

Adam Mestyan Curriculum Vitae

Last updated: 25 July 2026

Email: mestyan@fas.harvard.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2025 - Ford Foundation Professor of Middle Eastern Studies
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
Harvard University
- 2022–2025 Associate Professor of History, Duke University
- 2016–2022 Assistant Professor of History, Duke University
- 2013–2016 Junior Fellow, Society of Fellows, Harvard University
- 2012–2013 Departmental Lecturer in the Modern History of the Middle East,
Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

- 2024-2025 Director, Middle East Studies Center and Islamic Studies Center, Duke University
- 2024-2025 Director of Graduate Studies in Middle East Studies Certificate, Duke University

EDUCATION

- 2011 Ph.D., History, Central European University (CEU)
- 2011 Ph.D., Art Theory, Eötvös Loránd University of Sciences (ELTE)
- 2006–2007 M.A., Comparative History, CEU, awarded with Distinction
- 2000–2005 M.A., Arabic and Semitic Philology, ELTE
- 1999–2004 M.A., Art Theory, ELTE

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2026-27 Guggenheim Fellow, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
- 2024 Spring Member, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
- 2023 Fall Visiting Researcher (chercheur associé), Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales (CEDEJ), Cairo

- 2018–2019 Fellow, Institut d'Études Avancées (Institute of Advanced Studies), Paris
- 2016–2018 Foreign Research Fellow (membre scientifique à titre étranger), Institut français d'archéologie orientale (Ifao), Cairo
- 2011–2012 Fellow, “Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe,” Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (Institute of Advanced Studies)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Monographs

- 2023 *Modern Arab Kingship: Remaking the Ottoman Political Order in the Interwar Middle East*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Winner: bi-annual Annemarie Schimmel-Foundation for Islamic Studies Research Award (advanced scholars), 2025**
- 2017 *Arab Patriotism: The Ideology and Culture of Power in Late Ottoman Egypt*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Edited Volumes

- 2021 *Primordial History, Print Capitalism, and Egyptology in Nineteenth-Century Cairo: Muṣṭafā Salāma al-Naǧǧārī's The Garden of Ismail's Praise*. Cairo: Ifao.
- 2006 edited with Eszter Horváth, *Látvány/színház (Spectacle/Theatre: Genre, Body, Performativity)*. Budapest: L'Harmattan (in Hungarian).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- In preparation “Ignác Goldziher's ‘On the Problem of Nationality Among the Arabs’, 1873.” *Journal of Semitic Studies*, in preparation.
- 2027 “The Constitution of the Syrian Kingdom (1919–1920) and the French Archival Question.” *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, accepted, forthcoming.

- 2026 “Micro-Numerals: Unit Fractions, Carats, and the Arabic Culture of Accountancy, 900s–1900s.” *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 69, 3–4 (2026): 548–628.
- 2025 “Microhistory As Industrial History – Environment, Sugar Capitalism, and Labour in Egypt, 1863-1879.” *Past & Present* 268 (2025): 143-180.
- 2024 “Acquisition By Use in Islamic Law: *Ihya’ al-Mawat* in Three Legal Opinions from Late Ottoman Egypt.” *The Arabist*, 47 (2024): 79-93.
- 2022 with Rezk Nuri, “The Probate Regime - Enchanted Bureaucracy, Islamic Law, and The Capital of Orphans in Nineteenth-Century Egypt.” *Law and History Review*, 40, 4 (2022): 597–624.
- 2022 “From Administrative to Political Order? Global Legal History, the Organic Law, and the Constitution of Mandate Syria, 1925–1930.” *Journal of Global History* 17, 2 (2022): 292–311.
- honorable mention, best article in 2022, Syrian Studies Association**
- 2022 “Land Privatization in Islamic Law? The Case of *Irsad* in Egypt, 1850-1950.” *The Arabist* 44 (2022): 87-104.
- 2022 with †Kathryn Schwartz, “An Egyptian Shaykh’s Literary World: Digitally Reconstructing Islamic Print Culture Through Mustafa Salama al-Najjari’s Books, Cairo 1870.” *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association* 9, no. 2 (2022): 85–90.
- 2021 “Muslim Dualism? Inter-Imperial History and Austria-Hungary in Ottoman Political Thought, 1867–1921.” *Contemporary European History* 30, 4 (2021): 478–496.
- honorable mention, bi-annual Mark Pittaway Prize 2020-2022, Hungarian Studies Association**
- 2020 “Seeing Like a Khedivate: Taxing Endowed Agricultural Land, Proofs of Ownership, and the Land Administration in Egypt, 1869.” *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 63, 5–6 (2020): 743–87. (with corrigendum)

- 2020 “Pious Endowments: Land and Women in Late Ottoman Egypt: Reading the Grand Mufti’s Opinions, 1848–49.” *The Arabist* 41 (2020): 85–100.
- 2018 “Domestic Sovereignty, *A‘yan* Developmentalism, and Global Microhistory in Modern Egypt.” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 60, 2 (2018): 415–45.
- 2017 “Upgrade? Power and Sound during Ramadan and ‘Id al-Fitr in the Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Arab Provinces.” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* 37, 2 (2017): 262–79.
- 2016 “Muḥammad Yūsuf Najm: A Maker of the Nahḍa.” *Al-Abhath* 64 (2016): 97–118.
- 2016 with Mercedes Volait, “Affairisme dynastique et dandysme au Caire vers 1900: Le Club des Princes et la formation d’un quartier du divertissement rue ‘Imad al-Din.” *Annales Islamologiques* 50 (2016): 55–106 (in French).
- Translated to Turkish as “1900’lerde Kahire’de Dandylik ve Hanedan Çıkarcılığı, Prensler Kulübü, İmadeddin Caddesi Üzerinde Bir Eğlence Bölgesinin Oluşturulması.” In *Said Halim Paşa Kitabı – Osmanlı Sadrazamı ve Düşünür*, edited by Asım Öz (Istanbul: Zeytinburnu Belediyesi, 2021), 111–35.
- 2015 “Preface: Ignac Goldziher’s *Report on the Books Brought from the Orient for the Hungarian Academy of Sciences*.” *Journal of Semitic Studies* 60, 2 (2015): 443–53.
- 2014 “Arabic Theatre in Early Khedivial Culture, 1868–1872: James Sanua Revisited.” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 46, 1 (2014): 117–37.
- 2014 “Materials for a History of Hungarian Academic Orientalism: The Case of Gyula Germanus, 1884–1979.” *Die Welt des Islams* 54 (2014): 4–33.
- 2013 “Power and Music in Cairo: Azbakiyya.” *Urban History* 44, 4 (2013): 681–704.

- 2011 “Arabic Lexicography and European Aesthetics: The Origin of *Fann*.”
Muqarnas: An Annual on the Visual Cultures of the Islamic World 28
 (2011): 69–100.

Articles and Chapters in Edited Volumes

- In preparation “The Philologist’s Workshop – A Preliminary Catalogue of the
 Professional Correspondence of Heinrich L. Fleischer in The Royal
 Danish Library.” In *Philologists and Empires: Oriental and Semitic
 Studies in the Long Nineteenth Century*, edited by Sabine Schmidtke
 and Dorothea Weltecke. Leiden: Brill, in preparation.
- 2027 “A Rage for Order in Syria? A Constitutional History, 1900s-1939.” In
The Cambridge History of Modern Syria, edited by Dawn Chatty,
 Annika Rabo, Michael Provence. Cambridge: Cambridge University
 Press, forthcoming.
- 2027 “Information, Rumours, Resistance – The Arab Liaison Officer in
 Beirut, OETA West, 1919.” In *Ottoman Arab: The Life of Yusuf al-
 Azmeh*, edited by Aziz Al-Azmeh, Bloomsbury, forthcoming.
- 2026 “A Circulatory History of the Mediterranean? Seraphin Manasse,
 Imperial Cultural Orders, and the Ottoman Operetta War (1860s–
 1880s).” In *De-Centring Empire - Biography, Conflict and Power in
 the Muslim Mediterranean, 18th-20th Century*, edited by Nadia Al-
 Bagdadi, Bettina Dennerlein. De Gruyter, forthcoming.
- 2020 “Harun al-Rashid, the Arabian Nights, and Politics on the Arabic
 Stage, 1850s–1920s.” In *The Thousand and One Nights: Sources and
 Transformations in Literature, Art, and Science*, edited by Ibrahim
 Akela and William Granara, 175–97. Leiden: Brill.
- 2019 “The Muslim Bourgeoisie and Philanthropy in the Late Ottoman
 Empire.” In *The Global Bourgeoisie*, edited by Christof Dejung et al.,
 207–28. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- 2016 “‘I Have To Disguise Myself’: Gyula Germanus and Pilgrimage as
 Cultural Capital, 1935–1965.” In *Hajj and Europe in the Age of*

- Empires*, edited by Amr Ryad, 217–39. Leiden: Brill.
- 2014 “Sound, Military Music, and Opera in Egypt during the Rule of Mehmet Ali Pasha (r.1805–1848).” In *Ottoman Empire and European Theatre Vol. II: The Time of Joseph Haydn, From Sultan Mahmud I to Mahmud II (r.1730–1839)*, edited by Michael Hüttler and Hans Ernst Weidinger, 539–64. Vienna: Hollitzer.
- 2012 “Cultural Policy in the Late Ottoman Empire? The Palace and the Public Theatres in Nineteenth-Century Istanbul.” In *Kulturpolitik und Theatre: Die kontinentalen Imperien in Europa im Vergleich*, edited by Philipp Ther, 127–49. Vienna: Böhlau Verlag.
- 2010 “Niḳāṭ ḥawla al-siyāsa al-thaqāfiyya li-ḥukūmat ‘Urābī : Mustaqbal al-masrah al-‘arabī fī Māyū 1882” (Notes on the Cultural Policy of the ‘Urābī Government: The Future of Arab theatre in May 1882). *Rūznāma: Yearbook of the Egyptian National Archives*, 203–14 (in Arabic).
- 2010 “From Private Entertainment to Public Education: Opera in the late Ottoman Empire.” In *Oper im Wandel der Gesellschaft*, edited by Oliver Müller et al., 263–76. Wien: Oldenburg Verlag.
- 2009 “The Ethics of Knowledge: Religio Academici Reconsidered.” In *Religio Academici*, edited by Andras Szigeti and Peter Losonczi, 215–39. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó.
- 2006 “The Nefertiti-paradigm.” *Holmi*, 8 (2006): 1075–87 (in Hungarian).

Encyclopedia Entries

- 2023 “Fuad I,” *Encyclopaedia of Islam, Three* 1: 22–24. Leiden: Brill.
- 2020 “Khedive,” *Encyclopaedia of Islam, Three* 2:70–71. Leiden: Brill.
- 2019 “Tawfiq Muhammad al-Bakri,” *Encyclopaedia of Islam, Three* 6:19–21. Leiden: Brill.

Digital Publications & Projects

- 2022-2024 Adam Mestyan, Hugh Cayless, Mercedes Volait, Sarah Gaara, Karima Nasr, Ahmed Kamal, et al. [“Digcai database” – News of Cairo](#). Zenodo, April 21, 2025. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15255721>.
- 2017-2022 Adam Mestyan and Kathryn A. Schwartz (2023). [Project Naggari - The Literary World of A Nineteenth-Century Egyptian Sheikh](#) (v2.0) [Data set]. Zenodo. Doi: 10.5281/zenodo.7606371
- 2009-2020 Adam Mestyan, Till Grallert, et al. (2020). [Jarā'id: A Chronology of Arabic periodicals \(1800-1929\)](#) (Version v1.0) [Data set]. Zenodo. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4399240>

Popular Scholarship

- 2018–2024 Writing and editing monthly posts for the blog of [La fabrique du Caire moderne](#).

Academic Translation

From Hungarian to English:

- 2015 Ignác Goldziher, “Report on the Books Brought from the Orient for the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences with Regard to the Conditions of the Printing Press in the Orient.” *Journal of Semitic Studies* 60, 2 (2015): 453–80.

Reviews

- 2023 Ahmed El Shamsy, *Rediscovering the Islamic Classics: How Editors and Print Culture Transformed An Intellectual Tradition* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2020), *Middle Eastern Literatures* 26, 3 (2023): 378–81.
- 2019 Daniel Stolz, *The Lighthouse and the Observatory: Islam, Science, and Empire in Late Ottoman Egypt* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), *Isis: Journal of the History of Science Society* 110, 3 (2019): 633–34.
- 2019 István Ormos, *Egy életút állomásai: Kmoskó Mihály, 1876–1931. A függelékben: Jelentés a szíriai katolikus missziók jelen állapotáról. Az*

- 1915–16. tanév második felében végzett tanulmányútja alapján benyújtja Dr. Kmoskó Mihály egyetemi tanár. [Stages of a Life: Mihaly Kmosko, 1876–1931. Appendix: Report about the Present State of the Catholic Missions in Syria. Submitted by Dr. Mihaly Kmosko, university professor, based on his study tour in the second semester of the 1915–1916 academic year] (Budapest: Magyar Egyháztörténeti Enciklopédia Munkaközösség, 2017), *Budapest Review of Books (Budapesti Könyvszemle)* 31, 1–2 (2019): 97–98.
- 2019 Matthew Ellis, *Desert Borderland: The Making of Modern Egypt and Libya* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2018), *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 51, 2 (2019): 325–27.
- 2017 Ali Yaycioglu, *Partners of the Empire: The Crisis of the Ottoman Order in the Age of Revolutions* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2016), *The Hungarian Historical Review* 6, 1 (2017): 243–46.
- 2013 Liat Kozma, *Policing Egyptian Women: Sex, Law, and Medicine in Khedivial Egypt* (Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2011), *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* 40, 4 (2013): 469–70.
- 2012 Julia Clancy-Smith, *Mediterraneans* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2011), *European Review of History* 19, 3 (2012): 461–63.
- 2011 “Imaging the Mediterranean.” Review of Ian Chambers: *Mediterranean Crossings* (Duke University Press, 2008) and *Mediterranean Passages*, edited by miriam cooke et al. (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2008), *European Review of History* 18, 2 (2011): 267–70.
- 2009 István Ormos, *Max Herz Pasha* (Cairo: IFAO, 2009), *Élet és Irodalom*, October, 2009 (in Hungarian).
- 2009 “The Morality of Symbolic Geography.” Review of nos. 1–2 (2005) of the journal *East-Central Europe*. *Budapest Review of Books*, 3 (2008) (in Hungarian).
- 2009 Elisabeth Clegg, *Art, Design, and Architecture in Central Europe 1890–1920* (Yale University Press, 2006), *East-Central Europe* 1 (2009).

Miscellaneous Publications

- 2023 “[The Arab Kingdom](#).” *Aeon*, online 7 August 2023.
- 2018 “[Was Cairo’s Grand Opera House a Tool of Cultural Imperialism?](#)”
Aeon, online 25 April 2018.
- 2017 “[Global Ottoman: The Istanbul-Cairo Axis](#).” *Global Urban History*,
online 13 February 2017 (re-posted at Princeton University Press blog
in June 2017; the most read blogpost in 2017 on *Global Urban
History*).
- 2015 “[Al-Masrah al-‘Arabī fī al-Thaqāfa al-Khidiwiyya: I’ādat al-Nazar ilā
James Sanua](#),” (in Arabic), *Majallat al-Muqataṭaf al-Miṣriyya*,
online 30 July 2015.
- 2014 “[Dar al-Mahfuzat al-‘Umumiyya](#),” *Hazine* website, online March
2014.

SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2026 Faculty Leave grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs
- 2023 Gerda Henkel Foundation, research grant
- 2023 Davis Center Fellowship, Princeton University (declined)
- 2022 National Endowment for the Humanities (\$185,130)
- 2022 Thomas Langford Lectureship Award, Duke University
**- the highest academic award at Duke University, the Provost’s
award to max. five faculty members in all recently promoted faculty**
- 2022 Faculty Research Grant, Duke University
- 2019 Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation Endowment Fund
- 2018 Mellon Short-Term Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society
- 2018 Faculty Research Grant, Duke University
- 2016 5-year “Freigeist” Award, Volkswagen Stiftung (declined)
- 2014 Milton Fund, Harvard University
- 2010 Award for Advanced Doctoral Students, CEU
- 2009 Research Grant, *Europe and Beyond: Transfers, Networks and
Markets for Musical Theatre in Modern Europe, 1740–1960*, European
University Institute, Florence

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2022–2023 Co-director, *Climate Histories of Global Agriculture*. An inter-departmental faculty reading group, with Gabriel Rosenberg, Duke University.
- 2018–2025 Co-director, *La fabrique du Caire moderne*. Collaboration of INVisu/INHA, Paris; Institut français d’archéologie orientale (Ifao), Cairo; and Duke University. The project also received support from the Franklin Humanities Institute and the Office of Global Affairs/Andrew W. Mellon Endowment for Global Studies; and CollEx-Persée between 2019–2021. – The NEH-supported project *Digital Cairo* is a sub-project of this larger program.
- 2016–2018 Co-director, *Le Caire de Max Karkégi (1931–2011)*. Collaboration of INVisu/INHA, Paris and Institut français d’archéologie orientale (Ifao), Cairo.
- 2012–2016 Participant, *Architecture Cosmopolite*, Institut français d’archéologie orientale (Ifao), Cairo.
- 2010–2014 Participant, *De la collection aux archives: Prises en faux*, EHESS/CNRS, Paris.

SERVICE TO SCHOLARSHIP

External reviewer for applications to the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton); Swiss National Science Foundation; Institute of Advanced Studies at Central European University; Endangered Archives Programme, British Library; American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE); Cambridge Colleges (Junior Research Fellowships); Prix de thèse 2018 IISMM-GIS sur le Moyen-Orient et les mondes musulmans; Institut français d’archéologie orientale (Ifao); Trinity College Dublin.

Reviewer of articles for *Journal of Global History*, *Law and History Review*, *History Compass*, *Urban History*, *The Historical Journal*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, *Itinerario - Journal of Imperial and Global Interactions*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, *Die Welt des Islams*, *Arabica*, *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association*, *Arabian Humanities*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, *Journal of Arabic Literature*, *Archiv*

Orientaln , Zogot, Philological Encounters, Cambridge Opera Journal, International Journal of Islamic Architecture, East Central Europe.

Reviewer of book proposals for Brill, Springer.

EDITORSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL WORK

- 2023-2027 Member of Editorial Committee, *Annales Islamologiques*.
 2012-2016 Associate Editor, *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*.
 2008-2011 Assistant Editor, *European Review of History*.
 2008 Research Assistant, al-Dhakira al-Arabiyya Foundation.
 2006-2007 Editor, "Religious Studies" Curriculum, ELTE, Budapest.

NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Poetry Books in Hungarian

- 2006 *The Rules of Hungarian Orthography*. Budapest: L'Harmattan.
 - ***Best First Poetry Book (Attila Gerecz Prize) from the Hungarian Ministry of Culture***
 - ***Junior Prima Primiissima Prize in Literature (2007)***.
 2010 *The Perfect Absence of Compassion* (Budapest: Kalligram).

Art Criticism

As a freelance critic of contemporary dance and theatre, I have published approx. two hundred critiques in Hungarian, and a few in English, between 1997 and 2008 in leading art journals. In addition, I have written a number of literary and exhibition-reviews, and vernissage texts.

Literary Translations

From Arabic to Hungarian:

- 2014 Adonis (‘Al  A mad Sa  d), selected poems and full translation of *H dh  huwa ism * ("This is my name") in Adonis, *T k r Orfeusznak* edited by Laszlo Tuske (Budapest: Magyar Pen Klub).
 2009 Adonis (‘Al  A mad Sa  d), *Ez a nevem (H dh  huwa ism , selections)*, *Pannonhalmi Szemle*, 2.
 2008 A selection of contemporary Arab poets, *Kalligram*, 1.

From English to Hungarian:

- 2009 François Delsarte, "First letter to the King of Hannover," *Parallel*, 1.
 2003 Max Wyman, "Whose sound dies with the wind?" *Színház*, 6.

SELECTED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 9 April 2026 "Labor and Capitalism in Modern Egypt: Wages in a Sugar Factory, 1847-1904," University of California Santa Barbara.
 5 April 2025 "Past Arab Futures? Lessons of the 1920s for the 2020s" NC Consortium for Middle East Studies, Wake Forest University, keynote talk.
 8 March 2024 "The Middle East Beyond New Imperial History," American University of Cairo, keynote talk.
 15 February 2024 "Modern Arab Kingship," book talk, Harvard University.
 2 February 2024 "A Thermal History of Modern Egypt," Davis Seminar, Princeton University, invited talk.
 28 November 2023 "Modern Arab Kingship," book talk, Middle East Center, St Antony's College, Oxford University.
 21 November 2023 "Modern Arab Kingship," book talk, Science Po, Paris.
 15 November 2023 "Primordial History," invited keynote talk, DAI and Ifao joint series in the historiography of Egypt, DAI, Cairo.
 4 November 2023 "T'adat al-Nazar ila al-Ihtilal al-Firansi: al-Janib al-'Uthmani wa-l-Dafatir al-Maliyya," Egyptian Historical Society, Cairo (in Arabic).
 2 May 2023 "How to Write Urban Environmental History?," invited seminar talk, CEDEJ, Cairo.
 11 April 2023 "Modern Arab Kingship," invited book talk, Princeton University.
 8 March 2022 "A Sovereign Local State? The Meaning of the Ottoman Khedivate for Twentieth-Century Egypt," invited talk, Middle East Historiography series, UCLA.
 21 March 2021 "An Egyptian Sheikh's Literary World," with Kathryn Schwartz, invited online talk, IAS, Princeton.
 8 October 2020 "A Muslim Regulatory Framework of Ownership: The Case of 'Taqsit' in Khedivial Egypt," *MESA*.
 27–29 March 2019 "The Throne of Syria: Monarchy and Islam, 1928–1933," *Global Islam in the Interwar Period* conference, University of Leuven.
 22 September 2017 "Sovereignty and the Order of Succession in Arab National Monarchies, 1914–1936," *The Modern Invention of Dynasty* conference, University of Birmingham.
 8–9 July 2016 "The Idea of Eastern Europe in the Ottoman Arab Provinces," *Imperial Comparison* conference, Oxford University.

- 26 August 2015 “Charity and Patriotism: The Case of the Ottoman Arab Middle Classes,” *The Global Bourgeoisie* conference, University of Cambridge.
- 10 April 2015 “Celebrating ‘Id al-Fitr in Nineteenth-century Ottoman Arab cities,” *Dark Histories* conference, British Institute in Ankara.
- 6 March 2014 “The Ottoman Imperial Opera House: Lost and Found,” *Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture*, Harvard University.
- 29 January 2014 “Harun al-Rashid under Occupation: The Khedive, the Opera House, and the Comité des Théâtres, 1882–1892,” Ifao, Cairo.
- 27 January 2014 “Globalization and Information: Early Arabic Journalism, 1828–1898,” *(Re)thinking Global Connectedness: Critical Perspectives On Globalization*, Texas A&M University at Qatar.
- 13–14 May 2013 “The Three Hajjs of Julius Germanus,” *Europe and Hajj in the Age of Empires: Muslim Pilgrimage prior to the Influx of Migration*, Leiden University, The Netherlands.
- 10 April 2012 “The Politics of Syrian-Egyptian Theatre, 1880s,” *The Middle East in World History: Global Connections and Comparisons*, University of Cambridge, UK.
- 22–24 March 2012 “The Voice Of ‘Antara: A Revolutionary Hero in 1882, Cairo,” *Annual History Seminar of the Department of Arab and Islamic Civilizations*, American University in Cairo, Egypt.
- 7 December 2011 Lecture/seminar: “The Civilizing Mission in the Theatre: The Adventures of Seraphin Manasse Between Istanbul, Paris, Cairo, Alexandria, and Izmir (1860s–1880s),” Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Germany.
- 1–2 March 2011 Participant in the seminar “Manipuler, accommoder, ranger. Catalogues, inventaires et bases de données,” EHESS, France.
- 18 December 2010 “Ubira al-Qāhira: min mu’assasa khidīwiyya ilā mu’assasa ‘āmma” (lecture in Arabic), *The Archive and the Modern Polity*, National Archives of Egypt, Egypt.
- 20 November 2010 “The Nightingale of the Nation: The Entanglements of ‘Abduh al-Hamuli,” *MESA*, San Diego.
- 9 June 2010 “Politique et théâtre musical au Caire et à Constantinople: directeurs, impresarios, chanteurs (1867–1892),” INHA, France.
- 3–5 July 2008 “Comparative Cultural History of Empires: Political Aesthetics in Ottoman and Habsburg Contexts,” *Empires and Nations*, Sciences Po, Paris, France.

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND SESSIONS ORGANIZED

- April 2026 “TEI Arabic,” workshop, ASPI-CMES, Harvard University.
- March 2024 “Scholarly Digital Editions of Right-To-Left Texts,” workshop IAS Princeton, co-organized with Sabine Schmidtke and Maria Tuya.
- October 2023 “Al-Ḥayawān wa-l-Insān fi-l-Madīna al-Miṣriyya al-Mu‘āṣira” (Animals and Humans in Egypt’s Contemporary Cities),

- CEDEJ-AUC conference, organized by Hanan Sabea, Ismail Alexandrani, Pascale Menoret, Adam Mestyan. (in Arabic)
- November 2022 “Islamic Law and Agriculture in Global History, 1850-1950,” *American Society for Legal History* annual meeting, Chicago, co-organized with Nora Barakat.
- June 2020 “L’interopérabilité des données de la recherche : textes, images, bases de données,” Zoom workshop, co-organized with Mercedes Volait.
- May 2019 “The Sources of Egyptian Urban History: Problems and Methods,” workshop, Ifao, Cairo, co-organized with Mercedes Volait.
- April 2018 “Monarchy and Sovereignty in Twentieth-Century Asia,” An International Symposium, Global Asia Initiative, Duke University, co-organized with Prasenjit Duara.
- November 2017 “Urban Topography and Political Economy in the Middle East: A Digital Humanities Workshop Comparing Istanbul and Cairo,” An International Workshop in Digital Humanities in the Middle East, Duke University, chief organizer.
- November 2016 “Jara’id 2.0: Indexing the Early Arabic Public Sphere,” An International Workshop and Events in Arabic Digital Humanities, Duke University, chief organizer.
- November 2016 Panel organizer with Hala Auji (members: Dana Sajdi, Nadia Al-Bagdadi, Hala Auji, Adam Mestyan, Anthony Edwards, Rana Issa), *MESA Annual Meeting*, Boston.
- August 2014 Panel organizer (members: Mercedes Volait, Khaled Fahmy, Mohamed Elshahed, Adam Mestyan), *WOCMES*, Ankara.
- October 2013 Panel organizer with Toufoul Abou-Hodeib (members: Nasser Rabat, Toufoul Abou-Hodeib, Julia Phillips Cohen, Benjamin Geer, Adam Mestyan, Deniz Türker), *MESA Annual Meeting*, New Orleans.
- November 2010 Panel organizer with Carmen Gitre (members: On Barak, Khaled Fahmy, Carmen Gitre, Adam Mestyan), *MESA Annual Meeting*, San Diego.
- October 2009 Chief conference organizer, *Musical Societies and Politics: Ottoman and Early Republican Turkey in its European Context*, joint Boğaziçi University and EUI conference, Istanbul.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Arabic, French, Turkish, Ottoman Turkish (now learning *siyāqat*), English, German, Hungarian, Italian, learning Russian

TEACHING & ADVISING

2025-26, NELC, Harvard University

Undergraduate Classes:

MODMDEST112 - A History of Modern Syria (seminar)

MODMDEST113 - Empire and Sovereignty in the Modern Middle East (lecture)

Graduate classes:

MODMDEST201 - A Techno-Environmental History of the Modern Middle East:

Machines, Nature, Energy

Graduate studies-related service:

Advisor, Dylan Glenn, MA (NELC)

Co-Chair of Middle East Beyond Borders graduate seminar

2024-25, History Department, Duke University

Undergraduate Classes:

Hist 402: Cairo – A Global History

Hist 449S: A History of Modern Syria

Graduate studies-related service:

Duke University:

Co-supervisor, Abram Smith (20th-c. Egypt, agricultural/export history)

Member of committee: Anisha Joshi (Anthropology, work migration in the Gulf)

External:

American University of Beirut, History - member of defense committee, Sarah

Sabban (crafts and arts in modern Syria)

Harvard University, NELC - member of defense committee, Johannes Makar (cultural history and Copts in 19th-c. Egypt)

2023-24, History Department, Duke University

Sabbatical year

Graduate studies-related service:

Duke University:

Co-supervisor, Abram Smith (20th-c. Egypt, agricultural/export history)

External:

American University of Beirut, History - member of defense committee, Sarah

Sabban (crafts and arts in modern Syria)

Harvard University, NELC - member of defense committee, Johannes Makar (cultural history and Copts in 19th-c. Egypt)

2022–23, History Department, Duke University

Undergraduate Classes:

Hist 214: The Modern Middle East

Hist 383: Engineering the Global Middle East: Energy, Agriculture, Infrastructure (elective in the Energy&Environment Certificate)

Hist 449S: A History of Modern Syria (supported by David L. Paletz Innovative Teaching Fund) – the “Syria Seminar,” included a series of guest lectures on the 20th-c history of Syria

Graduate seminar:

A Social History of Ottoman Islamic Law (independent study for Arif Erbil)

Graduate studies-related service:

Member of dissertation committee for Nathaniel Berndt: “Descendants of Zabarkan, Citizens of the World: A History of Cosmopolitan Imagination in Decolonizing Niger, 1958-1974”

Member of MA committee of Arif Erbil (Religion)

External: American University of Beirut, History - member of dissertation committee, Sarah Sabban (crafts and arts in modern Syria)

2021–22, History Department, Duke University

Undergraduate Survey Classes (only in Spring 2022):

Hist 383: Engineering the Global Middle East: Energy, Agriculture, Infrastructure (elective in the Energy&Environment Certificate)

Hist 469S: A History of Islamic Law (new seminar)

Graduate studies-related service:

Co-Chair (with Engseng Ho) of dissertation committee: Daanish Faruqi, “Politicized Sainthood in Diaspora: Sufi Rebel Movements from the Colonial Maghrib to the Syrian Uprising of 2011.” (resigned)

Chair of comprehensive examination: Robert Elliott, “Bizim Radyo: A Turkish Émigré Opposition Radio Program in Cold War Leipzig, 1958–1960.”

External: American University of Beirut, History - member of dissertation committee, Sarah Sabban (crafts and arts in modern Syria)

2020–21, History Department, Duke University

Undergraduate Survey Classes:

Hist 214: The Modern Middle East

Hist 359: Violent Jihad in Twentieth-Century Global History

Graduate Seminars:

Hist 701: Theory and Historiography

Independent Study: History of Agriculture in Modern Egypt

Graduate studies-related service:

American University of Beirut, History - member of dissertation committee, Sarah Sabban (crafts and arts in modern Syria)

I created a Middle East Graduate Forum at Duke University.

2019–20, History Department, Duke University

Undergraduate Survey Classes:

Hist 214: The Modern Middle East

Hist 383: Engineering the Global Middle East: Energy, Agriculture, Infrastructure (elective in the Energy&Environment Certificate)

Undergraduate Seminar:

Hist 167S: Nationalism: Ideology, Technology, Globalization

Graduate Seminar:

Hist 790: Sovereignty in Global History

Graduate studies-related service:

Doctoral defense committee member: Hyeju Janice Jeong, “Between Shanghai and Mecca: Diaspora and Diplomacy of Chinese Muslims in the Twentieth Century.”

Comprehensive examination committee member: Mohamed Ali, “Political Theory.”

2017–18, History Department, Duke University

Undergraduate Survey Classes:

Hist 214: The Modern Middle East (David L. Paletz Innovative Teaching Award)

Hist 359: Violent Jihad in the Twentieth Century: A Global History

Graduate Seminar:

Hist 790: Sovereignty in Global History

Graduate studies-related service:

Comprehensive examination committee member: Nathaniel Berndt, minor field

2016–17, History Department, Duke UniversityUndergraduate Survey Classes:

Hist 214: The Modern Middle East

Hist 359: Radical Islam: A History

Occasional guest talks, AMES Department

Graduate studies-related service:

Comprehensive examination committee member: Daanish Faruqi, minor field

“Modern Middle East and North Africa.”

2012–13, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of OxfordUndergraduate Survey Classes

The Middle East in the Age of Empire, 1860–1971

Nationalism and Imperialism in the Middle East, 1908–1961

Graduate Seminars

The Modern History of the Middle East, 1860–1971

Introduction into Research in Middle East Studies: Methods, Sources and Narratives (co-taught with Lucie Ryzova)

Islam and Revolution in Modern Egypt: A Brief History of the Muslim Brotherhood

Advising

BA Theses

“Sartorial implications of Feminist Discourses in 1950s Egypt.”

“‘Lebanon is a Homeland with an Arab Face’: Bishara al-Khuri and the Failure of Maronite Exceptionalism.”

“Britain in Iraq, 1920–32: Adapting Foreign Policy in the Age of Decolonization.”

DPhil (Ph.D.) transfer of status

“Didactic, Allegorical, and Utopian Writings of the 19th-Century Arab Revival.”

DPhil (Ph.D.) confirmation of status

“The Trial of Legislation in Iran: The Role of Parliament in Legal Reform and the Origins of Delegated Power, 1911–1941”

2010–11, winter semester, History Department, CEUGraduate Course

Borderlands in Ottoman and Islamic History, teaching assistant to Prof. Tolga Esmer

2007–2008, all semesters, Medieval Studies, CEU

Language Class: Classical Arabic for beginners and intermediate

MEMBERSHIPS IN ACADEMIC ORGANIZATIONS

Egyptian Society for Historical Studies, 2023–

American Society for Environmental History, 2023–

Syrian Studies Association 2021–

American Society for Legal History, 2020–

American Historical Association, 2013–

Junior Member, Public Body of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 2012–
Middle East Studies Association (MESA), 2008–2022
Law and Society Association, 2020–2021
Senior Member, Middle East Centre, St Antony's College, Oxford, 2012–2013

HOBBIES

Punk and metal music (bass guitar), poetry, marathon running