

## **Beverly A. Tsacoyianis**

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Department of History  
The University of Memphis  
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### Education

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**Ph.D Washington University in St. Louis (St. Louis, MO, USA)**

History, expected Fall 2013

Dissertation: "Making Healthy Minds and Bodies in Syria, 1903-1961"

Committee: Profs. Nancy Reynolds (chair), Tim Parsons (co-chair), Ahmet Karamustafa, Hillel Kieval, Rebecca Lester, Nancy Berg

Examination fields: Modern Middle East. Secondary fields in pre-modern Islamic science, medicine, and government, and in Global and Comparative History

**MA Washington University in St. Louis, History, Oct. 2009**

**Lebanese American University (Beirut, Lebanon), Summer 2006**

Summer Institute for Intensive Arabic Language and Culture (SINARC) language study, modern standard Arabic: advanced (Fourth year) level. Lebanese dialect: intermediate level

**Middlebury College (Middlebury, VT, USA), Summer 2005**

Arabic Language School, GPA 4.0

**BA Brandeis University (Waltham, MA, USA), 2000 – 2004**

Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, high honors. Minors in Legal Studies Program, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies

Senior Thesis: *Women's Rights in the Shari'a Court in Israel: Personal Status Laws of Marriage and Divorce*. (2004, Brandeis University Archives)

### Languages

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English (native), Spanish (bilingual-native), modern Hebrew (advanced reading, writing, speaking), modern standard Arabic (advanced reading, writing, speaking), Egyptian Arabic (working knowledge reading, speaking), Syrian and Lebanese Arabic (intermediate knowledge, reading, speaking), doctoral research proficiency qualification in Arabic, French, and Hebrew

### Fellowships and Grants

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P.E.O. Scholar Award, 2011-2012

R.W. Davis Travel Grant, Washington University, 2010, 2011

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad, 2009-2010

Pre-Dissertation Research Grant, Washington University International and Area Studies, 2008

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Grant, Washington University, 2006, 2007, 2008

National Security Education Program David L. Boren Graduate Fellowship 2006-2007 (declined)

Washington University Chancellor's Fellowship, 2005-2013

### Teaching and Training

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Instructor, Washington University in St. Louis

L22-1520: Freshman Seminar in History: The Politics of Health in the Modern Middle East, Fall 2011

Teaching Assistant, Washington University in St. Louis

L22-102C: Western Civilization II, Spring 2008

L22-214C: Intro to Islamic Civilization, Fall 2006

Teaching Center Workshops, Washington University:

2011, October 13, "Designing Visuals to Enhance Learning and Interaction."

2006, November 13, "Designing a Course and Creating a Syllabus."

2006, September 25, "Effective Teaching Methods and Strategies."

2006, August 24, "Responding to Student Writing: Commenting on Drafts and Grading Papers."

Teaching Interests: modern Middle Eastern history, Islamic history, world history since 1450, history of science and medicine (Mediterranean Islamic world, comparative)

## Publications

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"New Private Library Opens in Sha'alan." *Syrian Studies Association Newsletter*, 15 (2) (Summer 2010): 9.

"Exploratory Archival Research in Syria: Practicalities, Affordability, and Advantages." *Syrian Studies Association Newsletter*, 14 (2) (Spring 2009): 17-18.

"Mental Illness and the Plural Medical Landscape in 20<sup>th</sup> century Syria." *Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry* (submitted)

## Presentations

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"Madness, Story-telling, and Gender in 20th century Syrian literature." Migration, Identity, and States Research Collective, St. Louis, MO, March 1, 2012

"Mental Illness and the Plural Medical Marketplace in Syria, 1922-1956." "Public Health, Wellness, and the Emerging Nation-State" Panel. Middle East Studies Association (MESA) 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., December 1-4, 2011

"In Good Spirits: Madness and Deviancy in 1920s-1950s Syria." "Bodies Marking Deviance, Disgust, and Protest" Panel. Washington University Graduate Conference on the History of the Body, St. Louis, MO, October 20-22, 2011

"Treating Minds and Spirits: Psychiatry and non-Biomedical Healing Practices in 1920s-1960s Syria." "Histories of Disability in the Middle East" Panel, speaker and panel organizer. Middle East Studies Association (MESA) 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Diego, November 18-21, 2010

"Disability and Difference in Syria Under the French Mandate." "Transatlantic Perspectives on the History of Disability" Panel. American Historical Association (AHA) 124<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, San Diego, January 7-10, 2010 Sponsored by the AHA Professional Division and the AHA Task Force on Disability

"Religion and Ethnicity in the Late Ottoman Period: A Case Study of Maronites Under Vatican and Parisian-Influenced Leadership." Pluralism, Politics and Religion Initiative 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Graduate Student conference, hosted by Sciences Politiques – Paris, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes GRSL – Sorbonne and Washington University in St. Louis. Paris, France, June 6, 2007

"Positions of Power: The Impact of Religious Association, Status, and Culture on Former Soviet Union Immigrants to Israel." "Cultural Separation and Interaction" Panel. Washington University in St. Louis, Graduate Student History Department Colloquium, March 24, 2006

"Muslim Women in Israeli Courts, A Study of Personal Status Laws." Pluralism, Politics and Religion Initiative 1<sup>st</sup> Joint Graduate Student conference, hosted by Washington University in St. Louis, Sciences Po – Paris. St. Louis, MO, September 26, 2005

## Invited Talks

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"Fruits of the Arab Spring: Leadership, Society, and Current Events in the Middle East and North Africa." Current Events series in the Migration, Identity, and State Research Collective of the International and Area Studies Department. Invited speaker, Washington University in St. Louis, November 14, 2011

“The Pursuit of Happiness in the Middle East.” Dessert with Dialogue series, sponsored by undergraduate student groups J Street U, Controversy n' Coffee, and the Student Union. Invited speaker and facilitator on discussion of war trauma, stress and emotional well-being in Israel and Palestine, Washington University in St. Louis, October 27, 2011

“Fruits of the Arab Spring: Understanding Leadership and Society in the Middle East and North Africa.” Invited speaker, Keynote address in panel, Blackburn College, Carlinville, IL, April 21, 2011

## Service to the Profession

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Book Review Editor, Executive Board, Syrian Studies Association (SSA), 2010-2013

Syria Liaison, Executive Board, Syrian Studies Association (SSA), 2009-2010

Graduate Student Member, Executive Board, Syrian Studies Association (SSA), 2008-2009

Committee member, Graduate History Association at Washington University in St. Louis, 2006-2007

Speaker, Washington University Chancellor's Fellowship annual conference, introduced Dr. William Julius Wilson at his keynote address in the Washington University Assembly Series, Mar. 27, 2012

Speaker, Washington University Chancellor's Fellowship recruitment panel on graduate school experiences, diversity, and benefits of the fellowship, Feb. 26, 2012

Co-organizer and participant, Chancellor's Graduate Fellows research mentoring meetings with Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows, Fall 2011

Speaker, Washington University Chancellor's Fellowship recruitment panel on graduate school experiences, diversity, and benefits of the fellowship, Feb. 2008

Co-organizer and participant, mentoring dinner for Chancellor's Graduate Fellows and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows, Nov. 16, 2007

## Mentoring and Community Outreach

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Volunteer small donations fundraiser for fall fundraising event of the Chicago branch of Minds Matter, a non-profit that advises high-achieving low-income high school students to help them secure admission and funding to top-tier universities, Fall 2008

Provided expert statement for novel legal claim in asylum case of Syrian woman with Down's Syndrome, Kirkland & Ellis LLP Pro Bono case with the National Immigrant Justice Center (Chicago), Summer/Fall 2012

## Professional Memberships

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American Association for the History of Medicine  
2012-present

American Historical Association, 2007-present

History of Science Society, 2012-present

Middle East Studies Association, 2007-present

Syrian Studies Association, 2007-present

Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society,

Washington University in St. Louis chapter

April 2013-present

## References

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Timothy Parsons, Ph.D

Professor of History

Washington University

[tparsons@wustl.edu](mailto:tparsons@wustl.edu)

Ahmet Karamustafa, Ph.D

Professor of History

University of Maryland

[akaramus@umd.edu](mailto:akaramus@umd.edu)

Nancy Reynolds, Ph.D

Associate Professor of History

Washington University

[nreynolds@wustl.edu](mailto:nreynolds@wustl.edu)

Jonathan Sadowsky, Ph.D

Dr. Theodore J. Castele Associate Professor of

Medical History

Case Western Reserve University

[jonathan.sadowsky@case.edu](mailto:jonathan.sadowsky@case.edu)