

Curriculum vitae
Dr. Nadia Bou Ali
Civilization Studies Program
American University of Beirut
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Beirut 1107 2020

1. Education

DPhil, University of Oxford, Faculty of Oriental Studies, 2013
MA, Sociology and Anthropology, American University of Beirut, 2008
BA, Sociology and Anthropology, American University of Beirut, 2006

2. Research Interests

The current book I am completing, *In the Hall of Mirrors*, forthcoming with Edinburgh University Press, is a history of an untold modernity in Arabic thought with a specific focus on the underlying pathologies of liberalism. I have also co-edited the volume, *Lacan contra Foucault: Subjectivity, Sex, Politics*, for Bloomsbury Academic. My primary research interests are in intellectual history, psychoanalysis, and critical theory. Other research interests include structuralism and post-structuralism, and the intellectual history of political economy.

3. Academic experience

Assistant Professor, Civilization Studies Program, American University of Beirut (2015-present)
Visiting Assistant Professor, Mellon Post-doctoral Research Fellow, American University of Beirut (2013-2014)
Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Orient Institut, Beirut (2012-2013)
University of Oxford, Queen Elizabeth House, Part-time Research Fellow (2008-2009)

4. Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

- ‘The Fate of Everything That is Written’ *Lacanian Ink*, (final article delivered, accepted and now in press, 8000 words).
- ‘Blesseth Him That Gives and not Him that Takes: Butrus al-Bustani and the Mercy of Debt’ *Journal of Modern Intellectual History*, Cambridge University Press, Vol.14, No.3, 2017. pp.1-27
- ‘Butrus al-Bustani and The Shipwreck of the Nation: the story of Robinson Crusoe and the 1860 sectarian wars of Mount Lebanon’ *Middle Eastern Literatures*, Vol. 16, No. 3, 2013. pp: 1-17.
- *Qira’at al Nahda: al bahth fi ma’ani al ‘ilm f al Muqtataf w f ‘alaqat al munahada al thaqafiya b al hadatha* [‘Reading al Nahda: An Inquiry into the Conceptions of Science in al Muqtataf and the Relationship between Enlightenment and Colonialism’] *Al Adab Literary Journal*, Vols. 9-10, 2009.

Books

- *In the Hall of Mirrors: Politics, Morality, and the Question of Language*, Edinburgh University Press, forthcoming.

Edited books

- *Lacan contra Foucault: Subjectivity, Sex, Politics*, co-edited with Rohit Goel Bloomsbury Academic, (final manuscript delivered, accepted and now in press)

Chapters in Books

- ‘Bare Language: on Ahmad Faris al-Shidyaq and the Incitement to Nudity’ in *The Arab Nude*, edited by Octavian Esanu, Routledge, 2018. pp. 113-128.
- ‘Corrupting Politics: the Arab *Nahda* and Liberalism Revisited’ in *Islam After Liberalism*, edited by Faisal Devji and Zaheer Kazmi, Hurst, 2017. pp. 47-65.
- ‘The Fantasy of Subsumption: Labour Power and the Social Non-Relation’ in *What Is To Be Done Under Real Subsumption?* edited by Martin Artiach and Anthony Iles, Mute Books, (final article delivered, accepted and now in press, 8000 words).
- ‘Collecting the Nation: Lexicography and National Pedagogy in al Nahda al Arabiya’ in *Collecting Practices in the Arab Middle East: Alternative Visions of the Past*, edited by Sonja Mejcher-Atassi and John Pedro Schwartz, Ashgate Publications, 2011. pp: 33-57.

Refereed Book Reviews

- Review of Sam Bardouil’s *Surrealism in Egypt: Modernism and the Art and Liberty Group* (London: I.B Taurus, 2017) *Modernism/Modernity*. Northwestern University Press, submitted and accepted (word count 1900) .
- ‘Frozen Concepts and the Pathos of Propriety in the Logic of Singularity’ review of *Arabic Thought Beyond the Liberal Age: Towards and Intellectual History of the Nahda*, edited by Jens Hanssen and Max Weiss, in *Journal of the Society for Contemporary Thought and the Islamicate World*, 2017. <https://sectiw.org>, pp. 1-11
- Review of Tarik el-Ariss’s *Trials of Arab Modernity*, *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature*, Vol. 42, No.3, 2015, pp.320-324.

Other Publications

- ‘On Survivors, Translation, and their Next: A Conversation with Walid Sadek’ *Art Margins* Vol. 4 No.2 June 2015. <http://www.artmargins.com/index.php/interviews-sp-837925570/764-on-survivors-translation-and-their-next-a-conversation-between-walid-sadek-and-nadia-bou-ali>
- “Before Friday: On the Politics of Translation” in *Not, Not Arab* edited by Walid Sadek, *Third Text*, Vol. 26, No.117, Issue 4, 2012. pp: 399-400.
- ‘Discussing the Event: on thinking of the present as a radical transformation’, co-authored with Angela Harutyunyan, *Beirut Humanities Review April* Vol.1, No. 1, 2014.
- ‘On the Re-Mythification of the Arab’ *Jadaliyya* April 2011 [<http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/1252/on-the-re-mythification-of-the-arab>]

Articles under review

- ‘Mehdi Amel’s Colonial Mode of Production: A Critique’

5. Invited talks

- “The Pathologies of Liberalism”, *Regionalism and Borders*, Bruno Kriesky Forum for International Dialogue, February 8-11, 2018
- “The Fantasy of Subsumption” in *Communism will be the collective management of alienation* on September 5, 2017, documenta 14 Public Programs, Kassel Germany
- “Racial Globalizations and the Postcolonial: Global South and Global East in the Global North” *Race and the Post-Racial, Thinking Through the Proliferation of Racisms*, Collège d’études mondiales, Maison des sciences de l’homme, Paris and UCHRI, University of California, USA, Paris, December 2016
- “Constantine Zurayk’s Man as the Subject of History,” *Seminar in Remembrance of Constantine Zurayk* (AUB 150th Celebrations, November 2016)
- “1860: Debt and Guilt,” City in the City, Sursock Museum, December 2015
- “Bare Language: on Ahmad Faris al-Shidyaq and the incitement to nudity,” in The Arab Nude conference at AUB 2017
- “Corrupting Politics: the Arab Nahda and Liberalism Revisited”, American University of Cairo, invited lecture by Theory and Practice Workshop, Brown Bag Series for Graduates in Sociology-Anthropology, and Center for Middle East Studies (November 24, 2014)
- “Of Mirrors and Words: Arabic and the Questions of Modernity,” Lecture at OIB Summer Academy “Language, Science and Aesthetics - Articulations of Subjectivity and Objectivity in the Middle East and South Asia” (September 2014)
- “The event of 1860: from fratricide to Babel” commissioned Lecture by 98 weeks, Vision Forum, and Asabil Foundation (November 2013)
- “Nationalism and Language” lecture at the Orient-Institut Beirut research seminar (April 2013)

6. Conference Participation:

- “The Gullying of the Real,” Conference on Hegel’s Aesthetics, Aufhebung Society, University of Ljubljana, (January 2018)
- “The Fate of that Which is Written or How Literature is Transformed into Debris,” Repetition/s , Performance and Philosophy, University of Ljubljana, (September 2016)
- “Mehdi Amel’s What is a colonial mode of production? Mehdi Amel's "Impeded History" and Althusserian Structuralism” in *Southern Questions* November 7, 2017, ArtMargins, the Fine Arts and Art History Department, CAH, AUB
- “Recovering Politics from Crisis and History from Capitalism in Mahdi Amel’s Thought,” SOAS university, Historical Materialism Conference (November 2015)
- “Recovering Politics from Crisis and History from Capitalism in Mahdi Amel’s Thought,” American University of Beirut, This is the Time. This is the Record of the Time Conference (March 2015)

- “The Arab Nahda and the Nation Form” presented in Whither the Nation? Conference at AUB-OIB (September 2013)
- “Historical Time as Transitional Time” presented at the symposium, Giving Meaning to the Passage of Time: Discourses of History and Progress in Beirut from the 19th Century to the Present, organized by the Netherlands Institute Beirut and Orient-Institut Beirut, September 18-19, 2012
- “The Mirror of the Nation: Butrus al- Bustani and the National Pedagogy of adab,” presented at the International Conference: Education from Ottoman to Mandate Beirut: Catalyst for Multiple Modernities? Organized by: University of Göttingen, German Historical Institute London, University of Balamand, and Institute of European History Mainz and held at the Orient Institut Beirut, April 19-22, 2012
- “Progress as History of Decline in the Works of Butrus al Bustani,” presented at Inhitat conference symposium organized by the History Faculty at AUB, the University of Munster, and the Orient Institute Beirut, Dec 8-11, 2010
- “Historiography in 19th Century Al Muqtataf Science Journal,” panel entitled Writing and Contesting History in Egypt and Syria in the Late-19th and Early-20th Centuries at the Middle East Studies Association, Boston 2010 meeting
- “Language, Modernity, and Identity in Nineteenth Century Arabic Linguistic Debates,” panel entitled Language and Identity at the Second Cambridge Symposium on Middle Eastern Studies, Cambridge Oct 16-18, 2009
- “Revisiting the Nahda through nineteenth century texts on science, progress, and language” panel entitled Language and Identity at the first Cambridge Symposium on Middle Eastern Studies, Cambridge Oct 17-19, 2008

7. Organized conferences and workshops

- Co-organizer of Historical Materialism Conference Beirut in collaboration with CAH, SOAS, Historical Materialism London, BICAR 2017
- Organizer of Mladen Dolar’s seminar “An Introduction to Hegel’s Dialectics” at AUB, September 2017
- Co-organizer with Sami Khatib of workshop entitled History and Repetition, CAH, AUB, March 2016
- Co-organizer with Ray Brassier international conference “Subjectivity, Universalism, Politics: Lacan contra Foucault” in Spring 2015-2016 at AUB
- Co-organizer of intensive teaching seminar “Liberalism and its Critics” with Lisa Wedeen at the American University of Beirut, Mellon Arts and Humanities Initiative, in March 2015.
- Co-organizer of workshop at the University of Oxford on the Arab Nahda and Global Intellectual History (April 2015) with Peter Hill and Hussein Omar, Sponsored by Mohamed-Salah Omri and St John’s College and the Center for Global History.

- Co-organizer and member of steering committee of OIB and Forum Transregionale International Summer Academy, “Language, Science and Aesthetics - Articulations of Subjectivity and Objectivity in the Middle East and South Asia- September 11-19, 2014
- Organizer of conference co-funded by CAMES at the American University of Beirut and Orient-Institut Beirut entitled *Whither the Nation? National Identities in the Modern Middle East and South Asia* Sept 27-29, 2013

8. Reviewer:

- Bloomsbury Academic
- *Class and Society*
- *Modernisms*
- *British Journal for Middle Eastern Studies*

9. Courses Taught at AUB

- Ideology and Subjectivity
- Fetishism
- Nations and Nationalism in the Middle East
- Violence and Ideology
- History and Memory
- Liberalism and its Discontents
- Ideology and Interpellation
- CVS 202- Monotheism
- CVS 203- Enlightenment and Modernity
- CVS 204- Contemporary Studies
- Tutorial: Affect Theory and Psychoanalysis, Fall 2016-2017, Camilla Garder

Thesis Supervision:

Yara Damaj, “The Islamic State and the Necromancy of the Mundane,” PSPA, defended Spring, 2017

Nadim Haidar, “BDS”: a critique, CAMES, ongoing

Wajih Hassan, “Ideology, Fantasy, and Video Gaming”, SOAM, ongoing

Ziad Kiblawi, “Mehdi ‘Amel ‘s theoretical Mode of Production: On *fikr* and *waqi*’,” SOAM, ongoing

External Thesis Reader:

Jessika Khazrik, “Who Knows Where: a Thesis on Indisciplinary Thinking,” MIT program in art, culture, and technology, School of Architecture and Planning, May 2017.

10. Service to the University

- Freshman Advising
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

- General Education Board
- CVS 203 Ad-hoc committee for the creation of a new CVS course

11. External Reviewers:

- Joan Copjec, Professor, Modern Culture and Media, Brown University, Joan_Copjec@Brown.edu
- Mladen Dolar, Professor of Philosophy and Psychoanalysis, University of Ljubljana, mladendolar@yahoo.com
- Andrew Sartori, Professor of History and Director of Undergraduate Studies, New York University, asartori@nyu.edu
- Shruti Kapila, University Lecturer in History and Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University, sk555@cam.ac.uk
- Mohamad Salah Omri, Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Fellow of Saint John's College, Oxford University, mohamed-salah.omri@orinst.ox.ac.uk
- Lisa Wedeen, Mary R. Morton Professor of Political Science and the College and the Co-Director of the Chicago Center for Contemporary Theory at the University of Chicago, lwedeen@uchicago.edu
- Faisal Devji, University Reader in Modern South Asian Studies, faisal.devji@sant.ox.ac.uk
- Robert Meister, Professor of Social and Political Thought in the Department of the History of Consciousness at the University of California—Santa Cruz, meister@ucsc.edu