

Kristen Alff

History Department and International Studies Program, North Carolina State University
kalff@ncsu.edu

EDUCATION

PhD, Stanford University, History Department 2019

Dissertation: "The Business of Property: Levantine Joint-Stock Companies, Land, Law, and Capitalist Development around the Mediterranean, 1850-1925."

Committee: Joel Beinin (Chair), Ali Yaycioglu, Priya Satia

Oral Examination in History, with distinction

Fields: The Modern Middle East (Joel Beinin), The Ottoman Empire (Ali Yaycioglu), British and French Empires (Priya Satia), Islamic Republics: Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan (Robert Crews)

MA, Middle East History, Stanford University 2014

MA, Middle East Studies, The American University in Cairo, Egypt 2009

Thesis: "The Kurds and Nationalism: The Curtailment of Minority Rights in British Mandate Iraq, 1921-1932" (Chair: Joel Beinin)

BS/BA, Magna Cum Laude, Boston University, Boston MA 2001

Bachelor of Arts, English Department

Bachelor of Science, School of Education

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, North Carolina State University, Department of History and International Studies Program 2020

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Virginia, Department of History 2019

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters and Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

"Landed Property, Capital Accumulation, and Polymorphous Capitalism in Egypt and the Levant, 1850-1920" in eds. Joel Beinin, Bassam Haddad, Sherene Seikaly, *Critical Political Economy of the Middle East and North Africa*, (Forthcoming, Stanford University Press, 2021).

"Levantine Joint-Stock Companies, Trans-Mediterranean Partnerships and Nineteenth-Century Capitalist Development," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 60:1, (January 2018).

"The Business of Property: Land, Law, and Capitalism Around the Mediterranean," *Enterprise and Society* (Forthcoming, Sept. 2020).

Manuscripts in Preparation

“Gendering the Company: Changing Gender Norms and the Creation of the LLC in Lebanon,”
1880-1920”

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend	2020
Weter Dissertation Completion Grants	2018
Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies Conference Grant	2017
Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship	2017-2018
Council of American Overseas Research Centers Research Fellowship	2015
Graduate Research Opportunities Grant	2015
Social Science Research Council, Mellon-IDRF (<i>declined</i>)	2015-2016
Palestine American Research Center Fellowship	2014-2015
The History Project Research Grant, Harvard University	2013
Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies Research Grant, Stanford University	2013
The Center for Jewish Studies Language Grant, Stanford University	2013
Sterling Graduate Fellowship, Stanford University	2011-2012
History Department Fellowship, Stanford University	2012-2016
Writing Center Fellowship, American University in Cairo	2009
Graduate Arabic Language Fellowship, American University in Cairo.	2007-2008
University Fellowship, American University in Cairo	2006-2008

AWARDS

Herman E. Krooss Best Dissertation in Business History Prize Finalist	2020
World History Association Annual WHA Dissertation Prize	2020
Geballe Dissertation Prize Fellowship	2016
Excellence in Teaching, Stanford University	2013

BOOK REVIEWS

Noura Erakat, *Justice for Some: Law and the Question of Palestine*, Stanford University Press, 2019 reviewed for *Arab Studies Quarterly* 43:4 (Forthcoming, Fall 2020).

INVITED TALKS

“Rotten Wheat and Other War Spoils” Movements and Directions in Capitalism, University of Virginia, October 2020.

“The Business of Property in Land: Levantine Joint-stock companies, World War I, and Capitalism Around the Mediterranean, 1850-1925,” Harvard University, February 2018.

“Private Property in Land: Markets, Communities, and Capitalism in Ottoman Palestine,” talk, Palestine American Research Center, Ramallah, February 2015.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

“The Agrarian Question in Palestine: Rethinking Labor, Capital, and Conflict,” conference, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. (virtual), Oct. 2020.

“How Crises of World War I Changed Capitalism in the Levant,” conference, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Nov. 2019.

“‘All We Have Left Are Our Houses!’: Forgotten Voices in the Development of Middle Eastern Capitalism,” conference, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, November 2018.

“The Making of Private Property in the Levant, a Turning Point: 1914-1918,” conference, “Global Capitalism and the Global South,” New York University, October 2017.

“Parallel Land Markets in Late-Ottoman Palestine,” conference, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, November 2016.

“Challenging Eurocentrism: Capital Accumulation Around the Mediterranean,” workshop, “New Directions in Political Economy of the Middle East,” Stanford University, February 2016.

ROUNDTABLES

“History on the Move: Mobility and Circulation in and Beyond the Modern Middle East,” Middle East Studies Association Meeting, New Orleans, Nov. 2019.

ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

North Carolina State University, History and International Studies Departments

“The Modern Middle East,” Fall 2020

“Theories of Globalization,” Fall 2020

University of Virginia

Visiting Assistant Professor, History Department

“Middle East and North Africa, 500-1500,” Fall 2019

“Introductory Seminar, Middle East History,” Fall 2019

“The Making of the Modern Middle East, 1500-Present,” Spring 2020

“Advanced Seminar, Middle East History” Spring 2020

Stanford University

Lecturer, History Department

“The Middle East and the World,” Spring 2019

“Capitalism and the Middle East,” Winter 2019

“Global Capitalism and the Global South,” Spring 2018

Course Development Assistant, “The American Empire in the Middle East,” Fall 2011

American University in Cairo, Economics Department
Co-instructor, “Economic Development of the Middle East,” Spring/Fall 2008

Keio University

Instructor, Foreign Language & Literatures Department
“Intermediate and Advanced English Reading Skills,” Fall 2002 – Spring 2005
“Intermediate and Advanced English Writing Skills,” Fall 2002 – Spring, 2005

OTHER ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

George Mason University, Political Economy Summer Institute
“Corporate Capitalism in the Colonized World,” Summer 2018

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Avon High School , English Teacher, grades 9-11,	2010-2011
Keio Junior Boys High School , English and Communications Teacher	2002-2005
Lincoln Elementary School , Reading and Writing Instructor	2000-2002

SERVICE

Organizer/coordinator, “Minority Communities, Rights, Political Economies and States in the Modern Middle East and Central Asia,” interdisciplinary workshop, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, 2015-2017.

Co-coordinator, “New Directions in Political Economy of the Middle East,” international workshop, Stanford University, February 2016.

Co-organizer, “Networks of Capital: Land, Markets, and Community in the Levant and North Africa,” panel, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 2016.

Coordinator, “Partitions: Towards Transnational History of 20th Century Territorial Separatism,” international conference, Stanford University, Winter 2013.

Coordinator, “Islam and Democracy,” American University in Cairo, international conference, Cairo, Egypt, Spring 2008.

OTHER SERVICE

Reviewer, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*; *Arab Studies Journal*; *New Middle Eastern Studies*; *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*

Translator, “Tahrir Documents,” Arabic, Cairo, 2010-2011

Program Assistant, Egyptian Center for Women’s Rights, 2005-2009

LANGUAGES

Arabic (Advanced)

Hebrew (Intermediate)
German (Advanced)
French (Advanced reading knowledge)
Turkish (Advanced reading knowledge)
Ottoman Turkish (Reading knowledge)

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

Middle East Studies Association
Economic History Association
Political Economy Project Group
Business History Conference
World History Association

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

First place finisher (women), Egyptian National Marathon, Feb. 2009
After-school program volunteer violin instructor