

School of International Studies (SIS)  
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## APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2021 – present Professor, SIS/Anthropology, University of the Pacific  
 Fall 2019 – present Director, Ethnic Studies Program, University of the Pacific  
 2015 – 2021 Associate Professor of SIS/Anthropology, University of the Pacific  
 2009 – 2015 Assistant Professor, SIS/Anthropology, University of the Pacific, Stockton CA  
 2008 – 2009 Postdoctoral Fellow, Urban/Global Studies, Trinity College, Hartford CT  
 2006 – 2008 Postdoctoral Fellow, International Studies, University of Iowa, Iowa City IA  
 2006 Research Fellow, Harvard University Grad. School of Design, Cambridge MA

## EDUCATION

2006 PhD, Social Anthropology, Harvard University, Cambridge MA  
 2000 AM, Middle East Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge MA  
 1997 BS (honors/distinction), Psychology, James Madison University, Harrisonburg VA

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

- urban anthropology & sociology
- race, gender, class, & empire
- social and class struggle movements
- Marxism & feminism, Marxist feminism

### Current Projects:

- ethnographic field project on contemporary US Marxist Movement
- study of intersections between Marxism and feminism in cultural anthropology

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- 2020 *Beyond Exception: New Interpretations of the Arabian Peninsula* (with Amélie Le Renard and Neha Vora). Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- 2013 *The Superlative City: Dubai and the Urban Condition in the Early 21. Century* (Editor). Cambridge: Harvard GSD/Harvard University Press.
- 2012 *Rethinking Global Urbanism: Comparative Insights from Secondary Cities* (Editor, with Xiangming Chen). New York: Routledge.
- 2011 *Dubai, The City as Corporation*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.\*  
 \* Listed as an “Essential Reading on the Arab State” by *Jadaliyya*, 2018, <https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/37665>  
 \* Chapter Two excerpted in *Cities of the Global South Reader*. Edited by F. Miraftab and N. Kudva. New York: Routledge, 2015.

Articles

- In Progress Memory of the Class, Uniter of the Class: Discourses of the Political Party in the Re-emerging US Socialist Movement (tentative title).
- Under Review Standing Side by Side with History: Becoming Marxist in a 'Post-Socialist' Time. *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology*.
- Accepted/Forthcoming  
'Bury Class Society Before It Buries Us All': Eleanor Burke Leacock's Vision for a Marxist Feminist Anthropology, *Monthly Review*.
- 2021 (Roundtable Contribution) What Kind of Commons? Logics of Exchange in J. Dua's *Captured at Sea. Society & Space*. November 1, 2021, Link [here](#).
- 2018 (with Neha Vora) De-Exceptionalizing the Field: Anthropological Reflections on Migration, Labor, and Identity in Dubai, *Arab Studies Journal* 26(2):74 – 101.
- 2014 'A Group Like-Minded Lads in Heaven': Everydayness and the Production of Dubai Space, *Journal of Urban Affairs* 36(2):605 – 620.
- 2014 (with Najib Hourani), Arab Cities in the Neoliberal Moment, *Journal of Urban Affairs* 36(2):600 – 604.
- 2014 Speaking of the City: Establishing Urban Expertise in the Arab Gulf. *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 46 (1):169 – 171.
- 2012 A Politics of Non-Recognition? Biopolitics of Arab Gulf Worker Protests in the Year of Uprisings. *Interface: A Journal For and About Social Movements* 4(1):146 – 164.
- 2012 Urban Praxis and the Arab Spring. *City* 16(3):337 – 345.
- 2010 Flexible Citizenship in Dubai: Neoliberal Subjectivity in the Emerging 'City—Corporation.' *Cultural Anthropology* 25(1):100—129.
- 2009 Making Cadres of the 'City—Corporation': Cultural and Identity Politics in Neoliberal Dubai. *Review of Middle East Studies* 43(2):207—218.
- 2005 The 'State Philosophical' in the 'Land without Philosophy': Shopping Malls, Interior Cities, and the Image of Utopia in Dubai. *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review* 16(2):59—73.

Book Chapters (all appear in peer-reviewed volumes)

- 2021 Outsiders of the Oil States, in Asef Bayat & Linda Herrera, eds. *Global Middle East: Into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, pp. 240 – 252. Oakland: University of California Press.
- 2017 Main Trends in Contemporary Urban Studies of the Middle East/North Africa. In John Rennie Short, ed., *A Research Agenda for Cities (Elgar Research Agendas Series)*, Northampton MA and Cheltenham UK: Edward Elgar.

- 2016 Gulf Urbanism: The Semantic Field of a Spatial Category. In Mehran Kamrava, ed., *Gateways to the World: Port Cities in the Persian Gulf*, pp. 79 – 94. New York: Oxford University Press.
- 2012 Urbanist Ideology and the Production of Space in the United Arab Emirates: An Anthropological Critique. In Marina Peterson and Gary McDonogh, eds., *Global Downtowns*, pp. 90 – 109. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
- 2012 Bringing the Less Familiar Cities in and Together (with Xiangming Chen). In Xiangming Chen and Ahmed Kanna, eds. *Rethinking Global Urbanism*, pp. 1 – 14. New York: Routledge.
- 2012 The Trajectories of Two “Asian Tigers:” Capitalism and Empire in Dubai and Singapore. In Xiangming Chen and Ahmed Kanna, eds. *Rethinking Global Urbanism*, pp. 35 – 52. New York: Routledge.

SELECTED GENERAL READERSHIP AND SOCIAL MOVEMENT PUBLICATIONS, BOOK TALKS, INTERVIEWS ETC.

- 2020 New Texts Out Now (NEWTON) Interview on *Beyond Exception* book (with Amelie Le Renard and Neha Vora), *Jadaliyya*. Link [here](#).
- 2020 Interview on *Beyond Exception: New Interpretations of the Arabian Peninsula*. New Book Network, Univ. of Illinois Chicago (with Neha Vora and Amelie Le Renard), November 18. Link [here](#).
- 2020 [Book Talk](#) on *Beyond Exception: New Interpretations of the Arabian Peninsula*. University of Virginia Arabian Peninsula and Gulf Studies Program (with Amelie Le Renard and Neha Vora), September 25.
- 2020 The Measure of Everything: David McNally’s Materialist History of Money, *Left Voice*, August 25, <https://www.leftvoice.org/the-measure-of-everything-david-mcnallys-materialist-history-of-money>
- 2019 Iraq: A Revolutionary Situation? *Left Voice*, December 20. <https://www.leftvoice.org/iraq-a-revolutionary-situation>
- 2016 Surkh Salam/Communism in Pakistan Roundtable: On Kamran Asdar Ali’s *Communism in Pakistan*, [https://www.chapatimystery.com/archives/cm\\_roundtable\\_i\\_surkh\\_salam\\_kanna.html](https://www.chapatimystery.com/archives/cm_roundtable_i_surkh_salam_kanna.html)
- 2015 Capitalizing Urbanism: On David Kilcullen’s *Out of the Mountains*. *Jadaliyya*. [http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/21028/capitalizing-urbanism\\_on-david-kilcullen%E2%80%99s-out-of-](http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/21028/capitalizing-urbanism_on-david-kilcullen%E2%80%99s-out-of-)
- 2013 “Towards a Critical Cartography of the Political in the Arabian Peninsula.” (Theorizing the Arabian Peninsula Roundtable), *Jadaliyya*, <https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/28469>
- 2012 “Bahrain: The Dragonfly’s Eye.” *Jadaliyya*, June 4, [http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/5815/bahrain\\_the-dragonflys-eye](http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/5815/bahrain_the-dragonflys-eye)

- 2011 “Bombing the Neighborhood: Daniel Ellsberg and the Radical Critique of American Empire.” *Jadaliyya*, December 8, [http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/3438/bombing-the-neighborhood\\_daniel-ellsberg-and-the-r](http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/3438/bombing-the-neighborhood_daniel-ellsberg-and-the-r)
- 2011 New Texts Out Now: Ahmed Kanna’s *Dubai, The City as Corporation*. August 17, <https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/24322>
- 2011 “The Arab World’s Forgotten Rebellions: Foreign Workers and Biopolitics in the Gulf.” *Jadaliyya*, <https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/24053>
- 2008 “The UAE’s Space Race: Starchitects and Sheikhs Envision the Future” (with Arang Keshavarzian), *Middle East Report* 248 (Fall): 34—39. <https://merip.org/2008/09/the-uaes-space-race/>
- 2007 “The South Asian Experience in the Gulf: Diversity and Struggle.” *SAMAR: South Asian Magazine for Action and Reflection* 27 (November).

#### RECENT INVITED LECTURES, CONFERENCE PAPERS, & PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 Standing Side by Side with History: Becoming Marxist in a ‘Post-Socialist’ Time. Panel paper, accepted for annual meeting of American Anthropological Association, Baltimore, November 19.
- 2021 Invited book talk on *Beyond Exception*. NYU Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi UAE (remotely), Nov. 15.
- 2021 Invited book talk on *Beyond Exception*. University of Southern California (remotely), Sept. 27.
- 2021 Discussant, Assoc. for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies (AGAPS) Graduate Student Workshop, July 28 – 29.
- 2021 Webinar talk on book panel, *Global Middle East*, Asef Bayat and Linda Herrera eds. March 12.
- 2020 Discussant, *Archive Wars: The Politics of History in Saudi Arabia* with author Rosie Bsheer, Middle East Studies Program, George Washington University, October 22.
- 2020 Beyond Exception: New Interpretations of the Arabian Peninsula, Invited Talk, University of Virginia Department of History. September 25.
- 2019 Discussant, ‘Mobility, Value, and Infrastructure in and out of Africa: A New Book Roundtable,’ Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Vancouver BC, 20 November.
- 2019 Class Struggles & Western Imperialism in the Arab Gulf. Address to the University of the Pacific United Nations Club. 14 November.
- 2019 De-Exceptionalizing the Arab Gulf: Bringing Back Class Struggle & Social Reproduction. Invited Lecture, UC Santa Cruz Humanities Center, April 24.
- 2017 Panel Paper, Assoc. of American Geographers, Boston, 6 April 2017.

- 2017 Invited Paper, De-Exceptionalizing Urban Space: Labor and Class in the Contemporary Gulf City, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, 7 – 8 April, 2017.
- 2017 Roundtable Participant, “The Embargo of Palestine in America’s Political Imaginary,” American Ethnological Society Annual Meeting, Stanford University, April 1.
- 2016 The Concept of Class in MENA Urban Studies, Annual Meeting of Middle East Studies Association of North America, Boston.
- 2016 Chair, ‘Beyond the Square: Urbanism and Arab Uprisings’ Panel, Annual Meeting of Middle East Studies Association of North America, Boston.
- 2016 Invited Roundtable Paper, ‘Ethnography Inside Out: Activism and Research among Urban Social Movements in the United States,’ CUNY Graduate Center, 9/26/16.
- 2016 Invited Discussant, *Beyond the Square: Urbanism and the Arab Uprisings* (Deen Sharp, Claire Panetta, eds.) book launch, NYU Kevorkian Center, 9/26/16.
- 2016 Urban Spaces and Popular Culture in Middle East/North Africa. Lecture to K-12 Teachers Summer Institute, UC Berkeley Office of Resources for International and Area Studies (ORIAS), 19 July.
- 2016 The Rise of the Urban in Military Counterinsurgency. University of Gent, Belgium, 20 April.
- 2016 Invited Lecture, Spaces of Bourgeois Gratification, Class, and Race in Dubai. University of Gent, Belgium, 19 April.
- 2016 Invited Paper, The Urban Turn in U.S. Counterinsurgency: Beyond the Critique of Orientalism. The Entrepreneur and The Broker Workshop, CETREN, Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen, Germany, Jan. 13 – 16.
- 2015 Discussant, Flexible Militaries, Adaptive Soldiers, Panel, American Anthropological Association, Denver, November.
- 2015 Panel Paper, The Spatial Politics of Vitality in Dubai, Panel Paper, American Anthropological Association, Denver, November.
- 2015 Panel Paper, The Politics of Comfort in the Urban Arab Gulf, Panel Paper, Middle East Studies Association, Denver, November.
- 2015 Panel Paper, The New Urban Counterinsurgency Theory, Panel Paper, American Studies Association, Toronto, October.
- 2015 Arab Gulf Urbanism: The Semantic Field of a Category of Space. Invited Panel Paper, Middle East Studies Center, University of Chicago, April 11.
- 2015 Capitalizing Urbanism: The New Urban Counterinsurgency and its “Laws of Motion,” Invited Lecture, College of William and Mary, April 1.
- 2014 Invited Panel Paper, Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. November 2014.

## COURSES TAUGHT AT PACIFIC

ANTH 053: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

ANTH 132/193: Modern Middle East

ANTH 193A: Urban Anthropology

INTL 81: Perspectives on World History (with Professors A. Giraldez and A. Richard)

INTL 113: World Geography for the Social Sciences

INTL 151: Cross-Cultural Training 1

INTL 185: SIS Senior Capstone

PACS 001: Pacific Seminar 1

SOCI 061: Urban Society

Independent Studies and Theses

Christina Bouri, "Left & Nationalist Movements in Iraq Under the Hashemite Monarchy" (Independent Study, Spring 2020); Runner-up, Best Paper on a Diversity-Related Topic at Spring 2020 Pacific Undergraduate Research & Creativity Conference (PURCC)

Shannon Chapman, "The Discourse of Corporate Social Responsibility" (Thesis Supervisor, Spring 2014)

James Follett, "Confessionalism and Politics in Modern Lebanon" (Independent Study, Spring 2014)

Lauren Hudson, "How the International Border Regime Promotes Power and Privilege" (Fall 2020)

Farah Shaheen, "Muslim Immigrants in the United States" (Independent Study, Fall 2011)

Claire Stephens, "The Political Anthropology of James C. Scott," (Independent Study, Fall 2015)

## SERVICE TO THE U. OF THE PACIFIC &amp; STOCKTON COMMUNITY; U. PACIFIC AWARDS

F 2020 – University Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee (UCDEI)

F 2019 – Academic Council

F 2019 – Director, University of the Pacific Ethnic Studies Program

F 2018 – S19 International Programs and Services Committee

2017 – 18 Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Chosen by SIS Students

Spring '18 College of the Pacific Council

2016 – 2018 Academic Affairs Committee on Undergraduate Studies

2015 – 2016 Faculty Diploma & Hooding Ceremony Speaker, Chosen by SIS Seniors

2015 – F16 Academic Council, University of the Pacific

2015 (S/F) SIS P&T Committee, Professor Yong Kim (Prof. Susan Sample, Chair)

2013 (Fall) Third Year Review Committee, Professor Niru Yadav (Prof. Bill Herrin, Chair)

2013 – 2016 Ethnic Studies Committee

2013 (Fall) Lecture on History of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Iran, OLLI Program

Fall 2013 – Spring 2016, Chair, Univ. of the Pacific Diversity Curriculum Committee

2012 – 2015 Univ. of the Pacific Diversity Curriculum Committee

2011 – 2012 Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Chosen by SIS Students

2011 – 2012 Search Committee, SIS Dean Search

2010 – 2013 Academic Council, University of the Pacific

2011 Presentation on Islam to Stockton retirees, DeRosa Center, UOP, April 15

2011 Panelist, "Egypt: The Whole Story" Event organized by Muslim Student Association, Feb. 15

2011 Teach-in, Egyptian Revolution (with Prof. A. Giraldez), Feb. 10

2011 Interviews with *Stockton Record* and *Modesto Bee* on Middle East current events/Arab Spring

2010 Fulbright Applications Interviewer, University of the Pacific Fellowships (assisted Dr. Susan Weiner), Fall Semester.

2010 Short Invited Talk on Stereotypes of Muslims and Islamophobia, University of the Pacific "Answering the 9/11 Call: Be the Change 2010," Sept. 12.

- 2010 Op Ed, 'The Case Against War with Iran,' *Stockton Record*, 21 August.  
 2010 Invited Presentation, "What is Arab Culture?" University of the Pacific International Club,  
 Spring Semester.  
 2009–10 Faculty Research Committee, University of the Pacific

#### OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2009 Trinity College, International Studies, The Making of Modern Dubai  
 2008 Trinity College, Dept of Anthropology, Introduction to Urban Anthropology  
 2008 University of Iowa, International Studies, Cities of the Global South  
 2007 University of Iowa, International Studies, Modern Arab Narratives of Identity  
 2006-07 University of Iowa, International Studies, The Middle East Today: A Social Inquiry  
 2006 Harvard University, Department of Anthropology, Undergraduate Thesis Reader  
 2005 Harvard University, Core Program, Food and Culture, Head Teaching Fellow  
 2004 Harvard University, Core Program, Modern Arabic Narratives: Self, Society, and Culture  
 (Teaching Fellow)  
 2002-03 Harvard University, Department of Anthropology, Food and Culture (Teaching Fellow)  
 2002 Harvard University, Core Program, Understanding Islam and Contemporary Muslim Societies  
 (Teaching Fellow)  
 2002 Harvard University, Core Program, Religion and Modernization: Cultural  
 Revolutions and Secularism (Teaching Fellow)

#### SERVICE TO DISCIPLINE (EDITORIAL BOARD, EXTERNAL READER/REFEREE ACTIVITIES, ETC.)

##### Dissertation and Thesis Committees

PhD Dissertation Committee member, Jasmine Ali, Department of Geography, McGill University, 2021 -  
 External Reader, Beth Derderian, PhD Dissertation, Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University,  
 2019

##### Board Memberships

*City & Society*, Editorial Board  
*Dialectical Anthropology*, Advisory Board

##### Disciplinary Association Service:

Councilor, Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology (SUNTA), 2016 – 2019: work  
 included service on undergraduate student paper prize, graduate student paper prize, & program  
 committee

##### Journal Articles Refereed for:

Afrika Focus  
 American Ethnologist  
 Antipode  
 Architectural Theory Review  
 Citizenship Studies  
 City  
 City & Society  
 History Compass

Human Organization  
 International Journal of Middle East Studies  
 International Journal of Urban and Regional Research

Book Manuscripts Refereed for:

Berghahn Books (Summer 2013)  
 Northwestern University Press (Spring 2021)  
 University of Minnesota Press (Summer 2011, Spring 2014, Spring 2015)  
 Wiley-Blackwell Press (Summer 2011)

Other Referee Activities

New Project Proposal, Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), 2013.

Third International Conference of the Center for the Study of Architecture and Urbanism in the Arab Region (CSAAR), Dhahran, Saudi Arabia/Sharjah, UAE, 2007 – 2008

**BOOK REVIEWS**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2021 | <i>Ungovernable Life: Mandatory Medicine and Statecraft in Iraq</i> by Omar Dewachi. <i>Anthropology of the Middle East</i> , Spring 2021.                        |
| 2014 | <i>Impossible Citizens: Dubai's Indian Diaspora</i> by Neha Vora. <i>Anthropos</i> .  |
| 2014 | <i>A Joint Enterprise: Indian Elites and the Making of British Bombay</i> by Preeti Chopra. <i>Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies</i> . |
| 2012 | <i>City of Strangers: Gulf Migration and the Indian Community in Bahrain</i> by Andrew M. Gardner. <i>American Ethnologist</i> 39(1): 215 – 216.                  |
| 2009 | <i>Dubai: The Vulnerability of Success</i> by C.M. Davidson, <i>Review of Middle East Studies</i> 43(1):79–81.  |
| 2009 | <i>Transnational Migration to Israel in Global Comparative Context</i> by Sarah S. Willen, <i>Review of Middle East Studies</i> 43(1):144–146.                    |

**MEDIA ACTIVITIES, INTERVIEWS, OP-EDS**

Al-Akhbar  
 Aljazeera  
 Anthropology News  
 Associated Press  
 CBS 13 Sacramento  
 CKUT Radio, “Caravan,” (Montreal, QC)  
 Huffington Post  
 Iowa City Press-Citizen  
 Jadaliyya  
 KPFA Radio, “Voices of the Middle East” (Berkeley, CA)  
 KPFK Radio, “Flip the Script” (Los Angeles, CA)  
 Modesto (California) Bee  
 National Public Radio, Austria  
 PBS Wide Angle (Background research interview, *The Sand Castle*)  
 Stockton (California) Record  
 Voice of the Cape, Cape Town, South Africa



**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

2000 – Present	American Anthropological Association
2015 – Present	American Studies Association
2003 – Present	Middle East Studies Association of North America

**LANGUAGES**

English	native fluency
Modern Standard Arabic	comprehension near-fluent, speech and reading good
German	speech, comprehension, and reading good
French	reading fair to good

**REFERENCES**

Please contact me for a list of references