

KHODR M. ZAAROUR |

7242 Galon Glen Road | Raleigh, NC 27613 Phone: 919-888-9188 |

E-Mail: kzaarour@ncsu.edu

[linkedin.com/in/khodr-zaarour-ph-d-917170b3](https://www.linkedin.com/in/khodr-zaarour-ph-d-917170b3)

***Assistant Professor* | Department of Interdisciplinary Studies | North Carolina State University**

Current teaching loads center on American foreign policy, Middle East governments and politics, theory of globalization, globalizing North Carolina, post-war peace building in the 21 century and international studies with emphasis on international development and the contemporary problems in the low-income global south including population growth, food shortages, deteriorating public health, low economic and political development, international security and contentious politics. Focusing on collaborative projects progress using a multidisciplinary approach to explore the Development Theory of resiliency including investigations into the processes of socioeconomic and political advancement by examining improvement from a range of different perspectives from policy to practice, global to grassroots.

EDUCATION

2019 | Ph.D. in Planning, Governance, and Globalization (PGG) | Virginia Tech

Dissertation Title: “Varying Views of Democracy among Iraqi Citizens, 2005-2018”

Major Field: International Relations; Second Field: American Foreign Policy & Global Security

Dissertation Committee: Dr. Karen Hult (co-Chair); Dr. Joyce Rothschild (co-Chair); Dr. Paul Avey; Dr. Bettina Koch

My dissertation project articulates a critical reconceptualization of democracy and investigates its contradictory views due to the direct influences of external cultural, historical, religious, socioeconomic, and physical variables on democratic development in Iraq. Moreover, the project highlights occluded dynamics of adverse understanding of democracy and religious institutions directly influencing its development surrounding the Iraqi elections and situate these conflicting views as regular features of democratic backsliding. I argue that opposing views of democracy in the current political climate are normal, and therefore, unavoidable outcomes of contentious politics. As such, my research explores how democratization discourses normalize contentious politics on at least two levels. On the first level, religious and cultural influence on democratic practices can be understood as strategies that return society to its traditional rule of normality and acceptance. But, on a second level, the push by Western liberals against religious and traditional domination also contributes to lower voter turnout, destabilization, and possible disaster of political change. This project is part of a larger research agenda, which specifically focuses on strategic miscalculations of great powers, terrorism, and cross-national variation in levels and types of counterterrorism, as well as the political effects of foreign and security assistance in the recipient country. It assesses the increasing regularity and scope of political fragmentation that are embedded in the brittle complex local traditions of governance used in unconventional democratic practices. The research also examines the relationship between

failed democratic experimentations, state fragmentation, and terrorism in an effort to uncover the strategic and domestic institutional factors that influence the effectiveness of democratization and economic development as a counterterrorism and stabilization policy.

2000 | MA in International Relations & Security Studies | The University of Pittsburgh

Major Field: International Security

Second Field: American Foreign Policy

Minor: International Political Economy

Thesis: Implications of U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East since 1948

1994 | MA in Liberal Studies, concentration in Political Science | Duquesne University

Major Field: Political Theories

Second Field: American Foreign Policy

Minor: Third World Politics

1993 | BA in Political Science, concentration in Comparative Politics | Duquesne University

1991 | AA in Social Science with a concentration in Political Science | Allegheny College

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations

Geopolitics

Middle East Politics

Contentious Politics

TEACHING INTERESTS

American Foreign Policy

International Security

Terrorism and Revolutionary Movements

Conflict Management and Resolution

International Political Economy

AREAS of SPECIALTY

International Relations

Comparative Politics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina

Assistant Teaching Professor, Interdisciplinary Affairs and Partnerships and Political Science,
January 2023-Present

IS 200: International Studies, January 2023-Present
IS 491: International Studies Capstone, January 2024 – Present
PS 345: Middle East Governments and Politics, August 2023 – December 2023
PS 331: U.S. Foreign Policy, January 2024 – Present
IS 250: Globalizing North Carolina, August 2024 – Present

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- * Pack Promise Scholar, August 2025 – Present
- * Standing Committee on Speakers and Lectures, August 2025 – Present
- * Resources and Environment Committee, August 2025 – Present
- * Award Review Committee, May 2023 – Present
- * Diversity Action Committee, October 2023 – Present
- * Faculty Senate (elected for 2 years), April 2024 – Present
- * Pack Promise Coach (volunteer), April 2024 – Present
- * Council on Undergraduate Education (CUE), July 2024 – Present
- * Wellness Belonging Committee, September 2023 – Present
- * CHASS Scholarship Reviews, August 2024 – Present
- * Bridges to Belonging Project, January 2025 – Present
- * Project Supply Grant Reviews for Summer Awards, October 2024 – Present

Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia

Assistant Professor, Political Science and International Studies, July 2022 – June 2023
INT 410: American Foreign Policy, January 2023 – May 2023
INT 490: International Terrorism, January 2023 – May 2023
INT 420: International Organizations, January 2023 – May 2023
INT 390: Comparative Politics, January 2023 – May 2023
INT 200: International Relations, August 2022 – December 2023
POL 307: Contemporary Issues in International Relations, August 2022 – December 2022
POL 220: International Security Studies, August 2022 – December 2022

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Blacksburg, Virginia

Adjunct Professor, School of Public & International Affairs, August 2013 – May 2022

UAP 3264: Sustainability of Community Building, January 2018 – May 2018
UAP 2014: Urbanization & Development, January 2017 – May 2017
UAP 4764/5764: International Development (graduate), August 2016 – December 2018
PSCI 3794: Terrorism & Counterterrorism, August 2015 – December 2015
PSCI 3544: State of Israel, August 2014 – May 2016
GEOG 2134: Geography of Global Economy, January 2014 – May 2014

Wake Technical Community College, Raleigh, North Carolina

Adjunct Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, August 2017 – May 2018

POL 120: American Government, August 2017 – May 2018

POL 220: International Relations, August 2017 – May 2018

Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia

Adjunct Professor, School of Public Affairs, August 2015 – June 2016

POLI 231E: International Politics, August 2015 – May 2016

POLI 111: Issues of Global Politics, August 2015 – June 2016

South University, High Point, North Carolina

Adjunct Professor, Department of Social Sciences, February 2015 – August 2018

POL 150: American Government, February 2015 – August 2018

HUM 2101: World Civilizations, February 2015 – August 2018

UVC 1000: Strategies for Success, October 2015 – April 2016

Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina,

Assistant Professor / Coordinator of International Relations, Department of Social Sciences
August 2002 – May 2017

INT 252: International Relations, August 2002 – 2017

INT 390: International Political Economy, August 2002 – 2017

INT 411: American Foreign Policy, August 2002 – 2017

HIS 115: Introduction to World Civilizations, August 2002 – 2016

INT 205: Multiculturalism & Globalization, June 2005 – May 2016

INT 121: World Politics, January 2004 – May 2016

POL 210: Comparative Politics, August 2003 – May 2015

INT 241: International Organizations, January 2004 – May 2015

INT 491: International Development, August 2004 – 2013

INT 226: Middle East & North Africa Politics, August 2003 – May 2016

POL 150: Introduction to Political Science, August 2002 – May 2012

POL 420: Urban Politics, January 2004 – May 2012

POL 450: Modern Political Thought, January 2005 – May 2012

POL 320: American Presidency, August 2005 – June 2010

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, August 2002 – May 2017

- * Elected to University Faculty Senate, August 2009 – 2013
- * Tutor for graduating seniors, August 2004 – May 2013
- * Served as the International Relations Program Coordinator, August 2006 – 2013
- * Advisor to the International Relations club, August 2005 – 2012
- * Served as member of the Grade Dispute Committee, January 2006 – 2011
- * Represented Shaw University at the Center for International Business and Education Research (CIBER) Advisory Board, April 2009-May 2013

- * Mentor for first year students in the International Relations program
- * Orientation leader to incoming freshmen and transfer students, August 2005 – May 2013
- * Organized and participated in conferences, workshops, panel discussions and voter registration drives, August 2002 – 2014
- * Advisor to six different student organizations at the university
- * Planned, organized and led fieldwork trips to Model NATO, United Nations, Organization of American States, the Arab League and African Union
- * Organized workshops and panel discussion dealing with current political issues

North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina

Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science, August 2004 – December 2012

POLS 3600: American Foreign Policy, August 2004 – December 2012

POLS 3910: Middle East Politics, August 2005 – June 2012

POLS 3900: Third World Politics, August 2005 – May 2012

POLS 2100: International Relations, August 2004 – December 2012

POLS 2110: American Government, August 2004 – May 2012

POLS 4330: Policies of Developing Nations, June 2006 – May 2011

POLS 3780: American Political Parties, June 2005 – May 2010

North Carolina Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount, North Carolina

Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science, August 2010 – June 2014

POL 201: International Relations, August 2010 – May 2014

POL 313: Comparative Politics, January 2011 – June 2014

University of Phoenix, Raleigh, North Carolina

Adjunct Professor, Department of Social Sciences, August 2005 – December 2011

SOC 110: Teamwork, Collaboration, and Conflict Resolution, May 2007 – June 2012

SOC 105: Popular American Culture, August 2006 – May 2012

HIS 145: American History since 1945, September 2006 – June 2011

SOC 100: Introduction to Sociology, October 2005 – December 2011

Vance-Granville Community College, Henderson, North Carolina

Adjunct Professor, Department of Humanities, January 1999 – June 2005

POL 120: American Government, January 1999 – June 2005

HIS 121: Western Civilizations I, January 2000 – June 2005

HIS 122: Western Civilizations II, August 2000 – May 2005

HIS 131: American History I, August 2000 – May 2003

HIS 132: American History II, January 2001 – May 2003

EXPERIENCE

National Defense University, Washington, DC

Intern for Kenneth Pollack and Judith Yaphe, June 1998 – April 1999

- * Assisted with research projects related to American foreign policy and national security
- * Collaborated in a team effort on joint projects collecting scholarly literature relevant to national security projects searching the library, copying articles, ordering additional articles and books, and formulating a bibliography.
- * Collected, coded and entered data into a database
- * Assisted with the preparing of presentations about research project resulted in professional, scientific and academic conferences.
- * Prepared and crafted power point slides for oral paper presentations.
- * Created posters for conference poster presentations.

United States Information Agency, Washington, DC

Intern for Peter Beshkahazy, December 1997 – June 1998

- * Promoted mutual educational and cultural programs at the Middle East, South Asia and North Africa desk.
- * Provided accurate information for American scholars working overseas and foreign students interested in studying in the United States.
- * Assisted in providing guidance, planning and evaluation of overseas activities *
Explained, analyzed and recommended policies

The Middle East Institute, Washington, DC

Publication Intern at the Office of the Middle East Journal, October 1997 – June 1998

- * Researched and translated literature from Arabic to English
- * Assisted in the management of the scholarly peer review process, layout, and distribution of The Middle East Journal
- * Analyzed and reported in-depth news to the director
- * Wrote book annotations for the Journal's publications section and short synopses of recent or forthcoming publications pertaining to the Middle East
- * Provided assistance in editing content and graphics for the Journal, from early drafts through final proofreading
- * Worked upon strengthening the designing, drafting, and proofreading calls to papers and advertisements for the Journal

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Zaarour, K. M. (June, 2026). Coercive Diplomacy – A Mixed Tool of Foreign Policy. VOL: 09, ISSUE: 06, 35-48. <http://www.ijlrhss.com/current%20issue.html>

Zaarour, K. M. (April, 2025). Superpower Rivalry and Gulf Security. American University of the Emirates, Dubai, *Springer Nature*.

Zaarour, K. M. (2025). The Policy of Muddling Through: The Consequences of Trump's Contradictory Middle East Policy. *International Journal of Business and Applied Social Science*, VOL: 8, ISSUE: 3, 57-65.

Zaarour, K. M. (2024). *Varying Views of Democracy Among Iraqi Citizens, 2005-2018: Democratic Experimentation in the New Middle East*. Charleston, SC: Palmetto Publishing.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2016. *State Sponsored Terrorism and Its Effects on Lebanese Policy and Politics*. Middle East Review of Public Administration (MERPA), (2)1.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2010. Carlisle, Rodney P., editor. "World War II and the Forties: 1939 – 1949." *The Arab Americans*; 53-65.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2010. Carlisle, Rodney P., editor. "The Seventies: 1970 – 1979." *The Arab Americans*; 97 – 111.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2012. Morone, James and Rogan Kersh, editors. *By the People*. First Edition. Oxford University Press, New York, NY. (Manuscript Reviewer).

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2018. Cook & John Stevenson, editors. *The Cambridge Dictionary of Modern World History*. London, U.K.: Cambridge University Press.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2008. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Ajram, Nancy*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume I. Thomson Gale, Detroit, MI. PP. 30 – 32.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2008. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Beschir, Khalil*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume I. Thomson Gale, Detroit, MI. PP. 190 – 191.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2008. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Jumblatt, Walid*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume I. Thomson Gale, Detroit, MI. PP. 395 – 398.

Zaarour, Khodr M. 2008. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Aoun, Michel*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume I. Thomson Gale, Detroit, MI. PP. 101 – 103.

Zaarour, Khodr M. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Lahoud, Emile*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume II. Thomson Gale, Detroit, 2008. PP. 464 – 466.

Zaarour, Khodr M. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Saab, Elie*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume II. Thomson Gale, Detroit, 2008. PP. 667 – 669.

Zaarour, Khodr M. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Sfeir, Nasrallah*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume II. Thomson Gale, Detroit, 2008. PP. 726 – 730.

Zaarour, Khodr M. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Wahbe, Haifa*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume II. Thomson Gale, Detroit, 2008. PP. 823 – 825.

Zaarour, Khodr M. Fischbach, Michael R., Editor in Chief. *Zoghbi, Nawal Al-*. Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa. Volume II. Thomson Gale, Detroit, 2008. PP. 858. 860.

Choice Magazine, Middletown, CT, September 2004 – Present

* Currently serve as a reviewer for Choice Magazine, publishing over 90 book reviews by providing critical evaluations of books and electronic resources targeting audiences such as librarians and teaching faculty, (publications provided upon request), May 2004 - present.

PRESENTATIONS

“State Terrorism - a Tool of Coercive Diplomacy.” Resisting Autocratization in Polarized Societies. International Political Science Association, Seoul, South Korea, July 2025.

“Superpower Rivalry and Gulf Security.” Arabian Gulf-Security Conference (IAGSC). The American University in the Emirates. Dubai, United Arab Emirates, April 2025.

“Strategic Miscalculations and Consequences of US Foreign Policy in the Middle East.” MPPA Policy Talks Series, California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA, February 2024.

“Westward Expansion and the Rise of American Capitalism”. Fern Leaf, High School, Ashville, North Carolina, March 2025.

“Development and De-Development in Iraq”. Richmond World Affairs Council. Richmond, Virginia, December 2024.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Sana Maqbool, Pakistan TV, June 10, 2026.

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by BBC, May 1, 2026.

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Mohamad El-Baz, World News, Dostor, May 12, 2025.

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Elaine, Reyes, the Heat, CGTV, February 11, 2025.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMBvhxwDy40&t=26s>

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Mohamad El-Baz, World News, Dostor, February 9, 2025.
<https://www.dostor.org/4959267>

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Anand Naidoo, the Heat, CGTV, February 5, 2025.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFYelYo4vp8>

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by the Heat, CGTV, February 4, 2025.
<https://zoom.us/j/96928025788?pwd=3D0BjMaahODCykcCaX8zA5MbY1iBXw.1>

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Diego Laje, the Heat, CGTV, Jan 19, 2025.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqbp1Zk98fc>

Khodr Zaarour, panel discussion, U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East, North Carolina State University, October 7, 2024.

Khodr Zaarour, panel discussion, moderated by Patriarch George A. Stallings, Jr, Universal Peace Federation – USA, December 5, 2024.
<https://www.youtube.com/live/wmYd9GYk7M4?si=Pgk0jdBhSwwVMZ9X>

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Rev. Zagery Oliver, Universal Peace Federation – USA, December 11, 2024. <https://www.youtube.com/live/UHmxvwaQgX4?si=BclbvR2mKKD8eI5H>

Khodr Zaarour, interviewed by Chantale Geagea, L.E.N. Media Group, April 22, 2022.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=316AfRMU000&t=86s>

SKILLS

Languages: Native fluency in Arabic, (conversational) French and Spanish. Traveled extensively in Europe and the Middle East.

Computers: Windows operating systems, PowerPoint, Blackboard, Moodle, Canvas, Scholar and Technolutions Slate (student database system).

HONORS, AWARDS, & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Data Security Training Certificate, January 2025, North Carolina State University

Outstanding Citizen Award, November 2024, United States Congress

RED Core Teaching Certification, October 2024, North Carolina State University

Educational Testing Services Award, 2006 – 2015, Salt Lake City, Utah

Citizen's Community Development Award, Syr Municipality, September 2014

Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Shaw University, January 2004 – May 2011

Excellence in Teaching Award, North Carolina Central University, May 2005 – May 2010
Geographic Imagery System Certificate, Ohio State University, June 2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

International Political Science Association (IPSA) Elected RC 46 - Migration and Citizenship
American Political Science Association
Southern Political Science Association
Southeast Regional Middle East & Islamic Studies Seminar (SERMEISS)
The Association for Middle Eastern Public Policy & Administration (AMPEEA)
The Middle East Institute
National Language Service Corps (NLSC)
Coalition for Peace with Justice – Durham, North Carolina

PUBLIC SERVICE

Human Relations Commission, Representative at-Large
City of Raleigh, NC
October 2025 – Present

Sister-City-Project, Raleigh's Ambassador to Lebanon
City of Raleigh, NC
March 2022 – Present

Economic and Social Development, Chair
City of Raleigh, Raleigh, NC
February 2022 – Present

Hispanic and Immigrant Affairs Board, Professional Officer
City of Raleigh, Raleigh, NC
January 2021 – Present

MAPAC, Chair and Director of Political Relations
Raleigh, NC
October 2001 – Present

Wake County Interfaith Committee
Raleigh, NC
March 2003 – December 2012

American Civil Liberties Union
Wake County, NC
August 2004 – February 2014

REFERENCES

Khodr M. Zaarour

7242 Galon Glen Road • Raleigh, NC 27613 • (919) 888-9188 • kzaarour@vt.edu

Dr. Karen Hult

Professor, Chair
Department of Political Science
531 Major Williams Hall
220 Stanger Street (0130)
Blacksburg, VA 24061 khult@vt.edu
540-231-5836

Dr. Joyce Rothschild

Professor, Department of Sociology
School of Public & International Affairs
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University
140 Otey Street, AA 207
Blacksburg, VA 24061 804-360-1001
joycevt@aol.com

Dr. Ralph Hall

Architecture Annex
140 Otey St
Blacksburg, VA
24061 rphall@vt.edu
(540) 231-7332

Dr. Paula Gormley

Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Criminal Justice
South University
3975 Premier Drive

High Point, N.C. 27265 336-812-7273
pegormley@gmail.com

Dr. S. Todd Atchison

Program Director of General Studies & Professor
South University
3975 Premier Drive High Point,
North Carolina 27265
s.t.atchison@gmail.com