

Employment

- 2025-2026** **Fellow**
Whitney Humanities Center
Yale University
- 2025-2026** **Postdoctoral Associate and lecturer**
The Yale Program for the Study of Antisemitism (YPSA)
Yale University
- 2024-2025** **Visiting Fellow**
Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future
Boston University
- 2023-2024** **Senior Lecturer**
Departments of History and Political Science
Clemson University

EDUCATION

- 2023** **Ph.D. *History and Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies*. New York University**
Committee Members: Zachary Lockman, Arang Keshavarzian, Sara Pursley, Lior Sternfeld, Ervand Abrahamian

Exam committees: Zachary Lockman, Sara Pursley, Timothy Naftali

Dissertation title: Cold War From Below: A social history of Communist internationalism in the Middle East (1941-1983)
- 2021** **MPhil. *History & Middle Eastern Studies & Islamic Studies*; New York University**
- 2017** **M.A. *Global History*; Free University of Berlin and Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany**
- 2013** **B.A. Honors *Diaspora & Transnational Studies and Political Science*, Minor in History; University of Toronto, Canada**

HONORS, AWARDS & GRANTS

1. New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) Global Dissertation Writing Fellowship, 12-month, USD 30,000
2. Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) 2-year Doctoral Fellowship, CAD 40,000
3. Zahedi Family Fellowship, Stanford University, USD 20,000
4. University of Oklahoma's Farzaneh Family Center for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies Research Fellowship 2020, USD 3,000

5. Bemis Dissertation Research Grant, Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) 2020, USD 2,000
6. Global Research Institute Fellowship at NYU London, Three-months fully funded, Spring 2020
7. History Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, NYU, Summer 2019, USD 5,000
8. R. Bayly Winder Summer Language Fellowship for Arabic, 2019, USD 5,000
9. Global Scholars and Diversity Grants — Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) 2019
10. NYU's Dean Student Travel Grant 2018
11. Middle East Studies Association Travel Grant 2018

PUBLICATIONS

A. Books

1. *What Iranians Want: Women, Life, Freedom*. London: Oneworld, 2024.
2. *The Shadow Commander: Soleimani, the U.S., and Iran's Global Ambitions*. London: Oneworld, 2020.

B. Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. "Iranian Communists and the Palestine Question (1947-1956)." *Middle Eastern Studies*, Volume 61, Issue 4, 2025.

C. Peer-Reviewed Roundtable Contribution

1. "Communism, Cold War and the 1953 Coup". Roundtable on the 70th anniversary of the 1953 coup. *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*. 2024;56(2):295-299

D. Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

1. "Internationalist Patriotism: Iranian and Iraqi Communists and the Iran-Iraq War" In *The Anthology of the Iranian Perspective on the Iran-Iraq War*. Edited by Mateo Farzaneh. 2025.
2. "Si Ganen Los Republicanos?: Irán y la Guerra civil española." In *España Y el Mundo Iranio: Relaciones y representaciones políticas y culturales*. Edited by Fernando Camacho Padilla, Fernando Escribano Martin and Raffaele Mauriello. 2025.
3. "Iranians and the Vietnam War: Cold Warrior Enmities or Anti-Colonial Solidarities?" In *Iran and Global Decolonization*. Edited by Firouzeh Kashani-Sabet and Rob Steele. London: Gingko library's Iran Series, 2023.

E. Organized workshops

1. Research Workshop: Iran, the Holocaust and World War II. *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington DC, September 2024*. Acted as co-convenor alongside Lior Sternfeld.

F. Book Reviews in Peer-Reviewed Journals

1. "Review of Petroleum and Progress in Iran by Gregory Brew" *H-Diplo Review Essay 591*, October 24, 2024
2. "Review of Iran in Motion: Mobility, Space and the Trans-Iranian Railway by Mikiya Koyagi" *Bustan: The Middle East Book Review* (2022).
3. "Review of 'Doomed to Good Relations': The USSR, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Anti-imperialism in the 1980s." By Timothy Nunan." *H-Diplo 1125*, July 8, 2022.

4. "Review of *America and Iran: A History, 1720 to the Present*, by John Ghazvinian." *The Middle East Journal* 75, no. 3 (2021): 473–75.
5. "Review of *Contesting the Iranian Revolution: The Green Uprisings*, by Pouya Alimagham." *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 52, no. 1 (2021): 151–53.
6. "Review of *The Shah, the Islamic Revolution and the United States* by Darioush Bayandor" *Iranian Studies* 54, no. 1–2 (March 4, 2021): 309–13.

G. Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

1. *Iran's Israel Debate and US-Iranian Relations, 1947-1979*. Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), Arlington. (2025, June)
2. *Iran, US, and the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971*. American Historical Association (AHA), New York City. (2025, January)
3. *Old Vs. New Left in the Long Iranian Sixties*. Association of Iranian Studies (AIS). Mexico City. (2024, August)
4. *Pan-Iranism: Iranian fascism?* [Roundtable: Fascism and anti-fascism in 20th century Iran]. Association of Iranian Studies (AIS). Mexico City. (2024, August)
5. *"Two Peoples, One Land": Forlorn Legacy of Edward Said's Binationalism on Palestine/Israel*. Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), Toronto. (2024, June)
6. *Iran and Three Revolutions: Comparing 1906, 1979 and 2022 in a Global Perspective*. Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA). (2023, November)
7. *Patriotic internationalism in action: Iranian communists and the Iran-Iraq War*. The Anthology of the Iranian Perspective on the Iran-Iraq War Book Workshop. University of Arkansas and Northeastern Illinois University. (2023, October 13)
8. *Cold War from Below: Iranian and Iraqi Communists in the Labor Strikes of 1946*. Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), Arlington, VA. (2023, June 15)
9. *The Global 1960s and the Pahlavi Era* [Roundtable in Pahlavi Studies]. Association of Iranian Studies (AIS). Salamanca, Spain (2022, August)
10. *Iranians and the Vietnam War: Cold War or Global South Connections?* New Scholars International Conference on Cold War, University of California, Santa Barbara (2022, April)
11. *Cold War From Below: A Social History of Communist Internationalism in the Middle East (1943-83)*, NYU Abu Dhabi Research Institute's Inaugural Annual Graduate Student workshop, New Directions in the Study of the Arab World (2022, March)
12. *Iranians and the Vietnam War: Cold War or Global South Connections?* Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA), online. (2021, December).
13. *Iranian and Iraqi Communists: Cold War and Limits of Sovereignty*. The State in Flux Graduate Winter School Program, Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies Doha Institute. (2021, January).
14. *Iranian and Iraqi Communists: A Cold War Alliance (1941-83)*. Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA), online. (2020, October).
15. *The Global 1960s and the Pahlavi Era* [Roundtable in Pahlavi Studies]. Association of Iranian Studies (AIS), online. (2020, August 25).
16. *Between Mecca, Moscow and Mao: Iranian Islamists and socialist countries in the Global Sixties*. Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), online. (2020, June).
17. *Between Mecca, Moscow and Mao: Iranian Left-Islamists and socialist countries in the Global Sixties*. LSE-Sciences Po Seminar in Contemporary International History, London, UK. (2019, November 27).

18. *Tehran, Cairo, Tele Aviv: Iranian Communist Perspectives on Israeli Independence and Anti-Imperialist Unity (1951-52)*. Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), Arlington, VA. (2019, June 20).
19. *Masood Kimiyayis' Qaisar and the Unlikely Iranian 68 Moment*— 15th Annual Historical Materialism Conference, London, UK. (2018, November).
20. *If Only The Republicans Win": Iran and the Spanish Civil War*. Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA), San Antonio, TX. (2018, November).
21. *"If Only The Republicans Win": Iran and the Spanish Civil War*. New Research Agendas. Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies NYU (2018, October).
22. *Tehran, Cairo, Tele Aviv: Iranian Communist Perspectives on Israeli Independence and Anti-Imperialist Unity (1951-52)*. Association of Iranian Studies (AIS), Irvine, CA. (2018, August 14)
23. *'Empire of Atheism" or 'Friend of the oppressed?" Iranian left-Islamism and the 'socialist camp' in the global 1960s*. World Congress of Middle Eastern Studies, Seville, Spain. (2018, July 16).

G. Invited Talks

1. *Dialogos Para a Paz: Israel e Gaza, Como Combater o Extremismo Politico*. Part of a panel. Brazilian Bar Association. (2025, June)
2. *What Choices Does Iran Have?* Beirut Security Dialogue, Issam Fares Institute at the American University of Beirut and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (2025, April)
3. Invited contributor to the workshop *US-Iran Relations under Trump 2.0: Lessons Learned and Likely Scenarios*. Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania. (2025, February)
4. *The Israel Debate in Iranian Politics, 1947-1979*. The Alliance Center for Iranian Studies at Tel Aviv University. (2025, January)
5. *Israel and the Palestinians: Past, Present and the Future* (Persian). Berkeley Lecture Series (BLS). (2024, November)
6. *Iran and the Global 1941 Moment*. As part of "Iran, the Holocaust and World War II." Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Institute and the Anne Tanenbaum Center for Jewish Studies, University of Toronto. Panel speaker. (2024, October)
7. *Iranian Diaspora: Part of Iran or Host Societies?* [Guest lecture]. Anna Shternshis's Class, the University of Toronto. (2024, October)
8. Panel on Iran. Aspen Ideas Festival, June 2024.
9. *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Past, Present and Future*. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy. University of Albany, SUNY. (2023, December 6).
10. Invited contributor to *US Foreign Policy Future in Middle East*. The Century Foundation. (2023, October).
11. *Americanizing the Israel-Palestine Conflict*. Fellowship & Summer Institute on Antisemitism & Jewish Inclusion in Educational Settings. The George Washington University. (2023, June 14)
12. *Holocaust Education in the Middle East* [Guest lecture]. Ilana Weltman's Class, The George Washington University. (2023, April 30)
13. *Woman. Life. Freedom. A Point of No Return for Iran?* [Panel participant]. University of Pennsylvania, History Department. (2023, April).
14. *Nobody's Periphery: Pahlavi Iran and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*. Inaugural Zahedi lecture. Hamid and Christina Moghadam Program in Iranian Studies, Stanford University. (2022, May 31).
15. *Shadow Commander (my book)* [Guest lecture]. Nahid Siamdoust's Class, The University of Texas at Austin. (2022, February 16).
16. *Pahlavi Iran and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict (1967-1979)*. Hoover Institute Event, Palo Alto, CA. (2021, December 10).

17. *Iranians and the Vietnam War: Cold War or Global South Connections?* Middle East c.1960-1980 Global and Transnational Perspectives, University of Oxford (2021, November 8).
18. *Iranian Interventions in the Arab World*. University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK. (2021, October 11).
19. *IRGC in Iranian politics* [Guest lecture]. Sivan Balslev's Class, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. (2021, May 25)
20. *Iranians and the Vietnam War*. Iran and Global Decolonization: A symposium held jointly by University of Pennsylvania and UCLA. (2021, May 20).
21. *Revisiting the Northern-Tier: Syrian Reconstruction Inside-Out*. Webinar organized by National University of Singapore, Middle East Institute, Arabia Asia Research Cluster (May 12, 2021)
22. *Left in the Middle East* [Guest lecture]. Arnon Degani's Class, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. (2021, May 3).
23. *Shadow Commander* [Book Talk]. Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies NYU (2021, March 1).
24. *Book Review: "Call to Arms" by Ali Rahnama (2021)*. Seminar on the 50th Anniversary of Iran's Fada'i movement, online. (2021, February 27).
25. *Shadow Commander* [Book Talk]. Mike Rogers Center for Intelligence and Global Affairs (2020, December 15).
26. *The Tehran Children: Iran's Unexpected Connection to the Holocaust* [Panel participant]. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (2020, December 8).
27. *Iran and the Cold War* [Guest lecture]. Roham Alvandi's class, Columbia University. (2019, March).
28. *82 Names: Syria, Please Don't Forget Us* [Panel participant]. Screening, Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies NYU. (2018, September).
29. *Iranian intellectual history* [Guest lecture]. Ali Mirsepassi's seminar, New York University. (2018, March).
30. *Iranian protests* [Panel participant]. Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies NYU. (2018, February).

H. Opinion and Commentary Articles (Selected)

1. "Change is Coming to Iran, Just Not the Change We Hoped For", *The New York Times*, March 11, 2024. <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/03/11/opinion/iran-election-theocracy.html>
2. "Who Wants a One-State Solution?" *The Atlantic*, November 15, 2023, <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2023/11/palestine-israel-one-state-solution-ethnonationalism/675988/>
3. "Why Is Iran Kidnapping and Executing Dissidents?" *The New York Times*, January 12, 2021. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/12/opinion/iran-kidnap-execute-dissidents.html>.
4. "What a New Film Gets Right about the Iranian Hostage Crisis." *Washington Post*, November 13, 2019. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2019/11/13/what-new-film-gets-right-about-iranian-hostage-crisis/>.
5. "Azam Taleghani, Defiant Would-Be President of Iran, Dies at 76." *The New York Times*, November 1, 2019, sec. World. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/01/world/azam-taleghani-dead.html>.

6. “Who Is Afraid of Iran’s Faezeh Hashemi?” *Atlantic Council*, April 20, 2021. <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/iransource/who-is-afraid-of-irans-faezeh-hashemi/>.
7. “Jennifer Lopez’s Performance at the Biden Inauguration Has a Complicated History.” NBC News, January 21, 2021. <https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/jennifer-lopez-s-performance-biden-inauguration-has-complicated-history-ncna1255168>.

TEACHING

Yale University

Antisemitism and its opponents in the Muslim world (Undergraduate), Spring 2026

Boston University

Middle East and the world order (Undergraduate, regular guest lectures), AY 2024-2025

Clemson University

Politics of the Global South (Undergraduate), Spring 2024

Modern Middle East History (Undergraduate), Spring 2024

Modern World History (Undergraduate), Fall 2023

Politics of the Middle East (Undergraduate), Fall 2023

New York University (NYU)

How to Change the World: Revolutionary Movements of the 20th century (Undergraduate), Summer 2022

Emergence of Modern Middle East (Undergraduate), Summer 2021

Supervised dissertations

Supervised PhD dissertation of Melissa Tomris Taylor at Monash University, “Türkiye’s ‘Management’ of Displaced Syrians: To Live in a Country with no Future Prospects”, Fall 2024

Supervising PhD dissertation of Raymond Hakimi at St John’s University, “Islamist Extremism: Using Content Analysis to Understand Evolving Threats to Homeland Security”

RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY

Consultant (selected)

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2020-Present

Conducting original research on Iran and the Second World War

The Atlantic, 2023-Present
Contributing Writer

Nonviolent Initiative for Democracy, 2024-present
Board member

Off-Center Productions, 2017-Present
Research and making of historical documentaries

Impact Iran
Consulting on human rights campaigns in the UN, 2015-Present

Media in Cooperation and Transition Ggmbh (MICT), 2016-18
Advising on Iran-Syria affairs

Research Assistant

Professor Perin Gurel (University of Notre Dame), Assisting Professor Gurel with her manuscript on Iran-Turkey ties in the Cold War, 2022

Professor Ayse Baltacioglu-Brammer (NYU), Assisting Professor Baltacioglu with her manuscript on history of sect and sectarianism in the Middle East, 2019

Professor Lior Sternfeld (Penn State), Assisting Professor Sternfeld with his manuscript Between Iran and Zion: Jewish Histories of Twentieth-Century Iran, 2016-2017

LANGUAGES

Persian: Reading, Writing, Speaking
English: Reading, Writing, Speaking
Spanish: Reading, Writing, Speaking
Arabic: Reading, Writing
Turkish: Reading
French: Reading
Italian: Reading
Hebrew: Reading

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

Journal Review

American Quarterly
Iran: Journal of the British Institute of Persian Studies
Texas National Security Review

Manuscript review

Cambridge University Press
Naval Institute Press
McGill-Queen's University Press

Service

Steering committee member, Iranian Studies Initiative at NYU (2017-2023)

Affiliations

Member, Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR)

Member, American Historical Association (AHA)

Member, Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA)

Member, Association of Iranian Studies (AIS)