

WALEED F. MAHDI, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

2018

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Positions

- 2016-Now Assistant Professor, Tenure-Track, University of Oklahoma – *Department of International and Area Studies, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics & Program of Film and Media Studies*
- 2015-16 Assistant Professor, Visiting, George Mason University – *Department of Modern and Classical Languages*

Education

- 2015 PhD in American Studies, US-Middle East Cultural Politics – *Department of American Studies, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities*
- 2008 MA in Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature – *Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, University of New Mexico*
- 2003 BA in English Language and Literature – *Department of English, College of Arts, Taiz University, Yemen*

Publications

Articles & Chapters

- 2016 Post-Oriental Otherness: Hollywood's Moral Geography of Arab Americans – in *Mashriq and Mahjar: Journal of Middle East Migration Studies*, 3, no. 2, 35-61.
- 2016 Youth and Revolution: A Call to Reform Higher Education in Yemen – (co-authored chapter with Abulghani Al-Hattami) in *Education and the Arab Spring: Shifting toward Democracy*, editors, Eid Mohamed, Hannah Gerber, and Slimane Aboulkacem. Netherlands: Sense Publishers, 83-94.
- 2016 Liberal or Imperial: US Discursive Formations of the Muslim Image – in *Transformation of the Muslim World in the 21st Century*, editor, Muhammed Mercan, Cambridge Scholar Publishing, 49-62.
- 2014 Marked off: Hollywood's Untold Story of Arabs/Muslims and Camels – in *Muslims and American Popular Culture*, editors, Anne R. Richards and Iraj Omidvar. Praeger, 196-223.

Reviews

- 2017 Review of Karin van Nieuwkerk, Mark LeVine, and Martin Stokes's *Islam and Popular Culture* – *Journal of Popular Culture*, vol. 50, no. 5, October, 1150–1152.

- 2017 Review of Maria Wagenknecht's *Constructing Identity in Iranian-American Self-Narrative* – *European Journal of American Culture*, vol. 36, no. 3, September, October, pp. 259–261.
- 2017 Book Review of Wail Hassan's *Immigrant Narratives* and Carol Conrey's *Contemporary Arab-American Literature*, *Journal of American Literature*, vol. 89, no. 2, June, pp. 431-433.
- 2016 Book Review of Eid Mohamed's *Arab Occidentalism: Images of America in the Middle East* – *Islamic and Muslim Studies Journal*, vol. 1, no. 1, May, pp. 88-91.
- 2016 Film Review of *Wadjda* – *Islamic and Muslim Studies Journal*, vol. 1, no. 1, May, pp. 100-102.

Selected Teaching Experience

- 2018 MLLL 3413 Arabic Literature and Culture, University of Oklahoma
- 2018 ARAB 4443 Readings of Islamic Texts, University of Oklahoma
- 2017 IAS 3783 US-Arab Cultural Encounters, University of Oklahoma
- 2016 ARAB 420 America through Arab Eyes, George Mason University
- 2016 ARAB 331 Introduction to Arabic Culture, George Mason University
- 2015 ARAB 440 Cultural Politics of Contemporary Islam, George Mason University
- 2015 OLLI 13053 Arab Spring-American Echoes, University of Minnesota
- 2014 AMST 2011 The United States since 9/11, University of Minnesota

Selected Awards & Honors

- 2016-19 Qatar Foundation Research Fund – *Research Collaborator in multi-institutional research project “Transcultural Identities: Solidaristic Action and Contemporary Arab Social Movements.” My contribution investigates the intersection of culture and politics in Yemen.*
- 2017-18 Humanities Forum Grant – *Humanities Forum, University of Oklahoma*
- 2017 Junior Faculty Summer Research Fellowship program – *College of International Studies, University of Oklahoma*
- 2015 Exemplary Diversity Scholar Award – *National Center for Institutional Diversity, University of Michigan*
- 2015 The National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute – *Participant, Teaching American Muslims: History, Culture, and Politics, George Washington University*
- 2013 Francis Maria Graduate Fellowship in Arab American Studies – *Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota*
- 2012-13 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship – *Graduate School, University of Minnesota*

- 2008-09 ICGC-MacArthur Scholarship – Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change, University of Minnesota
- 2006-08 Fulbright Foreign Student Scholarship – Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs, US Department of State

Recent Conferences

- 2018 Alienating Portrayals: A Survey of Arab Americans in Egyptian Films – *American University of Cairo (AUC), Egypt*
- 2018 Militainment: The Art of Killing Yemenis in the War on Terror Era – *Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar*
- 2017 Updating the Conflict in Yemen Roundtable – *Middle East Studies Association, Washington DC*
- 2017 Disruption of Hegemony: Mediating Arab American Transcultural Citizenship in Egyptian Cinema – *American Comparative Literature Association, Utrecht University, Holland*
- 2017 American Dream Contestations: The Cultural Politics of Arab American Citizenship in Film – *Arab American Studies Association, Dearborn, MI*
- 2017 The Chaos of a Scream: A Critical Reading of Houthis' Sarkha in Yemen – *Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar*
- 2015 US Drones–Houthi Responses: A Critical Reading of Ansarullah's Resistance Politics in Yemen – *Middle East Studies Association, Denver, CO*
- 2014 Reclaiming Agency: Toward an Arab American Film Industry? – *American Studies Association, Los Angeles, CA*
- 2014 Transgressing a Revolution: Yemen between 9/11 Echoes and Arab Spring Unrest – *British Society for Middle East Studies, University of Sussex, UK*
- 2014 Arab Americans or Arabs-in-America? Manufacturing Identity in Hollywood's Studios – *Arab American Studies Association, Dearborn, MI*
- 2014 Going Transnational: Re-Mapping the Arab American Experience – *Center for American Studies and Research, AUB, Beirut, Lebanon*
- 2013 Re-Narrating Otherness: Arab Americans and Articulations of Difference – *Middle East Studies Association, New Orleans, LA*
- 2013 Liberal or Imperial: US Discursive Formations of the Muslim Image – *Scientific Studies Society ILEM, Istanbul, Turkey*
- 2013 Amreeka: Reclaiming & Heterogenizing Arab American Image – *American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, Canada*

Recent Lectures and Panels

- 2018 Hollywood's Images of Islam and Muslims–*lecturer, Headington College, University of Oklahoma*

- 2018 "Changing Hollywood's Stereotyping of Muslims: A Discussion with Director Hesham Issawi" – *discussant, Humanities Forum, University of Oklahoma*
- 2017 A Reading of Yemeni News – *lecturer through webex, Al-Hewar Center*
- 2017 Re-Narrating Otherness: US-Egyptian Cinematic Configurations of Arab Americans – *lecturer, Humanities Forum, University of Oklahoma*
- 2017 Whitewashing and Racial Stereotyping in Hollywood – *panelist, Women's and Gender Studies & Center for Social Justice, University of Oklahoma*
- 2017 Yemen: Then and Now – *lecturer, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor*
- 2017 Hollywood's Cartographies of Arabness – *lecturer, Skype-session, Graduate Research Seminar Series, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar*
- 2017 Cultural Prejudices as Threats to Democracy – *panelists, Forum on Democracy, College of International Studies, University of Oklahoma*
- 2017 Construction of Gendered National Identity in the Syrian Context: The Relationship between National Narrative and Nationalist Songs – *discussant, book workshop, Transcultural Identity Constructions in a Changing Arab World, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar*
- 2016 The Politics of Translation – *panelist, Everyday Life in Iraq and the Middle East, George Mason University*
- 2016 A Reading of Present and Future Yemen – *Al-Hewar Center, Vienna Art /Center, Virginia*
- 2015 History of Arabic Calligraphy – *panelist, Global Language Perspectives, George Mason University*
- 2015 Otherness in US-Arab Cultures – *Al-Hewar Center, Vienna Art Center, Virginia*
- 2015 Disruptions in Hollywood's Representation of Arabs and Muslims – *lecturer, Skype-session, University of Guelph, Canada*
- 2015 Sectarianism in the Middle East – *Minnesota International Center, communities in Roseville, Arden Hills, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Bloomington, Minnetonka, St. Louis Park, and Chanhassen*
- 2014 Through Egyptian Eyes – *discussant, book workshop, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Canada*
- 2014 Arab Spring and Islamic Awakening? – *Minnesota International Center, communities in Minneapolis, Chanhassen, Minnetonka, and St. Louis Park*
- 2014 Conflation of Arabs and Muslims in US Popular Culture – *Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul*
- 2013 Phones in the Field: Technology Fosters the Arab Spring – *panelist, Nobel Peace Prize Forum, Augsburg College, Minnesota*

2013 Unpacking the Arab Spring – *Minnesota International Center, communities in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Fridley*

Recent Interviews

- 2017 “Analysis: Yemen's king of snakes is dead, but more will rise in his place” – *interviewed in English by Hannah Porter, Middle East Eye*
- 2017 A Report about Yemen – *interviewed in English by Murad Hashem, Aljazeera*
- 2017 “Yemen: The invisible war” – *interviewed in English by Alia Allana, Fountain Ink Series*
- 2017 Yemen: Chaos, War and Higher Education – *interviewed in English by Edward Fox, Al-Fanar Media: News and Opinion about Higher Education*
- 2017 Fear, Faith and Fair Portrayals of Muslims – *interviewed in English by Joshua Johnson, AI show, National Public Radio (NPR)*
- 2016 War and Peace in Yemen – *Center for Middle East Studies & Center for Intelligence and National Security, University of Oklahoma*
- 2016 US and Middle East Contemporary Politics – *interviewed in Arabic by Asia Atrous for Assabah Tunisian Newspaper*
- 2016 Situation in Yemen – *interviewed in Arabic by Wally Jadan for Current Issues program produced by the Middle Eastern American TV & Radio*
- 2016 Arabs in Hollywood: Between Terrorism and Clowning – *interviewed in Arabic by Sari Al Khalil for a Radio Sawa report*
- 2016 Islamophobia and Arab Spring Products – *interviewed in Arabic by Salah Shuaib for Alawan magazine*
- 2016 Visual Representations of Arab Americans in Hollywood – *interviewed in English by host Ahmed Tharwat, Belahdan Public TV-Show, Minnesota*

Recent Service and Outreach

- 2017-18 Program Committee Member, American Studies Association (ASA)
- 2017-18 Organizer of a series of events around “Arabs and Muslims in Popular Culture,” inter-departmental collaboration, the University of Oklahoma
- 2017-18 Advisor of the Arab Student Association, Students for Justice in Palestine, Kuwaiti Association, and CIS’s Student Diversity Advisory Group, University of Oklahoma
- 2016-18 Member of the Diversity Committee and Strategic Planning Committee at the Department of International and Area Studies, University of Oklahoma
- 2016-18 Library Liaison for the Department of International and Area Studies & Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics, University of Oklahoma
- 2015-16 Co-Coordinator, Arabic Program, George Mason University

2015-16 Contributor, NEH k-12 educational website about American Islam
2013-15 Public Lecturer, Great Decisions Program, Minnesota International Center

Languages

Arabic *Native*
English *Fluent*

Memberships

American Studies Association, member since 2008
Middle East Studies Association, member since 2009
Arab American Studies Association, member since 2013
Society for Cinema and Media Studies, member since 2013
American Institute of Yemeni Studies, member since 2013
American Comparative Literature Association, member since 2013
North American Association of Islamic and Muslim Studies, member since 2016