

Heather L. Ferguson

Claremont McKenna College
850 Columbia Avenue
Claremont, CA 91711
Kravis Center 203 / 909-607-3814
Email: hferguson@cmc.edu

EMPLOYMENT

Claremont McKenna College

Associate Professor of History / Middle East and Ottoman Empire (June 2017-present)
Assistant Professor of History / Middle East and Ottoman Empire (August 2011-June 2017)

Stanford University

Postdoctoral Fellow / Abbasi Program for Islamic Studies (January 2010-January 2011) Visiting Instructor
/ Department of History (Autumn Quarter 2009 and Spring Quarter 2011)

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D., History, University of California, Berkeley, Fall 2009
Dissertation: *The Circle of Justice as Genre, Practice, and Objectification: A Discursive Re-Mapping of the Early Modern Ottoman Empire*
Committee: Beshara Doumani (Chair), Mary Elizabeth Berry, William F. Hanks. Oral
Examination: Passed with Distinction, August 2004

1st Field: Ottoman and Middle Eastern History

Drs. Leslie Peirce and Beshara Doumani

2nd Field: Comparative Practices of Empire: the Tokugawa, Ottomans, and Mughals
Elizabeth Mary Berry and Eugene Irschick

3rd Field: Linguistic Anthropology: Discursive Formations of Power
Dr. William Hanks

University of Texas at Austin

Master of Arts in Middle Eastern Studies, 1999

M.A. Thesis: *Handicrafts, Heritage, and History: Rural Weavers, Urban Elites, and the Construction of Cultural Identity in Jordan*

Advisor: Dr. Nina Berman, Center for Middle Eastern Studies

La Sierra University, Riverside, CA

Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Literature (Ind. Major), Honors Program, 1996 Honors
Thesis: *Womenspirit Writing: Re-visioning Feminist Theologians as Sacred Biographies*
Graduated *Summa Cum Laude*, 3.94 / 4.0

SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION

Harvard–Koç University, Cunda / Ayvalik, Turkey

Intensive Ottoman and Turkish Summer School, July–August 2001, 2003

Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey

Intensive Advanced-Intermediate Turkish, June–August 2000

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

School of Arabic, Advanced (Fourth-year) Arabic, June–August 1999

University of California, Los Angeles

Summer Middle East Institute, Intermediate Literary Arabic, June–August 1998

University of California, Berkeley

Summer Middle East Institute, Intensive Intermediate Hebrew, June–August 1997

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Immersion Program in Modern Hebrew, June–August 1996

PUBLICATIONS**Books**

The Proper Order of Things: Language, Power, and Law in Ottoman Administrative Discourses
Stanford University Press, June 2018.

Sovereign Valedictions: “Last Acts” in Ottoman and Habsburg Courts (in progress).

Paper Trails: Law and Archival Consciousness in Contested Early Modernities (tentative title),
project co-edited with Guy Burak (in progress).

Journal Articles

“From Hyperbole to Bureaucracy: Ottoman and Habsburg Courtly Rivalries,” In *Iacobus: Revista de Estudios Jacobeos Y Medievales*, memorial issue for Louis Cardaillac (Issue 33-34, 2015), 265-90.

“Genres of Power: Constructing a Discourse of Decline in Ottoman *Nasīhatnāme*.” In *Osmanlı Araştırmaları Dergisi /The Journal of Ottoman Studies* (Issue 35, 2010), 81-116.

“Reading Kanunname: Law and Governance in the Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Empire.” In *The International Journal of the Humanities* 6 (2007-08), 74-88.

Book Chapters

“Producing Time in Islamicate Histories: Schemes of Medieval and Modern and the Racialization of the Past,” *Chronologies: Periodisation in a Global Context*, eds. Thomas Maissen, Barbara Mittler, Pierre Monnet (forthcoming from the Max Weber Stiftung, Forum Transregionale Studien).

“Periodizations in Crisis: Early Modernity and Ottoman Imperial Historiography,” for *Early Modernity in Ottoman Studies*, eds. Virginia Aksan, Boğaç Ergene, Antonis Hadjikyriacou (in progress).

“Ottomans, Ottomanists, and the State: Redefining an Ethos of Power in the Long Sixteenth Century,” for *Halcyon Days of Crete IX* (forthcoming, Crete University Press, 2018/19).

“Defining a Political Ethos: The Circle of Justice and Legal Vocabularies in Ottoman Administrative Genres.” Submission for Huricihan Islamoğlu, ed. *Justice, Statecraft and Law: A New Ottoman Legal History* (in negotiation with Syracuse University Press, 2016; submitted Winter, 2012).

“Property, Language, and Law: Conventions of Social Discourse in Seventeenth-century Tarablus al-Sham.” In Beshara Doumani, ed., *The Family in Middle Eastern History* (New York: SUNY Press, 2003).

Reviews

Review of Abdurrahman Atçıl's *Scholars and Sultans in the Ottoman Empire* for *The International Journal of Middle East Studies* 50:4 (2018).

Review of Jane Hathaway's *The Arab Land's Under Ottoman Rule, 1516-1800*. In *The International Journal of Middle East Studies* 45: 4 (Winter 2013).

Review of Christine Philliou's *Biography of an Empire: Governing Ottomans in an Age of Revolution*. In *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* XLIII: 1 (Summer 2012).

Review of Reşat Kasaba's *A Moveable Empire: Ottoman Nomads, Migrants & Refugees*. In *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* XLI: 4 (Spring 2011).

Editorial Work

“Letter from the Editor.” Review of Middle East Studies, vol. 51, issue 2, 2017, pp. 167-170.

“Letter from the Editor.” Review of Middle East Studies, vol. 52, issue 1, 2018, pp. 1-4.

Journalism

- “Methods and Strategies for Teaching the History of Islam.” In *The Bulletin of Middle East Studies* (April 2016), 30.
- “In Search of ‘Roomy’ Travel.” In *The Claremont Globetrotter* 4: 2 (Spring 2013), 3-5.
<https://www.cmc.edu/sites/default/files/studyabroad/Spring2013Globetrotter.pdf>
- “Occupying the Future” *The Tahrir Forum of the Cairo Review* (November 29, 2011).
<http://www.aucegypt.edu/gapp/cairoreview/pages/articleDetails.aspx?aid=108>
- “The Long Revolution?” *The Tahrir Forum of the Cairo Review* (May 22, 2011).
<http://www.aucegypt.edu/gapp/cairoreview/pages/articleDetails.aspx?aid=58>
- “Is 140 Characters (Enough!) for Arab Civil Society.” Co-authored with Ty McCormick, *The Huffington Post* (February 22, 2011). http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ty-mccormick/is-140-characters-enough-_b_826764.html
- “Why Islamic History Offers New Reasons to Support Democracy in Egypt, Middle East.” Co-authored with former student Ty McCormick, *The Huffington Post* (September 13, 2010).
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/heather-ferguson/why-islamic-history-offer_b_699016.html

SELECTED PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- “Scripted Courts and Entangled Practice: ‘Archive’ as Method in Ottoman-Habsburg Territorial Rivalries,” *Beyond the Islamicate Chancery: Archives, Paperwork, and Textual Encounters Across Eurasia (15th-20th Centuries)*, Vienna, October 4-5, 2018.
- “Producing Islamic History: Schemes of Medieval and Modern and the Racialization of the Past,” co-presented with David Moshfegh. *Chronologies: Periodisation in a Global Context*, Berlin, December 7-9, 2017.
- “The Sovereign State: Spatial and Textual Politics in Early Modern Eurasian Courts.” Invited talk for The Eurasian Empires Workshop, Stanford Humanities Center, November 6, 2017.
- “Intimate Rivals: Monuments and Models of Universal Sovereignty in the Habsburg and Ottoman Courts of Charles V and Süleyman I.” Don Carlos, 500 Años De La Llegada Del Rey A Castilla Y León (1517), Valladolid, April 13-15, 2017.
- “Ottomans and Ottomanists at Play in the Seventeenth-Century Ottoman Empire.” Late Antique, Medieval, and Early Modern Studies Conference, Claremont, February 26, 2016.
- “Genealogies of Practice Teaching Early Islamic History.” Middle Eastern Studies Association, Denver, November 21-24, 2015.
- “Discourses and Archives: Re-Thinking Ottoman Administrative Modes.” Rethinking Early Modernity: Methodological and Critical Innovation since the Ritual Turn, University of Toronto, June 26-27, 2014.
- “The *Muhimme* as a Spatial Practice.” Western Ottomanist’s Workshop, University of Washington, April 25-26, 2014.
- “Curses in the Classroom and Other Forms of Misdirections.” Late Antique and Medieval Studies Symposium on Translation, Claremont Colleges, February 28, 2014.
- “The Elaboration of Islamic Law as a Critical Mode in Ottoman Administrative Genres.” American Society for Legal History, Nov. 10, 2013.
- “Re-Inventing Tradition as a Response to Crisis: Ethical Categories and Administrative Strategies in Seventeenth-Century Ottoman Documentary Genres.” Middle Eastern Studies Association Meeting, Oct. 9, 2013.
- “Legacies of Power in the Ottoman Terrains: Alexander, Constantine, and Süleyman.” International Medieval Studies Congress, May 10, 2013.
- “Ottoman Policy Makers: Inventing an Archive in the Midst of Crisis.” Middle Eastern Studies Association, Nov. 18, 2012.
- “Ethical Rule: Muslim Religio-Legal Discourse and Ottoman Administrative Strategies.” Claremont Colleges Consortium of Classics, Medievalists, and Early Modernists, March 9, 2012.

- “Ideologies on the Defense: Venetians, Ottomans, and Theories of Just Rule in the Early Modern Mediterranean.” Conference on the Connected Histories of the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia. Pomona College, February 3-4, 2012.
- “From Conquest to Consolidation: Internalizing the Language of Rule and the Formation of an Ottoman Identity.” Middle Eastern Studies Association, December 1, 2011.
- “The Feminization of Decline in the Ottoman Empire.” Intercollegiate Women’s Studies at Claremont University Consortium, November 19, 2011.
- “Genres of Power: The Circle of Justice as an Administrative Strategy in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire.” Workshop on Understanding Early Islamic Empires Through Archives and Literature sponsored by the Abbasi Program In Islamic Studies, Stanford University, March 2010.
- “Problems in the Historiography of the Early Modern Ottoman Empire.” Ottoman Historiography Roundtable, Stanford University, March 2010.
- “A Mercantile World and the Ottoman Empire: Defining Authority in an Age of Absolutism, Middle Eastern Studies Association, November, 2008.
- “Shared Seventeenth-Century Horizons: Commerce and the Changing Language of Statecraft,” New Directions in the Humanities Sixth International Conference, Istanbul, July 15-18, 2008.
- “Paths Through the Archives: Research as Storytelling,” La Sierra University, 2007
- “Legacies of Imperialism in the Middle East.” Lecture for the Friends of History Association, Berkeley, March 21, 2004.
- “Ethical Rule and the Moral Economy in Seventeenth-century Hama and Diyarbekir.” Working paper presented to the American Research Institute, Turkey, Istanbul April 7, 2003.
- “Language and Law: Conventions of Social Discourse in Seventeenth-century Tarablus al-Sham.” Working paper presented to the California Middle East Social and Cultural History Association, UCLA, April 21, 2001.
- “Legal Representations of the Family in Islamic Court Records from Nineteenth-century Palestine.” Paper presented at the Middle Eastern Studies Association, November 18, 2000.
- “Handicrafts, Heritage, and History: Social Elites and the Construction of National Identity in Jordan.” Lecture presented in the Center for Middle Eastern Studies Colloquium Series, University of Texas at Austin, November 24, 1998.
- “Exhibiting the ‘Nation’: Public Culture and the Invention of Tradition in Contemporary Jordan.” Paper presented to the Ford Foundation Workshop for Social Science Concepts in Area Studies, University of Texas at Austin, October 27, 1998.
- “Music is Personal is Political: HaBreira HaTiv’it and the Struggle for Authenticity in Israeli Musical Culture.” Paper presented to the Texas Association of Middle East Scholars, University of Texas at Austin, February 21, 1998.
- “The ‘Feminine Picturesque’: Language and Positionality in Lady Duff Gordon’s *Letters from Egypt, 1862-1869*.” Paper presented at the 5th annual Graduate Conference on Emerging Scholarship in Women’s and Gender Studies, Univ. of Texas at Austin, January 23, 1998.
- “Representing Self / Representing Other: Palestinians in Israeli Cinema.” Multimedia presentation to the graduate seminar *Ethnography & Literature: Perspectives on the Middle East*, organized by Elizabeth W. Fernea, University of Texas at Austin, October 29, 1997.

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND SERVICE TO THE FIELD

- Editor, *Review of Middle East Studies*, June 2017-June 2022.
- Faculty Fellow, Claremont Faculty Leadership Program, 2018-19.
- American Research Institute of Turkey/NEH Grant Review Committee Member, 2016.
- Treasurer for the Turkish Studies Association, October 2012-present.
- Associate Editor for *The International Journal of Islamic Architecture*, October 2012-present. Assistant Assistant Editor for *The International Journal of Islamic Architecture*, 2011-2012.
- Program Reviewer for the Middle East Studies Association, 2011-12.

Faculty Research Affiliate/UCLA Center for 17th & 18th Century Studies, 2011-present. Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford University, 2009-2011. Associate Editor for *International Journal of the Humanities*, volume 6, 2007-08.

Assistant Research Editor for Dr. Ira Lapidus, Dept. of History, UC Berkeley, 2007-Research Assistant for Dr. Beshara Doumani, Dept of History, UC Berkeley, 2000–2002 Arabic Language Tutor, UC Berkeley, 1999–2003

Book Review Editor, Middle East Social and Cultural History Association, 1999–2002 Research Assistant for Dr. Gail Minault, Dept of History, UT-Austin, October–December 1998

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Western Ottomanists' Workshop, 2011-

Urban History Association, 2009-

World History Association, 2007-

American History Association, 2000-

Middle East Studies Association, 1996–

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Dean of the Faculty Research Award, Claremont McKenna College, 2012, 2016-17, 2018

Curricular Innovation Grant, “Gender and Popular Culture in Middle East History,” 2018

Lead: 7 College Professional Development Grant “Methodology and Pedagogical Practice in Islamic Studies,” 2018-19

American Council of Learned Societies Faculty Fellow, 2014-2015

Gould Center for Humanistic Studies Faculty Research Grant, Summer 2012

Department of History Dissertation Write-up Grant, UC Berkeley, 2007-2008

Graduate Division Research Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2004-2005

American Research Institute in Turkey Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2003-2004 al-

Falah Dissertation Grant, CMES, UC Berkeley, Fall 2002

Department of History Block Grant, UC Berkeley, 2002-2003

Humanities Research Grant, UC Berkeley, Summer 2001

CMES/Mellon Travel Grant, UC Berkeley, Summer 2001

Foreign Language & Area Studies Summer Fellowship, UC Berkeley 2000, 2001

Foreign Language & Area Studies Academic Year Fellowship, UC Berkeley, 2000-01

Department of History Block Grant, UC Berkeley, 1999–2000

David Bruton, Jr. Endowed Graduate Fellowship, UT-Austin, 1998–99

Foreign Language & Area Studies Academic Year Fellowship, UT-Austin, 1997-98, 1998-1999

Foreign Language & Area Studies Summer Fellowship, UT-Austin, 1997, 1998

Ford Foundation Research Grant for Social Science Concepts in Area Studies, Summer 1998 Texas

Fund for Training Foreign Policy Professionals / National Security Education Program

Research Grant, Summer 1998

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Arabic (Modern/Classical): Speaking/Near Native; Reading/Advanced High

Turkish (Ottoman): Reading/Advanced High

Turkish (Modern): Speaking/Intermediate; Reading/Advanced

Basic reading ability in Persian, German, Latin, Spanish, and French

TEACHING FIELDS

Southwest Asia/Middle East

Ottoman Empire

Eurasian Empires and Urban History

Comparative Legal Systems

Islam in Late Antique and Medieval Worlds Art and Architecture of the Islamic World
 Imperialism and Nationalism Historiography and Cultural Theory
 Gender and Popular Culture

CURRENT/PROPOSED COURSES

The Graphic Novel and Middle East History
 Worlds of Words: Theory and Politics of the Islamic World
 Crusading Mentalities
 From Muhammad to the Mongols: The Creation of a Muslim Middle East (600-1400)
 From Empire to Imperialism: Ottomans to the Present
 Empires, Technology, and Religion: Early Modernity in the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia
 Urban Power and Ottoman History: Cities, Identities, and Historical Change
 Travel and Encounter in the Islamic World
 Tackling the “isms” of the Middle East
 The Middle East in Revolt: The History and Practice of Social Movements

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS ADVISING

2016-17

Malek Debbas (CMC): “Examining Lebanon’s Susceptibility to Foreign Influence: Institutional Roadblocks to State Stability”
 Haley Goodman (CMC): “The Birth of No Nation: An Exploration of Fragmented Turkish Identity through the Prism of Visual Vocabularies and Cinematic Roots”
 Jack Adolfson (CMC): “An Evolution of the Kurdish Issue in Turkey: Beyond a State-Centric Perspective”
 Madeleine Minke (POM): “The Embodied Metaphor in Islamic Philosophy”

2015-16

Cole Clark (POM): “Sex as Social Order: Rhetoric, Sexual Values, and Spatial Empire in the Ottoman Empire during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries”
 Alejandro Duran (CMC): “The Iranian Green Movement and the Journey of Democracy in the 20th and 21st Centuries”
 Jenya Green (CMC): “Towards a Realist Framework for Understanding Conflict and Cooperation in the Middle East”
 Nikhil Kanade (CMC): “Tracing Islamic Extremist Ideologies: The Historical Journey of Jihad from the Late Antique Period to the 21st Century”
 Simone Prince-Eisner (POM): “Embodying the Empire: Singing Slave Girls in Medieval Islamic Historiography”
 Miranda Russell (PTZ): “Curating the Modern: Institutionalization of a Nation State & the Selective Formation of Identity in the Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Empire”

2014-15

Noor Haddad (CMC): “Bound to the Patron and the Beloved: Hierarchy, Gender, Sexuality and the Structuring of Ottoman Homosociality”
 Rolando Gutierrez (CMC): “Pieces of a Mosaic: Revised Identities of the Almoravid Dynasty and the Almohad Caliphate and *al-Bayan al-Mughrib*”
 Kyle Gosselin (CMC): “Rhetorical Tales of Jerusalem and Constantinople: Cities and Strategies of the Crusades” (Won the History Dept.’s Best Thesis Award)
 Henry Johnson (CMC): “Islamic Nationalism: Tracing Paradoxes in the Evolution of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps”
 Ben Baker (CMC): “Dwarf Stars: A Historiographic Approach”
 Morgan Joscelyn (CMC-Second Reader): “British Imperialism of the Ottoman Empire: Gender, Nationalism and Cultural Exchanges”

Lily Lousada (PTZ): "Tribal-States and Non-State Tribes: Negotiated Stability in Yemen and Jordan
Sarah Menzies (SCR): "The Transformation of an Empire to a Nation-State: From the Ottoman Empire
to the Republic of Turkey"
Sophie Saouma (SCR): "Hizbullah and the 'Failed State' Paradigm in Lebanon"
Emma Kellman (SCR): "Politicized Historiography and the Zionist-Crusader Analogy" (awarded
Distinction)

2013-14

Kyle Wood: "Imperial Dissolution: Predestined or Manufactured?"

2012-13

Thomas Chandler Winter: "The Rhetoric of 'Idealism' and 'Pragmatism' in 1950s U.S Foreign Policy
Dictates Concerning the Middle East."
Olivia Uranga: "Islamic Modernism Re-Considered: Ibn Rushd and the Egyptian Labor
Movement."