



SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND POPULAR MOBILISATION IN THE MENA

Digest of Current Publications and Events

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CALL FOR PAPERS & CONFERENCES

World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies

16-22 July 2018, Seville, Spain

Deadline:) December 2017

The Three Cultures of the Mediterranean Foundation **welcomes the** Fifth World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES).

WOCMES 2018 Seville will be held in the capital of Andalusia on 16-22 July 2018, serving as a meeting point to present, debate and share a wide range of information on the latest studies concerning the Middle East, encompassing diverse perspectives, from conflict analysis and resolution to migrations, water, the environment, culture, news media and studies on Al-Andalus.

Attendance at the Congress is thus a must for researchers, professors, students, media, professionals and other groups interested in studies concerning North Africa and the Middle East as well as other regions of the world involved in those areas. Nearly 3,000 participants from more than 70 countries are thus expected to attend what is considered the most prestigious event in its field.

In the wake of the four previous congresses – Mainz 2002 (Germany), Amman 2006 (Jordan), Barcelona 2010 (Spain) and Ankara 2014 (Turkey), WOCMES 2018 Seville will focus on the relationship between the three cultures and, given that it is the Foundation's *raison d'être*, the Andalusí legacy and the roots of the city that will host this major international gathering.

Seville, a cradle of civilisations and example of coexistence between cultures, is nowadays the perfect setting to host the forum and respective debates concerning study of the Middle East, as both the city and the Andalusian community have traditionally acted as a place for understanding, interchange of ideas and intercultural dialogue.

That confers added value on this land as the host for such a unique event, an aspect which was decisive when it came to choosing the Three Cultures of the Mediterranean Foundation to organise the forum, highlighting its status as an institution which for two decades has been dedicated to the knowledge of diverse cultures as a basis for respect among peoples.

WOCMES Seville 2018 will accept studies and research on subjects encompassing all fields of the social sciences, history and humanities devoted to study of the Middle East and North Africa. These studies will also cover the respective regions' impact on other parts of the world. The conference's working languages will be English and French. Possible themes are [shortened]:

- Ancient Middle East
- Conflict Analysis and Resolution
- Contemporary Middle East
- Cultural Studies

- Islamic Studies
- Nationality / Identities and Ethnicity
- North Africa
- Politics

More information [here](#)

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Politics and Pop Culture in the Middle East and North Africa

Deadline: 20 August 2017

Muftah is putting together a Special Collection that looks at the intersection between popular culture and politics in the Middle East and North Africa in the twenty-first century.

The types of pop culture people in the region consume, and who produces these different forms of pop culture have undergone vast transformations and are inextricably tied with political and social changes. Online meme culture on social media platforms, for example, functions as a form of political and social commentary. New *sha'abi*, rap, and other indie music scenes have flourished throughout Arab Spring countries, Iran, Turkey, and beyond.

In this collection, we hope to explore how different pop culture scenes function as a form of continued resistance to state repression and to look at how mainstream pop culture reinforces state-sanctioned ideas, among other topics. We are looking for fresh, well-written, and thought-provoking submissions between 1000-2500 words that address these and other related questions.

Submissions are due August 20, 2017. Please email articles to submissions@muftah.org. Please note that we can only respond to those authors whose submissions are accepted for publication.

More information [here](#)

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Maghrebine Society and the Challenges of Modernity

14-14 November 2017, Moulay Ismail University, School of arts and Humanities, Meknes, Morocco
Deadline: 15 September 2017

Just like the rest of the Islamic world, the Maghrebine society is in a state of flux where external influences and internal changes are shaping the structure of the society on vertical and horizontal levels. The tremendous impact of colonialism, the massive power of globalization and the unprecedented revolution in digital communication have accelerated the rhythm of transition from a

traditional community where values and norms are deeply rooted in history to a society that has massively been exposed to modernization for some decades.

But unlike the West where modernity implied fundamental changes and ruptures in the structure of thinking, modernity in the Maghreb is still a problematic and controversial issue. For some, modernity should stick only to the hardware, and to the palpable and physical needs, such as economic progress, social welfare, human development and technology, but should not challenge the fundamentals of the society. Western definition of modernity is even deemed detrimental and jeopardizing the essence and identity of this community. For others, modernity is a universal heritage that celebrates human agency, reason and freedom of thought and expression and should, therefore, be locally appropriated as well.

The gulf between these two converging narratives is today manifest in almost every aspect of social and cultural discourses. Civil society is gaining more ground, artists and intellectuals are making their voices more vocal, minorities, women and youth are audaciously challenging hegemonic and patriarchal ideologies. But at the same time, radical thoughts, conservative values are appealing to a large segment of society that identifies with the past in the name of authenticity and revivalism. The aim of this international conference is to explore the dynamics of this transition, to analyze the ins and outs of this society in this particular context and to contribute in mapping possible and constructive routes for the future. The second objective of the conference is to provide a platform for academics and researchers from the Maghreb as well as from other countries so as to think together on how academia could contribute in a smooth transition towards modernity.

We invite abstracts for presentations to address the following issues in the Maghrebine context (but are not strictly limited to):

- Body/identity politics
- Youth culture
- New voices of modern art and literature
- **Social movements**
- Civil society
- Diasporic writers and artists
- Modern Muslim thinkers from the Maghreb
- Radical Islam
- Social media and social transformation
- Education and the question of modernity
- Multiculturalism and the rights of minorities
- Maghrebine women and gender issues

Conference language

The conference language is both English and French. Abstracts should all be submitted in English

Submission requirements

Abstracts should not exceed 500 words

The biography should include title, institution and academic publications

Important dates

The deadline for abstract submission : September 15, 2017

Notification of acceptance : October 15, 2017

Conference date : November 14-15, 2017

Conference venue: Moulay Ismail University, School of arts and Humanities, Meknes, Morocco
International conference organized by Laboratoire de Recherche en Culture, Genre & Littérature (LaRCGL),

Conference coordinator

Dr. Mohssine Nachit : prmohssinenachit@gmail.com

Organizing committee

Dr. Ahmed Chouari

Dr. Zohra Lhioui

Dr. Mohamed Lehdahda

Dr. Mohammed Yachoulti

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING BOOKS

Voice of the Muslim Brotherhood - Da'wa, Discourse, and Political Communication

Noha Mellor

2018 – Routledge

This book offers a fresh and close look into the communication strategy of the group, focusing on published periodicals, biographies, and websites that represent the voice of the Brotherhood. The book analyses the core mission of the Brotherhood, namely its *da'wa* (call, invitation to faith) – how it is articulated and how it is defined by the movement as an ideology and a process. Have the media represented a coherent voice of the Brotherhood over the past decades? What can they communicate regarding the Brothers' perception of the needs of their audiences? How have the media served to sustain, preserve, and distinguish the movement for nine decades? The book argues that the Brotherhood media speak with an intermittent voice and deliver an incoherent message whose tone is changeable and fluctuating and cannot be claimed to truly represent the heterogeneity of the group. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach that integrates Media Studies and Social Movement Theory, the book provides a fresh analysis of the Brotherhood movement as an interpretive community and will be a valuable resource for anyone studying Egypt or the Muslim Brotherhood.

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Rethinking Political Islam

Shadi Hamid and William McCants (Eds)
August 2017 – Oxford University Press

In *Rethinking Political Islam*, two of the leading scholars on Islamism, Shadi Hamid and William McCants, have gathered a group of leading specialists in the field to explain how an array of Islamist movements across the Middle East and Asia have responded. Unlike ISIS and other jihadist groups that garner the most media attention, these movements have largely opted for gradual change. Their choices, however, have been reshaped by the revolutionary politics of the region. The groups depicted in the volume capture the contradictions, successes, and failures of Islamism, providing a fascinating window into a rapidly changing Middle East. It is the first book to systematically assess the evolution of mainstream Islamist groups since the Arab uprisings and the rise of ISIS, covering 12 country cases. In each instance, contributors address key questions, including: gradual versus revolutionary approaches to change; the use of tactical or situational violence; attitudes toward the nation-state; and how ideology, religion, and political variables interact. For the first time in book form, readers will also hear directly from Islamist activists and leaders themselves, as they offer their own perspectives on the future of their movements. Islamists will have the opportunity to challenge the assumptions and arguments of some of the leading scholars of Islamism, in the spirit of constructive dialogue. *Rethinking Political Islam* includes three of the most important country cases outside the Middle East—Indonesia, Malaysia, and Pakistan—allowing readers to consider a greater diversity of Islamist experiences. The book's contributors have immersed themselves in the world of political Islam and conducted original research in the field, resulting in rich accounts of what animates Islamist behavior.

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Montazeri - The Life and Thought of Iran's Revolutionary Ayatollah

Sussan Siavoshi
July 2017 – Cambridge University Press

By the time of his death in 2009, the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri was lauded as the spiritual leader of the Green movement in Iran. Since the 1960s, when he supported Ayatollah Khomeini's opposition to the Shah, Montazeri's life reflected the crucial political shifts within Iran. In this book, Sussan Siavoshi presents the historical context as well as Montazeri's own political and intellectual journey. Siavoshi highlights how Montazeri, originally a student of Khomeini became one of the key figures during the revolution of 1978–9. She furthermore analyses his subsequent writings, explaining how he went from trusted advisor to and nominated successor of Khomeini to an outspoken critic of the Islamic Republic. Examining Montazeri's political thought and practice as well as the historical context, Siavoshi's book is vital for those interested in post-revolutionary Iran and the phenomenon of political Islam.

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The Struggle to Define a Nation: Rethinking Religious Nationalism in the Contemporary Islamic World

Marco Demichelis and Paolo Maggiolini (Eds)

July 2017 – Georgias Press

In the present edited volume, a series of internationally recognised scholars adopt an inter-disciplinary approach to the study of 'religious nationalism' and the 'nationalization' of religion, through focusing on case studies and the religious affiliations and denominations of Islam, Christianity and Judaism. The aim of this book is to reconsider the ongoing debate between different communities of the so-called Islamic World regarding the nature of the nation and state, and the role of religion in a nation-state's institutional ground, both as a viable integrative or segregating factor. It is through focusing on the state dimension, as the subject of collective action or socio-cultural and political representation, that the book proposes to reconsider the relationship between religion, politics and identity in the perspective of 'religious nationalism' and the 'nationalization' of religion in the contemporary Islamic World.

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Yemen Endures - Civil War, Saudi Adventurism and the Future of Arabia

Ginny Hill

2017 – Hurst

Why is oil-rich Saudi Arabia involved in a costly and merciless war against neighbouring Yemen, the poorest country in the Middle East? Why, with billions of dollars of British and American weapons, have the Saudis lost the upper hand to the Houthi rebels? In this first authoritative account of the present conflict, Ginny Hill delves into a country still dominated by the pernicious influence of career dictator Ali Abdullah Saleh, who masterminded patronage networks that kept the state weak, allowing conflict and inequality to flourish. After three decades, he was forced from office by street protests in 2011. In the chaos following his departure, civil war and regional interference plague the country. While the Saudis battle the Houthis—whom they believe are backed by Iran—ISIS, Al-Qaeda and separatist groups compete to exploit the broken state. This fascinating portrait of modern Yemen vividly reveals the key personalities and events of the last thirty years, and how—despite everything—Yemen endures.

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Middle Eastern Minorities - The Impact of the Arab Spring

Ibrahim Zabad
2017 – Routledge

Minority communities in the Middle East are the most susceptible to the turbulence engulfing the region; the majority may suffer physical violence and socioeconomic loss, but minorities could potentially vanish. Instead of ushering in democracy and inclusive politics, the revolutionary upheavals have prompted chaos and fear and reinforced the resurgence of Islamic fundamentalism throughout the region. Zabad uses historical sources as well as first-hand interviews to vividly describe the current status of minorities in the Middle East, explaining attitudes towards the revolutionary upheavals as well as the various strategies they used to avail themselves of the opportunities presented and to confront the risks posed. The question of ethnic, sectarian and religious minorities is situated in the context of the broader history of the region in order to explain the underlying institutional and ideological factors that caused their predicament and problematized their relationship with the majority. The book provides a rich trove of information and insights generated from ten case studies that covered the Shi'a in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Lebanon and Egypt, the Druze, the Alawites, Christians and Kurds in Syria, the Copts in Egypt, and the Zaydis in Yemen.

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The Rise of Islamism in Egypt

Alaa Al-Din Arafat
2017 – Palgrave

This book provides an overview of the sudden ascendancy of Islamism in post-Mubarak Egypt and a detailed history of the power grab by the Muslim Brotherhood. The author argues that liberals and Copts are minor factions, and that the Islamists, the military and 'couch party' (non-politically affiliated Egyptians) are the true key actors in Egyptian politics. Additionally, it is posited that, ironically, Mubarak's coup-proofing strategy was responsible for the military turning against him. The strained civil-military relations in Egypt are examined, as are the ideological development of the MB, Salafist and jihadist groups, and the power struggle between the Islamists and the military.

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Political Islam in a Time of Revolt

Izquierdo Brichs, Ferran, Etherington, John, Feliu-Martínez, Laura (Eds.)
2017 - Palgrave

This book explores the increasing political and social prominence of Islamist groups across the Middle East in recent years. The aftermath of the 2011 uprisings saw some groups access or even control political institutions through success at the ballot box, while there has also been a marked

resurgence of armed Islamist groups that have had profound effects at both the national and regional level. This volume helps us to understand the nature and development of organised political Islam over recent decades in several key Arab and Mediterranean countries: Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, the Palestinian Territories, and Turkey. The book identifies the central social and political Islamist actors, traces their ideological differences and similarities, and analyses power relations both within and between these organizations in the context of political instability and uncertainty. It will be of interest to students and scholars across a broad range of disciplines including political science, sociology, and international relations.

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JOURNAL ARTICLES & OTHER ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

From passion to activism? The politics, communications, and creativity of participatory networks in the MENA region

Banaji, Shakuntala and Moreno Almeida, Cristina and Adel, Rita and Alabed, Asma and Attafi, Sara and Chahdi, Chadi and Ibrahim, Monica (2017)

LSE Middle East Centre Report, Sleiman-Haidar, Ribale (ed.) Middle East Centre, The London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK.

This paper argues that while platforms such as Facebook, YouTube and Twitter are unquestionably allowing some young citizens in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region quicker, easier and greater access to job opportunities and likeminded groups and citizens inside and outside the region, class-based digital divides exist, scepticism of new media remains, online surveillance and harassment are rife, and social media fatigue is common. Existing community structures, creativity and emerging media remain important for youth participatory civic networks in Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Communities, local neighbourhoods, private and public spaces, and commercial media cultures vie for position in young people's social worlds and civic identities. Young Emiratis, expats, Jordanians, Jordanian Palestinians, Moroccans and Tunisians practice their political values and social relationships in networks that are strongly inflected by social class and gender. Indigeneity, race and sexuality also inflect the cultural histories and practices on which young people in the region draw. Individual charisma, self-exploitation, arts and crafts, old media tools and local friendship or kinship networks are still the basis for much civic solidarity, political trust, critique and creative dissemination in the MENA region. This has profound implications for technologically oriented protest narratives, for discussions of personalisation, and for democracy.

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Turkish Islamism, conservatism and human rights before and after Gezi: the case of *Mazlumder*

Fabio Vicini

British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, published online 9 July 2017

Focusing on *Mazlumder*, an Islamist human rights organization, the paper sheds light on the complex articulation of Islamism and human rights discourse in post-2002 Turkey. Based on fieldwork and on the analysis of the organization's press releases and reports on controversial public issues such as the Gezi protests, the paper argues that *Mazlumder's* effort should not be read through normative lenses that reduce the issue to a matter of compatibility between Islam and human rights, and suggests that the analysis should instead take into account the positional shifts of the conservative front in relation to recent internal and external turmoil.

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The Ends of Revolution: Rethinking Ideology and Time in the Arab Uprisings

Sune Haugbolle & Andreas Bandak

Middle East Critique, Volume 26, 2017 - Issue 3, Pages 191-204

It is difficult to believe the level of disruption and despair that we are witnessing in the Middle East, from a broken Gaza, to a ruined Syria, a Yemen being bombed, a Libya in disintegration, and an Egypt on the slide toward state-centric fascism. These developments seem to be distantly removed from the days of Tahrir Square in early 2011, when people with elated spirits poured into the streets to demand a better political future. If the large-scale social mobilization back then provided the best refutation of Francis Fukuyama's the-end-of-history thesis²² F. Fukuyama (1992) *The End of History and the Last Man* (New York: The Free Press).View all notes then the failure to translate mobilization into structural change has made the current moment a liminal, open-ended situation lingering between hope and despair, action and inaction, exhaustion and revolutionary belief. Was this the end of revolution, a stillborn moment that caught fire but transformed and today has lost its radical potential? Or does the end goal of revolution still call forth actions to establish a new and different world, a better one? What, in other words, are the ends of revolution?

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There will be Blood: Expectation and Ethics of Violence during Egypt's Stormy Season

Samuli Schielke

Middle East Critique, Volume 26, 2017 - Issue 3: The Ends of Revolution in the Arab Middle East, Pages 205-220

How did bloodshed emerge as a promising solution to the tensions and troubles of the revolutionary period? And how did different people who were on a particular side of the events from 2011 to 2013 react to the bewildering violence of the victorious in summer and autumn 2013? With these questions, I want to contribute to a conversation opened by engaged academics writing about Egypt, in order to try to understand the wide-scale support for killing that emerged in Egypt in the summer of 2013. My core argument is that, although the violence unleashed after June 30, 2013, evidently was the result of intentional manipulation and escalation by the most powerful players involved, many Egyptians' actual support for that violence was thoroughly moral in character, a consequence of an intensifying process of polarization where the need to defend right against wrong was caught up in an ongoing sense of tension, confusion, and anxiety. In this mood of 'broken fear'—not the same as the overcoming of fear, the expectation that 'there will be blood' was a promise of reaching clarity, purity and truth through a decisive battle. The incitement to bloodshed and the spiral of violence can be described as a form of ethical cultivation where a sense of purity is established through dramatic and radical confrontation. Paradoxically, during the bloody summer of 2013, moments of *irbak*—confusion, bewilderment, loss of solid ground—sometimes were more likely to open up ways out of the circle of hatred and confrontation than firm and clear principles. Wickedness and violence are akin to righteousness and purity, and there are times when weakness and confusion can be the better ethical stance. In this vein, I argue that if commentators failed to notice the inherent cultivation of violence, it was not because it wasn't there, but because we didn't want to see it. It didn't fit well into the beautiful picture of revolutionary resistance. But we cannot separate beautiful resistance from terrible bloodshed, just as we cannot isolate the flourishing of cultural life from the spread of violent street crime in and after 2011, as they belong to one and the same process.

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Trickster Defeats the Revolution: Egypt as the Vanguard of the New Authoritarianism

Walter Armbrust

Middle East Critique, Volume 26, 2017 - Issue 3, Pages 221-239

Egypt's January 25 Revolution often has been viewed as an explicit contest between the Hosni Mubarak regime and its cronies, who were able to prevail by pulling the levers of a 'deep state,' and revolutionaries espousing progressive visions, albeit visions divided between those of Islamists and non-Islamists, and often seen by each as mutually incompatible with the other. The defeat of the January 25 Revolution's progressive aspirations can be understood, to a substantial degree, as a victory by the old regime. However, revolution understood as a Liminal Crisis allows us to see the rise

of 'Abd al-Fattah al-Sisi not as a straightforward restoration of the old regime, but as both a revolutionary outcome and as an instantiation of a New Authoritarianism that has been making significant strides toward power in the wake of the 2011 revolutions. Liminality is understood here as the intermediate stage in a transition as described in Victor Turner's Ritual Process and recently reinterpreted in the context of politics by Bjørn Thomassen. The potential dangers of liminality often are controlled by ritual, but this is not the case in revolutions, which become liminal crises precisely because there is no conventionalized means for closing off the state of being in-between. In such circumstances Tricksters—beings at home in liminality and often-elaborated in myth, folklore, and literature—become potentially dangerous in politics. Sisi can be seen as a Trickster politician. But more broadly, the structuring of liminality through the global political-economic order of contemporary capitalism both creates a generalized precarity outside the most elite levels of society, and at the same time predisposes those compelled to live in precarity to be attentive to political Tricksters. Hence liminality can be seen as both the beginning and the end of revolution.

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Freedom, Power and the Crisis of Politics in Revolutionary Yemen

Ross Porter

Middle East Critique, Volume 26, 2017 - Issue 3, Pages 265-281

In the study of revolutionary events, it is often assumed that 'political crisis' attests to the failure of revolutionary ideals. Accordingly, revolution is understood as the pursuit of political consensus and the institutionalization of freedom and equality at the level of the state. In contrast, this article describes how, during the recent revolution in Yemen, revolutionaries actively negated proposals for a 'political solution.' It explores how the desire to contain power within the imaginary of 'the people' and safeguard revolutionary freedom produced instead an ethical charter for perpetuating a crisis of politics. As such, it argues that revolution should be understood less in terms of a seamless teleology of political development and more according to the immediate ethics of living a revolutionary life.

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The Most Beautiful Friendship: Revolution, War and Ends of Social Gravity in Syria

Thomas Vladimir Brønd

Middle East Critique, Volume 26, 2017 - Issue 3, Pages 283-296

This article focuses on overlooked revolutionary friendship as a primary vehicle of revolutionary politics. It draws on ethnographic fieldwork among revolutionaries of Syria's peaceful protest movements. The article depicts how friendships emerge in revolutionary moments. It analyzes the experience of friendship as a primary locus for revolutionary politics and as part of social transformations, which often occur during war and revolutions. Drawing on the anthropology of friendship and social theory, I demonstrate how new zones of social gravity were created in beautiful

friendships challenging the neo-liberalism and authoritarianism of Ba'athist regime and installing social change.

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Echoes from below? Talking democracy in Ba'athist Iraq

Achim Rohde

Middle Eastern Studies, Volume 53, 2017 - Issue 4, Pages 551-570

Drawing on Iraqi print media published during the late 1980s and 1990s, this study contributes to the historiography of Ba'athist Iraq by offering a fresh reading into open sources that have long been used by scholars. It focuses on issues like democratization, freedom and the rule of law and how they were articulated in Iraqi print media. This discourse functioned as a strategic tool of communication to reproduce and stabilize the existing order. By moving beyond mechanisms of bureaucratic control, repression or cooptation, the study highlights a neglected element of the former regime's techniques of governance. The evidence presented in this study suggests that the Iraqi Ba'athist regime aimed to demobilize a target audience it suspected of harbouring oppositional feelings and pro-democracy ideas that went beyond what Saddam Hussein was willing to consider. It did so by installing, simulating or tolerating spaces of contestation that helped to ease the 'cognitive dissonance' Iraqis sensed between an official discourse of a people united in love for its leader, and the daily experience of brutal repression and deteriorating living conditions.

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Fatalism and revolution: expanding our understanding of fatalism during a unique political opening in Egypt

Basem Rashwan & J. Craig Jenkins

The Journal of North African Studies, Volume 22, 2017 - Issue 4, Pages 645-664

Fatalism is the belief that major life events are outside of our individual control. We examine two distinct types of fatalism – theological and empirical fatalism – in Egypt during a unique 'moment of madness' immediately following the revolution of 2011 when the political system was in upheaval and many thought all things were politically possible. Drawing on a non-proportional quota survey of 136 Egyptian metropolitan adults in the midst of the 2012 Egyptian Presidential elections, we find that empirical fatalism (belief that fate controls) and theological fatalism (belief that an omniscient God controls) are uncorrelated and have quite distinct social correlates and implications for protest action. Empirical fatalism is tied to being older and female and is a significant deterrent to protest potential. Theological fatalism, which is more widespread, is stronger among the less educated and men but has no effects on protest potential. In contrast with arguments about the anti-modernism of Islamic beliefs, Muslims in general and the more intensely religious Muslims are less likely to be empirically fatalistic. Our results suggest that, at least in Egypt, there are at least two distinct types of fatalism and, while empirical fatalism discourages protests, theological fatalism does not. We discuss

the implications of these findings for the further study of fatalism and its impact on political and social action.

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A Forgotten Mobilization: The Tunisian Volunteer Movement for Palestine in 1948

Shoko Watanabe

Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient, Volume 60, Issue 4, pages 488 – 523

This paper goes beyond the ideological views of nationalist leaders who positioned the departure of Tunisian volunteer soldiers for Palestine in 1948 in the framework of national-liberation history, and it analyzes the volunteer movement to provide a picture of the internal mechanisms of popular mobilization. This was a dual movement, of spontaneous participation and organized recruitment by local committees. The volunteers were ideologically heterogeneous, some having had no previous political career. The decentralized nature of the mobilization and the regionally differing socioeconomic compositions of the volunteers suggest that regionally diverse trajectories of nationalism movements coexisted in Tunisia. Understanding this volunteer movement from the bottom up, focusing particularly on the socioeconomic conditions that made the mobilization possible, can help us understand the dynamism of nationalism as a social movement.

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Islamic political activism among Israel's Negev Bedouin population

Lawrence Rubin

British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, Volume 44, 2017 - Issue 3, Pages 429-446

This paper examines Islamic political activism among the Bedouin Arab citizens of Israel who reside in the Negev/Naqab (southern Israel). It describes how a religious-political movement became the dominant political force among the non-Jewish communities of the Negev, in doing so, this paper explores the link between religious-political ideology, represented by the Islamic movement, and tribalism, the dominant social-cultural influence among this population. While this paper is a first cut at trying to understand these linkages, I suggest that Israeli Islamist political leaders have mobilized support in two interconnected ways. First, they have attracted support through *dawa* (religious education), social-welfare activities, and mobilizing symbols. Second, Islamic political activists have worked within and exploited one of the most salient features of Bedouin life, tribalism, by recruiting support from the lower-status, largely urbanized, and landless tribes. These activities have taken place within the broader context of a changing landscape of identity within these communities of the Negev.

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NEWS PIECES & COMMENTARY

Morocco's al-Hoceima gears up for 'million-man march'

AJE, 19 July 2017

Protesters in the Moroccan city of al-Hoceima are gearing up for what they hope to be a million-man march on Thursday, in the latest chapter of a steadily growing popular movement known simply as "Hirak" in the country's northern Rif region. Spurred into action after the murder of a fishmonger crushed to death by local security forces in late October, the Rif-based popular movement has come to symbolise resentment towards a history of state neglect and violence in the poor coastal area. Among Hirak's demands are calls for a serious inquiry into the death of Mohcine Fikri, the fish seller, a release of political prisoners and the construction of universities, hospitals and libraries in Morocco's Rif. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Global Church body with 80 million members takes action supporting Palestine, calls for examination of investments

BDS South Africa, 14 July 2017

General Council, the highest decision-making body of the WCRC, stated that “many of us have seen with our eyes and heard with our ears the painful realities of life for Palestinians... with respect to the situation of injustice and suffering that exists in Palestine, and the cry of the Palestinian Christian community, the integrity of Christian faith and praxis is at stake.” Among other measures, the WCRC has urged its more than 225 member churches worldwide to examine their investment relationships and to disseminate to members educational materials on the Palestinian situation. The WCRC also cautioned that the Christian faith should not be used to justify the injustice against the Palestinian people and rejected any use of the Bible “to legitimize or support political options and positions that are based upon injustice, imposed by one person on another, or by one people on another.” *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Is Morocco Headed Toward Insurrection?

Hisham Aidi

The Nation, 13 July 2017

Curfews, roadblocks, checkpoints on highways leading to Al Hoceima in northeastern Morocco; neighborhoods encircled by military trucks; police attacking protesters; mass arrests; activists abducted off the streets. Since May 26, the first day of Ramadan, the city of Al Hoceima has seen continuous tumult, culminating with a day of bloody clashes on June 26, in what is now being called the Black Eid of 2017. Tensions had been running high in the Rif region, with ongoing protests since

October, when a young fish vendor died at the hands of the police, crushed to death in a trash compactor as he tried to retrieve his confiscated merchandise. A truce of sorts had been negotiated in mid-May, when a ministerial delegation arrived in the city of Al Hoceima promising various development projects. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Qatari Support for the Muslim Brotherhood is More Than Just Realpolitik, it has a Long, Personal History

David H. Warren
Maydan, 12 July 2017

The diplomatic and economic embargo of Qatar, led by neighboring Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, shows no sign of letting up. To those familiar with the politics of the Gulf region, the root of the current crisis as proclaimed by the anti-Qatar bloc is a familiar one: Qatar's economic relationship with Iran, its prominent television network al-Jazeera, and the country's support for the Muslim Brotherhood. In fact, Saudi Arabia and its allies' issuance of a list of 13 demands to Qatar, with a deadline that expired on Monday July 3, suggests that the crisis may yet take a more serious turn. Taken as a whole, Qatar's acceptance of its neighbors demands would render it effectively a client state. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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Identity Politics, Divisions within Islam and the Need for Incorporating the Concept of Political Dissent in Islamic Political Culture

Seyed Mohammad Ali Taghavi
Maydan, 22 May 2017

There is an ongoing debate among modern Muslim scholars as to whether politics and religion are *intrinsically* tied together in Islam, or that such a link has merely been a coincidence, imposed upon the religion due to the social requirements of the formative period of Islamic political thought. The entrenched belief that Islam is intrinsically a political religion draws upon the fact that as soon as Prophet Mohammad was able to establish a body politic, he did so. Moreover, many *Shari'a* rules, in order to be implemented, require governmental apparatus. Hence, the Prophet's Companions did not have any hesitation to appoint someone to undertake governmental duties that had been performed by him, after his death. *Continue reading [here](#)*

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POSITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Transregional Research Junior Scholar Fellowship: InterAsian Contexts and Connections & Global Summer Semester Residency, University of Göttingen

Deadline 27 September 2017

The Social Science Research Council is pleased to invite preliminary applications for its expanded and enhanced Transregional Research Junior Scholar Fellowship, funded with generous support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Following on four successful grants cycles, through which more than sixty-five individual fellowships totaling nearly 2.5 million USD have been awarded, the SSRC is continuing its transregional grants program, offering a 2018 Junior Scholar grants competition and awarding approximately fifteen grants of up to \$45,000 to researchers in any world region.

In addition, working closely with the Global and Transregional Studies Platform at the University of Göttingen in Germany, the SSRC is pleased to offer a short-term fellowship opportunity in 2018—the SSRC Global Summer Semester Residency at the University of Göttingen (approximate residency dates: April 15, 2018–July 15, 2018).

These fellowships are aimed at supporting transregional research, strengthening the understanding of issues and geographies that do not fit neatly into existing divisions of academia or the world, and developing new approaches, practices, and opportunities in international, regional, and area studies. These fellowships help junior scholars (those at the postdoctoral stage, up to five years out of the PhD) complete first books and/or undertake second projects. In addition to funding research, the fellowships will create networks and shared resources that will support fellows well beyond the grant period through intensive workshops and activities that promote transregional perspectives on individual campuses. The Transregional Research Junior Scholar Fellowship and Global Summer Semester Residency will thus provide promising scholars support at critical junctures in their careers, advance transregional research, and establish structures for linking scholars across disciplines in the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences.

The broad intellectual thrust of the fellowships will continue to be InterAsian Contexts and Connections, or the reconceptualization of Asia as an interlinked historical and geographic formation stretching from West Asia through Eurasia, Central Asia, and South Asia to Southeast Asia and East Asia. In addition, applications that explore the networks that connect Asia with Africa are encouraged for the 2018 awards cycle. Proposals should bear upon processes that connect places and peoples across the boundaries of regions and countries (such as religion, migration/diaspora, media, literature and other arts, shared access to natural resources, cultural and economic continua, and resource flows), those that reconfigure local and translocal contexts (such as shifting borders, urbanization, and social movements), and those that are situated at the nexus of the global/regional/local (such as youth culture, tourist arts, and illicit flows).

Invitational priorities for the 2018 Transregional Research Junior Scholar Fellowship include:

- Afro-Asian Connections
- Environmental Humanities
- Religious Networks

- Migration/Refugees
- Resources & Archives

This does not preclude proposals on other topics.

Invitational priorities for the 2018 Global Summer Semester Residencies include:

- Movements of Knowledge
- Transregional Populisms
- Religious Networks

This does not preclude proposals on other topics that engage with existing research expertise at the University of Göttingen.

Transregional Research Junior Scholar fellows will be selected through a two-part application process. Upon review of the preliminary applications submitted in September, the Selection Committee will invite select applicants to submit full narrative proposals in late fall 2017. Fellowships will be awarded in spring 2018, and fellowship funds can be disbursed flexibly over the sixteen-month period between May 1, 2018, and August 31, 2019.

Global Summer Semester Residency fellowships will be awarded in late fall 2017.

More information and application [here](#)

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Assistant or Associate Professor in International Relations, Syracuse University

Deadline 1 October 2017

The Department of Political Science seeks to hire an Assistant or Associate Professor in International Relations for a position beginning in Fall 2018. We particularly welcome candidates whose work focuses on foreign policy, global environmental politics, or conflict resolution. The political science department is housed within the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, which is committed to citizenship education at the undergraduate level and to graduate education in public affairs and the social sciences. We seek candidates who complement the broader Maxwell mission and have interdisciplinary interests; successful candidates will have some teaching responsibilities in the MA-IR program and a courtesy appointment in the Department of Public Administration and International Affairs. Successful candidates also may be invited to affiliate with the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs or one of Maxwell's other interdisciplinary centers (<http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/centers/>).

Applicants should have a Ph.D. in political science or a related field. Rank and salary commensurate with experience and professional accomplishments.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

For consideration, candidates must complete an online faculty application and attach online the following: a letter of interest and a CV, a sample of professional writing, a statement of teaching philosophy, and evidence of quality teaching. Files may be no larger than 5MB, but you may submit an external link to a larger file if needed.

In addition, applicants will be required to provide the full email addresses of three references.

Applications will be reviewed as they arrive with full consideration given to those received by October 1, 2017. However, the department will continue to consider applications until this position is filled.

More information and application [here](#)

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Career Development Fellow in International Relations/Politics of the Middle East, University of Edinburgh

Deadline: 11 August 2017

The University of Edinburgh seeks to appoint a Career Development Fellow in Politics/International Relations of the Middle East, in the School of Social and Political Science. Applicants should have recently obtained, or be close to obtaining, a PhD in a relevant area, and should provide evidence of ability to deliver excellent university-level teaching and research.

This full-time (35 hours per week), fixed-term post is available for three years from 1 September 2017. Salary: £32,004 - £38,183 per annum. Vacancy Ref: 040527

The post-holder's responsibilities will include some or all of the following:

- Teaching and Convening of UG and PG courses, including leading the teaching of the core International Relations of the Middle East PGT courses, Middle East undergraduate honours options, and developing and teaching a further course for undergraduate honours students.
- Supervision of Undergraduate and MSc dissertations.
- Serving as Personal Tutor to UG and/or PGT students
- Teaching and convening of distance learning courses.
- Under certain circumstances, contributions to PhD supervision may be required.
- A programme of investigative research.
- Contributions in administration including possibly serving as programme director of one or some of our various PGT programmes on the Middle East.

During their appointment, the successful candidate will benefit from the advice and guidance of an academic mentor, as well as from the wide range of professional development and training opportunities provided by the School of Social and Political Science and the University of Edinburgh, including undertaking at least the first stage in the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice.

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-academic-development/learning-teaching/staff/courses-events/postgraduate-certificate/structure>

Main Responsibilities

1 Teaching, including the supervision of dissertations, practical work and projects at levels including Honours and/or MSc, convening courses and delivering lectures/seminars to UG and/or MSc students. An appropriately qualified and experienced post-holder's workload may include contributions to postgraduate research supervision.

2 Assessment, including the provision of detailed feedback to students.

3 Contributing to curriculum development and the design or revision of course units, and to the development of approaches to teaching, learning and assessment.

4 Producing research outputs of at least internationally excellent standard, and participating in research and Impact/KE activities.

5 Sharing in the administrative responsibilities of the subject area. This could include serving as programme director to one or another of our MSc degrees on the Middle East, as well as serving as a Personal Tutor to UG and/or PG students. The appointee will be expected to play a full part in the collegiate life of the subject area and the School of Social and Political Science.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience Needed for the Job

Essential

- A PhD or equivalent, either completed, submitted, or close to submission, in a relevant discipline – typically, where graduated, not earlier than 31st December 2013. The panel will take into account career breaks, parental leaves, and other factors which applicants may bring to its attention.
- Evidence of ability to undertake high-quality research and to author high quality publications at 4/3 level.
- Evidence of commitment to, and potential for, excellent undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, and online and distance learning.
- Ability to design and deliver course materials and assess student performance.
- Expertise in relevant approaches and models, analytical techniques and methods.
- Ability to work as part of a team as well as independently.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- A combination of teaching and research which places the post holder at the forefront of the field of applicants for the position.

Desirable

- A track record of high quality publications.
- Evidence of ability to secure external research income.
- Experience of knowledge exchange and/or engagement with public bodies and stakeholders and wider publics.

Application Procedure

All applicants should apply online by clicking the apply link at the bottom of this page. The application process is quick and easy to follow, and you will receive email confirmation of safe receipt of your application. The online system allows you to submit a CV and other attachments.

Candidates must submit the following:

- A letter of application
- A CV

- A sample of written work – a PhD chapter, draft article, or published piece of work – of no more than 10,000 words in duration

You will be notified by email whether you have been shortlisted for interview or not.

More information and application [here](#)

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Assistant Professor in History Contemporary International History – Asian or Middle Eastern Transnational, University of Toronto

Deadline: 28 September 2017

The Faculty of Arts & Science at the University of Toronto invites applications for a joint tenure-stream appointment in the Department of History (51%) and International Relations Program at Trinity College (49%) in the area of Contemporary International History – Asian or Middle Eastern Transnational. The appointment will be at the rank of Assistant Professor, and begin on July 1, 2018.

The field of contemporary international relations requires complex readings of economic globalization, migration, international institutions, terrorism, war, security and human rights. This joint position with Trinity College provides a platform for examining the history of recent global processes and transnational relations with attention to Asia and/or the Middle East. The candidate's research will focus on legal, institutional, economic, demographic, and military and diplomatic developments in the Indian Ocean area, and place these developments in the context of contemporary global affairs. The candidate will show familiarity with a range of scholarship and methods outside of the specialization, and be able to complement our existing thematic strengths.

The successful candidate will have Ph.D. in History or a related field by the date of appointment or shortly thereafter; an emerging record of excellence in scholarly accomplishment, as evidenced by a record of sustained contributions and refereed publications in leading journals in the field, presentations at significant conferences, accolades and awards, and strong endorsements from referees of high standing, grants and awards; and evidence of experience and excellence in teaching as demonstrated by a strong statement of teaching philosophy, teaching accomplishments, teaching evaluations, and strong endorsements from referees. Candidates must demonstrate the ability to teach a range of undergraduate courses in History and International Relations, from introductory surveys to more specialized, upper-level lecture and seminar courses. Graduate teaching will include seminars as well as supervision of MA and PhD students. The successful candidate will also be expected to conduct innovative research at the highest international level and to establish an outstanding, externally funded research program.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

This position will be held at the University of Toronto campus in downtown Toronto (St. George campus). Learn more about our Department at www.history.utoronto.ca

The search will continue until the position is filled. To ensure consideration, applicants should submit complete applications by 28 September 2017. The committee will begin to review applications in October 2017 and the position will remain open until filled.

Complete applications will include:

1. a curriculum vitae;
2. a cover letter of no more than 2 single-spaced pages which includes a description of future research plans;
3. teaching dossier which will include a statement explaining your teaching philosophy, a proposal for a “dream” course intended for advanced undergraduates in History;
4. one writing selection of no more than 30pp. (for example, an article, conference paper or excerpt drawn from a dissertation chapter); finalists without a PhD in hand may be requested to submit a copy of their completed dissertations;
5. the names and e-mail addresses of three referees. Applicants must arrange to have at least three letters of reference (on letterhead and signed), sent directly by the writers by the 28 September 2017 deadline, to Jennifer Evans at history.chair@utoronto.ca (with “Contemporary IR History – Asia/Middle East” and the applicant’s name in the subject line).

The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

As part of your application, you will be asked to complete a brief Diversity Survey. This survey is voluntary. Any information directly related to you is confidential and cannot be accessed by search committees or human resources staff. Results will be aggregated for institutional planning purposes. For more information, please see <http://uoft.me/UP>.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

More information and application [here](#)

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Assistant Professor in International Relations - International Political Economy, University of Pittsburgh

Deadline: 15 September 2017

The Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) at the University of Pittsburgh invites applications and nominations for a tenure-stream faculty position at the assistant professor level in the field of international relations with specialization in international political economy, to begin in the fall term of 2018 (authorization pending). A PhD in political science or related discipline is expected at the time of appointment. The successful candidate will have research and teaching interests in international political economy and the ability to contribute to GSPIA’s core teaching in public and international affairs. Applications from qualified candidates with research and teaching interests in East Asia and/or international trade are especially welcome. In their application materials, candidates are encouraged to emphasize qualifications that make them well-suited to serve on the faculty of a professional school.

Qualified applicants can submit their materials online through email attachments (see email address below). Submitted materials should include a letter of application describing the applicant's research and teaching interests, a curriculum vitae, two samples of scholarly writing, three letters of recommendation, and teaching evaluations (if available):

Search Committee Chair
c/o Mary Ann Gebet, Executive Assistant to the Dean
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs
IPEGSPA@pitt.edu
3407 Posvar Hall
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Applications must be received by September 15, 2017 to receive full consideration.

The University of Pittsburgh is committed to a diverse and inclusive community and to maintaining a work and educational environment that is free of all forms of discrimination.

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Lecturer/Assistant Professor (ATB) in International Relations, University College Dublin

Deadline: 15 September 2017

Applicants are invited for a permanent appointment as Lecturer/Assistant Professor in International Relations (SPIRe), UCD School of Politics & International Relations.

The person appointed will be expected to contribute significantly to research and teaching in international relations, and to work closely with colleagues in the school. The principal motivation for this post is to further strengthen the School's established profile of excellence in international politics, to help in promoting cooperation with other areas of the school (notably the work of colleagues specializing in international relations, international political economy, gender and conflict, and international development), and to develop links across the College of Social Sciences and Law, UCD more generally, and with national and international organizations.

Salary: Lecturer / Assistant Professor (above the bar): €51,807 - €79,194 per annum

Appointment will be made on scale and in accordance with the Department of Finance guideline

More information and application [here](#)

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The Leigh Douglas Memorial Prize

Deadline: 31 January 2018

The Leigh Douglas Memorial Prize was established jointly in 1986 by the Leigh Douglas Memorial Fund and BRISMES in memory of Dr Leigh Douglas who was killed in Beirut in 1986. The prize is awarded annually to the writer of the best PhD dissertation on a Middle Eastern topic in the Social Sciences or Humanities awarded by a British University.

The deadline for submission of entries for next year's prize is 31st January 2018. The current value of the prize is £600 for the winner and £150 for the runner up. We believe this to be a very worthwhile award and would encourage all supervisors to bring it to the attention of their students. Anyone wishing to submit his/her dissertation for consideration should send a copy by email, together with an accompanying letter of recommendation from their supervisor, before 31st January 2018 to:

Professor Charles Tripp
Department of Politics and International Studies
SOAS
Thornhaugh Street
Russell Square
London
WC1H 0XG

More information [here](#)

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Political Studies faculty, Al-Quds Bard, Palestine

Now entering its ninth year of operation, Al-Quds Bard College for Arts and Sciences (AQB) is an innovative program introducing a liberal arts undergraduate education to the West Bank, with an enrollment of about 280 students in 2016-17. Al-Quds Bard College is a rigorous program, culminating in a two-semester independent senior project, which, in the social sciences, is generally a demanding research paper of 45 pages or more. Graduates of AQB receive dual degrees: a BA from Al-Quds University and from Bard College (New York).

AQB has a full time opening in Political Studies beginning in the fall 2017 semester, renewable contingent upon successful review and funding. We seek faculty whose teaching methods are student-centered, involving students in active discussion and group tasks to develop their reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills in English. The candidate should be able to teach a broad array of Political Science courses, as well as in the First Year or Second Year Seminar programs. The ideal candidate would also have experience working with curricular revision. While the specialty is open, training in regional and international politics is highly desired. Full time faculty teach three courses per semester and supervise a minimum of two senior projects. Participation in all faculty development initiatives and advising are also expected of all full time faculty.

Required qualifications:

- Graduate degree in Political Science
- Successful teaching experience, as shown by student evaluations, syllabi, and other relevant evidence
- Enthusiasm for the mission of the College to provide student-centered teaching, foster critical thinking, and incorporate writing into most courses
- Excellent spoken and written English

Preferred qualifications:

- PhD in Political Science or substantial coursework in Political Science at the PhD level
- Successful experience teaching Political Science in a liberal arts context
- Ability to teach a wide range of courses within the department and in the core program
- Some understanding of the political and cultural context in Palestine and/or significant experience teaching successfully in various developing countries.

To apply, submit a CV; a cover letter that addresses your interest and background as it relates to this position; evidence of teaching effectiveness, such as student evaluations and syllabi; and three letters of reference through Interfolio.com. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Bard College is an equal opportunity employer and we welcome applications from those who will contribute to our diversity.

More information and application [here](#)

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Research Grants – Doctoral Programmes in Germany

DAAD research grants provide young foreign academics and scientists with an opportunity to carry out research and continue their education in Germany. There are funding programmes for various qualification phases and stages in a career. The grants also promote the exchange of experience and networking amongst colleagues. The aim of this grant programme is to support doctoral projects in Germany.

Excellently-qualified young academics and scientists who have completed a Master's degree or Diplom, or in exceptional cases a Bachelor's degree at the latest by the time they begin their grant-supported research.

What can be funded?

Doctoral programmes at a state or state-recognised institution of higher education or a non-university research institute in Germany:

- individual projects under the supervision of a university teacher or academic adviser or
- participation in a structured doctoral study programme

Duration of the funding

a maximum of four years; the length of the grant is decided by a selection committee and depends on the project in question and the applicant's work schedule. Grants are initially awarded for a maximum of one year. Extensions depend on whether the selection committee considers the previous award period to have been successfully completed.

For doctoral projects in Germany that require several years of research, research phases outside Germany can be supported if these are critical for the successful completion of the doctoral degree. Planned stays must be specified in the application in the work and time schedule and should not exceed a quarter of the anticipated total funding period.

Value

- Depending on academic level, monthly payments of:
euros 750.- for graduates,
euros 1,000.- for doctoral candidates
- Payments towards health, accident and personal liability insurance cover
- Travel allowance, unless these expenses are covered by the home country or another source of funding
- One-off research allowance

Under certain circumstances, grant holders completing an uninterrupted stay of over 6 months may receive the following additional benefits:

- monthly rent subsidy
- monthly allowance for accompanying family members

To enable grant holders to improve their language skills in preparation for their stay in Germany, DAAD offers the following services: Payment of course fees for the online language course "Deutsch-uni Online (DUO)" (www.deutsch-uni.com) for six months after receipt of the Scholarship Award Letter

if necessary: Language course (2, 4 or 6 months) before the start of the research stay; the DAAD decides whether to fund the grant holder's participation and for how long depending on language skills and project. If a language course scholarship is granted and the working language at the host institute is German, participation is compulsory.

Allowance for a personally chosen German language course during the grant period

Reimbursement of the fees for the TestDaF test which has either been taken in the home country after receipt of the Scholarship Award Letter or in Germany before the end of the funding period

As an alternative to the TestDaF for scholarship holders who have taken a language course beforehand: the fee for a DSH examination taken during the scholarship period may be reimbursed.

Selection

An independent selection committee consisting of specialist scientists reviews applications.

The most important selection criteria:

- a convincing and well-planned research project or course of continuing education
- academic achievements

Additional documents that prove academic suitability or provide information about extracurricular activities will also be considered in the assessment.

More information and application [here](#)

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Assistant or untenured Associate Professor of Sociology Harvard Sociology Department

Deadline: 15 September 2017

The Harvard Sociology Department seeks to fill two full-time tenure-track positions as Assistant or untenured Associate Professor of Sociology, beginning fall 2018. The area of specialization is open. We seek candidates with exceptional promise as scholars and teachers to offer courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Substantive areas of research and teaching are open. Candidates are required to have a PhD by the expected start date, and should have demonstrated the promise of excellence in both research and teaching. Teaching duties will include offerings at both the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as undergraduate thesis advising.

Applicants should submit a dossier including: (1) a vita listing published and unpublished papers, (2) a cover letter, (3) a statement describing current and projected research activities, (4) a statement describing teaching experience and interests, and (5) two or three pieces of written work including at least one dissertation chapter. Please also include names and contact information for three references. All materials, including letters of reference, should be submitted on line.

The deadline to submit applications is September 15, 2017. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

More information and application [here](#)

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MESA Graduate Student Paper Prize Competition

Deadline: 15 August 2017

The Middle East Studies Association invites submissions of graduate student research papers on any aspect of post 600 CE Middle East studies for the 2017 Graduate Student Paper Prize. The author of the winning paper will be presented with a certificate and \$250 cash award at the Awards Ceremony at MESA's annual meeting in Washington, DC. In addition, the paper can be submitted for publication in the *Review of Middle East Studies* (RoMES).

Papers will be reviewed using a blind process so the author's name should NOT be included on the title page, footer, or header. Papers will be evaluated according to originality of research and conceptualization (or interpretation), cogency of argument, and clarity of writing.

2017 Submission rules:

- Complete the submission form and provide proof of graduate student status by asking a faculty member to send in a statement (since it is a blind review it can be sent via email) verifying that the paper was written as a graduate student and was produced between June 30, 2016 and June 30, 2017.
- The Author's name must not appear anywhere on the paper.
- The paper must not exceed 7500 words (excluding bibliography/endnotes).
- The paper must never have been submitted for publication (nor will be throughout the duration of the competition).

The paper needs to use the following format:

- 8 ½ x 11 paper
- One-sided
- Standard font (such as Arial or Times Roman)
- Double-spaced
- 1.25" margins
- Black and white
- *JMES* standards for endnotes

For additional information contact Rose Veneklasen (rose@mesana.org; phone 520-333-2577).

More information and application [here](#)

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