

Employment

- 2012-present Brandeis University Waltham, MA
Charles (Corky) Goodman Professor of Middle East History
- July 2019-present Brandeis University Waltham, MA
Director for Research, Crown Center for Middle East Studies
- 2011-September 2019 Brandeis University Waltham, MA
Associate Director for Research, Crown Center for Middle East Studies
- 2007-2011 Brandeis University Waltham, MA
Assistant Director for Research, Crown Center for Middle East Studies and Lecturer, History Department
- 2005-2007 Brandeis University Waltham, MA
Post-doctoral fellow, Crown Center for Middle East Studies

Education

- 1997 – 2005 Harvard University Cambridge, MA
Ph.D. candidate, History and Middle Eastern Studies
Dissertation: *Signs Taken for Wonder: Nineteenth century Persian Travel Literature to Europe*
Committee members: Prof. Afsaneh Najmabadi, Prof. Patrice Higonnet, and Prof. Roy Mottahedeh
Honorable Mention, Foundation for Iranian Studies, 2005 Best Dissertation Award
- 1994-1996 Harvard University Cambridge, MA
M.A., Middle Eastern Studies
- 1990-1994 Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, MA
B.S., Joint degree in History and Biology
Thesis: *Weapons of Propaganda, Weapons of War: Iranian wartime propaganda, 1980-88*

Publications

Book

- *Taken for Wonder: Nineteenth Century Travel Literature from Iran to Europe*, (New York, Oxford University Press, 2012).

Scholarship

- “Remembering the Palestine Group: Global Activism, Friendship, and the Iranian Revolution,” *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* (April 2019).

- "The Iranian Revolution from Monarchy to the Islamic Republic," co-authored with Arielle Gordon in *Understanding and Teaching the Modern Middle East*, edited by Omnia El Shakry. The Harvey Goldberg Series for Understanding and Teaching History (forthcoming, University of Wisconsin Press).
- "The Problem Space of the Historiography of the 1979 Iranian Revolution," *History Compass* (November, 2018).
- "Revolution and Arab Existentialism in the Era of Decolonization: An Interview with Yoav Di-Capua," *Age of Revolutions: A HistorioBLO*, available at:
<https://ageofrevolutions.com/2018/07/09/revolution-and-arab-existentialism-in-the-era-of-decolonization-an-interview-with-yoav-di-capua/>
- "Books as Revolutionary Objects in the Iranian Revolution," *Age of Revolutions: A HistorioBLOG*, available at <http://ageofrevolutions.com/>.
- "Muddling Through a Revolution," cover story of *Perspectives on History: The Newsmagazine of the American Historical Association*, November 2015.
- "Travel to the West," *Safar/Voyage: Contemporary Works by Arab, Iranian, and Turkish Artists*, Jill Baird and Fereshteh Daftari eds. (Douglas and McIntyre, 2013).
- "Behind Hajji Baba of Isfahan," in *Untold Histories of the Middle East: Recovering Voices of the 19th and 20th Centuries*, Amy Singer et al eds., (London: Routledge Series on the Middle East, 2010).

Publicly Engaged Research Articles

- "Lesson Learned (and Ignored): Iran's 2017 Election in Context," co-authored with Arang Keshavarzian, *MERIP*, May 26, 2017.
- "What Does the 2017 Presidential Election Tell Us About the State of the Islamic Republic?" co-authored with Seyyedamir Hoseein Mahdavi, *Middle East Brief*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, May 2017.
- "Reading the Tea Leaves: Iranian Domestic Politics and the Presidential Election of 2013," *Middle East Brief*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, July 2012
- "The Power Struggle in Iran: A Centrist Comeback?" *Middle East Brief*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, July 2011
- "Is Nothing Sacred in the Islamic Republic of Iran?" *Middle East Brief*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, July 2010.
- "The Curious Case of Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani," *Middle East Brief*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, November 2009.
- "Iran: Where a Tomato is not Just a Tomato," *Middle East Brief*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, March 2007.
- "Redolent Delusions: Nasir al-Din Shah and the art of indifference," *Bidoun*, Spring 2006.
- "Conservatives, neo-conservatives, and reformists: Iran after the election of Mahmud Ahmadinejad," *Middle East Brief*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, April 2006.
- "On the Eve of the Presidential Elections," co-authored with Arang Keshavarzian, *MERIP*, Report 60, 2001.

Book Reviews

- Afshin Matin-Asgari, *Both Eastern and Western: An Intellectual History of Iranian Modernity* (Cambridge University Press, 2018), *International Journal of Middle East Studies* (forthcoming.)
- Setrag Manoukian, *City of Knowledge: Shiraz, History, Poetry* (New York: Routledge, 2012), *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, November 2014.
- Shahla Talebi, *Ghosts of Revolution* (Palo Alto, Stanford University Press, 2011) in *Journal of Middle East Women Studies*, 10, 2 (Spring 2014).
- Houari Touati, *Islam and Travel in the Middle Ages*, (Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 2010) in *Journeys* 13, (Summer 2012).
- Diane Fortenberry and Deborah Manley eds., *Saddling the Dogs: Journeys through Egypt and the Near East* (Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2009) in *Journeys*, 10, 1 (2010).
- Saba Mahmood's *Politics of Piety: The Islamic Revival and the Feminist Subject*, co-authored with Dr. David Hollenberg, *Religion* 37, 4 (2007), 344-347.

Op-ed Publications

- “What’s Really at Stake in Iran’s Presidential Election,” co-authored with Seyyedamir Hoseein Mahdavi, *The Washington Post*, May 18, 2017.
- “L’habit ne fait pas l’homme politique,” *La Croix*, June 21, 2013.
- “Party Time: Changing Times in Iran,” *Index on Censorship*, January 2003.
- “Moving Coverage Beyond a Woman’s Veil,” *Neiman Report*, Winter 2000.

Works in Progress

- “Iran 1968: Conceptualizing the Global through Takhti’s Funeral Processions,” co-author Arash Davari, paper for the “Global 1979” workshop and edited volume, NYU Iranian Studies Initiative.
- Book Manuscript, tentatively titled *Experiencing Revolution: Iran 1979*.

Select Awards and Fellowships

- Teaching Innovation Grant, Provost’s Office, Brandeis University, Fall 2019.
- Michael L. Walzer ’56 Award for Teaching “awarded for superlative scholarship and excellence in teaching,” Brandeis University, 2018-19.
- The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Sawyer Seminar Fellowship Recipient (along with Greg Childs) for a grant of \$175,000 to establish a yearlong research seminar titled: “Forgotten Dreams and Misplaced Revolutions: Contextualizing Twentieth Century Revolutions in the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean,” 2017-18.

- Marver and Sheva Bernstein Faculty Fellowship for “scholarly promise and excellence in teaching,” Brandeis University, 2015-16.
- Teaching Innovation Grant, Provost’s Office, Brandeis University, Fall 2015.
- The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, New Directions Fellowship Recipient for a 15-month long study and conducting of ethnography in preparation for second book project, 2014-15.
- International Fellow, Institute of Oriental and Asian Studies, University of Bonn, Germany, April-August, 2012.
- Fulbright Summer fellowship, Center for Arabic Studies Abroad, Cairo Egypt, Summer 2008.
- CASA III, Fulbright Scholarship for study of Arabic, Cairo, Egypt, Summer 2008.
- Council for American Overseas Research Centers, Fellowship award for research on “Our Man in London: Diplomacy, Imperialism, and Nationalism in Nineteenth Century England and Iran,” 2006-2007.

Select Conferences and Presentations

- “Reading SAVAK Archives for Revolutionary Affect,” part of “Revolutions in History” series, Brown University, November 2019.
- Bustani Seminar lecture on the Iranian Revolution, MIT, October 2019.
- “The Obvious in the Archive: Ethnography, History, and the Iranian Revolution,” Symposium on the Iranian Revolution and its Disciplinary Aftereffects, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, February 2019.
- “The Revolution and its Archives,” The Revolution at Forty Symposium, University of Pennsylvania, February 2019.
- “Rethinking the Revolution as World Event,” The Iranian Revolution as a World Event conference, Amsterdam, December 2018.
- Organizer (with Golnar Nikpour) and presenter, “The Possibilities and Limitations of Locating the Global in the 1979 Iranian Revolution,” Roundtable discussion, Middle East Studies of North American Annual Conference, San Antonio, November 2018.
- “The Last Great Leftist Revolution of the Twentieth Century?” presenter at roundtable *The Left and the Iranian Revolution*, Association for Iranian Studies Biannual Conference, August 2018.
- Organizer and discussant, Translating the Grenada and Iranian Revolutionary Experiences into Theory: A Discussion with Professors Brian Meeks and Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi, 2017-18 Sawyer Seminar event with Greg Childs, Brandeis University, November 29, 2017.
- Organizer and discussant, "Are Some Revolutions More Important Than Others?" Opening Event for 2017-18 Sawyer Seminar with David Scott, Bernard Yack, and Greg Childs, Brandeis University, September 11, 2017.

- Invited panelist, Writing the Iranian Revolution, University of Washington, Seattle, May 2017 (Withdrew due to personal reasons).
- Invited speaker, "Remembering the Palestine Group: Memory, History, and the Iranian Revolution," Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, December 2016.
- "Remembering the Palestine Group," Graduate Faculty Workshop, History Department, Brandeis University, November 2016.
- Invited speaker, "Remembering the Palestine Group: Memory, History, and the Iranian Revolution," Stokes Seminar Workshop, Department of History, Dalhousie University, October 14, 2016.
- Invited speaker, "15 Months Later: Iran and the Nuclear Deal," Dalhousie University, October 13, 2016.
- "Unmuddling the Modern Middle East," invited keynote lecture at Primary Source: Global Learning Matters, Watertown, MA, February 2016.
- Invited panelist, "Retracing the Revolution: Adding the Social to the Political, 1970s-1980s Iran" *Iran: Animating the Archive* symposium, NYU December 2015.
- Invited panelist, "What is My Vote? Electoral Practice and Democracy in Iran," Democracy in the Middle East, Asia, and Russia conference, Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague September 2015.
- Invited speaker, "Mirza Abul Hasan Khan Ilchi and His Book of Wonder: Re-examining Qajar Travel Writing to Europe," Library for Iranian Studies, London, July 2015.
- Organizer and panelist. "Experiencing Revolutions: A Comparative Perspective," The American Historical Association Annual Conference, New York, January 2015.
- Invited speaker, "Experiencing Revolution in Iran," Séminaire 'Sociétés, politiques et cultures du monde iranien', Sorbonne III, Paris, France, November 2014.
- "A Historical Ethnography of the Iranian Revolution," Middle East Centre, St. Antony's College, Oxford University, February 2014.
- "Experiencing Revolution: The Case of Iran," London School of Economics, February 2014.
- Invited panelist, "Persianate Travel Writing and Ethnography in the Early Nineteenth Century," Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, October 2013
- Invited participant, "Rethinking the Age of Revolution," Mellon-Sawyer Seminar led by Profs. Jane Kamensky and Sue Lanser, Brandeis University, 2013-14.
- Iranian domestic politics, The 11th GCSP/ Crown Center/GRC/CEA Annual Conference on the Middle East, Gstaad, Switzerland, June 2013.

- Invited speaker, "Shah-Rah or the King's Road: Reinterpreting the European travel writings of Nasir al-Din Shah Qajar." The Middle East History Lecture Series. University of Texas, Austin. October 8, 2012.
- Invited speaker, "The European Travelogues of Nasir al-Din Shah Qajar: Imperial Narratives of Power and Diplomacy." International Research Colloquium. Bonn University. July 27, 2012.
- Co-presenter with Sarah Dusend, "Questioning the public/private divide through the travel account of Alavieh Khanum Kirmani 1892-93" at the Middle Eastern Travels and Travelogues - Textual Interpretations and Methodologies workshop, Bonn University, 19 July 2012
- Invited speaker, "Europe in Qajar Imagination," Seminar on Iranian Studies, Columbia University, March 2012.
- Invited speaker, "Deconstructing Iran's Reconstruction Era, 1989-1997," Iranian Studies Initiative, New York University, November 2011.
- Invited panelists, "Armchair Travelers: Questioning the Primacy of Experiential Knowledge in Persianate Travelogues to Europe," Finders/Seekers: Travel Encounters in and out of Persianate Lands, UCLA, May 2011.
- Invited panelist, "The Limits of Opposition in the Islamic Republic of Iran," Iran, Democratization, Civil Society, and Human Rights, Metropolitan University, Prague, April 2011.
- Invited panelist, "Iran in Transition," Institute for Middle East Studies, Georgetown University, April 2011.
- Co-speaker with Prof. Abbas Milani on the Iranian domestic scene, Crown-Belfer Middle East Project, Harvard University, February 2011.
- Invited speaker, "State, Politics, and Elections in Iran," University of New Hampshire Middle East Lecture Series, September 2010.
- Panelist, "Retrospective and Prospects: Reflections on the Study of Qajar Iran," International Qajar Studies Association Annual Conference, Oxford University, August 2010.
- Invited speaker, "Understanding Iran," Brandeis University Alumni College, June 2010.
- Invited panelist, "Iran's Presidential Elections," Elliot School for International Affairs, Georgetown University, April 29 2009.
- "Change we can believe in? The June 2009 Presidential Election in Iran," Crown Center for Middle East Studies Brown Bag seminars, April 22, 2009.
- Invited panelist, The Travels of Haji Pirzadeh Naini," *On Wonders of Land and Sea: Travel Writing by Muslims in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century*, Boston University, April 2009.
- "Iran: Points of Conflict in the Middle East," GSAS Alumni Weekend, Harvard University, April 3, 2009

- Discussant, “Working Group on Medieval and Early Modern Intellectual History”, Harvard University, March 2, 2009.
- “Concluding Remarks,” From Rhubarb to Rubies: European Travels to Safavid Iran, 1550 – 1700, Harvard University, May 2008.
- Organizer, “Voting and Electoral Participation in the Middle East” Workshop, Brandeis University, May 3-4, 2008.
- Invited speaker, “The Strange Case of Mirza Abul Hasan Khan Ilchi Shirazi: Qajar Diplomat, Early Traveler, Fictional Character.” History department, Yale University, January 2008.
- Chair and Organizer, “New Directions in Middle East Historiography,” American Historical Association, Washington, DC, Jan. 2008.
- Panelist, “The Middle East Today: New Perspectives on a Changing Landscape,” Brandeis University, Oct. 2007.
- “Looking Behind Hajji Baba of Ispahan,” pre-circulated paper at “Silent Voices, Absent Spheres” workshop in Middle East historiography, Istanbul, May 2007.
- Chair, panel on “Murals and Martyrdom in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” May 18, 2007.
- “Qajar Travelers to Europe,” Travel Writing: Perspectives from North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia, Boston University, April 2007.
- “Iran: Domestic Developments and Strategic Impacts,” Brandeis University, March 20, 2007.
- Understanding Iran,” Keene State College, March 6, 2007.
- “Qajar Historiography and Travelogues,” Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches Internationales, Paris, December 19, 2006.
- “How the West was Won: Historiography of Qajar Travel Literature to Europe,” invited panelist, Historiography and Political Culture in 20th Century Iran Conference, Oxford, UK September 17-18, 2004.
- “Where’s the Cinema’s Home: Defining Iranian National Cinema,” Discussant, Middle East Studies Association of North America Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 2002
- “Strangers in a Strange Land: Using 19th century Persian travelogues as sources for European History,” Panelist, Borders and Crossings: Third Annual Conference on Travel and Travel Writing, Versailles, France, July 2002
- “Beyond Results: The 2001 Iranian Presidential Elections,” joint presentation with Arang Keshavarzian, Harvard University, October 2001 and Princeton University, December 2001
- “Persian Paris: Paris Through the Eyes of Qajar Travelers,” Panelist, Middle East Studies Association of North America Annual Meeting, San Francisco, November 2001
- “Reading Rustam al-Tavarikh, a 19th century Persian Chronicle,” European Association of Middle Eastern Studies, Ghent, Belgium, September 1999.

Teaching, History Department, Brandeis University

Undergraduate and Graduate

- The Middle East and the West: Historical Encounters-2019
- The Middle East and its Revolutions- 2018
- Not Even Past: History for the Global Citizen-Fall 2016 and 2017
- History of the Modern Middle East-2008, 2010, 2012, and 2016
- The Iranian Revolution: From Monarchy to the Islamic Republic-2009, 2011, 2013, and 2019
- Nationalism in the Middle East-2011 and 2013
- Middle Eastern Encounters in the Age of Colonialism-2009

Graduate Seminar

- Readings in History and Memory-Fall 2019
- Introduction to Doctoral Studies-Fall 2018
- History of the Event; the Event in History- Spring 2014
- Comparative Revolutions in the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean-Year long seminar 2017-18.

Professional Service

- Member of the International Advisory Board, Oriental Institute, Czech Academy of Science, 2019-present
- Member of Advisory Board, *Women's World in Qajar Iran: A Digital Archive* (www.qajarwomen.org).
- Elected Council Member, Association for Iranian Studies, 2017-2019
- Editor, *Middle East Briefs*, Crown Center for Middle East Studies, 2007-2018.
- Editor-in-Chief, *Crown Papers* (peer-reviewed journal), 2007-2012.
- Member of Association for Iranian Studies, Middle East Studies of North America, and American Historical Association

Languages

- Native Fluency in Persian; Fluency in Modern Standard Arabic and Egyptian Arabic; Intermediate French; Elementary Turkish.