

MARGARET LITVIN

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POSITIONS HELD

- 2014- Boston University: Associate Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature, Department of World Languages and Literatures (formerly Department of Modern Languages and Comparative Literature).
- 2008-2014 Boston University: Assistant Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature, Department of Modern Languages and Comparative Literature.
- 2006-8 Yale University: Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center.
- 2005, 2006 Georgetown University: Adjunct lecturer (spring), Department of Government.
- 2003-5 Culture of Lawfulness Project, Washington, DC: Coordinator, curriculum developer, and trainer. Worked with Lebanese and Georgian educators to develop middle school civic education programs to build student support for the rule of law.

EDUCATION

- 2006 PhD, Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago.
“*Hamlet’s Arab Journey: Adventures in Political Culture and Drama, 1952-2002.*”
Committee: Joel Kraemer, David Bevington, Paul Friedrich, Farouk Mustafa.
- 2001-2 Center for Arabic Study Abroad, American University in Cairo.
- 1995 B.A. in Humanities, *cum laude*, with distinction in the major, Yale University.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022 PEN/Heim Translation Grant to translate Khalil Alrez, *The Russian Quarter*.
- 2021-22 Radcliffe Fellowship, Harvard Radcliffe Institute, Cambridge, Mass.
- 2022 Henderson Senior Fellowship, BU Center for the Humanities (declined).
- 2015-8 Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers, co-hosted by the Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies at Philipps-Universität Marburg and the Europe in the Middle East-Middle East in Europe (EUME) program, Berlin.
- 2015 ACLS Burkhardt Fellowship for Recently Tenured Scholars for 2015-16. Based at Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study, Uppsala, Sweden.
- 2013 Mellon Summer School of Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University.
- 2011 CASA III fellowship for Center for Arabic Study Abroad, Cairo, fall semester.
- 2009-12 Peter Paul Career Development Professorship, Boston University. University-wide three-year award to support the research of three promising early-career professors in any field.
- 2006-8 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Humanities, Yale University.
- 2003-5 Bradley Graduate Fellowship, Georgetown University Department of Government.
- 2003 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad fellowship to Egypt (declined).
- 2001-2 U.S. Department of Education full-year Center for Arabic Study Abroad Fellowship.
- 1997-2001 University of Chicago: Century Fellowship, 1997 and 1998 Summer Arabic Scholarships.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Russian-Arab Worlds: A Documentary History. A 34-chapter anthology on Arab-Russian and Arab-Soviet ties 1772-2020. Co-edited with Masha Kirasirova and Eileen Kane. Oxford UP, April 2023.

Translation of Sonallah Ibrahim, *Ice: A Novel* (2011). Kolkata, India: Seagull Publishing, 2019.

- Longlisted for EBRD Literature Prize.
- Reviews include [BookForum](#), [LA Review of Books](#), [World Literature Today](#), [4columns](#).

Shakespeare & the Arab World (co-edited with Katherine Hennessey). London: Berghahn Books, 2019.

Four Arab Hamlet Plays. Co-translated anthology co-edited with Marvin Carlson. New York: Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, 2016.

Hamlet's Arab Journey: Shakespeare's Prince and Nasser's Ghost. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton UP, 2011.

- Reviews include *Bidoun* (26, Spring 2012), *Comparative Drama* (46:4, Winter 2012), *IJMES* (46:1 and 46:2, 2014), *Journal of Arabic Literature* (47:1-2, 2016), "La Rivista di Arablit" (II: 4, 2012), *Shakespeare Quarterly* (63:4, Winter 2012), *Shakespeare Studies* (2013), *Theatre Research International* (38:2, Spring 2013), *Theatre Survey* (April 2013), *Times Literary Supplement* (18 April 2012).
- Arabic translation by Soha Sebaie. Cairo: National Center for Translation, 2017.

SPECIAL ISSUES

Guest co-editor (with Katherine Hennessey) of [Critical Survey 28:3 \(December 2016\)](#) and guest editor of *Critical Survey* 19:3 (December 2007), both on Arab Shakespeares.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Cold War Kreutzer: Tolstoy's Posthumous Political Career from Venice to Palestine," *Comparative Literature Studies* 61:2 (2024), 276-305. Issue on Communist World Poetics, ed. Samuel Hodgkin.

"Intimate Foreign Relations: Racist Inclusion in the Soviet Dormitory Novel." *Comparative Literature* 75:2 (2023): 153-171. Issue on "Socialist Anti-Racisms," ed. Gabriela Safran and Anindita Banerjee.

"An Icy Heaven: Arab Migration on Contemporary Nordic Stages." Co-authored with Johanna Sellman. *Theatre Research International* 43:1 (March 2018), 45-62.

"Full of Noises: When 'World Shakespeare' Met the 'Arab Spring.'" Co-authored with Saffron Walkling and Raphael Cormack. *Shakespeare* (Journal of the British Shakespeare Association), Aug 2015.

"From Tahrir to 'Tahrir': Some Theatrical Impulses toward the Egyptian Uprising." *Theatre Research International* 38:2 (2013), 116-123. Peer-reviewed special issue "Performing the Arab Spring."

"Egypt's Uzbek Mirror: Muhammad Mansi Qandil's Post-Soviet Islamic Humanism," *Journal of Arabic Literature* 42:2 (2011), 101-119.

"When the Villain Steals the Show: The Character of Claudius in Post-1975 Arab(ic) *Hamlet* Adaptations." *Journal of Arabic Literature*, 38:2 (2007), 196-219.

SOLICITED NON-PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND REPORTS

"Syrian Playwrights in Berlin." *Theatre Journal* 70:4 (December 2018), 447-450.

"The Editor of Works-in-progress," remembrance of Hazem Azmy (1968-2018), *Theatre Research International* 43:3 (October 2018), 255-257.

Preface to *UR*, a play script by Sulayman Al Bassam published by Oberon Books, London, 2018. Adapted in German [on the blog of Residenztheater, Munich](#), for the play's September 2018 premiere.

“Arab Shakespeares at the World Shakespeare Congress.” Co-authored with Katherine Hennessey. *Shakespeare Survey* 71: *Re-Creating Shakespeare* (2018), 35-38.

“Multilateral Reception: Three Lessons from the Arab *Hamlet* Tradition.” *Middle Eastern Literatures*, 20:1 (2017), 51-63.

“Explosive Signifiers: Sulayman Al-Bassam’s Post-9/11 Odyssey,” *Shakespeare Yearbook* 20, *Shakespeare After 9/11: How a Social Trauma Reshapes Interpretation* (2011), 103-35.

- Updated version, “Theatre Director as Unelected Representative: Sulayman Al-Bassam’s ‘Arab Shakespeare Trilogy,’” in *Shakespeare and the Ethics of Appropriation*, Alexa Huang and Elizabeth Rivlin, eds. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014: 107-129.

“The French Source of the Earliest Surviving Arabic *Hamlet*,” *Shakespeare Studies* 39 (2011), 133-151.

“Actuar para Occidente: el Teatro Árabe en el ‘mercado’ internacional,” trans. Ana Isabel Valbuena. Madrid: *Acotaciones* 21 (June-Dec 2008): 139-148.

“Vanishing Intertexts in the Arab *Hamlet* Tradition,” *Critical Survey* 19:3 (2007), 74-94.

R. Godson, D. Kenney, M. Litvin, and G. Tevzadze, “Building Societal Support for the Rule of Law in Georgia,” *Trends in Organized Crime* 8:2 (Winter 2004): 5-27.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“*The Thousand and One Nights* in American Film and Fiction.” In *Approaches to Teaching The Thousand and One Nights*, ed. Paulo Lemos Horta. MLA, 2023: 132-139.

“Rituals Transformed: Wannous, Intercultural Translation, and the Widening Gyre.” In *The Theatre of Sa’ dallah Wannous: A Critical Study of the Syrian Playwright and Public Intellectual.*, ed. Sonja Mejcher-Atassi and Robert Myers. Cambridge University Press, 2021: 121-141.

“Truth and Absurdity on the London Stage: Liwaa Yazji’s *Goats* and its Audiences,” intro and interview with Yazji in *Critical Perspectives on Contemporary Plays by Women*, ed. Lesley Ferris and Penelope Farfan. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2021, 191-199.

“‘O Brave Monster! Lead the Way’: Theatricality in Drama and Performance,” co-authored with Kyna Hamill in *A Companion to World Literature*, ed. Ken Seigneurie. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2020.

“Fellow Travelers? Two Arab Study Abroad Narratives of Moscow.” In *Illusions And Disillusionment: Travel Writing In The Modern Age*, ed. Roberta Micallef. ILEX/Harvard University Press, 2018: 96-118.

“Middle Eastern Shakespeares.” Co-authored with Parviz Partovi and Avraham Oz. Chapter in *The Shakespearean World*, ed. Jill Levenson and Robert Ormsby. New York: Routledge, 2017.

“Doomed by ‘Dialogue,’ Saved by Curiosity?: Arab Performances under American Eyes,” in *Doomed by Hope*, essay collection on Arab theatre edited by Eyad Houssami. London: Pluto Press, 2012: 158-177.

REFERENCE ARTICLES

“Jabra Ibrahim Jabra,” 750-word entry in *Palgrave Encyclopedia of Global Shakespeare*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.

“Arab Shakespeare.” 4000-word entry co-authored with Rafik Darragi, in *The Stanford Global Shakespeare Encyclopedia*, ed. Patricia Parker. Forthcoming from Stanford University Press online.

“Hamlet in the Arab Near East,” 6500-word article in *Hamlet Handbuch*, edited by Peter W. Marx. Stuttgart/Weimar: J.B. Metzler, 2014.

REVIEWS

[Review of “We Live in Cairo,”](#) dir. Taibi Magar. *Arab Stages* vol. 11, November 2019.

Review of Dominic Dromgoole, *Hamlet Globe to Globe: Two Years, 190,000 Miles, 197 Countries, One Play* (2017), in *Medieval and Renaissance Drama in England*, Vol. 31, 2018.

“[An Act of Solidarity](#),” review of Wendy Pearlman’s *We Crossed a Bridge and it Trembled: Voices from Syria*.” *Marginalia Review of Books*, December 7, 2017. Online.

“Digital Hats, Analog Ambitions: Staging Hassan Blasim.” Co-authored with Johanna Sellman. *Arabic Literature (in English)* blog. April 4, 2016. Online.

“Arab Angst on Swedish Stages,” *Arab Stages 2:2* (Spring 2016). Review of Petra Brylander, dir., *I Came to See You*. Online.

Review of *The Speaker’s Progress*, directed by Sulayman Al-Bassam. *Shakespeare* (journal of the British Shakespeare Association), 2013.

“War Stories, Language Games, and a Struggle For Recognition.” Review of 20th Cairo International Festival of Experimental Theatre. *PAJ: A Journal of Performance and Art* 31:2 (May 2009), 65-71.

Review of Adelheid Roosen’s *Veiled Monologues*. *Ecumenica* 1:2 (Fall 2008, special issue on Performing Islam/Muslim Realities), 120-122.

Review of Sulayman al-Bassam’s *Richard III: An Arab Tragedy*. *Shakespeare Bulletin* 25:4 (Winter 2007), 85-91.

SHORTER TRANSLATIONS

Khalil Alrez, *The Russian Quarter* (2018). Excerpt from Alrez’s novel translated with an introduction and interview with the author. In *Russian-Arab Worlds: A Documentary History* (Oxford, 2023).

Zakaria Turki, “Should Dormitory Bathrooms Have Doors?” Excerpt from the memoir *An Upper Egyptian among the Russians*, translated with an introduction. In *Russian-Arab Worlds: A Documentary History* (Oxford, 2023).

Mikhail Nu‘ayma (Naimy), *Sab ‘un (Seventy)*. Excerpt of Nu‘ayma’s 1908 diary of his seminary years in Poltava, Ukraine, translated with an introduction in Tarek El-Ariss (ed.), *The Arab Renaissance: A Bilingual Anthology of the Nahda*, MLA Texts and Translations series, 2018.

[From Karim Rashid’s play *I Came to See You*](#), two scenes from Swedish & Arabic. *Asymptote*, fall 2017.

“Portrait of a Friend: Mohamad Malas on Sonallah Ibrahim,” translation and introduction in *ALIF: A Journal of Comparative Poetics* #36, 2016.

Mamduh Adwan’s play *Hāmlit Yastaykizu muta’akhhiran (Hamlet Wakes Up Late, 1976)* translated for *Four Arab Hamlet Plays* anthology, 2016. Staged at Cornell University, November 2017.

Jawad al-Assadi’s play *Insū Hāmlit (Forget Hamlet, 2000)*, translated for performance at the VIII World Shakespeare Congress, Brisbane, Australia, 2006. Reprinted in *Four Arab Hamlet Plays* anthology, 2016.

- Excerpted in new Norton Critical Edition *Hamlet*, ed. Robert Miola. Norton, 2010 & 2018.

AUTHOR INTERVIEWS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“An Interview with Ayham Majid Agha.” *Shakespearean International Yearbook 19* (2021), special section on “Shakespeare and Refugees,” ed. Ton Hoenselaars and Stephen O’Neill.

“[The Arab Sartre, Existentialism and Decolonization. A Conversation](#),” interview with Yoav di-Capua, Blog for Transregional Research, <https://trafo.hypotheses.org/9996>

[Interview with Hassan Blasim](#), co-authored with Johanna Sellman. *Tank Magazine* #69, December 2016. <http://tankmagazine.com/issue-69/talk/hassan-blasim/>

“[A Conversation with Sayed Kashua](#),” co-authored with Simon Rabinovitch. *Marginalia Review of Books*, Nov. 25, 2014. <http://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/conversation-sayed-kashua/>

“Interview with Sulayman al-Bassam.” *PMLA* 129.4 (2014): 850-855. Special issue on Tragedy, ed. Jean Howard and Helene Foley.

“For the Record: Conversation with Sulayman Al-Bassam.” In *Shakespeare and the Ethics of Appropriation*, ed. Alexa Huang and Elizabeth Rivlin. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014: 221-240.

“Haitian Scene” and “Mango” (two poems), *Anthropology and Humanism* 29:2 (Dec. 2004): 192-4. Honorable mention in Society for Humanistic Anthropology 2004 Poetry Awards.

JOURNALISM AND BLOGGING

“[The 2023 PEN/Heim Grantees Talk Translation: Part III](#).” *Asymptote*, June 5, 2023.

“[An Ex-Soviet Jew Looks at Syrian Refugees and America](#).” *Marginalia Review of Books*, Dec. 1, 2015.

“[Between Love and Justice: Teaching Literary Translation at Boston University](#),” *Words Without Borders*, August 20, 2014.

“[Not Dead Yet](#),” web essay on Egyptian political situation. *n+1* magazine, June 21, 2012.

“[The Egyptian Military Elite, Reflected in Moon over Samarqand](#),” guest post on Arabic Literature (in English) blog, December 8, 2011. Reprinted on [Mideast Posts](#).

Blog on post-Mubarak Egypt (Fall 2011, June 2012): www.margaretlitvin.com. 10,000+ hits 2011-2012.

Blog on Shakespeare in the Arab World <http://arabshakespeare.blogspot.com>. 20,000+ hits 2006-2015.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Book manuscript: *Red Mecca: The Life and Afterlives of the Arab-Soviet Romance*. Excavating the literary legacy of Arab-Soviet and Arab-Russian cultural ties 1950-present. In progress.

Translation of Khalil Alrez’s 2019 novel *Al-Hayy al-Rusi (The Russian Quarter)*. In progress.

“Sindbad Goes to Kiev: Mohamed Makhzangi’s 1986 and 2022 Ukraine.” Submitted to *Middle Eastern Literatures* special issue on the literary 1980s in the Middle East, ed. Amir Moosavi and Ann-Marie McManus.

“Interview with Isabella Hammad.” Submitted.

Book project: *A Daughter Named Internationale: The Sidqi Story*. In progress.

Book project: *Glott: In Praise of Languages Half Learned*. Memoir/self-help book about immigrant language use, U.S. attitudes to multilinguals, language learning, and study abroad. In development.

Essay collection: *Sindbad’s Raft, Houdini’s Cage: Arab/ic Theatre in the New World Market*. A collection of essays and playwright interviews. In progress.

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

INVITED LECTURES

“The Damascus Giraffe: What Place for Beauty in Arabic Fiction Today?” 10th Annual Farouk Mustafa Memorial Lecture, University of Chicago, April 12, 2024.

“Why Study Russian-Arab Cultural Ties?” University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) Slavics Colloquium, March 2024 (Zoom).

“Sindbad Goes to Kiev: Arab-Soviet Ties and Why They Matter.” Virginia Tech, March 2024 (Zoom).

“Russian-Arab Worlds: Intimate Foreign Relations.” Stanford University, January 2024.

“Literature as Oxygen in the Arabic Language Classroom: Three Approaches.” New England Arabic Teachers’ Council, October 28, 2023 (Zoom).

“Translating the Translingual,” *Lost/Found in Translation*, Connecticut College, March 2023.

“After Defending Jerusalem in Córdoba: The Unhappy Internationalist Life of Najati and Lotka Sidqi,” keynote at conference on Arab-Soviet internationalism, EUME, Berlin, July 13, 2022.

“In Praise of Languages Half Learned.” Informal Radcliffe Institute summer fellows’ talk, June 2022.

“Arab Writers, Moscow Dreams.” Harvard Radcliffe Institute fellows’ talk, December 12, 2021.

“Tolstoy in Arabic: Adventures in Literary Appropriation.” Yale University Directed Studies Colloquium, March 10, 2021 (Zoom).

“Tongue-Tied Internationalism: Adventures with a Soviet Setting, an Egyptian Novel, and an Indian Press.” BU Literary Translation Seminar, April 10, 2020 (Zoom).

“Adapting to the New World Market: Arab/ic Theatremakers, Classic Texts.” CRASSH seminar on performance studies, University of Cambridge, UK, May 14, 2019.

“Sindbad Goes to Kiev: Why Study Arab-Soviet Literary Flows.” Princeton University Department of Near Eastern Studies and Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, March 12, 2019.

“Sindbad Goes to Kiev: Literary Traces of Arab Lives in Motion.” Connecticut College, New London, Conn., February 7, 2019.

“Whose Arabian Nights? Storytelling and Performance Across Cultures.” Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota, February 1, 2019.

“Arab Rewritings of Tolstoy’s *Kreutzer Sonata*,” EUME Berliner Seminar, Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin, June 13, 2018.

“Sudden and More Strange Return: Arab Shakespeare Comes into English.” Keynote at Erasmus Mundus joint doctoral programme conference Text and Event in Early Modern Europe. Berlin, May 24, 2018.

“Afterlives of Beethoven’s ‘Kreutzer Sonata’: Tolstoy, Salim Qub`ayn, Rita Dove.” Humboldt University Insitute for Slavistics spring 2018 seminar on music & literature, Berlin, May 14, 2018.

“Hamlet, Friend of Arab Democracy: Making Political Theatre in Dark Times.” Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, March 22, 2018.

“Moon Rockets, Dull Razors: Egyptian Students in 1960s-70s Soviet Dormitories.” Arbeitsgespräch (work-in-progress talk), Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, March 6, 2018.

“Egyptian Writers Visit Soviet Moscow.” East European History Colloquium, Humboldt University, Berlin, November 2017.

“Fellow Travelers? Two Arab Study Abroad Narratives of Moscow,” International History Workshop, Columbia University, February 2017.

“Lessons from Arab Shakespeare.” Postcolonial Seminar, University of Cambridge, UK, April 2016.

Fast-Track Benjamin Meaker Visting Professorship (two lectures on Arab-Russian literary ties and Arab Shakespeare), University of Bristol, UK, April 24-27, 2016.

“Why Make Political Theatre In Dark Times? Arab/ic Shakespeare Reaches for Europe.” Workshop on Intercultural Shakespeare Performance, Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, London, April 2016.

“Arabic Shakespeare: Three Lessons.” NYU Abu Dhabi Institute, Abu Dhabi, April 2016. Featured talk for NYUAD International Shakespeare Student Festival.

“Approaches to Intercultural Literature.” Presentation to Litteraturvetenskapliga institutionen, Uppsala, Sweden, April 2016.

“Arabs and Other Foreigners in Moscow Dorms: Echoes in Literature and International Relations.” Uppsala Centre for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Uppsala University (Sweden), February 2016.

“Arabic Shakespeare and the Global Literary Kaleidoscope,” Litteraturvetenskapligt forskningsnätverk seminar, Uppsala University, November 2015.

“Spectators to their Own History: Sonallah Ibrahim and Mohamad Malas, Moscow 1973.” Seminar for research group on “Figures of Thought: Turning Points, Cultural Practices, and Social Change in the Arab World,” Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies, Philipps-Universität Marburg, December 2015.

“Shawqi’s Arabic Elegy for Tolstoy.” Uppsala University Semitiska Seminariet, November 2015.

“Arab Intellectuals Encounter Another Europe: Sonallah Ibrahim and Mohammed Malas in Moscow,” EUME Berliner Seminar Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin, October 2015.

“Frosty Utopia: Arabic Literature’s Russian Connections,” Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study, Uppsala, Sweden, October 2015.

“Leo Tolstoy and the Modernization of Arabic Literature,” Gothenburg University, Sweden, Oct 2015.

All-school meeting invited speaker, Boston University Academy (high school), February 2015.

“Frosty Utopia: Russian Connections in Arabic Literature.” Center for Translation Studies, American University in Cairo, Egypt, October 2014.

“Do American Students Need Global Shakespeares?” Wellesley College, October 2014.

“Egyptian Theatres of Revolution.” Husni Haddad Lecture, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Chicago, May 2013.

“Other Russias.” Public conversation with Jacqueline Loss and Jose Manuel Prieto. Symposium on “The Politics of Polyglossia,” Center for the Humanities, Graduate Center at CUNY, May 2013.

“Arts in Protest: The Arab Spring.” Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH, April 2013.

Talk on the Arab *Hamlet* tradition at the Harvard Mahindra Humanities Center seminar “Shakespearean Studies,” William Carroll and Coppelia Kahn, chairs. March 2013.

Guest speaker at [“Global Hamlets” symposium](#), Rhodes College, Memphis, October 2012.

“What Can Arab Shakespeares Teach the Field of World Literature?” Symposium on “Cultural Translations: Medieval, Early Modern, Postmodern,” Department of English and the Medieval and Early Modern Studies Institute (MEMSI), George Washington University. March 2012.

Guest presenter at “Translating the Canon” workshop, Trinity Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, Trinity College, Hartford, CT, February 2012.

“Hamlet on the Barricades: Shakespeare in Egyptian Political Theatre.” Invited book talks hosted by departments of anthropology, Middle East Studies, English, and/or drama at Tufts University (February 29, 2012), New York University (February 3, 2012), Helwan University, Cairo (December 8, 2011), Ayn Shams University, Cairo (November 24, 2011), American University in Cairo (November 21, 2011), Cairo University (November 19, 2011), Al-Alsun College at Ayn Shams University, Cairo (November 17, 2011). The Cairo lectures, each focusing on a different case study, were co-organized with the Arabic Theatre Working Group of the International Federation for Theatre Research. The Cairo University event included an [onstage conversation](#) (in Arabic) with director Hani Afifi and actor Mohamed Fahim.

“2001-2011: A Decade of Arab Performance Under American Eyes,” lecture at the Center for American Studies and Research, American University in Beirut, May 2011.

“*Al-zaman muḍṭarib: shakhṣīyat hāmlit al-shaksbiriyya fī al-masraḥ al-‘arabī*,” presentation in Arabic at the Tufts University Arabic Seminar Series, Oct. 2010.

“Arab Theatre-Makers and the Post-9/11 Western Audience.” 20th Cairo International Festival of Experimental Theatre, Cairo, October 2008. Excerpt published as “Arab Theatre in the New World Market” in *The Experimental*, Oct 13, 2008, p. 1.

“Egypt and the Legacy of Soviet-Era Cultural Exchange.” Yale University Council on Middle East Studies luncheon series, April 2008.

“*Hamlet* and the Anxieties of Arab Nationalism”: Fordham University, April 2008; [Cornell University, February 2008](#); Franklin & Marshall College, November 2007.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

“Russian-Arab Worlds: A Documentary History,” roundtables at Middle East Studies Association, Montreal, November 2023; and Association of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Philadelphia, December 2023.

“Sindbad Goes to Kiev: The Education of Mohamed Makhzangi,” workshop on “The Literary 1980s in the Middle East and North Africa,” EUME, Berlin, June 30, 2022.

“To Defend Jerusalem in Cordoba: Najati Sidqi and KUTV's Transnational Afterlives,” conference on Soviet Literature as World Literature, New York University, November 2019.

“Hailed and Haunted: Syrian Playwrights in 2016-2018 Berlin.” Middle East Studies Association (MESA), New Orleans, November 2019.

“Neither Sindbad Nor Houdini: Arab Playwrights in Berlin.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Washington, DC, March 2019.

“Roundtable: Sourcebook on Arab-Russian and Arab-Soviet Literary Ties.” With Eileen Kane and Masha Kirasirova, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Boston, Dec. 2018.

“The *Obshchiaga* as a Synecdoche for Late-Soviet (Literary) Internationalism: Evidence from Four Soviet Dormitory Novels,” ASEEES, Boston, Dec. 2018.

“Another East: Arabic Literature’s Soviet Archive,” MESA, San Antonio, Nov. 2018.

“Syrian Playwrights in Berlin,” Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Boston, August 2018.

“Arab Writers, Moscow Dorms,” BU Workshop on Russia in the Arab World: History, Literature, Arts, February 18, 2017.

“Imagined Kinship: Tolstoy’s Arab Readers.” Princeton University workshop on Transnational Relations Between Eastern Europe/Russia-USSR and the Middle East, February 11, 2017.

“Reading Tolstoy in Palestine: Tolstoy’s *Kreutzer Sonata* as a Coal Mine Canary.” Panel on Literary Encounters: The Soviet Union and West Asia. MLA, Philadelphia, January 2017.

“From Russia with... Arabic? How (Not) to Study Global Flows.” Inaugural in-house symposium, Department of World Languages and Literature, Boston University, October 2016.

“Another West or Another East? Arab Intellectual Life in Soviet Student Dormitories,” MLA International Symposium, Dusseldorf, June 2016.

“Taking Refuge? Arab Migration on Scandinavian Stages.” International Federation for Theatre Research, Stockholm, June 2016.

“Unify and Conquer: The Metaphor of the Body Politic.” Litteraturvetenskapligt forskningsnätverk (LILAe) workshop on rhetoric, Uppsala University, Feb 2016.

“True Stories from the Moscow Dorms.” At “Illusion and Disillusionment: Travel Writers in the Modern Age,” Boston University Department of Modern Language and Comparative Literature, May 2015.

“‘Forgive me, Lev Nikolaevich!’: Russian Literature and Russian Reality in Three Arab Writers’ Lives.”
 “Translation and Comparative Cultural Studies: East and West in Dialogue,” London, May 2014.

“Do American Students Need Global Shakespeares?” Invited presentation in “Practicing the Future of Shakespeare Studies,” Columbia University Shakespeare Seminar conference, New York, March 2014.

“Sindbad’s Happy Wreck: ‘Global Shakespeare’ Meets ‘Arab Spring.’” MLA, Chicago, January 2014.

“Sonallah Ibrahim and Muhammad Malas at VGIK.” Workshop on Arab-Russian and Arab-Soviet cultural ties, Saint Petersburg State University, St. Petersburg, Russia, June 2013.

“Innocents Abroad: Sonallah Ibrahim and Muhammad Malas in Moscow.” Invited talk at colloquium on Sonallah Ibrahim, Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Georgetown University, DC. May 2013.

“Between Tahrir and ‘Tahrir’: Some Paradoxes of Memorializing a Revolution in Real Time.” MLA, Boston, January 2013.

“Arab Writers Between Prophecy and Fiction.” MESA, Denver, November 2012. (Co-organized “Russian and Soviet Strands in Arabic Literature” panel with Spencer Scoville.)

“Letters to Tolstoy: Arab Writers Between Prophecy and Fiction.” 1st Honeyman Conference, “At the Crossroads of Arabic Literature: The Arabic Literary Heritage in the Context of World Literature,” University of St Andrews (Scotland), September 2012.

“Tragedy and Translation.” Invited presenter at NYU-Abu Dhabi conference on Arabic and World Literature and Translation, December 2011.

“The Global Kaleidoscope and the Arab *Hamlet* Tradition,” IX World Shakespeare Congress, Prague, July 2011. (Co-organized the “Shakespeare on the Arab Stage” seminar with Rafik Darragi.)

“Unmoored Moors and Rotten States: *Hamlet* and *Othello* in Arabic,” invited plenary lecture at conference on “Shakespeare’s Imagined Orient,” American University in Beirut, May 2011.

“Frosty Utopia: Moscow in Arab Literary Imaginings,” ACLA, Vancouver, Canada, April 2011.

Presentation on Arab-Soviet cultural ties, Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations faculty luncheon series, Boston University, December 2010.

“From Russia with *Itizam*: Soviet Models, Egyptian Shakespeare, and Nasser’s Ghost,” MESA, Boston, November 2009.

“Unmoored Moors: How Arab Writers Recycle *Othello*.” Plenary paper session, Shakespeare Association of America (SAA), Washington, DC, April 2009.

“Sufism in Modernist Verse Drama: Salah ‘Abd al-Sabur’s Transformation of al-Hallaj.” ACLA, Boston, March 2009.

“Language Games: Diglossia and Belonging in Arab/ic Plays at the 2008 Cairo Festival.” MESA, Washington, DC, November 2008.

“Shakespeare as Trojan Horse? Sulayman Al-Bassam’s Post-9/11 Odyssey.” American Society for Theatre Research, Boston, November 2008.

“Why Reflect? Hamlet’s Interiority as Emblem of Moral Agency in a 1960s Egyptian Play.” SAA, Dallas, March 2008.

“Through the Global Kaleidoscope: How Arab Writers Receive and Appropriate *Hamlet*.” SAA, San Diego, April 2007.

“Born to Set it Right: The Rise of the Arab Hero Hamlet.” VIII World Shakespeare Congress, Brisbane, Australia, July 2006. (Organized the panel on Arab Shakespeares.)

“The Rule of Law as a Unifying Ideal: Developing a Culture of Lawfulness in Lebanon,” Symposium on Politics of Education in the Arab World, Georgetown University Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Washington, DC, March 2006.

“Ophelia Was Pushed: Arab Women on the Edge.” MLA, Washington, DC, December 2005. (Co-organized MLA Special Session on gender in Arab Shakespeare appropriation.)

“Sulayman Al-Bassam’s *Al-Hamlet Summit* in the Arab *Hamlet* Tradition.” ACLA, Pennsylvania State University, March 2005.

“*Al-baḥṭh ‘an al-‘adāla al-lā-nihā’iyya: hāmlit fī al-masraḥ al-‘arabī al-mu‘āṣir*” (The Search for Infinite Justice: *Hamlet* in the Contemporary Arab Theatre). Presented in Arabic at the University of Chicago Arabic Circle, February 2003.

“Shakespeare Their Contemporary: Arab Intellectuals and the Tyranny of Allusion.” University of Chicago Political Theory Workshop, December 2002.

CONFERENCE DISCUSSANT

Chair and co-discussant for poet Irena Klepfisz at the Boston University Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs (CURA) symposium on “The Jewish Left,” May 3, 2024.

Chair and discussant for “Art, Performance, and Power in Modern Egypt,” Middle East Studies Association, Montreal, November 2023.

Book launch [commentator](#) for R.C. Johnson’s *Stranger Fictions: A History of the Novel in Arabic Translation*, Northwestern University Center for International & Area Studies, May 2021 (Zoom).

Organizer and discussant for “From Arab-Russian to Arab-Soviet Cultural Encounters: Are There Continuities?” Interdisciplinary panel featuring Nabil Matar, Suha Kudsieh, Spencer Scoville, and Elizabeth Bishop. Middle East Studies Association, Boston, November 19, 2016.

Discussant for the Arab/ic panel at the World Shakespeare Congress, London, August 5, 2016.

Discussant for “Transnational Contacts in the Socialist World” workshop, Center for the Humanities at Tufts University, March 27, 2015.

Discussant for “Revisiting Arab Theater: The Construction of Resistance.” Middle East Studies Association annual meeting, October 12, 2013, New Orleans.

WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED, ARTS EVENTS CURATED

Sixth Annual World Languages & Literatures Big Fat Books Symposium: *The 1001 Nights*. April 5, 2024. Featuring keynote lecturer Yasmine Seale. Co-organized with Sunil Sharma.

Conversations on Israel and Gaza, Pardee School of Global Studies, Nov-Dec 2023: Conducted a public conversation with Dov Waxman (UCLA), helped organize three other [events](#).

Middle Eastern Arts & Humanities 2023: Public conversations with Kurdish novelist Bakhtyar Ali, Israeli theatre maker Yulia Ginis, and Palestinian-British novelist Isabella Hammad. BU, Fall 2023.

Reading with Syrian novelist Khalil Alrez, Khan Aljanub Bookstore, Berlin, June 2023.

“Stories from the Square: Egypt’s ‘Revolution’ 10 Years Later,” student-facing forum with BU faculty Heba Gowayed (Sociology), Marcus Walton (Political Science), and Abdulrahman Atta (WLL), Jan 2021.

“When Arabs Came to Europe to Fight against Franco,” public conversation with Egyptian filmmaker Amal Ramsis about *You Come from Far Away* (2018), Boston, October 2019. Co-organized with Boston Palestine Film Festival, BU Arts Initiative, and BU Institute for Culture, Religion, and World Affairs.

Corinne Jaber’s performance of and talkback on *Oh My Sweet Land*, Boston Playwrights’ Theatre (BPT), October 2019. Sponsored by BPT, BU Center for the Humanities, BU Arts Initiative, and others.

Arab Arts & Humanities 2019. Public conversations with poet Iman Mersal, theatre translator-director Rebekah Maggor and playwright Mas'ud Hamdan, and writer-actor Ibrahim Miari. Supported by the BU Center for the Humanities, BU Arts Initiative, and others, Spring 2019.

[“Syria in My Heart: Classical Music by Contemporary Syrian Composers.”](#) Organized and hosted a five-campus concert tour for Berlin-based violinist Ashraf Kateb and Helsinki-based pianist Hamsa al-Wadi Juris to BU, Connecticut College, and Brown, Tufts, and Yale universities, October 12-22, 2018.

[Workshop on Structures and Legacies of Soviet Student Dormitories](#), January 16, 2018. Co-led with Susanne Frank of the Humboldt University Institute for Slavistics. Prisma Ukraina Project, Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin.

[Boston University Workshop on Russia in the Arab World: History, Literature, Arts](#), February 2017. Four panels (13 speakers) plus a public event with novelist Alexandra Chreiteh. Co-sponsored by BU Center for the Humanities, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, et al.

BU Literary Translation Seminar, [Spring 2013](#) and [Spring 2014](#). Semester-long series of lectures by literary translators (including Bill Johnston, Fady Joudah, Sinan Antoon, Ammiel Alcalay, Dick Davis).

[Workshop on Arab-Russian and Arab-Soviet cultural ties](#), Saint Petersburg State University, St. Petersburg, Russia, June 20-22, 2013. Co-organized with Kirill Dmitriev (St. Andrews, Scotland) and Mikhail Suvorov (St. Petersburg State University).

Public conversation with Palestinian poet Ghassan Zaqtan and poet-translator Fady Joudah, October 3, 2012. Supported by the BU Center for the Humanities and the Peter Paul Development Professorship.

Staged reading of Robert Myers' *Mesopotamia* (a play about Gertrude Bell). Boston Playwrights' Theatre, September 10, 2012. Supported by the BU Center for the Humanities, the Boston Playwrights' Theatre, and the Peter Paul Development Professorship.

“The Arab Shakespeare Trilogy: Staging a Region in Tumult, 2001-2011.” Public conversation with video examples with Kuwaiti-British playwright Sulayman Al-Bassam and British scholar Graham Holderness, October 12, 2011, sponsored by MLCL and Kilachand Honors College.

TALKBACKS AND OUTREACH:

Teach-in on Palestine, Black Sheep Society (Russian/E European/Eurasian studies scholars), June 2024.

Presentation to Student Research Institute, a newly formed BU undergraduate-run think tank, April 2024.

“Global Shakespeares,” professional development workshop for Massachusetts K-12 teachers through Primary Source, February 2021.

Discussion with playwright Liwaa Yazji after her play *Question & Question*, Kilachand Honors College conference on “universities’ role in the crisis of forced displacement,” BU, September 27, 2019.

Workshop with Egyptian singer Dina El Wedidi, BU Global Music Festival, October 6, 2018.

Table host (with Botakoz Kassymbekova) at WeberWorldCafé “Russland in Europa – Europa in Russland.” Café des Deutschen Historischen Museums, Berlin. December 1, 2017.

Book launch, reading, and discussion of *Four Arab Hamlet Plays*. Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, CUNY-Graduate Center, New York (via Skype), March 2016.

Post-show talkbacks on *Arabian Nights*, Central Square Theater (Cambridge), November 2012, 2013.

Post-show talkback on *The Speaker's Progress*, ArtsEmerson (Boston), October 2011.

“Arab Theatre Between Local Contexts and Global Audiences: Shakespeare as a Case Study.” Half-day workshop (in Arabic) for theatre students and members of the public, Egyptian National Center for Theatre, Film, and Folk Arts, Cairo, November 2011.

“Writing Across Cultures: Literature of the World,” K-12 teacher workshop, Harvard University outreach centers for Middle East, Russian and East European, and African studies, August 2011.

Post-show conversation on Sulayman Al-Bassam’s *Richard III: An Arab Tragedy* for “Muslim Voices: Arts & Ideas” festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, June 2009, and on Asia Society’s festival website.

Panel discussion participant, “Arabesque: A Festival of Arab Performance,” The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC, March 2009.

MEDIA

New Books Network [podcast](#) (with Tugrul Mende, Eileen Kane, and Masha Kirasirova), March 20, 2024.

“Eileen Kane, Masha Kirasirova, and Margaret Litvin, eds., *Russian-Arab Worlds: A Documentary History* (New Texts Out Now).” [Interview](#) with Jadaliyya, October 3, 2023.

“Sonallah Ibrahim’s Moscow: A [Conversation](#) with Margaret Litvin.” ArabLit blog, January 2022.

BBC Arabic’s show *Alternative Cinema*, [episode on Chekhov adaptations](#), October 2021 (in Arabic).

Andrew Smith’s “[To Be or Not to Be: Lockdown Shakespeare](#)” podcast, December 2020.

Arabic Literature in Translation blog [interview](#), May 2018. Re-quoted in Al-Fanar Media, May 2018.

Quoted in “The Longstanding Egypt-Russia Cultural Connection,” *Egypt Today*, June 17, 2018.

[Interview](#) on political Shakespeare with K24 culture site (translated into Turkish), March 2018.

“I want to see more rising scholars with large and diverse language sets and really transnational interests.” Interviewed [on the Transregional Forum blog](#), summer 2016.

Interviewed on the blog [The Shakespeare Standard](#), spring 2013. Writeups of *Hamlet’s Arab Journey* in *Il Foglio Quotidiano* (Nov 2011), *The (London) Observer* (Dec 2011), and *The Times of Malta* (Jan 2012).

Podcast (interview with Tanjil Rashid), <http://podacademy.org/podcasts/hamlets-arab-journey-shakespeare-in-the-arab-world/>. “Theatre Hour” with Moatazz al-Agamy (in Arabic), Egyptian Radio Channel 2, November 2011. Quoted in [The Village Voice](#), May 12, 2009.

Profiled in internal publications *Bostonia* (Winter 2009), *Research* magazine (2009), *BU Today* (Dec 2011, March 2015), *arts+sciences* (Summer 2012).

TEACHING AND ADVISING

COURSES TAUGHT (* = DESIGNED; ** = CO-DESIGNED)

Boston University

* CAS XL 551 Topics in Literary Translation (grad seminar on 1001 Nights as translators’ playground)

* CAS XL 344 Global Shakespeares (general education course)

** CAS XL 100 Leaving Home: Explorations in World Literature

* CAS ME 101 Issues in Middle East & North Africa Studies

CAS XL 540 Literary Translation Seminar (grad/undergrad)

* CAS XL 470/LY 470/LR 561 Russia in the Middle East: Literary Encounters

* CAS LY 441/XL 441/EN 390 *1001 Nights* in the World Literary Imagination (grad/undergrad)

* CAS LY 350 Introduction to Arabic Literature (bilingual format, 50% each in Arabic and English)

* CAS LY 284 War in Arabic Literature and Film

* CAS LY 572 Arabic Translation and Interpreting (grad/undergrad)

** CAS XL 222 Introduction to Western Literatures

** CAS XL 223 Introduction to Comparative Literature: Middle Eastern Literature

** CAS CC 204 Second-semester sophomore social science core: “Religion and the Secular”

CAS CC 222 Fourth-semester social sciences core: “Unmaking the Modern World”

CAS CC 102 Second-semester freshman humanities core (Aristotle to Dante)

CAS LY 111 First-semester Arabic
CAS LY 211 Third-semester Arabic
* KHC XL 101 Global Shakespeares (freshman seminar in Kilachand Honors College)

Yale University

* Shakespeare's Afterlives (advanced undergraduate literature seminar, Fall 2007)
Directed Studies: Historical & Political Thought (freshman seminar, 2006-7 and Fall 2007)

Georgetown University:

* Why Rule of Law? A Philosophical Introduction (political theory seminar, 2005 and 2006)

University of Chicago

Human Being and Citizen (writing intern, freshman humanities core, 2002-3)
Jewish Civilization (teaching assistant, spring 1998)

GRADUATE TEACHING AND EXAMINING

PhD committee member in modern Arabic literature:

- Michael Ernst (Comparative Literature, NYU). *Marxism, Realism, Soviet Literary Networks, and Cold War in the Arab World*, in progress.
- Gregory Halaby (NELC, Harvard University). *Muhammad 'Ayyad al-Tantawi and alternatives to the nahda*, defended April 2019.
- Allison Blecker (NELC, Harvard University). *Twentieth-century and contemporary Arabic literature and eco-criticism*, defended March 2019.

Member of BU PhD dissertation committees in Romance Studies:

- Adel Fauzetdinova (PhD 2017, influence of early Argentine translations of Russian literature).
- Erin Lamm (PhD 2016, annotated translation of Maïssa Bey, *Entendez-Vous dans la Montagne*)

External PhD dissertation examiner or masters thesis committee member:

- Noha Ibraheem (Freie Universität Berlin, English literature—Shakespeare sequels), 2023
- Meriam Soltan (M.S., Aga Khan Program in Islamic Architecture, MIT—Arabian Nights), 2022
- Madiha Hannachi (Université de Montreal, Arabic Shakespeare), 2021.
- Laila Familiar (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Arabic applied linguistics), 2017.
- Shauna O'Brien (Trinity College Dublin, Persian Shakespeares), 2017.

SPECIAL ADVISING AND MENTORING

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program mentor: Ruofei Shang and Noora Lahoud (2024), Gideon Gordon and Anas Farhan (2022-23), Michelle Ramiz (2021-22), and Moriah Mikhail (2021).

BA honors thesis defense committees: Harrison Meyer 2017, Alyssa Scheiner 2017.

Translation mentor: Sharon Grosso, MFA in Literary Translation, 2023. Anitha Ahmed, Creative Writing MFA, 2019.

Swarthmore University Honors Program external examiner (Arabic), May 2017 and May 2015.

Advisor, independent major on Middle East Studies: Alissa Fromkin 2013.

Reading courses: Abil Gole (2023), Gideon Gordon (2023), Sharon Grosso (2021), Casey Chon (2018), Kareem Chehayeb (2013), Alia Gilbert (2010).

High school thesis advising: Pauline Demirev, BU Academy, 2013.

GUEST TEACHING

"1001 Nights in the World Literary Imagination," BU, October 2020, March 2024.

"Gateway to Asian Cultures" (on *Arabian Nights*), BU, March 2021, April 2024.

Salima Slimane's "Arabic Media" (on the Arab Spring uprisings), BU, February 2024.

Giselle Khoury's and Luluah Mustafa's "Arab Cultures through Film," BU, Oct 2023 and Feb 2024.

"Leaving Home: Explorations in World Literature," BU, annually, fall 2019-2023.

Majeed Mohammed Midhin's "Shakespeare," University of Anbar, Iraq, January 2021 (Zoom).

Refaat Alareer's "Shakespeare" and "Literary Translation" courses, Islamic University of Gaza, April and November 2020, June 2021 (Zoom).

Anita Savo's graduate seminar in Spanish literature (Sendebarr), BU, March 2021.

Paulo Horta's "Arabian Nights and World Literature," NYU Abu Dhabi, June 2020 (Zoom).

Martin Moraw's "Hamlet and Theory," American University in Cairo, May 2020 (Zoom).

Alexander Elinson's "Arab Culture" (on Sa'dallah Wannus), Hunter College, Nov 2019, April 2021.

Abigail Gillman's "Middle Eastern Literatures" (on *Arabian Nights*), Fall 2019, 2022.

Rivi Handler-Spitz's "Asian Literatures," Macalester College. *Arabian Nights* (Skype), January 2018.

Ng Su Fang and Sara Coodin's Presidential Dream Course on "Searching for Hamlet," University of Oklahoma, April 2017 (Skype).

Karen Newman's graduate seminar on *Hamlet*, Brown University, December 2015 (Skype).

Leslie Dunn's "Global Adaptations of Shakespeare" course, Vassar College, November 2013. Guest-taught session on Sulayman Al-Bassam (Skype).

Michael Prince's "Humanism and the Rise of the Novel" course, BU, February 2013 (on *Arabian Nights*).

William Carroll's English course "Hamlet and Macbeth," BU, November 2012 (on Arab Shakespeare).

Esen Kirdis' "Government and Politics of the Middle East" course, Rhodes College, Memphis. Guest lecture on iconography of Gamal Abdel Nasser, October 2012.

Djamel Bekkai's advanced Arabic language classes, BU, 2012 and 2014 (on Egyptian uprising, theatre).

Irene Gendzier's PO 560, "State and Society in North Africa and the Middle East," BU, Jan 26, 2012.

Alexander Huang's Shakespeare seminar, Pennsylvania State U, guest-taught via Skype, April 2011.

Ida Rothschild's writing course "'The Play's The Thing': Literature Influenced by Shakespeare's Hamlet," BU, November 2010 (on the Arab *Hamlet* tradition).

Shankar Raman and Peter Donaldson's "Global Shakespeares" classes, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Nov 2009 and Nov 2010 (on Grigori Kozintsev).

SERVICE

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Department of World Languages & Literatures (prev. Modern Languages & Comparative Literature):

- Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2022-23. Advise students and faculty; coordinate departmental events, promotions, and graduation.
- Chair, 2020-21. The pandemic year.
- Associate Chair, 2019-20 and Fall 2023. Advised chair, managed course scheduling and enrollment for eleven language and literature programs, prepared BU Hub general education offerings, conducted academic assessment and exit interviews, edited departmental catalog materials, served as liaison to language conveners and curriculum committee, coordinated summer courses and teaching assignments, and stood in for chair at meetings.
- Associate Chair, 2016-17. Led revision of five WLL majors.
- Convener of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages, 2018-19. Did scheduling and course planning for Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, Turkish, Hindi-Urdu. Helped develop new BA in Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Literatures. Advised MESALL students.
- Convener of Arabic Program, 2008-2015, 2022-3. Work with Arabic Coordinator Giselle Khoury to coordinate language instruction, plan and pilot new courses, and advise students. Co-founded and advise the Arabic minor. Mentor full- and part-time lecturers.
- Member of MLCL departmental curriculum committee, Spring 2010, 2012-15.
- Member of search committee for Russian literature assistant professor, 2012-13.
- Chair of search committee for full-time lecturer and Head of Hebrew, Spring 2012.
- Member of search committee for Korean literature assistant professor, Spring 2012.
- Search committees for full-time Arabic lecturers: chair, Spring 2010; member, Fall 2019.
- Member of search committee for Persian/Turkish assistant professor, 2008-9.

Middle East and North Africa Studies Program (2012-2017)

- Led an ad hoc faculty working group to develop an Interdisciplinary Area Studies Major in Middle East and North Africa Studies. University approval granted 2013. Founding director, 2014-2017. First BA student graduated May 2014. Eight students graduated 2016 (four with honors). Part of the Pardee School of Global Studies. Nine departments/programs participated.
- Provided mentoring (advice on academics, study abroad, and careers) to MENA students.
- Organized MENA-related extracurricular events and performances on campus.
- Participated in Pardee Division of Regional Studies Directors' Council.

MFA in Literary Translation:

- Part of an ad hoc faculty working group that conceived, developed, and runs the BU MFA in Literary Translation (launched Fall 2020) and is working toward a Center for Literary Translation at BU.

University-wide:

- BU Hub: Chair, Satellite Subcommittee on Diversity, Civic Engagement, and Global Citizenship, Fall 2016. Member, General Education Implementation Task Force, 2016-7. Member, Task Force on General Education, 2014-2015.
- Pardee School of Global Studies: CAS Dean's Advisory Committee, Dean Search Advisory Committee, Pardee School Provost's Advisory Committee, AY 2013-4, Fall 2014.
- Faculty advisor to student club Students Learning about Israel-Palestine, 2024-.
- BU Center on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs (CURA) Executive Committee, 2024-.
- CAS Humanities Curriculum Committee, 2014-5.
- BU Center for the Humanities: executive committee, 2013-15.
- Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations: Colloquium organizer, 2013-14.
- Lectures in Criticism: member of interdisciplinary program committee, 2013-4.
- Member of ad hoc committee on Writing in the Core Curriculum, Spring 2010.
- Working with Boston Playwrights' Theatre, Institute for Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations, Judaic Studies, Kilachand Honors College, and others to organize public events on Arabic literature and theatre: see under "curation" above.
- Alumni outreach: Lectured on "The 'Arab Spring' and the Arts" in the Boston University Alumni Association's Arts, Culture, & Ideas series for BU alumni, January 30, 2013.

OUTSIDE BU

Activism:

- With two colleagues, co-authored an open letter from Concerned Jewish Faculty opposing the codification of the IHRA definition of antisemitism that drew [1330 signatories](#), May 2024.

Editorial boards

- Editorial board member, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 2020-.
- Co-series editor (with Li Guo and Richard Jankowsky), "Studies on Performing Arts & Literature of the Islamic World," Brill Publishing (Leiden), 2013-2021.
- Editorial board member, "[Global Shakespeares](#)," Palgrave Macmillan (Palgrave Pivot series).
- Editorial board member, *Arab Stages* journal, 2014-2021.

Scholarly outreach

- MIT [Global Shakespeares](#) Electronic Archive: Arab world regional editor, 2007-2015.
- Harvard University Center for Middle East Studies: research affiliate, leading seminars on Middle Eastern literature for area K-12 teachers through CMES Outreach Center, 2008-.

Peer reviewing:

- Arabic consultant: *Paris Review*, Winter 2022.
- Journal peer reviewer: *Alif*, *Anglistica*, *Al-'Arabiyya*; *Arablit* (Italy); *Archiv Orientalni* (Czech Republic); *Borrowers and Lenders*; *College Literature*; *Comparative Literature*;

Comparative Literature and Culture (CLC); Contemporary Levant; Critical Survey; Eras (Australia); International Journal of Middle East Studies; Impressions Maghrébiennes; Journal of Arabic Literature (frequent); Journal of Levantine Studies; Journal of Popular Film and Television; Journal of Quranic Studies; Middle Eastern Literatures; Modern Language Studies; Research in African Literatures; Shakespeare Jahrbuch; SEL: Studies in English Literature 1500-1900; Shakespeare; Shakespeare Quarterly; Style; Theatre Journal; Theatre Survey; The Translator.

- Book manuscript/proposal reviewer: American University in Cairo Press, Bloomsbury, Cornell UP, Edinburgh UP; Georgetown UP, Northwestern UP, Palgrave Macmillan, Pearson, Routledge, Stanford UP, Syracuse UP, University of Texas Press, Yale UP.
- Tenure reviewer: more than 12 research universities and LACs.
- Faculty manuscript workshop participant: NYU, 2018; NYU-Abu Dhabi, 2021.
- Grants selection panelist: Harvard Radcliffe Institute, 2023; NEH Kluge Fellowship, Library of Congress, January 2015. Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany), 2021-.
- Application reader: Critical Language Scholarship (Arabic), 2010. Fulbright/IEEE, 2021. Harvard Radcliffe Institute, 2022.
- Awards referee: Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development, 2016. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions COFUND Fellowship Programme, 2019. NYU-Abu Dhabi Institute, 2016-.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
Arabic Theatre Working Group, International Federation for Theatre Research (IFTR/FIRT)
Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA)
Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
Modern Language Association
Shakespeare Association of America (2006-2011)

LANGUAGES

Russian (native); Arabic (proficient Modern Standard and Egyptian, basic Lebanese and Moroccan);
French (fluent); Spanish; basic Swedish, German (level B1), and Italian.