

# MARGARET LITVIN

Department of World Languages and Literatures  
Boston University  
745 Commonwealth Ave. #634  
Boston, MA 02215  
mlitvin@bu.edu

## 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).  
Founding Director (2013-2018), Middle East and North Africa Studies Program, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies.
- 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

- 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 2015-6. 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

*Hamlet's Arab Journey: Shakespeare's Prince and Nasser's Ghost*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, October 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).
- Links to non-academic reviews at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Hamlets-Arab-Journey-Shakespeares-Prince-and-Nassers-Ghost/269823286371976>

*Four Arab Hamlet Plays*. Anthology edited by Marvin Carlson and Margaret Litvin with Joy Arab. New York: Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, February 2016.

Arabic translation by Soha Sebaie of *Hamlet's Arab Journey: Shakespeare's Prince and Nasser's Ghost*. National Center for Translation, Egypt, February 2017.

### SPECIAL ISSUES

Guest co-editor (with Katherine Hennessey) of [Critical Survey 28:3 \(December 2016\)](#), 212-page special issue on *Arab Shakespeares – Ten Years Later*. Introduction, 1-7.

Guest editor of *Critical Survey* 19:3 (December 2007), special issue on Arab Shakespeares. Editorial, 1-5.

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

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

"Full of Noises: When 'World Shakespeare' Met the 'Arab Spring.'" Co-authored with Saffron Walking 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

"Arab Shakespeares at the World Shakespeare Congress." Co-authored with Katherine Hennessey. *Shakespeare Survey* 71 (2018), forthcoming.

"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

“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, June 2018.

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

“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 Dominic Dromgoole’s *Hamlet Globe to Globe*, in *Medieval and Renaissance Drama in England*, forthcoming.

“[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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### TRANSLATIONS

Sonallah Ibrahim, *Ice: A Novel* (2011). Forthcoming from Seagull Publishing, India.

Mikhail Nu‘ayma (Naimy), *Sab‘un (Seventy)*. Excerpt of Nu‘ayma’s 1908 diary of his seminary years in Poltava, Ukraine, translated with introduction for Tarek El-Ariss (ed.), *Anthology of Nahda Writings*, Book Series: Texts and Translations. Modern Language Association Press (forthcoming).

[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 (spring 2016).

Mamdūh 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 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.

#### OTHER SOLICITED PUBLICATIONS

“[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.” Q&A with 1000-word introduction 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

“[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](http://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: *Another East: Arab Writers, Moscow Dreams*. Essays on the history of Arab-Soviet literary ties 1840-2015. In progress.

Sourcebook for teaching Arab-Russian and Arab-Soviet ties in the czarist, Soviet, and post-Soviet periods. Co-edited with Masha Kirasirova and Eileen Kane. In progress.

“Rituals Transformed: Wannous, Intercultural Translation, and the Widening Gyre.” For a volume on the legacy of Sa’dallah Wannous. Submitted, volume under review.

“Teaching the *1001 Nights in Anglophone Contexts*.” Commissioned 3000-word essay for an *MLA Approaches to Teaching* volume. Submitted.

“Performance,” with Kyna Hamill, for *Wiley-Blackwell Companion to World Literature*. Submitted.

## LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

### INVITED LECTURES

“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 Institute 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, October 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 (<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=C20ACB9A8D81640A>) 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 muḍtarib: shakhṣīyat hāmlit al-shakṣbiriyya fī al-masrah al-‘arabī*,” presentation in Arabic at the Tufts University Arabic Seminar Series, Oct. 2010.

“Arab Theatre-Makers and the Post-9/11 Western Audience.” 20<sup>th</sup> 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:

“Syrian Playwrights in Berlin,” Assn. for Theatre in Higher Education, Boston, upcoming Aug 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.” Modern Language Association, Boston, January 2013.

“Arab Writers Between Prophecy and Fiction.” Middle East Studies Association, 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,” American Comparative Literature Association, 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 *Illizam*: Soviet Models, Egyptian Shakespeare, and Nasser’s Ghost,” Middle East Studies Association, Boston, November 2009.

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

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

“Language Games: Diglossia and Belonging in Arab/ic Plays at the 2008 Cairo Festival.” Middle East Studies Association, 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.” Shakespeare Association of America, Dallas, March 2008.

“Through the Global Kaleidoscope: How Arab Writers Receive and Appropriately *Hamlet*.” Shakespeare Association of America, 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.” American Comparative Literature Association, 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

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

[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, BU Middle East & North Africa Studies Program, Provost’s Arts Initiative, and BU Department of World Languages and Literatures.

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:

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, November 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," part of a teacher workshop on "Using Film and Literature to Further a Global Studies Agenda in the Humanities Classroom." 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 COVERAGE

[Interviewed about teaching](#) on the Arabic Literature in Translation blog, May 2018.

Interview with K24 culture site (in Turkish), March 2018. <http://t24.com.tr/k24/yazi/shakespeare.1664>.

"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)

### Boston University

- \* 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
- \* CAS XL 470/LY 470/LR 561 Russia in the Middle East: Literary Encounters
- \* CAS LY 441/XL 441/EN 590 One Thousand and One Nights in the World Literary Imagination
- \* CAS LY 350 Introduction to Arabic Literature (bilingual format, 50% each in Arabic and English)
- \* CAS LY 284 Arabs Write War
- \* CAS XL 223 Introduction to Comparative Literature: Middle Eastern Literature
- CAS CC 204 Second-semester sophomore social science core: "Religion and the Secular" (co-designed)
- CAS CC 102 Second-semester freshman humanities core (Aristotle to Dante)
- CAS LY 111 First-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)

### ADVISING, HONORS TEACHING, AND GRADUATE TEACHING

- Member of BU PhD dissertation committees in Romance Studies: Erin Lamm (PhD '16), Adel Fauzetdinova (PhD '17).
- External dissertation committee member: Allison Blecher, NELC, Harvard (in progress).
- External dissertation examiner: Laila Familiar (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Arabic applied linguistics); Shauna O'Brien (Trinity College Dublin, Persian Shakespeares).
- Founding director, Middle East and North Africa Studies Program. Launched 2014. About 20 majors.
- Founding advisor, Arabic minor. Currently about 15 declared minors.
- Advisor, independent major on Middle East Studies: Alissa Fromkin '13.
- BA honors thesis defense committees: Harrison Meyer '17, Alyssa Scheiner '17.
- Independent reading courses: Alia Gilbert (Spring 2010), Kareem Chehayeb (Spring 2013).
- High school thesis advising: Pauline Demirev, BU Academy '13.

### GUEST TEACHING

- Rivi Handler-Spitz's "Asian Literatures," Macalester College. *Arabian Nights* via Skype, January 2018.
- Swarthmore University Honors Program external examiner, May 2017 and May 2015.
- Ng Su Fang and Sara Coodin's Presidential Dream Course on "Searching for Hamlet," University of Oklahoma, guest lecture via skype, April 2017.
- Karen Newman's *Hamlet* graduate seminar, Brown University. Guest-taught via Skype, December 2015.
- Leslie Dunn's "Global Adaptations of Shakespeare" course, Vassar College. Guest-taught session on Sulayman Al-Bassam via Skype, November 2013.

Michael Prince's "Humanism and the Rise of the Novel" course, Boston University, guest lecture on the *Arabian Nights* tradition, February 2013.

William Carroll's English course "Hamlet and Macbeth," Boston University. Guest lecture on Arab Shakespeare, November 2012.

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, Boston University. Guest Q&A about Egyptian revolution (in Arabic), January 2012. Djamel Bekkai's LY 471 on Arab theatre, March 2014.

Irene Gendzier's PO 560, "State and Society in North Africa and the Middle East," Boston University. Guest lecture on Egyptian revolution, Jan 26, 2012.

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

Ida Rothschild's WR 100 course "'The Play's The Thing': Literature Influenced by Shakespeare's Hamlet," Boston University. Guest-taught a session on Arab Shakespeare, November 2010.

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

## **SERVICE**

### **BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

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

- Associate Chair, 2016-7. Led revision of five WLL majors.
- Convener of Arabic Program, 2008-2015. Worked with Head of Arabic Giselle Khoury to co-ordinate language instruction, plan and pilot new courses, and found the Arabic minor. Mentored full- and part-time lecturers. Created the BU Arabic student/alum [Facebook group](#).
- Member of MLCL intradepartmental curriculum committee, Spring 2010, 2012-5.
- Member of search committee for Russian literature assistant professor, 2012-3.
- 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.
- Chair of search committee for full-time Arabic lecturer, Spring 2010.
- Member of search committee for Persian/Turkish assistant professor, 2008-9.

Middle East and North Africa Studies Program (2012-2018)

- 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. Appointed Director, February 2014. First BA student graduated May 2014. Eight students graduated 2016 (four with honors). Part of the Pardee School of Global Studies. Nine CAS departments/programs are participating.
- 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.

Translation Studies:

- Part of an ad hoc faculty working group to conceive, develop, and launch a translation studies center and offer an MA in Translation Studies, due to launch Fall 2019.

University-wide:

- BU Hub: Member, General Education Implementation Task Force, 2016-7.
- BU Hub: Chair, Satellite Subcommittee on Diversity, Civic Engagement, and Global Citizenship, Fall 2016.
- BU Hub: 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.

- CAS Humanities Curriculum Committee, 2014-5.
- BU Center for the Humanities: executive committee, 2013-15. Presented “A Global Shakespeare Kaleidoscope” (lecture with film clips) as part of BUCH’s celebration of Shakespeare’s 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary, April 2014.
- Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations: Colloquium organizer, 2013-14.
- Lectures in Criticism: member of program committee to recruit and coordinate interdisciplinary humanities speaker series, 2013-4.
- Member of ad-hoc committee on Writing in the Core Curriculum, Spring 2010.
- Organizing public events on Arabic literature and theatre: see under “curation” above. Working with Boston Playwrights’ Theatre, Institute for Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations, Judaic Studies, Kilachand Honors College, and others to continue the series.
- 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

##### Book series

- Co-series editor (with Li Guo and Richard Jankowsky), “Studies on Performing Arts & Literature of the Islamicate World,” Brill Publishing (Leiden).
- Editorial board member, "[Global Shakespeares](#)," Palgrave Macmillan (Palgrave Pivot series).

##### Scholarly outreach

- MIT [Global Shakespeares](#) Electronic Archive: Arab world regional editor.
- Harvard University Center for Middle East Studies: research affiliate, leading seminars on Middle Eastern literature for area K-12 teachers through CMES Outreach Center, 2008-15.

##### Peer reviewing

- Journal peer reviewer: *Anglistica*, *Al-‘Arabiyya*; *Borrowers and Lenders: The Journal of Shakespeare and Appropriation*; *Eras* (Australia); *Impressions Maghrébiennes*; *Journal of Arabic Literature*; *Journal of Levantine Studies*; *Journal of Quranic Studies*; *Middle Eastern Literatures*; *Modern Language Studies*; *Research in African Literatures*; *Shakespeare Jahrbuch*, *SEL: Studies in English Literature 1500-1900*; *Shakespeare Quarterly*; *Theatre Survey*; *The Translator*.
- Book manuscript or proposal reviewer: American University in Cairo Press, Georgetown University Press, Northwestern University Press, Palgrave Macmillan, Pearson Publishing, University of Texas Press, Yale University Press.
- Tenure reviewer in Arabic literature for several research universities and liberal arts colleges.
- Awards referee: Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development, 2016.
- Grants selection panelist: NEH Kluge Fellowship, Library of Congress, January 2015.
- Critical Language Scholarship (Arabic): application reader, fall 2010.

### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

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

### LANGUAGES

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