## *Samer Mahdy Ali*

Associate Professor
Department of Middle Eastern Studies
University of Texas at Austin
One University Station, F9400
Austin, TX 78712 USA
512-475-6467


**EDUCATION:**

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|---|---|
| Indiana University | **Doctor of Philosophy, 2002**<br>Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (Arabic Literature) |
| University of Utah | **Master of Arts, 1997**<br>Middle East Center (Arabic Studies) |
| Center for Arabic Study Abroad | **Intensive Arabic Language Training, June 1991-June 1992**<br>American University in Cairo |
| University of Chicago | **Bachelor of Arts, 1990**<br>Psychology, with emphasis on Education |

**ACADEMIC POSITIONS:**

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| Associate Professor (Tenured) | **University of Texas at Austin: Department of Middle Eastern Studies,** Austin, Texas, August 2008-Present -- Islamic Studies, Arabic Studies, Comparative Literature<br>*Affiliations*: Medieval Studies, Center for European Studies, Religious Studies |
| Assistant Professor | **University of Texas at Austin: Department of Middle Eastern Studies,** Austin, Texas, August 2001-May 2008 -- Islamic Studies, Arabic Studies, Comparative Literature |
| Visiting Lecturer | **Free University Berlin: Seminary for Arabic Studies,** Berlin, Germany, October 2000-July 2001 |

**INTERESTS:**

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|---|---|
| Arabic Literature and Culture | Abbasid culture (750-1258), Andalusian culture (711-1492), Arabic Sicily (652-1189), Arabian Nights, orality and literacy, women of the court, Arab women poets, folklore |
| Historiography of Early Islam | The oral performance of ancestral stories, the intersections of literature and history, narrative patterns in historical tales, performance and communication theories |
| Religion and Mythology | Pre- and early Islamic religion and mythology, the Qur'an, sacred kingship, cults of the hero |

**PUBLICATIONS:**

***Volumes***

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|---|---|
| 2010 | **Monograph:**<br>*Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past.* Series: Poetics of Orality and Literacy, ed. John Miles Foley. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press |
| 2004 | **Co-Edited Volume:**<br>Co-edited with Esther Raizen.<br>The *CALICO Journal: Special Issue on Hebrew and Arabic,* Vol. 21, No. 3<br>San Marcos, TX: Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium |

***Journal Articles***

2008 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed:**
The Rise of the Abbasid Public Sphere: The Case of al-Mutanabbi and Three Middle Ranking Patrons. *Al-Qantara: Revista de estudios árabes Special Issue on Patronage in Islamic History*. Vol. 29, no. 2. Edited by Esperanza Alfonso Carro. Madrid: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Instituto "Miguel Asín," pp. 467-494.

2008 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed:**
Early Islam – Monotheism or Henotheism? A View from the Court.
*Journal of Arabic Literature*. Vol. 39, no. 1. Leiden: E. J. Brill, pp. 14-37

2006 **Peer-Reviewed:**
Singing Samarra (861-956): Poetry and the Burgeoning of Historiography upon the Murder of al-Mutawakkil. *Journal of Arabic and Islamic Studies.* Vol. 6. Edinburgh University Press, pp. 1-23

2006 **Peer-Reviewed:**
Reinterpreting al-Buhturi's Iwan Kisra Ode: Tears of Affection for the Cycles of History. *Journal of Arabic Literature*. Vol. 37, no. 1. Leiden: E. J. Brill, pp. 46-67

***Book Chapters***

Expected 2013 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed:**
Alterity in the Arabo-Islamic Public Sphere of the Middle Ages: New Money Ahsabis and the Poetics and Politics of Altered States
*Zoopoetics and the Politics of the Nonhuman in Middle Eastern and North African Literature*, ed. Moneera Al-Ghadeer

2009 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed:**
Early Islam – Monotheism or Henotheism? A View from the Court.
*Arabic Literary Thresholds: Sites of Rhetorical Turn in Contemporary Scholarship*
Ed. Muhsin J. Al-Musawi. Leiden: Brill, pp.

2004 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed:**
Praise for Murder?: Two Odes by al-Buhturi surrounding an Abbasid Patricide. In *Writers and Rulers: Perspectives on Their Relation from Abbasid to Safavid Times* (Vol. 16 in Series *Literaturen im Kontext: Arabisch - Persisch – Turkisch*). Ed. Beatrice Gruendler and Louise Marlow. Wiesbaden, Germany: Reichert, pp. 1-38

***Encyclopedia Entries***

Expected 2013 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed Entry:**
"Literary Salons," *Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam and Women*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp-?

Expected 2013 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed Entry:**
"Medieval Court Poetry," *Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam and Women*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp-?

2011 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed Entry:**
"Boon Companion," in *Encyclopedia of Islam, Third Edition*. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 137-39

2005 **Solicited Peer-Reviewed:**
"Al-Buhturi," in *Dictionary of Literary Biography: Arabic Literary Culture, 500-925 AD*. Vol. 311. Ed. Michael Cooperson and S. M. Toorawa. Charleston: Bruccoli & Layman, pp. 98-107

***Book Review***

2001 **Solicited Book Review:**
Of *Muhammad in the Modern Egyptian Popular Ballad* by Kamal Abdel- Malek (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1995). *Edebiyat. The Journal of Middle Eastern Literatures*. 2001, Vol. 12, No. 1, pp.138-43

**PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS:**

***Books***

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|---|---|
| Expected Fall 2013 | **Monograph:**<br>*Traditions of Democracy and Nonviolence in the Middle East: Literature as Public Sphere* |
| Expected Fall 2015 | **Monograph:**<br>*Race, Class and Gender in the Qur'an* |

**LANGUAGES:**

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|---|---|
| Proficient | Modern and classical Arabic, Egyptian colloquial |
| Reading Knowledge | Persian, Biblical Hebrew, French, Spanish |

**FULBRIGHT AWARDS (ACCEPTED):**

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| Council on International Exchange of Scholars: US Department of State $46,120 | **Middle East-North Africa Research Award, 2009-2010**<br>Grant to Egypt and Kuwait<br>**Project:** The Medieval Islamic Public Sphere: Poets, Their Public and the Shaping of Government |
| U.S. Department of Education $75,180 | **Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Program: 2004-2005**<br>Grant to Morocco, Egypt, and Germany<br>**Project:** The Medieval Islamic Public Sphere: Poets, Their Public and the Shaping of Government |
| U.S. Department of Education $27,000 | **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program**<br>Grant to Egypt, Spain, and Germany, 1998-1999<br>**Project:** Ardor for Memory: Mythicizing the Patricide of al-Mutawakkil in Court Poetry |

**FULBRIGHT AWARDS (DECLINED):**

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| Fulbright Program $54,000 | **Institute for International Education (IIE)**<br>Grant to Egypt, 2004-2005 |
| Fulbright Program $22,000 | **Institute for International Education (IIE)**<br>Grant to Egypt, 1998-1999 |

**NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS:**

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|---|---|
| US Department of Defense $300,000 | **CIFA Contract H9C104-07-C-0014, with James Pennebaker**, 2007-2008<br>**Project:** Computer-Based Text Analysis Across Cultures: Viewing Language Samples through English and Arabic Eyes |
| American Institute of Maghrib Studies $4,200 | **Summer Research Grant**<br>Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco, 2003<br>**Project:** Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past |
| Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin $17,300 | **Working Group Modernity and Islam**<br>Fellowship in Language, Image and Thought, 2000-2001<br>**Project:** Generosity Like God's: Praise Ceremony and the Cultural Foundations of an Old Virtue |
| Johns Hopkins University (SAIS) $12,000 | **Center for Arabic Study Abroad**<br>(at American University in Cairo)<br>Full-Year Fellowship, 1991-1992 |

**UNIVERSITY AWARDS**
**FROM THE OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES:**

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|---|---|
| Office of Graduate Studies | **Faculty Research Assignment, 2009-2010** |

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| $33,800 | **Project:** The Medieval Islamic Public Sphere: Poets, Their Public and the Shaping of Government<br>**Institution:** University of Texas at Austin |
| Office of Graduate Studies<br>$27,400 | **Diversity Mentoring Fellowship, 2008-2009**<br>To Mentor Minority Graduate Student<br>**Project:** Arabic Culture in Sicily, 652-1189<br>**Institution:** University of Texas at Austin |
| Office of Graduate Studies<br>$26,400 | **Research Internship, 2007-2008**<br>To Mentor Minority Graduate Student<br>**Project:** Arabic Culture in Sicily, 652-1189<br>**Institution:** University of Texas at Austin |

**FROM THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS:**

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| Dean of the College of Liberal Arts<br>$29,203 | **Dean's Fellowship: Fall 2004**<br>Fellowship to conduct research for a book<br>**Project:** Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past<br>**Institution:** University of Texas at Austin |
| Dean of the College of Liberal Arts<br>$2,000 | **FY 2003-2004 Research Grant**<br>Grant to conduct research for a book<br>**Project:** Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past<br>**Institution:** University of Texas at Austin |

**FROM THE UNIVERSITY CO-OP BOOKSTORE:**

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| University Co-Op Bookstore<br>$1,000 | **George H. Mitchell Department Award for Academic Excellence**<br>Award for mentoring Andrea Choquette, Spring 2004<br>(**Plan II Thesis:** "Brand America: Mass Media and Public Diplomacy in the Middle East")<br>Funds used to conduct field interviews with government officials and advertising experts |
| University Co-Op Bookstore<br>$1,000 | **George H. Mitchell Department Award for Academic Excellence**<br>Award for mentoring Jack Tannous, Spring 2002<br>(**Plan II Thesis:** "The Book of Monasteries: Selections from al-Shabushti's Kitab al-Diyarat")<br>Funds used to develop UT Arabic Studies website |

**FROM OTHER UNIVERSITY UNITS:**

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| Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School<br>$12,626 | **Summer Research Assignment: Summer 2004**<br>Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco for a book<br>**Project:** Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past<br>**Institution:** University of Texas at Austin |
| Vice President for Research<br>$6,000 | **FY 2003-2004 Research Grant**<br>Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco for a book<br>**Project:** Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past<br>**Institution:** University of Texas at Austin |
| Center for Middle Eastern Studies<br>$7,290 | **Course Development Grant**<br>Title VI grant to conduct manuscript research at the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin 2003-2006<br>**Project:** "The Arabic Courts of Sicily, 652-1189"<br>**Institution:** US Department of Education, Title VI Funding |

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| Religious Studies Program<br>$2,250 | **Summer Research Grant**<br>Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco, 2003<br>**Project:** Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past<br>**Institution:** Foundation for Religious Studies in Texas, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and the Religious Studies Program |

**RESEARCH PRESENTED BY INVITATION (US):**

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| Columbia University | **Teaching Arab Intellectual Thought and the Changing Role of the Literati**<br>Teaching Arabic Literature, May 7-9, 2011 |
| Columbia University | **Teaching the Qasida Genre as World Literature**<br>*Magic in Clarity: Teaching Arabic Literature*, May 7-8, 2010 |
| University of North Texas | **Women's Participation in the Islamic Middle Ages as 'Public Sphere': Shahrazad's Daughters, Marjana's Sisters in the *Nights***<br>*Symposium on Oral literature and Ritual Culture in Muslim Middle East and South Asia*<br>April 9, 2010 |
| Rutgers University | **Al-Mutanabbi's Ode to the Sufi State Clerk**<br>*Workshop on Arabic Poetry*, April 18, 2008 |
| University of Maryland | **The 10th Century Arabo-Islamic Public Sphere: Defending and Outing Two Middling State Clerks**<br>*School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures,* March 12, 2008 |
| Boston University | **The 10th Century Arabo-Islamic Public Sphere: Defending and Outing Two Middling State Clerks**<br>*Department of Modern Languages and Comparative Literatures,* Jan 22., 2008 |
| University of Utah | **The Arabo-Islamic Public Sphere: The Case of Two Middling State Clerks**<br>*Department of Languages and Literatures,* Jan. 10, 2008 |
| University of Delaware | **The Medieval Islamic Public Sphere: al-Mutanabbi's Ode to a Middling State Clerk**<br>*Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures,* Dec. 14, 2007 |
| University of Utah | **Arabic Literary Salons in Islamic Middle Ages**<br>*Middle East Studies Center,* April 13, 2006 |
| Yale University | **A Verdurous Encomium for a Murderous Patron: Contra/diction and Mythology in al-Buhturi al-Ta'i**<br>*Colloquium on Rulership and Literature in Medieval Islam*<br>New Haven, Connecticut, April 1999 |

**RESEARCH PRESENTED BY INVITATION (NON-US):**

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| 6 October University<br>Cairo, Egypt | **Adab Humanism of the Middle Ages as Public Sphere: Seeds of Democracy**<br>Faculty of Languages and Translation, April 28, 2010 |
| American University of Kuwait | **The Islamic Middle Ages as Public Sphere: Seeds of Democracy**<br>Gulf Studies Center, March, March 8, 2010 |
| New York University Abu Dhabi Institute | **Shahrazad's Daughters, Marjana's Sisters: Role Models and Women's Participation in the Medieval Islamic Public Sphere**<br>*The Arabian Nights: Encounters and Translations in Literature and the Arts*, December 15-17, 2009 |

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| American University in Cairo | **Monotheism and Monarchy in Early Islam: A View from the Court**<br>*The AUC Forum for the Study of Religion,* Comparative Religion and History, April 6, 2005 |
| The Free University, Berlin | **Al-Mutanabbi's Dirty Exchange with the Sufi: Correcting Poetic and Mystic Practice in a Staged Confrontation between Poet and Patron**<br>*Center for Social and Cultural History of the Middle East*<br>Workshop 'Poetry's Voice, Society's Norms," November 16-18, 2003 |
| Tartu University, Estonia | **Passage to Peril: The Classical Theme of the Rahil-Journey in 20th Century Arabic Novels**<br>*5th International Conference of the Estonian Comparative Literature Association*<br>The Genre of the Novel in Contemporary World Literature: A Leap or a Standstill?<br>Tartu, Estonia, September 28-October 1, 2003 |
| The Free University, Berlin | **Urban Literary Gatherings in the Abbasid Era: The Reception of Poetic Knowledge in Historical Narrative**<br>*Processes of Reception in the Context of Arabic Literature*<br>June 27, 2001 |
| The Free University, Berlin Institute for Semitic and Arabic Studies | **The Impact of Patronage (12 weeks)**<br>Post-Doctoral Seminar Presented to Scholars in Classical Arabic Literature<br>2000-2001 |
| Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin | **Abbasid Islam -- Monotheism or Henotheism? A View from the Court**<br>*Working Group Modernity and Islam,* Berlin, Germany, November 2000 |
| Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid | **Praise for Murder at the Abbasid Court**<br>*Instituto de Filología, Departamento de Estudios Arabes*<br>Madrid, Spain. December 3, 1999 |
| American Research Center in Egypt | **The Warrior Who Lost Face: Praise Poetry and Image-Building by al-Mutanabbi**<br>*Cairo: City of Islam,* Cairo, Egypt. July 6, 1999. Invited by Prof. Vincent Cornell |

**CONFERENCE PANELS AND PAPERS**
**TO THE MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION:**

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|---|---|
| November 2009 | **Classical Arabic Poets in Performance: Making Self, Other and Society**<br>Chair/Discussant and Mentor to Graduate Student Presenters<br>Panel Organizer, Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts |
| November 2009 | **The Arabo-Islamic Public Sphere: A Cultural Memory of Private Self-Interest**<br>Presenter, Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts |
| November 2008 | **Tell Me a Story: Memory, Poetry and Narrating the Arabo-Islamic Past**<br>Chair/Discussant and Mentor to Graduate Student Presenters<br>Panel Co-Organized with Christine Baker (University of Texas at Austin)<br>Annual Meeting, Washington, District of Columbia<br>Sponsored by the Middle East Medievalists |
| November 2006 | **The Rusafiyya in Literary Salons: From Courtly to Sufi Ode**<br>Presenter, Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts |
| November 2001 | **Identity and Handicap: Praise Poetry as Image-Making**<br>Presenter, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California |
| November 2000 | **Gatherings under the Moonlight: A Performance-Centered Approach to Poetry and History**<br>Presenter, Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida. |
| November 1997 | **Bumpkin in Baghdad: Competence and Anxiety in a Cosmopolitan Society** |

Presenter, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California

**CONFERENCE PANELS AND PAPERS**
**TO THE MODERN LANGUAGES ASSOCIATION:**

December 2009 — **Negotiating Spheres: Public and Private in Arabic Culture**
Panel Organizer - Chair/Discussant
2009 Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA
Sponsored by the MLA Arabic Literature Division

December 2003 — **Female Singers at the Abbasid Court: Lamentation and the Making of Cultural Myth**
Presenter, 2003 Annual Convention, San Diego, California

**CONFERENCE PANELS AND PAPERS**
**TO THE AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY**

March 2007 — **Sociability In Medieval Arabic Literature And Culture**
Panel Co-Organized with Jocelyn Sharlet (University of California, Davis)
217th Meeting, San Antonio, Texas

March 2007 — **The Abbasid Literary Salon (Mujalasa) and the Public Sphere of Participation**
Presenter, 217th Meeting, San Antonio, Texas

**OTHER CONFERENCE PAPERS**

October 2002 — **Blank Verse Translations of Abbasid Poetry**
Presenter
*American Literary Translators Association*, 25th Anniversary Conference, Chicago, Illinois

March 1997 — **How They Grieved: Al-Maqqari's Tome as Tomb**
Presenter
*Medieval Studies Institute,* Medieval Reading Circle Symposium, Bloomington, Indiana

October 1996 — **Two of al-Ma'mun's Letters: Keeping the Reader in Mind**
Presenter
*American Literary Translators Association,* 19th Annual Meeting, Bloomington, Indiana

**RESEARCH PRESENTED AT UT:**

Program in Comparative Literature — **Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages**
in "Comparative Literature Proseminar (CL 180)," November 2006

Program in Comparative Literature — **The Arabic Ode, Empire, and Today**
in "Comparative Literature Proseminar (CL 180)," October, 2002; October 2003; October 2005

Religious Studies Student Committee — **Dignity and Divinity: The Human Self in Medieval Arabo-Islamic Cosmology**
March 29, 2003

Center for Middle Eastern Studies — **King-Sized Panegyric Delivered at Tiny Hamdanid Courts**
Colloquium Series, October 30, 2002

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION – EXTERNAL REVIEWS:**

University of Virginia — **External Review of Tenure/Promotion to Associate Professor**
College of Arts and Sciences, August 2012

CUNY Hunter College — **External Review of Tenure/Promotion to Associate Professor**
School of Arts and Sciences, September 2011

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| American University of Kuwait | **External Review for Promotion to Associate Professor**<br>College of Arts and Sciences, January 2011 |

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION – SCHOLARLY ORGANIZATIONS:**

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| Modern Language Association | **Executive Council**, 2012-2016 (Elected)<br>**Delegate Assembly Organizing Committee**, 2012-2016 (Elected)<br>**Delegate Assembly**, Representative, 2010-2016 (Elected)<br>**Editorial Board of Texts and Translations Series,** Member, 2009-2014<br>**Arabic Division**, Ex-Chair, Executive Committee, 2010 (Elected)<br>**Arabic Division,** Chair, Executive Committee, 2009 (Elected)<br>**Arabic Division,** Secretary, Executive Committee, 2008 (Elected)<br>**Arabic Division,** Member, Executive Committee, 2006-2007 (Elected) |
| Middle East Studies Association | **Annual Meeting Program Committee**, Member, 2012<br>**Nominating Committee,** Member, 2010-11 |

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION – MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS:**

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| Journal of Arabic Literature | **Advisory Board**, Member, August 2011-present<br>**Book Review Editor**, Nov. 2008-present<br>**Article Referee,** October, 2004-present<br>**Editorial Assistant**, August 1997-July 1998 |
| Oxford University Press | **Manuscript Reader/Reviewer**<br>2008 |
| Syracuse University Press | **Manuscript Reader/Reviewer**<br>2008, 2009<br>**Book Endorsement**<br>2011 |
| History Compass | **Article Referee,** August 2010 |

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION – OTHER:**

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| American Council of Learned Scholars/Mellon | **Application Reviewer**, Jan. 2012, Jan 2013<br>Dissertation Completion Fellowship |
| Arabic Lit Scholars Listserv | **Moderator**, Dec. 2008-present |
| Southwestern University | **What are Salons Good For?**<br>Conversant, January 24, 2011 |
| Center for Applied Linguistics | ***Computerized Oral Proficiency Instrument***<br>Development Consultant, Spring, 2008 |
| Damascus Scholars Listserv | **Moderator,** May, 2006-present, members: 200<br>Aim: To enable students and scholars to share housing info |
| Cairo Scholars Listserv | **Moderator,** May, 2005-present, members: 2000<br>Aim: To enable students and scholars to share housing info |
| Near Eastern Languages and Cultures | **Indiana University**<br>Placement and Proficiency Tester—Arabic Language, August 1997-July 1998 |
| Near Eastern Languages and Cultures | **Indiana University**<br>Associate Instructor—Arabic Language, August 1995-May 1997 |

**SERVICE TO SOCIETY - CONSULTING:**

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| American Civil Liberties Association (ACLU) | **Expert Witness**, Islamic Practices, First Amendment Constitutional Case, State of Minnesota<br>*Largest ACLU-Charter School Case in US History*, Retained: August 2010-June, 2011 |
| US Department of State and National Intelligence Council | **Conference on Hizb ut-Tahrir**<br>Invited Speaker, July 10, 2008 |
| Newsweek Magazine | **Consultant on Arabic Language and Style,** International Arabic Edition<br>February 2000-December 2003 |
| Council of American Overseas Research Centers | **Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes,**<br>Application Reviewer, 150 Applications, Spring 2008 |
| American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages | **Arabic Language Tester,** All Levels<br>April 1997-Present<br>Language Testing International, White Plains, New York |

**SERVICE TO SOCIETY - PUBLIC EDUCATION:**

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| Interviews with Journalists | ABC News, National Public Radio (PRI's The World), Christian Science Monitor, Danish Public Radio (MORGENMagasinet), Cairo FM 100, and Austin's KVUE and Fox7 (Live in Studio). |
| Odyssey: University Extension | **Qur'an 101,** 3 lectures, September 10-24 |
| TX Diversity Council | Lecture: **Islamophobia and the Ethics of Propaganda**, September 20, 2012 |
| GPLT | Lecture: **Islamophobia and the Ethical Challenge to Global Leaders**<br>Global Professional Leadership Training, March 24, 2012 |
| Odyssey: University Extension | **Islam 101,** 7 lectures, October 1-November 12, 2008 |
| Elderhostel<br>Mo-Ranch, Hunt, TX | **Islam,** lecturer, 7 hours, 30 participants, March 11-16, 2007 |
| First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin | **Qur'an Seminar,** lecturer, 24 hours, 61 participants, September 10, 2006-December 10, 2006 |
| Hyde Park Baptist Church | **Encountering the World of Islam,** presenter, 150 participants, September 19, 2006 |
| Bi-national Fulbright Commission in Egypt | **Ancient Arabic Poetry in American Education,** lecture and discussion with K-12 educators. July 14, 2005 |
| Humanities Lecture Series | **Poetry and Wine Parties across the Mediterranean: The Greek "Symposion" and the Arabic "Mujalasat,"** in Mediterranean Encounters, November 10, 2003 |
| | **Memory and Identity in Ancient Arabia,** in "Memory: The Bridge to the Past", February 23, 2004 |
| Department of Middle Eastern Studies | **Stories from the Arabian Nights,** April 17, 2002<br>Organizer, Performance by storyteller, Elida Guardia Bonet (60 people attended) |
| | **Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves,** October 25, 2002<br>Artistic Director of Stage Performance<br>*The Hideout Theater,* A benefit performance for the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas<br>(85 people attended; donations equaled 2240 meals) |

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| Center for Middle Eastern Studies | **Special Session for K-12 Educators,** Chair, Conference on Presenting and Re-Presenting Islam, March 21, 2002 |
| | **Palestine and Israel: Peace and Conflict,** Moderated debate between Hussein Ibish and Joseph Ginat, November 11, 2003<br>Sponsored by Palestine Solidarity Committee and Tikkun |
| College of Liberal Arts | **The Arabian Nights, or 'Must You Kill Me?' (Demo class)**<br>*Annual Honors Colloquium,* July 26, 2002 |
| | **Aladdin and Judar: Coming of Age in the Arabian Nights (Demo class)**<br>*Explore UT Lecture,* March 1, 2003; March 6, 2004 |
| Harry Ransom Humanities Center | **Public Reading of Arabic Poetry,** Poetry on the Plaza, noon, December 6, 2007 |
| Outreach, Center for Middle Eastern Studies | **Coming of Age Stories in the Arabian Nights**<br>*Mythology and Folklore around the World* (Presented by Hemispheres), November 2, 2002 |
| | **Two Sessions on the Middle East** (General and In-Depth)<br>*International Studies Schools Association,* Second Annual Conference, February 13-16, 2003 |

**SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION: LEADERSHIP**

***Office of the General Faculty***

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| Aug 2010-May 2012 | **Faculty Council**, Representative (Elected) |
| Aug 2011-May 2011 | **General Faculty Rules and Governance Committee**, Representative (Appointed) |
| Aug 2010-May 2011 | **Faculty Grievance Committee**, Representative (Appointed) |

***College of Liberal Arts***

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| Jan 2011-Jan 2012 | **Program Medieval Studies**, Advisor to the Director (Elected) |
| 2006-2008 | **Owner-Moderator,** WACulty: Writing Across The Curriculum Listserv<br>Aim: To enable Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) faculty to share ideas |

***Program in Comparative Literature***

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|---|---|
| 2003-2004 | **Admissions and Funding Committee**<br>Chair (Appointed)<br>**Graduate Studies Committee**<br>Chair (Appointed) |
| Spring 2004 | **Continuing Fellowship Selection Committee**<br>Chair (Appointed) |

***Department of Middle Eastern Studies***

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| Fall 2011-presenet | **Undergraduate Honors**<br>Advisor (Appointed) |
| 2010-present | **Dissertation Committees,** for Melanie Clouser, Cory Jorgensen<br>Chair |
| 2009-2010 | **Exam Committees,** for Melanie Clouser, Cory Jorgensen<br>Chair |
| April 2007-Summer 2009 | **Owner-Moderator,** DMES Graduate Students Listserv<br>Aim: To enable DMES new and continuing graduate students to share info and advice |
| Fall 2005-Summer 2009 | **Graduate Studies Committee**<br>Chair (Appointed)<br>**Admissions and Funding Committee**<br>Chair (Appointed) |

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| Fall 2005-Spring 2008 | **Course-Curriculum Committee**<br>Chair (Appointed) |

**SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION: MEMBERSHIP**

***Office of Executive Vice President and Provost***

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| 2009-10 | **International Programs and Studies Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |

***Department of Middle Eastern Studies***

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|---|---|
| Fall 2010-present | **Executive Committee**<br>Member (Elected) |
| 2010-present | **Dissertation Committees,** for Shon Hopkin, Benjamine Koerber<br>Member |
| 2009-present | **Exam Committees,** for Shon Hopkin, Benjamine Koerber<br>Member |
| Fall 2007-Spring 2008 | **Modern Arabic Literature Search Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| Fall 2005-Spring 2008 | **Executive Committee**<br>Member (Elected) |
| August 2001-present | **Islamic and Arabic Studies Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| Fall 2006-Spring 2007 | **Contributions to Curriculum Reform**<br>Revision of ARA MA and PhD (Appointed) |
| Spring 2007 | **Arabic Lecturer Search Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| 2005-2006 | **Arabic Search Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| Spring 2005 | **Arabic Lecturer Search Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| 2003-2004 | **Hebrew Literature Search Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| Spring 2003 | **Executive Committee**<br>Member (Elected) |
| Fall 2002 | **Interim Executive Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| 2001-2002 | **Lecture Committee (Magical Realism)**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| Fall 2001 | **Contributions to Curriculum Reform**<br>Revision of ARA BA Major (Appointed) |

***Center for Middle Eastern Studies***

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|---|---|
| 2008-present | **Center Publications Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| March 2010 | **Educational Tour of Egypt, K-12 Educators**<br>Faculty Leader (Appointed) |
| Spring 2004 | **Fellowship Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |
| Spring 2003 | **Fellowship Committee**<br>Member (Appointed) |

***Program in Comparative Literature***

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|---|---|
| 2001-present | **Dissertation Committees (**Member**),** for Hulya Yildiz, Christopher Micklethwait, Elisabeth McKetta, Johanna Sellman |
| 2001-2010 | **Exam Committee (**Member**),** for Hulya Yildiz, Chris Micklethwait, Johanna Sellman, Martino Lovato |
| January 2006 | **Qualifying Exam,** Text Interpretation, Delia Avila Atmaca |

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| | Examiner |
| Fall 2005-Spring 2006 | **Course-Curriculum Committee** |
| | Member |
| 2002-2004 | **Undergraduate Course Committee** |
| | Member |
| Spring 2003 | **Admissions Committee** |
| | Member |
| Spring 2003 | **Continuing Fellowship Selection Committee** |
| | Member |

**GUEST LECTURES:**

| | |
|---|---|
| March 2006 | **Orientalism, Modernism and Zionism** |
| | Guest Lecture, With Karen Grumberg in “Middle Eastern Studies Methods” (I. Manners) |
| March 2005 | **Orientalism, Modernism and Zionism** |
| | Guest Lecture, With Karen Grumberg in “Middle Eastern Studies Methods” (I. Manners) |
| October, 2003 | **Women’s Elegy in Pre-Islamic Culture** |
| | Guest Lecturer, in “Muslim Women: Past and Present” (F. Shirazi) |
| September, 2002 | **Ancient Arabian Mythology** |
| | Guest Lecturer, in "Introduction to the Middle East" (K. Aghaie) |
| April, 2002 | **Poetry in Praise of the Prophet** |
| | Guest Lecturer, in "Prophet of Islam" (K. Aghaie) |
| September, 2002 | **Ancient Arabian Mythology** |
| | Guest Lecturer, in "Introduction to the Middle East" (K. Aghaie) |
| April, 2002 | **Poetry in Praise of the Prophet** |
| | Guest Lecturer, in "Prophet of Islam" (K. Aghaie) |

**ADVISING:**

***Graduate Advisor***

Fall 2005-Summer 2009 **Department of Middle Eastern Studies**
-Recruited 42 graduate students, nearly half are fully funded
-Obtained $500,000 in graduate funding
-Recruited and funded 12 graduate students meeting UT diversity criteria
-Increased diversity percentage in department from zero to 25%

***Graduate Advisor***

2003-2004 **Program in Comparative Literature**
-Recruited 10 graduate students from international pool of applicants (60)
-Obtained two Continuing Fellowships, $50,000

***Assistant Graduate Advisor***

Spring 2003 **Program in Comparative Literature**

**GRADUATE RESEARCH (As Supervisor)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Melanie Autumn Clouser | **PhD Dissertation in Arabic Studies** |
| 2010-present | Sentiment & Solidarity: Moroccan Malhun Poetry in Popular Culture |
| Cory Alan Jorgensen | **PhD Dissertation in Arabic Studies** |
| 2010-present | From Invective to Satire: A Performance Approach to the Naqa'id of Jarir and al-Farazdaq |
| Michael Fares | **MA Thesis in Arabic Studies** |
| 2011-12 | Ikhwan al-Safa in Medieval Islamic Society |
| Kaley Keener | **MA Thesis in Arabic Studies** |
| | The Concept of Umma in the Poetry of Ibn Hamdis |
| Daryl Harris III | **MA Thesis in Arabic Studies** |
| 2011-12 | The Construction of Gender and Sexual Identity in Premodern Arabic Texts |

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|---|---|
| Ali Issa<br>2007-08 | **MA Thesis in Arabic Studies**<br>The Ideology of Iraqi Narrative: An Examination of the Short Fiction of Fu'ad al-Takarli and 'Abd al-Malik Nuri |
| Chris Ulack<br>2006-07 | **MA Thesis in Middle Eastern Studies**<br>Reading the City: Understanding Identity through Twentieth-Century Egyptian Literature |

**GRADUATE RESEARCH (As Reader)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Joseph Fees<br>2010-present | **PhD Dissertation in Spanish**<br>New Directions in Kharja Studies: Gender, Sexuality and Desire in the Romance Kharjas and their Muwashshahs |
| Christine Baker<br>2010-present | **PhD Dissertation in History**<br>Challenging the 'Shi'i Century': Fatimids (909-1171), Buyids (945-1055), and the Significance of 'Heterodoxy' in the Formation of Islamic Society |
| Johanna Sellman<br>2010-present | **PhD Dissertation in Comparative Literature**<br>New Representations of Europe in Arabic literature: the Biopolitics of Migration and Citizenship |
| Shon Hopkin<br>2010-11 | **PhD Dissertation in Middle Eastern Studies**<br>Joseph ben Samuel Tsarfati and Fernando de Rojas: *Celestina* and the World of the Go-Between |
| Christopher Micklethwait<br>2008-10 | **PhD Dissertation in Comparative Literature**<br>*Faits Divers*: National Culture and Modernism in Third World Literary Magazines |
| Elisabeth McKetta<br>2007-09 | **PhD Dissertation in English**<br>Asymptotic Autobiography: Fairy Tales as Narrative Map in the Writing of Zelda Fitzgerald |
| Hulya Yildiz<br>2005-07 | **PhD Dissertation in Comparative Literature**<br>Literature as Public Sphere: Gender and Sexuality in Ottoman Turkish Novels and Journals |
| Michal Raizen<br>2006-07 | **MA Thesis in Hebrew Studies**<br>The Regeneration of Exile: The Orphan Figure in Israeli Literature as an Agent of Diasporic Imagination |
| Luke Pederson<br>2006-07 | **MA Thesis in Middle Eastern Studies**<br>Palestine in the American Mind |
| Arwa Shobaki<br>2003-04 | **MA Thesis in Middle Eastern Studies**<br>Allegiance, Tradition and Honor: Women's Rights in Jordan |

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (As Supervisor):**

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|---|---|
| Andrew Huck<br>2007-08 | **BA Honors Thesis in Arabic Studies**<br>The Impact of Arabic Literature on the Lyrics of American Rock Music |
| Margaret Clark<br>2006-07 | **ABA Honors Thesis in Arabic Studies**<br>Muslim-Christian Relations under the Islamic Caliphate: A View through Literature |
| Andrea Choquette<br>2003-04 | **Plan II Thesis**<br>Brand America: Mass Media and Public Diplomacy in the Middle East |
| Jack Tannous<br>Spring 2002 | **Plan II Thesis**<br>The Book of Monasteries: Selections from al-Shabushti's Kitab al-Diyarat |

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (As Reader):**

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|---|---|
| Layla Akhtari | **Humanities BA Honors Thesis** |

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| Spring 2004 | A Subjective Interpretation of Iranian Cinema as Political Commentary: An investigation into the Middle East |
| Anne Womer<br>Spring 2004 | **Plan II Thesis**<br>US Civil Society Programs in Egypt and Jordan |
| Sabeen Rani<br>Spring 2004 | **Plan II Thesis**<br>Honor and poetry in Punjabi Culture |
| Sarah Rennick<br>Spring 2002 | **Plan II Thesis**<br>Beyond the Gulf of Silence: Public and Private Identity in the Islamic World |

**COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT AT UT:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Lecture Format<br>(50-101 enrolled) | **Introduction to Arabic Literature (In Translation)**<br>Fall 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2010, Spring 2013<br>**The Arabian Nights (In Translation)**<br>Spring 2002, Spring 2004, Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2012<br>**The Pursuit of Happiness**<br>Fall 2011, Fall 2012 |
| Undergraduate Seminars<br>(20-25 enrolled) | **Memory and Identity in Ancient Arabia (In Translation)**<br>Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Spring 2006, Fall 2008<br>**The Arabic Novel (In Translation)**<br>Spring 2002<br>**Loyalty and Rebellion in Arabic Literature (In Translation)**<br>Fall 2001, Spring 2003, Fall 2005<br>**A Thousand and One Nights (in Arabic)**<br>Spring 2009, Spring 2011<br>**The Qur'an (in Translation)**<br>Summer, 2011 |
| Graduate Seminars<br>(8-15 enrolled) | **Arabic in Europe (in Arabic)**<br>Fall 2012<br>**Literature of Empire and Resistance (in Arabic)**<br>Spring 2013<br>**Arab Women Poets (in Arabic)**<br>Spring 2003, Spring 2006, Fall 2008, Spring 2012<br>**The Politics of Court Literature (in Arabic)**<br>Fall 2002, Spring 2004, Fall 2006<br>**Translating Arabic Texts (in Arabic)**<br>Fall 2003<br>**The Arabo-Islamic Ode (in Arabic)**<br>Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2010<br>**The Arabic Culture of Sicily, 652-1189 (in Arabic)**<br>Fall 2007,<br>**The Novel (in Arabic)**<br>Fall 2007, Spring 2011<br>**Classical Arabic Akhbar (in Arabic)**<br>Spring 2009, Fall 2011 |

**OTHER COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT:**

| | |
|---|---|
| The Free University, Berlin | **The Qasida in Society**<br>Graduate Seminar<br>2000-2001<br>**The Impact of Patronage**<br>Post-Doctoral Seminar<br>2000-2001 |

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|---|---|
| Indiana University<br>Bloomington | **Elementary Arabic I and II**<br>1996-1997<br>**Elementary Arabic I and II**<br>1995-1996 |

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**:

Fulbright Association, Lifetime Member
Middle East Studies Association, Lifetime Member
Middle East Medievalists, 2001-present
Modern Language Association, 2001-present
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, 1996-present

**CERTIFICATION:** **American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages**
Certified Tester in Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI), Arabic Language,
Valid until: December 2013

**ARCHIVAL WORK:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Germany | Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin; Universitätsbibliothek Leipzig; Bibliothek der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft |
| Egypt | Manuscript Institute of the Arab League (Giza); Egyptian National Archive (Cairo) |
| Morocco | Madrasat Ibn Yusif Library (Marrakesh); Bibliotheque Hasaniya (Rabat); Bibliotheque Generale (Rabat) |
| Spain | Biblioteca de El Escorial, Biblioteca Nacional |
| USA | Lilly Manuscript Library at Indiana University; Beinecke Manuscript Library at Yale University |
| Argentina | Biblioteca Nacional de la República Argentina, Sala de Tesoro (Buenos Aires) |

**FIELD EXPERIENCE**: Egypt, Turkey, Jordan, Morocco, Syria, Israel, West Bank, Spain, Germany, Argentina, Kuwait