

HODA EL SHAKRY
Curriculum Vitae

The Pennsylvania State University
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of Comparative Literature
The Pennsylvania State University, 2013—Present

Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow, The Gallatin School of Individualized Study
New York University, 2012—2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, Comparative Literature, August, 2012

B.A., Rutgers University, Comparative Literature, January 2001, *Summa cum laude*

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

- North African Literature & Culture
- Modern Arab/ic Literature
- Maghrebi Studies
- Film & Visual Culture
- Islam & Secular Criticism
- Postcolonial Literature & Theory
- Philosophy & Aesthetic Theory
- Gender & Sexuality Studies

ACADEMIC AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Penn State Humanities (IH) Residential Fellowship, 2018—2019
- Center for Humanities and Information (CHI) Faculty Fellowship, 2018—2019
- Comparative Literature Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2016—2017
- Penn State Institute for Arts & Humanities (IAH) Scholar in Resident, 2015—16
- Penn State Africana Research Center (ARC) Faculty Grant, 2014—2015
- Penn State Center for Global Studies Career Development Award, 2014
- UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship (DYF), 2011—2012
- UCLA Center for European & Eurasian Studies (CEES) Dissertation Fellowship, 2011
- UCIPC Hayman Dissertation Fellowship, 2010
- UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship (GRM) Fellowship, 2009-2010
- American Institute for Maghrib Studies TALIMS Short-Term Research Grant, 2009
- Horst Frenz Prize Nominee for best graduate student paper at the annual conference of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), 2008
- UCLA Graduate Research Summer Mentorship (GRSM) Fellowship, 2008
- National Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- “Abdelwahab Meddeb and the Po/Ethics of Sufism,” *Expressions Maghrébines*, 16.2 (Winter 2017). [LINK](#)
- “Printed Matter(s): Critical Histories and Perspectives on Tunisian Cultural Journals,” *ALIF: A Journal of Comparative Poetics* 37 (2017): 1-29. [LINK](#)
- “Heteroglossia and the Poetics of the Roman Maghrébin,” *Contemporary French and Francophone Studies: SITES* 20.2 (2016): 8-17. [LINK](#)
- “Revolutionary Eschatology: Islam and the End of Time in al-Ṭāhir Waṭṭār’s *al-Zilzāl*,” *Journal of Arabic Literature* 42:2-3 (2011): 120-147. [LINK](#)
- “Apocalyptic Pasts, Orwellian Futures: Elle Flanders’ *Zero Degrees of Separation*,” *GLQ* 16.4 (2010): 611-621. [LINK](#)

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- “Lessons from the Maghreb,” in *Arabic Literature in the Classroom: Teaching Methods, Theories, Themes and Texts*, Ed. Muhsin al-Musawi (Routledge, 2017): 109-129. [LINK](#)

Reviews

- *In the Shadow of World Literature: Sites of Reading in Colonial Egypt* by Michael Allan, *Journal of Arabic Literature* 48.3 (2017): 327-349.

Translations

- “Generation Drive” by Mohamed Berrada [Co-Translation with Maya Boutaghou], in *SOUFFLES- ANFAS: A Critical Anthology from the Moroccan Journal of Culture and Politics*, Eds. Olivia C. Harrison and Teresa Villa-Ignacio (Stanford University Press, 2016). [LINK](#)

Books in Progress

- *Key Texts in Anti-Colonial Thought: Maghreb-Mashriq*, Co-Editor with Fadi Bardawil (Edinburgh University Press).
- *The Literary Qur’an: Narrative Ethics in the Maghreb* (Fordham University Press).

The Literary Qur’an: Narrative Ethics in the Maghreb mobilizes the formal qualities of the Qur’an as a text, and a series of embodied as well as hermeneutical practices, as a model for theorizing literary writing and reading. It examines how Maghrebi novels of the 1940s—1980s incorporate Qur’anic scripture and rhetorical stylization, as they engage with central debates in Islamic philosophy. To that end, my book reads these works into the classical tradition of *adab*—a concept that demarcates the genre of belles lettres, as well as the ethical dimensions of personal and social conduct. *The Literary Qur’an* pairs Arabophone and Francophone fiction, while bringing more canonical works into conversation with lesser-known ones. This comparative framework disrupts the geopolitical, philological, and ideological divisions that silo Arabic and Francophone Studies. Mobilizing the Qur’an as a critical lens for studying modern literature, further disrupts authoritative narratives about the meetings between East and West, and Islam and Post-Enlightenment secular Europe.

INVITED TALKS AND LECTURES

- "Un-Disciplining Maghrebi Literature: *Adab* and the Question of Literary Ethics," Institute for Arts & Humanities (IAH), The Pennsylvania State University, 2015.
- "Islam and the Literary Imagination in 20th Century North African Literature," Center for Global Studies (CGS), The Pennsylvania State University, 2015.
- "Carnivals of Heterodoxy: Exorcising Islam and the Nation in Abdelwahab Meddeb's *Talismano*," The Arabic Program at the Department of Asian Studies, UNC Chapel Hill, 2015.
- "The Poetics of Sufism: Reading the Literature and Criticism of Mahmud al-Mas'adi," *Dissections: New Directions in Research on the Middle East and North Africa*, The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY), 2013.
- "Reorienting Modernity: Islamic Discourse in 20th Century North African Literature," Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, The University of Pennsylvania, 2012.
- "The Politics of Islamic Poiesis: The Literary Project of Mahmud al-Mas'adi," Department of Comparative Literature, The Pennsylvania State University, 2012.
- "Crossing the Line: *La ligne mince* in Driss Chraïbi's *Le passé simple*," *Maghrebi Literature[s] Across Boundaries*, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, 2009.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Palestine and the Aesthetics of the Future-Impossible," American Comparative Literature Association, Los Angeles, 2018.
- "The Ethics of Commitment: *Iltizam* in the Maghreb," *Thinking the Global South: A Critical Vocabulary for the Twenty-First Century*, Penn State University, 2018.
- "Printed Matter(s): Culture and Critique in 20th Century Maghrebi Journals," The Modern and Contemporary Studies Initiative (MCSI), Penn State University, 2017.
- "Sufi Epistemologies and Feminist Critique: The Short Stories of Alifa Rifaat," *Women's Voices in the Mediterranean and Africa*, Forum on Mediterranean and African Women, Fes, Morocco, 2017.
- Roundtable Participant: *Remembering Abdelwahab Meddeb*, The Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, 2017.
- "Sufi Poetics and the Question of Narrative Form," American Comparative Literature Association, Cambridge, 2016.
- "The Aesthetics of Resistance in Adania Shibli's *Masaas* [Touch]," The Modern Language Association, Vancouver, 2015.
- "*Medinating* Across the Mediterranean: Charting Tunisian Modernities in Abdelwahab Meddeb's *Talismano*," American Comparative Literature Association, New York, 2014.
- "Novelistic Discourse and Critique: The Ethics and Aesthetics of 'Adab' in the Maghreb," Middle East Studies Association, New Orleans, 2013.
- "Remapping the Concept of 'Adab' in Maghrebi Literary Discourse," American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, 2013.

- “The Poetic Landscape of Islamic Thought: Creation and Existence in the Literary World of Maḥmūd al-Mas‘adī,” Middle East Studies Association, Denver, 2012.
- “Worlding Islamic Eschatology: Imperialism and the End of Time in Maghrebi Literature,” American Comparative Literature Association, Vancouver, 2011.
- “Postcolonial Aftershocks: The Politics of Qur’anic Discourse in al-Ṭāhir Waṭṭār’s *al-Zilzāl*,” *Jil Jadid Graduate Student Conference in Arabic Studies*: University of Texas, Austin, 2011.
- “Deconstructing Representation: Allegory, Mimesis and The Politics of Language in Arab Literary Discourse,” American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans, 2010.
- “The Disorder of Imperialism: The Politics of Psychoanalysis in Moroccan Literature,” American Comparative Literature Association, Longbeach, CA, 2008.
- “Tense Eruptions: Parsing Memory and Trauma in North African Francophone Literature,” American Comparative Literature Association, Puebla, Mexico, 2007.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- Conference Advisory Board Member and Panel Organizer: *Thinking the Global South: A Critical Vocabulary for the Twenty-First Century*, Penn State, 2018.
- Seminar Co-Organizer: *The Crisis of the Future/The Future in Crisis: The Aesthetics of Futurity in the Post-Global Present*, American Comparative Literature Association, Los Angeles, 2018.
- Panel Organizer & Chair: *Speculative Futures in Arabic Literature*, The Modern Language Association, New York, 2018.
- Panel Organizer: *Graphic Interventions: Visual Cultures of The Arab World*, The Modern Language Association, Austin, 2016.
- Panel Chair: *Vulnerable Expression After the Arab Uprisings*, The Modern Language Association, Vancouver, 2015.
- Respondent: *Geographies of Power: Justice, Revolution, and the Cultural Imagination*, Center for Global Studies, The Pennsylvania State University, 2013.
- Conference Co-Organizer & Chair: *Conscripted Subjects: Disciplined Society, Critique, and the Humanities*, Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA, 2011.
- Panel Chair: “Neutral” Grounds: *Rethinking the Limits of Hybridity*, American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans, 2010.
- Conference Co-Organizer: *Modalities of Change*, U.C. Interdisciplinary Psychoanalytic Consortium Annual Meeting, Lake Arrowhead, California, 2009.

WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

- Workshop Participant and Presenter: *Rethinking the Margins in Arabic Literary Studies*, The Center of Middle Eastern Studies, The University of Chicago, April 6-7, 2018.
- MCSI Summer Institute: *Expertise/Inexpertise*, The Modern and Contemporary Studies Initiative (MCSI), June 12-16, 2017.

- Workshop Participant: *African Muslim Feminisms*, African Feminist Initiative (AFI and The International Institute for Languages and Cultures (INLAC), Morocco, May 8-10, 2017.
- Respondent & Moderator: Butch Ware, *Religious Epistemology and Scholarly Production*, Society for the Study of Religion, The Pennsylvania State University, January 30, 2017.
- Workshop Participant: *African Feminisms Around the World: Cartographies for the 21st Century*, African Feminist Initiative, The Pennsylvania State University, September 22-24, 2016.
- Workshop Participant & Presenter: *Islamic Studies Workshop*, Society for the Study of Religion, The Pennsylvania State University, May 9-13, 2016.
- Workshop & Reading Group Participant: *Race and the Anthropocene* with Achille Mbembe & Sarah Nuttall (Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa), Rock Ethics Institute, The Pennsylvania State University, 2015-2016.
- Film Screening & Discussion Moderator: *A Borrowed Identity* with Novelist & Filmmaker Sayyed Kashua, The Pennsylvania State University, March 21, 2016.
- Panel Organizer & Moderator: *Cultural Production and the Question of African Identity*, The Center for the Performing Arts, The Pennsylvania State University, April 20, 2015.
- Events Co-Organizer: *The Nile Project Artist Residency*, The Center for the Performing Arts, The Pennsylvania State University, April, 2015.
- Workshop Participant: *Theorizing Islam and Gender*, The Institute for Arts & Humanities, The Pennsylvania State University, December 1-2, 2014.
- Lecture Organizer & Moderator: *Visual Occupations: The Politics of Visibility and Invisibility in Palestine/Israel* with Professor Gil Hochberg (UCLA), Gallatin School of Individualized Study, December 10, 2012.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Comparative Literature Assistant Professor, 2013—Present

- Global Science Fictions (Spring 2018)
- Narrative Theory: Film & Literature (Spring 2018)
- Reading Across Cultures (Fall 2017)
- Arab/ic Literature & Culture (Graduate, Fall 2017)
- Reading Across Cultures (Spring 2017)
- Narrative Theory: Film & Literature (Spring 2017)
- Literary & Visual Cultures of Islam (Spring 2015)
- Landscapes in North African Literature, Film, & Music (Honors, Spring 2015)
- Aesthetics & Politics in a Transnational Context (Graduate, Fall 2014)
- Freshman Seminar in Comparative Literature (Fall 2014)
- Women & World Literature (Spring 2014)
- Introduction to African Literatures (Spring 2014)
- Narrative Theory: Film & Literature (Fall 2013)

New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study
Faculty Fellow, 2012—2013

- Literature & Film of the Maghreb (Spring 2013)
- Narrating Gender in the Arab World (Fall 2012)

University of California, Los Angeles, Department of Comparative Literature
Teaching Fellow, 2010—2011

- Disoriented Selves: Fantasy & the Uncanny (Summer 2011)
- Existentialism in World Literature (Winter 2011)
- Global Gothic: Madness & the Apocalyptic (Fall 2010)

Teaching Associate, 2007—2009

- Reclaiming the Real: Representation, Reproduction & Recreation (Spring 2009)
- Conflicts of Representation (Winter 2009)
- Literature of the Middle Ages to 17th Century (Fall 2008)
- The World at Large: Protest Literature (Spring 2008)
- Literature of the Age of Enlightenment to 20th Century (Winter 2008)
- Literature of Antiquity to Middle Ages (Fall 2007)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

To the Profession

- Delegate Assembly Member, Forum on Global Arab and Arab American Literature, *The Modern Language Association*, 2018—
- Editorial Advisory Board, *Journal of Modern Literature* (JML), 2017—
- Chair, Executive Committee of the Forum on Arabic Literature and Culture, *The Modern Language Association*, 2015—2019
- Manuscript Review: *Journal of Arabic Literature*, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 & 2017
- Manuscript Review: *Research in African Literatures*, 2016
- Manuscript Review: *PMLA*, 2015

To the University

- Advisory Board Member: Modern & Contemporary Studies Initiative (MCSI), 2016—
- Executive Board & Steering Committee Member: African Feminist Initiative (AFI), 2015—
- Evaluator: Schreyer Honors College, 2017—
- Member: Undergraduate Committee, 2017—
- Member: Middle East Studies Standing Committee, 2013—
- Member: Society for the Study of Religion, 2013—
- Search Committee Member: Assistant Professor of Arabic Literature, 2015—2016
- Search Committee Consultant: Assistant Professor of Middle East History, 2014—2015
- Search Committee Member: Department Head Comparative Literature, 2014
- Comparative Literature Graduate Job Placement Adviser: 2013—2015

CURRICULAR DEVELOPMENT

- CMLIT: 149 *Literary and Visual Cultures of Islam* [Co-Developer].
- CMLIT: 524 *Comparative Arabic Literature and Criticism* [Co-Developer].
- Middle East Studies Major/Minor [Co-Developer].
- Global Muslim Cultures Minor in conjunction with the Islamic Studies Virtual Curriculum Project [Co-Developer].
- Honors Seminar: *Landscapes in North African Literature, Film & Music*.

ADVISING AND MENTORSHIP

Doctoral Committee Major Program Member/Chair

- Derek Gideon (2016—)
- Alexander Fyfe (2014—Present)
- Merve Tabur (2014—Present)
- Rebekah Zwanzig (2013—Present) | Chair
- Anouar El Younssi: (2012—2015)
 - Dissertation: *Al-Tajrib (Experimentalism) in the Moroccan New Novel and the Debate over Legitimacy*
- Beyza Lorenz (2013—2014)
 - Dissertation: *Wonders and Curiosities: Itinerant Writing Across Ottoman Worlds*
- Riadh Bounatirou (2013—)

Masters Committee Member/Chair

- Deena Al-halabieh (2016—) | Chair
- Rana Ghuloom (2016—) | Chair
- Lubna Safi (2014—2016) | Chair

Honors Thesis Advisor

- Monica Hunter (2015—2016)
 - Thesis: *Challenging Boundaries in “Season of Migration to the North” and “Under the Frangipani”*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
- Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
- Modern Language Association (MLA)