

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:

Indiana University

Doctor of Philosophy, 2002

Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (Arabic Literature)

University of Utah

Master of Arts, 1997

Middle East Center (Arabic Studies)

Center for Arabic Study
 Abroad

Intensive Arabic Language Training, June 1991-June 1992

American University in Cairo

University of Chicago

Bachelor of Arts, 1990

Psychology, with emphasis on Education

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Associate Professor
 (Tenured)

University of Texas at Austin: Department of Middle Eastern Studies, Austin, Texas,
 August 2008-Present -- Islamic Studies, Arabic Studies, Comparative Literature
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:

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

2010

Monograph:

*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
 (Translated into Turkish by Dergah Publishing Inc (Istanbul, Turkey). Expected 2014)

2004

Co-Edited Volume:

Co-edited with Esther Raizen.
 The *CALICO Journal: Special Issue on Hebrew and Arabic*, Vol. 21, No. 3
 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/ Book Review

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: Brucoli & Layman, pp. 98-107

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

Expected Fall 2014

Monograph:

Traditions of People Power in the Islamic Middle Ages: The Animal, the Hunter, and the Lover

Expected Fall 2016

Monograph:

The Qur'an and Intertextuality: A Literary Reading

LANGUAGES:

Proficient

Reading Knowledge

Modern and classical Arabic, Egyptian colloquial
 Persian, Biblical Hebrew, French, Spanish

FULBRIGHT AWARDS (ACCEPTED):

Council on International
Exchange of Scholars:
US Department of State
\$46,120

Middle East-North Africa Research Award, 2009-2010

Grant to Egypt and Kuwait

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

Grant to Morocco, Egypt, and Germany

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

Grant to Egypt, Spain, and Germany, 1998-1999

Project: Ardor for Memory: Mythicizing the Patricide of al-Mutawakkil in Court Poetry

FULBRIGHT AWARDS (DECLINED):

Fulbright Program
\$54,000

Institute for International Education (IIE)

Grant to Egypt, 2004-2005

Fulbright Program
\$22,000

Institute for International Education (IIE)

Grant to Egypt, 1998-1999

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS:

US Department of
Defense
\$300,000

CIFA Contract H9C104-07-C-0014, with James Pennebaker, 2007-2008

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

Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco, 2003

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

Fellowship in Language, Image and Thought, 2000-2001

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

(at American University in Cairo)

Full-Year Fellowship, 1991-1992

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

Office of Graduate Studies
\$33,800

Faculty Research Assignment, 2009-2010

Project: The Medieval Islamic Public Sphere: Poets, Their Public and the Shaping of Government

Institution: University of Texas at Austin

Office of Graduate Studies
\$27,400

Diversity Mentoring Fellowship, 2008-2009

To Mentor Minority Graduate Student

Project: Arabic Culture in Sicily, 652-1189

Institution: University of Texas at Austin

Office of Graduate Studies
\$26,400

Research Internship, 2007-2008

To Mentor Minority Graduate Student

Project: Arabic Culture in Sicily, 652-1189

Institution: University of Texas at Austin

FROM THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS:

Dean of the College of
Liberal Arts
\$29,203

Dean's Fellowship: Fall 2004

Fellowship to conduct research for a book

Project: Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past

Institution: University of Texas at Austin

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts
\$2,000

FY 2003-2004 Research Grant
Grant to conduct research for a book
Project: Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past
Institution: University of Texas at Austin

FROM THE UNIVERSITY CO-OP BOOKSTORE:

University Co-Op Bookstore
\$1,000

George H. Mitchell Department Award for Academic Excellence
Award for mentoring Andrea Choquette, Spring 2004
(Plan II Thesis: "Brand America: Mass Media and Public Diplomacy in the Middle East")
Funds used to conduct field interviews with government officials and advertising experts

University Co-Op Bookstore
\$1,000

George H. Mitchell Department Award for Academic Excellence
Award for mentoring Jack Tannous, Spring 2002
(Plan II Thesis: "The Book of Monasteries: Selections from al-Shabushti's Kitab al-Diyarat")
Funds used to develop UT Arabic Studies website

FROM OTHER UNIVERSITY UNITS:

Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School
\$12,626

Summer Research Assignment: Summer 2004
Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco for a book
Project: Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past
Institution: University of Texas at Austin

Vice President for Research
\$6,000

FY 2003-2004 Research Grant
Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco for a book
Project: Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past
Institution: University of Texas at Austin

Center for Middle Eastern Studies
\$7,290

Course Development Grant
Title VI grant to conduct manuscript research at the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin 2003-2006
Project: "The Arabic Courts of Sicily, 652-1189"
Institution: US Department of Education, Title VI Funding

Religious Studies Program
\$2,250

Summer Research Grant
Grant to conduct archival research in Morocco, 2003
Project: Arabic Literary Salons in the Islamic Middle Ages: Poets, Public Performance and the Presentation of the Past
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):

Columbia University

Teaching Arab Intellectual Thought and the Changing Role of the Literati
Teaching Arabic Literature, May 7-9, 2011

Columbia University

Teaching the Qasida Genre as World Literature
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
Symposium on Oral literature and Ritual Culture in Muslim Middle East and South Asia
April 9, 2010

Rutgers University

Al-Mutanabbi's Ode to the Sufi State Clerk
Workshop on Arabic Poetry, April 18, 2008

University of Maryland

The 10th Century Arabo-Islamic Public Sphere: Defending and Outing Two Middling State Clerks
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

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**
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**
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Dec. 14, 2007
- University of Utah **Arabic Literary Salons in Islamic Middle Ages**
Middle East Studies Center, April 13, 2006
- Yale University **A Verdurous Encomium for a Murderous Patron: Contradiction and Mythology in al-Buhturi al-Ta'i**
Colloquium on Rulership and Literature in Medieval Islam
New Haven, Connecticut, April 1999
- RESEARCH PRESENTED BY INVITATION (NON-US):**
- New York University Abu Dhabi Institute **Abu Hayyan al-Tawhidi's Animal in the Human: Performing the Animal Self in a Sphere of Political Participation**
Courts and Performance in the Premodern Middle East, Feb. 28, 2012
- 6 October University Cairo, Egypt **Adab Humanism of the Middle Ages as Public Sphere: Seeds of Democracy**
Faculty of Languages and Translation, April 28, 2010
- American University of Kuwait **The Islamic Middle Ages as Public Sphere: Seeds of Democracy**
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**
The Arabian Nights: Encounters and Translations in Literature and the Arts, December 15-17, 2009
- American University in Cairo **Monotheism and Monarchy in Early Islam: A View from the Court**
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**
Center for Social and Cultural History of the Middle East
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**
5th International Conference of the Estonian Comparative Literature Association
The Genre of the Novel in Contemporary World Literature: A Leap or a Standstill?
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**
Processes of Reception in the Context of Arabic Literature
June 27, 2001
- The Free University, Berlin Institute for Semitic and Arabic Studies **The Impact of Patronage (12 weeks)**
Post-Doctoral Seminar Presented to Scholars in Classical Arabic Literature
2000-2001
- Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin **Abbasid Islam -- Monotheism or Henotheism? A View from the Court**
Working Group Modernity and Islam, Berlin, Germany, November 2000
- Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid **Praise for Murder at the Abbasid Court**
Instituto de Filología, Departamento de Estudios Arabes
Madrid, Spain. December 3, 1999
- American Research Center in Egypt **The Warrior Who Lost Face: Praise Poetry and Image-Building by al-Mutanabbi**
Cairo: City of Islam, Cairo, Egypt. July 6, 1999. Invited by Prof. Vincent Cornell

CONFERENCE PANELS AND PAPERS

TO THE MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION:

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

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| Literature | 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 – SCHOLARLY ORGANIZATIONS:

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

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION – MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS:

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| PMLA | Article Referee , August 2013 |
| Journal of Arabic Literature | Advisory Board , Member, August 2011-present Book Review Editor , Nov. 2008-Jan. 2012 Article Referee , October, 2004-present Editorial Assistant , August 1997-July 1998 |
| Oxford University Press | Manuscript Reader/Reviewer 2008 |
| Syracuse University Press | Manuscript Reader/Reviewer 2008, 2009 Book Endorsement 2011 |
| History Compass | Article Referee , August 2010 |

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION –REVIEWS:

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| American Council on Education (ACE) | Program Evaluator , Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies July 2013-present |
| 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 |
| American University of Kuwait | External Review for Promotion to Associate Professor College of Arts and Sciences, January 2011 |

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION – OTHER:

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| American Council of Learned Scholars/Mellon | Application Reviewer , Jan. 2012, Jan 2013, Jan 2014 Dissertation Completion Fellowship |
| Arabic Lit Scholars Listserv | Moderator , Dec. 2008-present |
| Southwestern University | What are Salons Good For? Conversant, January 24, 2011 |

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| Center for Applied Linguistics | Computerized Oral Proficiency Instrument Development Consultant, Spring, 2008 |
| Damascus Scholars Listserv | Moderator , May, 2006-present, members: 200 Aim: To enable students and scholars to share housing info |
| Cairo Scholars Listserv | Moderator , May, 2005-present, members: 2000 Aim: To enable students and scholars to share housing info |
| Near Eastern Languages and Cultures | Indiana University Placement and Proficiency Tester—Arabic Language, August 1997-July 1998 |
| Near Eastern Languages and Cultures | Indiana University Associate Instructor—Arabic Language, August 1995-May 1997 |
| SERVICE TO SOCIETY - CONSULTING: | |
| American Civil Liberties Association (ACLU) | Expert Witness , Islamic Practices, First Amendment Constitutional Case, State of Minnesota <i>Largest ACLU-Charter School Case in US History</i> , Retained: August 2010-June, 2011 |
| US Department of State and National Intelligence Council | Conference on Hizb ut-Tahrir Invited Speaker, July 10, 2008 |
| Newsweek Magazine | Consultant on Arabic Language and Style , International Arabic Edition February 2000-December 2003 |
| Council of American Overseas Research Centers | Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes , Application Reviewer, 150 Applications, Spring 2008 |
| American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages | Arabic Language Tester , All Levels April 1997-Present Language Testing International, White Plains, New York |
| SERVICE TO SOCIETY - PUBLIC EDUCATION: | |
| Center for Inquiry, Austin | "Who's Who in the Middle East" -- May 20, 2013 and August 11, 2013 |
| Atheist Community of Austin | "What Do 1.6 billion Muslims Really Think (Gallop's Historic Poll): Beyond the Headlines Beyond the Fear-mongering" -- September 8, 2013 |
| 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, 2012 |
| TX Diversity Council | Lecture: Islamophobia and the Ethics of Propaganda , September 20, 2012 |
| GPLT | Lecture: Islamophobia and the Ethical Challenge to Global Leaders Global Professional Leadership Training, March 24, 2012 |
| Odyssey: University Extension | Islam 101 , 7 lectures, October 1-November 12, 2008 |
| Elderhostel 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
Organizer, Performance by storyteller, Elida Guardia Bonet (60 people attended)

Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves, October 25, 2002
Artistic Director of Stage Performance
The Hideout Theater, A benefit performance for the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas
(85 people attended; donations equaled 2240 meals)

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
Sponsored by Palestine Solidarity Committee and Tikkun

College of Liberal Arts **The Arabian Nights, or 'Must You Kill Me?' (Demo class)**
Annual Honors Colloquium, July 26, 2002

Aladdin and Judar: Coming of Age in the Arabian Nights (Demo class)
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**
Mythology and Folklore around the World (Presented by Hemispheres), November 2, 2002

Two Sessions on the Middle East (General and In-Depth)
International Studies Schools Association, Second Annual Conference, February 13-16, 2003

SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION: GOVERNANCE

Office of the General Faculty

2010-12, 2013-14 **Faculty Council**, Representative (Elected)

2010- 2012, 2013-14 **General Faculty Rules and Governance Committee**, Representative (Appointed)

Aug 2010-May 2011 **Faculty Grievance Committee**, Representative (Appointed)

College of Liberal Arts

Jan 2011-Jan 2012 **Program Medieval Studies**, Advisor to the Director (Elected)

2006-2008 **Owner-Moderator**, WACulty: Writing Across The Curriculum Listserv
Aim: To enable Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) faculty to share ideas

Center for European Studies

2012-2014 **Executive Committee**
Member (Elected)

2010-present **Language Tester**
Arabic

Program in Comparative Literature

2003-2004, 2012-13 **Admissions and Funding Committee**
Chair (Appointed)

2002-present **Graduate Studies Committee**
Chair (Appointed)

Spring 2004 **Continuing Fellowship Selection Committee**
Chair (Appointed)

Department of Middle Eastern Studies

Fall 2010-present **Executive Committee**
Member (Elected)

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| Fall 2011-present | Undergraduate Honors Advisor (Appointed) |
| Fall 2005-Spring 2008 | Executive Committee Member (Elected) |
| 2010-present | Dissertation Committees , for Melanie Clouser, Cory Jorgensen Chair |
| 2009-2010 | Exam Committees , for Melanie Clouser, Cory Jorgensen Chair |
| April 2007-Summer 2009 | Owner-Moderator , DMES Graduate Students Listserv Aim: To enable DMES new and continuing graduate students to share info and advice |
| Fall 2005-Summer 2009 | Graduate Studies Committee Chair (Appointed) |
| | Admissions and Funding Committee Chair (Appointed) |
| Fall 2005-Spring 2008 | Course-Curriculum Committee 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 Member (Appointed) |
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Department of Middle Eastern Studies

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

Center for Middle Eastern Studies

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

Program in Comparative Literature

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| 2012-2013 | Placement Committee Member |
| 2012-2013 | Graduate Course Committee Member |
| 2011-2013 | Admissions Committee , |

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| | Member |
| 2001-present | Dissertation Committees (Member), for Hulya Yildiz, Christopher Micklethwait, Elisabeth McKetta, Johanna Sellman, Somy Kim |
| 2001-2010 | Exam Committee (Member), for Hulya Yildiz, Chris Micklethwait, Johanna Sellman, Martino Lovato |
| January 2006 | Qualifying Exam , Text Interpretation, Delia Avila Atmaca Examiner |
| 2005- 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:

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| 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

2010-present

PhD Dissertation in Arabic Studies

Sentiment & Solidarity: Moroccan Malhun Poetry in Popular Culture

Placement: University of Rhode Island, Providence, Rhode Island

Cory Alan Jorgensen

2010-present

PhD Dissertation in Arabic Studies

From Invective to Satire: A Performance Approach to the Naqa'id of Jarir and al-Farazdaq

Placement: Assistant Professor, George Washington University, Washington DC

Michael Fares

2011-12

MA Thesis in Arabic Studies

Ikhwan al-Safa in Medieval Islamic Society

Placement: University of Houston

Kaley Keener

2011-12

MA Thesis in Arabic Studies

The Concept of Umma in the Poetry of Ibn Hamdis

Ali Issa

MA Thesis in Arabic Studies

- 2007-08 The Ideology of Iraqi Narrative: An Examination of the Short Fiction of Fu'ad al-Takarli and 'Abd al-Malik Nuri
- Chris Ulack
2006-07 **MA Thesis in Middle Eastern Studies**
Reading the City: Understanding Identity through Twentieth-Century Egyptian Literature
- GRADUATE RESEARCH (As Reader)**
- Ben Koerber
2011-2012 **PhD Dissertation in Arabic Studies**
Placement: Assistant Professor, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey
- Martino Lovato
2011-present **PhD Dissertation in Comparative Literature**
- Joseph Fees
2010-present **PhD Dissertation in Spanish**
New Directions in Kharja Studies: Gender, Sexuality and Desire in the Romance Kharjas and their Muwashshahs
- Johanna Sellman
2010-present **PhD Dissertation in Comparative Literature**
Biopolitics of Belonging: Europe in Post-Cold War Arabic Literature of Migration
Placement: Assistant Professor, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
- Shon Hopkin
2010-11 **PhD Dissertation in Middle Eastern Studies**
Joseph ben Samuel Tsarfati and Fernando de Rojas: *Celestina* and the World of the Go-Between
Placement: Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University
- Christopher Micklethwait
2008-10 **PhD Dissertation in Comparative Literature**
Faits Divers: National Culture and Modernism in Third World Literary Magazines
Placement: St. Edwards Univeristy, Austin, Texas
- Elisabeth McKetta
2007-09 **PhD Dissertation in English**
Asymptotic Autobiography: Fairy Tales as Narrative Map in the Writing of Zelda Fitzgerald
- Hulya Yildiz
2005-07 **PhD Dissertation in Comparative Literature**
Literature as Public Sphere: Gender and Sexuality in Ottoman Turkish Novels and Journals
- Michal Raizen
2006-07 **MA Thesis in Hebrew Studies**
The Regeneration of Exile: The Orphan Figure in Israeli Literature as an Agent of Diasporic Imagination
- Luke Pederson
2006-07 **MA Thesis in Middle Eastern Studies**
Palestine in the American Mind
- Arwa Shobaki
2003-04 **MA Thesis in Middle Eastern Studies**
Allegiance, Tradition and Honor: Women's Rights in Jordan
- UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (As Supervisor):**
- Andrew Huck
2007-08 **BA Honors Thesis in Arabic Studies**
The Impact of Arabic Literature on the Lyrics of American Rock Music
- Margaret Clark
2006-07 **BA Honors Thesis in Arabic Studies**
Muslim-Christian Relations under the Islamic Caliphate: A View through Literature
- Andrea Choquette
2003-04 **Plan II Thesis**
Brand America: Mass Media and Public Diplomacy in the Middle East
- Jack Tannous
Spring 2002 **Plan II Thesis**
The Book of Monasteries: Selections from al-Shabushti's Kitab al-Diyarat
- UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (As Reader):**
- Layla Akhtari
Spring 2004 **Humanities BA Honors Thesis**
A Subjective Interpretation of Iranian Cinema as Political Commentary: An investigation into the Middle East
- Anne Womer
Spring 2004 **Plan II Thesis**
US Civil Society Programs in Egypt and Jordan

Sabeen Rani
Spring 2004

Plan II Thesis
Honor and poetry in Punjabi Culture

Sarah Rennick
Spring 2002

Plan II Thesis
Beyond the Gulf of Silence: Public and Private Identity in the Islamic World

COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT AT UT:

Lecture Format
(50-101 enrolled)

Introduction to Arabic Literature (In Translation)

Fall 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2010

The Arabian Nights (In Translation)

Spring 2002, Spring 2004, Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2011, Fall 2013

The Pursuit of Happiness

Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013

Undergraduate Seminars
(20-25 enrolled)

Memory and Identity in Ancient Arabia (In Translation)

Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Spring 2006, Fall 2008

The Arabic Novel (In Translation)

Spring 2002

Loyalty and Rebellion in Arabic Literature (In Translation)

Fall 2001, Spring 2003, Fall 2005

A Thousand and One Nights (in Arabic)

Spring 2009, Spring 2011

The Qur'an (in Translation)

Summer, 2011

Graduate Seminars
(8-15 enrolled)

Arabic in Europe (in Arabic)

Fall 2012

Arab Women Poets (in Arabic)

Spring 2003, Spring 2006, Fall 2008, Spring 2012

The Novel (in Arabic)

Fall 2007, Spring 2011, Spring 2014

Classical Arabic Akhbar (in Arabic)

Spring 2009, Fall 2011, Fall 2013

The Politics of Court Literature (in Arabic)

Fall 2002, Spring 2004, Fall 2006

Translating Arabic Texts (in Arabic)

Fall 2003

The Arabic Culture of Sicily, 652-1189 (in Arabic)

Fall 2007

The Arabo-Islamic Ode (in Arabic)

Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2010

OTHER COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT:

The Free University, Berlin

The Qasida in Society

Graduate Seminar

2000-2001

The Impact of Patronage

Post-Doctoral Seminar

2000-2001

Indiana University
Bloomington

Elementary Arabic I and II

1996-1997

Elementary Arabic I and II

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 Yusuf 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