

STACY D. FAHRENTHOLD

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of California, Davis

Professor, Department of History and Middle East/South Asia Studies Program, 2025-
Affiliate Faculty, Cultural Studies Graduate Group, 2025-
Associate Professor, Department of History, 2021-2025
Assistant Professor, Department of History, 2018-2021

California State University (Stanislaus and Fresno campuses)

Assistant Professor, Department of History, California State University, Stanislaus, 2017-2018
Director, Sarguis Modern Assyrian Heritage Project, 2017-2018
Lecturer, Department of History, California State University, Fresno, 2016-2017

Williams College

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of History, 2014-2015

EDUCATION

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

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Unmentionables: Textiles, Garment Work, and the Syrian American Working Class. Stanford University Press, Worlding the Middle East series, 2024.

Winner of the 2025 Nikki Keddie Book Award, Middle East Studies Association; and the 2026 David Montgomery Book Award, Organization of American Historians and Labor and Working-Class History Association.

Between the Ottomans and the Entente: The First World War in the Syrian and Lebanese Diaspora, 1908-1925. Oxford University Press, 2019. Paperback edition 2021.

Winner of the 2020 Evelyn Shakir Book Award, Arab American National Museum; the 2020 Khayrallah Prize in Migration Studies, Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies; and the 2019 Syrian Studies Association Book Award. Honorable mention for the 2020 Lebanese Studies Association Book Award

Journal Articles & Book Chapters

“Coda: Do They Strike There? Class and the Counterarchive in the Syrian Mahjar.” In “Atlantic Crossings,” eds. Agnes Gehbald, Philipp Horne, Rea Vogt, *Comparativ* 35, no. 1/2 (2025): 146-150.

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 (2023): 1-8.

“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, 2022.

“Ladies Aid as Labor History: Working Class Formation in the Mahjar.” *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies* 17, no. 3 (2021): 326-347.

“‘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, 2020.

“Arab Labor Migration in the Americas, 1880-1930.” In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*. Oxford University Press, 2019.

“An Archaeology of Rare Books in Arab Atlantic History.” *Journal of American Ethnic History* 37, no. 3 (2018): 77-83.

“Former Ottomans in the Ranks: Pro-Entente Military Recruitment among Syrians in the Americas, 1916-1918.” *Journal of Global History* 11, no. 1 (2016): 88-112.

“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 (2014): 259-283.

“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 (2013): 32-57.

“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, 2011.

“Mother Syria and Syrian Motherhood: Imagining Mahjar Nationality between Ideal and Real.” *Zaytoon Graduate Student Journal* 1 (2009): 5-16.

Sourcebooks, Curricular Materials, & Scholarly Writing Online

Fahrenthold, Stacy D. and Beth Slutsky, eds., *The Middle East in Historical Context, State of California inquiry sets in Middle Eastern and Arab American History*. California History Social Science Project and Regents of the University of California, 2025. Four sets, 77 pp. [[url](#)]

“The Syrian Merchants on Madeira Island,” *The Lausanne Project*, a project of the Gingko Library. [[url](#)]. Translated to [TR](#)

“Finding Fraternity Thousands of Miles from Home, in Syrian São Paulo,” *Syria Untold*, 2022. [[url](#)]. Translated to [AR](#) and [SP](#)

“Teaching Arab American History through Digital Collections: Agenda for a Plague Year,” *Immigration and Ethnic History Society Newsletter*, 2020. [[url](#)].

“Emigration from the Levant, 1870-1930: a Primer in Mahjar Studies,” *Jadaliyya*, 2019. [[url](#)].

“A Little Advice: Syrian American Advice Booklets as Knowledge Production,” *Migrant Knowledge: A Network of the German Historical Institute Washington*, 2019. [[url](#)].

“Teaching Migrant and Refugee Histories in the Shadow of Trump,” *IEHS Online: The Immigration and Ethnic History Society Blog*, 2017. [[url](#)].

“What We can Learn about America’s Other Muslim Ban (Back in 1918).” *Tropics of Meta: Historiography for the Masses*, 2017. [[url](#)].

Entries in *Cultural Exchange in a Time of Global Conflict: Colonials, Neutrals, and Belligerents during the First World War* sourcebook, King’s College London. Two entries: “Photograph of an Arab American intelligence officer” and “Letter by an Arab American soldier writing home.”

Reviews of Books

Review of *Refugee Voices in Modern Global History: Reckoning with Refugeedom*, by Peter Gattrell, Katarzyna Nowak, Lauren Banko, and Anindita Ghoshal. *History: Reviews of New Books* 54, no. 3 (2026): 1-3.

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 (2020): 264-267.

Review of *Arab Routes: Syrian Pathways to California*, by Sarah M. A. Gualtieri. *Arab Studies Journal* 28, no. 2 (2020): 153-157.

Review of *The War with the Ottoman Empire*, by Jeffrey Grey. *International Journal of Turkish Studies* 23, no. ½ (2017): 126-128.

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 (2017): 100-102.

Review of *Displacement and Dispossession in the Modern Middle East*, by Dawn Chatty. *Syrian Studies Association Bulletin* 16, no. 2 (2011).

SELECT GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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, 2025-2028

University of California Davis College of Letters and Sciences Dean’s Faculty Fellowship, 2024-2027

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, 2024-2025

University of California Davis Humanities and Social Sciences Stimulating Exceptional and Essential Discovery (SEED) Grant, 2024-2025

University of California Davis Humanities Institute Research Cluster Grant. “Middle Eastern and South Asian Refugee Diasporas in California.” Stacy Fahrenthold and Nicole Ranganath, 2023-2024

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 2021

University of California Davis Humanities Institute Faculty Research Fellowship, 2021

American Council of Learned Societies/Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2013

SELECT AWARDS & HONORS

David Montgomery Book Award, Organization of American Historians and Labor and Working-Class History Association, 2026

Nikki Keddie Book Award, Middle East Studies Association, 2025

Arab American Book Award, Evelyn Shakir Award for Nonfiction, Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, Michigan, 2020

Honorable Mention, Lebanese Studies Association Book Prize, 2020

Khayrallah Prize in Migration Studies, Moise Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies, North Carolina State University, 2019

Syrian Studies Association Book Prize, 2019

SELECT PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

Invited Lectures

“The quota trap: how a 1921 law turned genocide survivors into ‘illegal’ immigrants,” College of Letters & Sciences Deans Faculty Fellows Public Lecture Series, University of California Davis, April 21, 2026.

“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.

“Mahjar matters: writing a history of 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.

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

“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.

“Migration and the Druze in America,” American Druze Foundation and Georgetown University Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Los Angeles, February 29, 2020.

“Ladies aid as labor history: working class formation in the interwar Syrian American mahjar,” Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, October 15, 2019.

“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

“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.

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

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

“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.

Faculty respondent, Bucerius Young Scholars Forum at the German Historical Institute’s Pacific Regional Office, University of California Berkeley, October 12-14, 2020.

“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.

Workshops Convened

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. 8 participants.

New Perspectives on Middle East Migrations, Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies, North Carolina State University, February 18-20, 2022. 32 participants.

Arab American Studies Association, Interrupted, all-virtual annual meeting of the Arab American Studies Association, April 9-16, 2021. 56 participants.

Conference Presentations

“Teaching Palestine and the Middle East: academic freedom in times of crisis,” American Historical Association annual meeting, Chicago, January 8-11, 2026. Session sponsored by the Peace History Society.

Panel chair, “Teaching migration history under authoritarianism,” American Historical Association annual meeting, Chicago, January 8-11, 2026. Session co-sponsored by the Radical History Review and Historians for Peace and Democracy.

“U can’t touch this: academic freedom and the ‘problem’ of Palestine,” Organization of American Historians annual meeting, 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.

“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 annual meeting, 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.

“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.

“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 Neuchâtel, Switzerland, November 11-12, 2022.

SELECT PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

Public Engagement

“Why Historians Must Reclaim the American Historical Association,” op-ed in *Inside Higher Ed*, February 5, 2026. [[url](#)]

K12 teacher training session, “Struggles and Solidarity: Arab American immigration history and the labor movement,” Contra Costa County Board of Education, March 28, 2025.

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

“Textile Workers and Syrian American Working-Class History,” *Afikra*, December 22, 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](#)].

“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](#)].

“المؤرخة الأميركية ستايسي فهرينثولد 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](#)]

“World War I in the Syrian and Lebanese Diaspora,” Ottoman History Podcast, March 2, 2019. [[url](#)].

Interview with American History TV (CSPAN3) on Syrian immigrants in the United States during the First World War. Aired 17 June 2017. [[url](#)].

TEACHING

Undergraduate courses taught at UC Davis: Introduction to Global Migration (HIS 019); History of Modern Palestine/Israel (HIS 113); Comparative Histories of Partition (HIS 114); History of the Modern Middle East, 1750-1914 (HIS 193A); History of the Modern Middle East, 1914-present (HIS 193B); Proseminar: Migration and the Modern Middle East (HIS 102R); Proseminar: Bans and Border Walls (HIS 102X); Proseminar: Histories of Campus Protest: Academic Freedom from Below (HIS 102X); Proseminar: Migrants & Refugees in the Middle East and South Asia (MSA 180)

Graduate seminars taught at UC Davis: First-Year Graduate Research Seminar (HIS 200A-B); Second-Year Graduate Research Seminar (HIS 203A-B-C); Global Migration History (HIS 201W); Diaspora in the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (HIS 201W); Arab American Historiography (HIS 201M); Modern Arab History (HIS 201M); The Syrian American Diaspora (HIS 298)

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorships Co-Editor, *Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle East and North African Migration Studies*, 2020-2026

Editorial Boards Editorial Board, *Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle East and North African Migration Studies*, 2026-
Editorial Board, *Journal of American Ethnic History*, 2025-
Editorial Board, “Migrations in History” at De Gruyter Press, 2021-

Scholarly Societies Organization of American Historians (OAH)
Ad Hoc Committee on Supporting Palestinian Education, 2026-
Immigration and Ethnic History Society (at OAH)
Executive Board, 2025-2027 (elected)

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