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FACULTY APPOINTMENT

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Associate Professor of History, Modern Middle East and North Africa (2011-Present)

Assistant Professor of History, Modern Middle East and North Africa (2005-2011)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in History, Boston University (2005)

BA, University of Massachusetts-Boston (1994)

Majors: History and Political Science | Minor: French | Certificate in International Relations | Summa cum laude | Senior Graduating with Excellence, Political Science

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

A Documentary History of Modern Iraq (University Press of Florida, 2012).

The Politics of Food in Modern Morocco (University Press of Florida, 2009; re-issued as paperback, 2015).

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

“An Islamicized Mausoleum for Maréchal Hubert Lyautey,” *Hespéris-Tamuda*, 52, no. 2 (Fall 2017), 151-177.

“[Love in the Desert: Images of Arab-American Reconciliation in Contemporary Sheikh Romance Novels](#),” *Journal of Popular Romance Studies* 5, no. 1 (2015).

and Charity Tabol, “In Sickness and In Health: Representations of PTSD in Post-9/11 Romance Novels,” *albeit*, 2, no. 1 (August 2015).

“The Casbah des Oudaya: The Colonial Production of a Historic District in Morocco,” in *Place and Locality in Modern France*, eds. Philip Whalen and Patrick Young (Bloomsbury Academic, 2014), 91-102.

“Pomp and Circumstance: Royal Symbolism and the ‘Id al-Kabir Sacrifice in Morocco,” *Arab Studies Journal* 19, no. 1 (Spring 2011), 66-93.

“Muslim and Jewish Interaction in Moroccan Meat Markets, 1873-1912,” in *Jewish Culture and Society in North Africa*, eds. Daniel Schroeter and Emily Gottreich (Indiana University Press, 2011), 150-167.

“Famine’s Fortune: The Pre-Colonial Mechanisation of Moroccan Flour Production,” *The Journal of North African Studies* 71, no. 1 (March 2010), 71-84.

“The Legacy of French Colonialism: A Historian’s View of Preservation in Morocco’s Fez Medina,” *APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology Association for Preservation Technology*, 39, no. 4 (2008), 5-11.

“Constructing an Archival Cityscape: Local Views of Colonial Urbanism in the French Protectorate of Morocco,” *History in Africa: A Journal of Method* 34 (2007), 121-132.

“When It Pays to Be Medieval: Historic Preservation as a Colonial Policy in the Medina of Fez, 1912-1932,” *Journal of the Historical Society* 6, no. 2 (June 2006), 297-316.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

“[Morocco Got the Best of President Trump as Part of Its New Agreement with Israel](#),” *The Washington Post*, 13 December 2020.

“[Edith Wharton’s Moroccan Clichés](#),” *History Today*, 5 November 2020.

“[A Postcard from Thessaloniki, Greece](#),” *Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspectives*, 22 January 2018.

“The Road to Morocco,” *Race in American Film*, vol. 3, edited by Daniel Bernardi and Michael Green (Greenwood Press 2017), 743-745.

“The Wind and the Lion,” *Race in American Cinema*, vol. 3, edited by Daniel Bernardi and Michael Green (Greenwood Press 2017), 918-920.

“[The Secular Roots of a Religious Divide in Contemporary Iraq](#),” *Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspectives*, 15 October 2015.

“The Voices of Iraqi Exiles,” *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice* 22, no. 1 (Spring 2010), 89-91.

“Mauritanie, entre famine et démocratie,” translated by Chiara Sulmoni, *La lettre du CERMAM* (Centre d’Études et de Recherche sur le Monde Arabe et Méditerranéen à Genève) no. 12 (May-June 2006), 5.

“Mauritians Want Food, Not Democracy,” *ISIM Review*, International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World, 17 (Spring 2006), 33.

“Silk Road Conveys Powerful New Alliance,” *Journal and Courier*, Lafayette, IN, 23 March 2006, A4.

“Gendering War Zones in Colonial Algeria and Israel,” *Urban History Newsletter* 30 (October 2003), 3-4.

“Meat and Society in Colonial Fez,” *ISIM Review*, International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World, 10 (July 2002), 28.

Orientation Handbook for Fulbright Scholars (Rabat: Moroccan-American Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange, 2001).

CREATIVE NON-FICTION

[“Postcard from the Pandemic: Turning Fifty-Three in Indiana,”](#) *Poets & Writers*, 6 April 2020.

“Ah Ya Ween (Oh Where Am I),” *Hinterland Magazine*, Issue 4 (2020), 54-57.

[“Once Upon a Time in Tiznit,”](#) *Wanderlust: A Travel Journal*, 24 July 2019.

[“Being Yuman,”](#) *Coldnoon: International Journal of Travel Writing and Travelling Cultures*, 20 March 2017.

[“The Present \(Not So\) Perfect,”](#) *Indiana Voice Journal*, 5 March 2017.

[“Grief Sent This Runner Racing a 10K for Charity,”](#) *Women’s Running*, 16 May 2016.

“Football Elegy to My Father,” *Sport Literate* 9, no. 1 (Winter 2015), 27-29.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

[“Edith Wharton’s Morocco, a Literary Pilgrimage,”](#) blog post for “History in the Margins,” 19 July 2022.

[“Ten Things I Learned While Reading a Memoir I Will Not Review for Brevity,”](#) for “Brevity Nonfiction Blog,” 12 November 2019 (53,000 subscribers).

[“Pirate Adventure in Salé,”](#) Amanda Mouttaki’s *Maroc Mama*, 5 August 2019 (18,300 Instagram followers).

[“Problematizing Global Heritage in Fez, Morocco,”](#) guest post on Gary Arndt’s *Everything Everywhere*, 17 July 2019 (139,000 Instagram followers).

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Febe Armanios and Boğaç Ergene, *Halal Food: A History* (Oxford University Press, 2018) in *American Historical Review*, 125, no. 3 (June 2020), 992-993.

Review of Allison Green, *The Ghosts Who Travel with Me: a Literary Pilgrimage through Brautigan’s America* (Ooligan Press, 2015) for *Story Circle Network*, July 2016.

Review of John Robertson, *Iraq: A History* (OneWorld Publications, 2015) in *The Middle East Journal*, 70, no. 2, (Spring 2016), 336-337.

Review of Steven Serels, *Starvation and the State: Famine, Slavery, and Power in Sudan, 1883-1956* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013) in *The American Historical Review*, 120, no. 2 (April 2015), 754-755.

Review of Susan Gilson Miller, *A History of Modern Morocco* (Cambridge University Press, 2013) in *The International Journal of African Historical Studies* 47, no. 3 (2014), 513-514.

Review of Nadej Al-Ali and Deborah Al-Najjar, ed., *We Are Iraqis: Aesthetics and Politics in a Time of War* (Syracuse University Press, 2013) in *The International Journal of Contemporary Iraqi Studies* 7, no. 2, (2013), 159-160.

“The Future of Historic Cities,” Review Essay of Marcello Balbo *The Medina: The Restoration and Conservation of Historic Islamic Cities* (I.B. Tauris, 2012); Bashir A. Kazimee, ed., *Heritage and Sustainability in the Islamic Built Environment* (WIT Press, 2012); Philip Jodidio, *The Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme: Strategies for Urban Regeneration* (Prestel, 2011) in *The International Journal of Islamic Architecture* 2, no. 2 (2013), 409-413.

Review of Abbas Kadhim, *Reclaiming Iraq: The 1920 Revolution and the Founding of the Modern State* (University of Texas Press, 2012) in *The Middle East Journal* 67, no. 3 (2013), 480-481.

Review of Hsu-Ming Teo, *Desert Passions: Orientalism and Romance Novels* (University of Texas Press, 2012) in *Journal of Popular Romance Studies* 3, no. 2 (2013).

Review of Jennifer Sessions, *By Sword and Plow: France and the Conquest of Algeria* (Cornell University Press, 2011) in *Agricultural History*, 27, no. 2 (June 2013), 297.

Review of Sahar Bazzaz, *Forgotten Saints: History, Power, and Politics in the Making of Modern Morocco* (Harvard Middle Eastern Monographs, 2010) in *The International Journal of African Historical Studies* 44, no. 1 (2011), 161-162.

Review of Malika Zeghal, *Islamism in Morocco: Religion, Authoritarianism, and Electoral Politics* (Markus Wiener Publishers, 2008) in *The International Journal of African Historical Studies* 43, no. 1 (2010), 373-374.

Review of John Renard, *Friends of God: Islamic Images of Piety, Commitment, and Servanthood* (University of Californian Press, 2008) in *The Historian* 72, no. 1, (Spring 2010), 154-155.

Review of Eric T. Jennings, *Curing the Colonizers: Hydrotherapy, Climatology, and French Colonial Spas* (Duke University Press, 2006) in *The International Journal of African Historical Studies* 40, no. 2 (2007), 366.

HONORS AND AWARDS

COMPETITIVE GRANTS AND EXTERNAL FUNDING

Research Refresh Fellowship, Purdue University (2022-2023)

“Manny Award for Manuscript Excellence in Nonfiction Category,” Midwest Writers Workshop (2019)

Fulbright Flex Award in Morocco (2018)

Enhancing Research in Arts and Humanities Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University (2018)

Andersonville National Historic Site Prisoner of War Research Grant (2016)

Research Fellowship, Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies (2015)

National Endowments for the Humanities, Selected Participant, Summer Institute on “American Muslims: History, Culture and Politics” (2015) [declined]

Faculty Fellowship for Study in a Second Discipline, Purdue University (2015-2016)

Residential Fellow, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (2015) [declined]

Andersonville National Historic Site Prisoner of War Research Grant (2015)

Incentive Grant, Purdue University, Center for Research on Diversity and Inclusion (2015)

Academic Research Grant, Romance Writers of America (2012)

Library Scholars Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University (2012)

Summer Faculty Grant, Purdue Research Foundation, Purdue University (2011)

Fellow, Center for Undergraduate Instructional Excellence, Purdue University (2009)

Purdue Alumni Association Faculty Incentive Grant, Purdue University (2009)

Research Incentive Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University (2007)

Teaching for Tomorrow Award, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University (2006-2007)

Teaching Development Incentive Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University (2006)

Engelbourg Fellowship, History Department of Boston University (2003)

Carter Manny Award, Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts (2001)

Boston University Humanities Foundation Award (2001)

Fellow, Historians of Islamic Art (2000-2001)

Research Grant, American Institute for Maghreb Studies (2000-2001)

Fulbright Student Award for Research in Morocco (1999-2000)

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Summer 2000, Summer 1997, 1996-1999)

Predissertation Travel Grant to Mali, Ford Foundation-African Studies Center (1999)

NON-COMPETITIVE INTERNAL GRANTS

Aspire Grant, Purdue University, for travel to Morocco of two undergraduate research assistants (2018)

Aspire Grant, Purdue University, for travel to international conference in Bielefeld, Germany (2017)

Aspire Grant, for travel funds to Tangier American Legation Museum in Morocco (2017)

Non-Laboratory Equipment Grant, to purchase camera for research documentation (2017)

Aspire Grant, to travel to Hassan II University in Casablanca, Morocco (2016)

Aspire Grant, to pay for copyright permissions for a scholarly article in *Hespéris-Tamuda* (2016)

Aspire Grant, to travel funds to Harry Ransom Center at University of Texas-Austin (2016)

Aspire Grant, to trace the steps of Edith Wharton to Rabat and Fez (2016)

Research Initiative Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University (2015)

Research Initiative Grant, College of Liberal Arts, Purdue University (2014)

International Travel Grant, Purdue Research Foundation (2014)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Participant, “Women in the World,” Summer Institute, Society for the Historians of American Foreign Relations, Tulane University, 12-16 June 2022.

Participant, Moroccan-American Studies Initiative sponsored by Tangier American Legation Museum, 2022

Participant, “Israel and the Middle East,” Summer Institute of the Moshe Dayan Center of Tel Aviv University, 19-31 July 2020 [cancelled due to COVID-19]

Participant, “Memoir,” Juried Workshop with Claire Bidwell Smith, Aspen Summer Words, 21-26 July 2020

Participant, “Great Travel Writing,” Workshop with Pete McBride, Aspen Summer Words, 17-21 June 2019

Co-Organizer (with Dr. Karim Bejjit of Abdelmalek Essaâdi University), “History and Literature, a Graduate Student Conference,” Abdelmalek Essaâdi University, Tetouan, Morocco, 10-11 March 2019

Mentor, Ph.D. Mentoring Program, American Institute for Maghreb Studies, 2018-2019

Chair, Middle Eastern Culture Area, Midwest Popular Culture Association, 2013-2016

Mentor, Ph.D. Mentoring Program, American Institute for Maghreb Studies, 2015-2016

Project Leader and Researcher, Synthetic Environment for Analysis and Simulation of Baghdad, project sponsored by US Department of Defense and Purdue University Discovery Park, 2006-2007

Participant, “Cultural Signification in Egyptian Architecture,” ten-day workshop organized by Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture of MIT in Cairo, Egypt, January 1998

Internship with the Department of State, US Embassy in Mauritania, summer 1998

Arabic Language Training, Intermediate Arabic Studies Program, Tangier, summer 1997

Arabic Language Training, L’Institut Bourguiba des Langues Vivantes, Tunis, Tunisia, summer 1996

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“The Nostalgia of ‘Desert Motoring’ in Edith Wharton’s *In Morocco*,” Conference on “Modern Travel, Modern Landscapes: Connections and Exchanges in Europe, 1850-1950,” University of Durham (UK), 6-7 July 2022.

“The Myth of ‘Desert Motoring’ in Edith Wharton’s *In Morocco*,” Edith Wharton Society Biennial Conference, New York City, NY, 17-20 June 2020. [cancelled due to COVID-19]

Discussant and Chair, “Conceptualizing the Sahara: Images and Imaginings across Language and Location,” 53rd Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, New Orleans, LA, 14-17 November 2019.

“Authenticity and Imitation in Edith Wharton’s Marrakesh,” Invited Talk at Abdelmalek Essaâdi University, Tetouan, Morocco, 31 May 2018.

with Daniele L. Celano and Lama El Sharief, “North African Perspectives on Corsairing,” Conference on “Buccaneers, Corsairs, Pirates, and Privateers—Connecting the Early Modern Seas,” Bielefeld University, Bielefeld, Germany, 13-14 April 2018.

Discussant and Chair, “Colonialism and Culinary Cultures in the Middle East and North Africa,” 51st Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Washington DC, 18-21 November 2017.

“Edith Wharton and the Origins of American Intervention in the Arab World,” Colonial Morocco Revisited, Centre Jacques Berque pour les Etudes en Sciences Humaines et Sociales, Rabat, Morocco. 11-13 July 2017.

“Edith Wharton’s Marrakesh, Then and Now,” Invited Talk at Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC, 20 March 2017.

“The Colonial Construction of an Islamic Mausoleum for Maréchal Hubert Lyautey,” Invited Talk at Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC, 20 March 2017.

“The Cold War in Barbary: Recasting the Tripolitan War in Kenneth Roberts’s *Lydia Bailey*,” Invited Talk at Moroccan-American Studies Program, University Hassan II, Casablanca, Morocco, 6 April 2016.

“The Secular Roots of a Religious Divide in Contemporary Iraq,” Invited Talk at Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC, 16 November 2015.

“The Cold War in Barbary: Re-Casting the Tripolitan War in Kenneth Roberts’s *Lydia Bailey*,” 48th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Washington DC, November 2014.

“Interwar Identities in Morocco: The Problematic Construction of Maréchal Hubert Lyautey’s ‘Islamic’ Mausoleum,” 42nd Annual Western Society for French History Conference, San Antonio, TX, November 2014.

“The Cold War in Barbary: Re-Casting the Tripolitan War in Kenneth Roberts’s *Lydia Bailey*,” International Conference on “New Narratives of the Cold War,” Lausanne, Switzerland, July 2014.

“Reconcilable Differences: Post-9/11 Captivity Fantasies in Sheikh Romance Novels,” 5th Meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Romance, Thessaloniki, Greece, June 2014.

“Sacrificing Virgins (and Near Virgins): Post-9/11 Captivity Fantasies in Contemporary Sheikh Romances,” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2014.

“Islamic Captivity Narratives in Contemporary Romance Novels,” 35th Annual Southwest Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM, February 2014.

“Sheikhly Kingdoms of the Imagined Middle East in the Desert Rogue Series of Susan Mallery,” Annual Conference of the Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association, Saint Louis, MO, October 2013.

“The Casbah des Oudaya: The Colonial Production of a Historic District in Morocco,” 59th Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, Boston, MA, April 2013.

“Not Deserted after the Storm: Images of Arab-Islamic Political Systems in Romance Novels,” 34th Annual Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Popular Culture Associations Conference, Albuquerque, NM, February 2013.

“French Nationalism and Moroccan Resistance: Contested Memories and the Construction of a Mausoleum for Hubert Lyautey,” 46th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Denver, CO, November 2012.

“Contested Memories in Colonial Morocco: The Construction of Hubert Lyautey’s Mausoleum in Rabat, 1935,” Sixth Biennial Urban History Association Conference, New York, NY, October 2012.

“The Casbah des Oudaya: The Colonial Production of a Historic District in Morocco,” Fifth Biennial Urban History Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV, October 2010.

“Political Legitimacy and Popular Participation in the Royal Musalla of Fez,” Invited Talk at the Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA and UC-Riverside, 14-15 November 2008.

“The Celebration of ‘Id al-Kabir in the French Protectorate of Morocco, 1912-1937,” Invited Talk at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UC-Berkeley, 21 September 2006.

“The Mechanization of Flour Production in Morocco, 1878-1912,” Annual Conference of the Society for the History of Technology, Minneapolis, MN, November 2005.

“Muslim and Jewish Interaction in Moroccan Meat Markets, 1873-1912,” American Institute of Maghreb Studies, Tangiers, Morocco, June 2004.

“Famine’s Role in the Mechanization of Flour Production in Morocco, 1878-1912,” African Studies Association 46th Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, October 2003.

“The Political Impact of the Miller’s Trade in Fez, 1877-1912,” First Biennial Urban History Conference, Philadelphia, PA, September 2002.

“The ‘Bismillah’ of Butchers: Cultural Politics in the Municipal Slaughterhouse of Fez, 1912-1937,” 35th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, November 2001.

“Beyond the Grant Proposal: Refining Dissertation Research in the Field,” Fulbright Orientation at the Moroccan-American Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange, Rabat, Morocco, September 2001.

“Reconstructing the Souk: Competing Visions of Commercial Exchange in Colonial Fez, 1912-1937,” 54th Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians, Toronto, ON, Canada, April 2001.