

Stacy D. Fahrenthold

Department of History
University of California, Davis

sfahrenthold@ucdavis.edu

<https://history.ucdavis.edu/people/stacy-fahrenthold>

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2025– Professor of History and Middle East/South Asia Studies, University of California, Davis
- 2021–25 Associate Professor of History, University of California, Davis
- 2018–21 Assistant Professor of History, University of California, Davis
- 2017–18 Assistant Professor of History, California State University, Stanislaus; Director, Sarguis Modern Assyrian Heritage Project
- 2016–17 Lecturer, History, California State University, Fresno
- 2014–15 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, History, Williams College

EDUCATION

- 2014 Ph.D., History, Northeastern University
- 2009 M.A., History, Northeastern University
- 2007 B.A., History, Georgia State University

SELECT HONORS

Awards

- 2025 Nikki Keddie Book Award, Middle East Studies Association, for *Unmentionables: Textiles, Garment Work, and the Syrian American Working Class*
- 2020 Arab American Book Award, Evelyn Shakir Award for Nonfiction, Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, Michigan
- 2020 Khayrallah Prize in Migration Studies, Moise Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies, North Carolina State University
- 2020 Honorable Mention, Lebanese Studies Association Book Prize
- 2019 Syrian Studies Association Book Prize
- 2016 Syrian Studies Association Dissertation Prize

Research Grants & Fellowships

- 2025–28 Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar, “Academic Freedom from Below: Rethinking the Social Role of the University and the Meaning of Shared Governance.” Rana Jaleel and **Stacy Fahrenthold**
- 2024–27 University of California Davis College of Letters and Sciences Dean’s Faculty Fellowship

- 2024–25 University of California Office of the President special funding initiative, Addressing Bias and Bigotry. “The Middle East in Historical Context.” **Stacy Fahrenthold**, Beth Slutsky, Baki Tezcan, and Ali Anooshahr
- 2024–25 University of California Davis Humanities and Social Sciences Stimulating Exceptional and Essential Discovery Grant
- 2023–24 University of California Davis Humanities Institute Research Cluster Grant. “Middle Eastern and South Asian Refugee Diasporas in California.” **Stacy Fahrenthold** and Nicole Ranganath
- 2021–22 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship
- 2021 University of California Davis Humanities Institute Faculty Research Fellowship
- 2020 University of California Santa Cruz Institute for Social Transformation Seed Grant. Lily Balloffet and **Stacy Fahrenthold** (cancelled due to COVID19)
- 2014 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar Grant, “World War I in the Middle East,” Georgetown University
- 2013–14 American Council of Learned Societies/Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2024 *Unmentionables: Textiles, Garment Work, and the Syrian American Working Class*. Stanford University Press, Worlding the Middle East series.
*Awarded the 2025 Nikki Keddie Book Award in recognition of “outstanding scholarly work in the area of religion, revolution, and/or society,” Middle East Studies Association
- 2019 *Between the Ottomans and the Entente: The First World War in the Syrian and Lebanese Diaspora, 1908–1925*. Oxford University Press. Paperback edition 2021.
*Awarded the 2020 Arab American National Museum’s Evelyn Shakir Book Award, the 2020 Khayrallah Prize in Migration Studies, and the 2019 Syrian Studies Association Book Award
*Honorable mention for the 2020 Lebanese Studies Association Book Award

Journal Articles & Book Chapters

- 2025 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. “Coda: Do They Strike There? Class and the Counterarchive in the Syrian Mahjar.” In “Atlantic Crossings,” eds. Agnes Gehbald, Philipp Horne, and Rea Vogt, *Comparativ* 35, no. 1/2: 146–150.
- 2023 Fahrenthold, Stacy and Akram Khater. “From Forgotten Shores to a Port of Call: Ten Years at Mashriq & Mahjar.” *Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle Eastern and North African Migration Studies* 10, no. 1: 1–8.
- 2022 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. “Return Migration and Repatriation: Myths and Realities

- in the Interwar Syrian Mahjar." *Routledge Handbook on Middle Eastern Diasporas*, eds. Dalia Abdelhady and Ramy Aly, 301–315. Routledge.
- 2021 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "Ladies Aid as Labor History: Working Class Formation in the Mahjar." *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies* 17, no. 3: 326–347.
- 2020 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "'Claimed by Turkey as Subjects': Ottoman Migrants, Foreign Passports, and Syrian Nationality in the Americas, 1915–1925." In *The Subjects of Ottoman International Law*, eds. Lâle Can, Michael Christopher Low, Kent F. Schull, and Robert Zens, 216–237. University of Indiana Press.
- 2019 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "Arab Labor Migration in the Americas, 1880–1930." In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*. Oxford University Press.
- 2018 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "An Archaeology of Rare Books in Arab Atlantic History." *Journal of American Ethnic History* 37, no. 3: 77–83.
- 2016 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "Former Ottomans in the Ranks: Pro-Entente Military Recruitment among Syrians in the Americas, 1916–1918." *Journal of Global History* 11, no. 1: 88–112.
- 2014 Fahrenthold, Stacy. "Sound Minds in Sound Bodies: Transnational Philanthropy and Patriotic Masculinity in al-Nadi al-Homsi and Syrian Brazil, 1920–1932." *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 46, no. 2: 259–283.
- 2013 Fahrenthold, Stacy. "Transnational Modes and Media: The Syrian Press in the Mahjar and Emigrant Activism during World War I." *Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle East Migration Studies* 1, no. 1: 32–57.
- 2011 Fahrenthold, Stacy. "The Syrian and Lebanese American Federation: A Case for Connection." In *Connections and Ruptures: America and the Middle East*, ed. Robert Myers, 273–288. American University of Beirut Press.
- 2009 Fahrenthold, Stacy. "Mother Syria and Syrian Motherhood: Imagining Mahjar Nationality between Ideal and Real." *Zaytoon Graduate Student Journal* 1: 5–16.
- Sourcebooks, Curricular Materials, & Scholarly Writing Online**
- 2025 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. and Beth Slutsky, eds., *The Middle East in Historical Context, State of California K12 inquiry sets in Middle Eastern and Arab American History*. California History Social Science Project and Regents of the University of California. 77 pp. [[url](#)]
- 2022 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "The Syrian Merchants on Madeira Island," *The Lausanne Project*, a project of the Gingko Library. [[url](#)]. Translated to [TR](#)
- 2023 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "Finding Fraternity Thousands of Miles from Home, in Syrian São Paulo," *Syria Untold*. [[url](#)]. Translated to [AR](#) and [SP](#)
- 2020 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "Teaching Arab American History through Digital Collections: Agenda for a Plague Year," Immigration and Ethnic History Society Newsletter. [[url](#)].

- 2019 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "Emigration from the Levant, 1870–1930: a Primer in Mahjar Studies," *Jadaliyya*. [\[url\]](#).
- 2019 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "A Little Advice: Syrian American Advice Booklets as Knowledge Production," *Migrant Knowledge: A Network of the German Historical Institute Washington*. [\[url\]](#).
- 2017 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "Teaching Migrant and Refugee Histories in the Shadow of Trump," *IEHS Online: The Immigration and Ethnic History Society Blog*. [\[url\]](#).
- 2017 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. "What We can Learn about America's Other Muslim Ban (Back in 1918)." *Tropics of Meta: Historiography for the Masses*. [\[url\]](#).
- 2016 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. Entries in *Cultural Exchange in a Time of Global Conflict: Colonials, Neutrals, and Belligerents during the First World War* sourcebook, King's College London.
- "Photograph of an Arab American intelligence officer."
- "Letter by an Arab American soldier writing home."

Reviews of Books

- 2020 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. Review of *When the War Came Home: The Ottomans' Great War and the Devastation of an Empire*, by Yiğit Akın. *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association* 7, no. 2: 264–267.
- 2020 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. Review of *Arab Routes: Syrian Pathways to California*, by Sarah M. A. Gualtieri. *Arab Studies Journal* 28, no. 2: 153–157.
- 2017 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. Review of *The War with the Ottoman Empire*, by Jeffrey Grey. *International Journal of Turkish Studies* 23, no. 1/2: 126–128.
- 2017 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. Review of *Crescent over Another Horizon: Islam in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latino USA*, eds. María Narbona, Paulo Pinto, and John Karam. *Journal of American Ethnic History* 36, no. 4: 100–102.
- 2011 Fahrenthold, Stacy D. Review of *Displacement and Dispossession in the Modern Middle East*, by Dawn Chatty. *Syrian Studies Association Bulletin* 16, no. 2.

SELECT PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

Invited Lectures

- 2024 "Printing press, power loom: pursuing labor and class in Arab American archives," New York City and Global Migration Summer Institute, New York University Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, July 25, 2024.
- "Arab American labor history: Syrians, the IWW, and the Bread and Roses Strike of 1912," United Auto Workers teach-in at the Popular University for the Liberation of Palestine, University of California Davis, June 7, 2024.
- 2023 "Mahjar matters: writing a history of the World War I in Syria's diaspora," keynote address at Migration and the First World War workshop, University College London,

May 16, 2023.

"Unmentionables: women, garment work, and labor politics in the Arab American mahjar," Center for Arab American Studies, University of Michigan Dearborn, March 29, 2023.

2022 "Unmentionables: smuggling and the Syrian lace trade in the borderlands," Newberry Library Seminar in Borderlands and Latino/a Studies, Chicago, April 29, 2022.

2021 "The Lebanese diaspora," Lebanon Dissertation Summer Institute, Arab Studies Institute and American University of Beirut's Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, June 16, 2021.

2020 "Syrians at the border: comparative smuggling economies using Bureau of Investigation crossing cards," University of California Davis Global Migration Center, March 11, 2020. "Migration and the Druze in America," American Druze Foundation and Georgetown University Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Los Angeles, February 29, 2020.

2019 "Ladies aid as labor history: working class formation in the interwar Syrian American mahjar," Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, October 15, 2019. "Ottoman and Syrian migration to the Americas" roundtable, New York University Center for Ottoman and Turkish Studies, September 16, 2019.

2018 "Gender and movement in late Ottoman contexts: Syrian factory women in diaspora," University of Copenhagen, December 6, 2018. "Paper Syrians: passports and the production of post-Ottoman Syrian nationality, 1918–1921," Middle East Center and Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, May 29, 2018.

Invited Workshops

2026 "True people with no country: Assyrian refugees and America's 'other Asia' quota," American-Islamic Exchanges in the Long 19th Century, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Brown University, Providence, February 26–27, 2026.

2025 "Picketing the Syrian shop," Understanding the Global Middle East, Middle East Studies Program, University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 11, 2025.

2024 Workshop and Launch Event, "Palestine studies in California," May Ziadeh Palestinian and Arab Studies Program, University of California Berkeley, November 12–13, 2024.

2022 "Migration and refugees," at the Great War in the Middle East and North Africa Workshop, Yale University Center for Middle Eastern Studies, May 12–13, 2022.

2019 "Tyranny and freedom, darkness and light: rewriting Ottoman history from the Arab mahjar," at The Early Modern Christian Cultural and Literary Heritage in the Eyes of Nahḍa Scholars Workshop, University of Oxford, June 26–27, 2019.

2018 "Passports and migrant repatriation: reclaiming the post-Ottoman Syrian diaspora," Minorities at the 1919 Paris Conference: Race, Empire, and Law Conference, American University, Washington D.C., November 1–2, 2018.

Workshops Convened

- 2024 "Refugee California: Middle Eastern and South Asian refugee diasporas in the Golden State," University of California Davis Humanities Institute research workshop, May 24–25, 2024.
- 2022 "Publishing in Arab American studies," Arab American Studies Association annual meeting, San Diego State University, March 26, 2022.
"New perspectives on Middle East migrations," multidisciplinary workshop in migration studies, Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies, February 18–20, 2022.
- 2021 "Migration and diaspora in Middle East/North African studies," Mashriq & Mahjar graduate student virtual work in progress workshop, August 24–26, 2021.
"Arab American Studies Association, interrupted," all–virtual annual meeting of the Arab American Studies Association, April 9–16, 2021.

Conference Presentations

- 2026 "Teaching Palestine and the Middle East: academic freedom in times of crisis," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, January 8–11, 2026. Session sponsored by the Peace History Society.
- 2025 Panel Chair, "Matter out of place: dirt, waste, and marginality in the modern Middle East," Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, November 22–25, 2025.
"U can't touch this: academic freedom and the 'problem' of Palestine," Organization of American Historians, Chicago, April 3–5, 2025. Late breaking session sponsored by OAH Committee on Academic Freedom.
"Picketing the Syrian shop: confronting mahjari capitalism and its archival afterlives," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City, January 3–6, 2025. Session sponsored by the Labor and Working–Class History Association and the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era.
Panel Chair, "Global currents of colonial violence and Third World intellectual exchange: looking south toward Palestine," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City, January 4, 2025. Session sponsored by the Radical History Review.
- 2024 "Syrian American garment workers and the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) of New York City," Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association annual meeting, Northwestern University, Evanston, October 25–27, 2024.
"Picketing the Syrian shop: confronting mahjari capitalism and its archival afterlives," Arab American Studies Association, Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, April 12–14, 2024.
"The post–Ottoman world," three–part invitational Seminar Session at the American

- Historical Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, January 4–7, 2024.
- 2023 “Late Ottoman migration,” roundtable at the Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, November 2–5, 2023.
- “Fase Síria: the improvised Syrian American textile industry on Madeira Island,” Atlantic Crossings: Forms of Temporary Labour Migration around 1900, Universität Bern, October 19–20, 2023.
- Organizer and presenter, “Middle Eastern and South Asian immigration studies: a roundtable,” solicited panel of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society (IEHS), Organization of American Historians annual meeting, Los Angeles, March 30, 2023.
- “Asian diasporas” invitational roundtable organized by the AHA, American Historical Association annual meeting, Philadelphia, January 6, 2023.
- 2022 “Paper Syrians: migrant smuggling in American borderlands and repatriation to French Lebanon,” in *Ordinary Ottomans: World War I Settlement and Experiences of the End of Empire*, University of Neuchatel, Switzerland, November 11–12, 2022.

SELECT PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

Public Engagement

- 2025 Declaration in *AAUP v. Trump et al.*, challenging threats to federal funding at the University of California, September 2025.
- 2025 K12 teacher training session, “Struggles and Solidarity: Arab American immigration history and the labor movement,” Contra Costa County Board of Education, March 28, 2025.
- 2023–24 Middle East subject matter expert for constituent meetings with California elected officials, including United States Senate, United States House of Representatives, California State Assembly (ad hoc).
- 2015 Asylum officer training session, “Syrian refugees and asylum, Historical Considerations.” US Citizenship and Immigration Services Asylum Office, San Francisco, November 18, 2015.

Broadcast, Print, or Electronic Media Interviews

- 2025 “Textile Workers and the Syrian American Working Class,” interview with Mikey Muhanna, *Afikra Podcast*, December 21, 2025. [[url](#)]
- “الهجرة السورية: من مصانع نيويورك الى الحدود المكسيكية” (Syrian emigration, from New York factories to the Mexico border,” interview with Othman Amghour, *al-Modon* November 13, 2025. [[url](#)]
- Jadaliyya* “New Books Out Now” interview on Unmentionables, April 21, 2025. [[url](#)].
- 2024 “La inmigración sirio-libanesa a EEUU: protesta e integración,” (Syrian and Lebanese immigration to the United States: protest and integration), interview with Manuel Férrez, *Informe Orient Medio*, September 4, 2024. [[url](#)].

- 2021 “المؤرخة الأميركية ستايسي فهرنثولد للجزيرة نت: المهاجرون العرب لعبوا دورا في المطالبة بالاستقلال” (Historian Stacy Fahrenthold: Arab emigrants played a role in demanding independence), interview with Othman Amghour, *al-Jazeera Culture*, February 22, 2021. [[url](#)]
- 2019 *Jadaliyya* “New Books Out Now” interview on Between the Ottomans and the Entente, August 13, 2019. [[url](#)].
- New Books Network interview on Between the Ottomans and the Entente, June 18, 2019. [[url](#)].
- “World War I in the Syrian and Lebanese Diaspora,” Ottoman History Podcast, March 2, 2019. [[url](#)].

TEACHING & ADVISING

At University of California Davis

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Undergraduate | <p>Introduction to Global Migration (HIS 019)</p> <p>Topics: Global Migration History (HIS 110)</p> <p>History of Modern Palestine/Israel (HIS 113)</p> <p>Comparative Histories of Partition (HIS 114)</p> <p>History of the Modern Middle East, 1750–1914 (HIS 193A)</p> <p>History of the Modern Middle East, 1914–present (HIS 193B)</p> <p>Migration and the Modern Middle East (HIS 102R)</p> <p>Proseminar: Bans and Border Walls (HIS 102X)</p> <p>Migrants & Refugees in the Middle East & South Asia (MSA 180)</p> |
| Graduate | <p>First–Year Graduate Research Seminar (HIS 200A-B)</p> <p>Second–Year Graduate Research Seminar (HIS 203A-B-C)</p> <p>Adv. Topics: Global Migration History (HIS 201W)</p> <p>Adv. Topics: Diaspora in the Middle East, Africa, & South Asia (HIS 201W)</p> <p>Adv. Topics: Arab American Historiography (HIS 201M)</p> <p>Adv. Topics: Modern Arab History (HIS 201M)</p> <p>Dir. Reading: The Syrian American Diaspora (HIS 298)</p> |

Postdoctoral mentorship

- Amy Fallas, UC Davis Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship, (2025–2026)
- Bedros Torosian, UC Davis Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship (2024–2026)
- Heba Alnajada, UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship (2022–2023), *currently Assistant Professor of Global Architecture, Boston University*

Graduate advising

- Enrique Seward Limon, History, UC Davis (2024–)
- Charles Sills, History, UC Davis (2021–)

*Dissertation committees (*denotes committee chair)*

Charles Sills, Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis, "Colonial Archaeology Reconsidered: America's 'Civilizing Mission' in French Mandate Syria, 1920-1939"*

Jala Alarja, Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis, "Sentimentality and Nation-Building: Land Relations and the Nation in Palestinian Literature"

Ibrahim Babatunde Anoba, Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis, "Sacred and the State: Òrìṣà Religion, Colonial Law, and the Politics of Identity in Nigeria, 1850–1983"

Faith Bennett, Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis: "Side Work: Changing Craft Consciousness Amidst the Decline of San Francisco Bay Area Restaurant Unions from 1940s to 1980s"

Sabujkoli Mukherjee, Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis, "The Land of Eighteen Tides: Survival and Resilience in the Sundarbans"

Cetin Ozdemir, Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis, "No Safe Place for Refugees: A Comparative Analysis of Afghan Refugees' Insecurity in the United States and Turkey"

Ashley Somawang, Ph.D. candidate, UC Davis, "Serial Settler Entrepreneurs: Russian Mennonites, Colonial Mobility, and Race in California's Central Valley"

Diogo Bercito, Ph.D. candidate, Georgetown University

Beshara Kehdi, Ph.D. 2025, UC Davis, "Diasporic Dreaming: the Organization of Arab Students and Educating the Crisis." *Currently UC Presidents Postdoctoral Fellow, UC Berkeley*

Şevin Gülfer Sağnıç, Ph.D. 2025, UC San Diego, "Refugee Governance in the Middle East: from the Late Ottoman Empire to Contemporary Turkey." *Currently Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Global Justice, UC San Diego*

Bedros Torosian, Ph.D. 2024, UC Irvine, "Whiteness across Waters: Domesticating Euro–American Racialisms and Masculinities in Service to Ottoman Imperial Subalternities." *Currently UC Chancellors Postdoctoral Fellow, UC Davis*

Campus Presentations Related to Teaching and Advising

2025 "Grants and publishing," UC President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Fall Meeting, University of California Office of the President, Oakland, September 19, 2025.

2024 "MENASA narratives: the art of storytelling," Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian Student Resources (MENASA) Chai Chat, UC Davis November 20, 2024.

2024 "Supporting students in times of global conflict: the Palestine–Israel conflict," Social Justice in Advising Community (SJAC), Office of Undergraduate Education, UC Davis, May 21, 2024.

"Palestine," presentation at the UC Davis Whole Earth Festival, Associated Students of UC Davis (ASUCD), May 10, 2024.

"Connectivity, coalition, and shared struggles," Middle Eastern, North African, and South Asian Student Resources Leadership Retreat, UC Davis, January 27, 2024.

2023 "Arab American studies opportunities in History," Arab American Studies Now Panel at UC Davis, Associated Students of UC Davis (ASUCD), April 19, 2023.

CURRENT SERVICE

At University of California Davis

<i>Academic Senate</i>	Senate Committee on Research, 2024–2025
<i>Letters & Sciences</i>	Faculty Mentor, Early Career Faculty Mentoring Program (Middle East/South Asia Studies Program), 2023–2026 Courses of Instruction Committee, 2022–2025
<i>Middle East/ South Asia Studies</i>	Joint Faculty Appointment (0% FTE), 2025– Faculty Affiliate, 2018–2025
<i>Student Affairs Div</i>	Faculty Representative, Palestine Life Advisory Committee at UC Davis, 2024–2025 Faculty Advisor, Students for Justice in Palestine UC Davis chapter, 2024–
<i>Faculty Association</i>	Board of Directors, Davis Faculty Association, 2023–

Editorial and Professional

<i>Editorships</i>	Associate Editor, <i>Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle Eastern and North African Migration Studies</i> , 2020–
<i>Editorial Boards</i>	Editorial Board, <i>Journal of American Ethnic History</i> , 2025– Editorial Board, “Migrations in History” at De Gruyter Press, 2021–
<i>Scholarly Societies</i>	Executive Board, Immigration and Ethnic History Society, 2025–2027

LANGUAGES

Arabic; Spanish; Portuguese; French

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Middle East Studies Association; American Historical Association; Syrian Studies Association; Lebanese Studies Association; Arab American Studies Association; Immigration and Ethnic History Society; Organization of American Historians; American Association of University Professors