

## SEAN LEE

Department of Political Science  
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### EDUCATION

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- 2019**  
**(expected)**      **PhD – Political Science (expected Winter 2019)**  
**NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY:** Evanston, IL  
Dissertation: *Minorities in Times of Conflict: Civil War in Lebanon and Syria*  
Committee: William Reno (chair), Wendy Pearlman, Hendrik Spruyt  
Major: Comparative Politics; Minor: Methods
- 2014**              **M.A. – Political Science**  
**NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY:** Evanston, IL
- 2007**              **Master de Recherche en Sciences Sociales**  
**ECOLE DES HAUTES ETUDES EN SCIENCES SOCIALES:** Paris
- 2004**              **Maîtrise de Lettres Modernes – Comparative Literature**  
**UNIVERSITE DE LA SORBONNE-NOUVELLE – PARIS III:** Paris
- 2002**              **Licence de Lettres Modernes – Comparative Literature**  
**UNIVERSITE DE LA SORBONNE-NOUVELLE – PARIS III:** Paris
- 2001**              **Bachelor of Arts – Psychology, Philosophy and French**  
**MERCER UNIVERSITY:** Macon, GA  
Minor: Photography                      *Cum Laude*

### PUBLICATIONS, REVIEWS & COMMENTARY

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- “The Kurds of Syria.” *Arab Studies Journal*. Fall 2017, Vol 25, No. 2, pp 226–36.
- “Race, Medicine, and Genocide.” Cockerham, William (ed.), *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior, and Society*. New York: Wiley. 2014.
- “An Open Letter on Syria to Western Narcissists,” *The Huffington Post*. October 30, 2013.
- Review of *The Arabs and the Holocaust: The Arab-Israeli War of Narratives* by Gilbert Achcar. *The National* (Dubai). August 2, 2010.
- Review of *The Ghosts of Martyrs Square: An Eyewitness Account of Lebanon’s Life Struggle* by Michael Young. *The National* (Dubai). June 26, 2010.
- “Serve But Don’t Swim.” *The Executive* (Beirut). No. 122, Sept. 2009.
- “Arabic for Lovers: A Lexicon for Beginners,” *Publio* (Beirut). No. 4, 2009.
- The United Nations World Water Development Report: Water, A Shared Responsibility*. Oxford: Berghahn Books / Paris: UNESCO. 2006. (editor).

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

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- “The Evolution of Rojava: State building in wartime Syria,” book chapter in preparation
- “Identity-coding in the study of ‘sectarian’ and ‘ethnic’ conflict”
- “Counterinsurgency and the ‘resistance axis’: Diffusion of ‘war on terror’ rhetoric”
- “The PKK years in Syria: Impacts on domestic Kurdish politics”
- “Counting co-ethnics: Nation building and the census in Lebanon and Hasaka, Syria”

## FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

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- 2018 - 2019 Max Weber Foundation, Orient-Institut Beirut, Doctoral Fellow
- 2016 - 2017 Kellogg School of Management Dispute Resolution Research Center research grant
- 2015 - 2016 Fulbright-Hays DDRA – Turkey and Democratic Republic of Congo
- Fall/Winter 2015 FLAS Dissertation research abroad Fellowship (Istanbul)
- Summer 2015 FLAS Summer Language Fellowship (Advanced Arabic – Rabat, Morocco)
- Spring 2015 FLAS Academic Year Fellowship (Swahili)
- Winter 2014 Project on Middle East Political Science Research grant (Lebanon)
- Summer 2013 Keyman Modern Turkish Studies Research Grant (Turkey/Syria border)
- Summer 2013 Crown Family Middle East Research Travel Award (Beirut, Lebanon)
- Summer 2013 Morris Goodman African Language Award (Advanced Arabic, Beirut, Lebanon)
- Summer 2012 Critical Language Scholarship (Advanced Arabic – Tangier, Morocco)
- Summer 2012 Hans Panofsky Pre-Dissertation Award (Shousha camp – Tunisia/Libya border)
- Summer 2012 Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies Summer Research Travel Award (Shousha refugee camp – Tunisia/Libya border)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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|---------------|---|-----------------|
| 09/12 – 06/15 | <b>Northwestern University</b><br>TEACHING ASSISTANT – Political Science, Int’l Studies, Slavic studies | Evanston, IL    |
| 09/07 – 06/11 | <b>American University of Beirut</b><br>INSTRUCTOR – Department of English / Civilization Studies       | Beirut, Lebanon |
| 12/06 – 06/07 | <b>Université de la Sorbonne-Nouvelle</b><br>INSTRUCTOR – Department of English                         | Paris, France   |
| 02/05 – 07/06 | <b>UN World Water Assessment Programme</b><br>EDITOR-RESEARCHER   | Paris, France   |

12/04 – 01/05	<b>Université de Paris VII – Denis Diderot</b> INSTRUCTOR – Department of English	Paris, France
11/03 – 08/04	<b>UNESCO</b> PROJECT COORDINATOR – Culture Sector	Paris, France

## TEACHING

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### *Instructor of Record*

- “Advanced Academic Writing: Contemporary Africa,” American University of Beirut (2007-2011).  
 “Man’s Inhumanity to Man: Violence in the 20<sup>th</sup> century,” Civilization Studies Program, American University of Beirut (Fall, 2008).  
 “English for International Business,” American University of Beirut (2007-11).  
 “Enrichment Course in English,” American University of Beirut (2007-2008).

### *Teaching Assistant:*

- “Internal Wars and the State,” Northwestern University (William Reno, Fall 2012).  
 “Dostoevsky,” Slavic studies, Northwestern University (Saul Morson, Spring 2013)  
 “Introduction to Comparative Politics,” Northwestern University (William Reno, Fall 2013)  
 “Introduction to International Development,” International Studies, Northwestern University (Brian Hanson, Winter 2014; Winter 2015)  
 “Middle Eastern Politics,” Northwestern University (Wendy Pearlman, Spring 2014).  
 “Statistical Research Methods,” Northwestern University (Rachelle Brooks, Fall 2014)

## AFFILIATIONS

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- Doctoral Fellow - Max Weber Stiftung, Orient-Institut Beirut  
 Research Affiliate - Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, American University of Beirut  
 Graduate Affiliate – Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University

## SERVICE

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- Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP), Futures Committee (2017)  
 Assistant Master – Northwestern University Residential College of Cultural and Community Studies (2013-2015)  
 Co-Chair – Northwestern University MENA Graduate Group (2013-2014)  
 Board, Northwestern University Student Parent Alliance (2014-2016)  
 Faculty Advisor, Student Book Club, American University of Beirut (2008-2010)

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

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**French** – fluent  
**Arabic** (MSA & Levantine) – advanced  
**Swedish** – intermediate  
**Turkish** – advanced beginner  
**Swahili** – advanced beginner

## FIELDWORK

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Lebanon (greater Beirut, Shouf, Aley) – 3+ years  
Turkey (Istanbul, Gaziantep, Antakya) – 1+ year  
Tunisia (Tunis, Shousha refugee camp) – 1 month  
Rwanda (Kigali) – 2 months  
Democratic Republic of Congo – 6 months  
Germany (Berlin) – 1 month

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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Digital Islamic Humanities: Textual Corpora and the Islamic Humanities,  
Brown University, 2014  
Doctoral Dissertation Summer Workshop: Researching Lebanon, Arab Studies Institute &  
Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, American University of Beirut, 2016  
Intensive Turkish language study: Dilmer Language Teaching Center, Istanbul, Fall 2015.  
Swahili language training, Amani Language Institute, Goma, DRC, Fall 2016.

## PRESENTATIONS

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“The Evolution of Rojava: Nation and State Building in Wartime Syria,” Serbest Kurdish  
Studies Conference, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, June 1-2, 2018  
“Minority Group Strategies in Times of Conflict,” ISA, April 2018 (San Francisco)  
“Minority Agency: Ethnic Institutions & Conflict Narratives in Syria and Lebanon,”  
International Conference on Middle Eastern and North African Studies: Dynamics  
of Inclusion and Exclusion in the MENA, March 10-12, 2018 (Marrakesh Morocco)  
“Minority groups in times of conflict: Civil war in Lebanon and Syria,” Midwest Political  
Science Association, 2014.  
“Navigating civil war: Sub-Saharan migrants in Libya,” Program of African Studies,  
Northwestern University, 2013.

## SOFTWARE

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R, STATA, SPSS, QGIS, Python