

Rawad Wehbe

Curriculum vitae

Ph.D. student | University of Pennsylvania | Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

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EDUCATION:

2017: M.A., Arabic Literature, Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Thesis: “Fever Dreams: Narrative (De)structuring in Arabic Literature”

2014–2015: Fellow, Center for Arabic Study Abroad in Amman

2013: B.A./M.A., Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, HONORS:

2020: Academic Year FLAS for Arabic, Dissertation Abroad Request, UPenn

2018-2019: Mellon Graduate Fellowship, UPenn, School of Arts and Sciences

2017: Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, UPenn, School of Arts and Sciences

2017: Texas Foreign Language Teaching Excellence Award (nomination), UT Austin

2013: Phi Beta Kappa Society, UCLA

2013: Latin Honors, Summa Cum Laude, UCLA

2012: Academic Year Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) for Arabic, UCLA

2012: Translations Summer Residency, L'école de littérature

2011: Departmental Scholar, UCLA

2010–2013: College Honors, UCLA

2010–2012: Dean's Honors, UCLA

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED TALKS:

2020: “Book Launch for *Home: New Arabic Poems* with Robyn Creswell, Hodna Nurenberg, Rawad Wehbe, and editor Sarah Coolidge,” Transnational Literature Series at Brookline Booksmith, Boston, MA, September (Zoom).

2019: “Public Discussion with Iraqi-American Poet Faleeha Hassan,” Penn Book Center, Philadelphia, PA, November.

2019: “Khalil Hawi: Poetry on the Margins of Suicide,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November.

2019: “Nadine Labaki: *Where Do We Go Now?*,” New Challenges and Old Issues in the Middle East Lecture Series, Camden, NJ, October.

2019: “Arabic Literary Imaginations: Poetry, Stones and Resistance,” Middle East Center Graduate Student Research Colloquium, Philadelphia, PA, March.

2019: “The Aesthetics and Politics of Mediocrity in Mihyār al-Daylamī’s Poetry,” 11th Annual Medievalists@Penn Graduate Conference, Philadelphia, PA, February.

2018: “Were Modernity a Stone: Metaphor in Adonis’s *Aghānī Mihyār al-Dimashqī*,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November.

2018: “Translating with Poetics: Isti‘āra and the Translation of Arabic Poetry,” American Comparative Literature Association, Los Angeles, CA, March.

2017: “Fever Dreams: The Narrative (De)structuring of Fever in Arabic Literature,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November.

2017: “Don’t Pass On Passive Learning: How to Get the Most from the Traditional Lecture,” Arabic Flagship Workshop Series, Austin, TX, April.

2014: “Sites of Trauma and Traumatic Sights: The Staging of Khalil Hawi’s Suicide in Mahmoud Darwish’s *Memory for Forgetfulness*,” Jil Jadid Conference in Arabic Language and Linguistics, Austin, TX, February.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

University of Pennsylvania

2020: Modern Middle East Literature in Translation, Coordinating Instructor

2019: Modern Arabic Literature: Arab Women & War, TA

2019: Modern Middle East Literature in Translation, TA

2018: Modern Hebrew Literature & Culture in Translation, TA

American University of Beirut, CAMES Summer Arabic Program

2018: Intermediate Arabic, Instructor

2017: Beginning Arabic, Instructor

University of Texas at Austin

2017: Intensive Arabic II (beginning), Graduate Student Instructor

2016: Intensive Arabic I (beginning), TA, shared teaching and grading duties

2016: Intensive Arabic VI (advanced), TA, shared teaching and grading duties for two sections

2015: Intensive Arabic I (beginning), TA, shared teaching and grading duties

2014: Intensive Arabic II (beginning), TA, shared teaching and grading duties

2013: Intensive Arabic I (beginning), TA, shared teaching and grading duties

Sijal Institute for Arabic Language and Culture in Amman

2016: Beginning Arabic, Instructor and Assistant Academic Director

University of Texas at Austin Arabic Summer Institute

2015: Intensive Arabic IV (intermediate), Instructor, shared teaching and grading duties

Middlebury at Mills Summer Arabic Program

2013: Lower Intermediate Arabic, Graduate Intern

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Research Asst. to Prof. Max Cavitch, UPenn, January–April 2020

Translation and transliteration of Arabic source texts, and consultation in modern Arabic literary history and poetics.

Research Asst. to Prof. Nancy Berg, Washington University, March–July 2019

Translation and consultation in primary sources of Iraqi Jewish literature and autobiography.

Research Asst. to Prof. Christa Salamandra, CUNY, March–July 2019

Translation and transcription of interviews with Syrian director al-Laith Hajo on media censorship, cinema, and the impact of the 2011 Syrian civil war on the film industry.

TRANSLATIONS:

2020: Selections from "One Last Selfie with a Dying World" by Samer Abu Hawwash, in *Home: New Arabic Poems*, San Francisco: Two Lines Press.

2019: "In the South" and "Simple Speech" by Khalīl Ḥāwī, *DoubleSpeak*, UPenn.

2019: "Repentance" by Abdulaziz al-Omairi, *Words Without Borders*.

2012: "The Tale of the Eagle" by 'Izz al-Dīn al-Madanī, *Inventory*, Princeton.

OTHER WRITING:

2014: "Trials of Memorization and Deletion: Abu Nuwas and Scott Zuniga," *Onorient: L'élan créatif de l'Afrique du Nord et du Moyen-Orient*. Available: <http://onorient.com/remembering-games-and-forgetting-them/>.

2012: "Like a Straw Bird It Follows Me: Poetry by Palestinian Poet Ghassan Zaqtan," with Suleiman Hodali and Levi Thompson. Available: <http://international.ucla.edu/cnes/article/128774>.

2012: "'Translations' Residency: Three Languages on an Equal Footing," *Arabic Literature (in English)*. Available: <https://arablit.org/2012/09/10/translations-residency/>.

LANGUAGES:

Modern Standard Arabic: superior (ACTFL)

Levantine (Lebanese) dialect: fluent

Turkish: intermediate-low

French: can read with a dictionary

German: can read with a dictionary

UNIVERSITY LIFE & DEPARTMENT SERVICE:

2018–present: Graduate Resident Advisor, Stouffer College House, UPenn

2018–2019: Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, SASgov Representative, UPenn

2018–2019: Vice President of Policy, Executive Board of Student Government of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, UPenn

2017–2018: NELC Department Representative, SASgov, UPenn

2017–present: Graduate Student Arabic Table, Organizer, UPenn

2017: Jil Jadid Conference in Middle Eastern Languages and Literature, Organizer, UT Austin

2015–2016: Levantine Dialect Table, Organizer, UT Austin

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Middle East Studies Association

American Comparative Literature Association

Modern Language Association