

# Robert James Farley

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## Education

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### *Degree Programs*

Ph.D., expected Fall 2021, University of California, Los Angeles (2019, Candidacy in Comparative Literature, dissertation title: 'Virtually *Kwīr*: Digital Archives of Queer Arabic')

B.A., 2011, California State University, Long Beach (comparative world literature, minors in history and Middle Eastern studies)

### *Arabic Training*

Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA), 2015-16, Qasid Institute, Amman, Jordan

Arabic Language Program, 2013-2014, University of Jordan and Princess Sumaya University for Technology, Amman, Jordan

Arabic Language Summer Session, 2012, Middlebury College, Oakland, California

### *Other Education*

Semester Exchange, Spring 2009, University of Leicester College of Arts, Humanities, and Law, Leicester, U.K.

## Publications

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### *Research*

"Mahfouz, al-Mutanabbi, and the Canon: Poetics of Deviance in the Masculine Nationalist Discourse of *Al-Sukkariyya*," in *Constructions of Masculinity in the Middle East and North Africa: Literature, Film, and National Discourse*, eds. Mohja Kahf and Nadine Sinno. The American University in Cairo Press, forthcoming 2021, pp. 103-119.

"Phantom Limbs: Socio-Psychic Contours of the Maimed Body in 'I used to Count my Friends on my Fingers'," *Wordgathering: A Journal of Disability Poetry and Literature*, vol. 13, no. 1, March 2019.

"National Allegory and the Parallax View in Tawfīq al-Ḥakīm's *Maṣīr Ṣurṣār*," *Portals: A Journal in Comparative Literature*, vol. 10, 2013.

"Intellectual Space in Naguib Mahfouz's *Thartharah fawq al-Nīl*," *CSULB McNair Scholars Research Journal*, vol. 15, 2011, pp. 31-50.

### *Translation*

"Getting to Abu Nuwas Street," short story by Dheya al-Khalidi. *Baghdad Noir*, ed. Samuel Shimon. Akashic Books, August 2018, pp. 209-20.

"The Moment the Cell Door Opened," prison testimony by Ahmed Alfaitouri. *Banipal* 50, Summer 2014, pp. 112-7.

"I Used to Count My Friends on My Fingers," short story by Ahmed Saadawi. *Banipal* 49, Spring 2014, pp. 116-23.

"For Every Fox, An End," short story by Zakariya Tamer. *Arabic Literature (in English)*, 11 January 2014.

## Fellowships & Grants

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Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$20,000), Graduate Division, UCLA. 2020-2021.

Summer Writing Fellowship (\$4,000), Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA. Summer 2020.

Komar Shideler Endowment (\$1,000), Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA. Summer 2020.

1939 Club Fellowship (\$1,000), Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA. Summer 2020.

Mellon Foundation: Minorities in the Middle East and North Africa (\$6,000), Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA. 2019-2020.

Conference Travel Grant (\$2,000), Graduate Division and the Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA. November 2019.

Dissertation Workshop Fellowship (\$1,000), American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS), UC Santa Cruz. October 2019.

Summer Workshop in Online Instruction Grant (\$6,000), Online Learning Teaching and Initiative and Program in Digital Humanities, UCLA. Summer 2019.

Conference Travel Grant (\$1,000), Graduate Division and the Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA. March 2019.

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship (\$15,000), Arabic Language, Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA. 2018-2019.

Conference Travel Grant (\$1,000), Graduate Division and the Department of Comparative Literature, UCLA. November 2017.

Research Grant: Morocco (\$5,000), American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS). Summer 2016.

Center for Arabic Studies Abroad (CASA) Fellowship (\$30,000), Harvard University. 2015-2016.

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, Arabic Language, Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA. 2014-2015. (recognized)

Startalk Teaching Fellowship (\$6,000), "Launch into Arabic Learning and Teaching," Anne Arundel Community College and U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD. Summer 2014.

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship: Jordan (\$24,000), Arabic Language, Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA. 2013-2014.

## Teaching and Mentorship

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### *Courses Designed and Taught*

Geopolitics and the (Post)Colonial, Online (COM LIT 4DW w/ Writing II and Diversity Requirements). UCLA, Spring 2020.

Love, War, Sex, and Empire in Postcolonial Literature (COM LIT 4DW w/ Writing II and Diversity Requirements, with revisions). UCLA, Summer 2017, Fall 2017, Winter 2018, Spring 2018.  
A Critical Overview of Social Media and Storytelling (COM LIT 1E). UCLA, Summer 2017.

### *Curricula Developed*

Pilot Program: Reframing Middle East Studies – Minorities in MENA (Center for Near East Studies). UCLA, 2019-2020.  
Introduction to Digital Humanities, Online – DH 101 (Digital Humanities Program, Summer Workshop for Online Instruction). UCLA, Summer-Fall 2019.  
Beginner Arabic, Intensive (ACTFL, Startalk Program). Anne Arundel Community College and U.S. Naval Academy, Summer 2014.

### *Courses Facilitated*

Alf Layla wa-Layla / One Thousand and One Nights (COM LIT / ARABIC M110). UCLA, Winter 2015, Spring 2020.  
Surveys of Literature with Writing II Requirement (COM LIT 2W- A,B,C,D). UCLA, 2012-13, 2014-15, 2016-17.  
Introduction to Greek Mythology (CLASSIC 101). CSU Long Beach, Fall 2009.

### *Reader*

Alf Layla wa-Layla / One Thousand and One Nights (COM LIT / ARABIC M110). UCLA, Winter 2017, Fall 2018.  
Literature of Al-Andalus / Islamic Spain (ARABIC M115 / COM LIT M119). UCLA, Winter 2018.  
Anthropology of the Mediterranean (ANTHRO 179). UCLA, Spring 2017.

### *Research Mentorship*

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program. UCLA Undergraduate Research Center – Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Fall 2019.  
Summer Fellows Scholarship Program. UCLA Undergraduate Research Center – Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Summer 2018.

## Technology

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Coordinator and Technology Consultant for Symposium “Evidence and Human Rights in a Post-Truth World,” UCLA, Winter 2020.

Web Developer, UCLA University Apartments South Residents’ Association, 2018-2020.

Instructional Developer for DH101: Introduction to Digital Humanities, Online, UCLA Digital Humanities Program, Summer-Fall 2019.

Research Technology Consultant, UCLA Digital Humanities Accelerator Program, 2018-2019.

Projects:

- Mellon Digital Gateway Annotation Tool, Fall 2018.
- Forensic Empathy–Mapping U.S.-Mexico Border, Winter 2019.
- Visualizing Ottoman-Algerian Socio-Political Networks, Spring 2019.

Instructional Technology Consultant, UCLA Humanities Technology, 2018-2019.

Web Developer, Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program and Student Support Services Program, CSU Long Beach, 2010-2011.  
Co-founder and Web Developer, Floor Sugar, Online Music Store and Distribution, 2008-2010.  
Production Coordinator, *Los Angeles Times*, Advertising Operations, 2007-2008.

## Service

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Board Member, UCLA University Apartments South Residents' Association (UASRA). October 2018-August 2020.  
Moderator, "Printed Matter(s)" by Hoda El Shakry, Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA, 4 March 2019.  
Staff, ACLA Annual Meeting, UCLA, April 2018.  
Graduate Representative to the Academic Freedom Committee, University of California Academic Senate, UCLA, 2012-2013.  
Department of Comparative Literature Representative to the Humanities Council, Graduate Students Association, UCLA, 2012-2013.  
Conference Co-organizer, "Inhumanities," 2013 Annual Comparative Literature Graduate Student Conference, UCLA, 22-23 February 2013.  
Roundtable Co-organizer, "What Happens the Day After MLK Day?" RadGrads, UCLA, 22 January 2013.  
Panel Moderator, Spaces and Flows: An International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies, UCLA, 4-5 December 2010.

## Membership in Learned Societies

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American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS)  
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)  
Modern Language Association of America (MLA)  
Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA)  
National Women's Studies Association (NWSA)

## Research Presentations

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"Heterogeneity and the MENA Region: A 'Minority' Report on an Ongoing Project," Roundtable, Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting. October 2020.  
"Annotation Technology in Practice," Evidence and Human Rights in a Post-Truth World: A Multidisciplinary Symposium, UCLA. January 2020.  
"*Kwīr* Zines and the Ethico-Political Commitment of the Digital," AIMS Dissertation Workshop, UC Santa Cruz, October 2019.  
"Bearing Witness to Securitized Subjects: *Kwīr* Arabic Digital Zines and Arrest Accounts in Morocco and Syria," part of panel "Rethinking the Transnational: Beyond Area and Across Media," ACLA Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., March 2019.  
"Baghdad After Curfew: Memory and the City in Dheya al-Khalidi's 'Getting to Abu Nuwas Street'," Invited lecture for master's course "Literature and the City," University of New Mexico, 29 November 2018.

“Modern Literary Appropriations of the *1001 Nights*: Naguib Mahfouz and Edgar Allan Poe”  
Invited lecture for upper division course *A Thousand and One Nights*, UCLA, 15 November 2018.

“Translational Solidarities: Intersectionality, Women of Color Feminism, and Kwīr Knowledge Production in Arabic,” with revisions:  
Society of Global Scholars Conference: *Alter-Globalizations: Another World is (Still) Possible*, UC Santa Barbara, March 2018.

NWSA Annual Conference: 40 Years After Combahee: Feminist Scholars and Activists Engage the Movement for Black Lives, Baltimore, November 2017.

“Dismantling the Narrative Machine: The Fantastical Journey of the Arabian Nights into the Modern Egyptian Novel,” Invited presentations for course *A Thousand and One Nights*, UCLA, June 2012 and March 2017.

“Intellectual Space in Naguib Mahfouz’s *Thartharah fawq al-Nīl*,” paper presented with revisions: 2011 CSULB Student Research Competition, Division of Academic Affairs, CSULB. February 2011. 2010 McNair Scholars Fall Research Symposium, CSULB. December 2010.

Spaces and Flows: An International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies, Common Ground Publishing, UCLA. December 2010.

Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research, Pepperdine University, California. November 2010.

1st Annual Southern California McNair Scholars Symposium, Claremont Graduate University, California. October 2010.

18th Annual California McNair Scholars Symposium, UC Berkeley. August 2010.

2010 McNair Scholars Summer Research Symposium, CSULB. July 2010.

## Professional Workshops and Other Presentations

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“Undergraduate Research at UCLA,” Undergraduate Research Center, UCLA. October and November, 2019.

“Research Writing Strategies,” Summer Fellows Scholarship Program, Undergraduate Research Center, UCLA. July 2018.

“Applying to Ph.D. Programs in the Humanities and Social Sciences,” Summer Fellows Scholarship Program, Undergraduate Research Center, UCLA. June 2018.

“Navigating the Ph.D. Application Process,” Invited Workshop for 2011 McNair Scholars Summer Research Internship Program, CSULB. June 2011.