

## SEAN LEE

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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07/19 – present	<b>The American University in Cairo</b> Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science	Cairo, Egypt
09/18 – 05/19	<b>Max Weber Stiftung, Orient Institut-Beirut</b> Doctoral Fellow	Beirut, Lebanon
09/07 – 06/11	<b>The American University of Beirut</b> Instructor, Department of English	Beirut, Lebanon

### EDUCATION

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

### RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2005-2006	United Nations World Water Assessment Programme, Editor & Researcher
2003-2004	UNESCO, Project Coordinator (Culture Sector)

## **PUBLICATIONS & COMMENTARY**

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2020. "The Evolution of Rojava: Tensions Between Democratic Confederatism and State-Building in Northern Syria." Michael Gunter, David Romano and Mehmet Gurses (eds.) *The Kurds in the Middle East: Enduring Problems and New Dynamics*. New York: Lexington Books, pp. 81-98.
2020. "The Tragedies and Dilemmas of US Intervention in Northeast Syria." *Middle East Report*. Spring, No. 294.
2020. "Teaching the Middle East in the Middle East." *Middle East Studies Pedagogy Initiative Newsletter*. Vol 1., No. 3, October.
2017. "The Kurds of Syria." *Arab Studies Journal*. Fall, Vol 25, No. 2, pp 226–36.
2014. "Race, Medicine, and Genocide." Cockerham, William (ed.), *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Health, Illness, Behavior, and Society*. New York: Wiley.
2013. "An Open Letter on Syria to Western Narcissists," *The Huffington Post*. October 30.
2009. "Serve But Don't Swim." *The Executive* (Beirut). No. 122, September.
2006. *The United Nations World Water Development Report: Water, A Shared Responsibility*. Oxford: Berghahn Books / Paris: UNESCO. (editor).

## **REVIEWS**

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2021. Review of *Armenians Beyond Diaspora: Making Lebanon their Own* by Tsolin Nalbantian. *Mediterranean Politics*, forthcoming.
2010. 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.

## **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

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- "How Bashar al-Asad Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the 'War on Terror'" (under review)
- "A One-State Reality: Israeli Subnational Authoritarianism" (invited submission for APSA MENA newsletter)
- "Abdel Nasser in the Congo: African Cold War Peacekeeping"
- "Insurgent Narratives and Insurgent Realities" (with Romain Malejacq and William Reno)
- "Counting the Bodies: State violence in Egypt and Syria" (with Mostafa Hefny)
- "Organization in the Revolution: Cohesion and Fragmentation in Syria's Civil War"
- "Identity-coding in the study of 'sectarian' and 'ethnic' conflict"
- "The PKK years in Syria: Impacts on domestic Kurdish politics"
- "Counting co-ethnics: Nation building and the census in Lebanon and Hasaka, Syria"

## **TEACHING**

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### **American University in Cairo, Department of Political Science**

POLS 5201: Comparative Theory (graduate seminar)  
POLS 4435: State and Society  
POLS 4405: Comparative Politics of Contemporary Africa  
POLS 3401: Introduction to Comparative Politics  
POLS 2401: Introduction to Research Methods in Political Science  
POLS 1001/2003: Introduction to Political Science

### **American University of Beirut, Department of English & Civilization Sequence Program**

ENGL 204: Advanced Academic Writing: Contemporary Africa  
CVSP 208V: Man's Inhumanity to Man: Violence in the 20<sup>th</sup> century  
ENGL 208: English for International Business  
ENGL 102: Enrichment Course in English

### **Northwestern University, departments of Political Science, International Studies, Slavic Studies (TA)**

POLI\_SCI 376: Internal Wars and the State (with William Reno)  
POLI\_SCI 250: Introduction to Comparative Politics (with William Reno)  
POLI\_SCI 312: Statistical Research Methods (with Rachelle Brooks)  
POLI\_SCI 351: Politics of the Middle East (with Wendy Pearlman)  
INT\_ST 290: International Development (with Brian Hanson)  
SLV 311: Dostoevsky (with Saul Morson)

## **GRADUATE ADVISING**

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AUC, Political Science (M.A.)  
University of Tübingen & AUC, Comparative & Middle East Politics and Society (M.A.)

## **FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS**

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2021            APSA MENA Travel Grant  
2020            APSA Middle East and North Africa Fellow  
2018 - 2019    Max Weber Foundation, Orient-Institut Beirut, Doctoral Fellow  
2016 - 2017    Kellogg School of Management Dispute Resolution Research Center grant  
2015 - 2016    Fulbright-Hays DDRA – Turkey and Democratic Republic of Congo  
2015            FLAS Dissertation research abroad Fellowship (Istanbul)

- 2015 FLAS Summer Language Fellowship (Advanced Arabic – Rabat, Morocco)
- 2015 FLAS Academic Year Fellowship (Swahili)
- 2014 Project on Middle East Political Science Research grant (Lebanon)
- 2013 Keyman Modern Turkish Studies Research Grant (Turkey/Syria border)
- 2013 Crown Family Middle East Research Travel Award (Beirut, Lebanon)
- 2013 Morris Goodman African Language Award (Advanced Arabic, Beirut, Lebanon)
- 2012 Critical Language Scholarship (Advanced Arabic – Tangier, Morocco)
- 2012 Hans Panofsky Pre-Dissertation Award (Shousha camp – Tunisia/Libya border)
- 2012 Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies Summer Research Travel Award (Shousha refugee camp – Tunisia/Libya border)

## AFFILIATIONS

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APSA MENA Fellow - 2020  
 Doctoral Fellow - Max Weber Stiftung, Orient-Institut Beirut  
 Research Affiliate - Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, AUC  
 Graduate Affiliate – Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University

## SERVICE

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AUC Faculty Senate Representative for Political Science (2021-present)  
 AUC Senate, Faculty Affairs Committee (2021-2022)  
 Multi-Section Coordinator, POLS 1001/2003, AUC (2020-2021)  
 Graduate Committee, Department of Political Science, AUC (2019-2020)  
 Core Curriculum Advisory Committee, AUC (2019-2021)  
 Library Committee, AUC (2020-2021)  
 Annual Political Science Conference Committee, AUC (2020-2021)  
 Peer reviewer for *Arab Studies Journal*  
 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 proficiency  
**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 border refugee camp) – 1 month  
Rwanda (Kigali) – 2 months  
Democratic Republic of Congo – 6 months  
Germany (Berlin) – 1 month

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

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APSA MENA methods seminar, 2021  
Online Summer Institute, Center for Learning and Teaching, AUC, 2020  
Teaching Enhancement Certificate, Center for Learning and Teaching, AUC, 2019  
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, AUB, 2016  
Intensive Turkish language study: Dilmer Language Teaching Center, Istanbul, 2015.  
Swahili language training, Amani Language Institute, Goma, DRC, 2016.

## PRESENTATIONS

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“A One-State Reality: Israeli Subnational Authoritarianism” accepted MPSA 2022  
“Counting the Bodies,” (with Mostafa Hefny) accepted for MPSA 2022  
“Wars of Secession and Cold War Politics,” invited lecture HIST 2301 Colonial & Postcolonial Africa, April 2021, AUC.  
“Warlord Rebels in Africa,” invited lecture HIST 3302 Violence, War, and Conflict in Modern Africa, April 2021, AUC.  
“Insurgent Narratives and Insurgent Realities,” (with Romain Malejacq) ISA 2021; ISA 2022  
“How Bashar al-Asad Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the “War on Terror,”” APSA, 2021, 2020; AUC, Nov. 2019; MPSA 2019; Durham University, Dec. 2021  
“Cohesion and Fragmentation in Syria’s Civil War,” Department of Political Science, University of Alabama, April 9, 2020\* (\*canceled due to Covid-19)  
“Communities and Conflict in Lebanon and Syria: A Minority Report,” American University in Cairo, March, 2019.  
“Rojava: Tensions between Democratic Confederalism and State-Building in Northern Syria,” Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, American University of Beirut, November 2018.  
“The Evolution of Rojava: Nation and State Building in Wartime Syria,” Serbest Kurdish Studies Conference, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, June 2018  
“Minority Group Strategies in Times of Conflict,” ISA 2018  
“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, 2018 (Marrakesh Morocco)  
“Minority groups in times of conflict: Civil war in Lebanon and Syria,” MPSA 2014.  
“Navigating civil war: Sub-Saharan migrants in Libya,” Program of African Studies, Northwestern University, 2013.