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## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE

Scholarly sessions run the duration of 120 minutes unless explicitly noted. Session chairs are requested to see that sessions and meetings end on time to avoid conflicts with subsequent activities scheduled in the same room.

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Why use the mobile app?

- Available for Apple and Android phones and tablets
- Set up a personalized agenda
- Browse session presenters/participants
- Receive up-to-date information and real time alerts during the conference
- Browse exhibitors and exhibit hall locations
- View maps of the Palais

https://guidebook.com/g/mesa2023
Passphrase: mesacan2023

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- View maps of the Palais
We extend a special thank you to our
MESA 2023 CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Gold Sponsors

CAORC

Silver Sponsors

EDINBURGH University Press

Bronze Sponsor

Stand-up Showcase & Dance Party

Coffee Break
MESA’S 2023 INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations
American University in Cairo
American University of Kuwait
Arab Center Washington DC
Arab Council for the Social Sciences
Boston College, Program in Islamic Civilizations and Societies
Bridgewater State University, Center for Middle East Studies
Brown University, Center for Middle East Studies
California State University, Sacramento, Iranian and Middle Eastern Studies Center
Cornell University, Department of Near Eastern Studies
Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)
CUNY Graduate Center, Middle East and Middle Eastern American Center
Dartmouth College, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Program
Foundation for Iranian Studies (FIS)
George Washington University, Institute for Middle East Studies
Georgetown University, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies
Georgetown University, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies
Georgetown University, Prince Alaweed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding
Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
ILEX Foundation
McGill University, Institute of Islamic Studies
New York University, Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies
North Carolina Consortium for Middle East Studies
Northwestern University, Program of Middle East and North African Studies
Ohio State University, Department of Near Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures
Ohio State University, Middle East Studies Center
Pennsylvania State University, Department of History
Portland State University, Middle East Studies Center
Princeton University, Department of Near Eastern Studies
Simon Fraser University
Stanford University, Sohaib and Sara Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies
Syracuse University, Middle Eastern Studies Program
University of Arizona, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of California, Berkeley, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Near Eastern Studies
University of California, Santa Barbara, Center for Middle East Studies
University of Chicago, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of Houston, Arab-American Educational Foundation Center for Arab Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
University of Maryland, Roshan Institute for Persian Studies
University of Massachusetts at Amherst
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies
University of Pennsylvania, Middle East Center
University of Southern California, Department of Middle East Studies
University of Texas at Austin, Center for Middle Eastern Studies
University of Toronto, Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations
University of Virginia, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures
University of Washington, Middle East Center
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Middle East Studies Program
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Yale University, Council on Middle East Studies
The Members Meeting is an annual meeting of the membership open to all members. Voting is restricted to fellow and student MESA members. The meeting mainly consists of reports (see agenda below). Members play an important role by voting for the Nominating Committee and on any resolutions that are being presented. A member in good standing can add names to the list of people who will be invited to run for the Nominating Committee, augmenting those proposed by MESA's Board.

**Quorum**
A minimum of 35 voting-eligible members must be in attendance for votes to be taken. Failing that, the meeting can be held but votes cannot be taken.

**Resolutions**
When important issues are before the membership, resolutions are sometimes presented at the members meeting. Resolutions can originate from MESA's Board or from the membership. For resolutions from the membership to be acted upon at the 2023 Members Meeting, they must have been in the hands of the MESA Secretariat two weeks prior to the annual meeting. Instructions for submitting resolutions can be found in MESA's Bylaws, which are posted on MESA's website at mesana.org.

**MESA Members Meeting Preliminary Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Meeting Rules
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. In Memoriam and Moment of Silence
5. Announcement of 2023 MESA Election Results
6. 2024 MESA Nominating Committee Call for Names for Candidates
7. Update from President Eve Troutt Powell
8. Report of Executive Director Jeffrey D. Reger
9. Reports of Editors: Joel Gordon for *IJMES*  
   and Heather Ferguson for *RoMES*
10. Committee Reports
11. New Business
12. Adjournment
MESA MEETING PROTOCOLS

As we gather, we must work together to create a culture of care. That means that each attendee does their part to keep our community and the spaces where we convene safe and healthy.

Badge Required: Meeting badges will be required to access the MESA meeting space. Please wear your badge at all times. This means that only attendees who are registered for the meeting will be allowed in the MESA Annual Meeting space.

To help mitigate health risks relating to endemic respiratory diseases:

Masks Optional: Masks may be worn, and the choice to wear a mask should be considered and respected by all. MESA attendees should understand that the city does not currently have a mask mandate. Free masks are available at the MESA Help Desk located in the registration area.

DO NOT attend the MESA conference if either of the following is true:

- You test positive for COVID-19;
- You are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., a fever of 100.4F or higher, cough, shortness of breath, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, extreme fatigue, or other symptoms associated with COVID-19 as identified by relevant health authorities).

The safety protocols are subject to change.

SAFETY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By attending the MESA Annual Meeting, you expressly agree to comply with any and all rules and safety guidelines put in place by MESA and by local authorities and voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19, waiving all claims and potential claims against MESA and their affiliated companies relating to such risks.

(BEYOND) LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Middle East Studies Association of North America acknowledges the unjust history of settler colonialism in our continent, specifically the expropriation and theft of native land, on which we all live and work.

Generic words are not sufficient to convey our moral and financial debts to the indigenous peoples who belong to the historical territories where we will meet.

As a gesture of solidarity, the MESA Secretariat would like to ensure that the Montréal meeting and future Annual Meetings are open to all American Indian, First Nation, and indigenous peoples of North America.

We are reaching out to regional representatives of the First Nations near Montréal, Québec to offer comped registration to any interested in attending this meeting, and to ask what else we can do for their thriving communities.

RECORDING SESSIONS

MESA does not allow audio or video recording of sessions or events without advance written permission from each participant in a session or event.

To report unauthorized recording, visit the Information and Help Desk, email secretariat@mesana.org, or text 520-275-2639 with the Room location and Session title, along with any relevant information.

MESA reserves the right to revoke registration of anyone who records a session without appropriate permission. In short, you may not record any person by audio or video without express written permission.

PERSONAL BEHAVIOR

MESA is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and supportive environment for all members and participants in MESA events. Intolerance, discrimination, and harassment undermine the values of MESA’s mission and purpose, which is to facilitate professional opportunities for all participants and members. We strive to maintain dialogue, create a culture of care, and provide space for the academic exchange of ideas. MESA supports the identities of all participants, regardless of gender, gender identity or expression, race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion or religious belief, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or immigration status.

All attendees of MESA events are expected to adhere to these values, including conference participants, students, guests, staff, contractors and exhibitors, and participants in professional and social events.

Any attendee who creates an unwelcoming environment for others through inappropriate behavior, or who creates a disturbance or safety hazard, will be subject to having their registration revoked, and potentially be barred from attending future meetings.

If you are being harassed or notice an act of harassment, please see the MESA Help Desk located in the registration area, and/ or email ash@mesana.org.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions, statements, presentations, data, images, videos, documents, and other information expressed or otherwise shared by presenters or other participants at the meeting are for informational purposes only. The views and opinions expressed by presenters are not those of MESA, unless expressly indicated otherwise. MESA is not responsible for the accuracy, quality, or reliability of any of the materials presented, or liable for any damages arising therefrom. MESA shall not be responsible for any defamatory, offensive, or illegal conduct of any meeting attendee.
PHOTOGRAPHY DISCLOSURE

MESA takes photographs during its meeting and events for use in association advertising, newsletters, and other promotional materials, whether in print, electronic or other media, including the MESA website. By participating in this conference you grant MESA the right to use your name and photograph for such purposes.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

As a courtesy to meeting attendees, electronic devices must be operated in silent/vibrate mode during all educational sessions; devices that beep, ring, etc. are prohibited. We ask that you please do not conduct phone conversations while in attendance at educational sessions. Your cooperation is appreciated.

BADGE

With the exception of the book exhibit, which is open to the public, registration is required to attend all MESA 2023 functions. Please wear your badge at all times.

WI-FI

The complimentary Wi-Fi is sufficient to allow web browsing and email, but will not support rapid transfer of large amounts of data. Please refrain from video streaming of any sort.

Network: MESA_2023
Password: MESA2023

LIVE TWEETING

To facilitate virtual conversations and to share with those unable to attend the conference, MESA encourages attendees to live tweet using #MESA2023. Speakers presenting materials that they do not wish to be tweeted live should make a request to the audience at the beginning of their presentations.

POLICY ON ADVERTISING

Appropriate advertisements are accepted for MESA publications on a space available basis. MESA reserves the right to refuse ads it deems inappropriate or in conflict with MESA’s objectives. MESA publications will not accept advertising from defense and intelligence related agencies from any government. The appearance of an ad in a MESA publication does not imply endorsement by MESA.

NO-SHOW POLICY

We understand that things come up at the last minute that prevent a participant from attending the meeting. As a courtesy to your co-panelists, please notify MESA if you cannot attend the meeting. If you are scheduled to participate in the annual meeting in any capacity and you don’t show up and haven’t informed the MESA Secretariat, you will be considered a “no-show” and will not be eligible to participate in the next year’s meeting. A no-show is someone who is not physically present at their panel at the conference and hasn’t notified the MESA Secretariat beforehand.

NURSING ROOM

A private room has been designated for parents needing to nurse their children. See the MESA Help Desk located near Registration to obtain access.

PRAYER & QUIET ROOM

MESA has designated Room 440 for prayer and quiet space.

INTERVIEW ROOM

If you are an employer wanting a private area to conduct interviews, please see the MESA Help Desk to make arrangements. Limited space is available.

COMPLIMENTARY WHEELCHAIRS

Wheelchairs may be borrowed for consumer shows. They are available for loan free of charge and must be reserved in advance. An ID is required as a deposit. It will be given back to you when the wheelchair is returned.

LOST AND FOUND

All items lost and found turned into the registration will be submitted to the Palais security at the end of the conference.

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY AVAILABLE

Registered MESA attendees can hire a local service to care for children during the Annual Meeting, and MESA will reimburse up to $200 of expenses. We support working parents, and we thank our members for their generous contributions to the MESA Annual Meeting Child Care Fund, which permits your association to subsidize the cost of childcare for attendees. For further information, see https://mesana.org/annual-meeting/childcare.
The Book Exhibit is an open event featuring publishers of Middle East studies along with organizations and programs relevant to MESA members.

**HOURS**

Thursday, November 2 ............... 3:00 - 6:00 pm  
Friday, November 3 ............... 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday, November 4 ........... 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Sunday, November 5 .......... 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Complimentary Coffee Breaks**

held in the Book Exhibit

Friday, November 3 ................... 3:30 - 4:00 pm  
Sponsored by  
NYUAD Humanities Research Fellowship for the Study of the Arab World  
Saturday, November 4 ............ 10:30 - 11:00 am  
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UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH POSTER SESSION
November 2, 2023
4:00-5:00 PM
located in Foyer 517

Organized by MESA’s Committee on Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)

Organizers:
Victoria Hightower, University of North Georgia
Youness Moumtaki, University of South Florida

Presenters:
Shrmeen Al Quradaghi, University of Guelph
Miriam Alrahil, Florida State University
Rachel Beth Acker, North Carolina State University
Laura Brawley, Tulane University
Lilian Georgiou, University of Illinois at Springfield
Gideon Gordon, Boston University
Elysse Howard, Wilfrid Laurier University
Noora Jabir, NYU Abu Dhabi
Heather Jensen, University of Arizona
Stella Metcalf, Smith College
Jayakumari Nair, University of Arkansas
Elle Palmer, Whitman College
Anindita Ponkshe, University of Guelph
Meena Sabeeh, University of Guelph

Following the poster session, the posters will be displayed in the Book Exhibit.
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS AND AWARDS CEREMONY
November 3, 2023
7:00-9:30 PM
Room 517B, Palais des Congrès

For What Our Ancestors Left Behind: Watching Artifacts Shatter While Writing as One

Eve M. Troutt Powell, MESA President
University of Pennsylvania

MESA Awards Ceremony

Please join us in celebrating the best in Middle East studies. We will be presenting the following awards:

- MESA Mentoring Award
- Jere L. Bacharach Service Award
- Academic Freedom Award
- Undergraduate Education Award
- Albert Hourani Book Award
- Nikki Keddie Book Award
- Fatema Mernissi Book Award
- Roger Owen Book Award
- Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Awards
- MESA Student Paper Prize
Producer and Host: Sandy

Sandy is a Lebanese Canadian multidisciplinary artist and drama therapist based in Montreal. Knee-deep in her mental health and life enrichment practice, Sandy uses tools from the expressive arts therapies and breath work in a trauma-informed approach to navigate therapy sessions. Sandy never wanted to do comedy. Her family forced her. However, she enjoys hanging out with comedians to get an up-close and personal look at their diverse trauma. On stage, she mixes her real-life experiences with her active imagination to make sense of life’s absurdities and non-sense. Sandy, also, does other things… but mostly, she likes to play!
Comedians

Dana Saleh
Palestinian Dana Saleh is a stand-up comedian and performer from Montreal. She’s fresh off her performance at Zoofest and became a Just For Laughs Originals recording artist this summer. Off-stage she can be found on TikTok where she’s known for her comedic rants and observations about the Arab diaspora experience.

Habib Siam
Born on Christmas day, a stone’s throw from Bethlehem, Habib thought he was the second coming and almost entered priesthood. Several countries and questionable life decisions later, he completed a Ph.D. at McGill University only to start doing stand-up comedy. Habib has headlined clubs internationally and performed in multiple languages. He currently splits his time between Canada and Lebanon and may (definitely) own more shoes than anyone you know.

Sara Meleika
Sara is a Coptic-Egyptian comic and producer. She has performed as an improver, storyteller, and stand-up. She also writes and acts with sketch comedy troupes Inside Scoop and Madame. She has performed in festivals ranging from Montreal Sketchfest to the Big City Improv Festival. She’s fresh off a run at the Toronto Fringe and performed at OFF-JFL for the fourth time. She produces They Go Low, We Go Laugh, co-produces Talk Comedy & I Don’t Belong Here. She is Associate Artistic Director at Bad Dog Theatre and is the Festival Director of Ladyfest Montreal.

Wassim El Mounzer
Born in Beirut, raised in Montreal, Wassim started comedy like most stand-ups - while teaching English in Bundang, South Korea. Shortly after moving back to his adopted home city to pursue stand-up, Wassim was named by the Montreal Gazette as one of the artists to watch in 2018. He has performed at the Edinburgh Fringe festival three times and has been featured on the BBC Arts Hour and CBC comedy. In 2019 he was the opening act for Sugar Sammy on a Canada-wide theatre tour. Last summer he was named as one of the Canadian New Faces of Comedy at Just For Laughs.

DJs

DJ Mina
Mina is an Egyptian artist and pharmacist based in Montreal. His music journey started at age 6 when he learned oud at the Cairo Opera House, then singing as a tenor at Marie Reine du Monde in Montreal. In his mixes, Mina blends music spanning from North Africa to the Gulf, mixing the traditional and modern with a penchant for electronic dance music, always staying true to his Egyptian soul. His focus on rhythm will make you dance the night away. Your body will thank you later.

DJ Bassam
Bassam is George Mason University Associate Professor and Founding Director of their Middle East and Islamic Studies Program, Founding Editor of the Arab Studies Journal, and Co-Founder/Editor of Jadaliyya. His interests are many, and we are pleased being MESA’s DJ for the past several years is among them.
MEETINGS IN CONJUNCTION

Affiliated associations with MESA along with other organizations and programs may choose to hold meetings in conjunction with MESA’s Annual Meeting. We list them here as well as in the Calendar of Events.

Al Akhawayn University  
*Saturday, 11/4*  
**Reception,** 3:30-5:30pm (Le Chalet)

AATA – American Association of Teachers of Arabic  
*Thursday, 11/2*  
**Executive Board Meeting,** 9am-12pm (Room 441)  
**Annual Panel 2023,** 1-3:30pm (Room 512A)  
**Business Meeting,** 4-5pm (Room 512A)

AATP – American Association of Teachers of Persian  
*Thursday, 11/2*  
**Business Meeting, Awards Ceremony, & Roundtable** 11am-2:30pm (Room 511D)

AATT – American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages  
*Saturday, 11/4*  
**Reception,** 7:30-9:30pm (Foyer area west of 517)

AIMS – American Institute for Maghrib Studies  
*Thursday, 11/2*  
**Business Meeting,** 1-2:30pm (Room 512C)  
**Reception,** 8-9:30 pm (Le Chalet)

AIYS – American Institute for Yemeni Studies  
*Thursday, 11/2*  
**Business Meeting,** 9-10:30am (Room 448)

AIS - Association for Iranian Studies  
*Thursday, 11/2*  
**Business Meeting & Reception,** 2-4pm (Room 516E)

AGAPS – Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies  
*Thursday, 11/2*  
**Board Meeting,** 9am-12pm (Room522B)  
**Business Meeting,** 12:30-2:30pm (Room 512E)  
**Happy Hour Reception,** 6-9pm (Hotel Place d’Armes. 55, rue Saint-Jacques)

AMEWS – Association for Middle East Women’s Studies  
*Thursday, 11/2*  
**Board Meeting,** 1-3pm (441)  
**Business Meeting,** 7:30-8pm (511B)
MEETINGS IN CONJUNCTION

AMEWS, AASA, AMEA, AMECYS, FIME  
Saturday, 11/4  
Co-hosted Reception, 6:30-8:30pm (Room 520CF)  
Association for Middle East Women’s Studies (AMEWS)  
Arab American Studies Association (AASA)  
Association of Middle East Anthropology (AMEA)  
Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)  
Finnish Institute in the Middle East

Arab Reform Initiative and Arab Political Science Network  
Thursday, 11/2  
Public Meeting, 10am-12pm (Room 522C)

Arab Studies Institute  
Saturday, 11/4  
Reception, 6:30-8:30pm (Room 519A)

Arabic Study Abroad Options at Alexandria University  
Thursday, 11/2  
Informational Meeting, 1-2pm (Room 512F)

Consortium of Middle East National Resource Centers  
Saturday, 11/4  
Meeting, 11:15am-12:45pm (Room 520CF)

Harvard University  
Saturday, 11/4  
Reception, 7-9pm (Room 520A)

Middle East Law and Governance (Brill)  
Friday, 11/3  
Board Meeting, 3:30-5pm (Room 522B)

MEM – Middle East Medievalists  
Thursday, 11/2  
Business Meeting, 12-2pm (Room 512B)

OTSA – Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association  
Thursday, 11/2  
Board Meeting, 4-5pm (Room 447)  
Reception, 8-9pm (Room 517A)  
Members Meeting, 9-10:30pm (512E)

PARC – Palestinian American Research Center  
Thursday, 11/2  
Board Meeting, 11am-2pm (Room 448)
MESA-Organized Meetings

Thursday, 11/2
Committee on Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES) Poster Presentation
4-5pm in Foyer 517

Friday, 11/3
Meeting of Officers of MESA’s Affiliated Associations
9-10am in 522A
Committee on Academic Freedom Meeting
10:45am-1:15pm in 520B

Saturday, 11/4
RoMES Editorial Breakfast Board Meeting
7:30-8:30am in 522A
Middle East Center and Program Directors Meeting
9:30-11am in 520CF
MESA Members Meeting
1:15-2:45pm in 516C
MESA Global Academy Reception
5-7pm in Foyer 520

Sunday, 11/5
Editors of Middle East Studies Journals Meeting
9-10:30am in 522A
The following is a chronological listing of all events being held during the MESA 2023 annual meeting.

**Thursday, November 2**

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I-1: Locality and the Production of Knowledge in the Long Nineteenth Century: Extending Connections Across Middle East Studies and History of Science
Organized by Jane Murphy
Jane Murphy, Colorado College
Sahar Bazzaz, College of the Holy Cross
Peter Gran, Temple University
Liat Kozma, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Elise Burton, University of Toronto

I-2: Decolonial Feminist Praxis: The Question of Voice and Community
Organized by Rita Stephan
Sponsored by Association for Middle Eastern Women's Studies (AMEWS)
Chair: Rita Stephan, North Carolina State University
Zeina Zaatari, University of Illinois at Chicago
Esra Al-Muftah, University of British Columbia
Laila Mourad, York University
Sarah Sabban, American University of Beirut

I-3: From Colonial Finance to Financialization: Concepts, Methodologies, and Research Questions
Organized by Myriam Amri and Hicham Safieddine
Chair: Omar AlShehabi, University of Leeds

I-4: Palestine and the Rhetoric of Human Rights
Organized by Karim Mattar
Chair: Karim Mattar
Discussant: Samera Esmeir, UC Berkeley
Karim Mattar, University of Colorado at Boulder
Stephanie Kraver, University of Chicago
Nouri Gana, UCLA
Yasmine Khayyat, Rutgers University-New Brunswick

I-5: Higher Education amidst War and Revolution: University and Radical Pedagogy in Northeast Syria
Organized by Sardar Saadi
Chair: Sardar Saadi, Wageningen University
Atefeh Ramsari, University of Bielefeld
Anna Rebrii, Binghamton University, SUNY
Gulay Kilicaslan, Carleton University

I-6: MENA as Carceral States
Organized by Amr ElAfifi and Walaa Quisay
Chairs: Amr ElAfifi and Walaa Quisay
Discussant: Amr ElAfifi
Amr ElAfifi, Syracuse University and Yousuf Abdelfatah, Princeton University
Counting and Discounting: How to Know a Carceral State When You See One?
Mohamud Mohamed, University of Pennsylvania
Carcerality and Its Consequences in Socialist Somalia
Walaa Quisay, University of Edinburgh
Narrating Syrian Prisons in Germany: Legal Consciousness before the Koblenz Trials

I-7: Exploring the Inspirations and Ambitions Behind “Woman, Life, Liberty”
Organized by Sydney Martin
Organized under the auspices of the Iran 1400 Project
Discussant: Sydney Martin
Arash Azizi, New York University
Iran and Three Revolutions: Comparing 1906, 1979 and 2022 in a Global Perspective
Tom Walsh, University of Durham
Social Media, Visuality, Music, and Iran’s Gen-Z Uprising
Rahim Haji Agha, Jagiellonian University
The Slogan Jin, Jiyan and Azadi (Woman, Life, Freedom) and the Transformation of Iran’s Political Space
Zeinab (Sarah) Eskandari, University of Pennsylvania
Socio-Cultural Patriarchy, One of the Root Causes of the Women, Life, Freedom Movement
Sydney Martin, Iran 1400 Project
“A New Lexicon of Resistance:” The Discourse of Woman, Life, Freedom
**Session I**

**3:00 - 5:00 PM**

**Thursday, November 2, 2023**

**Room 512F**

**I-14: Protest Politics and Social Transformation in the Late Ottoman Empire**

Organized by Matthew Ghazarian

Discussant: Ugur Z. Peçe, Lehigh University

**Matthew Ghazarian**, Smith College
- *Natural Allies and Natural Alibis: Famine, Drought, Discontent in the Ottoman East, 1906-08*

**Önder Eren Akgül**, Kadir Has University
- *“The Çiftlik Occupations”: Revolution and Counter-Revolution in the Ottoman Rural Geography, 1908-1913*

**Önder Eren Akgül**, Kadir Has University
- *“The Çiftlik Occupations”: Revolution and Counter-Revolution in the Ottoman Rural Geography, 1908-1913*

**Ellis Garey**, New York University
- *Popular Anti-Imperialism and Worker Protest in Late Ottoman Greater Syria, 1908-1914*

**Joan Chaker**, Harvard University
- *Muleteers as the Last Mile: Global Capitalism and the Energy Transition*

**Room 513A**

**I-16: Children, Family, and State: Evolving Conceptions of Childhood in the Ottoman Empire**

Organized by Reda Rafei

Chair: Nada Mountaz, University of Toronto

**Reda Rafei**, Texas Tech University
- *Invisible Subjects: Children of the Empire Before the Age of Modernization*

**Ugur Akpinar**, Graduate Center, CUNY
- *Beyond Compassion: The Politics of Childcare in the Ottoman Empire*

**Madonna Aoun Ghazal**, University of California, Los Angeles
- *Marital Problems in the Shari’a Court in Fin de Siècle Beirut*

**Melis Sulos**, Graduate Center, CUNY
- *To Whom Belongs Children?*

**Christine B. Lindner**, Murray State University
- *Transnational Family Networks in Ottoman Syria: The Case of the DeForest Family*

**Room 512DH**

**I-15: Digital Technologies and the Transition in Arab Media and Arab Cultural Debates**

Organized by Eid Mohamed

Chair: Eid Mohamed

**Eid Mohamed**, Qatar University
- *Expertise and Authority: Contesting Media Priorities in the Arab World*

**Sahar Khamis**, University of Maryland
- *Discourses of Online Arab Resistance in the Diaspora in the Post-Arab Spring Era*

**Mai Zaki**, American University of Sharjah
- *The Rise of Arab Influencers: Identity and Language in Cyberspace*

**Mustafa Menshawy**, Lancaster University
- *The Death of A Media Discourse? Reframing the 1973 War in Egypt*

**Haithm Zinhom**, Mohamed Bin Zayed University for Humanities
- *Digital Technologies and the Shifting of Literary Borders in Post - Revolutionary Egyptian Fiction Writers*

**Room 513B**

**I-17: De-exceptionalizing the Arabian Peninsula: Pirates, Pilgrims, Archives**

Chair: James Onley

**James Onley**, American University of Sharjah
- *Gulf History and Colonial Archives in Britain and India*

**Bret Windhauser**, Graduate Center, CUNY
- *Prohibited Pilgrims: Smuggling to and through 20th Century Hajj*

**Lawson Pace**, Central European University
- *The Shipborne Shadow of Empire: Discourses of Piracy in British-Ottoman Relations in the Late Nineteenth-Century Persian Gulf*

**Saleh Alkhulaifi**, University of Cambridge
- *Genesis of the Gulf Emirate: Contemporary Conceptions of an Arab Polity, 1766-1810*

**Nicholas Roberts**, Norwich University
- *Tolerated Terror: Raḥmah bin Jābir and the Forging of a Global Gulf*

**Stephen Pascoe**, University of New South Wales
- *A Malthusian Middle East? Recasting Population through the Ottoman Age of Reform*

**Ayse Ozil**, Sabanci University
- *“Hans” of the Galata Port: International Trade and the Making of the Urban Landscape in Late Ottoman Istanbul*

**Sumeyye Kocaman**, University of Oxford
- *Transport Technologies and Pan-Ideologies: Late Ottoman Era Experience of Globalisation (1870-1908)*

**Seriyeye Akar**, Binghamton University
- *An Example of Ottoman Biological Materialism? A Closer Look at Fikri Teyfik’s Hucyeye Hayatın Esası (Cell: The Essence of Life)*

**Sean Lawrence**, West Virginia University
- *A New Rumelia: Imperial Nostalgia and the Remaking of Anatolian Environments*

**Baris Tasyakan**, University of California San Diego
- *The Exordium of Ottoman Empire Has Perished”: The Bursa Earthquake of 1855 and Reconstruction of a Tanzimat City*
I-19: Redefining Subjectivities in the Maghreb: Memory, Performance, Politics

Chair: Adey Almohsen, Georgetown University
Idriss Jebari, Trinity College Dublin
Learning to Overcome Revolutionary Defeat: Memoirs as Sites of Inter-Generational Transmission for the Tunisian Left (1967-2011)
Elizabeth Matsushita, Reed College
Making the Nation in Tunisia’s Post-Colonial Radio
Elizabeth Perego, Ohio State University
Performing Masculinity in Algerian Theater of the Interwar Period, 1926-1939

I-20: Topics in Transnational Studies of the Middle East

Chair: Ohannes Geukjian, American University of Beirut
Erik Freas, Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY Zionism and the Manner of Palestinian National Identity’s Formulation
Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University Dry Aspirations: An Early Trajectory of US-Middle East Relations
Rami Ginet, Bar-Ilan University Conceptualizing Normalization: The Case of Egyptian–Israeli Relations
Simon Payaslian, Boston University Nasserism and the Armenian Exodus from Egypt and Syria
Limor Lavie, Bar-Ilan University Egyptian State Media in Opposition to the Government: Al-Ahram’s Political Orientation under Morsi as a Case Study

I-21: Social Transformations in the Gulf: Identity and Belonging

Chair: Lauren Clingan, Princeton University
Salma Serry, University of Toronto
Migrant Menus: Placemaking and Belonging in Dubai’s Food History
Vorachai Israsena Pichitkanjanakul, Qatar University Royal Customs, Traditions, and the Role of the Female Royals: A Comparative Analysis of Qatar and Thailand
Philippe Thalmann, University of Cambridge An Ethnography of Social Transformation in Saudi Arabia
Hee Eun Kwon, University of California, San Diego More Than a National Dress: The Symbolic Context of Abaya
Joud Alkorani, Radboud University Nijmegen Belonging Beyond Citizenship: Relationality in Dubai

I-22: Gender Entanglements and Neoliberal Imperatives

Chair: Aymon Kreil, Ghent University
Yaprak Damla Yildirim, Yale University
Femicide and Masculinist Restoration in Islamist Neoliberalism
Dina Najjar, International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas Wheat Cooperatives in Morocco: Structure, Governance, Benefits and the Impact of COVID-19
Ola Galal, New York University
Mediating Justice: Victimhood and Public Denouncement in Cases of Gender Violence in Tunisia
Mariam Omar, University of Ottawa
How Does Donning a Hijab Influence Fieldwork on Sexual and Reproductive Health in Libya?

I-23: Death, Love and Protest in Iran

Chair: Mehran Kamrava, Georgetown University Qatar
Hajar Ghorbani, University of Alberta
Governing the Dead’s Territories: Tehran’s Beheshte-e Zahra Cemetery
Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta
“What Are the Iranians Dreaming About?” The Zan, Zendegi, Azadi Movement and Iran’s Post-Islamist Renaissance
David Siddhartha Patel, Harvard Kennedy School
The Market for Ayatollahs: Competition and Religious Authority Between Najaf and Qom
Amirhossein Mahdavi, University of Connecticut
Impacts and Economic Sanctions on Iran’s Teacher Movement

I-24: The Maghreb between the Local and Global: Tourism, Informal Economies, and the Politics of Sports

Chair: Cristiana Strava, Leiden University
Kira Jumet, Hamilton College
Translating Sports Achievements into Diplomatic Results: The Political Impact of Morocco’s 2022 World Cup Success
Jie Gao, University of Arizona
Casual Informality and Social Reproduction: The “Huan Qian” Practice in the Chinese Business Community in Morocco
Claire T. Oueslati-Porter, University of Miami
Engendering the Tunisian Beach Vacation
Laurence Deschamps-Laporte, Université de Montréal
Internationalizing Morocco’s Regional Strategic Interests through the Abraham Accords
Khail Dahbi, GIGA Institute of Middle East Studies
The Moroccan Radical Left: Post-Cold War Trajectories and Fluctuating Political Relevance (1990s -2022)
ROOM 510A
I-25: Employment and Labor Relations in the MENA
Chair: Matthew Lacouture, University of Massachusetts Boston

Froilan Malit Jr, University of Glasgow Labor Migration and Knowledge Production -- Power Structures and Politics across the Gulf Cooperation Council States
Bethany Shockley, American University of Sharjah Employment Experiences and Expectations in the Rentier State: Evolving Economic and Social Relations
Maya Rosenfeld, Hebrew University of Jerusalem On the Contribution of the Palestinian Authority to Formation of a New Middle Class in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, 1994-2017

ROOM 518C
I-27: Faith and Representation

Amira Abou-Taleb, University of Helsinki Resisting the Ugly; the Epistemology of Iḥsān (Beauty/Goodness) in the Qur’an
Stephen Cúrto, Union College of Union County, NJ The Lord is One, but Cloaked in Many Garments: Situating the Multivalence of ʿAlī Centered Topoi Within the Gināns
Mohamed Mohamed, George Mason University Al-Azhar Re-imagined: The Coercive Reinstitutionalization of the Ulama’s Transnational Identity Under Nasser

ROOM 518B
I-26: Racializing Arab Cultures
Chair: Asmaa Jisri, York University

May Kosba, Princeton University The Docile, the Vulgar, and the Beautiful: Depictions of Black, Egyptian, and White Women in the Afro-Arab and African Diasporic Novel
Pierre Folliet, Yale University Ideologies of Racial Capitalism: On Colonial Accumulation and the Algerian Literary Field
Wijdan Alsayegh, University of Michigan The Vast Veil: Black Arabs and Blackness in the Contemporary Arab Fiction

ROOM 519A
I-28: Culture and Nationalism
Chair: Rania Mahmoud

Tristan Leperlier, The French National Centre for Scientific Research/Columbia University The Bridge and the Engineer: Translators of North African Literature in the USA
Ilana Webster-Kogen, SOAS, University of London Albert Memmi, Jewish Thinker
Seerwan Hariry, Georgetown University Qatar Shouting Loudly: Reflections on Linguistic Smear Campaign Against the Use of Kurdish Language in the Ottoman Empire from A Historical and Literary Perspective
Rania Mahmoud, University of Arkansas Redeemed by the Nation

ROOM 516B
I-29: MESA’s Publications Workshop

Heather Ferguson (RoMES Editor) and Joel Gordon (IJMES Editor) will discuss the respective publishing agendas, review procedures and potential keys to success for the two journals published under MESA auspices. Special attention will be devoted to authors seeking their first peer reviewed publications.

Organized by MESA’s Publications Committee
Chair: Senem Aslan, Bates College
Heather Ferguson, Claremont McKenna College
Joel Gordon, University of Arkansas

Reem Taşyakan, University of California, San Diego The Arab-American Polyphonic Novel’s Indictment of the Post-9/11 Right-Wing Political Narrative
Naglaa Hussein, George Mason University Literary Representations of Black Peoples in the Arab and Non-Arab Middle East Exemplified in Hoji Jabir’s novel “Black Foam”
Mehraneh Ebrahimi, York University Confluence of the Legal and Literary Discourse in Refugee Narratives
Sadam Issa, Michigan State University Stigmatizing Portrayals of Former President Donald Trump in Arabic Political Cartoons: A Visual Framing of Trump’s Decision to Move the US Embassy to Jerusalem and his Middle East Peace Plan
Efkan Oguz, Queen’s University at Kingston De-Heritagization as a Coercive Practice in Heritage Diplomacy: A Study of Heritage Contestations in Turkey
II-1: Dynamics of Disruption: Ethnographic Practice in Contemporary Turkey
Organized by Eric Schoon
Chair/Discussant: Eric Schoon, Ohio State University
Anoush Tamar Suni, Northwestern University
Nihal Kayali, University of California, Los Angeles
Danielle Schoon, Ohio State University
Seda Saluk, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Erol Koymen, University of Chicago
Gokhan Mulayim, Boston University

II-2: Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies in the Middle East: Knowledge Production in the Contemporary Moment
Organized by Zeina Zaatar
Chair: Zeina Zaatar, University of Illinois at Chicago
Discussant: Suad Joseph, University of California, Davis
Kirsten Scheid, American University of Beirut
Courtney Hughes Rinker, George Mason University
Shahrzad Mojab, University of Toronto
Rania Maktabi, Østfold University College Norway
Hanadi Al-Samman, University of Virginia

II-3: Arabic Glitch: On the Negotiation of Digital Space for Hegemony and Resistance
Organized by Adel Iskandar
Chair: Bassam Haddad, George Mason University
Adel Iskandar, Simon Fraser University
VJ Um Amel, University of California, Santa Barbara
Alexandra J Juhasz, Brooklyn College, CUNY
Mohamed Elshahed, New York University

II-4: Pedagogies of Genocide: Critical and Comparative Approaches to Mass Atrocity and Political Violence in the Middle East
Organized by Erdag Göknar, Hulya Adak, and Melanie Tanielian
Chair: Soha Bayoumi, Johns Hopkins University
Erdag Göknar, Duke University
Helen Makhdoumian, Vanderbilt University
David Kazanjian, University of Pennsylvania

II-5: Reassembling the Pieces: Settler Colonialism and the Reconception of Palestinian Health
Organized by Weeam Hammoudeh
Sponsored by Palestinian American Research Center (PARC)
Weeam Hammoudeh, Birzeit University
David Mills, Harvard School of Public Health
Yara Asi, University of Central Florida
Bram Wispelwey, Harvard Medical School
Osama Tanous, Harvard School of Public Health

II-6: The Politics of Reproduction in the MENA—Birth, Midwifery, Illegal Mothers, and Abandoned Children
Organized by Ellen Amster
Chair: Soha Bayoumi, Johns Hopkins University
Ellen Amster, McMaster University
The Muslim Midwife: A Politics of Birth, Obstetrics, and Women’s Agency in Colonial and Postcolonial Morocco
Ginger Feather, University of Kansas
Living on the Margins of Intersectional Gendered Legal Discrimination: a Comparative Case Study of Morocco and Tunisia
Beth Baron, City College and Graduate Center, CUNY
Hard Labors: The Body as an Archive
Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, University of Pennsylvania
Abandonment and Neglect: Children, Natural Disasters, and Survival in Iran
ROOM 510B
II-7: Visual and Aural Histories of (De)Colonization in North Africa

Organized by Lacy Murphy

Sponsored by American Institute of Maghrib Studies (AIMS)

Daniel Coslett, Drexel University
Modernity, Identity, and the Architecture of Postcolonial Tourism in Downtown Tunis
Sheyda Aisha Khaymaz, The University of Texas at Austin
Theorizing Tinariwen: Desert as a Decolonial Tool in Kel Tamasheq Imagination
Katarzyna Falecka, Newcastle University
The Afterlives of Images from the Algerian War of Independence
Adel Ben Bella, Brown University
Vision(s) of Algeria in the Making: Liberating Multiplicities in the Photography of Mohamed Kouaci

Marcin Skupinski, University of Warsaw
Nurturing Life and Propelling the Revolution: Water, Oil and Radical Politics in North and East Syria

ROOM 512B
II-9: The Shatat and the Literary Imagination

Organized by Keith Feldman

Sponsored by Arab American Studies Association (AASA)

Keith Feldman, University of California, Berkeley
The Shatat, Form, and Minoritarian Knowledges
Amanda Batarseh, University of California, San Diego
Place & Movement: Developing a Radical Reading Practice in Palestinian/Palestinian-American Literature
Rana Sharif, University of California, Riverside
Technomediated Poetics and Digital Storytelling: Palestinian Embodied Subjectivities and the Palestine Writes Literature Festival
Benjamin Schreier, Pennsylvania State University
Palestine and the History of Arab American Literature

Ateq Al-Khadher Al-Garbi, Mokha Center for Strategic Studies of Yemen
Requirements for Transitional Justice and Peacebuilding in Yemen
Najeeb Ghanem, Independent Political Obstacles and Future of Peace Building in Yemen.
Huda Mukbil, University of Ottawa
International Policy Orientations in Yemen Crises
Khatab Alrawhani, London School of Economics and Political Science
The Role of Media in Yemen's War: An Analysis of Its Impact and Future Recommendations
Dheya Al-saeedi, Mokha Research Institute
Exploring the Complex Relationship between Yemeni Tribes and the Modern State: A Historical Analysis of State-Construction and State-Destruction
Nabil Albukairi, Sanaa University
The Regional Role in the Yemeni Crisis

ROOM 510C
II-8: The Rojava Experiment in Post-Conflict Northern Syria

Organized by Mustafa Kemal Topal

Chair: Gunes Murat Tezcur, Arizona State University
Discussant: Julia Wartmann, University of Basel

Mustafa Kemal Topal, University of Central Florida
Kurdish Women's Success in Rojava
Anna Rebrui, Binghamton University
Commoning the Justice System in North East Syria

ROOM 512C
II-10: The Yemeni Crisis: Opportunities and Challenges for Peace

Organized by Khaled Al-Hammadi

Organized under the auspices of the Mokha Center for Strategic Studies

Nabil Albukairi, Sanaa University
The Regional Role in the Yemeni Crisis

Wilson Chacko Jacob, Concordia University
The Sayyid vs El Niño: Dhofar and the Indian Ocean World, 1875-1879
Zozan Pehlivan, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
The Sheikh Ubeydullah Rebellion: A Political Uprising during the High Days of Famine in Kurdistan
Conor Kilroy, Concordia University
The Voices of Mosul's “Marsh People”: An Environmental History of Oil Exploration and Building the “Northwest Passage” to India in Late-Nineteenth-Century Iraq
**ROOM 516B**

**II-12: Under the Hammer:**
Trafficking, Trading, and Salvaging the Middle Eastern and North African Written Heritage

Organized by Cecilia Palombo and Sabine Schmidtke

Chair: Sabine Schmidtke
Discussant: Nasser O. Rabbat, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cecilia Palombo, University of Chicago Quranic Manuscripts in the Art Market and in Scholarship: A Symbiotic Relationship

Valentina Sagaria Rossi, Università degli studi Tor Vergata Different Sources, Shared Fortunes: The Collection of Folios from Arabic and Persian Manuscripts in the National Museum of Oriental Art (Rome)

Josh Mugler, Hill Museum & Manuscript Library Manuscript Collection and Digitization in Post-ISIS Mosul

Sabine Schmidtke, Institute for Advanced Study Lost Treasures: Medieval Arabic Manuscripts of Iraqi Provenance in Private Hands

Luise Loges, University of Glasgow Studying Cuneiform in Times of Conflict - A Scholar’s Dilemma

**ROOM 516C**

**II-13: Baha’i History, Texts, and Contexts**

Organized by Mina Yazdani, Zackery Heern, and Omid Ghaemmaghami

Chair/Discussant: Farzin Vejdani, Toronto Metropolitan University

Zackery Heern, Idaho State University Islam in the Writings of Bahá’u’lláh

Saghar Sadeghian, Willamette University The Role of the Babi/Baha’i Movement in Empowering Women in Qajar Iran

Alyssa Gabbay, University of North Carolina at Greensboro Around Iran in 400 Days: Heshmat Moayyad’s Yad-e Yaran

Omid Ghaemmaghami, Binghamton University, SUNY The Writing and Early Promulgation of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas

Mina Yazdani, Eastern Kentucky University The Anti-Baha’i Pogrom of 1903: The Prince, the Prime Minister, and the Clerics

**ROOM 513D**

**II-14: Reflections on Palestine Advocacy in Canada**

Organized by Jeremy Wildeman

Chair: Jeremy Wildeman, Carleton University
Discussant: Nadia Abu-Zahra, University of Ottawa

Yasmeen Abu-Laban, University of Alberta and Abigail Bakan, University of Toronto Anti-Palestinian Racism, Antisemitism and Anti-racism: Towards an Analytic of Solidarity as Praxis

Maurice Jr. M. Labelle, University of Saskatchewan Re-presenting Palestine: Sami Hadawi and Palestinian Decolonization in Canada

Mira Sucharov, Carleton University Canada’s Israel Lobby and the Palestinians

Emily Regan Wills, University of Ottawa Palestinian Organizations in Ottawa: Understanding Communities in Practice

Rachad Antonius, University of Quebec at Montreal Palestinian Advocacy in Canada: Evolution and External Factors of Success

**ROOM 513E**

**II-15: Taking It Over: Civil Servants and Informal Agents as (Inter)faces of the Everyday State**

Organized by Marie Vannetzel and Giedre Sabaseviciute

Marie Vannetzel, National Center for Scientific Research Baking It Work!
Gambits and Ethics of the Subsidized Bakers in Egypt

Prunelle Aymé, Sciences Po (Paris Institute of Political Studies) Building Bridges: Women between Local Party Branches and Municipal Welfare Offices in Turkey Under JDP’s Rule

Giedre Sabaseviciute, Czech Academy of Sciences “Writers, Not Civil Servants”: Running Cultural Palaces in Cairo

Sahar Aurore Saeidnia, Institut français du Proche-Orient Fragmented Public Action, Local Policy Intermediaries and the Authoritarian State Effect in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Assia Boutaleb, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne “The King is Ours Too”: Moroccan Public Hospital Administrators Face the Test of RAMED

**ROOM 512E**

**II-16: Translation as Archive:**
Documenting Cross-Cultural Contact in Middle Eastern and Eastern Mediterranean Histories

Organized by Erdem Idil and Berkay Uluç

Chair: E. Natalie Rothman, University of Toronto Scarborough

Erdem Idil, University of Toronto Translating the Archive, Archiving the Translator: Everyday Histories of Venetian Dragomans in Early Modern Istanbul
II-17: Art, Performance, and Power in Modern Egypt

Organized by Carmen M.K. Gitre
Chair/Discussant: Margaret Litvin, Boston University

Carmen M.K. Gitre, Virginia Polytechnic Institute France, Britain, and Cultural Control of Interwar Egypt
Aliaa Dawoud, Graduate Center, CUNY How the Musalsal ‘Haret El Yahoud’ Was an Early Indication of Sisi’s Foreign Policy
Jillian Campana, American University in Cairo Exploring the Attitudes about/of Sexual Harassment and Assault in Egypt through Performance

II-18: North Africa and the Balkans: Towards A Connected History of Two Ottoman Regions

Organized by Jovo Miladinovic
Chair: Lale Can, City College of New York, CUNY
Discussant: Joshua White, University of Virginia

Jovo Miladinovic, University of Konstanz A Trans-Adriatic Story of Ulcinj: Negotiating Maritoriality in the 18th Century Mediterranean through the Balkan-MaghrebConnections

M’Hamed Oualdi, Sciences Po (Paris Institute of Political Studies) A Maritime Road from Venice to the Balkans and Tripoli: Exploring New Connections across the Mediterranean during the Second Half of the 18th Century
Peter Kitlas, New York University Abu Dhabi From Tercüman in North Africa to Consuls in Istanbul: Triangulating Imperial Knowledge Production across the 18th Century Mediterranean

II-19: MENA as Carceral States II

Organized by Walaa Quisay and Smadar Ben-Natan
Chair/Discussant: Walaa Quisay, University of Edinburgh

Saif Alislam Eid, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies De-constructing the Authoritarian Policies in Egyptian Prisons after 2013: Implementing on Education
Enis Demirer, University of Toronto Erotics of Survival: Queer Experiences of Detention at Sansaryan Inn
Abdullah Alaoudh, George Washington University Incarceration Literature in Saudi Arabia in Post 2011

II-20: Contested Histories of (Ottoman) Slavery and Race in Turkey

Organized by Ezgi Guner, Ezgi Cakmak, and Aysegul Kayagil
Sponsored by Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA)
Chair: Ipek Kocaömer Yosmaoglu, Northwestern University
Discussant: Mostafa Minawi, Cornell University

Ezgi Guner, University of Edinburgh Heritage through Negation: Atlantic Slavery, and the Moral Economy of Neo-Ottomanism in Turkey
Ezgi Cakmak, Rutgers University-Newark “Real Slaves” of the Empire: Entangled Histories of Africanness and Slavery in the Late Ottoman Empire
Aysegul Kayagil, New School for Social Research Ghosts of Ottoman Slavery: Race in the Making of Hegemonic Turkishness
Baki Tezcan, University of California, Davis Racialization at the Ottoman Court: Eunuchs and their Distinctive Careers

II-21: New Horizons in the 21st Century Gulf’s Cultural Production

Organized by Thomas Fibiger

Thomas Fibiger, Aarhus University Religion-as-Civilization in Global Gulf Museums: The Exhibition Narrative at the Louvre Abu Dhabi
Thabiti Willis, Carleton College Africa, Music, and Heritage in the Gulf
Fergus Reoch, Barker Langham Al-Mirwiyat al-‘Arabiyya fi Matahif al-Jazira (Arabian Narratives in Arabian Museums)
II-22: Politics of Urban Reconstruction in Syria and Turkey
Organized by Najib B. Hourani

Sponsored by Middle East Research and Information Project
Chair: Najib B. Hourani
Najib B. Hourani, Michigan State University

Alternative Urban Imaginaries and the Reconstruction of Syrian Cities
Giulia Annalinda Neglia, Polytechnic University of Bari

Landscape Strategies for Urban Recovery in the Wake of Traumatic Events
Anas Soufan, Harvard University

Rebuilding Syrian Cities: Heritage as Human Right

II-23: Conceptualizing the Social in the Late and Post-Ottoman World
Organized by Ziad Dallal, Nader Atassi, and Ali M. Ugurlu

Discussant: Esmat Elhalaby, University of Toronto

Ali M. Ugurlu, Columbia University
Freedom Quest: Kemal, Hassun and the Normative Grounds of Critique in the Ottoman 19th Century

Nader Atassi, Columbia University
Arabs, Young Turks, and the Making of a Syrian National Economy in the Early Twentieth Century

Ziad Dallal, Bard College
Civilized Communities and The Logic of (In) Commensurability

Bengisu Zeynep Ergurul, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
Categorizing the Social World in the Late Ottoman Empire and Early Republican Turkey

II-24: State Power and Social Order in the Early Modern Era
Chair: Mark L. Stein, Muhlenberg College

Yuxuan Cai, University of Cambridge
Organizing the Coastal Defenses around Thessaly and Central Greece in the Late 15th and Early 16th Centuries

Safa Hamzeh, University of California, Los Angeles
Supervening Crises and Social Formation in Early Modern Ottoman Aleppo, 1697 – 1786

Rana Munteha Aldemir, Central European University
The Emotional Experience on Tombstones in 17th and 18th Century Ottoman Istanbul

Faika Celik, Celal Bayar University
Gendering the Margins: Gypsy/Roma Women Seeking Justice in Early Modern Ottoman Istanbul

Camilla Pletuhina-Tonev, Princeton University
Disciplining Subjects and Believers: The Orthodox Rite as a Link Between the Ottoman Imperial Subj ection and the Christian Faith

Ali Atabey, University of Texas at San Antonio
Contested Spaces: Intercommunal Relations and the Treatment of Churches in 17th Century Galata

Turkana Allahverdiyeva, University of Bonn
Slave Conversion into Islam: Being a Kâfiru’l-mille and Müsellemi’l-mille Slave in the Early Modern Era

Crimean Khanate

II-25: Discourses and Practices of Scientific Development in the Twentieth Century
Chair: Joseph Leidy, University of Oxford

Soheila Ghaziri, Université de Montréal
To Beirut and Back: Medical Pathways and Circulating Physicians in Interwar Levant

Saghar Bozorgi, University of Texas at Austin
“Know Yourself”: Discourses on Health and Mental Health between 1940 and 1960 in Iran

Robert Bell, New York University
A Pioneering Editor and the Angel of Sarbandan: Two Iranian Women’s Rural Development Strategies during the 1950s and 1960s

Mattin Biglari, SOAS, University of London
The ‘Gift of Skill’: Rural Development, Peasant Subjectivity and the Near East Foundation in Iran

Arthur Zárate, San Jose State University
What is Secular Arab Nationalism? Secularity, Statism, and the Social Imaginary in Nasser’s Egypt

II-26: Science, Prophecy, and the Occult from the 10th to 12th Centuries
Chair: John Walbridge, Indiana University Bloomington

Alex Matthews, University of Chicago
A Fāṭimid Version of the Occult Sciences

Emann Allebban, Providence College
The Soul of the World: Avicenna’s Theory of Prophecy

Kaveh Niazi, Independent Scholar
Science Across Barriers of Space, Time, and Language: The Remarkable Case of Qaṭṭān Marwazi’s Kayhân Shinâkht

Gamze Akbaş, Ohio State University
The Secrets of Women: Female Agency in ‘Abd al-Raḥmān al-Shayzarī’s 12th Century Treatise on Sexual Health
II-27: Iran: Political Conflict and Regional Power

Chair: A.R. Joyce, Middle East Policy Council

Wassim Mroue, University of Edinburgh The Drivers of Intra-sect Relations in Civil Wars: A Close Look at the Emergence of the AMAL-Hezbollah Alliance

Annie Tracy Samuel, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Iran’s Militaries and the Iran-Iraq War

Rezyhan Javadi, University of Alberta Codification of Sharia and Women’s Rights in Iran: A Narration of Legal Exclusion and Resistance

Carl Forsberg, Air War College The Specter of the Left: The US and the Iranian Revolution

II-28: Borders and Borderlands: The New Politics of the Middle East

Chair: James Clark, University of Nebraska Omaha

Dilan Okcuoglu, American University Theoretical and Empirical Analysis of the Border-making Process from a Comparative Lens

Toni Rouhana, University of York Syria’s Civil War: Sect Habitus and the Evolution of Human Rights Discourse

Umit Seven, Middle East Technical University Contested Authority, Violence, and Humanity in the Syrian Civil War

Zackary Manning, University of New Mexico Negotiating Death: Hadi Jumaans’ Successful Humanitarian Missions in Yemen—A Strategic Analysis

II-29: Debating Islamic Law: Imams, Intellectuals, and Salafists

Chair: Mahade Hasan, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Zoltan Pall, Austrian Academy of Sciences Regenerating Ambiguity: Kuwaiti NGOs and Adapting Salafism to Cambodia’s Sociocultural Environment

Ahmed Achrati, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Transcendence in the Qur’an and Ambiguities in the Tawhidi Discourses

Massimo Ramaiolli, Al-Akhawayn University Islamic Gramscian Intellectuals: ‘Ulama, New Religious Intellectuals and the Dynamics of Political Modernity

II-30: Institutions and Actors in Diverse Polities

Chair: Mounah Abdel Samad, San Diego State University

Salman Rafi Sheikh, Lahore University of Management Sciences Changing Majoritarian Constitutions: Punjab and the Politics of the 18th Amendment in Pakistan

Omar Sadr, University of Pittsburgh Political Order, Religion, and Pluralism in Afghanistan

Aaron Eldridge, University of Toronto Sectarianism Interrupted: Rum Orthodox Christian Monasticism and Islam in Lebanon

Kelly Stedem, Bucknell University Sermons & Politics: The Role of Religious Institutions in Political Messaging

Kallan Larsen, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Group Dynamics, Religious Diversity, and Political Tolerance in Lebanon

II-31: Understanding Anti-Black and Anti-Arab Racism from a Comparative Perspective

Chair: Sahar Razavi, California State University, Sacramento

Canan Sahin, Queen’s University at Kingston Racialized Fractures among Urban Surplus Populations: Hierarchy of Exploitation among Syrians, Kurds and the Poor Turks in West Istanbul

Sahar Sadeghi, Muhlenberg College “Good Foreigners” and the Persistence of Racial Nationalism

Dalal Daoud, Queen’s University Nation-building and Afro-Arabs in Saudi Arabia
ROOM 511A  ROUNDTABLE
III-1: Teaching 9/11 and the Global War on Terror at the Undergraduate Level
Organized by Sarah Ghabrial
Organized by MESA’s Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)
Sarah Ghabrial, Concordia University
Pheroze Unwalla, University of British Columbia
Jay Shelat, Ursinus College
Mariam Durrani, American University
Shaimaa Hassan, University of East London

ROOM 511B  ROUNDTABLE
III-2: The October 1973 War at 50: Legacies of Regional Militarization, Oil Politics, and US Hegemony at the Dawn of Neoliberalism
Organized by Jacob A. Mundy
Sponsored by Middle East Report/ Middle East Reporting and Information Project (MERIP)
Chair: Jacob A. Mundy
Kaveh Ehsani, DePaul University
Christopher Dietrich, Fordham University
Jacob A. Mundy, Colgate University

ROOM 511C  ROUNDTABLE
III-3: Loss, Recovery, and Community Engagement: Archiving the MENA
Organized by Leila Zonouzi
Chair: Leila Zonouzi, University of California, Santa Barbara
Amy Fallas, University of California, Santa Barbara
Michael Akliadis, University of Toronto
Mohamed Elshahed, New York University
Farida Makar, University of Oxford

ROOM 511D  ROUNDTABLE
III-4: Digital Humanities: Creating Big Data Sets and Ensuring Their Reuse into the Future
Organized by Mathew Barber
Organized under the auspices of The Centre for Digital Humanities at Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations
Mathew Barber, Aga Khan University
Jonathan Parkes Allen, University of Maryland, College Park
Sarah Bowen Savant, Aga Khan University
Irene Kirchner, Georgetown University
Mai Zaki, American University of Sharjah
Eid Mohamed, Qatar University
Intisar Rabb, Harvard Law School

ROOM 511E  ROUNDTABLE
III-5: Officially Silenced Narratives in Republican Turkey
Organized by Umit Kurt, University of Newcastle
Chair: Ipek Kocaömer Yosmaoglu, Northwestern University
Baris Unlu, University of Virginia
Baki Tezcan, University of California, Davis
Yavuz Kose, University of Vienna
Fatma Müge Göçek, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

ROOM 511F  ROUNDTABLE
III-6: Packrats and Hoarders of Arabic Literature
Organized by Samuel England
Chair: Samuel England
Adam Talib, American University in Cairo Arabic Poetry Media: A History of Collecting and Collection
Samuel England, University of Wisconsin-Madison Four Lines, 33 rpm: Ruba’iyyat in Arabic Public Spheres
Emily Drumsta, The University of Texas at Austin A New Register of the Arabs: Poetry as Ur-Science and Diwan in Ahmad Zaki Abushady’s al-Shafaq al-Baki (1926)
Yasmine Ramadan, University of Iowa Blood, Filth, and Excretions: The Abject in Contemporary Egyptian Fiction
III-7: Alternative Sovereignties
Organized by Omar Shehabi
Discussant: Asli Bali
Omar Shehabi, Yale Law School
From Crémieux to Gerezim: Performative, Constitutive and Disfiguring Citizenship in the Contested Spaces of the Middle East and North Africa
Lily Hindy, University of California, Los Angeles “Selling” the Kurdish Plight in Iraq to an International Audience: The Messaging of Kurdish Diaspora Organizations after the Human Rights Revolution (1975-2005)
Kian Tajbakhsh, Columbia University
Decentralization, Sovereignty and Democratization under the Islamic Republic of Iran: Do Local Electoral and Civic Institutions Offer Interstitial Spaces for Building Practices of Self-Rule?
Asli Bali, Yale Law School
Rethinking Self-Determination: Experiments with Confederalism in the MENA Region
David Mednicoff, University of Massachusetts Amherst Syrian Refugee Governance at the Intersection of Transnational and Local Actors - Lessons for Contested Political Spaces of the MENA?

III-9: “Wake Work” and Revolution: Dilemmas of Mourning, Memory, and Contested Futures
Organized by Alice Wilson
Chair: Eray Çaylı, University of Hamburg
Discussant: Sophie Chamas, SOAS, University of London
Alice Wilson, University of Sussex
Unofficial Commemoration among Dhufar’s Former Revolutionaries
Charis Boutieri, King’s College London
Diluted Afterlives of Revolution: Tunisia Militants and the Trappings of Liberal Translation
Huseyin Rasit, Ritsumeikan University
Revolution, Imperialism, Geopolitics: Managing Precarity and Sustainability in Rojava’s Revolution
Marlene Schäfers, Utrecht University
Digital Wake Work: On Forging Martyrial Immortality Online

III-8: Representing Revolution, Revolutionary Representations: Visual Activism about Palestine from the 1960s to the Digital Age
Organized by Nadia G. Yaqub
Nadia G. Yaqub, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Reflected Solidarity: Palestine in Mid-Twentieth Century Arab Cinema

III-10: Epics and Narratives in Medieval Turco-Persianate Culture
Organized by Colin Mitchell
Sponsored by Middle East Medievalists (MEM)
Colin Mitchell, Dalhousie University
Davidic Distancing?: Old Exemplars and New Priorities in Early Safavid History
Kaveh Hemmat, Benedictine University
Labor and Power in the Persian Epic Tradition and Its Intertexts
Nasrin Askari, University of Birmingham
The Timeless Tales of the Mūnis-nāma as Mirrors for Princesses
Abolfazl Moshiri, University of Toronto
The Mythical Sun: The Legacy of Shams-i Tabrīzī in the Mevlevi Hagiographies

III-11: The Caucasus within the Ottoman World
Organized by Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky
Chair/Discussant: Seteney Shami, Arab Council for the Social Sciences
Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky, University of California, Santa Barbara
North Caucasian Refugee Resettlement in the Late Ottoman Empire
Tuna Basibek, University of Washington
The Slave Trade on the Russian-Ottoman Border in the Caucasus, 1800-1860
Murat Yasar, SUNY Oswego 16th-century Ottoman Territory- and Subject-Making Strategies in the Northwestern Caucasus
**Ecem Saricayir**, Cornell University  
*Russian Imperial Planning of the Ottoman Towns: Kars and Batumi in the Southwestern Caucasus*

**Olivia Glombitza**, Autonomous University of Barcelona  
*Salam Farmandeh: Identity Prescription & Youth Mobilization in the Islamic Republic of Iran*

**Mehran Kamrava**, Georgetown University  
*State, Communal, and Individual Identities in Iran*

**Mohammad R. Kalantari**, Royal Holloway, University of London  
*Whither Iranian Religiosity: Being an Iranian in the Modern Era*

**Kristin Soraya Batmanghelichi**, University of Oslo  
*Gilded Backdoors?: Purchasable Belonging for Iranians in Istanbul Post-2009*

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**Idun Hauge**, Georgetown University  
*Promising Baalbek: Tourism, Development & Anxieties in the Town of Baalbek, 1943-1975*

**Juan Ramirez**, Georgetown University  
*Tourism in Tunisia after Fifty Years of French Occupation: French Colonial Capitalism in Interwar Tunisia*

**Laith Shakir**, New York University  
*State, Communal, and Individual Identities in Iran*

**Elisa Wynne-Hughes**, Cardiff University  
*Difference, Desire and Dispossession in Revolutionary Cairo*

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*State, Communal, and Individual Identities in Iran*

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**Laith Shakir**, New York University  
*Iraqi Antiquities and Tourism Development, 1921-1932*

**Elisa Wynne-Hughes**, Cardiff University  
*Neoliberal Tourism: Difference, Desire and Dispossession in Revolutionary Cairo*

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**Diala Lteif**, University of Cambridge  
*My Way or the Highway: On Infrastructure and Urban Policies in 1960s Beirut, Lebanon*

**Molly Oringer**, University of California, Los Angeles  
*Whose Jewish Saida?: On Absence, Memory, and the Legacy of the Jewish Community in Southern Lebanon*

**Zeead Yaghi**, University of California, San Diego  
*A Gift of the Litani: The Politics of Electricity in Lebanon*

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**Caroline Seymour-Jorn**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
*Slavery, Identity and Memory in the Novels of Radwa Ashour and Samiha Khrais*

**Ahmed Idrissi Alami**, Purdue University  
*Undoing the Burden of Blackness*

**Heather Porter Abu Deiab**, McGill University  
*History, Racism and Futurism in Laila Lalami’s ‘The Moor’s Account’*

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**Nihal Kayali**, University of California, Los Angeles  
*Temporary Rights and the Privatization of Refugee Healthcare Providers*

**Merve Erdilmên**, McGill University  
*Multi-Scale Approach to Queer Refugee Organizing: LGBTQI+ Refugee-Led Organizations in Turkey and Beyond*

**Yasemin Taskin Alp**, University of California, San Diego  
*Sibyan Mektebi in Istanbul, Turkey: Why Did the Islamic Preschools Emerge and Expand?*
III-17: After the Armageddon: Ottoman Military, Intellectuals, and Press, 1918-1923

Organized by Yigit Akin and Veyesel Simsek

Chair: Laila Parsons, McGill University
Discussant: Laura Robson, Penn State University

Veyesel Simsek, McGill University
Demobilization of the Ottoman Army, 1918-1919

Yigit Akin, Ohio State University
Post-War Peace, Popular Politics, and the “Ethnicization” of the Ottoman Public Sphere, 1918-1920

Fatma Esen, Georgetown University
Pre-Print Censorship in Allied Occupied Istanbul: Who Censored What, When, Where, and Why (1918-1923)

Ari Sekeryan, Independent Scholar
Imagining the End: Political Engagement of Armenian Intellectuals in Occupied Istanbul (1918-1922)

III-18: Scales of Migration: Knowledge Production in the Middle East and Its Global Linkages

Organized by Marjan Wardaki

Chair/Discussant: Stacy Fahrenthold, University of California, Davis

Marjan Wardaki, Yale University
Medical Knowledge-Migrants in Islamicate Germany and the Birth of New Medical Centers

F. Walter Lorenz, University of North Georgia
Mobilizing Agricultural Science: Migrants, Locals, and Olive Branches in Civilizing Late Ottoman Libya

Joshua Donovan, Boston College
Migrant Memories: Orthodox Christian Accounts of Violence and Displacement During the 1860 “Events” in Damascus

Saeed Zarrabi-Zadeh, University of Erfurt
Transformation of the Soul in Mystical Islam: The Case of Jalal al-Din Rumi

Shaahin Pishbin, University of Chicago
The Matla’-i Divan: On the Importance of Ghazal #1

Paul E. Losensky, Indiana University
Bloomington Can the Ghazal Ever be Read as Autobiography?: Toponyms in the Poetry of Sa’eb Tabrizi

Hajnalka Kovacs, Harvard University
Zeniths and Nadirs: The Theme of the Mi’rāj in Bēdil’s Ghazals

III-19: In Honor of Franklin Lewis I: Ghazal Poetics

Organized by Samuel Hodgkin, Yale University

Chair: Jane Mikkelson, Yale University
Discussant: Cameron Cross, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Saeed Zarrabi-Zadeh, University of Erfurt
Transformation of the Soul in Mystical Islam: The Case of Jalal al-Din Rumi

Shaahin Pishbin, University of Chicago
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Hajnalka Kovacs, Harvard University
Zeniths and Nadirs: The Theme of the Mi’rāj in Bēdil’s Ghazals

III-20: Mobility, Movement, and Belonging Across Borders

Organized by Omer Shah

Omer Shah, Pomona College
Optimizing Mecca: Islam, Infrastructure, and Logistics

A. George Bajalia, Wesleyan University
Barzakh as Method: Waiting for the Right to Belong in Tangier, Morocco

Sumayya Kassamali, University of Toronto City of Exiles: Reframing “Migrant Labour” in Beirut, Lebanon

Hala Habib, Columbia University
Resemblances and Departures: Reimagining Mourning in Afghanistan

III-21: Images in Islam: Past and Present

Organized by Ali Asgar Alibhai and Laura Thompson

Chair: Jane Mikkelson, Yale University
Discussant: Christiane J. Gruber, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Ali Asgar Alibhai, The University of Texas at Dallas
Image-Making in Fatimid Society: An Interdisciplinary Discourse in Jurisprudence, Material Culture, and Social History

Laura Thompson, Harvard University
Contemporary Blasphemy Prosecutions in Tunisia: The Case of Al Abdellia and Nessma TV

Han Hsien Liew, Arizona State University
Al-Māwardī’s Commentaries on the Anthropomorphic Qur’ānic Verses

Fayrouz Ibrahim, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design
Reimagining Islamic Images: A Historical and Contemporary Analysis of Images in Islamic Politics and Art

III-22: Varieties of Slavery and Unfreedom in Medieval Islamic History

Organized by Philip Grant

Chair/Discussant: Rachel Schine, University of Maryland, College Park

Omer Shah, Pomona College
Optimizing Mecca: Islam, Infrastructure, and Logistics

A. George Bajalia, Wesleyan University
Barzakh as Method: Waiting for the Right to Belong in Tangier, Morocco
**Philip Grant**, University of California, Irvine  
What Is a “Slave Revolt”? Comparative Perspectives on the Zanj Rebellion (255–269/869–883)

**Brian J. Ulrich**, Shippensburg University  
Portrayals of the Slave Trade in the Book of the Wonders of India

**Elizabeth Urban**, West Chester University  
Freedwomen in Early Islamic History

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**ROOM 513D**

**III-23: Colonization and Decolonization in Israel/Palestine**

Chair: **Ghassan E. El-Eid**, Central Connecticut State University

**Yara Nassar**, Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies  
Who Supports Hamas in Palestine? Public Political Perceptions of Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip

**Sebaah Hamad**, University of California, Santa Barbara  
Sumud: Palestinian Resistance and Place-Making

**Aisha Mershani**, Gettysburg College  
Decolonizing Resistance: Stone Throwing and Palestine Solidarity Activism

**Clayton Goodgame**, Princeton University  
The Return of Ideology: Religion and Social Theory in the Middle East

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**ROOM 513B**

**III-25: Queer Politics and Subjectivities**

Chair: **Johnathan Norris**, Boston University

**Ali Yildirim**, University of Minnesota  
Twin Cities Deviant Attachments: An Argument on Minorization, Political Dissent, Alevism, and Queerness in Turkey

**Saffo Papantonopoulou**, University of Arizona  
Excavating (Post-)Ottoman Queer Subject Formations in Greece and Turkey: The Relationship between Lubunca and Kaliarnta

**Jamie Pelling**, Princeton University  
Sex and the City: Sexual Fantasy in 1920s Istanbul

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**ROOM 512C**

**III-26: Democratic Backsliding in Tunisia**

Chair: **Moritz Schmoll**, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University

**Hatem Sebei**, La Manouba University  
Rethinking the Legacy of Tunisian Pact-Making in the Post-July 2021

**Mahmoud Tharwat El Hewaig**, Georgetown University  
The Roots of the Predetermined Trajectory of the Tunisian Revolution

**Youssef Chouhoud**, Christopher Newport University  
Political Tolerance and Democratic Backsliding in Tunisia

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**ROOM 513E**

**III-24: State, Citizenship, and Identities**

Chair: **Ohannes Geukjian**, American University of Beirut

**Ali Karimi**, University of Calgary  
Passport and Persecution: A History of Travel Permit in Afghanistan

**Paraska Tolan-Szkilnik**, Cornell University  
Maghreb Mithlya: Histories of Queer People in the 2011 Tunisian Revolution

**Hatim Rachdi**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University  
“‘İlaa Mataa”: Cis-heteronorrativity and The Everyday Production of “The Carceral Continuum”
III-27: Geopolitics and the Struggle for the Middle East: The U.S., Russia and China

Chair: Nils Lukacs, University of Hamburg

Rasha Altameemi, University of North Texas
How China Has Challenged the US’ Hegemonic Position in the Middle East

Matt Buehler, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
The Lost Colony: American Power in Morocco

Ehsan Sheikholharam, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Bypassing Islam: War in Ukraine and a New Discourse of Civilizational Clash

III-28: Theorizing Islamism(s): New Methods and Perspectives

Chair: Marc Lynch, George Washington University

Humeyra Biricik, University of Oxford
Re-evaluating the Inclusion-Moderation Hypothesis: Evidence from Erdogan’s Evolving Rhetoric

Sarah Fischer, Marymount University
Attracting Women Voters to Islamist Parties: What Policies Produce Party Support?

Martin Kear, University of Sydney
Battling to Remain in Politics - Understanding Hamas’s Hybrid Resistance

Suhyla Behiry, Georgetown University
The Muslim Brotherhood in Exile: Party Cleavages and Political Adaptation

III-29: Climate Change, The Environment, and Natural Disasters

Chair: Reza Sohrabi, Carleton University

Nimah Mazaheri, Tufts University
Environmental Quality and Public Perceptions in the Middle East: Survey Evidence about Water, Air, and Pollution

Lauren Baker, Northwestern University
Performing and Contesting Green Leadership: The Politics of Trash at COP27

Andreas Rechkemmer, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
Crises, Climate Change, and Social Justice – Policy Implications for the Middle East

Stephen P. Gasteyer, Michigan State University
Desalting Hydro-Modernity: Climate Change, Water Scarcity, and the (Neo)Colonial Imaginaries of Water Development

Martin Hvidt, University of Southern Denmark
Analyzing a Paradox: How High Oil Prices Have Become a Driver for the Green Transition in the Gulf Countries

Ahmet Öztürk, Independent
Reassessing Dams and Transboundary River Development Projects in the Context of Natural Disasters: The Challenges and Setbacks After the Recent Earthquakes in the Southern Türkiye

III-30: Women’s Work in the Middle East and Beyond: Critical Junctures

Organized by Rasmieyh Abdelnabi

Chair/Discussant: Najwa Adra, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Rasmieyh Abdelnabi, George Mason University
Palestinian Women Embroiders: Embodying Palestinian Indigenous Sovereignty

Sarah Sabban, American University of Beirut
Crafting National Heritage: Women’s Associations and the Promotion of Arts and Crafts in French Mandate Lebanon

Wafaa Hasan, University of Toronto
Anti-Palestinian Gendered and Racial Childism/Motherhoods in the Toronto Public School System

Farha Ghannam, Swarthmore College
Between the Visible and Invisible: Ethics of Care, Gender, and Class in Urban Egypt
IV-1: Rewriting Histories and Narratives from the Arab Region: Alternative Archives, Marginalized Voices

While formal research and knowledge production institutions in the Arab region continue to suffer from a dismal array of constraints and shortcomings, there is an explosion of initiatives interrogating, critiquing and providing alternatives to longstanding narratives of nationalism, identity, political structures and lifeworlds. Mostly organized through para-institutional and interstitial modalities, often ephemeral and short-lived, these initiatives create new archives, highlight marginalized voices and construct alternative narratives and visions of the future. This roundtable will examine issues such as methodological nationalism, revolutionary knowledge, digital activism and domestic archives. The importance of these efforts from the Arab region is in the production of new insights and interpretations of pasts, presents and futures but also as a critique of existing formal institutions of knowledge production in the region.

Organized by Seteney Shami
on behalf of
the Arab Council for the Social Sciences and MESA

Chairs: Seteney Shami, Arab Council for the Social Sciences
and Dina Rizk Khoury, George Washington University

Mohammed A. Bamyeh, University of Pittsburgh
Sami Hermez, Northwestern University in Qatar
Hana Sleiman, University of Edinburgh
Reem Joudi, Arab Council for the Social Sciences

IV-2: Lebanese Studies: Current Stakes, Future Possibilities, and Ethical Commitments

Organized by Andrew Arsan
on behalf of
the Centre for Lebanese Studies

Chair: Andrew Arsan

Andrew Arsan, University of Cambridge
Owain Lawson, University of Toronto
Diala Lteif, University of Cambridge

Nadya J. Sbaiti, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Munira Khayyat, American University in Cairo
Ziad M. Abu-Rish, Bard College

IV-3: Queer/Trans Critique of Middle East Studies

Organized by Asli Zengin

Chair: Asli Zengin, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey

Elif Sari, University of British Columbia
Sima Shakhsari, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Razan Ghazzawi, Oregon State University
Sophie Chamas, SOAS, University of London

IV-4: Histories of Capitalism and Race in the Middle East and Indian Ocean

Organized by Mattin Biglari, Hengameh Ziai, and Sarah El-Kazaz
Chairs: Mattin Biglari, SOAS, University of London, Hengameh Ziai, SOAS, University of London, and Sarah El-Kazaz, SOAS, University of London

Timothy Mitchell, Columbia University
Johan Mathew, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Nada Moumtaz, University of Toronto
Fadzilah Yahaya, Yale University

Kyle Evered, Michigan State University
Roger A. Deal, University of South Carolina Aiken
G. Carole Woodall, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Ozge Calafato, University of Amsterdam
Senem Aslan, Bates College
Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University

Kyle Evered, Michigan State University
Roger A. Deal, University of South Carolina Aiken
G. Carole Woodall, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Ozge Calafato, University of Amsterdam
Senem Aslan, Bates College
Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University

ROOM 511A
ROUNDTABLE

IV-7: The Decline of Rise: Re-examining the Ottoman Rise Paradigm

Organized by Amy Singer and Samet Budak

Chair: Gottfried Hagen, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Discussant: Cemal Kafadar, Harvard University

Linda T. Darling, University of Arizona What Was the Rise of the Ottoman Empire?
Dimitris Kasratis, University of St. Andrews Imagining Ottoman World History in the Middle of the 15th Century CE
Samet Budak, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor An Alternative History of the Beginnings of the Ottoman Enterprise: Thinking Outside the Box of Official History
Patricia Blessing, Princeton University Architecture and Ottoman Rise: Away from the Sinan Paradigm

ROOM 513A
IV-8: Finding Meaning in 2 Billion Words of Arabic Books

Organized by Sarah Bowen Savant on behalf of The Centre for Digital Humanities at Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations

Sarah Bowen Savant, Aga Khan University Did Ibn al-ʿAsākir (d. 571/1176) Use a Library to Create the Largest Pre-modern Book in Arabic? Aslisho Qurboniev, Aga Khan University The Application of Stylometry to Premodern Arabic Texts: The Elusive Case of the Rasāʾil Ikhwān al-Ṣafāʾ Mathew Barber, Aga Khan University Chronicling Crisis in Premodern Arabic Texts: Formula Versus Description

Ryan Muther, Northeastern University Source Attribution Using Generative Language Models: A Case Study on Maqrizi
Robert Kevin Jaques, Indiana University Bloomington Reconstructing and Presenting the “Lost” Witnesses of Ibn Ishāq’s Sirah
Lorenz Nigst, Aga Khan University-ISMCS, Centre for Digital Humanities Un-scatter the Field, Simplify the Search: Text Reuse and Pre-Modern Scholarly Tool-Building

ROOM 513B
IV-9: Middle Eastern Diaspora: US Multiethnic and Multiracial Collaborations

Organized by Kimberly W. Segall

Hale Yılmaz, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Kyle Evered, Michigan State University
Roger A. Deal, University of South Carolina Aiken
G. Carole Woodall, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Ozge Calafato, University of Amsterdam
Senem Aslan, Bates College
Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University

Kyle Evered, Michigan State University
Roger A. Deal, University of South Carolina Aiken
G. Carole Woodall, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Ozge Calafato, University of Amsterdam
Senem Aslan, Bates College
Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University

Kyle Evered, Michigan State University
Roger A. Deal, University of South Carolina Aiken
G. Carole Woodall, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Ozge Calafato, University of Amsterdam
Senem Aslan, Bates College
Emine Ö. Evered, Michigan State University
Kimberly W. Segall, Seattle Pacific University/University of Washington
*Digital Solidarities of U.S. Muslim Women*

Stan Thangaraj, Stonehill College
Constantinople Cafe and Copper Binds: Kurds, Lebanese, and the Emergence of Butte, Montana

Candace Lukasik, Mississippi State University
*Geopolitical Reverberations: Sectarian Memory and the (Im)Possibilities of Arab American Studies*

Joseph Hermiz, University of Chicago
*The United States v. Shmuil David: Racializing Assyrians in post-World War I America*

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**ROOM 519B**

**IV-10: Popularizing Folklore, Folklorizing the Popular: Memory, Co-optation, and Commodification in Moroccan Music**

Organized by Benjamin Jones

Benjamin Jones, Georgetown University
*University Singing the Sahara: Claiming the Western Sahara in Popular Music*

Cynthia Becker, Boston University
*Moroccan Cover Art: Marketing Popular Music in the 1970s and ’80s*

Kendra Salois, American University
*Between Renewal and Extraction: Ghiwanien Methodologies in Moroccan Heritage Pop*

Said Graioud, SIT Study Abroad
*Nass El-Ghiwane, Decoloniality, and “Resistant Imagination”*

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**ROOM 513C**

**IV-12: Energy, Rivalry, and Insecurity in the Middle East**

Organized by Bruce Rutherford

Chair: Bruce Rutherford
Discussant: Natalie Koch, Syracuse University

Tobias Zumbraegel, Heidelberg University
*The Technopolitics of Hydrogen: The Oil- and Gas-Exporting Gulf States’ Quest for Relevance in a Climate-Constrained World*

Jeannie Sowers, University of New Hampshire
*Territorial Fragmentation and the Targeting of Oil and Water Infrastructures in Libya*

Bruce Rutherford, Colgate University
*Managing the Rise of China in the Middle East: The Case of Egypt*

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**ROOM 523A**

**IV-11: Materiality & Documentary Culture in the Early Islamic World**

Organized by Kyle Longworth and Tobias Scheunchen

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**ROOM 524A**

**IV-13: Demystifying the Middle East in the Undergraduate Classroom through Virtual Exchanges**

Organized by Marcus Smith on behalf of MESA’s Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)

Chair/Discussant: Melinda McClimans

Marcus Smith, Lindenwood University
*Teaching Cultural Competency through Virtual Exchange Partnership with the University of Mosul*

Danielle Schoon, Ohio State University, Melinda McClimans, Ohio State University, and Suncem Kocer, Koc University
*Virtual Education Abroad in Istanbul, Turkey: Utilizing the Principles and Practices of Collaborative Online International Learning*

Maia Carter Hallward, Kennesaw State University
*Engaging with the Other Online*

Lamees Fadl, The City University of New York
*Exploring Cross-Cultural Diversities with Arab Society*
### ROOM 524B

**IV-14: Ecocritical Terrains: Rethinking Tamazghan and Middle Eastern Landscapes**

Organized by **Edwige Tamalet Talbayev**

**Chair:** Edwige Tamalet Talbayev

- **Edwige Tamalet Talbayev**, Tulane University
  - **Elemental Borders: Reframing the Geophysical Maghreb**
- **Ramyar Rossoukh**, Brandeis University
  - **Colonizing Mars in the Arabian Desert**
- **Tracy Valcourt**, Independent Scholar
  - **“Pure Landscape” and Atmospheric Ambiguation: Picturing Deserts**
- **Anna Levett**, Oberlin College
  - **Tunisia’s Post-Revolutionary Cinematic Landscapes**
- **Matthew Brauer**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
  - **Earthquakes in Maghribi Literature: Land, Body, and Language in al-Ṭāhir Waṭṭār’s al-Zilzāl (The Earthquake)**

### ROOM 524C

**IV-15: At the Intersection of Health and Gender in the Middle East in the Midst of Military, Economic and Natural Disasters**

Organized by **Livia Wick**

**Chair:** Livia Wick, American University of Beirut

- **Farha Ghannam**, Swarthmore College
  - **Understanding the Syrian Refugees’ Particular Experiences in Turkey through Gender and Health Issues**
- **Aysecan Terzioglu**, Sabanci University
  - **Celebrating the Birth of the Prophet in British India: Ahmad Rażā Khān Barelwī’s Fatwas on the Mawlid**
- **Uvaise Karattiyattil**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
  - **Islamic Law in Postcolonial India: A Study of the Qadis of Calicut (1947-2020)**
- **Annas Rolli Muchlisin**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
  - **Yūsuf Al-Qaraḍāwī’s Attitudes toward Taqrīb Al-Madhāhib: From Ecumenicism to Sectarianism?**

### ROOM 525A

**IV-17: Authority in and of Islam: Manifestations and Contestations**

Organized by **Zunayed Ahmed Ehsan** on behalf of the College of Islamic Studies, Hamad Bin Khalifa University

- **Zunayed Ahmed Ehsan**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
  - **Theology as Political Theory: Maulana Bhashani’s Method of Doing Theology for Social Transformation**
- **Mohammed Asaf Pazheri**, Independent Scholar
  - **“Swearing to God”: A Study on Dispute Settlement and Islamic Legal Authority in Kodinhi Juma Masjid in Kerala in India**
- **Osman Qazi**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
  - **Celebrating the Birth of the Prophet in British India: Ahmad Rażā Khān Barelwī’s Fatwas on the Mawlid**
- **Uvaise Karattiyattil**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
  - **Islamic Law in Postcolonial India: A Study of the Qadis of Calicut (1947-2020)**
- **Annas Rolli Muchlisin**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University
  - **Yūsuf Al-Qaraḍāwī’s Attitudes toward Taqrīb Al-Madhāhib: From Ecumenicism to Sectarianism?**

### ROOM 513D

**IV-18: Iran and the Struggle for “Normalcy”: Woman, Life, Freedom**

Organized by **Pouya Alimagham**

**Chair/Discussant:** Pouya Alimagham

- **Pouya Alimagham**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
  - **Cascading Dissent: Situating “The Hijab Protests” in Iran’s Post-1979 History**
- **Yalda Hamidi**, Minnesota State University, Mankato
  - **Woman, Life, Freedom and the Question of Normalcy: A Note Toward an Anti-racist Transnational Feminist Lens**
- **Mahrou Zhaf**, St. Lawrence University
  - **The Islamic Republic’s Perverse State of Mind and the Female Resistance**

### ROOM 525B

**IV-19: Digital Divides and Censored Stories: Contemporary Challenges to Arab Media Access**

Organized by **Andrew Leber**

- **Andrew Leber**, Tulane University
  - **Murder as a Signal of Censorship: Jamal Khashoggi and Repression of Saudi Op-Ed Columnists**
- **Ildiko Kaposi**, Independent Scholar
  - **Shades of Literary Censorship in Kuwait**
- **Fahed Al-Sumait**, American University of Kuwait
  - **Identifying Communities of Exclusion in Kuwait’s Digital Media Landscape**
**ROOM 513E**

**IV-20: In Honor of Franklin Lewis II: Persian and Other Literatures: Multilingualism and Translation**

Organized by Ferenc P. Csirkes

Chair: Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, University of Chicago
Discussant: Marcia Hermansen, Loyola University Chicago

Ferenc P. Csirkes, Sabanci University
Turkic Poetry and the “Fresh Style” in Safavid Iran
Theodore Beers, Freie Universitat Berlin
The “‘Ali ibn al-Shah” Preface to “Kalila and Dimna” between Persian and Arabic
Nargis Ali Virani, Emory University
Jalaluddin Rumi’s Multilingual Poems
Francesca Chubb-Confer, Whitman College
The Ghazal Complex: Iqbal and the Problem of Certitude
Cameron Cross, University of Michigan
Translating the Divan-e Shams: Poetics, Politics, and Pedagogy

**ROOM 513F**

**IV-21: Between Democratization and Authoritarian Resurgence: The Future of Political Islam in the Maghreb**

Organized by Julius Dihstelhoff and Guy Eyre

on behalf of the Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb (MECAM)

Chair/Discussant: Francesco Cavatorta, Universite Laval

Julius Dihstelhoff, Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb
What Future for Ennahda? Political Islam in Tunisia under Kais Saied’s State of Emergency Policy
Guy Eyre, University of Edinburgh
Standing and Yielding (Un)Common Grounds: Anti-Politics, Purity, and Cross-Ideological Islamist, Salafi, and Leftist Solidarity in Morocco
Vish Sakhivel, College of Charleston
The Algerian Muslim Scouts: From “Soldiers of the Future” to Islamist Youth
Clara-Auguste Süß, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt
Competing Offers for Religion and Politics: Islamist and Salafist Communication in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia

**ROOM 518B**

**IV-22: Forms of Refusal and Reshaping the Urban in Middle Eastern Cities**

Organized by Dina Makram-Ebeid and Momen El-Husseiny

Chair: Dina Makram-Ebeid and Momen El-Husseiny
Discussant: Koenraad Bogaert, Ghent University

Momen El-Husseiny, American University in Cairo
Mega-Peripheries and Cairo’s New Administrative Capital: Contradictions of Squatting and Unsettled Livelihoods around the New Urban Future
Dina Makram-Ebeid, The American University in Cairo
Post-coloniality, An Unfinished Project: Labor, Class and the Reshaping of the Urban in a Steel Town in Cairo
Alaa Attiah M, University of Toronto
Marginality and Sovereignty in Postcolonial Context

**ROOM 510A**

**IV-23: Anti-Colonial Resistance Across the Arab Gulf**

Organized by Erica Augenstein

Discussant: Samah Selim, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey

Erica Augenstein, University of Houston
Publishing the Revolution: Palestinians and Anti-Colonial Arabic Literature in the Arab Gulf, 1950s-1970s
Ibrahim Badshah, University of Houston
Necessary Impossibilities: Activist Translations of Anti-Colonial Arabic Literature into Malayalam
Iqra Raza, University of Houston
Spectres of Revolution: The Spectral Politics of Resistance in Sonallah Ibrahim’s “Warda”
Said Al Hashmi, University of Houston
Revolution in Omani Memory: Rethinking Anti-Colonial Resistance in the Work of the “Green Mountain Angels” and “A Woman from Dhofar”

**ROOM 510B**

**IV-24: Queer Artistic and Cultural Practices of Southwest Asia North Africa**

Organized by Anne Marie Butler and Deena Naime

Chair: Natalie El-Eid, Syracuse University
Discussant: Mejdulene Shomali, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Anne Marie Butler, Kalamazoo College
Sexual Deviance as Decolonial Praxis: Tunisian Artist Aicha Snoussi’s Anti-Knowledge Archives
Raed El Rafei, University of California, Davis/University of Pittsburgh Queer (In)Visibility and the Production of Queer Space in Post-War Lebanese Film

Deena Naime, University of Southern California Sobhiyat w Zyarat: Queer Intimacies in Druze Women's Spaces

ROOM 510C

IV-25: Islamic Thought, Texts, and Modernity in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries

Chair: Mohammad Salama, George Mason University

Samuel Scurry, University of Arkansas Qasim Amin's Detractor: Muhammad al-Bulaqi and the Challenge to the Late Sunni Legal Tradition at al-Azhahr

Scott Bursey, Florida State University On the Modalities of Ignorance: Muhammad and Sayyid Qutb on Contrasting Conceptions of Jāhiliya

Wael Abu-Uksa, Hebrew University of Jerusalem Three Concepts of Tolerance in 19th Century Arabic

Michael Battalia, Princeton University Muhammad Nasif (1885-1971) and the Revival of Philology as an Intellectual Craft in Early Twentieth Century Hijaz

Mariam Elashmawy, Freie Universität Berlin The Commentatory Republic in 1930s Egypt: Al-Taşawwuf al-Islāmi, Bookish Ties, and the Network of Book Commendations in al-Ma'rīfā

ROOM 510B

IV-26: Governance and Citizenship in the Late Ottoman Empire

Chair: Virginia Aksan, McMaster University

Sadreddin Berk Metin, Simon Fraser University Reconquering Istanbul: Islam and Legitimacy Crisis in the Ottoman Empire (1808-1839)

M. Saka Saracoğlu, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania Codifying Corruption in 19th Century Ottoman Governance

Ismail Noyan, Simon Fraser University Towards a More Entangled Ottoman Intellectual History: The Case of Mecelle (1868-1889)

Mahade Hasan, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign The Evolution of the Concept “Citizenship” in Ottoman Empire: A Historical Perspective

Stefan Winter, Université du Québec à Montréal/ Koç University The Ottoman Province of Kilis and the Origins of the “Kurd Dagh”, 18th-19th Century

A. Hilal Ugurlu, MEF University, Istanbul Invisible Supporters of the New Order: Life and Networks of Royal Women in Istanbul under Selim III

ROOM 512B

IV-27: Doing Fieldwork in the MENA Region

Chair: Hande Ozkan, Transylvania University

Noha Fikry, University of Toronto Inhospitable Homes & Hospitable Families: On Humans, Animals, and Food in Rural Egypt

Gokhan Mulayim, Boston University Field Precarity: Ethnographic Work in a Field in Flux in Contemporary Turkey

Tiina Hyypää, University of Helsinki Researcher Vulnerability, Positionality and Objectivity in Conflict Research

Eric Schoon, Ohio State University University Power Asymmetries Inverted: Suspicion, Insecurity, and Ethnographic Positionality in Turkey

ROOM 512C

IV-28: Courts and Constitutional Law in MENA

Chair: Kimberly B. Katz, Towson University

Monique C. Cardinal, Université Laval One Hundred Years of History of Islamic Law and Jurists in Syria (1919-2019): The Struggle to Preserve a Legal System

Ahmet Barış Ekiz, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Making the Case for Ottoman Legal Humanism: A Reappraisal of the Ottoman Juristic Writing in the Reign of Bayezid II

Carly Krakow, New York University/ London School of Economics and Political Science A Totalitarianism of Our Time: International Law and Structures of Transnational Environmental Injustice in Palestine, Iraq, and the United States

Sila Ulucay, University of Oxford Political Trials in Istanbul: Spectacles of Power, Obedience, and Resistance

ROOM 512D

IV-29: Ritual and Faith

Chair: Asma Afsaruddin, Indiana University Bloomington

Satoru Nakamura, Kobe University The Perceptions of Muhammad bin ʿAbd al-Wahhāb on Takfīr and Jihād

Reem Shaikh, University of Texas at Austin Rebellion and Legitimacy in the Hanbali School of Law

Azadeh Aghighi, Indiana University Bloomington Incorporating Contemporary Science in Qur’anic Exegesis

Nadia Duvall, SOAS, University of London Sayyid Quṭb and the Decline of the Islamic Humanistic Tafsīr Traditions
IV-30: Writing as/for Activism

Organized by Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP)

Scholarly research often produces critical knowledge that can sway public opinion, change policies and inspire action. However, writing as/for activism requires learning new ways of developing, executing and disseminating that knowledge. In this workshop, the MERIP team will guide attendees through the process of writing as a form of activism. Building on MERIP’s activist history and long standing style guide, the facilitators will provide tangible guidance to participants and will outline how writing for non-academic audiences differs from scholarly writing. The first section of the workshop will focus on conceptual questions of how and why writing creates change and where to find ideas for articles. The second section will delve into the mechanics of writing for a non-specialist audience and of writing from a political standpoint. This section will include everything from constructing a compelling argument to what kind of language to use to how to draw on existing research. The final section will provide guidance on sharing writing, including how to identify audiences, select outlets or communication channels and find partnerships to increase reach. We welcome all MESA participants to attend this workshop and will provide ample time for questions and answers.

Mandy Terc, Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP)
Katherine Natanel, University of Exeter
V-1: Yassin al-Haj Saleh: Reflections on Revolution and the Struggle for Democracy in Syria

Yassin al-Haj Saleh is the most important progressive Syrian intellectual and activist working today. Described as “the intellectual voice of the Syrian revolution,” his writing has included incisive and critical commentary on modern Syrian history, contemporary Syrian politics, the war in Syria and the crisis of state-society in the broader Arab world. The focus of this roundtable will be on the 2011 Syrian revolution against the Assad regime and the lessons learned from this brutal experience. Saleh will look back on the revolution and look forward. He will also engage with Syria experts on the question of the Syrian uprising, what went wrong, what went right, and what the future prospects of reconstituting a new movement for democracy in the coming years might look like.

Organized by Steven Heydemann
on behalf of the
Center for Middle East Studies at the University of Denver and the Middle East Program at Smith College

Chair/Discussant: Steven Heydemann, Smith College

Yassin Al-Haj Saleh, Independent Scholar
Marwa Daoudy, Georgetown University
Wendy Pearlman, Northwestern University
**ROOM 511E**

**ROUNDTABLE**

**V-5: Ethnographic Research in Middle Eastern Cities: Challenges, Possibilities, and Pathways**

Organized by **Kristin V. Monroe**

Sponsored by **Association of Middle East Anthropology (AMEA)**

Chair: **Kristin V. Monroe**

**Alize Arican**, Boston University  
**Kareem Rabie**, University of Illinois at Chicago  
**Susanne Dahlgren**, Finnish Institute in the Middle East  
**Kristin V. Monroe**, University of Kentucky  
**Sophia Goodfriend**, Duke University  
**Pascal Menoret**, Center for Economic, Judicial, and Social Study and Documentation

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**ROOM 511F**

**ROUNDTABLE**

**V-6: New Afghanistan Studies in and Middle Eastern Studies: Archives, Themes, and Approaches**

Organized by **Jawan Shir Rasikh**

Sponsored by **American Institute of Afghanistan Studies (AIAS)**

Chair: **Shah Mahmoud Hanifi**, James Madison University  
Discussant: **Jawan Shir Rasikh**, University of Pennsylvania

**Marya Hannun**, University of Exeter  
**Khalilullah Afzali**, University of California, Los Angeles  
**Zubairullah Hashimi**, University of Pennsylvania  
**Nabi Saeed**, University of Oxford

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**ROOM 513A**

**V-8: US-Gulf Cultures of Empire**

Organized by **Natalie Koch** and **Neha Vora**

Chair: **Neha Vora**

**Natalie Koch**, Syracuse University  
**Cultures of Arid Empire: US-Gulf Imperial Entanglements and Their Desert Imaginaries**  
**Karim Walther**, Georgetown University  
**Qatar Americans’ Technological Empire in Arabia**  
**Andrea Wright**, College of William and Mary  
**Security through Social Change: American Management Practices at Oil Projects in the Arabian Peninsula, 1940s to 1960s**

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**ROOM 513B**

**V-7: From the Womb to the Tomb: Birth, Disease, Sex, and Death in the Modern Middle East**

Organized by **A. Tylor Brand**

Chair/Discussant: **Elizabeth Thompson**, American University  
**A. Tylor Brand**, Trinity College Dublin  
**Death and Praxis: The Lebanese Famine of World War I and the Problem of Mortality in Crisis Historiography**  
**Isacar Bolaños**, California State University, Long Beach  
**Pandemic Influenza in Ottoman Iraq**  
**Laura Frances Goffman**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**The Vaginal Aresia of Arabia**  
**Seçil Yılmaz**, University of Pennsylvania  
**IUD Alliances: Transnational Politics of Family Planning in Turkey in 1960s**

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**ROOM 513D**

**V-9: Tunisian Democracy in Crisis**

Organized by **Salih Yasun**

Chair: **Salih Yasun**  
Discussant: **Aytuğ Şaşmaz**, Bryn Mawr College  
**Haifa Souilmi**, University of Oregon  
**A Tale of Two “Exceptions”: Everyday Politics of Democratic Backsliding and Elites’ Conflicting Views on Democracy in Tunisia**  
**Matthew Gordner**, University of Toronto  
**What Went Wrong? NGOization in Tunisia, 2011-2023**  
**Bedirhan Mutlu**, George Washington University and **Salih Yasun**, Virginia Military Institute  
**Explaining Enduring Party System Weakness in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia**  
**Ihsan Mejdi**, University of Exeter  
**The Nexus Between Kinship and Politics During Times of Democratic Crisis in Tunisia**  
**Hannah Kazis-Taylor**, Princeton University  
**Authoritarian Economic Legacies and Democratic Backsliding in Tunisia**

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**Danya Al-Saleh**, University of Washington, Seattle and **Neha Vora**, Lafayette College Gulf Petro-Education, Climate Action, and US Empire  
**Michael Christopher Low**, University of Utah  
**Copying California: The Water Prince and the Cold War Roots of Saudi Mega-Projects**
V-10: The Ottoman Empire as Sea Power: Maritime Activities and Technologies (15th–18th Centuries) Seen from the Transottoman Perspective
Organized by Gul Sen and Christine Isom-Verhaaren
Organized under the auspices of the Priority Program “Transottomanica” of the German Research Foundation
Chair: Linda T. Darling, University of Arizona

Gul Sen, University of Bonn
Criminals and Forced Labor: Mobility Dynamics in the Ottoman Naval Arsenal (16th–18th Centuries)

Albrecht Fuess, Philipps University
Marburg Conquerors by the Sea: The Ottoman Naval Advance in the Eastern Mediterranean in the Last Decades of the Mamluk Sultanate (1480-1517)

Suraiya Faroqhi, Ibn Haldun
University Supplying the Naval Arsenal of Istanbul with Cotton and Hemp (Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries)

Samuel Stevens, Koc University
Ottoman Amphibious Warfare in the Early Sixteenth Century: The 1522 Siege of Rhodes in the Chronicle Tevarih-i Feth-i Rodos

Christine Isom-Verhaaren, Brigham Young University
Selecting an Admiral in the Ottoman Empire: When Favoritism Trumped Expertise

Andreas Helmedach, Ruhr-University Bochum
Technological Change in Venetian Warfare against the Ottomans in the Cretan and Morea Wars 1645-1718

ROOM 513F

V-11: Refugee Migration and the Middle East: Revisiting Theoretical Frameworks
Organized by Emma Empociello and Sevin Gulfer Sagnic
Chair: Dawn Chatty, University of Oxford
Discussant: Emma Empociello

Sevin Gulfer Sagnic, University of California, San Diego
Laissez Passe Anatomy of a Border Push: Locating State in Migration Policies

Gerasimos Tsourapas, University of Glasgow
Migration Rentiers -- The Political Economy of Mobility in the Middle East

Emma Empociello, Sciences Po Bordeaux
Anatomy of a Border Push: Locating State in Migration Policies

ROOM 523A

V-12: Cultural Hubs in the Arab Region
Organized by Nadia von Maltzahn on behalf of Lebanon’s Art World at Home and Abroad (LAWHA)

Nadia von Maltzahn, LAWHA/Orient-Institut Beirut
Beirut as a Regional Hub for Art Education?

Monique Bellan, Orient-Institut Beirut
The Transnational Moment: Looking at Beirut through Its Art Galleries

ROOM 523B

V-13: Rethinking Turkey: Politics of Method and Analysis of the Republic’s First Century
Organized by Asli Z. Igsiz
Chair/Discussant: Nilay Ozok Gundogan, Florida State University

Asli Z. Igsiz, New York University
Rethinking “Civilization” and National Cultural Politics in Turkey

Banu Bargu, University of California, Santa Cruz
Gunes Murat Tezcur, Arizona State University
Monumentalizing the Founding: Republican Fidelity and Secular Devotion

Evren Savcı, Yale University
Sex and the Republic

ROOM 524A

V-14: Imagining New Worlds in the 21st Century: Lessons from the Two Waves of Arab Uprisings
Organized by Rusha Latif and Rima Majed

Amin Alsaden, Independent Scholar
Pan-Arabism in Baghdad: Revisiting the Genesis of Regional Artistic Solidarity

Samar Ben Romdhane, Ajman
University Building a Cultural Hub in the Arab Region: The Role of Public Relations in Shaping Sharjah’s Image

Atef Said, University of Illinois
at Chicago Whose Political Imaginary? Insights from Decolonial Epistemologies to Explicate the Arab Spring Uprisings
Rusha Latif, Independent Researcher
Challenging Reductive Tropes: Beyond Spontaneity and Leaderlessness in the Egyptian Revolution
Zahra Ali, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey Theorizing Uprisings in the Arab Worlds: Iraq’s Thawra Teshreen
Rima Majed, American University of Beirut Thinking Through Contradiction: Lebanon’s Thawra Against Sectarian Neoliberalism

ROOM 516A
V-15: Race in the Maghrib and the Arabian Peninsula – Comparisons, Connections, Contestations
Organized by Catey Boyle

Chair: Mandana E. Limbert, Queens College, CUNY

Catey Boyle, Harvard University Sites of Servitude: Transregional Slave Trades, Difference, and Belonging in Tunis (1736-1895)
Omar Sayfo, Utrecht University/ Migration Research Institute “The Khawaga Complex” - Representations of the European Other on Egyptian Screens
Faisal Abdullah Abualhassan, Johns Hopkins University Bonds and Bondage between the Sahara and the Arabian Peninsula, 1920-1960
Idil Akinci, University of Edinburgh Deserving Citizens and Migrants: Shifting Parameters of Race and Nation in the UAE

ROOM 524C
V-17: Muslim-Jewish Convergence in North Africa: 1934-1962
Organized by Joshua Schreier

Joshua Schreier, Vassar College Algerian Salafism, Colonialism, and the Jews
Alma Heckman, University of California, Santa Cruz Moroccan Jewish and Muslim Anti-Fascism in the Interwar Period
Malick Ghachem, Massachusetts Institute of Technology A Teacher and His Student on the Path from WWII to Tunisian Independence
Susan Gilson Miller, University of California, Davis Oujda and Jerada; A Revisionist View

ROOM 525A
V-19: Unearthing Capitalism: Social-Environmental Histories of Resource Extraction and Resistance
Organized by Deren Ertas and Rebecca Gruskin

Chair: Deren Ertas
Discussant: Kristen Alff, North Carolina State University

Rebecca Gruskin, Hamilton College The Nature of Illness: Manufacturing Germs, Space, Gender, and Race in Tunisia’s Gafsa Phosphate Mines (1920s-1980s)
Brahim El Guabli, Williams College  
Saharanism as an Extractive Practice

Mark Drury, Georgetown University  
Sahara as Revolutionary Subject: Industrialized Resource Extraction, Drought and Anti-Imperialism in Northwest Africa during the Late 1960s and Early 1970s

Deren Ertas, Harvard University  
The Ergani Copper Road: The Infrastructures of Extractivism in Early Republican Turkey (1922-1938)

ROOM 525B

V-20: From Gaza to Ottawa: Transnational Palestine in the Cold War Era

Chair: Terri Ginsberg, City University of New York

Martin Bunton, University of Victoria  
Canada and Palestine, from 1939 to 1947

Omar Zahzah, Independent Scholar  
Re-Aggregating the “Radical,” the “Terrorist,” and the “Extremist:” Centering Political and Racial Convergences in American Terrorcraft

Noa Shaindlinger, Worcester State University  
Experimental Occupation: Israel’s 125 Days in Gaza, 1956-7

Chelsi Mueller, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
The 1969 al-Aqsa Fire: A Transnational and Transcultural Perspective

Julia Gettle, Brown University  
Political Life in the Shadow Years: Palestinian Popular Mobilization in the 1950s

ROOM 510A

V-21: Law, Finance, and Knowledge Production in the Early Ottoman Era

Chair: Alaa Attiah M, University of Toronto

Morgan Tufan, Stanford University  
“Otlu Sulu Yol Var mı?” The Role of Cartographic Intelligence in Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Expansion

Günay Kayarlar, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
An Ottoman Scholar’s Exile Memoirs: Karaçelesizade Abdülaziz’s Gülşen-i Nişaz

Şeyma Nur Temel, Sabanci University  
Between Government and Sacred: The Ottoman Sultanic Waqfs in Ebussuud’s Fatwas

Vefa Erginbas, Providence College  
A Preliminary Inquiry: Were Ottoman Darülbahis Madrasas Agents of Ottoman Sunnitization?

ROOM 510B

V-22: Orthodoxy and Literary Innovation: Science, Religion, and Poetry

Chair: Arafat Razzaque, University of Toronto

Anna Galietti, Stanford University  
Temporalities and Sociopolitical Functions of the Naqāʾid in a Poetic Exchange between al-Forazdaq (d. 110/728) and Jarīr (d. 111/729)

Anthony Baldwin, Southern Baptist Theology Seminary  
A Perfumer and a Patriarch: Caliph al-Mahdī through Christian Eyes

I-Wen Su, National Chengchi University  
Ibrāhīm b. Yaʿqūb al-Saʿdī al-Jūzjānī (d. 259/873?): His Approach and Contribution to Hadith Criticism

Jeremy Farrell, Leiden University and Carlos Balhana, University of Cambridge  
A Topic-Model of the Sufi Doctrines of Abu al-Qasim al-Junayd (d. 910–11 CE)

Iman Darwish, Harvard University  
A Question of Power: Scientific Methodology in Medieval Arabic Botany

Mohammad Khalili, Michigan State University  
Al-Maturidi on the Qur’an’s Mosaic “Kill Yourselves” Command (2:54)

ROOM 510C

V-23: Lebanon: Violence, Sectarianism, and Resistance

Chair: Mirna Lattouf, Arizona State University

Sara Dima Abisaab, Georgetown University  
On Specters of Violence and the Afterlives of War: The Production of Space in Post-War Lebanon

Susann Kassem, University of Oxford  
Whose Map Are You Implementing?: The Experience of South Lebanese Border Communities and Their Turn to Resistance

Estella Carpi, University College London  
A Crowd Psychology of Healthcare in Northern Lebanon

Dan Brown, College of Charleston  
My Government Did This: Comparing the Negative Case of Lebanon’s Antifragile Regime

ROOM 513C

V-24: Gender and Power Relations in MENA

Chair: Serra Kocak, Binghamton University, SUNY

William C. Young, Independent Researcher  
When the Groom is a Stranger in the House, or: Why Do Some Arab Weddings Have No Bridal Procession (zifāf)?

Banafsheh Pourzangi, University of California, Los Angeles  
A Review of Professional Female Athletes in Iran

Isabel Käser, University of Bern  
Policing Gender and Sexuality: The Role of Gossip in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq
Tara Deubel, University of South Florida
Autonomy and Income Generation through Amazigh Women’s Argan Oil Production in Southwestern Morocco

ROOM 512A
V-25: Protests and Their Discontents: Managing Protests through Repression and Reform

Chair: Micheline Ishay, University of Denver

Hossein Hafezian, Montclair State University
Protesting Iran: The Roots and Results of 2022 Protest Movement
Zep Kalb, University of California, Los Angeles
Concessions and Broken Promises: New Evidence on Protest Bargaining in Iran
Parvaneh Hosseini Fahraji, Worcester State University
Contesting Patriarchal Structure by Negotiating Gender and Sexuality Borders in Sports Fields in Iran
Sahar Razavi, California State University, Sacramento “Discredited”: Diaspora Iranians and the Paradox of Public Shaming

ROOM 510D
V-26: Technology, Media and Autocratic Resilience

Chair: Hatem Sebei, La Manouba University

Martin Pimentel, Georgetown University and Albert Vidal Ribe, Georgetown University
The Effects of Foreign State Media on Political Preferences in the Maghreb
Bruno Schmidt-Feuerheerd, University of Cambridge
The Nationalist Twitter Warriors of Saudi Arabia – A Bottom-Up Movement to the Rescue of the Nation

Ehsan Kashfi, University of Alberta
Digital Nationalism: Twitter and the Rise of “New” Iranian Nationalism
Samer S. Shehata, University of Oklahoma
Arab First Ladies and the Legitimation of Authoritarian Regimes
Roman Pomeshchikov, University of Washington, Seattle
The Politics of Digital Transformation and Bureaucratic Change in Türkiye

ROOM 512B
V-27: Authoritarian Survival Strategies

Chair: Danae Panissié, University of Tuebingen

Sean Yom, Temple University
Corruption, Authoritarianism, and Regime Strategies in the Arab World
Khalil Al-Anani, Independent Scholar
Survival at Any Cost: State Violence in Egypt After 2013
Nadine Sika, American University in Cairo
in Cairo Regime Breakdown, Autocratization and Repression Evidence from the MENA
Nasir Almasri, Harvard University
Colonialism and Path Dependence: How Repression Continues to Shape Opposition in Egypt, Iraq, and Palestine
Abdelrahman Rashdan, Georgia State University
Military Norms of Political Supremacy (MNPS): Explaining Coup Recurrence in Sudan

ROOM 512C
V-28: Public Opinion and Participation in MENA Countries

Chair: Michael Hoffman, University of Notre Dame

Kota Suechika, Ritsumeikan University
Reconsidering “State-Diffusion” in Jordan: Evidence from a List Experiment Survey

Quinn Mecham, Brigham Young University
Why Do Voters in Monarchies Support Political Parties? Evidence from Morocco and Jordan
Yasmina Abouuzzohour, Princeton University
Hannah Ridge, University of Chicago
Ethnodoxy in the Arab World: Measurement and Validation
Mark A. Tessler, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Political Culture, Elections, and the implications for Governance in Six Arab Countries

ROOM 512E
V-29: The Making of Modern Arabic Literature

Chair: Mona Kareem, Brandeis University

Maroun El Houkayem, Duke University
Reassembling the Orient: Louis Cheikho and the Bibliothèque Orientale
Adam Spanos, University of Southern California
Nahda: Belatedness and Desynchronization in the Early Arabic Novel
Raja Lahiani, United Arab Emirates University
Translating Poetic Overtones: Optimality Theory as a Quality Assessment Framework
Philip Balboni, University of California, Berkeley
Consolation, Critique, and the “Phenomenon” of Sabahattin Ali’s Madonna in a Fur Coat
Karim Elhaies, New York University
Egyptian Neo/Noir: Death and Murder in Post-1967 Egyptian Cinema
Daniel Behar, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Taḍāfur Poetics: Modes of Collaborative Composition in Modern Arabic Poetry
V-30: Disciplinary Epistemologies

Chair: Arran Walshe, New York University

Ilkim Buke Okyar, Yeditepe University
Postcolonialism, Popular Culture and World Politics: Studying Colonial Hierarchies through Political Cartoons

Mohammad Fakhreddine, Georgetown University
Canonization and Exclusion in the Arabic Poetic Tradition

Kamran Karimullah, University of Manchester
Fact and Value in Islam

Omar Almagharebi, Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies
Beyond “Arabic Thought”: The Problem of Categorizing Knowledge

V-31: Comparative Insights on Uprisings and Protests

Chair: Behzad Borhan, McGill University

Majd Abuamer, Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies
Post Uprisings Melancholia: An Emerging Dilemma of Arab (A)political Nihilism

Sareh Afshar, Brown University
If Knowledge Is for Cutting, What Is Cutting for? On Iranian Women* Rising & Cuts that Wander

Payam Yousefi, Harvard University
Sineh-zani Chants for Women, Life, Freedom: Case Studies on the Role of Iranian Mourning Rituals within Contemporary Protest

Nahid Siamdoust, University of Texas at Austin
Women Reclaim their Voices in the Music of Iran›s Woman, Life, Freedom Uprising

John Miller, UNC Chapel Hill
Prophecy and Political Theory in the Philosophy of Abdolkarim Soroush

V-32: Multi-Dimensional Threats to Academic Freedom

MESA has long been committed to protecting academic freedom for those in the field of Middle East Studies in both North America and in the MENA region. MESA’s Committee on Academic Freedom (CAF) and at times the MESA Board have written intervention letters to heads of state, university presidents, various federal and state authorities in the United States, and many others in defense of the academic freedom of scholars, researchers, faculty and students. This panel will address the ongoing work of CAF and provide a survey of current risks to academic freedom in the MENA region and North America that the Committee has worked to address. In addition, this panel affords an opportunity to explore the ways in which other MESA committees have been called upon to address novel threats to academic freedom in North America and beyond. These threats have emanated from structural changes in higher education globally that have exacerbated precarity in our field, as well as from the politics of political polarization in the U.S., with universities subject to new forms of censorship resulting from the anti-CRT and anti-LGBTQI initiatives gaining momentum across the country. This panel will bring together the chairs of various MESA committees to initiate a conversation with MESA members about the impact of these threats to academic freedom broadly construed and how best to address them.

Asli Bali, Yale Law School & Chair, Task Force on Civil and Human Rights (TFCHR)
Laurie Brand, University of Southern California & Chair, Committee on Academic Freedom (CAF)
Ziad M. Abu-Rish, Bard College & Chair, Committee on Precarity and Adjunctification
Eve Troutt Powell, University of Pennsylvania & Chair, Committee on Blackness, Indigeneity, and Racial Justice (CBIRJ)
G. Carole Woodall, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs & Chair, Anti-Sexual Harassment Committee (ASH)
VI-1: Revisiting the Arab Sixties
Organized by Tamara Maatouk and Ifdal Elsaket
Chair/Discussant: Joel Gordon, University of Arkansas
Tamara Maatouk, Graduate Center, CUNY
Ifdal Elsaket, Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo
Andrew Simon, Dartmouth College
Ghenwa Hayek, University of Chicago
Amy Kallander, Syracuse University
Jeremy Randall, Graduate Center, CUNY

VI-2: Late Ottoman Migration
Organized by Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky
Chair: Akram F. Khater, North Carolina State University
Vladimir Hamed-Troyansky, University of California, Santa Barbara
Stacy Fahrenthold, University of California, Davis
Ella Fratantuono, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Lucia Carminati, University of Oslo
F. Walter Lorenz, University of North Georgia
Chris Gratien, University of Virginia

VI-3: Roundtable on Gender, Nation, Emigration and the State: A Tribute to Laurie Brand
Organized by Miriam R. Lowi
Chair: Miriam R. Lowi, College of New Jersey
Nadejda Marinova, Wayne State University
Zachary Lockman, New York University
Mark A. Tessler, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Youssef Chouhoud, Christopher Newport University
Beth Baron, City College and Graduate Center, CUNY
Asli Z. Igsiz, New York University
Hania Abou Al-Shamat, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

VI-4: Conducting Fieldwork on Sex, Sexuality, and Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Middle East and North Africa
Organized by Lisa L. Wynn and Angel M. Foster
Discussant: Lisa L. Wynn and Angel M. Foster, University of Ottawa
Mina Ibrahim, University of Marburg/ Shubra's Archive/ MENA Prison Forum
Lisa L. Wynn, Macquarie University
Mariam Omar, University of Ottawa
Sabrine Chengane, University of Ottawa

VI-5: Teaching Turkish in North America on the Centennial of the Republic
Organized by Gozde Mercan
Sponsored by American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT)
Chair: Veysel Simsek, McGill University
Gozde Mercan, University of Toronto
Roberta Micallef, Boston University
Jeanette E. Okur, University of Texas at Austin

VI-6: Rethinking Critical Security Studies
Organized by Sami Hermez
Discussant: Sami Hermez, Northwestern University in Qatar
Zahra Babar, Georgetown University Qatar
Haya Al-Noaimi, Northwestern University in Qatar
Noha Aboueldahab, Georgetown University Qatar
Omar Dahi, Hampshire College

VI-7: Individualizing a Mass Medium: Key Figures in Arab-World Radio Broadcasting, 1930s-1950s
Organized by Andrea L. Stanton
Discussant: Chris Silver, McGill University
Andrea L. Stanton, University of Denver Broadcasting Women’s Religious and Cultural Modernism in 1940s Palestine
Margaret Peacock, University of Alabama “Imagine, O Arabs!”: Ahmed Sa’id and the Rise of Egyptian Radio
Emily Mellen, University of Virginia The Invisible Voices of Radio Bari

ROOM 512F
VI-8: Revoicing Resistance in Yemen

Organized by Marieke Brandt
Sponsored by American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS)

Chair: W. Flagg Miller

Sam Liebhaber, Middlebury College The Roots of Yemen’s Poetic Revolution: ‘Alī Nāṣir al-Qarda’i
Marieke Brandt, Austrian Academy of Sciences Biography and Resistance in 20th Century Yemen: A Case Study from the Northern Highlands
Anne-Linda Amira Augustin, University of Leipzig Chanting for Southern Independence: The Role of Slogans in the Dissemination of the Southern Movement’s Counternarrative
W. Flagg Miller, University of California, Davis Heritage Activism through the Literary Arts: Publishing as Resistance Practice in Contemporary Yemen
Emily Sumner, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities “Qūwat al-Qūwah”: Performing the Zāmil’s Power

ROOM 513B
VI-9: Blurring Disciplinary Boundaries: Intellectual History in the Middle East, 1200–1500

Organized by Elias G. Saba
Chair: Elias G. Saba

Elias G. Saba, Grinnell College Law and Language in the Writings of Jamal al-Din al-Asnawi
Christian Mauder, University of Bergen Legal Riddling as a Strategy to Change the Balance of Power among the Schools of Law: ‘Abd al-Barr Ibn al-Shihna’s (d. 1505) al-Dhakhā’ir al-Ashrafīyya fi Alghāz al-Hanafīyya in Context
Alexis Wick, Koc University The Navigator’s Craft: Ahmad Ibn Mājid on Discipline, Theory and Method
Matthew Keegan, Barnard College Riddles of Inheritance Law in Adab and Fiqh

ROOM 513C
VI-10: Land Tenure, Land Use and Agriculture in the Mamluk Era and Beyond

Organized by Daniel Martin Varisco
Discussant: Albrecht Fuess, Philipps University Marburg

Daniel Martin Varisco, Austrian Academy of Sciences The Microeconomics of Highland Yemeni Agriculture in the Late 13th Century
Sajjad Nejatie, University of British Columbia Towards an Agrarian Empire: Agricultural Development in the Durrānī Polity (1747–1818)
Takao Ito, Kobe University Land Tenure in 15th-Century Egypt according to al-Tuḥfa al-Saniyya of Ibn al-Jīān

Anthony Quickel, Philipps-Universität Marburg Weather and Farming in Mamluk Egypt

ROOM 513E
VI-12: Architectures of Conflict: Repression and Resistance in Securitized Middle Eastern Cities

Organized by Ronay Bakan and Motasem Abuzaid

Chair/Discussant: Najib B. Hourani, Michigan State University

Motasem Abuzaid, University of Oxford and Obayda Amer Ghadban, Marmara University Spearheading Local Mobilization: Social Structures and Insurgency in the Syrian Countryside
Nour Munawar, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies Politics of Heritage in Syria: From Destruction to Reconstruction
Maya Breau, Birmingham University The Impact of Military Checkpoints on the Civilian Population’s Perception of Security in Lebanon
Ronay Bakan, Johns Hopkins University Counterinsurgent Urbanism: Mastering Heritage in Post-Conflict Diyarbakır
Farah Aridi, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies Narratives of Violence: Spatial Implications of Discursive Practices

ROOM 513F
VI-13: Navigating the Complexities of Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Arab Spring Countries Syria and Yemen

Organized by Mohammed Alshuwaiter
Mohammed Alshuwaiter, Qanun, The Arabic Human Rights Platform
Transitional Justice Efforts in Yemen: Challenges and Opportunities
Ghuna Bdiwi, University of Ottawa Should We Call for Criminal Accountability During Ongoing Conflicts?
John Packer, University of Ottawa The Concept of Transitional Justice and International Practices

Veronica Ferreri, Ca' Foscari University of Venice Scattered and Remade: Archives of Legal Documents Between Wartime Syria and Europe
Secil Dagtas, University of Waterloo The Matters of History: The Material Forms and Archives of Interfaith History in Southern Turkey
Emrah Yildiz, Northwestern University Mutating Maps: Territory, Population Density, and Economies of Sovereignty in Post-Revolutionary Syria
Firat Bozcali, University of Toronto Mississauga Archives of Injustice: Court Files, Evidence (Non)Collection, and Legal Materialities in Turkey

Sacha Alsancakli, National Institute of Oriental Languages and Cultures A Study in Abu’l-Khayrid Cultural History: Two Eastern Turkish Translations of Persian Historiographical Classics Produced at the Court of Kūchikūnji Khān (r. 1512-30)
Romain Mascagni, National Institute of Oriental Languages and Cultures Emancipation or Replication from the Musical Elite? The Case of Contemporary Omani Baloch Musicians

ROOM 519A
VI-14: Between the Living and the Dead: The Afterlives of War East of the Mediterranean
Organized by Mac Skelton and Omar Dewachi
Chair: Omar Dewachi, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Annika Schmeding, Harvard University Burial Interrupted – Caring for the Nomadic Dead in Afghanistan
Mac Skelton, American University of Iraq, Sulaimani Tracing Geographies of Illness & Toxicity During War
Foroogh Farhang, Brown University Syrian Traveling Dead: Informal Cross-Border Mobility between Lebanon and Syria
Alexander Shams, University of Chicago Walking Pilgrimages in Iraq as Spaces of Solidarity and Defiance

ROOM 523B
VI-17: Frontier Effects in North Africa: Centering Margins and Borderlands
Organized by Jacob A. Mundy and Matthew Hal Ellis
Chair/Discussant: Jacob A. Mundy, Colgate University
Discussant: Brock Cutler, Radford University
Matthew Hal Ellis, Sarah Lawrence College Libyan Cross-Border Mobility and Italian Colonial Citizenship, 1911-1942
Mariam Taher, Northwestern University Checkpoints: Negotiating Gender in the Shadow of the Border
Karen Eugenie Rignall, University of Kentucky Extraction and the Creation of Resource Frontiers in the Colonial Moroccan Periphery
Jose Ciro Martinez, University of York Pursuing Opacity: Geographies of Visibility in the Western Mediterranean

ROOM 519B
VI-15: Mutations of the Archive in Times of Rupture
Organized by Secil Dagtas and Veronica Ferreri
Chairs: Secil Dagtas and Firat Bozcali

ROOM 523A
VI-16: The Role of Cultural Exchanges and Connections in the Making of Iran and the Persianate World, from Delhi to Samarqand and the Persian Gulf (16th c.- present)
Organized by Werner Gabreau
Chair: Colin Mitchell, Dalhousie University
Werner Gabreau, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle From the Outer Edge of the Empire to Europe: Perceptions of Europeans Scholars Shaped by Persian Sources of the Margins
Victor Baptiste, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes The Identity of Go-Betweens: Persian Poets and Indian Tales
SESSION VI 4:00 - 6:00 PM

ROOM 524A

VI-18: Muslim Maritime Violence in the Pre-Modern Mediterranean (650-1650)
Organized by Travis Bruce on behalf of The Mediterranean Seminar

Discussant: Joshua White, University of Virginia

Travis Bruce, McGill University Questioning Normative Views of Early Medieval Muslim Maritime Raids: Crete and Sicily
Eda Ozel, Harvard University Moral Economy of Maritime Violence in Ottoman Tunisia
Sarah C. Davis-Secord, University of New Mexico Peace and Violence on the Tyrrhenian Sea

ROOM 525A

VI-20: Teaching Palestine: Resistance Memories, Living Archives & Pedagogical Praxis
Organized by Rabab Abdulhadi

Rabab Abdulhadi, San Francisco State University Whose Narratives & Why Commemorate? From Kanafani to Said, (Do We have) Permission to Narrate?
Jamila Ghaddar, Dalhouse University Memory for Return: Nakba Histories, Resistant Archives and the Dr. Constantine Zurayk Collection
Tomomi Kinukawa, San Francisco State University Reclaiming Third-World Radicalism at a Neoliberal/Imperial University: Palestine, “Comfort Women,” and Zainichi Korean Justice
Jaime Veve, Transit Workers Union, Local 100 Memories and Implications of 1960s Movements: Challenging Dominant Structures of Power & Solidarity in Academia and Social Movements
Adnan Husain, Queen’s University Resistance History and Liberatory Pedagogy: Crusader States and Crusade Historiography in Occupied Palestine

ROOM 524B

Organized by Mehmet Kuru

Mehmet Kuru, Sabanci University The Trans-Mediterranean Family of Hasan Agha and Anton Çelebi
Christopher Whitehead, Ohio State University The Career of Customs Officer Hasan Agha as a Financier for the Ottoman State (1646–56)
Özden Mercan, Hacettepe University A Man of Two Worlds: Anton Çelebi’s Extraordinary Life in Livorno

ROOM 525B

VI-21: Children, Women, and Sexuality in the Late Ottoman Empire
Chair: Özlem Gül directed by Öğuz, University of Arizona Children’s Sexuality in Late Ottoman Empire and Its Legacies in Contemporary Turkey
Milena Methodieva, University of Toronto Charity, Morality, and Patriotism: Women Migrants in the Late Ottoman Empire
Malissa Taylor, University of Massachusetts Amherst “When He Is Grown…” The Rights of Orphans and the Legal Character of Mii... Century

ROOM 512B

VI-22: Seeding the Turkish Republic: From Sunflowers to Stray Cats
Chair: Hasan Bulent Kahraman, Isik University

Mary Tezak, Georgetown University Defining Republican Women: Nostalgia, Smuggling, and Itinerant Women Traders in the Republic of Turkey
Dogan Gurpinar, Istanbul Technical University The Meanings of Names: Promise of Modernity, Upper Mobility and Nation in the Republican Turkey
Kaleb Herman Adney, University of California, Los Angeles Soviet Flowers and American Anxieties – Vasfi Hakman and Turkey’s Seed Oil Industry in the Cold-War Era
Abigail Schoenfeld, Princeton University Spelling a Nation: Linguistics, Language, and Alphabet Reform between Turkey & Soviet Azerbaijan, 1918-1940
**SESSION VI** 4:00 - 6:00 PM  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023

**ROOM 512C**  
VI-23: Policing Labour and Migration  
Chair: Khadija Islow, Hamad Bin Khalifa University

Maureen Abi-Ghanem, Columbia University  
On the Temporality and Isolation of Refugee Spaces in Beirut (Lebanon)

Mustafa Bokesmati, Concordia University  
Foreign Labour in Kuwait: Situating Migrant Identities and Legal Policing

Crystal Ennis, Leiden University  
Lineages of Differentiation and Resistance in Governing Gulf Labour

Timothy J. Fitzgerald, James Madison University  
An Unexpected Knock on the Door: Rethinking Ottoman Population Transfers in the 16th Century

**ROOM 511D**  
VI-25: Women’s Movements and Activism  
Chair: Sarah Fischer, Marymount University

Hyal Hanoglu, Cracow University  
Economics Gender Negotiations within Kurdish Families and Activism in Turkey and Diaspora

Vickie Langohr, College of the Holy Cross  
Conditions for Government Action Against Public Sexual Harassment: The Case of Egypt

Azadeh Momeni, Carleton University  
Art and Politics: A Comparative Study of the American Women’s Suffrage Movement and Iranian Woman, Life, Freedom Movement

**ROOM 512E**  
VI-24: Ambiguities of Sovereignty: The Crises of Humanitarianism, Climate Change, and Refugees  
Chair: Umit Seven, Middle East Technical University

Ayda Pomeshikov, University of Washington  
Beyond Citizenship: Refugee Women’s Practices of Home-making and Community Building

Houman Oliaei, Babson College  
The Politics of Return: Iraq Yezidis and the Ongoing Displacement in Post-ISIS Iraq

Danae Panissié, University of Tuebingen  
Deprivation of Lives - Root Causes of Forced Migration in the MENA Region

Nils Lukacs, University of Hamburg  
The Idea of Iraq - Twenty Years of Iraqi History since the Fall of Saddam Hussein through the Lens of the Iraq Chamber of the Hamburg Administrative Court

Gwenn Okruhlik, Independent Researcher  
A Brutal Opening: Embrace, Ambivalence and Betrayal in Saudi Arabia

Lauren Clingan, Princeton University  
Masculinity Challenged: Emotional Responses to State Support for Women’s Employment in the United Arab Emirates

Khushboo Shah, University of Cambridge  
The State, Business, and Social Relations: A Case Study of Non-Citizen Entrepreneurs in Qatar

Md Mizanur Rahman, Gulf Studies Center, Qatar University and Mirdef Alqashouti, Durham University  
Why Gulf Studies?

**ROOM 510A**  
VI-26: Gulf Studies: Advances and Shortcomings  
Chair: Kristin Smith Diwan, Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington

Gwenn Okruhlik, Independent Researcher  
A Brutal Opening: Embrace, Ambivalence and Betrayal in Saudi Arabia

Lauren Clingan, Princeton University  
Masculinity Challenged: Emotional Responses to State Support for Women’s Employment in the United Arab Emirates

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The State, Business, and Social Relations: A Case Study of Non-Citizen Entrepreneurs in Qatar

Md Mizanur Rahman, Gulf Studies Center, Qatar University and Mirdef Alqashouti, Durham University  
Why Gulf Studies?

**ROOM 510B**  
VI-27: Mongolia and Central Asia  
Chair: Joseph Leonardo Vignone

Fatima Al-Muntafik, Pennsylvania Western University  
The Mongolian Empire

Joseph Leonardo Vignone, Gonzaga University  
“How Great a Teacher is the Night!” Sleeplessness in Medieval Islamic Scholarly Culture

Rebecca Hill, Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center  
Navigating Human-Animal Relations through Fixed Stars

Minsoo Jeon, Columbia University  
A New Reading of Yazıcızade ‘Ali’s Tevarih-i Al-i Selçuk: An Ottoman Echo of Timurid Historiography

Parisa Zahiriemami, University of King’s College, Halifax  
The Patronage of Sanā’ī’s Hadiqat al-Haqiqah: The Glorification of Sultan Mahmud of Ghazna and the Legitimization of Bahrāmshāh

Amanda Leong, University of California, Merced  
Re-thinking the Iranian Diaspora from a Premodern, Sino-Iranian Perspective: A Study of Three Poems by Li Shunxian, A Medieval Chinese-Persian Poetess
SESSION VI 4:00 - 6:00 PM

ROOM 510C
VI-28: Digital Spheres

Hamdi Echkaou, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Jaouad El Bakili, Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane The Role of Media in Representing Hassani Culture: A Study of Online Newspapers in the Southern Provinces of Morocco (ONSPM)

Yasemin Celikkol, Northwestern University in Qatar Japanese Digital Citizen Diplomacy in Turkey

Corina Lozovan, Universidade Católica Portugueusa The Young and the Restless in the Virtual Sphere: Everyday Life in Contemporary Omani Society

Faegheh Hajhosseini, SUNY Buffalo State The Nature of the Secret in Iranian Shi′i Philosophy—A Vista to a More Democratic World

Anas Alahmed, Eureka College The Electronic Flies’ Machine in the Arab World and the Struggle for People’s Power

Sashreek Garg, Northwestern University in Qatar Gender Stereotyping and Harassment on Social Media: Attacks Against Rana Ayyub and Muslim Minorities in India

ROOM 510D
VI-29: Visual Archives: Memory, Play, and War

Chair: Elizabeth Perego, Ohio State University

Lacy Murphy, Washington University in St. Louis Weaponizing Photography during the Algerian War

Manar Moursi, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Testing Waters and Oils: Constructions of Modernity and Post-Coloniality in Depictions of Egyptian Mediterranean Beaches, 1930-1970

Alexandra Schultz, New York University Abu Dhabi At the Water’s Edge: Play and Leisure at the Beach in the Nasser Era

Jennifer Pruitt, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Inheriting an Invented Tradition: Islamic Art in the Arabian Peninsula

ROOM 512A
VI-30: Experimental Pedagogies

Chair: Elsa Belmont Flores, Brown University

Jabbar Al-Obaidi, Bridgewater State University Middle Eastern Student Mobility and Global Engagement: Internationalize Curriculum through COIL and Travel Courses

Shereen El Ezabi, American University in Cairo Rendering Religious References; Towards the Superior AFL Level through Short Stories of Mahfouz

Maryah Converse, University of Arizona Toward Gender-Just L2 Arabic Education: Attitudes and Practices of Arabic Instructors in Comparison to Spanish and Italian

Adil Elkhiyari, Qalam wa Lawh Center Student-Led Projects: Engaging Students in Arabic Immersion Programs

Hany Fazza, Georgetown University Qatar Integration of Interactive E-Books into Digital Pedagogy for Teaching Arabic Alphabet Online

WORKSHOP

ROOM 524C
VI-31: Knowing the World: Bringing Middle East Studies into the K-12 Classroom

In this workshop scholars of the Middle East will discuss how their research can be incorporated into the K-12 classroom. The focus will be on topics of human geography, broadly conceived, such as urbanism and sustainability, hierarchy, power relations and the environment, human mobility amidst war, contested views of ‘green capitalism’, and the spatial aspects of anti-poverty programs. This workshop is organized by the Institute for Middle East Studies and supported by a Title VI National Resource Center Grant from the US Department of Education.

Organized by George Washington University, Institute for Middle East Studies

Mona Atia, George Washington University
Danya Al-Saleh, University of Washington, Seattle
Kristin V. Monroe, University of Kentucky
Alaa Attiah M, University of Toronto
ROOM 512DH

VII-1: Writing Beyond the Academy: Securing an Agent and a Commercial Book Deal

This workshop covers the process of finding an agent, landing a commercial book deal (i.e., with a non-academic press), writing in a more accessible register, and other skills related to making the transition into writing for the general public. Led by John Ghazvinian, Executive Director of the Middle East Center at the University of Pennsylvania, and author of America and Iran: A History, 1720 to the Present (Knopf, 2022) – named by the New York Times as one of “100 Notable Books of 2021”. Ghazvinian is founding director of “Scholars to Storytellers” – an initiative aimed at helping senior academics engage with general audiences.

Organized and presented by John Ghazvinian, University of Pennsylvania

ROOM 511A

ROUNDTABLE

VII-2: Interdisciplinary Transgressions: Liberatory Palestinian Scholarship and Praxis

Organized by Amanda Batarseh

Chair: Amanda Batarseh

Amanda Batarseh, University of California, Santa Barbara
Julia Elyachar, Princeton University
Tareq Radi, New York University
Muriam Haleh Davis, University of California, Santa Cruz

ROOM 511C

ROUNDTABLE

VII-4: Exploring Revolution and Its Others — Counterrevolution, Coopetation, and Counterinsurgency — As Projects of Social Change

Organized by Alice Wilson

Alice Wilson, University of Sussex
Killian Clarke, Georgetown University
Laura Ruiz De Elvira, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement
Abdel Razzaq Takriti, University of Houston
Mark Drury, Georgetown University

ROOM 511B

ROUNDTABLE

VII-3: Beyond Case Study and Exception: the Middle East and North Africa

Organized by Sherene Seikaly

Sherene Seikaly, University of California, Santa Barbara
Julia Elyachar, Princeton University
Tareq Radi, New York University
Muriam Haleh Davis, University of California, Santa Cruz

ROOM 511E

ROUNDTABLE

VII-5: The Treaty of Lausanne at 100: New Research from the Lausanne Project

Organized by Andrew Patrick on behalf of Gingko

Chair: Andrew Patrick

Andrew Patrick, Tennessee State University
Cemil Aydin, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Leonard Smith, Oberlin College
Yigit Akin, Ohio State University
Aimee Genell, Boston University

ROOM 513A

VII-6: Sovereign Bodies From the Balkans to Bengal

Organized by Arlen Wiesenthal and Rao Mohsin Ali Noor

Arlen Wiesenthal, University of Chicago “Circles of Life”: Imperial Pregnancies and Deaths as Biological Impacts of Courtly Residence Patterns in Early Modern Ottoman Municipalities
Rao Mohsin Ali Noor, Johns Hopkins University
The Pyropolitics of Sacred Kingship: Spectacle, Performance, and Messianism at the Ottoman Circumcision Festival of 1582

Ünver Rüstem, Johns Hopkins University
Sovereignty Materialized: Sartorial Presence and Perpetuity in Ottoman Kingship

Andrew Halladay, University of Chicago
The Caliph Unqualified: Representation and Disembodiment in the Khilafat Movement

Discussant: Steven Heydemann, Smith College

Daanish Faruqi, Rutgers University-Newark
Religious Humanitarianism and the Syrian Refugee Crisis: On Sufi International Aid Networks

Dawn Chatty, University of Oxford
Refuge in the Levant and Eastern Mediterranean: Post-Colonial Transnational Migration or Arena of Containment?

Sena Taha, Ibn Haldun University
Writing Refugee Lives

Luigi Achilli, European University Institute
Fleeing the War: Syrian Minors’ Irregular Migration to Europe

Discussant: Ann Wainscott, University of Miami

Salam Alsaadi, University of Toronto
Ambiguous Identities: Ineffective Ethnic Stacking in Sudan’s Bashir Regime

Ameni Mehrez, Central European University
How Populist are the People? Measuring Populist Attitudes in Tunisia

Sharan Grewal, College of William and Mary
A Paradox of Professionalism: Why Tunisia’s Military Closed the Parliament

Jean Lachapelle, University of Montreal
Repression and Support for Authoritarian Rule

Organized by Mohannad Abusarah

Chair/Discussant: Dana Sajdi, Boston College

Mohannad Abusarah, University of Toronto
The Transformation of 19th Century Intellectual History in Palestine: An Insight from Al-Khalidi Family

Carter Barnett, Johns Hopkins University
Patients, Healers and the Medical Economy of 19th-Century Palestine

Zachary Foster, Princeton University
The Idea of “Palestine”, 1600-1850

Discussant: Kent F. Schull, Binghamton University, SUNY

Kelsey Rice, Berry College
Crime and Politics in Baku: The Development of the Qochu Criminal Class

Ilkay Yilmaz, Freie Universität Berlin
Political Crime and the Mobility of Ideas in the Eastern Anatolian Cities During the Late Ottoman Empire (1878-1908)

Farzin Vejdani, Toronto Metropolitan University
Policing Criminal Soundscapes in Nineteenth-Century Iranian Cities

Discussant: Asli Bali, Yale Law School

Maya Mikdashi, Rutgers University of New Jersey
Ethnographic and Transnational Approaches to Law and Legal History: A Woman Stands Before the Court in Lebanon

Lisa Hajjar, University of California, Santa Barbara
The Guantanamo Phenomenon: Exposing the Fragility of the Rule of Law

Noura Erakat, Rutgers University of New Jersey
What Palestine Teaches Us about Law in the Middle East

Organized by Syriat Studies Association (SSA)

Room 513C

VII-8: The Syrian Refugee Crisis:
Historical Antecedents, Literary Production, and Religious Humanitarianism

Organized by Daanish Faruqi

Room 513D

VII-9: Crime in the City:
Urbanization and Criminalization in the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries

Organized by Kelsey Rice

Room 513E

VII-10: Authoritarian Control and Public Attitudes

Organized by Salam Alsaadi
VII-12: Waiting for Water: Negotiating Water, Land, and Life in Morocco

Organized by Brittany Landorf

Sponsored by American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS)

Chair: Zakaria Rhani, Mohammed V University

Discussant: James A. Miller, American Institute for Maghrib Studies

Brittany Landorf, Emory University “And Then the Rains Came”: Water and Saintly Authority in Morocco

Emily Hayes-Rich, University of New Mexico The Fight for Hidden Waters: Water Management at the Edge of the Sahara

Andie Madsen, Montana State University Water in the Desert: Merging Sensory Ethnography and Historical Research

Jamie Fico, Fulbright Morocco Living on Luck: Water, Land, and Watermelon Production in Southeast Morocco

Ethan Mefford, University of California, Los Angeles The River Has Run Dry: Water, Agriculture, and Social Organization in 19th Century Fez, Morocco

Amelia Burke, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor “Eating His Right”: Collective Lands as Inherited Property and Earned Income in the Moroccan Middle Atlas Mountains

VII-14: The Removal of Doubts: Producing Natural Knowledge in the Ottoman Empire

Organized by Yasemin Akcaguner

Chair: A. Tunç Sen, Columbia University

Discussant: Nir Shafir, University of California, San Diego

Yasemin Akcaguner, Columbia University The Mirror of Bodies: Anatomical Science (‘Ilm-i Teşrīḥ) in the Ottoman Empire

Cem Turköz, Harvard University Physics or Natural Philosophy in the Ottoman Empire: A Preliminary Study

Maryam Patton, Harvard University “The Benefit of this Science is Clear”: Astrology, Nature, and History Among Early Modern Ottomans

Dimitrios Giagtzoglou, University of Crete The Hidden Power of the Letters: The Knowledge of Cifr in the Ottoman Empire

VII-13: New Directions in the History and Politics of Labor in Lebanon

Organized by Zachary Cuyler

Chair/Discussant: Ziad M. Abu-Rish, Bard College

Zachary Cuyler, New York University Oil Workers and the Lebanese “Brotherhood of Labor”

China Sajadian, Vassar College The Value of “Girls’ Hands”: Crises of Agrarian Reproduction in Lebanon’s Biqa’ Valley

Anna Reumert, The New School Migrants After Labor in Lebanon

Samuel Dinger, New York University Embracing illegality? Status regularization and the production of precarity among Syrians in Lebanon

Elizabeth Saleh, American University of Beirut Salvaging Labor at a Beirut Scrapyard

VII-15: At the Edges of the Communal in the Eastern Mediterranean

Organized by Joseph Leidy, Weston Bland, Amy Fallas, and Alaa Murad

Discussant: Arbella Bet-Shlimon, University of Washington, Seattle

Joseph Leidy, University of Oxford Jubran Massuh and Mahjar Experiences of Interwar Sectarianism

Amy Fallas, University of California, Santa Barbara “The First Duty of Charity”: The Coptic Hospital and the Making of a Sectarian Corridor in Twentieth Century Cairo

Weston Bland, University of Pennsylvania Legislating Community in Early Liberal Era Egypt

Alaa Murad, Brandeis University “To Risk Stirring the Hearts”: Negotiating Ottomanism through the Popularization of Islamic History

VII-16: On the Edge: Post-Conflict Political Generations of Women and Youth Activists in the ‘Second Wave’ of the Arab Spring

Organized by Rola El-Husseini and Sarah Anne Rennick

Chair/Discussant: Michaelle L. Browers, Wake Forest University

Rola El-Husseini, Lund University The Revolution Is Female but Is it Feminist? Female Participation in the 2019 Lebanese Revolution

Liv Tonnessen, Chr. Michelsen Institute Women, Protest and Backlash: Igniting Feminist Mobilization in Sudan
SESSION VII 8:30 - 10:30 AM  SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Sarah Anne Rennick, Arab Reform Initiative Disrupted Youthhood, Ruptured Youth: Post-Conflict Social Imaginaries and Diverging Mobilization Dynamics among Iraqi Youth

Seréna Nilsson Rabia, University of Bergen The Role, Experiences and Challenges of Female Politicians during and after the Algerian Hirak

William Hazboun, University of Alabama American Illusions of Regional Order and Their Violent Consequences

Samer Esmeir, University of California, Berkeley Internationalized Domestication

Karim Makdisi, American University of Beirut The Global Battle over Lebanon in the Aftermath of the US Invasion of Iraq

Hussein Banai, Indiana University Bloomington The Iraq War and the Rise of the Security State in Iran

Michael Gasper, Occidental College The Sectarian Present: The Post-Iraq Invasion Middle East

Hsinyen Lai, University of St. Andrews Approaching ‘the International’ of Arab Nationalism: Origins, Vectors and the Case of Bahrain under British Colonialism

Kanwal Hameed, German Orient Institute of Beirut The Many Faces of Jamila – Women and Lineages of Revolt in Bahrain

Omar AlShehabi, University of Leeds The ‘Political Commodity’: Oil and US-Middle East Relations in the Historiography of Abdurrahman Munif

Fadi Kafeety, University of Houston The Kuwaiti Press and Third World Liberation Struggles during the 1960s

Talal Al-Rashoud, Kuwait University and Wafa Alsayed, Gulf University for Science and Technology Arabia’s Anti-Colonial Hub: Kuwait and the Bahraini Nationalist Movement (1956-1966)

Yahya Laayouni, Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania The Role of Amazigh Cinema in Indigenous Film Practice: Imagining New Possibilities

Habiba Boumlik, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY Filmmakers Multi-locality

Soubeika Bahri, University of Colorado at Denver A Sociolinguistic Approach to the Cinematic Discourse in Amazigh Film

Lucy McNair, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY Reading Indigenous Female Narratives in Amazigh Films

Justine Landau, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Unsex Me Here: Anvari and the Feminine Panegyric in the Saljuq Era

ROOM 516B

VII-17: Children’s Incarceration in Modern Egypt

Organized by Hanan H. Hammad

Sponsored by Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)

Hanan H. Hammad, Texas Christian University From a Potential Threat to Free Labor: The Incarceration of Children in Cairo during WWII

Samar Nour, University of Toronto Juvenile Delinquency and Childhood Governmentality in Egypt 1883-1950

Maryam Fouda, The American University in Cairo Egyptian State’s Construction of a Moral Female Minor Body in Confinement

ROOM 516D

VII-18: “Now We All Live in Saddam’s World”: The Regional Legacies of the US Invasion of Iraq

Organized by Michael Gasper

Chair: Arang Keshavarzian, New York University

VII-20: Revisiting the Gulf’s Anti-Imperialist Currents in the Twentieth Century

Organized by Talal Al-Rashoud

Sponsored by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Chair/Discussant: Crystal Ennis, Leiden University

ROOM 510A

VII-19: Tracing Transnational Indigenous Expression in Amazigh Cinema

Organized by Lucy McNair

Yahya Laayouni, Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania The Role of Amazigh Cinema in Indigenous Film Practice: Imagining New Possibilities

Habiba Boumlik, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY Filmmakers Multi-locality

Soubeika Bahri, University of Colorado at Denver A Sociolinguistic Approach to the Cinematic Discourse in Amazigh Film

Lucy McNair, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY Reading Indigenous Female Narratives in Amazigh Films

ROOM 510B

VII-21: Politics of Gender and Desire in the Persian Qasida

Organized by Domenico Ingenito

Chair: Dominic Brookshaw

Domenico Ingenito, University of California, Los Angeles Seducing a Prince: Eroticism and Politics in Early Persian Poetry

Jane Mikkelson, Yale University Ambition as Expansion of the Self in Odes by Fayżī (d.1595) and Makhfī (d.1702)

Justine Landau, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Unsex Me Here: Anvari and the Feminine Panegyric in the Saljuq Era
SESSION VII 8:30 -10:30 AM SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

**ROOM 510D**
VII-22: Re-linking Arabic Instruction with Its Socio-cultural Environment: New Challenges and Opportunities
Organized by Jamila Chahboun on behalf of Dartmouth College
Chair: Mokhtar Bouba

**Jamila Chahboun**, Dartmouth College
Teaching Arabic to Heritage Learners: Reflections on Pedagogy for Students of Arabic Heritage at Dartmouth College

**Jaouad El Bakili**, Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane
Strategies of Developing Intercultural and Transcultural Competence for Heritage Students and Non-native Speakers: A Case Study - Al Akhawayn University

**Housni Bennis**, Washington University in St. Louis
Enhancing Intercultural Competence through Folktales for Heritage Students

**Rayed Khedher**, Wake Forest University
Using Migrants’ Stories and Narratives in Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language

**ROOM 512B**
VII-25: Colonialism and Its Discontents in Modern Iran
Chair: Rudi Matthee, University of Delaware

**Mina Khanlarzadeh**, Northwestern University
Alienation, Translation, and Their Postcolonial Critics

**Iqan Shahidi**, University of Cambridge
“Decline” in the Writings of Fardid & Al-e Ahmad

**Nader Sohrabi**, Free University of Berlin
Democracy by Petition: The Constitutional Movement of Iran

**James Clark**, University of Nebraska Omaha
Naser od-Din Shah, the Telegraph, and the Kurdish Revolt of 1880

**James M. Gustafson**, Indiana State University
Engineering a Modern Society: A British Commercial Mission to Southeastern Iran and a Covert Persian Counter-Narrative, 1904-5

**ROOM 512C**
VII-26: Environmental Degradation and Activism
Chair: Reza Sohrabi, Carleton University

**Cagdas Dedeoglu**, Yorkville University
Beyond Dichotomies: Understanding Proenvironmental Behaviour in Turkey

**Kaveh Ehsani**, DePaul University
Toxic Environments: Legacies of Warfare and Authoritarian Modernization in Iran & Iraq

**ROOM 524C**
VII-27: Legacies of Revolution and Counterrevolution
Chair: Hania Abou Al-Shamat, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

**Norma Claire Moruzzi**, University of Illinois at Chicago
Gender and the Revolutions: Tunisia 2010-2011 / Iran 2022-2023

**Ian Wallace**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Rural Rebellion in the Post-colonial Rif: Peripheralization and Political Tension

**Isaac Friesen**, University of Cambridge
Democracy Historicized: Rethinking Revolution, Repression and Representation in Contemporary Egypt

**Amer Bitar**, Independent Scholar
Authority Representation as a Visual Cultural Discourse in the Middle East
ROOM 512E

VII-28: Resisting Occupation in Palestine

Chair: **James F. Goode**, Grand Valley State University

**Moara Assis Crivelente**, University of Coimbra *Emancipatory Diplomacy for Self-Determination and the National Liberation of Palestine and Western Sahara*

**Christina Kiel**, Tulane University and **Zulal Fazlioglu Akin**, Ohio State University *Cultural Conflict: Contextualizing Palestinian Cultural Diplomacy*

**Manal A. Jamal**, James Madison University *Analogical Reasoning, History, and Political Organizing*

**Oren Kroll-Zeldin**, University of San Francisco *Embodied Actions: Co-Resistance Towards a Different Future in Palestine/Israel*

**Jasmin Habib**, University of Waterloo *Resistance, Resilience, and the Palestinian Experience or, Minding the Gaps of Settler Colonial Studies*

ROOM 512F

VII-29: The Human, Non-Human and Dystopian Representation

Chair: **Rebecca Hill**, Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center

**Samuel Martin**, University of Cambridge *Ghostly Riders and Meccan-ical Bodies: Cars and the Petromodern Subject in Saudi Arabian Novels*

**Nancy Linthicum**, University of South Carolina *Post-‘Arab-Spring’ Dystopian Literature: Gendered Surveillance in Basma Abdel Aziz’s al-Tābūr*

**Maya Aghasi**, American University of Sharjah *Trashscapes of the Modern Middle East: Space, Marginalization, and Disempowerment*

**Jens Schmitt**, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich *Ibn Abī l-Ashʿath (10th ct. CE) on Animal Hybrids*

ROOM 513F

VII-30: Staging Performance and Music

Chair: **Erol Koymen**, University of Chicago

**Solmaz Shakerifard**, University of Washington, Seattle *A Red Tongue Imperils the Green Head: Artistic Lineage Informing Iranian Musicians’ Involvement in Woman, Life, Freedom Movement*

**Nicholas Mangialardi**, Williams College *Egyptian Music Fandom and the Afterlife of Abd al-Halim Hafiz*

**Rustem Ertug Altinay**, Kadir Has University *Staging the National Utopia: Militarism and the Politics of Turkification in Late Ottoman Children’s Performances*

**Hicham Chami**, Columbia University *“ハウス (Rough) but ハウス (Sweet)”: Voicing a Jebli Identity in a Stratified Moroccan Music Culture*

**Payam Pilvar**, University of Ottawa and **Siavash Rokni**, Université du Québec à Montréal *Blurring the Red Line: How Women in Iran Have Pushed Back at the Ban on Solo Singing in Public*

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**Visit MESA’s Cooperative Book Display!**

Located at the MESA Booth in the Book Exhibit
In recent years, there has been no dearth of bad news concerning social scientists: arrests, expulsions, forced retirements followed by isolation, exile, and even occasional death from despair. In Iran Social scientists have been targets of wild and baseless accusations. At worst, they have been depicted as spies and threats to national security, and at best, they have been considered useless and expendable. Such accusations have paved the way for periodical mass expulsions and continued harassment of social scientists in Iran. Fearing harsher reprisals, many have decided not to voice any dissent. In the absence of unions and the conspicuous absence of academic freedom, any form of mutual support among professors is susceptible to being construed as a political act, potentially jeopardizing the well-being of all parties involved. Within this context, our roundtable is intended to explore a spectrum of potential avenues for extending support to students and our fellow academics through the auspices of the international academic community. Additionally, we are keenly interested in fostering discourse on academic freedom in Iran but also within the broader Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

Chair: Mona Tajali, Agnes Scott College
Daniel Ahadi, Simon Fraser University
Hoornaz Keshavarzian, Simon Fraser University
Homa Hoodfar, Concordia University
Azam Khatam, York University
Fatemeh Shams, University of Pennsylvania
Nastaran Saremy, Simon Fraser University
VIII-1: Academic Freedom and the Israel/Palestine Conflict: 
Lessons from the Kenneth Roth Scandal at Harvard

On January 5, 2023, news broke that Kenneth Roth, the longtime Executive Director of Human Right Watch (HRW), was denied a fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School. In truth, he was first offered a fellowship and it was subsequently revoked by the Dean in deference to private donors/special interest groups who were upset by HRW's criticism of Israel's human rights record. After a faculty revolt, buttressed by global media coverage, Roth's fellowship was reinstated, but the broader lessons from this controversy have not been systematically examined. This special session, with Kenneth Roth's participation, seeks to examine this topic. Threats to academic freedom in the context of the Israel-Palestine conflict have a long and sordid history in North America. The focus of this special session will not be a historical examination of this topic but rather on the more recent cases at Harvard, University of Denver, University of Toronto and the University of Washington, where academic freedom has been egregiously violated. Strategies for combating this expanding problem will guide the panel discussion based on the various case studies.

Organized by Nader Hashemi
on behalf of the
Alwaleed Center for Muslim-Christian University at Georgetown and DAWN (Democracy in the Arab World)

Discussant: Juan Cole, University of Michigan

Nader Hashemi, Georgetown University
Liora R. Halperin, University of Washington, Seattle
Mohammad Fadel, University of Toronto
Kenneth Roth, Princeton University

VIII-2: Proposal Writing and Research Design: How to Fund Your Ideas

Those embarking on academic careers must master the art of writing proposals for research funding. Whether you are conducting research for a dissertation or book or seeking support—for a special project—locating and securing funding is critical. This workshop will provide expert guidelines on how to write compelling proposals from the initial phrasing of the research question, step by step, to the research outcomes, significance, dissemination, and public outreach.

Organized by Suad Joseph, University of California, Davis

Sponsored by
Association for Middle East Women’s Studies (AMEWS)
Association for Middle East Anthropology (AMEA)
Arab American Studies Association (AASA)
Association for Middle East Children and Youth Studies (AMECYS)
ROOM 511A
ROUNDTABLE

VIII-3: Bridging the Gap: A Decade of Human Rights in MENA, Navigating Pathways and Hurdles to Collaborations within Academia

Organized by Amr ElAfifi on behalf of The Freedom Initiative and MENA Prison Forum

Chair: Amr ElAfifi, Syracuse University

Insiya Raja, University of Oxford
Mohammed Alshuwaiter, Qanun, The Arabic Human Rights Platform
Mona Tajali, Agnes Scott College
Mark LeVine, University of California, Irvine

ROOM 511B
ROUNDTABLE

VIII-4: SWANA Contributions to Feminist Theory

Organized by Nova Robinson

Discussant: Sara Rahnama, Morgan State University

Nova Robinson, Seattle University
Kara A. Peruccio, University of Maine
Nadya J. Sbaiti, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar
Alborz Ghandehari, University of Utah
Susanna Ferguson, Smith College
Lila Sharif, Arizona State University
Maryam Griffin, University of Washington Bothell

ROOM 511C
ROUNDTABLE

VIII-5: Writing Syrian History in Times of Disaster

Organized by Max Weiss

Sponsored by Syrian Studies Association (SSA)

Chair: Michael Provence, University of California, San Diego

Max Weiss, Princeton University
Stefan Winter, Université du Québec à Montréal/Koç University
Matthieu Rey, French National Center for Scientific Research
Ammar Alsamar, Independent
Seda Altug, Bogazici University

ROOM 511D
ROUNDTABLE

VIII-6: Reflections on the Global Refugee System

Organized by Can Bilir

Chair: Can Bilir

Can Bilir, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Sonic Coagulations: Speakers and Public Broadcasts’ Roles in Recent Turkish Acoustic Ecologies
Ghida Anouti, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Sonic Beirut, Displaced: Stitching Transboundary Soundscapes
Najat Rahman, University of Montreal
Home and the Carceral: The Ethics and Politics of Sound in Global Palestine
Ali Musleh, Columbia University
A Musicology of Settler Colonialism
Ege Altan, Pennsylvania State University
Etel Adnan’s Sea and Fog: Hydro-Poetics and the Aesthetics of Memory

ROOM 511E
ROUNDTABLE

VIII-7: Adaptation of European, Canadian, and American Proficiency Guidelines in the Middle Eastern Language Classes

Organized by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi

Chair: Noha Aboulmagd-Forster
Discussant: Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi

Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, University of Chicago
Adaptation of the ACTFL Guidelines and the “Backward Design Model” in Persian Language Classes
Emine Cakir, University of Oxford
Applying CEFR to Teaching Turkish as a Foreign Language in the Higher Education Context
Azita Taleghani, University of Toronto
The Alignment of Persian Language Classes to the Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB): Challenges & Advantages
Noha Aboulmagd-Forster, University of Chicago
ACTFL, Arabic, Adaptations

ROOM 513A
ROUNDTABLE

VIII-8: Acoustic Ecologies of the Middle East: Current Conditions and Prospects

Organized by Can Bilir

Chair: Can Bilir

Can Bilir, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Sonic Coagulations: Speakers and Public Broadcasts’ Roles in Recent Turkish Acoustic Ecologies
Ghida Anouti, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sonic Beirut, Displaced: Stitching Transboundary Soundscapes
Najat Rahman, University of Montreal
Home and the Carceral: The Ethics and Politics of Sound in Global Palestine
Ali Musleh, Columbia University A Musicology of Settler Colonialism
Ege Altan, Pennsylvania State University
Etel Adnan’s Sea and Fog: Hydro-Poetics and the Aesthetics of Memory
VIII-9: World Cup Qatar 2022: Transnational Solidarity, Palestine, and Anti-Muslim Bias

Organized by Nina Shoman-Dajani and Danielle Haque

Sponsored by Arab American Studies Association (AASA)

Chair: Nina Shoman-Dajani
Discussant: Danielle Haque

Danielle Haque, Minnesota State University, Mankato Labor and Solidarity: Qatar’s Campaign for the Arts at the 2022 World Cup


Hatem Bazian, University of California, Berkeley The 2022, Qatar World Cup, Islamophobia Social Imaginary, and Western Press

Nina Shoman-Dajani, Moraine Valley Community College Witnessing Solidarity and Rejecting Normalization: From World Cup in Qatar to Palestine, and the Diaspora

VIII-10: The Politics of Literary Disputations and Debates in Classical and Medieval Arabic Literature

Organized by Nizar F. Hermes on behalf of the Journal of Arabic Literature

Nizar F. Hermes, University of Virginia “You Killed Him O’ Bakri!”: Bakr Ibn Hammād al-Tāharti’s Poetic Jousting and Disputations in al-Mu’taṣim’ Court

Muhsin J. Al-Musawi, Columbia University Thievery Disputation in Literary Theory

Chiara Fontana, University of Bologna Farewell Beauty: Ibn al-Mu’tazz’s (d. 908) Political Manifesto in Fuṣūl al-Tamāthīl fī Tabāshīr al-Surūr

Wen-Chin Ouyang, SOAS, University of London Quarrels among Tea, Coffee and Wine: Literary Life of Things and World Literature

VIII-11: “Now is the Turn of the East”: Pan-Easternism in the Middle East and Asia

Organized by Mikiya Koyagi and Or Pitusi

Chair: Nimrod Ben Zeev, Tel Aviv University
Discussant: Cemil Aydin, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Or Pitusi, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem From Pan-Ottomanism to Pan-Sharqism: The Eastern Scene in Berlin, 1919-1924

Usman Ahmedani, University of Amsterdam “A Novel Based on Historical Realities”: Easternist Expressions of Ottoman Turcology

Mikiya Koyagi, University of Texas at Austin Iranian Easternism: Geography, Civilization, and Decolonization

Mattias Gori Olesen, Aarhus University Eastern Lions, Western Tigers: The Second Italo-Ethiopian War and Liberal Easternism in Interwar Egypt

Peiyu Yang, George Mason University Travels through the Other: Ghassan Kanafani’s The Sun Rise in Asia as Solidarity-Building Translation

VIII-12: Entering and Exiting Transregional Medico-Legal Borders across the Twentieth Century

Organized by Lauren Banko

Chair: David E. Gutman, Manhattanville College

Lauren Banko, University of Manchester Laboring across the Medico-Legal Border: Working-Class Migrants, Illness, and Immigration Control between Palestine and Egypt, 1930-1948

Chris Sandal-Wilson, University of Exeter Border-Crossing Patients and the History of Psychiatry in British Mandate Palestine

Randa Tawil, Texas Christian University Time Change: Reproduction, Mobility, and Temporality in the Early Mahjar

Tamar Novick, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Frontiers of Bodily Residues: Seeking and Moving Urine Across Borders, 1954-1974

VIII-13: Religion and Politics in the Pre-modern Maghrib

Organized by Stephen C. Cory

Sponsored by Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

Discussant: Jocelyn Hendrickson, University of Alberta

Stephen C. Cory, Cleveland State University The Price of Peace: How Muhammad III Ended the ‘Alawi fitna in Eighteenth Century Morocco
Natalie Kraneiss, Münster University
Between State Control, Piety Practice, and Scholarly Discourse: Sulaymān al-Ḥawwāt and the Clarification of the Hidden Secrets about the Descendants of Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī in Fez

Gonçalo M. Ramos, Centre for History of the University of Lisbon
Building Legitimacies: Contrasting Notions of Kingship in the Marīnid Sultanate and in the Portuguese Kingdom (AH 818/CE 1415 – AH 876/CE 1471)

Jens G. Fischer, University of Münster,
“Among Princes He Is a Prince, among Scholars a Scholar”: Learned Rulers in 18th Century Tunisia

ROOM 523A
VIII-14: War and Revolution in the Middle East
Organized by James Whidden
Discussant: Mona L. Russell, East Carolina University

James Whidden, Acadia University
Saad Zaghloul’s Struggle with the Revolutionaries

Kyle Anderson, SUNY College at Old Westbury
The Politics of Exile and the Narrowing Horizons of Egyptian Anti-British Activism, 1905-1924

Elizabeth Thompson, American University
The Paris Peace Conference as Counterrevolution in the Middle East

Christiane Abu Sarah, Erskine College
Affective Politics and the Egyptian Revolution(s) of 1951–1952: Rethinking Emotions in Arab Protest Movements

ROOM 523B
VIII-15: “What’s In a Name?”: Lexicons of Exclusion and (Post-) Ottoman Communities
Organized by Kutay Onayli
Chair/Discussant: Erdag Göknar, Duke University

Kutay Onayli, Princeton University
A Rum By Any Other Name: Identity, Denigration, and Greek Ottoman Satire, 1908-1909

Hazal Ozdemir, Northwestern University
Mobility as Fesad: Ottoman Armenian Community Moving Between Suspicion and Threat

Cevat Dargin, Princeton University
“You are Real and Pure Turks!”: Racialization and Colonial Violence in the Kurdish Province of Dersim

Ipek Sahinler, The University of Texas at Austin
Trans(lating) Lexicons of Queerness in Ottoman-Turkish

ROOM 524B
VIII-16: Ottoman Immigration to the Americas – New Approaches, New Sources
Organized by Michael Ferguson
Chair: Michael Ferguson, Concordia University
Discussant: Brian Aboud, Vanier College

Kyle Wynter-Stoner, Arab American National Museum
The Syrian Soldier in Three Wars: Identity and Nationalism in the War Memoirs of Gabriel Elias Ward

Reem Bailony, Agnes Scott College
An Exploration of Sect and Race in the Syrian Mahjar in North America

Andrew Sandock, University of Toronto
Documenting Selves: Identity-Formation in Ottoman Migrants’ Personal Archives

Diogo Bercito, Georgetown University
A Brazilian Thawra: Arab Migrants In the 1932 São Paulo Revolution

ROOM 524C
VIII-17: A Gender Perspective on Secularization and Modernization
Organized by Rita Stephan
Sponsored by Association for Middle Eastern Women’s Studies (AMEWS)
Chair/Discussant: Rita Stephan

Rita Stephan, North Carolina State University
Resisting Tokenism: Arab American Political Activism

Namie Tsujigami, Sophia University
How Haram Becomes Halal: Gendered Impact of Social Change in Saudi Arabia

Woohyang Sim, Waseda University
Higher Education and Women in the State of Qatar

Eva Ohbaya, Keio University
Secularization in the Arab World

ROOM 525A
VIII-18: The Story of Resilience and Resistance Among Azerbaijanis in Iran
Organized by Sevil Suleymani
Discussant: Sevil Suleymani

Lale Javanshir Qocabeyli, University of Toronto
The Question of Conflict and Memory in the Birds are not Sacred Anymore and the Tears of Savalan: The Two Novels on the Events of 1945-1946 in Azerbaijan
Monire Akbarpouran, Université du Québec à Montréal  The Notion of Cultural Heritage and the Imagery of Ashiqliq, as a Turkic Bardic Tradition, in the Urban Space of Contemporary Iran

Sevil Suleymani, George Mason University  The Struggle of Recognition and Dilemma of Minority Politics: The Case Study of Azerbaijani Turks in Iran

Turkan Bozkurt, University of Toronto  Comparative Methods of Assimilation and Oppression

ROOM 516D
VIII-20: New Perspectives on Slavery, Abolition, and Race in the Nineteenth-Century Ottoman World and Beyond

Organized by Özgül Özdemir

Chair: Sarah Gualtieri, University of Southern California
Discussant: Taylor M. Moore, University of California, Santa Barbara

Özgül Özdemir, Stanford University  Glimpses into Lives of Black Eunuchs in the 19th Century-Ottoman Harem: Histories of Race, Violence, Emotions

Zavier Wingham, New York University  The Ambivalent Legacy of Manumission: Ottoman Guesthouses for Africans in the 1880s

Salma Hargal, Sciences Po (Paris Institute of Political Studies)  How Slaves Claimed Their Manumission in Ottoman Libya After Slave Trade Prohibition (1857–1911)

Giacoimo Ghedini, Sciences Po (Paris Institute of Political Studies)  From Sudan and Senegal to Italy and France, Black Afro-European Abolitionism in the 19th Century: A Story Yet to Be Told

ROOM 510B
VIII-22: Microhistories of Arab Internationalism: The Lebanese National Movement

Organized by Nour MJ Hodeib

Chair: Malek Abisaab, McGill University

Nour MJ Hodeib, Graduate Center, CUNY  Marcel Khalife: Singing for the Bullet in a Fascist’s Heart

Nathaniel George, SOAS, University of London  Abu Jabra and Jabal ‘Amil in the Age of the Palestinian Revolution

Dylan Baun, University of Alabama in Huntsville  Imad Nuwayhid: Searching for a New Home in the Arab Left

Naye Idriss, New York University  The Lebanese National Resistance Front and Afterlives of the Lebanese Left
ROOM 510C


Organized by Daniel Ahadi

Chair/Discussant: Daniel Ahadi

Daniel Ahadi, Simon Fraser University
Confessions of a Diasporic Mind: Long-Distance “Nationalists” and Transnational Political Activism among Iranians Abroad

Bahareh Badiei, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Insurgent Grammars and Feminist Digital Activism: Iranian Feminist Networks’ Rise against Multifaceted Modes of Power in Light of Jina Uprising

Parsa Alirezaei, Simon Fraser University and Mozghan Fazli, Simon Fraser University
Not So Green: Paradigm Shift in the Iranian Political Resistance Discourse and the Political Economy of Protest in Iran from 2009 to 2022

Hoornaz Keshavarzian, Simon Fraser University and Nastaran Saremy, Simon Fraser University

ROOM 512A

VIII-25: 18th Century Scholarship and Historiographical Debates

Chair: Sheida Dayani, Princeton University

Ian VanderMeulen, Kalamazoo College
Resounding Islamic Reform: Performance, Text, and Scholastic Consolidation in Premodern Moroccan Qira’at

Jianyuan Sun, Princeton University
Turco-Mongolic Monarchic Tradition in the Khoqand Khanate: Tanistry in the Early Reign of Irdana Biy (r. 1751-52 & 1753-69)

Betul Argit, Marmara University
Book Ownership of the Male Members of the Imperial Court (17th–18th Centuries)

ROOM 510D

VIII-24: Textual Innovation and Transgression from Iberia to Iran

Chair: Hayrettin Yucesoy, Washington University in St. Louis

Mustafa Kaya, University of Chicago
Segregation of Mystical Life in Timurid Herat

Saleem Abu Jaber, Achva Academic College
A Rare Sufi Exegesis of Sūrat al-Fatḥ from 16th Century Ottoman Egypt

Sam Winikow, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Of Cooks and Copyists: Culinary Manuscripts and the Circulation of Knowledge in Safavid Iran

Seyed Saleh Pezghman, McGill University
Was Muḥammad Taqī Majlisī a Sufi?

ROOM 512B

VIII-26: Geographies of Domination and Dispossession in Palestine

Chair: Jasmin Habib, University of Waterloo

Kimberly Katz, Towson University
Between Jordanian and International Law: UNRWA’s Involvement in Jordanian Court Cases

Chloé Chbat, University of Manchester
Bordering and Immobility: A Study of the Palestinian Body within the Settler Colonial Context in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT)

Yair Agmon, University of California, Los Angeles
Waste, Revival, and Dispossession: Territorial Ecology in East Jerusalem

Atwa Jaber, Graduate Institute, Geneva
No Bridges Will Take You Home: The Jordan Valley Exodus of 1967 Re-examined Through Oral History

Mekarem Eljamal, Columbia University
Authority over Spatial Identity: Municipal Documentation Narrating Lydd’s Identity
ARANAS program in Summer 2024 – AL AKHAWAYN University in Ifrane

Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco (AUI) continues its Arabic and North African Studies (ARANAS) program in Summer 2024. This program will allow students to choose between one or two four-week intensive sessions and also, if they wish, a summer class in our regular Summer Session that will have a range of courses in North African Studies and even other academic areas that students would be welcome to take provided they meet the prerequisites. The intensive Arabic aspect will also include trips within Morocco and a range of community-based experiential learning opportunities. Students will live in the AUI dorms or homestays with other students or families committed to the program goals. Students may also choose to only enroll in the regular Summer Session without taking any intensive Arabic courses.

**Deadlines:**
- Initial Interest: April 1, 2024
- Full Application and Registration: May 1, 2024

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**One or Two Four-Week Sessions of Intensive Arabic**

Students can choose to enroll in Session 1 and/or 2. Each brings four credits of Arabic at an appropriate level. With ~4 hours of instruction/day for four weeks, that is ~80 hours of intensive Arabic, including exposure to Moroccan and other dialects of Arabic per session. The goal is that students would move up about one CEFR level per session (roughly from Beginner A1/2-Intermediate B1/2-Advanced C1/2), but of course individual results will vary. The dates for the two sessions are:

- Session 1 (four credits): May 27-June 21, 2024, $3600
- Session 2 (four credits): June 24-July 20, 2024, $3600
- Sessions 1-2 (eight credits): May 27-July 20, 2024, $6400

**Intensive Arabic Session 1 and/or 2 and one Summer Class in North African Studies (or any available subject)**

AUI’s regular Summer Session starts June 3, 2024. Students enroll in a regular three-credit summer class starting June 5th. These classes are normally 50 minutes/day Monday-Friday. They can also take Session 1 and/or 2 of intensive Arabic. If they take Session 1, they are at AUI from May 27-July 21; if they take just Session 2, they are here from June 3-July 21.

- Summer Session and Session 1 (seven credits): May 27-July 21, 2024, $6200
- Summer Session and Session 2 (seven credits): June 3-July 21, 2024, $6000
- Summer Session and Sessions 1 and 2 (eleven credits): May 27-July 21, 2024, $7500

**Summer Session Only (one or two three-credit courses)**

Students can enroll in one or two of AUI’s Summer Session courses only without taking Sessions 1 and 2 of intensive Arabic. Costs for the Summer Session are based on the AUI catalog, and international students can expect to pay approximately $2000 per three-credit course. The regular Summer Session courses do not come with the travel opportunities or extra learning support as with the Intensive Arabic program; however, AUI does have a range of student activities and learning support for students taking only the Summer Session.
SESSION IX 3:00 - 5:00 PM SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

CURRENT EVENTS SESSION

ROOM 516B

IX-1: Centering Sudan: the Revolution, the War, the Future

In this interdisciplinary roundtable, discussion will focus on Sudan’s history, upheavals, and future. We anticipate a robust conversation along with a re-centering of Sudan within Middle East studies.

Organized by Beeta Baghoolizadeh, Princeton University

on behalf of MESA’s Committee on Blackness, Indigeneity, and Racial Justice (CBIRJ)

Chair: Eve Troutt Powell, University of Pennsylvania

Khalid Mustafa Medani, McGill University
Anna Reumert, The New School
Alden Young, UCLA

ROOM 511A

ROUNDTABLE

IX-2: Gender Studies and Feminism at MESA: Taking Stock of the Field

Organized by Nadje Al-Ali, Brown University

Asli Zengin, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Hanan H. Hammad, Texas Christian University
Zahra Ali, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Sondra Hale, University of California, Los Angeles
Maya Mikdashi, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey

ROOM 511B

ROUNDTABLE

IX-3: Threats to Academic Freedom in the Middle East

Organized by Mimi Kirk on behalf of MESA Global Academy

Chair: Miriam R. Lowi, College of New Jersey

Selin Gumrukcu, Rutgers University
Evren Altinkas, University of Guelph
Katty Alhayek, Toronto Metropolitan University
Nihat Celik, San Diego State University
Basileus Zeno, York University

ROOM 511C

ROUNDTABLE

IX-4: Environmental Anthropology and the Middle East

Organized by Sa’ed Atshan

Sponsored by Association of Middle East Anthropology (AMEA)

Chair: Sa’ed Atshan, Swarthmore College

Munira Khayyat, American University in Cairo
Tessa Farmer, University of Virginia
Anne Meneley, Trent University
Peter Habib, Emory University
Caterina Scaramelli, Boston University
Sophia Stamatopoulou-Robbins, Bard College
SESSION IX 3:00 - 5:00 PM

ROOM 511E
ROUNDTABLE

IX-5: Imagining the East: Researching and Writing Transnational Affinity, Solidarity, and Belonging during the Interwar Years

Organized by Erin O’Halloran

Discussant: Marya Hannun, University of Exeter

Erin O’Halloran, University of Cambridge
Reem Bailony, Agnes Scott College
Sara Rahnama, Morgan State University

ROOM 511F
ROUNDTABLE

IX-6: Settler Colonial Violence, Palestine, and White Supremacy

Organized by Stephen Sheehi

Chair/Discussant: Loubna Qutami, University of California, Berkeley

Stephen Sheehi, College of William & Mary
Saree Makdisi, University of California, Los Angeles
Sherene Razack, University of California, Los Angeles
Lara Sheehi, George Washington University

ROOM 520A
ROUNDTABLE

IX-7: Practical Pedagogies of Engagement: Building Intercultural Understanding Through Concrete Activities

Organized by G. Carole Woodall and Victoria Hightower, University of North Georgia

on behalf of MESA’s Committee for Undergraduate Middle East Studies (CUMES)

Chair: G. Carole Woodall

Roger A. Deal, University of South Carolina Aiken
Maia Carter Hallward, Kennesaw State University
Virginia Cady, Independent Scholar
G. Carole Woodall, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Susan Tyrrell, University of North Texas
James Tallon, Lewis University

ROOM 519B
ROUNDTABLE

IX-9: Beyond Paradoxes and Contradictions: Forms of Anti-Colonial Resistance during WWI in North Africa and the Middle East

Organized by Odile Moreau

Odile Moreau, University of Montpellier
Beyond Paradoxes and Contradictions: The Trajectory of Amir ‘Abd al-Mālik during WWI
Richard Fogarty, University at Albany, SUNY
Resistance in Captivity and Captivity in Resistance: North African POWs in German and the Middle East during the Great War
Jonathan McCollum, Brigham Young University
An Anticolonial Empire? The Ottoman Struggle for North Africa in the Long First World War

ROOM 519A
IX-8: Arab Faces, American Places

Organized by Salah D. Hassan

Sponsored by Arab American Studies Association (AASA)

Chair/Discussant: Michelle Hartman, McGill University

Salah D. Hassan, Michigan State University
Self-possessed: Photos of Arabs in the Early 20th Century United States
Evelyn Alsultany, University of Southern California
Hollywood, the “Muslim ban,” and Diversifying Representations of Arabs and Muslims

ROOM 524A
IX-10: Imagining New Authorial Configurations in Persianate Sufism

Organized by Hunter Bandy and Seema Golestaneh

Discussant: Ata Anzali, Middlebury College

Ahoo Najafian, Macalester College
Mystical Politics in Pre-revolutionary Iran

Natalie El-Eid, Syracuse University
Drawing Selves and Stories: 21st Century Arab American Graphic Memoirs
Leila Tarakji, Michigan State University
“El Moro, El Negro, El Arabe”: An American Origin Narrative between Fiction and the Margins of History
SeyedAmir Asghari, Baylor University Post Sadra Dhahabīyya Ṣūfī Order and Shi‘ī-Ṣūfī Convergence
Aziza Shanazarova, Columbia University Female Religious Authority in Sufism

ROOM 524B
IX-11: Formulating Modernism through Museums and Exhibitions in the MENA Region

Organized by Caroline Angle Maguire

Sponsored by Association for Modern and Contemporary Art of the Arab World, Iran and Turkey (AMCA)

Caroline Angle Maguire, University of Maryland, College Park Democratizing and Modernizing the Musée National du Bardo (1956–1980)
Ashley Miller, Independent Scholar Revolutionizing the Institution? Remaking Art Histories at the First Pan-African Cultural Festival (PANAF), Algiers 1969
Elizabeth Rauh, American University in Cairo A Museum of One’s Own: Ali Jabri and Curatorial Practice as Worldmaking in the Jordan Museum of Popular Traditions

ROOM 524C
IX-12: Contested Archives: The Reopening of the Kanan Makiya Papers

Organized by Michael Brill and Wisam Alshaibi

Chair/Discussant: Arbella Bet-Shlimon, University of Washington, Seattle

Michael Brill, Princeton University The Origins and History of the Ba‘th Party Archive
Joseph Kotinsky, University of Texas at Austin The Politics of Shi‘i Suffering: The Iraqi Opposition and the Rise of Sect-Centrism
Amir Taha, University of Amsterdam Contesting the Archives with the 1991 Iraqi Uprising
Wisam Alshaibi, University of California, Los Angeles The Kanan Makiya Papers Then and Now

ROOM 510A

Organized by Rachel Schine and Sheera Talpaz

Chair: Karla Mallette, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Rachel Schine, University of Maryland, College Park Black Language: Racio-Linguistics and Representing Afro-Asian Languages in Abbasid Writings
Alexander Jabbari, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Urdu in Palestine, Hebrew in India: Muslim Philology before 1947
Hilah Kohen, University of Pennsylvania The Age of Language Revolutions: Turkish, Hebrew, and Soviet Language Policy between the World Wars
Michael Payne, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich Translating Race in the Medieval Middle East: Graeco-Arabic Conceptions of Human Difference and Their Diffusion
Sheera Talpaz, Oberlin College Arab Jewish Literature and the Fallacy of Language Choice

ROOM 510B
IX-14: Property Disputes, Dispossession and Processes of Marginalization in North Africa

Organized by Soraya El Kahlaoui and Koenraad Bogaert

Chair: Koenraad Bogaert, Ghent University
Discussant: Karen Eugenie Rignall, University of Kentucky

Soraya El Kahlaoui, Ghent University Possession against Property: Mapping Land Struggle in North Africa
Cristiana Strava, Leiden University Institute for Area Studies Speculative Sustainability: Dispossession, Financialization, and Contested Green Urbanism in Contemporary Morocco
Lana Salman, Ghent University Nomadism: Property and the Governing of City’s Edge in Colonial Tunisia
Souad Eddouada, Iben Tofail University Rights, Reform, and Negotiation: Land Dispossession, Gender, and Alternative Models for Justice

ROOM 510C
IX-15: (Re-)drawing the Margin(s)—Investigating Marginality in Jordan, Lebanon, and North and East Syria

Organized by Jasmine Benhaida and Julia Wartmann

Chair: Aline Schlaepfer, University of Basel
Julia Wartmann, University of Basel
Reassessing Claims of Kurdish Marginality in the Case of the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria

Fares Damien, University of Basel
Jabal 'Amel to South Lebanon: The Birth of a New Mediterranean Space

Jasmine Benhaida, University of Basel
Oh Woman, Where Art You? Unthinking Women at the Margins through Sharia Court Records

ROOM 510D
IX-16: Frontiers in the Studies of Middle East Contentious Politics

Organized by Ali Kadivar and Rima Majed, American University of Beirut
Chair/Discussant: Charles Kurzman, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ali Kadivar, Boston College Oil and Contention: Fuel Subsidy Cuts and Protests in Iran 2019
Elizabeth Parker-Magyar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Striking from the Schoolyard: State Worker Networks, Organization, and Contentious Action in Jordan
Killian Clarke, Georgetown University Revolution in Democracies: The 2019 Uprisings in Lebanon and Iraq
Kevin Mazur, Northwestern University Between the Square and the Quarter: The Urban Logic of Violence in the Syrian Revolution

ROOM 513A
IX-17: Trade, Diplomacy and Finance in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire

Organized by Hasan Ilban
Chair: Suraiya Faroqui, Ibn Haldun University

Sebastien Flynn, Bilkent University
Ottoman Diplomacy between the Treaty of Belgrade and the Death of Sultan Mahmud I, 1739-1754

Hasan Ilban, University of Birmingham
British Credit and the Provincial Economy of Aleppo in the Eighteenth Century

Zeynep Arslan Calik, Ruhr-University Bochum
The Ottomans in the Habsburg Lands: Re-identifying the Builders of Ottoman-European Contacts (1777-1826)

Elif Bozgan, University of Chicago
The Scholarly Families and the Lifelong Tax Régime in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Empire

ROOM 513B
IX-18: The Meaning of China’s Increased Engagement in the Middle East

Organized by Lars Erslev Andersen
Chair: William Lawrence, American University

Lars Erslev Andersen, Danish Institute for International Studies
China and Iran Relations in Context of the Changing World Order

Chuchu Zhang, Fudan University
Rising Asian Transactionalist Player in the Middle East: Deciphering China’s Infrastructure Diplomacy in the Region

Yahia Zoubir, Middle East Council on Global Affairs, Doha, Qatar
China’s Integration of the Greater Maghreb into the Belt & Road

ROOM 513C
IX-19: How Islamists Cope with Football: Qatar as a Transformative Event?

Organized by Dag Tuastad

Dag Tuastad, University of Oslo
How Ritual and Politics Intersects in Hizbollah’s Relation to Football

Bjorn Olav Utvik, University of Oslo
Soccer, Islamism and the Good Muslim

Hans K Hognestad, University of South-Eastern Norway
Religion and Politics – Contested Narratives from the 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar

Charlotte Lysa, University of Oslo

ROOM 513D
IX-20: Border(land)s of the Ottoman Empire

Organized by Elmira Louie and Hüseyin Göcen
Chair/Discussant: Ali Yaycioglu, Stanford University

Elmira Louie, University of California, Davis
Reading the Borderland: Linguistic and Religious Border Crossings in 17th through 19th Century Ottoman Literature

Merve Tekgürler, Stanford University
Crucible of Empire: Ottoman-Polish Borderlands in the Long Eighteenth Century
Hüseyin Göcen, University of California, Davis Provincial Fatwas, Festivals, and Celebrations as Borderlands in Ottoman Early Modernity
Zehra Ilhan, University of California, Davis Pre-16th Century Discourse on Muslim Women and Female Youth in the Epic Stories of Anatolian Borderland

ROOM 513E
IX-21: Anticommunism in Cold War Turkey
Organized by Semih Gökatalay
Sponsored by Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA)
Chair: James H. Meyer, Montana State University
Discussant: James Ryan, Foreign Policy Research Institute
Semih Gökatalay, University of California, San Diego The Changing Iconography of Nâzım Hikmet: From a Communist Traitor to a Patriotic Poet
Gozde Emen Gokatalay, Independent Scholar Balkan Immigrants and Anticommunism in Cold War Turkey
Reuben Silverman, Stockholm University Red Scares and the Formation of a Frontline Cold War State in Turkey, 1950-1953

ROOM 512A
IX-23: The Determinants of Compliance: COVID-19 in the MENA
Organized by Amanda Rizkallah
Chair/Discussant: Marwa Shalaby, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Amanda Rizkallah, Pepperdine University The Country Source Origins of Vaccine Hesitancy
Yuree Noh, Rhode Island College Public Health Mandates and Trust during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Jonah Schulhofer-Wohl, Leiden University Violence, Trust, and Pro-Social Behavior: The Long-Term Effects of Civil Conflict on COVID Compliance in Iraq

ROOM 512B
IX-24: Diplomacy, Diplomats, and Forgotten Records
Chair: Constantine Theodoridis, Princeton University
Anthony Edwards, Washington and Lee University A Privileged Intellectual: Buṭrus al-Bustānī and His Dragomanship at the US Consulate in Ottoman Beirut
Rosalind Buckton-Tucker, Independent Scholar Captain Shakespear: An Unsung Hero of Arabia?
Deniz Çıtak, University of California, Los Angeles The Case of Pahlavi-Era Iranian Diplomacy in Amanullah’s Afghanistan
Asuman Tezcan, Stanford University The Tan Raid as the Herald of the Reorganization of Turkey’s Domestic and Foreign Policy after the Second World War, 1945
Murat Kasapsaracoglu, Istanbul Aydin University Uncovering the Opium Crisis: The Poison of Turkish-American Relations in the 1960s and 1970s

ROOM 512C
IX-25: The Strategies and Dynamics of Israeli Occupation in Palestine
Chair: Lawrence Davidson, West Chester University
Nathaniel Shils, Wellesley College Annexation and the “One State Reality” in Israel/Palestine: History and Implications of Israel’s Mechanisms of Territorial Incorporation
Judith Hoppermann, University of Glasgow Control, Dispossession, Exploitation: Understanding the Political Economy of the Colonialism-Neoliberalism Nexus in West Bank Agriculture
Cora Enterline, Trinity College Dublin
*Drinkers with a Religion Problem: Religious Terroir in Israeli Settlement Wineries*

Nur Arafeh, Carnegie Middle East Center
*Entrenching Dependency and Promoting Local Agency in Counterinsurgency: A Case Study of U.S.-Led Trade Facilitation Programs in Hebron*

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**ROOM 512DH**

**IX-26: Language and Libraries**

Chair: Hannah Scott Deuchar, Queen Mary, University of London

Mahmoud Roshdy, University of Southern California
*The Strangeness of Language as a Wound out of Displacement: On Translating Salim Barakat’s Childhood Autobiography*

Hicham Assaoui, Virginia Military Institute
*A Mix of Voices: Exploring Life Writing and Poetry in Nizar Qabbani’s The Journal of an Indifferent Woman*

Tianrui Ma, Indiana University Bloomington
*A Mix of Voices: Exploring Life Writing and Poetry in Nizar Qabbani’s The Journal of an Indifferent Woman*

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**ROOM 512E**

**IX-27: Feminist and Queer Literature**

Nuha Askar, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University
*“Tell Me a Story”: Queer Narratives and Countercultural Memories in Ahmad Danny Ramadan’s The Clothesline Swing*

Linda Istanbulli, Pennsylvania State University
*Between Fiction, History, and Ethnography: Bedouin Women in Sultānāt Al-Raml*

Nusaiba Imady, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
*I’m Going Mad Again; Narratives of Female Suicide in Modern Arabic Literature*

Nada Ayad, The Cooper Union
*The Womb as Resistance*

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**ROOM 512F**

**IX-28: TV, Film, and Theater**

Zeynep Sertbulut, Haverford College
*The Turkish Dizi Industry and Its Audience Imaginaries*

Megan Ekstrom, The University of Texas at Austin
*Defending and Negotiating Modernity in Baghdad’s Cinema Spaces, 1950-1958*

Sherena Razek, Brown University
*Unruly Atmospheres: Speculating Palestinian Filmic Interventions in the Air*

Nina Youkhanna, Georgetown University
*Between Laughter and Tears: Political Performance in Syria*

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**Visit MESA’s Cooperative Book Display!**

*Located at the MESA Booth in the Book Exhibit*
X-1: Middle East Migration Studies: Roads Travelled and Future Paths
Organized by Andrew Arsan and Akram F. Khater
Chair: Andrew Arsan
Andrew Arsan, University of Cambridge
Akram F. Khater, North Carolina State University
Anna Reumert, The New School
Ghenwa Hayek, University of Chicago

X-2: Queering the Question: Rethinking Middle East Studies through Queer Methodologies
Organized by Umayyah Cable
Chair: Umayyah Cable
Umayyah Cable, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Natalie Kouri-Towe, Concordia University
Tahereh Aghdasifar, California State University, Dominguez Hills
Mejdulene Shomali, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Charlotte Karem Albrecht, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

X-3: MESA’s BDS Vote and the Question of Palestine
Organized by Maya Wind
Chair: Noura Erakat, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
Discussants: Abdel Razzaq Takriti, University of Houston and Samia Al-Botmeh, Birzeit University
Maya Wind, University of British Columbia
Nadia Abu El-Haj, Columbia University
Rafeef Ziadah, King’s College London

X-4: It’s Complicated: Cultural Memory and Hope in Impermanent Landscapes
Organized by Gisele Chagas and Nefissa Naguib
Gisele Chagas, Universidade Federal Fluminense
Nefissa Naguib, University of Oslo
Karin Ahlberg, Stockholm University
Gustavo Barbosa, Universidade Federal Fluminense
Liza Dumovich, KU Leuven

X-5: Archiving Iran in/of the Diaspora
Organized by Leila Pourtavaf

X-6: Ecocritical Perspectives in Arabic Literary Studies
Organized by Sarah R. Bin Tyeer
Chair: Sarah R. Bin Tyeer, Columbia University
Anna Ziajka Stanton, Pennsylvania State University
The Geophenomenology of Extinction in Nūrah al-Nūmān’s Ajwān
Boutheina Khaldi, American University of Sharjah
An Ecocentric Reading of ‘Abd al-Raḥmᾱn Shukri’s Poetry and Criticism
Teresa Pepe, University of Oslo
The Climate Crisis in Contemporary Arabic Speculative Fiction
Levi Thompson, University of Texas at Austin
Ecocriticism Between Rusafah and the Bridge
Dahlia E.M. Gubara, Koc University
“We’ve Put These Themes into the Mouths of Animals, to Make the Case Clearer and More Compelling...”: Ethical Ecologies in Ikhwān al-Ṣafāʾ’s Animal Fable
**ROOM 516A**

**X-7: Vegetal Vectors: Plants and Plant-Knowledge in Middle East History**

Organized by Taylor M. Moore and Susanna Ferguson

Chair: Samuel Dolbee, Vanderbilt University
Discussant: Can Dalyan, College of Charleston

Susanna Ferguson, Smith College
The Mystery of the Travelling Plant: George Post’s Herbarium and the Problem of the “Native” Weed

Anny Gaul, University of Maryland, College Park
Red Sauce, Green Sauce: Cooking Okra and Tomatoes in the Nile Valley

Taylor M. Moore, University of California, Santa Barbara
In the Weeds: Studying Disruptive Plants in Twentieth-Century Egypt

**ROOM 510C**

**X-9: Educating an Empire: An Interdisciplinary Examination of Schooling in the Nineteenth Century**

Organized by Christin Zurbach

Sponsored by Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA)

Christin Zurbach, University of California, Berkeley
Educate to Medicate: Digging at the Roots of the Imperial School of Medicine in Istanbul

Myrsini Manney-Kalogera, University of Arizona
“Pouring Down Northern Wealth, Brings Holy Wisdom to the Homeland”: Christian Merchants and Education in Ottoman Yanya, 1797-1830

Cagdas Acar, University of Chicago
The Pilgrim’s Progress in Armenian and Armeno-Turkish: Publishers, Translators, and Readership

Lydia Harrington, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Art? Craft? Industry? Education and Emerging Discourses of Creation in the Late Ottoman Empire

Betty Rosen, University of California, Berkeley
Teaching al-Lugha from Valletta to Istanbul: Al-Shidyāq’s Language Pedagogy, 1839-1872

**ROOM 510B**

**X-8: Mobility and Agency in Contemporary Yemeni Diaspora**

Organized by Waleed Mahdi

Sponsored by American Institute for Yemeni Studies (AIYS)

Chair/Discussant: Stacey Philbrick Yadav, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Waleed Mahdi, University of Oklahoma
Yemeni American Activism between Urgency and Emergence

Bogumila Hall, Polish Academy of Sciences
Recipes for Refuge: Food and the Yemeni Diaspora

Nathalie Peutz, New York University
Abu Dhabi if Strife Increases, Go to Yemen: Yemeni Refugees and the Problem of Return

**ROOM 510D**

**X-10: Marginalized Spaces of Action: Leisure, Humor, and Deviance as Social Protest in the Ottoman World**

Organized by Sultan Toprak Oker and Zeynep Tezer

Chair: Melanie Tanielian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Discussant: Seçil Yılmaz, University of Pennsylvania

Zeynep Tezer, University of Chicago
May a Müftü be Funny? Humor’s Social Function in 17th Century Ottoman Legal Practice

Sultan Toprak Oker, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Muslim Drinkers: Actors of Social and Political Life in 17th Century Ottoman Istanbul

Tugçe Kayaal, Furman University
Sisterhood Trouble: Friendship, Intimacy, and Queering Wartime Solidarity

Naz Vardar, Simon Fraser University
Carnival and National Identity Formation: Play and Disguise in Ottoman Macedonia at the Turn of 20th Century

**ROOM 513A**

**X-11: New Perspectives on Violence and Resistance in Turkey**

Organized by Ayca Alemdaroglu on behalf of the Program on Turkey at Stanford University

Chair: Ayca Alemdaroglu, Stanford University

Nisa Goksel, Arizona State University
Narratives of Exile and Migration: Kurdish Women’s Political Struggles in Europe
Sefika Kumral, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Anti-Kurdish Communal Violence in the 21st Century: Origins, Patterns, Directions

Janet Klein, University of Akron
Minoritizing and Securitizing Armenians and Kurds

Deniz Duruiz, Concordia University
“I Would Have Recognized You from Your Smell”: Racialization of Kurdish Migrant Farmworkers in Western Turkey

Baris Unlu, University of Virginia
The Turkishness Contract and the Formation of Turkishness

ROOM 513C
X-13: Debating Public Knowledge in Modern Egypt

Organized by Chloe Bordewich

Chloe Bordewich, University of Toronto
Secrecy on Trial: The Case of the Leaked Telegram and the Egyptian Public’s Right to Know

Andrew Simon, Dartmouth College
Egypt as a Mixtape: Shaykh Imam, Official Stories, and Recomposing the Recent Past

Khaled Fahmy, Tufts University
Egyptian Public Misinformation during the 5 June 1967 War

Farida Makar, University of Oxford
Myths and Illusions about Free Public Education in Egypt

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X-12: On Madhhabs, Salafis, and Dalil: Rethinking Reform and Law in the Contemporary Islamic World

Organized by Matthew Steele

Discussant: Leor Halevi, Vanderbilt University

Matthew Steele, Harvard
University Jihād in the Service of Taqlid: Repurposing Critique in the Contemporary Mālikī School

Aaron Rock-Singer, University of Wisconsin-Madison
The Madhhab of the Quran and Sunna? Salafism, Textual Reasoning, and the Islamic Tradition

Etty Terem, Rhodes College
Rational Religion for a Modern Age: Defining a Path to Social Progress in Interwar Morocco

Alexander Thurston, University of Cincinnati
The Mālikī Madhhab, the Istidlāl Genre, and Contemporary Religious Authority: Tunisian and Libyan Examples

Nathan Spannaus, University of California, Berkeley
New Teaching for a New Generation: Exploring the Link between Educational and Legal Reform in the 19th Century

ROOM 513D
X-14: AATT Panel in Memory of Walter G. Andrews

Organized by Didem Havlioglu

Sponsored by American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages (AATT)

Chair: Virginia Aksan, McMaster University
Discussant: Didem Havlioglu, Duke University

Oscar Aguirre Mandujano, University of Pennsylvania
The Bazar of Separation: Culture, Emotions, and Philosophy in Ottoman Poetry and Lexicon

Sergen Avci, University of Washington
Seattle Womanhood in Kitāb-ı Hikāyāt

Efe Balikcioğlu, Wellesley College
Referencing Scholarship: Philosophical Reflections in 15th Century Ottoman Poetry

Hacı Gündüz, Harvard University
Macaronic (Mulamma’) Poetry in Ottoman Damascus

ROOM 513E
X-15: Jews at Sea

Organized by Annie Greene

Chair/Discussant: Alma Heckman, University of California, Santa Cruz

Mark Wagner, Louisiana State University
University Shaping Bourgeois Jewish Habitus in the Suez Canal Zone: The Menachem Messa Company of Aden and Its Long Shadow

Nancy Berg, Washington University in St. Louis
Israeli Jewish Writers Confronting the Sea

Annie Greene, University of Chicago
By the Rivers of Babylon: Imagined Riparian Geographies of Baghdadi Jews

Menashe Anzi, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
The Return of the Indian “Martin Guerre”: Movement and Impersonation in the Indian Ocean

ROOM 523A
X-18: Spotlights on Shi‘ī Esotericism from Umayyad Iraq to Fatimid Cairo

Organized by James Weaver

James Weaver, University of Zurich
Where Does Our Information on the Early Ghulāt Come From? Historians, Heresiographers, and Biographers

Pamela Klasova, Macalester College
Beliefs in the Greatest Name of God in Early Islamic and Late Antique Iraq: The Ghulat, al-Hajjaj b. Yusuf, and Others
Dariouche Kechavarzi, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes The Formation of Islamic Polemics: The Khawārij, the Shi‘a, and the Accusation of “Exaggeration” (“Ghuluww”)

Mushegh Asatryan, University of Calgary The Nusayris at the Turn of the 11th Century: A Spotlight

ROOM 516D
X-19: The Dynamics and Consequences of Power-Sharing in the Middle East
Organized by Christiana Parreira and Melani C. Cammett
Chair/Discussant: David Siddhartha Patel, Harvard Kennedy School

Christiana Parreira, Graduate Institute, Geneva Varieties of Power-Sharing and the Quality of Public Goods Provision
Aytuğ Şaşmaz, Bryn Mawr College and Melani C. Cammett, Harvard University Microfoundations of Support for Power-Sharing: Who Supports and Protests the Sectarian Power-Sharing Regime in Lebanon?
Bassel Salloukh, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies Does Power Sharing Promote the Rule of Law? Granular Evidence from Lebanon
John Nagle, Queens University, Belfast Protesting Power-Sharing: Citizenship Acts and Eventful Protest in ‘Divided Societies’
Tamirace Fakhoury, Aalborg University The Nexus between Power-Sharing and Time: Politics and Timekeeping in Lebanon
Toby Dodge, London School of Economics and Political Science Examining the Longevity of Informal Consociationalism in Iraq

ROOM 523B
X-20: Palestine and Constellations of Indigeneity
Organized by Omar Alsayyed
Sponsored by the Palestinian American Research Center (PARC)
Chair/Discussant: Nasser Abourahme, Bowdoin College

Omar Alsayyed, New York University Anti/Coloniality and the Metaphors of Capital
Tamar Ghabin, New York University Crises and Counterinsurgency: How the U.S. and Israel Reconstructed the Category of the Terrorist
Wael Omar, SOAS, University of London Beyond the “Tragedy”: Exploring the Politics of Transnational Recognition
Ruba Akkad, Texas Christian University From Homeplace to Community: Reconfiguring Sumud through Residential Graffiti in Palestine

ROOM 524A
X-21: In/Visible Accumulations: Spatial Production and the Erosion of National(ist) Mythologies
Organized by Aida Bardissi and Tess Waggoner
Chair/Discussant: Maysam Taher, New York University

Aida Bardissi, New York University Embodying Antiquity: Unearthing the Politics of Re-enactment at the Pharaonic Village

ROOM 524B
X-22: From Empire to Republic: Open Wounds, Survival, and Revolt
Chair: Yasemin Bavbek, Brown University

Kent F. Schull, Binghamton University, SUNY Providing for the Saints: Mormon Missionary Efforts to Provide for Their Armenian Converts in the Late Ottoman Empire (1898-1928)
Oya Aktas, University of Washington, Seattle Liberal Ottoman Citizenship: Brotherhood, Suffering, and the 1915 Genocide
Evren Altinkas, University of Guelph From Special Organization (Teşkilat-ı Mahsusa) to Karakol: Activities of the Committee of Union and Progress after the Mudros Armistice
Kumru Toktamis, Pratt Institute From Special Organization (Teşkilat-ı Mahsusa) to Karakol: Activities of the Committee of Union and Progress after the Mudros Armistice

ROOM 524C
X-23: Cold War Legacies in the Middle East
Chair: Sertac Sen, Brown University

Joseph Yackley, United States Department of State Condemned to Repeat the Past?: Applied History and America’s Future in the Middle East

Tess Waggoner, New York University Renovated Façades: Layers of Production, Effacement and Branding
Lidia Helou, New York University Transient States: A Sensorial Study of State Failure in Beirut’s Karantina
Brian Plungis, New York University Petro-Museumization: Industrial Heritage and National Memory of the Iranian Oil Industry
Kyle Evered, Michigan State University Narrating the Nation, Panel-by-Panel: A Popular Geopolitics of Identity Construction in Turkey’s Cold War Comic Books

Sami Risk, University of St. Andrews From Corporate Feud to Global Conflict: How an Anglo-American Oil Rivalry Became the Pivot of History in the First Half of the 20th Century

Bilal Kotil, Marmara University “Aided Self-Help”: Administrating Economies and Caring for Populations in Cold War Turkey

Guldeniz Kibris Atabay, Leiden University The Representations of Turkish National Space

ROOM 512A
X-24: Islamic Sciences, Medicine, and Health

Chair: Saleem Abu Jaber, Achva Academic College

Ebru Erginbas, Brown University In between the Old and the New: The Birth of the First Maternity Hospital in the Ottoman Empire

Soraya Saffari, Tehran Art University The Positionality of the Five Traditional Senses in Avicenna’s Book: The Canon of Medicine

Shaikhah Ali Alsahl, University of Pennsylvania Westernization = Modernization? Another Perspective on the Relationship between Architecture and Mathematics in the Arabic Context

ROOM 512B

Chair: Leila Farsakh, University of Massachusetts Boston

Tyler Parker, University of Idaho Securing Status: Why Qatar and the UAE Support U.S. Policies in the Middle East

Pietro Marzo, Teluq University The Impact of Qatar-United Arab Emirates Rivalry on Libyan and Tunisian Politics Since 2011

Yacoub Gnegne, National Defense College of the United Arab Emirates The United Arab Emirates and the Security Crisis in the Sahel

Esra Dilek, Sabanci University Liberal Norm Contestation in the Periphery: Assessing Turkey’s Peacemaking Discourse in the Mediterranean

ROOM 512C
X-26: Palestine and Literature

Chair: Atwa Jaber, Graduate Institute, Geneva

Alexei Perry Cox, Concordia University Solidarity Poetics: “Why This Impulse” to “Familiar the Wind”: Poetry as a Production of Dynamical Attunement in George Abraham’s “Apology[Play]” and Layli Long Soldier’s “Whereas Statements”

Terri Ginsberg, City University of New York How “Palestinian” Is It?: The Precession of Hasbara

Loaay Wattad, Tel Aviv University Colonial Subversive Mimicry: Translating Zionist Children’s Literature into Arabic

Aya Labanieh, Columbia University Treachery and Translation: The Allegiances of Hebrew in Emile Habibi’s Palestine and al-Tahir Wattar’s Algeria

Rania Said, University of Massachusetts Boston Solidarity with Palestine in Post-Revolution Tunisian Literature

ROOM 512D
X-27: Best Practices in Pedagogy

Chair: Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, University of Chicago

Dalal Aboel Seoud, American University in Cairo Enriching Intercultural Communicative Competence through Alternative Assessment Methods

Fatemeh Mirsharifi, University of Wisconsin-Madison Learning a Foreign Language as “Strategy”: Learners’ Motivation and Attitudes toward the “Strategic” Language Persian/Farsi

Azza Hassani, American University in Cairo: How to Conduct a Productive Debate for Teaching Heritage Learners in the Foreign Language Classroom?

Madhusudana Rao, Bridgewater State University Perspectives and Strategies of the Middle East and North Africa Studies Program at Bridgewater State University, MA, USA: A Case Study

ROOM 512E
X-28: Drama and Story

Chair: Amir Moosavi, Rutgers University-Newark

Marwan M. Kraidy, Northwestern University in Qatar Turkish Drama in Latin America: Insights from Fieldwork in Argentina and Mexico

Marie Huber, Stanford University Haunted Cinema: History, Modernity, and the Internal Other in Pre-revolutionary Iran
Maysan Haydar, American Academy of Arts & Sciences
In Words and Deeds: Agatha Christie, Artifacts, and the 20th Century Middle East

Egor Korneev, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Egyptian Religious TV Series: The Historicized Space and Nostalgia

Lubna Safi, University of California, Berkeley
What the Poem Knows: Poetic Knowledge in the Works of Muhammad Bennis, Abdelkabir Khatibi, and Aimé Césaire

Natalie Khazaal, Georgia Institute of Technology
Diversity and Conflict in the Arab Public Sphere: The Case of Atheist Writer Mohamed Choukri

ROOM 512F
X-29: Logic and Literature in Early Times
Chair: Jens Schmitt, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

John Walbridge, Indiana University
Bloomington Ibn Kammuna on Suhrawardi’s Logic

Pei-Chen Tsung, National Chengchi University
Eloquence, Witticisms, and Sexuality in the Ijāzah Poetry between ‘Inān and Abū Nuwās

Roxanne D. Marcotte, University of Quebec at Montreal
Suhrawardi’s Ishraqi Philosophy: What Happened to Noetics?

Cory Jorgensen, George Washington University
Akhbar Writings: Performance? Reperformance?

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XI-1: The Armenian Diaspora and Stateless Power: Collective Identity in the Transnational 20th Century
Organized by Tsolin Nalbantian
Chair: Tsolin Nalbantian, Leiden University
Talar Chahinian, University of California, Irvine
Hrag Papazian, American University of Armenia
Sossie Kasbarian, University of Stirling
Sylvia Alajaji, Franklin & Marshall College
Khachig Tololyan Tololyan, Wesleyan University
Lilit Keshishyan, University of Southern California

XI-2: Reorienting the Middle East: The Gulf as Method between Area and Film/Media Studies
Organized by Dale Hudson
Chair: Dale Hudson, New York University Abu Dhabi
Elizabeth Derderian, College of Wooster
Sean Foley, Middle Tennessee State University
Parisa Vaziri, Cornell University
Bindu Menon, Azim Premji University

XI-3: Memory Studies Beyond Nationalism in the Arab World(s)
Organized by Layla Zbinden
Chair: Sarah Gualtieri, University of Southern California
Layla Zbinden, University of Southern California
Sarah Dweik, Pennsylvania State University
Laura Albast, Institute for Palestine Studies

XI-4: Indigenous Theories and Contemporary SWANA Studies
Organized by Mark LeVine and Lucia Sorbera
Chair: Setrag Manoukian, McGill University
Lucia Sorbera, University of Sydney
Mark LeVine, University of California, Irvine
Sarah Eltantawi, Fordham University
Eray Çaylı, University of Hamburg
Matthieu Rey, French National Center for Scientific Research
Megan Awad, University of Southern California
Hany Rashwan, United Arab Emirates University
Khaoula Bengezi, York University
Laila Mourad, York University

XI-5: Alt-Ac and Graduate School: A Conversation about Bringing Alt-Ac into the Graduate School Experience
Organized by Janina Santer and Kylie Broderick
Mekarem Eljamal, Columbia University
Kylie Broderick, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Janina Santer, Columbia University
John Kallas, New York University

XI-6: Mediated Revolutions: Gender and Protest in Afghanistan, Iran, and Iraq
Organized by Sima Shakhsari
Chair: Minoo Moallem
Sima Shakhsari, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Ruba Ali Al-Hassani, Lancaster University
Tahmina Sobat, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Normalizing Homophobic and Sexist Violence in Jina’s Uprising
Of Tishreen and Its Symbols: Women in Protest
Transnational Feminist Networks in Demilitarization and Peace-Building in Afghanistan
The Revolution is Televised
ROOM 510B

XI-7: Power, Place, and Space: Ethnographies in and of Jordan

Organized by Kyle Craig and Timothy Y. Loh

Discussants: Fida Adely, Georgetown University

Kyle Craig, Northwestern University
Ajānib (Foreigner) Fatigue in Amman’s Institutionalized Graffiti/Street Art Scene

Allison Mickel, Lehigh University
We are the World Heritage: Labor Organization in Jordanian Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

Timothy Y. Loh, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
An Expanded Istifada: Cochlear Implants and the Regulation of Communication for Deaf Jordanians

Kendra Kintzi, Cornell University
Unruly Rooftops: The Urban Political Ecology of Solar Thermal Energy Production in Jordan

Matthew DeMaio, George Washington University
Accumulating Amman: Belongings and Attachments over Iterations of Palestinian Displacement

ROOM 510C

XI-8: How Poetry Revolts: Islamicate Traditions of Poetic Revolution

Organized by Rawad Wehbe

Chair/Discussant: Suzanne Stetkevych, Georgetown University

Rawad Wehbe, University of Pennsylvania
Little Revolutions: Formal Innovation and Anxiety in the Mukhādram Poetry of Ibn Muqbil

Fatemeh Shams, University of Pennsylvania
The Silent Revolution of Capacious Poetic Form: Yahdollah Royai and his Espacementalist Poetry (She’r-e Hijmgerā)

Huda J. Fakhreddine, University of Pennsylvania
Revolutionizing the Tradition: Umm Kulthum curates and performs the Arabic Qasidah

Abdul Manan Bhat, University of Pennsylvania
The Restless Heart: Faiz Ahmed Faiz, Khalilullah Khalili, and Heartistic Revolution

ROOM 510D

XI-9: Past and Present Leaderships in the Arabian Peninsula: Historical and Conceptual Approaches

Organized by Javier Guirado

Chair: Javier Guirado

Discussant: Michael Herb, Georgia State University

Luciano Zaccara, Qatar University
Qatar’s 2021 Shura Council Elections: Implications for Citizen Inclusion and the New Leadership’s Political Agenda

Javier Guirado, Georgia State University
Rulers and Ruled in Qatar. The Role of Society in the 1950s

Courtney Freer, Emory University
Examining the Mobilizational Capacity of Tribes in Kuwait

ROOM 513A

XI-10: The “Crisis of Man” in Modern Arabic Thought

Organized by Simon Conrad

Chair: Olga Verlato, New York University

Discussant: Max Weiss, Princeton University

Simon Conrad, Princeton University
“The Total Man” (al-Insan al-Kamil) in Mid-Century Egyptian Thought

Murad Idris, University of Michigan
Sayyid Qutb, al-Da’wa, and the Crisis of Humanity

Spenser Rapone, University of Texas at Austin
On the New and the Eternal in the Intellectual Tapestry of Michel ‘Aflaq: Religion, the Sacred, and the Secular

Angela Giordani, Smith College
The Postwar Avicenna: Islamic Philosophy Answers the Crisis of Humanism

ROOM 513B

XI-11: Palestinian Revolutionary Becoming: Building Movement, Relations, and Praxis

Organized by Mjriam Abu Samra and Jennifer Mogannam

Chair/Discussant: Jennifer Mogannam, University of California, Santa Cruz

Mjriam Abu Samra, University of California, Davis
Crossing the Bank: How Palestinian and Jordanian Students Waded Together in Times of Political Turmoil

Basem Kharma, University of Milan
Palestinian Action in Italy through the 1970s: Adapting the Palestinian Cause to the Local Political Tradition

Samar Saeed, Georgetown University
From Amman to Washington D.C.: How the Palestinian Revolution Mobilized University Campuses

Abdalla Bayyari, Khaled Shoman Foundation Darat Al Funun Necro
- Sovereignty Politics in Palestinian Archives: A Decolonial Approach
XI-12: Memories and Archives of Revolution: Kurdistan and Palestine
Organized by Chandni Desai

Chandni Desai, University of Toronto
Fugitive Liberation Archives: From Tunis to Gaza, tracing the moves of the PLOs visual archive

Chowra Makarem, French National Center for Scientific Research “Kak Satar”: a militant visual archive of Kurdish resistance

Shahrzad Mojab, University of Toronto
The past and the absences are present in Kurdish women’s memoirs

XI-13: Citizenship and Denizenship in Monarchies and Republics in MENA 2000-2020
Organized by Rania Maktabi

Chair: Monique C. Cardinal, Laval University

Rania Maktabi, Østfold University College Norway
State Formation, Female Citizenship, and the Demos in Morocco and Kuwait 1995 - 2020

Susanne Dahlgren, Finnish Institute in the Middle East
State and Citizenship in Yemen: New Perspectives

Monika Lindbekk, University of Southern Denmark
100 Years of Contestation: Continuity and Change in Egyptian Personal Status Reform

XI-15: The Arab World on Display: The 1930s Arab Exhibitions in Jerusalem and Beyond
Organized by Nadi Abusaada

Chair: Nadi Abusaada

Nadi Abusaada, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich
Self-Portrait of a Nation: The Arab Exhibitions in 1930s Jerusalem

Kirsten Scheid, American University of Beirut
From The Arab Exhibition to National Art Exhibitions

Sary Zananiri, Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens
Exporting the «Holy Land» as Nationalist Legitimation? Yousef Zoughbi and His Diplomatic Commissions

XI-16: Entangled Histories of Family in the Late Ottoman Empire
Organized by Kate Dannies and Umit Kurt

Kate Dannies, Miami University
The History of the Orga Family and Women’s Survival Strategies in World War I

Kristen Alff, North Carolina State University
Global Futures: The Political Economy of Greek Orthodox Business Families

XI-17: In the Name of God: Debating Divine Attributes in the Post-Classical Islamic East
Organized by Zain Alattar

Chair: Zain Alattar, University of California, Berkeley

Evan Grennon, University of California, Berkeley
God as Existence: Jalāl ad-Dīn Dawānī’s (d. 1501/2) Argument for a New Conception of God

Madeline Wyse, University of California, Berkeley
A Causality Crisis at the Boundary of the Eternal and Temporal: An Unsuccessful Solution in the Works of al-Abhari and Ibn Kāmmūnā

S. Shiraz Ali, University of California, Berkeley
God’s Knowledge of Particulars: From Tohtānī (d. 1365) to Siyālktō (d.1650)

Daniyal Channa, University of California, Berkeley
Divine Predilection: Mapping God’s Intention in the Early-Postclassical Muslim Thought

XI-18: Time Frames: Art as an Embodied Practice of Time from an Anthropological Perspective
Organized by Ophélie Mercier and Aymon Kreil

Ophélie Mercier and Aymon Kreil

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023 SESSION XI 8:30 - 10:30 AM
Ophélie Mercier, Ghent University
“Behind Your Eyeballs” - The Body - An Artistic Tool to Process Experiences of Time

Aymon Kreil, Ghent University
The Tongue of the Hand: Aesthetics, Embodied Practices and Transmission Among Egyptian Calligraphers

Farouk El Maarouf, Justus Liebig University Giessen
Al-’Atara as a Marginal Community: Negotiating Art and Its Practices from Below

Andrew Gayed, Ontario College of Art and Design University
Queer Gestures in Arab Visual Art

Victoire Jaquet, Université Paris Nanterre
The Passing of a Dance - Between Transnational Genealogy and Local References, The Values of a Dance Practice in Marrakech

ROOM 523B


Organized by Tarek El-Ariss

Chair: Tarek El-Ariss

Tarek El-Ariss, Dartmouth College
Writing War

Ahmed Naji, Independent Scholar
Rotten Evidence: On Writing a Prison Memoir

Iman Mersal, University of Alberta
Traces of Enayat

ROOM 524A

XI-20: Pathways toward Increased Sociolinguistic Competence in Arabic

Organized by Katrien Vanpee

ROOM 524B

XI-21: Egypt at Turn of the 20th Century: Community and Identity, Subject Formation

Chair: Alexandra Schultz, New York University Abu Dhabi

Erin Kelleher, University of Texas at Austin

Rana Baker, King’s College Toward an Agrarian Theory of Money: Rethinking Money, Markets and Commodities in Egypt

Johannes Makar, Harvard University
History as a Preface: Coptic Reformers and the Quest for Nationhood in late Ottoman Egypt (1856-1910)

Mourad Takawi, University of the Incarnate Word
“The Mother of All Communal Issues”: Overseeing the Coptic Waqfs and the Laity-Clergy Standoff at the Turn of the Twentieth Century

Salma Shash, University of California, Santa Barbara
Umdas, Villagers, and Criminals: Law and Justice in Rural Egypt

ROOM 524C

XI-22: Racial Exclusion and Assimilation Across Boundaries

Chair: Meriam Belli, University of Iowa

Shyla Gonzalez-Dogan, Arizona State University
When Nowhere Is Safe: Experiences of Anti-blackness in Islamic Institutions

Yiorgo Topalidis, University of Florida
A Different Kind of Whiteness: Lessons Learned from the Whitening Process of Ottoman Greek Immigrants

Oula Hajjar, McGill University
Exploring the Pre-migratory Socio-economic Determinants of the Integration of Syrian Refugees in Canada in the Labor Market

Mojtaba Ebrahimian, Harvard University
Progress as a Historical Phenomenon: What Has Happened in Europe over the Last Centuries according to the Early 19th Century Iranian Travelers to Europe

Gregory Aftandilian, American University
Recreating Kharpert in Massachusetts

ROOM 525A

XI-23: Spatiality and Urban Development

Chair: Michael A. Toler, MIT

Reza Asadian, Keio University
Iranian Nationalism and Invented Traditions: A Comparative Study of Pahlavi’s Shiraz and Islamic Republic’s Karbala

Tina Guirguis, University of California, Santa Barbara
Potty Politics: Toilets for the People?

Chantal El Hayek, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
French Colonial Planning and the Ville Nouvelle
Faïq Mari, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich Alternative Spaces of Revolt: The Commons of Palestinian Liberation Struggle

ROOM 525B

XI-24: Specters of Economic Growth: Trade, Banking, and National Development

Chair: Bashar Malkawi

Bashar Malkawi, University of Arizona The Evolution of Free Trade in the Ottoman Empire and Egypt Dimitrios Stergiopoulos, University of California, San Diego Moneylending and Banking between Athens and Istanbul; The Cases of Konstantinos Vouros and Andreas Syngros Sertac Sen, Brown University Marshaling Development: Turkish Thrace in the Interwar Years Cihan Teyak Liu, The Graduate Center, CUNY The Nationality of the Company: Sequestration and Economic Nationalism between Europe and the Ottoman Empire Post-World War I

ROOM 512B

XI-26: Neoliberalism and the Dynamics of Resistance in Post-Welfare Autocracies

Chair: Maral Sahebjame, Princeton University


ROOM 512C

XI-27: Precarity and Mutual Aid in Lebanon and Iraq

Chair: Zeead Yaghi, University of California, San Diego


ROOM 511D

XI-28: Disappearances and Visual Politics

Chair: Helen Makhdoumian, University of California, Los Angeles


Asli Peker Dogra, New York University State at the Epicenter: A Comparative Analysis of 1999 and 2023 Earthquakes in Turkey Gizem Zencirci, Providence College The Muslim Social: Islamic Neoliberalism and Governing Poverty in Turkey Sevgi Adak, Aga Khan University NGO Mobilization, Familialist Networks and Neoconservatism in Contemporary Turkey
Lila Sharif, Arizona State University and Nova Robinson, Seattle University
How We Talk about Absences: Reflections on Feminist Writing for Palestine

Farah Atoui, Concordia University
“Chaos”: Making Visible Syrian Women’s Experiences of War

Amir Moosavi, Rutgers University-Newark
Mourning in the Marshes: Humans, Animals, and Environment in Contemporary Arabic and Persian War Fiction

Clarissa C. Burt, United States Naval Academy
The Transformation of Zarqā’ al-Yamāmah in the Poetry of Muḥammad ‘Abd al-Bārī

Lara Fresko Madra, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College
Confluence of Levantine Antiquity, Modernity, and Contemporary West Asia in the Metropolitan Museum

Shiro Burnette, New York University
Divine Containers: Reorienting Discussion of an 8th c. CE Inlaid Panel

Pansee Abou ElAtta, Carleton University
The Role of Anti-imperial Organizing in Popular Conceptualizations of Tutankhamun’s Tomb

Lyla Halsted, Davidson College
Li’il-‘Ayn wa-l-Naẓar: Diagnosis and Treatment of the Evil Eye in Medieval Islamic Material Culture

ROOM 512E
XI-29: Visions from Archaeology and Antiquity

Chair: Rachel T. Howes, California State University, Northridge

Sean Silvia, Princeton University
Excavating the Excavation Reports from Halicarnassus: The Dislocation, Rupture and Resistance Against Artifact Extraction of the Ottoman Community in Bodrum

ROOM 512F
XI-30: Faith and Fine Art in Early Periods

Ali Rida Rizek, University of Göttingen
Dialogues of the Hereafter in the Quran: Insights on the Social Dynamics of a Meccan Discourse

Irene Kirchner, Georgetown University
What is a Forgery? Ibn al-Jawzī’s Kitab al-Mawḍūʿāt and the Evolution of a Genre

Syeda Beena Butool, Florida State University
Transmitters as Storytellers: Authorship in an Eighth Century Hadīth Collection

Aysenur Cam, Princeton University
Waste and Sustenance in Islamic Eco-Ethics

Doha Tazi Hemida, Columbia University
An Ashʿarī Theology of Property

Murtaza Shakir, Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah, Mumbai
Conversing with the Inverse: Contextualizing the Inverse Calligraphy on the Ṭirāz of the Fatimid Era

ROOM 512DH
XI-31: Human Rights, Gender, & Citizenship in the Middle East

Organized by Mimi Kirk, MESA Global Academy

Chair/Discussant: Laurie Brand, University of Southern California

Mohammed Almahfali, Malmö University
The Map of Arabic Human Rights Discourse

Mansour Almaswari, Columbia Global Centers, Amman
Beyond the Margins: Rethinking the Temporality of Kuwait’s Stateless Bedoon Community

Naima Mohammadi, University of Pittsburgh
The Iranian Female Student Diaspora in European Academia

Semiha Topal, John Carroll University
You Will Not Walk Alone: The AKP Generation’s Breaking Away from (Conservative) Islam
**ROOM 511A**

ROUNDTABLE

XII-1: Recovering the Politics of Kuwait: From Regional Margins to the Theoretical Mainstream

Organized by **Sean Yom**

Chair: **Sean Yom**

**Sean Yom**, Temple University  
**Yuree Noh**, Rhode Island College  
**Michael Herb**, Georgia State University  
**Farah Al-Nakib**, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

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**Elizabeth Williams**, University of Massachusetts Lowell  
**Resat Kasaba**, University of Washington, Seattle  
**Nora Barakat**, Stanford University  
**Mbarek Sryfi**, Al Akhawayn University

*The City as Memory: Migration, Space, and the Changing Perceptions in Muhammad Zafzaf’s Novel Al-Mar’ah wa Al-Wardah (The Woman and The Rose)*

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**ROOM 511B**

ROUNDTABLE

XII-2: Russian-Arab Worlds: New Sources and Angles

Organized by **Margaret Litvin**

**Margaret Litvin**, Boston University  
**Masha Kirasirova**, New York University Abu Dhabi  
**Eileen Kane**, Connecticut College

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*Camila Pastor De Maria Y Campos*, Center for Research and Teaching in Economics

*Hye mish Mabsuta: Diagnosing Affect in a Vulva, Resolving Birth and Postpartum Afflictions through New Theologies of Birthing*

*Frances S. Hasso*, Duke University

*The Politics of Contemporary Maternity and Childbirth: Lines of Conflict among Palestinian Healthcare Professionals*

*Livia Wick*, American University of Beirut Narrating Oral Histories of Struggle: Ascension through Class, Oral Histories, and Disjunctive Stories

*Angel M. Foster*, University of Ottawa

*Exploring the Role of Midwives in Contraception and Abortion Care in the Middle East and North Africa: Lessons Learned from Tunisia*

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**ROOM 511C**

ROUNDTABLE

XII-3: New Approaches to the Political Economy and Environmental History of Ottoman Greater Syria

Organized by **Samuel Dolbee**

**Samuel Dolbee**, Vanderbilt University  
**Hürichan İslamogлу**, Bogazici University  
**Sherene Seikaly**, University of California, Santa Barbara

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**Nisrine Slitone El Mghari**, University of Kentucky  
**Mohammed Hirchi**, Colorado State University  
**Hanan Elsayed**, Occidental College

*The Maghrebi Flâneur, or The Wanderer of The Medina, in Ahmed al-Madini’s Fās . . . Law ‘Ādat Ilayh*  
*Representation of Tangiers in Literature and Film*  
*Cairo Then and Now in Alifa Rifaat’s Short Stories*
XII-7: Subcultures and Underworlds of the Early 20th Century
Organized by Alaa El-Shafei
Chair: Golnar Nikpour, Dartmouth College

Alaa El-Shafei, Columbia University
A Captive Underworld: Inmate Subculture and Resistance in the Anglo-Egyptian Prison, 1890-1930
Mitchell Bacci, Harvard University
Pernicious Protégés and Foreign Foils: Subalterns Foreigners and the Informal Economy in Egypt, 1922-1937
Jamil Sbitan, Columbia University
Intimate Crises: Sex Panics, Anti-Colonialism, and Queer History in Interwar Egypt

XII-8: Writing Medieval Middle Eastern History through Geniza Documents I: Islamic Legal Institutions and Arabic Material Instruments
Organized by Yusuf Umrethwala, Columbia University
Chair/Discussant: Marina Rustow, Princeton University

Athina Pfeiffer, Princeton University
Holes and Threads: Sewing Legal Documents in Medieval Egypt
Amel Bensalim, Princeton University
A Notaries’ Notebook?: Assessing the Legal, Notarial, and Archival Practices of Medieval Egyptian Notaries
Matthew Dudley, Yale University
Legal History from the Ground Up: A Survey of Islamicate Paper Instruments in the Ottoman-Era Cairo Geniza

XII-9: Ethics from the Margins: Ethical Decision-Making, Performance, and Identity Practices Amongst Marginalized Groups in the Middle East
Organized by Johnathan Norris
Chair/Discussant: Noa Shaindlinger, Worcester State University

Johnathan Norris, Boston University
Doing Safety/Feeling Safe in Jordan: Theorizing the Connection between Ethics and Emotion Using Discourses on Āmān amongst Gay Jordanians
Alyssa Paylor, University of Notre Dame “Ānā Mawḡūd!” Presence, Performance, and Ethical Subjectivity in Palestinian Cross-Border Anti-Occupation Activism
Karol Kaczorowski, Cracow University of Economics and Kaziwa Dylan, Jagiellonian University Iraq’s Immobilization of Kurdish Families from Iran - Ethical, Legal, and Multi-Layered Identity Questions
Samee Sulaiman, Brown University Disability, Doubt, and Crisis in Lebanon

XII-10: Finding Child and Youth Migrants in Ottoman and Egyptian History
Organized by Lucia Carminati and Ella Fratantuono
Discussant: Lucia Carminati, University of Oslo

Mario M. Ruiz, Hofstra University
Fleeing from the Pasha’s Household: Mobility and Domestic Servitude in 1864 Cairo
Ella Fratantuono, University of North Carolina at Charlotte Invoking the Immigrant Child: Displacement and Belonging in the Hamidian and Young Turk Eras
Zeynep Gursel, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey Caring States, Migration and the Question of Minor Children

XII-11: Iran in the Middle East - “An Accident of Geography”? Iranian Interactions with a Contested Term of Regional Ascription during the 20th Century
Organized by Oliver Bast
Chair: Oliver Bast
Discussant: Robert Steele, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Oliver Bast, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Competing Visions for Iran’s Regional Affiliation in the Context of the Cold War: The Debate about the Iranian Government’s Decision to Join the Middle East Treaty Organization in 1955
Salomé Michel, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Neither Westerners nor Middle Easterners: The Question of Iran’s Regional Integration as a Cornerstone of the Ideologization of the Pahlavi Monarchy during the “Long 1970s”
Roxane Bertran De Balanda, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle The Question of Iran’s Regional Integration into the Middle East in the Early 1960s: A Point of Contention between Prime Minister Ali Amini and Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi
Thomas Bédrède, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Which “East” for Iran? The 1937 Sa’dábād Pact and the Question of Iran’s Regional (Self-) Positioning

Berin Golonu, University at Buffalo Spaces of Moral Instruction or Vice? Debates surrounding Late Ottoman Public Gardens as Sites of Recreation and Entertainment

Ici Vanwesenbeek, SUNY Fredonia Opera and Libretto Writing in Abdülmecit I’s Istanbul: Pacini’s Saffo

Burcu Karahan, Stanford University Politicizing Waltz: Dancing and National Identity in Safveti Ziya’s in the Corners of Salons

Seda Kula, Gebze Technical University Gediḳpaşa Theatre: A Modern Entertainment Venue of Late Tanzimat Era

Rachel Green, University of Massachusetts Amherst Petrohistories and Lostlands in Contemporary Kuwaiti Literature

Shir Alon, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Contemporary Gulf Art as Archive of the Petroeconomy

Nour Eldin Hussein, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Rusty Parts: Gender Politics of the Upgrade in Deepak Unnikrishnan’s “In Mussafah Grew People”

Yasmine Khayyat, Rutgers University-New Brunswick Sticky Storytelling: Petrofiction and the Ecological Nomad

ROOM 513D
XII-12: Arabic Petrofictions
Organized by Rachel Green
Sponsored by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Rachel Green, University of Massachusetts Amherst Petrofictions and Lostlands in Contemporary Kuwaiti Literature

Shir Alon, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Contemporary Gulf Art as Archive of the Petroeconomy

Nour Eldin Hussein, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Rusty Parts: Gender Politics of the Upgrade in Deepak Unnikrishnan’s “In Mussafah Grew People”

Yasmine Khayyat, Rutgers University-New Brunswick Sticky Storytelling: Petrofiction and the Ecological Nomad

ROOM 513E
XII-13: Exhibiting Ottoman Modernities on Stage (1839-1922)
Organized by Berin Golonu and Ici Vanwesenbeek

Chairs: Berin Golonu and Ici Vanwesenbeek

Discussant: Carmen M.K. Gitre, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

James H. Meyer, Montana State University Red Star over the Black Sea: Nâzım Hikmet and His Border-Crossing Generation

Nilüfer Hatemi, Princeton University Georges Gaulis

Nora Lessersohn, Harvard University The Sultan of New York: Entertainment, Politics, and U.S.-Ottoman Relations (1818-1895)

ROOM 523A
XII-15: Exploring Inclusive Teaching Methodologies in S.W.A.N.A. Studies
Organized by Elizabeth Saylor

Chair: Elizabeth Saylor, North Carolina State University

Rachel Colwell, West Chester University Disability Justice and Techniques of Inclusion in the Ethnomusicology Classroom

Anna Tyskhow, Columbia University Palestinian Oral History as Pedagogy: A Reciprocal Approach to Teaching and Learning

Alexander Marcus, Western Kentucky University Jewish Studies within SWANA Studies, SWANA Studies within Jewish Studies: Pedagogical Challenges & Opportunities

Joy Al-Nemri, Columbia University Instructors and Students Decolonizing South Asia, West Asia, and Africa (SAWAA) Together

ROOM 523B
XII-16: Egyptian Stagecraft – Rule by Appearance, Spectacles and Image Projection
Organized by Karin Ahlberg and Carl Rommel

Chair: Nefissa Naguib, University of Oslo

Karin Ahlberg, Stockholm University Introducing Stagecraft: The Case of Tourism Capitalism, Image Politics and Rule by Appearances in the Late Mubarak Era

Manon Laroche, Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas In the Words of Foreign Policy: Staging an Egyptian National Identity

Sixtine Deroure, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University Staging Deaths: The Martyrs of Duty and the Future of the Egyptian Nation

Jessica Winegar, Northwestern University Parading Power: Pharaoh-Washing History to Govern the Present and Future
Carl Rommel, Uppsala University
Stagecraft through Projects: Between Megalomaniac Ambitions and Individualized Dreams

ROOM 524A
XII-17: The Crises of Nation-State System in the Middle East: Imaginaries, Practices, Structures
Organized by Behnam Amini
Chair: Behnam Amini

Behnam Amini, York University
Decolonization and the Nation-State: The Anti-Colonial Character of Abdullah Ocalan’s Idea of Democratic Nation
Aidin Torkameh, York University, Canada Persian Veils, Non-Persian Bodies: Multiscalar Spaces of Farsi as a Colonial Language and the Class Production of Iran as a National Territory
Morad Roohi, Queen’s University at Kingston Colonial, National and Democratic Spacing: Power and Resistance in 20th Century Iran and Kurdistan
Sara Kermanian, University of Sussex Inter-Subaltern Turn: A Methodological Proposal for Exploring International Imaginaries beyond the West-Rest Binary

ROOM 524B
XII-18: Mamluk Studies: Language, Poetics, Politics
Chair: Mohamud Mohamed, University of Pennsylvania

Koby Yosef, Bar-Ilan University Language in Mamluk Historiography
Saad Shaukat, University of California, Los Angeles Defining Kalām in the Mamluk Era

Büşra Sidika Kaya, Independent Scholar
The Problem of the Cradle Ulama between Knowledge and Authority in the Mamluk Period

ROOM 524C
XII-19: Travelogues and Intellectual Networks across the Modern Middle East and Its Diasporas
Chair: Lacy Feigh, Princeton University

Matthew Sharp, Independent Scholar
Who Are These Muslims?: Late 19th-Century Travelogues That Assessed Converts in Liverpool and New York
Dahlia El Zein, University of Pennsylvania Racial Identity, French Colonialism, and Lebanese Syrian Migrants in Kamel Mroueh’s Nahnu fi Ifriqiya (We Are in Africa)
Evan Alterman, Stanford University
The Image and Fixity of Empire: The Case of Late Ottoman-Russian and Early Turkish-Soviet Travelogues
Israa Alhassani, James Madison University Being Modern: A Case Study of Muhammad Abd-al-Ḥusayn’s Writings between 1917-1947

ROOM 525A
XII-20: Transnational Approaches to Islam

Kerem H L Oktem, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice and Isabel David, Universidade de Lisboa The Space of Religion in Turkey’s ‘Domestic Abroad’: Mosque Projects in Lisbon and Tirana

Abdoul Aziz Ahmadou, Sakarya University/Université du Québec à Montréal Turkey and the Defence of Islam on the International Scene: State and Private Actors at the Service of Religious Diplomacy in Africa and Beyond
Ahmet Koroglu, Istanbul University Hajj and the Transnational Experience from the Turkish Perspective
Laila Makboul, University of Oslo The Emergence of a Transnational Islamic Women’s Movement: Contesting the Secular, the Feminist, and the Eurocentric in International Relations

ROOM 525B
XII-21: Revisiting Middle Eastern Political Thought
Chair: Seyed Hassan Akhlaq, Coppin State University

Abed Kanaaneh, Tel Aviv University Between Islam and Socialism: The Intellectual Journey of Hussein Muruwwa
Arwa Awan, University of Chicago Colonialism and the Consumer Society: Marxist Humanism in Ali Shariati’s Political Thought
Michaelle L. Browers, Wake Forest University The Political Thought of a Nablusi “Notable” before the Nakba: Muhammad ‘Izzat Darwaza

ROOM 512A
XII-22: Displacement, Ethnicity and the Politics of Exclusion in Turkey
Chair: Sossie Kasbarian, University of Sterling

Amal Cavender, George Washington University Blood Borders: Expanding the Empire
Aslam Kakar, Rutgers, State University of New Jersey What Do the Kurds in Turkey Want Now? Public and Private Perceptions on Assimilation and Secession

Idil Ozkan, Northwestern University “How I Met My Jewish Heritage”: Reparations, Ethnoreligious Ancestry, and Citizenship among Young Sabbatean Jews in Turkey

Yesim Bayar, St. Lawrence University Everyday Life, Armenian Experiences, and Navigating Nationalism

Hrag Papazian, American University of Armenia From “Crypto” to “Islamized” to “Muslim” Armenians of Turkey: Analytical Shortcomings and Ethico-political Pitfalls of Classificatory Labels

Nese Kaya Ozkan, University of Arizona “This Is Not a Rebellion but Survival”: Invisibilization and Reemergence in Hemshin Highlands, Turkey

Musaab Alkhatib, University of Western Sydney Permeant Residency Law in Qatar Case Study: Second-Generation Arab Migrant Communities in Qatar (SGAM)

Zahra Babar, Georgetown University Qatar Narratives of Migrants’ Exclusion and Inclusion in Qatar

ROOM 512C

XII-24: The Making and Unmaking of Sovereignty/ies: Past and Present

Chair: Omar Cheta, Syracuse University

Ibrahim Elhoudaiby, Bard College Sovereign(ty through) Debt: Universal Capital and Local Subjects in the Suez Canal

Michael Samuel, Emory University and Ian Lustick, University of Pennsylvania Israel, Annexation, and Sovereignty: Within the Green Line and Across It

Yasemin Bavbek, Brown University A Tale of Two Ships: Naval Accidents and Contested Sovereignty in the Early 20th Century

ROOM 512D

XII-25: Contesting Boundaries of “Citizenship”: Diasporas, Migrant Workers and Human Rights

Chair: Ahmed Khattab

Maleeha Iqbal, University of Toronto The Deserving Diaspora: Citizenship and Voting Rights in the Homeland

Ahmed Khattab, Georgetown University Migration and Citizenship Laws - The Arab Uprisings in Comparative Perspective

Joshua Snider, UAE National Defense College Demographic Imbalance and the National Identity in the UAE: Balancing Globalism, Tribalism and Nationalism

ROOM 512F

XII-27: Traversing the World

Nima Naghibi, Toronto Metropolitan University and Amin Moghadam, Toronto Metropolitan University Mapping Tehranto: Emotional Geography of Activism and Conceptions of Home

Claire Jacobson, Indiana University Bloomington Every Day is ‘Ashura: Iranian Political Religion At Home and Abroad

Mazyar Mahan, University of Texas at Dallas Repression or Empowerment? Unpacking the Symbolism of the Chador in “A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night”
Zeina Tarraf, American University of Beirut
Public Feeling and Perpetual Crisis in Lebanon
Salma Amer, Simon Fraser University
Transnational Subscription Platforms: Representation & Shifting Industry Models in Egypt
Zohreh Soltani, Ithaca College
Contestation and Reinvention: Spatial Imaginaries and Protest in Contemporary Iran

Farshad Sonboldel, University of California, Santa Barbara
The Good Taste: Exclusion of Modern and Contemporary Materials from the Persian Literature Curricula (the 1920s-1960s)

Christian Pye, University of Texas at Austin
How to Be a “Realizer”: Mahmud Shabistari’s “Garden of Mystery” (c. 1311) and Tahqiq in Post-Mongol Islam
Behzad Borhan, McGill University
Making Sense of Kimiyā-yi Sa‘ādat through al-Ghazzālī’s Sufi Sources

Erik Blackthorne-O’Barr, Columbia University
Genealogies of the “Çar-ebru”: Tracing the Queer Persianate in Late Ottoman Literature

ROOM 512DH
XII-28: Writings in Afghanistan and Persia

Chair: Sooyong Kim, Koc University

Farshad Sonboldel, University of California, Santa Barbara
The Good Taste: Exclusion of Modern and Contemporary Materials from the Persian Literature Curricula (the 1920s-1960s)

Christian Pye, University of Texas at Austin
How to Be a “Realizer”: Mahmud Shabistari’s “Garden of Mystery” (c. 1311) and Tahqiq in Post-Mongol Islam
Behzad Borhan, McGill University
Making Sense of Kimiyā-yi Sa‘ādat through al-Ghazzālī’s Sufi Sources

ROOM 516A
XII-29: Carceral Geographies and Histories: Detention, Displacement, Deportation

Organized by Amy Kallander

Chair: Elif Sari
Discussant: Nasser Abourahme, Bowdoin College

Amy Kallander, Syracuse University
Race, Empire, and French Carceral Practices in Tunisia
Sarah Ghabrial, Concordia University
Border Criminality in Algeria since 1848
Helena Zeweri, University of British Columbia
The Political Afterlife of Offshore Detention in the Afghan Diaspora in Australia
Douaa Sheet, American University
Carceral Temporalities: “Administrative Control” and the Afterlives of Former Tunisian Political Prisoners
Elif Sari, University of British Columbia
Carceral Politics of LGBTQ Asylum

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Stop by Booth #31-32 on Sunday, November 5, 2023, to visit our Middle East Studies and Conference Hubs to read free articles from a collection of journals, and to see a selection of discounted new and recently published books at cambridge.org/MiddleEastStudies and cambridge.org/MESA2023.
**Room 511A**

**Roundtable XIII-1:** Arabic Choral Music: Navigating the Challenges and Questions Encountered while Learning and Teaching the Repertoire

Organized by Angelina Lynne

Chair: Shireen Abu-Khader

**Moderators:**
- Angelina Lynne, Université Laval
- Shireen Abu-Khader, Dozan World Inc.
- Jennifer YM Lee, Université du Québec à Montréal

**Speakers:**
- Aline Schlaepfer, University of Basel: The Historian’s Craft in Iraq: Memory and History-Writing about the Ottomans after the Ottomans
- Barbara Henning, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz: Legible Pasts: Genealogical Records and Genealogical Capital in Post-Ottoman Contexts
- Philippe Bourmaud, Institut Français d’Études Anatoliennes: Weaving Ottoman History and Giving It a Missionary Spin: Historical Narratives of Istanbul’s Protestant Colleges in Republican Turkey (1923-1960s)
- Ellinor Morack, Otto-Friedrich University Bamberg: The Last Ottoman Guerrillas: Veterans of the Kuvayi Milliyi and their Struggle for Remembrance and Recognition in Modern Turkey, 1950s–60s
- Falestín Nailí, University of Basel: The Ottoman Period as a Part of Local History: Jordanian Historiographic and Oral Narratives beyond the Arab Revolt Trape
- Cicel Ilen giz, Forum Transregionale Studien: Making the Immovable Movable: The Pergamon Altar’s Journey to Berlin

**Room 511B**

**Roundtable XIII-2:** The Religion of the Old Women of Nishapur

Organized by Setrag Manoukian

Chair: Katherine Lemons

**Moderators:**
- Setrag Manoukian, McGill University
- Aziza Shanazarova, Columbia University
- Katherine Lemons, McGill University
- Rula Jurdi Abisaab, McGill University

**Speakers:**
- Barbara Henning, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz: Legible Pasts: Genealogical Records and Genealogical Capital in Post-Ottoman Contexts
- Philippe Bourmaud, Institut Français d’Études Anatoliennes: Weaving Ottoman History and Giving It a Missionary Spin: Historical Narratives of Istanbul’s Protestant Colleges in Republican Turkey (1923-1960s)
- Ellinor Morack, Otto-Friedrich University Bamberg: The Last Ottoman Guerrillas: Veterans of the Kuvayi Milliyi and their Struggle for Remembrance and Recognition in Modern Turkey, 1950s–60s
- Falestín Nailí, University of Basel: The Ottoman Period as a Part of Local History: Jordanian Historiographic and Oral Narratives beyond the Arab Revolt Trape
- Cicel Ilen giz, Forum Transregionale Studien: Making the Immovable Movable: The Pergamon Altar’s Journey to Berlin

**Room 510A**

**Roundtable XIII-3:** A Moveable Past? Social Uses of the Ottoman Past in the Post-Ottoman World

Organized by Aline Schlaepfer and Philippe Bourmaud

Chair/Discussant: M’Hamed Oualdi, Sciences Po (Paris Institute of Political Studies)

**Speakers:**
- Aline Schlaepfer, University of Basel: The Historian’s Craft in Iraq: Memory and History-Writing about the Ottomans after the Ottomans
- Barbara Henning, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz: Legible Pasts: Genealogical Records and Genealogical Capital in Post-Ottoman Contexts
- Philippe Bourmaud, Institut Français d’Études Anatoliennes: Weaving Ottoman History and Giving It a Missionary Spin: Historical Narratives of Istanbul’s Protestant Colleges in Republican Turkey (1923-1960s)
- Ellinor Morack, Otto-Friedrich University Bamberg: The Last Ottoman Guerrillas: Veterans of the Kuvayi Milliyi and their Struggle for Remembrance and Recognition in Modern Turkey, 1950s–60s
- Falestín Nailí, University of Basel: The Ottoman Period as a Part of Local History: Jordanian Historiographic and Oral Narratives beyond the Arab Revolt Trape
- Cicel Ilen giz, Forum Transregionale Studien: Making the Immovable Movable: The Pergamon Altar’s Journey to Berlin

**Room 510B**

**Roundtable XIII-4:** Writing Medieval Middle Eastern History through Geniza Documents II: Trade, Commodities and Unfree Labor

Organized by Yusuf UmRETHWA

Sponsored by Middle East Medievalists (MEM)

Chair/Discussant: Lorenzo Bondioli, University of Cambridge

**Speakers:**
- Barbara Henning, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz: Legible Pasts: Genealogical Records and Genealogical Capital in Post-Ottoman Contexts
- Philippe Bourmaud, Institut Français d’Études Anatoliennes: Weaving Ottoman History and Giving It a Missionary Spin: Historical Narratives of Istanbul’s Protestant Colleges in Republican Turkey (1923-1960s)
- Ellinor Morack, Otto-Friedrich University Bamberg: The Last Ottoman Guerrillas: Veterans of the Kuvayi Milliyi and their Struggle for Remembrance and Recognition in Modern Turkey, 1950s–60s
- Falestín Nailí, University of Basel: The Ottoman Period as a Part of Local History: Jordanian Historiographic and Oral Narratives beyond the Arab Revolt Trape
- Cicel Ilen giz, Forum Transregionale Studien: Making the Immovable Movable: The Pergamon Altar’s Journey to Berlin

**Room 516A**

**Roundtable XIII-5:** Labor and Racialization in the Contemporary Middle East

Organized by Matan Kaminer and Kerem Ussakli

Chair: Zachary Lockman, New York University

**Discussant:** Natasha Iskander, New York University

**Speakers:**
- Kerem Ussakli, Stanford University: Nihilism, Racialization, and the Hard Work of Bothering to Labour in Kurdistan
- Matan Kaminer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Liron Mor, University of California, Irvine: “Ideological” or “Natural” Workers? Racializing Discourses of Proletarianization in Zionism
- Hebatalla Taha, Binghamton University, SUNY: Atoms for Peace in the Middle East: Technology, Race, and Labor in US Policy
- Zachary Sheldon, University of Pittsburgh: The Labor of Loveliness: Racializing Christian Workers at an Iraqi Restaurant in Amman, Jordan

**Room 510C**

**Roundtable XIII-6:** The Return of the State: Revisiting State Formation in the 20th Century Gulf

Organized by Gabriel Young
ROOM 510D

XIII-7: The SWANA Region through the Lens of History and Photography: Possibilities, Uses and Issues of Visual Archive

Organized by Hend Ben Salah and Claudia Polledri

Discussant: Hend Ben Salah, Université du Québec à Montréal

Stephen Sheehi, College of William & Mary The Orientalist Archive is a Stolen Archive
Claudia Polledri, Université de Montréal Iranian Photography through “The Eye of History”: From Photjournalism to Contemporary Practices

ROOM 511A

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The center provides small Arabic-only classes, a dedicated staff with certified OPI testers, integrated classes, well-equipped classrooms, orientation sessions, and assistance with accommodation and visas. The experience includes cultural excursions, a dynamic Egyptian language partner team, extracurricular activities like field trips and language clubs, and a prime location opposite Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

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Explore further: https://taflcenter.alexu.edu.eg/

Come visit us at booth #63 or attend our session with the Fulbright to explore study-abroad options on November 2nd at 1:00 p.m. in 512F.
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The Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center (SQCC) announces its Summer Arabic language and Media (SALAM) Program, a fully-funded intensive Arabic language scholarship program in the Sultanate of Oman. This program will allow students to gain a deeper knowledge of the Arabic language while becoming familiar with Arab history and culture.

Eligibility: All applicants must be U.S. citizens, enrolled in a degree-seeking program (B.A., M.A. or Ph.D), and have completed four semesters (or the equivalent) of university-level Arabic coursework.
The Humanities Research Fellowship for the Study of the Arab World is a program designed to create an energetic, multi-faceted research environment for the Humanities and the study of the Arab world at New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD).

To this end, both distinguished scholars and promising scholars are invited to apply for multi-year residential fellowships. Fellows contribute to NYUAD’s intellectual community through research and research-related activities, including sharing their work in progress with NYUAD faculty and students and participating in scholarly networks engaged in ongoing research centered at the Institute.

The program aims to build a center of outstanding research capacity for the study of the Arabic-speaking world, its rich intellectual, religious, and scientific history, its cultural and artistic heritage as expressed in traditional and new media, and its interaction with other cultures in the past and present.

Scholars of Arabic culture and history will find it enriching to work alongside fellows who conduct research in related and adjacent fields. Scholarship furthered by this program is closely connected to the research profile of NYUAD’s faculty in the Arts and Humanities; its Global Liberal Arts curriculum, with concentrations in Anthropology, Arab Crossroads Studies, History, Literature & Creative Writing, Museum Studies, and Philosophy; related departments and research centers at NYU New York; and NYUAD’s outreach program in the UAE.

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The Humanities Research Fellowship for the Study of the Arab World program is delighted to invite fellow alumni and interested scholars to join us for a coffee break, on November 3, at 3:30 in the book exhibit.
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Knowledge Production Project

The Knowledge Production Project is a dynamic, open-access archive, search tool, and data visualization platform. This project, almost a decade in the making, endeavors to collect, catalogue, and make available for analysis knowledge produced on the Middle East since 1979 in the English language, in eight databases. KPP includes five interactive search and data visualization tools that give users unprecedented access to our vast databases and generate insight into the ways in which information about the Middle East is created and disseminated. The Knowledge Production Project is an invaluable resource to scholars, journalists, teachers, students, and the engaged public. The platform can be used to:

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Booths 49-50
The MESA FilmFest is a valued part of the MESA Annual Meeting, and the change to a virtual FilmFest allows registered attendees to view films the week before through the week after the conference. Only MESA 2023 registrants have access to view films by streaming from the FilmFest site: https://mesa2023.secure-platform.com

A proposal. (Qatar) 2023, 13 minutes 28 seconds. In Arabic & English. Director: Nadia Al-Khater. Producer: Justin Kramer. Ben Vandendaele. A Qatari man dreams of marrying his American fiancé, but he must first face a panel who hold his fate in their hands. Sparked by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

A Week with Azar. (Iran, Slovenia, USA) 2018, 11 minutes. In Farsi & English. Director: Tara Najd Ahmadi. Producer: Jurij Meden & Tara Najd Ahmadi. Third World Newsreel. A Week with Azar is a short experimental documentary film, based on a true story of Azar, an Iranian computer engineer living in the United States, who in the winter of 2017 failed to see her ill sister in Isfahan (Iran) for the last time because of the Executive Order 13769, commonly known as the travel ban. According to this ban, the nationals of seven countries, including Iran, could not enter the USA. The film’s fragmented narrative structure and aesthetic (juxtaposing 16mm film, digital video and still photo frames) is a reflection of the fragmented life of an immigrant.


Border. (Qatar) 2022, 12 minutes 30 seconds. In English. Director: Khalifa Al Thani. Producer: Basel Owens. Lemonade Films. In an abstrusely dystopian future, a man wants to go back to his family. But bypassing the latest system becomes a near impossible journey. Sparked by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Brandung the Global Image: Filmmaking and Complicating National Identity in the UAE. (United Arab Emirates) 2020, 63 minutes. In English. Director: Mohammed Alobthani. Producer: Mohammed Alobthani. University of Birmingham. The documentary film is part of Ph.D project about Branding Global Image: Filmmaking and Complicating National Identity in the UAE, investigate how UAE citizens and residents understand cultural space in the cities of Abu Dhabi and Dubai, which differs from how state agencies construct such spaces for foreign investment and tourism, particularly through institutions designed to support filmmaking. He contrasts these two UAE cities are constructed in top-down branding initiatives that “plug” into neoliberal capitalism with how the cities are experienced in the daily lives of Emirati and expatriate filmmakers. Sparked by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Bundle of Joy. (United Arab Emirates) 2023, 7 minutes 41 seconds. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: Majed Alzubaidi. Producer: Majed Alzubaidi. Image Nation Abu Dhabi. On the eve of his first childbirth, Hamad, a father-to-be, struggles to escape a psychological trip that grows from the idea that his life will go on a downward spiral once he becomes a father. Sparked by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

hardship. The number of suicide and public suicide, skyrocketed. ENOUGH visualizes the collapse of the Lebanese system and social fabric through the final anecdotal moments in the life of one of the victims who takes his life, in public. It is a social tragedy from the womb of Lebanon’s ongoing crisis.

**farmer’s hand.** (Saudi Arabia) 2023. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: ali fadel. Producer: falm. **falm production.** A farmer’s film tells about the farmer’s relationship with the bee and how he deals with it. **Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)**

**The Fifth Story.** (Iraq) 2020, 90 minutes. In Arabic & Kurdish. Director: Ahmed Abd. Producer: Aljazeera Documentary Channel. **Louai Haffar.** Narrated by Ahmed, the author, **The Fifth Story** is a long emotional journey that spans four decades of wars and conflicts in Iraq with four main characters: Nassar, the young Bedouin; Akheen, the eighteen-year-old Yazidi female fighter; Ahmed’s father, the war gravedigger; and Adnan, the old man who settled in seclusion in a Baghdad train station. Through the self-revealing experiences of these characters, Ahmed tries to heal himself through a spiritual transformation between three chapters that marked his life: fear, anger and revolution.

**The First 54 Years – An Abbreviated Manual for Military Occupation.** (Israel, Palestine) 2022, 108 minutes. In English & Hebrew. Director: Avi Mograbi. Producer: Avi Mograbi. **Collective Eye Films.** “Military occupation” is an abstract term, open to mistaken interpretation. What does “occupation” imply? What does it mean for people living under occupation? What means must be employed so that occupation can be implemented? This film instills meaning in the term “occupation” in the form of a “manual for military occupation” derived from the testimonies of those people who implemented it in practice. Director Avi Mograbi hosts the viewers in his living room and provides insights to how a colonialist occupation works, the logic behind the practices that it produces and the different modes of thought needed to be applied at different situations in order to maintain it. In his presentation Mograbi is using the 54-year Israeli military occupation of the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a case study.

The occupation as we see it is like a creature with an infinite number of heads. Each head is a good person, who served in the Israeli army and was stationed in the Occupied Territories, where he completed the missions imposed on him, and ultimately believed that he was taking part in fulfilling Israel’s conception of security. Almost every Jewish Israeli served in the army and played a part, whether directly or indirectly, in the day-to-day maintenance of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. There have been many generations of laborers who did the dirty work, who learned the trade and passed it on to one another, from father to son, so that the next generation would know how to grease the cogs of military control. A miniscule group of them appears in this film and breaks down this service into daily activities. These are testimonies and not opinions. The witnesses in this film do not describe their thoughts or positions concerning what they did. They simply talk about what they did and about the actions that they were required to participate in, so that the occupation could exist then and continue to exist into the future. Not one of these activities is essential to the persistence of the occupation, but together, they constitute the occupation’s very essence.

**Fraih a.** (Qatar) 2022, 5 minutes 55 seconds. In English. Director: Amal Al-Shammari and Hossein Heydar. Producer: Ben Robinson. **Lemonade Films.** Based on the real-life childhood events of writer-director Amal Al-Shammari, Fraih a recounts her inspirational childhood memory when Amal (6) was helped to overcome her classroom literacy struggles by her loving mother Fraih a (45). **Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)**

**The Girl with the Accent.** (United Arab Emirates) 2021, 9 minutes 54 seconds. In English (with English subtitles). Director: Nadia Durry. Producer: Nadia Durry. **Image Nation Abu Dhabi.** An Ethiopian woman’s embrace of her identity through the color of her skin. **Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)**

**in the whiteness.** (Canada - diasporic) 2023, 4 minutes 38 seconds. In English & Harari. Director: Niya Ahmed Abdullahi. **Niya Ahmed Abdullahi.** in the whiteness is a poetic exploration of identity through the eyes of a Harari woman, displaced via war, now living in Canada. She uses poetry and movement as a meditative method of reconnecting with her roots and in doing so, establishes a magical bond with her ancestors.

Some context: The Harari people are descendants of Yemenis and are a tribe in Ethiopia. They speak harari, a dialect that infuses Arabic, Amharic and other words. The language is endangered. The Harari people are a culture and language that has been deemed endangered, due to the ramifications of forced displacement over many years. The city itself (where Hararis are from) was previously an autonomous state that was fully walled, as a precaution to prevent outsiders from coming in and taking over - which was foreshadowing because that’s the exact thing that is happening today to the city and people.

“in the whiteness” explores the diasporic experience from the perspective of a Harari woman, experiencing memories while also divulging in both the past, present and the future. She explores her Blackness through reconnecting to her roots.

**Light upon light.** (Egypt, Denmark) 2022, 78 minutes. In Arabic, English & Danish (with English subtitles). Director: Christian Suhr. Producer: Hala Lotfy. **Christian Suhr / MAD Distribution.** A field trip into the mystical traditions of Islam exploring people’s search for light at a time of darkness and political tension in post revolutionary Egypt. Sonia sees light streaming into her heart.
from a person’s finger. Aya is lifted into a luminous space in the midst of a ritual. Maher travels to the shrine of a holy man to find out if the light and love that people are referring to is real. Meanwhile the film crew, Muhammad, Amira, and Christian tries to find out how they can film these experiences of light and how there can be so much light and darkness in this world and inside themselves.

Luminary. (United Arab Emirates) 2021, 9 minutes 34 seconds. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: Nada Jahed. Producer: Nada Jahed. Image Nation Abu Dhabi. A poetic portrait of a blind father with a bright perspective on life, who is strongly determined to deliver his message to the world. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Olayan. (Qatar) 2022, 18 minutes. In English. Director: Khalifa Al-Marri. Producer: Basel Owens. Lemonade Films. In the 1990’s, a Bedouin boy named Hamad must go on a journey to rescue his best friend, a newborn camel named Olayan, from being sold at the market by his father. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Om Layoun. (Tunisia) 2021, 82 minutes. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: Habib Ayeb. Producer: Inside Prod. Inside Prod. Om Layoun, or The Mother of Sources, is a documentary film (feature length) that aims to open a societal debate, in Tunisia and elsewhere, on the absolute and urgent need to better manage available water resources, through the adoption of new economic models oriented towards more water and ecological, social, intergenerational and economic justice.

The film Om Layoun is built on a simple idea: Water is a common good for all humanity, and access to it, according to needs, is a fundamental human right that should not suffer any precondition. As a necessary condition for biological and social life, water must not be considered in any way as a marketable commodity, as it is the case today.

This is what Om Layoun tries to demonstrate, discuss and defend by showing situations of scandalous waste and/or shocking deprivation induced by the internal mechanisms of the water market and, more generally, by the dominant extractivist economic model. Moreover, the film Om Layoun aims to demonstrate that if all the water on earth will never be enough to make all the deserts of the world bloom, the available water would be more than enough to cover all human and economic needs, as long as we stop considering it as a commodity object of accumulation, privatization and commercialization. Thus, the film will defend the idea that water scarcity, often put forward as an argument for neoliberal governance, is induced by the dominant economic model and not a natural fact... Deprivation, thirst, scarcity, lack... are not, in any way, facts of heaven but the will of the “princes” who are the holders of water resources and who use it as a means of enrichment here or as a tool of power there.

Moreover, the water issue is not unrelated to the much more global issue of climate change, the direct effects of which can already be seen in the rhythms of rainfall and drought. Prolonged droughts are followed by violent rainfall episodes. In both cases, the conditions of access to water for human consumption or production are disrupted.

It is this complex set of representations and (factual) evidence that Om Layoun aims to convey, defend and disseminate. Filmed in Tunisia, Om Layoun will start from the local to address the global and will use many Tunisian situations to discuss the issue in its diversity and complexity that largely exceed national borders.

The Other Side of the River. (Iran) 2022, 92 minutes. In Arabic. Director: Antonia Kilian. Producer: Antonia Kilian. Collective Eye Films. In order to avoid a forced marriage, 19-year-old Hala finds shelter across the Euphrates, at the Kurdish Female Military. While learning how to fight, she gets inspired by the promise of freeing more women. When the Kurdish military liberates her hometown from ISIS, she returns there as a policewoman authorised to protect other vulnerable women. Hala finds herself ready to fulfil her greatest dream: to free her younger sisters from her father’s hand. The threat of a marriage and the brutal stories of female oppression lead women to the other side of the river. They are trained in a strict military style, taught that men are the enemy. But is there freedom to be found between holding a gun against the patriarchal society or be deprived of the possibility to love?

RAMAD. (Oman) 2023, 20 minutes. In Arabic. Director: Sulaiman ALkhaili. Producer: Oman Film Society. Oman Film Society. A story inspired by a true incident about a family living in a mountain village, where a medical examination reveals that their unmarried teenage daughter is pregnant, and then the family decides to kill and bury her to erase the shame, along with the doctor’s attempt to save the situation by correcting the fault. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Return of the Repressed. (USA) 2023, 3 minutes 26 seconds. No Dialogue. Director: Mazyar Mahan. Producer: MNM Art House. MNM Art House. Made by an Iranian academic and artist, Return of the Repressed draws attention to the Iranian fundamentalist regime’s continuous repression of women. Based on the psychoanalytical concepts of dream and repression, the short film shows the experiences of Iranian women who have left their homeland but are nonetheless troubled by recollections of being oppressed and repressed in the past. Through powerful imagery, Return of the Repressed sheds light on the lasting effects of religious oppression.

Rojek. (Syria) 2022, 127 minutes. In Kurdish, English, Arabic, French & German (with English subtitles). Director: Zaynê Akyol. Producer: Zaynê Akyol, Sylvain Corbeil, Audrey-Ann Dupuis-Pierre. Icarus Films. Rojek encounters members of the Islamic State as well as their wives detained in prison camps who are sharing a common dream: establishing a caliphate. Confronted with the fundamentalist beliefs of the jihadists, the film attempts to trace the beginning, the rise and fall of the Islamic
State (ISIS) through their personal stories. These conversations are the thread along which the documentary evolves, as it is intertwined with various sequences depicting current, post-war Syrian Kurdistan.

Rojek offers an intimate gaze at an unknown reality, testifying of pivotal moments experienced by the actors of this conflict. The film tackles how this ideological war is only the beginning of a new kind of threat.

Scene of Extraction. (Iran, Burma, Archival sourced) 2023, 46 minutes. In Farsi. Director: Sanaz Sohrabi. Producer: Sanaz Sohrabi. Sanaz Sohrabi. Scene of Extraction creates an archival constellation with the still and moving images of British Petroleum Archives, documenting the expansive colonial network behind the British energy complex that spanned across Iran, but also reached other British oil operations in South East Asia. The film focuses on the parallel production of geological surveys and ethnographic surveys, both through amateur geological footage and official film surveys produced by BP. It weaves through decades of archival documents to parse out the visual history of the “Reflection Seismography” method for oil exploration which was heavily tested across the Iranian oil belt despite its destructive nature. Situated at the nexus between science and technology studies and media archaeology, the film traces the technical legacy of these geophysical methods that are still used in deep-sea mining and are the backbone of the global energy complex. By blending the archival and speculative modes of representing the geological past, Scene of Extraction reveals the gaps and discrepancies between the archival and lived histories of extraction and the ecological ruination of its aftermath.

See You Tomorrow. (United Arab Emirates) 2023, 9 minutes 52 seconds. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: Iga Zelazny. Producer: Iga Zelazny. Image Nation Abu Dhabi. Ali is a lonely man who is facing the threat of losing his sight. He has 24 hours to decide whether to do a risky surgery. These events lead him on both a physical and emotional journey. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

The Shave. (United Arab Emirates) 2021, 10 minutes. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: Fajer Alalami. Producer: Fajer Alalami. Image Nation Abu Dhabi. A coming-of-age story where the inability to age due to a medical condition puts Mohammed in an ongoing struggle to prove his manhood in the face of masculine stereotypes. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Sister. (United Arab Emirates) 2021, 9 minutes 35 seconds. In English & Arabic. Director: Ivy Akinji. Producer: Yagmur Unal, Sakshi Gala. NYU Abu Dhabi. Julie is the new receptionist at T-Hotel, Abu Dhabi, where she is welcomed by an enthusiastic yet culturally insensitive South Asian manager and a no-nonsense supervisor, Mary. Hoping that their similar backgrounds can bring them closer, Julie struggles to impress Mary who is keen on maintaining her reputation if she is to become the next manager. Julie quickly learns that friendly associations simply cannot unfold within the workspace but remains hopeful about the possibilities of finding warmth and solidarity in the new city. Eating one sweet at a time, Julie and Mary subtly embark on a friendship unlike any other. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

The Son of a Lost Father. (United Arab Emirates) 2019, 13 minutes 15 seconds. In Arabic. Director: Sadeq Alkhoori. Producer: Loc Nguyen. NYU Abu Dhabi. The Son of a Lost Father is a family drama about a down-on-his-luck young Emirati, Salem, who is looking to change his life through a job interview. Little does he know that he will meet a distant step brother who shattered his life while riding in an elevator. Whereas hatred is roaming inside the elevator, it cannot be transparent as a stranger is standing between both brothers. The elevator breaks halfway through the ride and the brothers start a fight. While the step brother is standing on top of Salem he awakens him through the truth: They were both abandoned by their father. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Sound Of Memories. (United Arab Emirates) 2021, 9 minutes 58 seconds. In English (with English subtitles). Director: Gargi Chakrabarti. Producer: Gargi Chakrabarti. Image Nation Abu Dhabi. Sound of Memories is a film that rewinds the tape to reconnect with memories. It is a deeply personal yet universal story of coming to terms with loss and longing, engaging with the past and re-discovering the essence of family. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)


Sun ruled by a crescent. (Egypt) 2021, 15 minutes. In Arabic. Director: Helmy Nouh. Producer: Helmy Nouh. Helmy Nouh. Amidst the hustle of everyday life in Egypt, two lovers are searching for their love that has disappeared over the years. They confront each other in an emotional expose of hope and despair. In such moments, memory plays a big role.

Transfer. (Syria, Turkey, France, Germany) 2022, 67 minutes. In Arabic. Director: Sami Zoubidi. Producer: Louai Haffar. Louai Haffar. Transfer is a documentary film that showcases the story of three Syrian activist friends (Amer, Muhammad and Sami, the director) during their last days in a five-year siege imposed by the Assad regime in Eastern Ghouta. Each carried a different civil role to support their cause and community and worked and hoped for a better future for Syria. Unfortunately, their dreams turned into nightmares. They were forced to leave their homeland and were separated. Amer ended up staying in northern Syria, Muhammad in Germany and Sami became a refugee in France. In the larger context, the film shows the situation in which the inhabitants of Eastern Ghouta managed to survive the
last military campaign carried out by the Syrian regime and the Russian air forces in February 2018. During these days, locals sought refuge in deserted basements to protect themselves from imminent death. The film gives a rare inside look into how the locals managed to arrange their lives with very limited resources. It also sheds light on the options they debated to save their future lives during such a trying period. Eventually, it shows how and where the three friends ended up and what unknown challenges they are facing in 2020.

The film explores the consequences of war on individuals and communities. Through the stories of the three main characters, it tackles issues of solidarity, death, forced displacement, exile and separation.

Two Poets and a River. (Afghanistan, Tajikistan) 2023, 75 minutes. In Wakhi, Tajik & Dari. Director: Richard K. Wolf. Documentary Educational Resources. Using the Oxus river as a topos, this film explores themes of love and loss through the lives and musical poetry of the two most prominent and innovative Wakhi musicians in Central and South Asia, Qurbonsho in Tajikistan and Daulatsho in Afghanistan. In the 19th century their Wakhan homeland became a buffer zone between Czarist Russia and the British Empire and the river Oxus became a border. The condition of being separated by a river grounds the poets’ discussions of love and loss in their own lives as well as in their musical arts.

Umah. (United Arab Emirates) 2021, 8 minutes 10 seconds. No dialogue. Director: Shoaib Khattab. Producer: Shoaib Khattab. Image Nation Abu Dhabi. Umah, a small sardine fish in the UAE, is explored through a series of carefully captured shots. The film takes the form of a meditative, nonverbal journey of the fish, from the net to the plate, and the fisherman involved in the process. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)


Director Statement: I’ve always wanted to make a film exploring my grandparents’ life, and little did I know that I made this film at the perfect time. My grandfather passed away due to Covid a year after making the film, and I believe the film is a part of his legacy. I bet he would be so happy to see how the film turned out and how people love it. His grandchildren will be able to see his life through the film. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

Why Is My Grandfathers Bed In Our Living Room?. (United Arab Emirates) 2021, 7 minutes 18 seconds. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: Sarah Alhashimi. Producer: Sarah Alhashimi. Image Nation Abu Dhabi. An Emirati family lost their ancestral house to community development plans aimed at modernizing the city. As they recall the sudden loss of the family house, it is apparent that a century old wooden bed, the only tangible memory that remains, is a poignant feature of their story. The attachment of both the house and the bed are intertwined together in the bittersweet memories of the family members. Spotlighted by the Association for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS)

With a face of golden pleasure, elegantly destroy. (Lebanon) 2023, 5 minutes 25 seconds. In Arabic (with English subtitles). Director: Heather M. O’Brien-Takahashi. Producer: Jonathan Takahashi & Heather M. O’Brien-Takahashi. Opia Films. Water is never still. And what else to say about water, after having seen the immense walls of dark stones of the palaces and old houses of Beirut, except that water continues to love and to destroy the fortress of spirit that characterizes Lebanon. Water reduces this spirit of conquest and of negation of old Lebanon to walls of canvas whose gashes are death for matter and a window for the liberation of the mind. Should water, therefore, be thought only in relation to its sites, and within the civilizations to which it belongs?

With a face of golden pleasure, elegantly destroy examines water poetics and politics in Beirut, Lebanon. This short film explores how water has been used as a tool of social control and reveals the multi-layered and controversial histories of the privatization of water in Beirut by attempting to trace the source of the filmmaker’s water to her home in the Hamra neighborhood. Histories of violent U.S. foreign policy that have shaped the current aquatic moment in Beirut are also considered.

The film immerses the viewer into the filmmaker’s Ottoman-era sun-drenched flat, one of few left after the Lebanese Civil War. The piece also includes key water sites in Beirut alongside contemporary drone footage of the filmmaker’s home in Hamra. Nuanced moments draw inward, de-centering the authorial lens, intentionally shifting how mediated aquatic images affect one’s community.


The catastrophic events were the result of governmental corruption and mismanagement. Worse, their response to the victims was slow and inadequate, laying bare the government’s lack of concern for the well-being of their citizens.

Justly or not, as is true across the world, it is women who lead the way picking up the pieces.

This is the story of five of those Lebanese women.
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Buthaina Al Kindi
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Christian Suhr/ MAD Distribution
Light upon light
http://mad-distribution.film/movies/movie1115395.php

Collective Eye Films
The First 54 Years – An Abbreviated Manual for Military Occupation
The Other Side of the River
https://www.collectiveeye.org

Documentary Educational Resources
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Image Nation Abu Dhabi
Bundle of Joy
Luminary
See You Tomorrow
Sound Of Memories
The Girl with the Accent
The Shave
Umah
Why Is My Grandfather’s Bed In Our Living Room?
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A Week with Azar
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VIU platform
Strawberry
http://www.Facebook.com/manalsaadali
Detailed Call for Papers instructions, including the review criteria used by the program committee, will be posted on MESA’s website. All prospective participants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with what is expected of submissions. Proposals must conform to the guidelines listed in the Call for Papers instructions.

Submission deadline is February 15, 2024

Proposal submissions begin in January 2024 but must be completed by Thursday, February 15, 2023 at 5:00 PM EST /UTC-4. The electronic submission system will be deactivated at that time, and late submissions will not be considered.

Requirements to Participate

- Only current MESA members for 2024 may submit. Renew your membership today and save time later!
- All submissions must be made through myMESA, MESA’s electronic submission system.
- Meeting registration is required by May 15, after the program committee decisions are released.
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