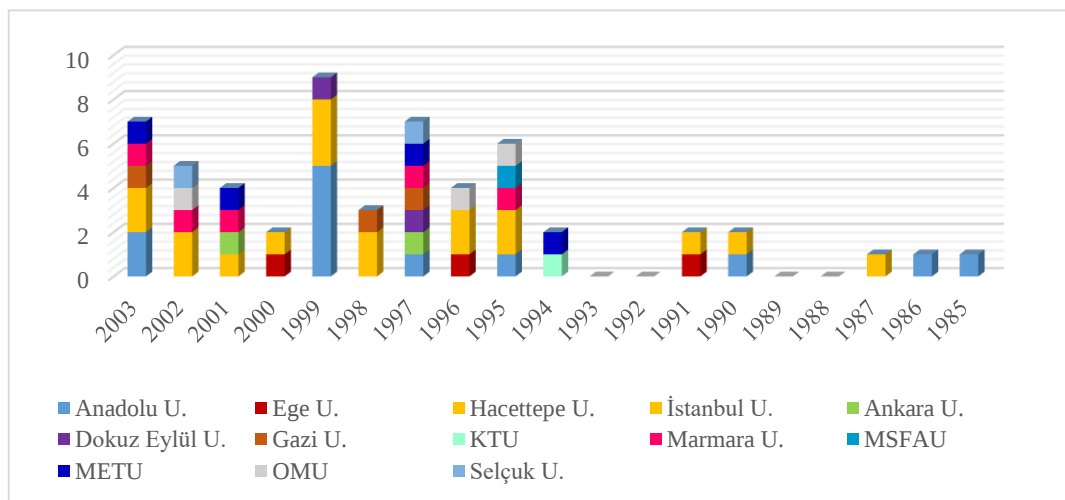
Graph 1. The Distribution of Doctoral Theses by University I (2024-2004)



*Universities with fewer than 20 theses were excluded from this study.

The timeframe encompassed by Graph 1 is from 2004 to 2024, thus covering a 20-year period. During this period, 12 universities produced more than 20 studies. The following universities have the highest number of studies, in descending order: Marmara (113), İstanbul (97), Anadolu (66), Gazi (64), Ankara (62), Ege (60), Selçuk (54), Hacettepe (42), Atatürk (34), METU (29), İstanbul Maltepe (24), and Dokuz Eylül (21). The graph illustrates that over the 20-year period examined, Marmara University produced the highest number of theses, while Dokuz Eylül University produced the lowest number.

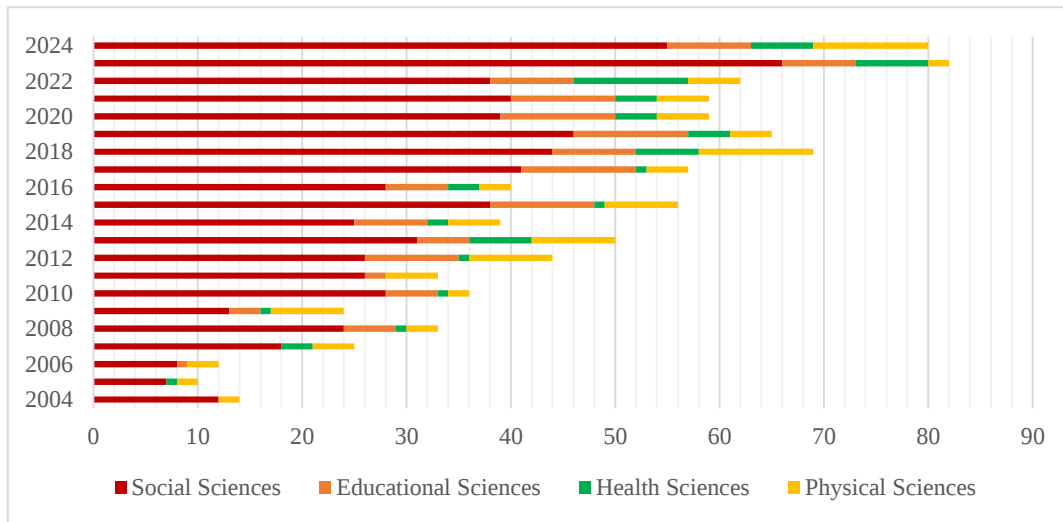
Graph 2. The Distribution of Doctoral Theses by University II (2003-1985)



The 19-year period between 1985 and 2003 is examined in Graph 2, which displays all universities that conducted studies during this time. The following universities have published the highest number of studies in these years, in descending order: Anadolu (12), Hacettepe (9), İstanbul (9), Marmara (5), METU (4), Ege (3), Gazi (3), OMU (3), Ankara

(2), Dokuz Eylül (2), Selçuk (2), KTU (1), and MSFAU (1). The graph reveals that over this 19-year period, Anadolu University produced the most theses, while KTU and MSFAU produced the fewest. The frequency distribution table showing the universities to which doctoral theses containing the concept of “Communication” in their titles belong is provided in the appendix (see Appendix 2).

Graph 3. Institutes of Doctoral Thesis Preparation I (2024-2004)

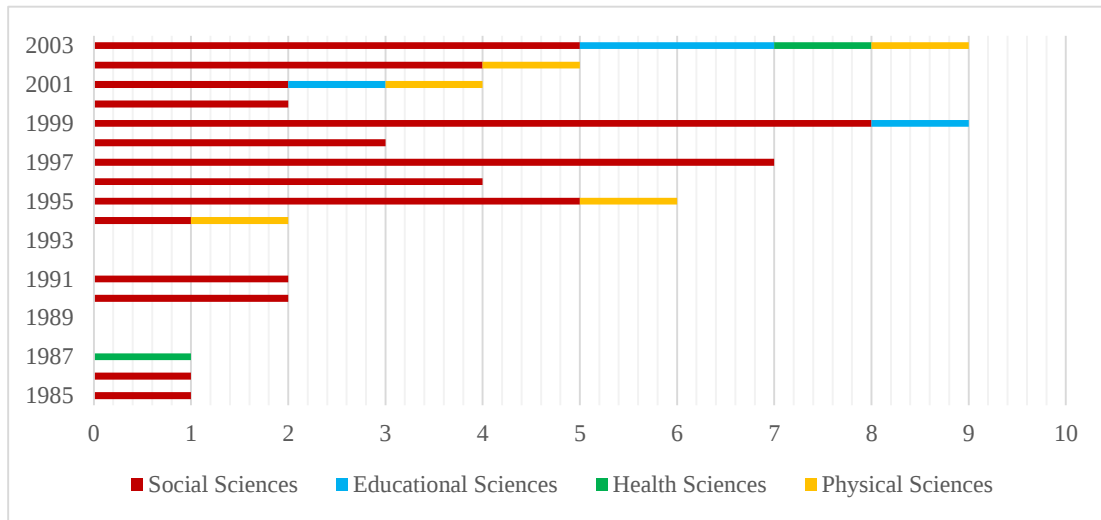


*Only institutions with the most doctoral theses are presented.

As demonstrated in Graphs 3 and 4, doctoral theses containing the term “Communication” are categorised by institute. In this categorization, the four institutes with the highest number of theses were selected, while other institutes are presented in Graph 5. The distribution of theses over a 20-year period from the Institutes of Social Sciences, Education, Health Sciences, and Natural Sciences is illustrated in Graph 3, while those from the period between 1985 and 2003 are presented in Graph 4.

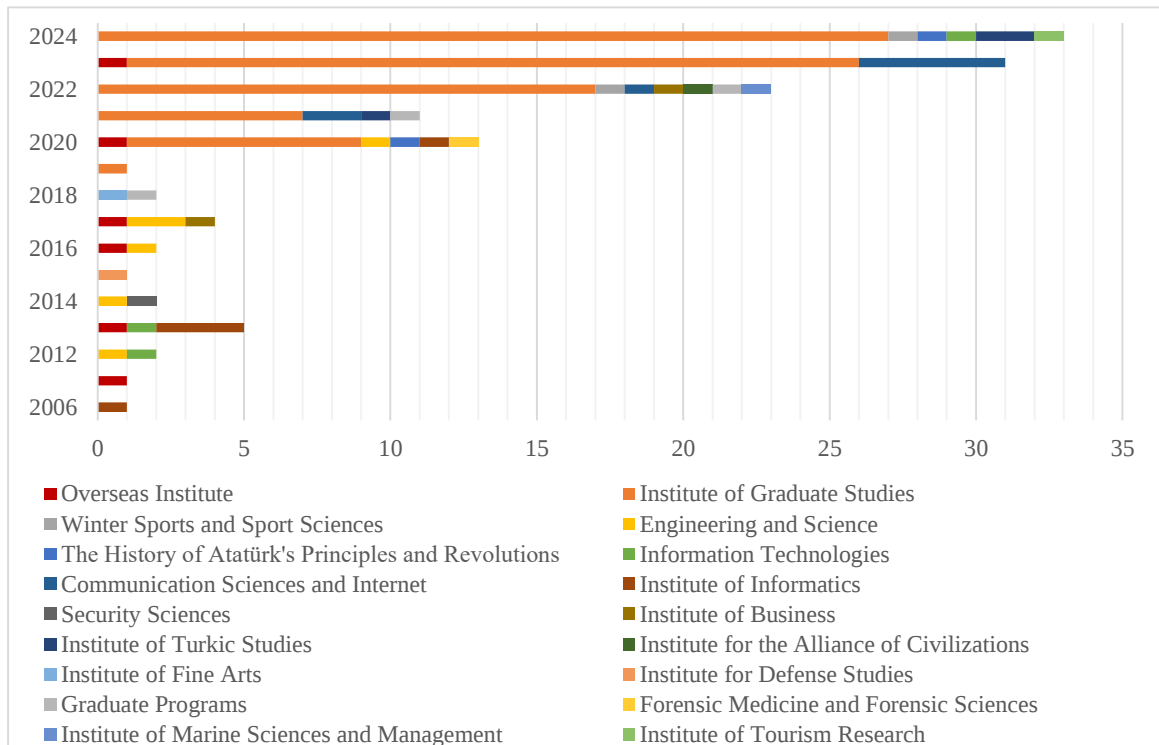
As shown in the graph, the institutes with the highest number of theses prepared over the 20-year period are, in descending order: The following subjects are represented: Social Sciences (653), Educational Sciences (128), Natural Sciences (104), and Health Sciences (63). Evidently, while the majority of theses featuring the term “Communication” are found within the Social Sciences, the term is also utilised in other institutes. It can thus be concluded that communication is an interdisciplinary subject.

Graph 4. Institutes of Doctoral Thesis Preparation II (2003-1985)



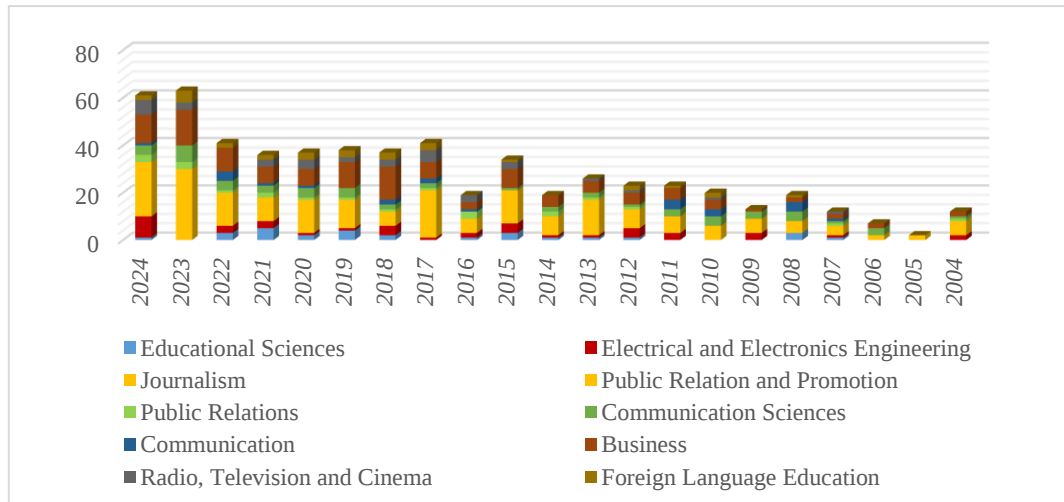
As demonstrated in Graph 4, between 1985 and 2003, the Institute of Social Sciences emerged as the most prolific entity, with a total of 47 theses completed. Despite the reduced number of studies conducted over the 19-year period, research was also undertaken in the Institutes of Natural Sciences (5), Educational Sciences (4), and Health Sciences (2). In addition to these four institutes, doctoral theses were also prepared in 18 other distinct institutes. The distribution of the remaining doctoral theses by institute is illustrated in Graph 5.

Graph 5. Distribution of Institutes by Thesis Ratios (Remaining Institutes)



As presented in Graph 5, the Institute of Graduate Studies (86) was the location in which the greatest number of doctoral theses were completed. In descending order, the following institutes are listed: the Institute of Engineering and Science (6), the Overseas Institute (5), the Institute of Informatics (5), the Information Technologies (3), the Graduate Programs (3), the Institute of Turkic Studies (3), Communication Sciences and Internet (3), Winter Sports and Sport Sciences (2), Security Sciences (1), the Institute of Business (2), and The History of Atatürk's Principles and Revolutions (2). Additionally, one doctoral thesis was prepared at each of the following institutes: Institute for the Alliance of Civilizations (1), Institute of Fine Arts (1), Institute for Defense Studies (1), Forensic Medicine and Forensic Sciences (1), Institute of Marine Sciences and Management (1), Institute of Tourism Research (1), and Management Information Systems (1). As shown in Graph 6, the distribution of the examined doctoral theses is presented by main fields of study.

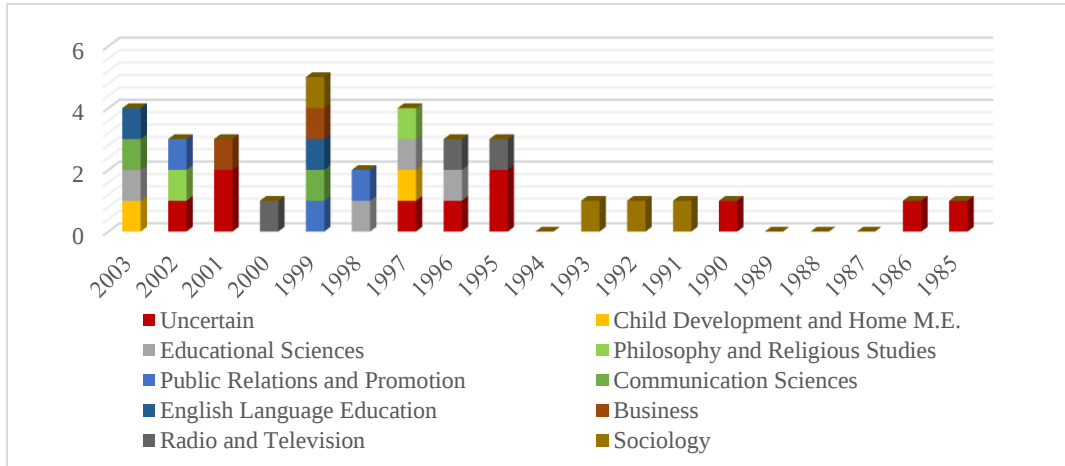
Graph 6. Departments of Doctoral Thesis Preparation I (2024-2004)



*Departments with fewer than 20 theses were not included.

The 20-year period from 2004 to 2024 is examined in Graph 6. During this period, ten departments yielded over 20 theses. These departments, in descending order, are: Public Relations and Publicity (165), Business Administration (127), Communication Sciences (55), Journalism (53), Electrical-Electronics Engineering (43), Radio, Television, and Cinema (36), Foreign Language Education (30), Educational Sciences (28), Communication (24), and Public Relations (22). Consequently, Public Relations and Publicity and Business Administration emerged as the primary departments with the highest number of theses.

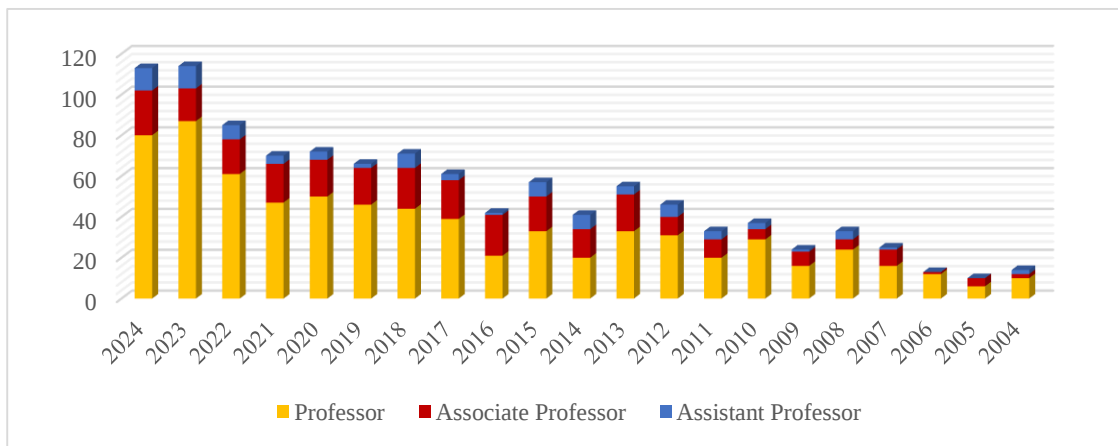
Graph 7. Departments of Doctoral Thesis Preparation II (2003-1985)



*Departments with only one thesis were not included.

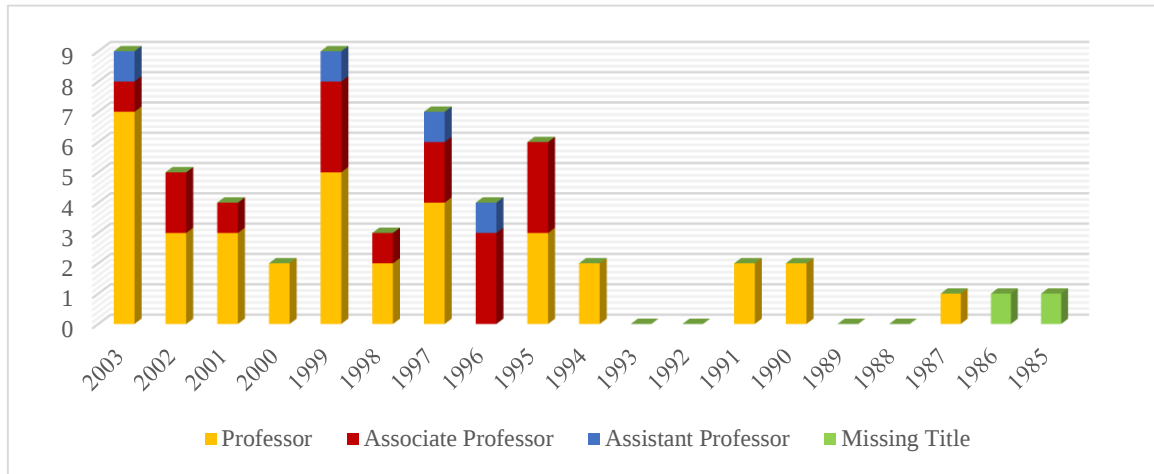
The 19-year period between 1985 and 2003 is examined and presented in Graph 7. The present analysis includes departments with fewer than 20 theses written during the specified years, but excludes those with only one thesis. In addition, 10 theses have been identified for which the department is not specified. The departments in which these theses were written, listed in descending order, are as follows: The following subjects are offered: Educational Sciences (4), Sociology (4), Public Relations and Publicity (3), Radio and Television (3), Child Development and Home Economics Education (2), Philosophy and Religious Studies (2), Communication Sciences (2), Business Administration (2), and English Language and Education (2). The frequency analysis concerning the departments of the prepared doctoral theses is provided in the appendix (see Appendix 3).

Graph 8. Academic Titles in PhD Theses I (Between the Years 2024-2004)



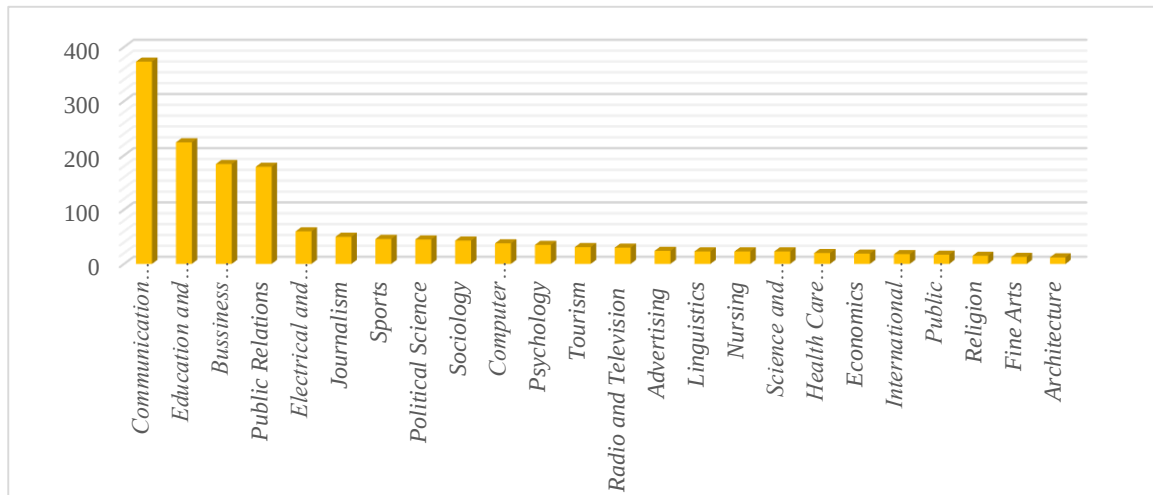
It was observed that Professors (725) provided the highest number of supervisions for doctoral theses, based on the academic rank of the advising personnel. Other supervisory ranks included Associate Professors (268) and Assistant Professors (89).

Graph 9. Academic Titles in PhD Theses II (Between the Years 1985-2003)



For doctoral studies conducted between 1985 and 2003, the academic ranks of the advising personnel were as follows, in descending order: Professors (36), Associate Professors (16), and Assistant Professors (4). It is also apparent that in four cases, the advisor's rank was not specified within the theses. The subject areas of doctoral theses are shown in Graph 10 and 11.

Graph 10. Distribution of Doctoral Thesis Topics (Titles with 11 or more) *



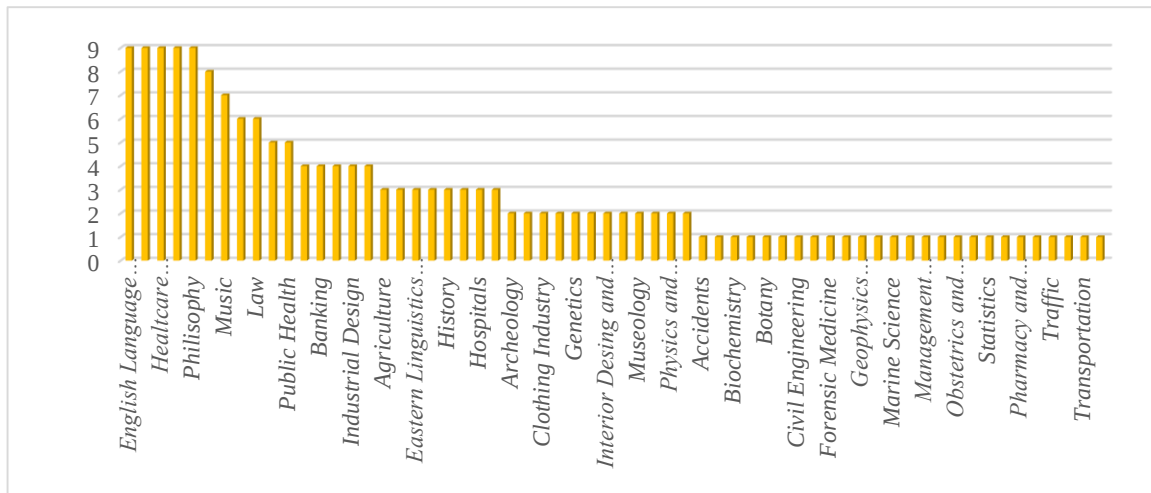
The subject areas with the highest number of studies are Communication Sciences (373), Education and Training (224), Business Administration (184), Public Relations (179), and Electrical and Electronics Engineering (60). The subsequent subjects are Journalism

* Thesis subject headings in the YÖKTEZ database can encompass multiple disciplines. Consequently, subject headings were analyzed in this study using a multiple counting technique (Graph 10-11). By the nature of this counting method, when a thesis topic is related to two or more disciplines, each discipline is separately included in the frequency analysis.

(50), Sports (46), Political Science (45), Sociology (43), Computer Engineering and Computer Science and Control (38), Psychology (35), Tourism (31), and Radio and Television (30). The subjects that were studied fewer than 30 times are: Advertising (24), Linguistics (23), Nursing (23), Science and Technology (23), Health Care Management (20), Economics (19), International Relations (18), Public Administration (17), Religion (15), Fine Arts (13) and Architecture (12).

Doctoral theses are most frequently conducted under the Communication Sciences subject area. With regard to the intensity of research activity, doctoral theses are predominantly concentrated within six primary subject areas. Following Communication Sciences, the most studied areas are, in descending order: The following subjects were identified as being of particular relevance: Education and Training, Business Administration, Public Relations, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and Journalism. As illustrated in Graph 11, the subject areas in question have been the focus of a relatively small number of studies.

Graph 11. Distribution of Doctoral Thesis Topics (Titles that are 10 or less)



*The theses were categorised into multiple topics.

For subject areas with fewer than 10 studies: English Language and Literature, German Linguistics and Literature, Healthcare Management, Performing and Visual Arts, and Philosophy were each studied 9 times. Mathematics was studied 8 times, while Music was studied 7 times. Civil Aviation and Law were each studied 6 times, and Biology and Public Health were each studied 5 times. The following subject areas were each studied 4 times: Anthropology, Banking, Engineering Sciences, Industrial Design, and Information and Records Management. Agriculture, Bioengineering, Eastern Linguistics and Literature, French Linguistics and Literature, History, Home Economics, Hospitals, and Turkish Language and Literature were each studied 3 times. Finally, the subject areas studied twice, listed alphabetically, are: Archeology, Art History, Clothing Industry, Folklore, Genetics, Industrial and Industrial Engineering, Interior Design and Decoration, Labour Economics and Industrial Relations, Museology, Neurology, Physics and Physics Engineering, and Urban and Regional Planning. The subject areas studied once are: Accidents, American

Culture and Literature, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Botany, Child Health and Diseases, Civil Engineering, Econometrics, Forensic Medicine, Gastronomy and Culinary Arts, Geophysics Engineering, Health Education, Management Information Systems, Language and Speech Therapy, Marine, Marine Science, Medical History and Ethics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Otorhinolaryngology (Ear, Nose, Throat), Statistics, Psychiatry, Pharmacy and Pharmacology, Technical Education, Traffic, Translation and Interpretation, Transportation, and Western Linguistics and Literature.

Discussion and Conclusion

The concept of communication is encountered constantly in both academic circles and daily life. People are constantly communicating in various situations and at different times, even if they are often unaware of it. The study and analysis of communication, an inseparable part of human existence, encompasses a very broad field. The number of studies conducted in this field is increasing day by day. This makes it difficult and tiresome for researchers to access relevant studies. This need has thus determined the aim of the research.

According to the research findings, the number of doctoral theses has increased as we have approached the present day. Between 1985 and 2024, the use of the “Communication” concept was analyzed through various research topics that mirrored social shifts. Data on the universities writing these theses indicates a higher volume of work at older, established institutions. The year 2023 saw the highest output of theses including “Communication” in their titles. Following only a minimal number of studies in the 1980s and 1990s, the count rose sharply after 2000. Consequently, the increase in doctoral theses titled “Communication” can be attributed to the growing academic curiosity surrounding the concept.

It has been determined that doctoral theses were predominantly produced in the field of Social Sciences. After the 2000s, there are studies titled “communication” presented across various institutes. Doctoral theses were identified not only in institutes with a broad scope, such as Social Sciences and Natural Sciences, but also in institutes specific to specialized areas (e.g., Institute of Winter Sports and Sports Sciences). The inclusion of these doctoral studies with the heading “Communication” in different institutes demonstrates interdisciplinary interest, the relationship with other fields, the gap in the field of study, and the new results to be presented. The vast majority of doctoral theses have been written in core communication disciplines such as Communication, Public Relations, Journalism, and Radio-Television. It has been observed that doctoral theses with the title “Communication” produced in disciplines such as Engineering or Educational Sciences are fewer in number. This situation demonstrates that doctoral studies with “communication” in their title largely remain within the boundaries of the communication discipline, but also attract interest from other disciplines. It has also been observed that communication intersects with various applied and interdisciplinary fields such as Health Management, Literature and Tourism, and that thesis topics are produced at these points of intersection.

Another finding of the study was that the advisory role was predominantly undertaken by professors. This indicates that doctoral studies in this field are generally conducted by senior academics who are higher up in the academic hierarchy.

The examination of communication studies conducted using content analysis in the literature has been carried out based on a specific framework. The methodological modelling

of this research differs from Çilingir's (2017) study, which involved a one-sided (only quantitative) analysis. Furthermore, this study differs from research that compares YÖKTEZ data with international study (Yaşın et al., 2017) in terms of subject and year limitations

While limited in their sample scope, the study by İrak and Taşcıoğlu (2021)-which examined five communication doctoral theses between 1980 and 2015-and the study by Metin and Ünal (2022)- which analyzed 32 doctoral theses in sociology and communication sciences-demonstrate topical similarity with the present research.

This study examined doctoral theses with the heading "Communication" in YÖKTEZ in order to provide information for future research. In the future, it would be useful to compare the development processes of doctoral and master's theses and the types of research conducted.

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Araştırmacı Katkı Oranı: Araştırmacılar çalışmaya eşit oranda katkı sunmuştur.

Destekleyen Kurum/Kuruluşlar: Herhangi bir kurum/kuruluştan destek alınmamıştır.

Çıkar Çatışması: Bu çalışmada herhangi bir kurum, kuruluş veya kişilerle ekonomik, ticari, yasal ya da mesleki bir herhangi bir çıkar çatışması bulunmamaktadır.

Appendix

Appendix 1. Identity List of Doctoral Theses (1985-2024)

Thesis No									
2475	210117	314767	349963	429689	531124	624493	759349	608125	780917
2401	227905	280957	331794	434292	533453	653468	739972	809409	851522
176568	219469	303705	331055	497532	528423	636018	742836	830790	894832
9377	219461	280984	336474	442982	495709	628261	749256	844476	894289
13431	196079	279073	330430	446787	532620	659951	737959	839648	876948
16128	232312	312292	351473	429565	525901	631791	770837	851861	887836
12900	231569	299255	367893	450001	512235	634275	744423	798833	872758
36158	176799	287938	364959	434393	502261	653064	778232	789606	856407
33743	176786	282687	399047	418150	502919	694495	740269	792156	852692
42368	270092	288128	355889	443864	537180	732055	741814	794727	877316
43345	227747	278439	356350	453119	502191	677694	750099	820608	875588
46052	230989	303733	361707	448161	531376	673654	744765	784405	868599
42067	252203	300213	382965	427474	527709	725336	751178	836435	868928
43731	227161	312342	409038	437152	497873	653384	759576	845960	861821
43367	221363	280123	381768	443964	519300	660381	766596	885502	900336
53977	221916	291557	377781	462096	505956	725314	764680	828257	853389
53109	227171	290725	356437	454581	569907	671796	814056	837692	853324
52926	218340	299872	366481	451490	505400	680955	773206	809933	848809
52339	221360	280967	370146	461433	541618	699068	779769	780044	843466
81116	228088	387101	371386	422502	515750	702765	764601	786107	843990
61265	220367	319760	366945	421620	529542	690194	774318	816001	862516
63683	221227	320410	374238	429724	527822	721368	775433	814294	890312
61525	229195	310984	377800	447981	531731	667231	773386	826200	902260
62422	230775	328151	388080	434512	512637	677650	770067	811995	917699
62817	235270	317421	384031	451648	505627	690997	788409	856089	928410
63180	220874	318855	369147	429482	505451	701902	785798	853552	911543
74298	229214	321195	375689	431289	509778	665527	705971	848246	908126
73814	218608	318838	361712	417357	531709	678716	765951	849904	858170
73537	234360	317160	354751	436628	511916	706989	730457	871431	878621
92166	220308	336874	370948	440605	517756	700901	718939	772648	859686
92026	218625	327737	366357	453348	510941	657087	707781	819456	860842
89303	235682	317417	359851	434454	497273	672583	709792	803066	936791
92282	221378	305889	377786	481126	493928	663579	721482	789891	868101
92163	225783	315460	368109	485903	531922	670132	719623	806289	862582
92696	262426	311080	376146	452026	504309	705972	720837	828977	895250
92059	226824	303757	357775	451134	514983	759944	725549	792490	869425
81931	239063	320334	374652	481975	542752	681905	744455	824716	862211
92023	231024	428783	356438	456328	526983	666382	734111	800186	869889
94291	231560	411816	364872	454946	531628	699858	745861	828759	867211
102103	246290	322021	428214	485899	557451	680943	725375	804100	871589
116526	255270	319818	369113	451038	524466	675793	728544	815515	868667
100412	276506	328616	363211	458651	532284	689012	756752	858732	868121
106720	255425	302862	377779	609814	503254	664176	725649	811009	868671
100178	262350	327741	378561	665073	492146	684121	729401	847586	856114
113403	260188	314013	380257	478686	532344	717245	730747	828408	926669
113321	227489	314800	395935	483393	537494	698184	734426	812482	861407
122742	278394	322005	366232	485611	492147	699460	733815	815886	864914
126170	250145	330575	385589	712702	508073	686283	738138	814482	893501
113819	258500	316601	422524	465436	781101	702692	794201	807124	899752
130588	241226	312564	425250	470035	514126	699322	586037	824760	903134
140372	241358	320405	417606	463440	655224	701692	570742	820635	901356
140304	293742	320404	395254	475904	611880	706189	547934	821844	899473
140923	250099	320199	413613	454681	638938	719581	588162	804524	894286
124552	239965	312025	399820	490762	662401	666675	537014	839345	861078
138953	250178	304254	414738	493972	609954	703041	572682	839746	897292

133975	293751	314184	395903	490612	637934	715534	545024	831068	914650
132574	256957	317414	432349	491027	646532	758039	583016	842873	864292
124664	228012	328911	413617	462211	641212	705902	535062	848024	881292
169134	262794	308735	393499	473587	648542	703594	535062	830429	923832
147401	309532	319913	397266	465495	651993	684094	610917	842527	880179
147564	239962	317754	407757	451922	608794	655071	601149	791794	926449
146913	257648	320332	418122	461547	651789	703402	612822	782584	867627
146567	241219	312464	396671	464389	657577	669498	574878	778763	871629
148299	253884	316457	410104	492154	636699	680281	623729	806660	858930
156158	277942	317397	395116	464386	648513	700103	552444	784658	898009
141248	278160	340246	422531	464387	620930	677053	552498	791787	850263
149461	258256	332990	425112	482076	625023	703704	608803	794242	872950
146581	279670	360579	397740	469380	638422	684279	572967	794839	904372
143828	709774	326816	394162	462170	620075	678696	544816	796329	901008
146644	269580	343102	387295	477544	628634	706025	572145	801198	898798
147557	260801	328641	394741	502820	646438	696949	543230	791655	849735
148306	276107	374150	406981	462163	649190	693822	585213	801208	856587
159957	258097	343092	381258	501380	646391	666318	589020	794357	861750
159640	279092	355755	393120	483215	649610	670337	569648	791678	848893
219494	273516	355333	391444	472000	642409	664430	616909	795482	849454
166675	273518	345135	415667	454917	620341	676283	601237	782378	853435
187945	249947	345136	387445	470399	664560	664286	603066	801506	854382
158905	279114	327863	407760	492045	633107	673485	632098	864821	854591
160395	264980	378552	422201	490585	625155	718051	613794	803133	861818
169148	253881	384484	422019	469608	617671	762601	543360	805646	866754
194363	273521	328879	428567	462113	633453	718794	535330	810236	857458
162614	279692	349953	391466	465746	657263	735527	549122	843412	878427
180821	265712	327873	443310	485420	735351	776744	590316	794979	872090
208731	387651	354251	391430	468531	649297	756054	622570	776405	867743
215369	313120	354857	422521	474391	634923	766463	550654	848068	877932
207722	263528	355535	397457	476848	641051	757453	951206	828270	891928
182430	257271	327865	487933	476879	664463	775266	547278	825925	875474
182703	264009	332158	490206	474549	620175	784572	571666	810327	896907
191465	262348	402970	395047	465697	650406	772554	537188	787637	873039
207976	265370	327990	423452	492956	627758	724519	585970	822135	871610
229299	264481	357332	429634	475650	654902	724872	594332	822388	897814
204937	258102	339518	391237	485580	649693	720642	610104	817991	878034
223531	265391	371966	426361	483980	639290	725683	545704	824177	907977
189328	273572	330083	423417	515726	633695	731389	569942	818300	910024
207946	277787	351055	384722	534876	631956	775731	554858	817515	914066
211497	288290	347705	411440	494230	642885	745261	602028	814755	904736
211039	277978	336210	410343	492367	613382	744644	612572	818748	937743
226026	258478	345114	391361	541960	666717	755540	581013	826587	922554
228949	279078	337692	418155	532820	648130	756163	572126	823759	908387
218019	273517	348197	380544	518717	610780	769375	548571	833395	907579
206286	278444	337453	417892	529058	677290	764754	602935	819201	907629
220634	298409	355810	419285	528455	640088	776194	569188	880087	912262
223737	280794	337464	422519	520661	716895	769486	544416	822407	907710
217991	309867	347442	440120	502321	634894	734146	626053	823429	928608
223004	356256	350100	425008	497438	610710	730985	577982	848027	919392
208892	286785	344610	443371	528899	644142	725529	603919	847921	904783
224290	286778	485961	438298	524657	638677	732161	544986	838513	878998
201340	308816	336203	433913	534439	630504	744418	544986	833225	931037
218163	280968	342147	459042	494339	651054	762990	582702	843270	898092
217455	291294	363389	433930	609826	616325	703064	562612	858177	875693
195964	284254	350099	449899	522142	660344	640720	616871	783076	872769
214240	296308	347618	782759	523121	647114	761048	606402	784174	865797
211302	291499	346495	450164	493160	659655	753283	583826	781152	849632
221814	317398	331435	462195	532602	624463	755810	537134	788899	848225

Appendix 2. Distribution of Doctoral Theses by University (1985-2024)

Üniversite	f	%	Üniversite	f	%	Üniversite	f	%
AKU	4	0,4	Gazi U.	66	5,8	Kırıkkale U.	3	0,3
Akdeniz U.	8	0,7	Gebze High Technology U.	1	0,1	Kocaeli U.	15	1,3
Al-Farabi Kazakh International U.	1	0,1	Gebze Technical U.	2	0,2	Koç U.	13	1,1
Altınbaş U.	4	0,4	Giresun U.	2	0,2	KSU	2	0,2
Anadolu U.	78	6,8	Girne American U.	1	0,1	KTU	8	0,7
AYBU	6	0,5	Gümüşhane U.	2	0,2	MAKU	1	0,1
Ankara U.	63	5,5	Hacettepe U.	48	4,2	Marmara U.	115	10,1
Atatürk U.	34	3,0	Haliç U.	2	0,2	MCBU	5	0,4
Atılım U.	1	0,1	HBVU	13	1,1	Mersin U.	5	0,4
AVU.	4	0,4	Hitit U.	2	0,2	METU	4	0,4
ADU	6	0,5	HKU	2	0,2	MKU	1	0,1
BAU	7	0,6	İbn Haldun U.	1	0,1	MSFAU	32	2,8
BAUN	4	0,4	IGU	3	0,3	MSKU	3	0,3
BANU	2	0,2	Illinois U.	1	0,1	NEU	5	0,4
Başkent U.	2	0,2	IKCU	1	0,1	NEVU	7	0,6
Bilkent U.	3	0,3	IZU	1	0,1	NÖHU	1	0,1
Boğaziçi U.	11	1,0	İAU	3	0,3	OMU	12	1,1
BAİBU	7	0,6	İNU	5	0,4	OzU	3	0,3
BEUN	3	0,3	İÜ	104	9,1	PAU	6	0,5
BUU	5	0,4	İstanbul Bilgi U.	8	0,7	Phoenix U.	1	0,1
Çağ U.	1	0,1	İstanbul Beykent U.	1	0,1	Police Academy U.	1	0,1
Çankaya U.	1	0,1	İÜ Cerrahpaşa	10	0,9	Sabancı U.	4	0,4
ÇOMU	10	0,9	İstanbul Gedik U.	1	0,1	SAU	12	1,1
Çukurova U.	12	1,1	İstanbul Kültür U.	2	0,2	Selçuk U.	55	4,8
Dicle U.	4	0,4	İstanbul Maltepe U.	24	2,1	SDU	12	1,1
Dokuz Eylül U.	23	2,0	İstanbul Medipol U.	3	0,3	Sivas Cumhuriyet U.	2	0,2
DPU	5	0,4	İstanbul Okan U.	6	0,5	TOGU	2	0,2
Düzce U.	3	0,3	İstanbul Ticaret U.	16	1,4	Trakya U.	6	0,5
Ege U.	62	5,4	İTÜ	9	0,8	THKU	1	0,1
ERU	16	1,4	İzmir Ekonomi U.	1	0,1	Üsküdar U.	3	0,3
Eskişehir Osmangazi U.	3	0,3	IZTECH	1	0,1	Yaşar U.	3	0,3
Essex U.	1	0,1	Kadir Has U.	2	0,2	Yeditepe U.	16	1,4
Fatih U.	1	0,1	KAEU	1	0,1	YTU	8	0,7
Fırat U.	14	1,2	Karabük U.	3	0,3	Zürich U.	1	0,1
Galatasaray U.	9	0,8	Kastamonu U.	3	0,3	Total	1140	100
GAUN	2	0,2	KHOKU	1	0,1			

*The word university is represented by the abbreviation U.

Appendix 3. Departments of Doctoral Dissertations

Department	f	%	Department	f	%	Department	f	%
Anthropology	2	0,2	Physical	1	0,1	Special Education	14	1,2
Archeology	1	0,1	French Language Education	1	0,1	Psychiatric Nursing	3	0,3
Ataturk's Principles and Revolutions Tar	1	0,1	French Language and Literature	1	0,1	Psychology	11	1,0
Bioengineering	1	0,1	Management in Nursing	2	0,2	Social Psychology	1	0,1
Bioinformatics and Genetics	1	0,1	Nursing	10	0,9	Social Environmental Sciences	1	0,1
Biology	2	0,2	Fundamentals of Nursing	1	0,1	Social Work	1	0,1
Building Information (Architectural Design)	1	0,1	Public Relations and Promotion	168	14,7	Social Sciences	1	0,1
Child Development	1	0,1	Internal Medicine Nursing	1	0,1	Sports Sciences	3	0,3
Child Development and Education	3	0,3	Interior Architecture	2	0,2	Sports Health Sciences	1	0,1
Child Development and Home Management Education	4	0,4	Economy	11	1,0	Sports Management	4	0,4
Child Health and Diseases	1	0,1	Theology	1	0,1	Sports Management Sciences	4	0,4
Coaching	1	0,1	Finance and Banking	1	0,1	Secondary School Science and Mathematics Fields	3	0,3
Cognitive Science	3	0,3	Public Relations and Advertising	8	0,7	Political Science and International Relations	2	0,2
Computer and Educational Technologies Education	17	15	Security Strategies and Management	1	0,1	Cinema Television	2	0,2
Computer Engineering	16	1,4	Security Sciences	1	0,1	Art and Design	2	0,2
Computer Science and Engineering	2	0,2	Graphic Design	1	0,1	Health Management	9	0,8
Curriculum and Instruction	4	0,4	Business Management	1	0,1	Turkish Language and Literature	3	0,3
Deontology	1	0,1	Communication Design and Management	13	1,1	Strategic Communication Management	1	0,1
Eastern Languages and Literatures	1	0,1	English Language and Literature	4	0,4	Basic training	2	0,2
Educational Management and Supervision	3	0,3	Women's Health and Diseases Both	1	0,1	Turkish Folklore	1	0,1
Educational Management, Inspection Planning	3	0,3	Public Law	4	0,4	Turkish Education	3	0,3
Educational Sciences	32	2,8	Business	129	11,3	Tourism Management and Hotel Management	3	0,3
Electrical and Computer Engineering	3	0,3	Chemical and Biological Engineering	1	0,1	History of the Republic of Türkiye	1	0,1
Electrical and Electronics Engineering	44	3,9	Finance	1	0,1	International Computer	1	0,1
Electrical Training	1	0,1	Environmental and Technical	1	0,1	Turkish Studies	3	0,3

			Investigations of Accidents					
Electrical-Electronics Engineering and Cyber Systems	1	0,1	Maths	6	0,5	Applied Arts Education	3	0,3
Electrical-Electronics Engineering and Fiber Systems	1	0,1	Materials Science and Engineering	1	0,1	International Relations	4	0,4
Electronics and Communication Engineering	6	0,5	Mathematics and Science Education	2	0,2	History of Veterinary Medicine and Deontology	1	0,1
Electronics Engineering	5	0,4	Mathematics Computer	1	0,1	Distance Learning	1	0,1
Electronics Engineering and Computer	1	0,1	Mathematics Education	1	0,1	Production Management and Marketing	2	0,2
Electronics-Computer Education	3	0,3	Civilization Studies	1	0,1	Foreign Language Education	30	2,6
European Community	1	0,1	Gastronomy and Culinary Arts	1	0,1	Radio, Television and Cinema	35	3,1
Family and Consumer Sciences	1	0,1	Philosophy	1	0,1	Molecular Biology-Genetics and Bioengineering	1	0,1
Family Health	1	0,1	Disability Studies	2	0,2	History of Architecture	1	0,1
German Language and Literature	4	0,4	Science and Mathematics Education	1	0,1	Interpreting and Translating	1	0,1
German Language Education	5	0,4	Philosophy and Religious Sciences	9	0,8	Modeling of Engineering Systems	1	0,1
Industrial design	1	0,1	Media and Communication Studies	6	0,5	Management and Organization	1	0,1
Industrial Engineering	1	0,1	Media Studies	8	0,7	Settlement Archaeology	1	0,1
Industrial Products Design	2	0,2	Media and Communication	1	0,1	Management Information Systems	1	0,1
Informatics	1	0,1	Architecture	8	0,7	Health Institutions Management	2	0,2
Information and Document Management	3	0,3	Chart	2	0,2	Political Science	2	0,2
Information Systems	1	0,1	Public Health	2	0,2	Technology and Information Management	1	0,1
Interdisciplinary Communication Sciences	9	0,8	English Language Education	14	1,2	Agricultural Economics	3	0,3
Interdisciplinary Forensic Sciences	1	0,1	English Linguistics	1	0,1	Political Science and Public Administration	2	0,2
IT Applications	1	0,1	Public Relations	22	1,9	Sociology	10	0,9
Labor Economics and Industrial Relations	1	0,1	Law	1	0,1	Promotion and Public Relations	3	0,3
Linguistics	3	0,3	Primary education	12	1,1	Psycho -Social Areas in Sports	1	0,1
Marine Geology and Geophysics	1	0,1	Communication Sciences	57	5,0	Sports Management	1	0,1
Maritime Management	1	0,1	Communication	24	2,1	Basic Communication Sciences	6	0,5
Obstetrics and Gynecology	1	0,1	English Language Teaching	1	0,1	Fundamental Islamic Sciences	4	0,4
Obstetrics and Gynecology Nurse	1	0,1	Islamic Economics and Law	1	0,1	Tourism Management	19	1,7

Pharmacy Management	1	0,1	Statistics	1	0,1	Advertising and Public Relations	5	0,4
Physical Education and Sports	19	1,7	General Business	1	0,1	Mental Health and Disease Nursing	1	0,1
Physical Education and Sports Sciences	2	0,2	Clothing Industry and Fashion Design	1	0,1	Mental Health and Psychiatry	1	0,1
Physical Education and Sports Teaching	5	0,4	Education of the Visually Impaired	1	0,1	Advertising	2	0,2
Physical Education Teaching	1	0,1	General Journalism	1	0,1	Radio and Television	6	0,5
Press and Publishing	6	0,5	Journalism	54	4,7	Turkish and Social Sciences Education	6	0,5
Psychological Services in Education	1	0,1	Public Administration	3	0,3	Civil Aviation Administration	1	0,1
Science and Technology Policy Studies	3	0,3	Fine Arts Education	8	0,7	Urban and Regional Planning	1	0,1
Speech and Language Therapy	3	0,3	Communication Management	2	0,2	Health Informatics	1	0,1
Uncertain	20	1,8	Visual Communication Design	1	0,1	Guidance and Psychological Counseling	2	0,2
Western Languages and Literatures	3	0,3	Journalism and Public Relations	2	0,2	Total	1140	40

Genişletilmiş Özet

İnsanların birbirlerine belli duygu, düşünce ve davranışları aktarmasına *iletişim* denilmektedir. Kaynak ve hedef arasında çeşitli araçlarla gerçekleşen iletişim, mesajların hedef kitle tarafından karşılık bulup bulmadığı ve doğru bir şekilde alınıp alınmadığı sürecini ifade etmektedir. Hedef kitlenin, mesajı doğru şekilde alıp almadığı, kaynağın güvenilirliği gibi birçok husus iletişimin teknik olarak doğru şekilde ilerlemesine yöneliktir. Ancak bu bilgiler teorik olarak önem taşımaktadır. İletişimin insan hayatındaki etkisi pek çok yerde görülmektedir. İletişim süreci, bireyler arasında ve sosyal ilişkilerde (Silsüpür, 2016, s. 726), gündelik yaşantıda, arkadaş ortamındaki diyaloglarda, gruplarla sohbetlerde, yüz yüze veya uzaktan gerçekleştirilen toplantılarda gerçekleşen çok boyutlu bir olgudur.

İletişim, eskiden beri çalışılan ve önem gören bir alan olmuştur. Kavrama dair ilginin ne zaman başladığı, hangi alanlarda değer gördüğü, hangi alanlarda sınırlı çalışmaların ortaya konulduğu ayrıca önem arz etmektedir. Bu kapsamda “İletişime” yönelik çalışmaların bütüncül olarak incelenmesi literatüre katkı sağlayacaktır. Çalışmanın amacı, YÖKTEZ veri tabanında yer alan, başlığında “İletişim” kavramı geçen doktora tezlerini detaylı irdelemek, gelişmenin ve alanın yapısını ortaya koymak, eğilimleri belirlemek, tezlerin genel fotoğrafını çekerek bütüncül bir bakış açısı sunmak ve gelecekte yapılacak çalışmalara kılavuz oluşturmaktır. Nitel araştırma yaklaşımının benimsendiği bu çalışmanın verileri, doküman inceleme tekniğiyle elde edilmiş ve içerik analizi ile sınıflandırılmıştır.

Araştırmanın evrenini YÖKTEZ’de yer alan doktora tezleri, örneklemini ise tez başlığında “İletişim” geçen doktora tezleri oluşturmaktadır. YÖKTEZ’in ana sayfasında yer alan tarama yerleri doldurularak tezlere erişilmeye çalışılmıştır. **“Tarama Terimi: İletişim, Aranacak Alan: Tez Adı, İzin Durumu: İzinli, Tez Türü: Doktora”** şeklinde nitelikler girilmiş ve 28 Mart-26 Nisan 2025 tarihleri arasında veriler toplanmıştır. Çalışmada doküman inceleme ile materyaller edinilmiş, içerik analizi ile veriler kategorize edilmiştir. Bu amacı gerçekleştirmek için aşağıdaki araştırma sorularına (AS) cevap aranmıştır.

- AS 1. Tezlerin yayınlandıkları yıllara göre dağılımı nasıldır?
- AS 2. Tezlerin yayınlandıkları üniversitelere göre dağılımı nasıldır?
- AS 3. Tezlerin hazırlandıkları enstitülere göre dağılımı nasıldır?
- AS 4. Tezlerin hazırlandıkları anabilim dallarına göre dağılımı nasıldır?
- AS 5. Tez danışmanlarının ünvanlara göre dağılımı nasıldır?
- AS 6. Tezler, hangi konularda yazılmıştır?

Araştırma sürecinin yanı sıra izlenmesi gereken belli adımlar vardır. Birinci aşamada, araştırmanın kapsamı belirlenmelidir. Bir diğer ifade ile tam olarak ne elde edilmesinin amaçlandığı ortaya konulmalıdır. Bu çalışmada, bütüncül bir bakış açısı ile genel görünüm elde edilmesi hedeflenmiştir. İkinci aşamada ulusal tez merkezi veri tabanı olarak seçilmiştir. Başlığında “İletişim” kavramının geçtiği doktora tezlerinin incelenmesi; yüksek lisans, sanatta yeterlilik gibi tez türlerinin dahil edilmemesi belirlenmiştir. Üçüncü aşamada iletişim kelimesi, anahtar kelime çerçevesinde seçilmiştir. Elde edilen veriler, SPSS ve Excel programları kullanılarak kategorize edilmiş ve görselleştirilmiştir.

1985-2024 yılları arasında “İletişim” kavramının kullanımı, toplumsal değişimleri yansıtan çeşitli konu ve araştırma sorularıyla ortaya konulmuştur. Bu tezlerin yazıldığı üniversiteler incelendiğinde, kuruluş tarihleri daha eski olan köklü üniversitelerde daha çok

çalışmanın yer aldığı görülmüştür. Başlığında “İletişim” geçen tezlerde en çok çalışma 2023 yılında üretilmiştir. 1980’li ve 1990’lı yıllarda birkaç çalışmanın yazıldığı, 2000’li yıllardan itibaren ise önemli ölçüde arttığı tespit edilmiştir. Buna göre “İletişim” başlıklı doktora tezlerindeki sayının artması, iletişim kavramına yönelik akademik ilgiyle açıklanabilir.

Doktora tezlerinin çoğunlukla Sosyal Bilimler alanında ortaya konulduğu belirlenmiştir. 2000’li yıllardan sonra çeşitli enstitülerde “İletişim” başlığında ortaya konulmuş çalışmalar mevcuttur. Sosyal Bilimler, Fen Bilimleri gibi çalışma kapsamı geniş olan enstitülerin yanı sıra spesifik alanlara özel enstitülerde (Kış Sporları ve Spor Bilimleri Enstitüsü) de doktora tezleri tespit edilmiştir. Farklı enstitülerde başlığında “İletişim” yer alan bu doktora çalışmalarının yer alması disiplinlerarası ilgiyi, diğer alanlarla olan ilişkiyi, çalışma alanındaki boşluğu, ortaya koyulacak yeni sonuçları göstermektedir. Doktora tezlerinin büyük çoğunluğu; İletişim, Halkla İlişkiler, Gazetecilik ve Radyo-Televizyon gibi temel iletişim disiplinlerinde yazılmıştır. Mühendislik veya Eğitim Bilimleri gibi disiplinlerde üretilen başlığında “İletişim” yer alan doktora tezlerinin daha az sayıda olduğu görülmüştür. Bu durum, başlığında “İletişim” yer alan doktora çalışmalarının büyük ölçüde iletişim disiplininin sınırları içerisinde kaldığını ancak diğer disiplinlerden de ilgi gördüğünü göstermektedir. İletişimin; Sağlık Yönetimi, Edebiyat ve Turizm gibi çeşitli uygulamalı ve disiplinlerarası alanlarla kesiştiği ve tez konularının da bu kesişim noktalarında üretildiği de görülmüştür.

Çalışmanın bir diğer sonucunda, danışmanlık görevinin ağırlıklı olarak profesörler tarafından üstlenildiği gözlemlenmiştir. Bu durum, alandaki doktora çalışmalarının genellikle akademik hiyerarşide daha üst düzeyde bulunan kıdemli akademisyenler tarafından yapıldığını göstermektedir.

Literatürde içerik analizi ile gerçekleştirilen iletişim çalışmalarının incelenmesi, belli bir çerçeve esas alınarak gerçekleştirilmiştir. Araştırmanın metodolojik modellemesinin tek yönlü (sadece kantitatif) analiz söz konusu olan Çilingir’in (2017) çalışmasından ayrılmaktadır. Ayrıca bu çalışma, YÖKTEZ verilerinin yanı sıra uluslararası çalışmalarla karşılaştırmalar yapan araştırmalardan (Yaşın vd., 2017) konu ve yıl sınırlılığı açısından da farklılaşmaktadır.

İrak ve Taşçıoğlu’nun (2021), 1980-2015 yılları arasındaki 5 iletişim doktora tezini incelediği çalışma, Metin ve Ünal’ın (2022), sosyoloji ve iletişim bilimlerindeki 32 doktora tezini ele aldığı çalışma örneklem çerçevesi açısından sınırlı kalsalar dahi, ele aldıkları konu itibarıyla mevcut çalışmayla benzerlik göstermektedir.

Bu çalışma, gelecekteki araştırmalara bilgi sağlamak amacıyla YÖKTEZ’deki başlığında “İletişim” yer alan doktora tezlerini incelemiştir. Gelecekte, doktora ve yüksek lisans tezlerinin geliştirilme süreçlerini ve yürütülen araştırma türlerini karşılaştırmak faydalı olacaktır.