

SEAN LEE

Department of Political Science
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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

EDUCATION

2019	PhD – Political Science NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY: 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	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	<i>Cum Laude</i>

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

PUBLICATIONS & COMMENTARY

2022. "A One-State Reality: Israeli Subnational Authoritarianism." *MENA Politics*. Vol 5. No. 1.
2020. "The Evolution of Rojava: Tensions Between Democratic Confederalism 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

2021. Review of *Armenians Beyond Diaspora: Making Lebanon their Own* by Tsolin Nalbantian. *Mediterranean Politics*, DOI: 10.1080/13629395.2021.1989743.
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

Minority Communities in Times of Conflict: Civil War in Lebanon and Syria (book manuscript)
"How Bashar al-Asad Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the 'War on Terror'" (R&R)
"The Uses of Genocide: Narratives of Memorialization During the Lebanese Civil War."
"The Ethical and Methodological Consequences of Coding for Identity"
"Insurgent Narratives and Insurgent Realities" (with Romain Malejacq and William Reno)
"Counting the Bodies: State violence in Egypt and Syria" (with Mostafa Hefny)

TEACHING

American University in Cairo, Department of Political Science

- HIST 4188: The History and Politics of Civil War (co-taught with Mark Deets)
- POLS 5251: Comparative Politics of Africa (graduate seminar)
- POLS 5201: Comparative Theory (graduate seminar)
- POLS 4435: State and Society (undergraduate seminar)
- POLS 4405: Comparative Politics of Contemporary Africa (undergraduate seminar)
- POLS 3401: Introduction to Comparative Politics (undergraduate)
- POLS 2401: Introduction to Research Methods in Political Science (undergraduate)
- POLS 1001/2003: Introduction to Political Science (undergraduate)

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 20th century
- ENGL 208: English for International Business
- ENGL 102: Enrichment Course in English

GRADUATE ADVISING

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

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

- 2022 AUC Research Support Grant
- 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

AUB Center for Arab and Middle East Studies --
APSA MENA Fellow - 2020
Doctoral Fellow - Max Weber Stiftung, Orient-Institut Beirut – 2018-2019
Research Affiliate - Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, AUC – 2017-2019,
2022
Graduate Affiliate – Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University, 2014-
2019

SERVICE

AUC Faculty Senate Representative for Political Science (2021-present)
AUC Senate, Faculty Affairs Committee (2021-present)
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-present)
Annual Political Science Conference Committee, AUC (2020-2021)
Peer reviewer for *Arab Studies Journal*, *International Studies Quarterly*
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

French – fluent
Arabic (MSA, Levantine) – advanced proficiency
Swedish – intermediate
Turkish – advanced beginner
Swahili – advanced beginner

FIELDWORK

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

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

“A One-State Reality: Israeli Subnational Authoritarianism” ISA 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.