The Middle Eastern and North African Graduate Student Organization at the University of Arizona Presents:

19th Annual Southwest Graduate Conference in Middle Eastern and North African Studies

Cultural Transactions between the Middle East and the World

March 28-29, 2019
Thursday, March 28

9:00 am
Conference Registration opens in the Bonine Commons, Marshall Building Room 440

10:00am-11:20pm
Language, Discourse, and Society in the MENA Region
Organizer: Kamilia Rahmouni, University of Arizona
Chair: Dr. Sonia Shiri, University of Arizona
Place: Presidio Room, Student Union

The Morphological integration of Coptic loanwords into Egyptian
Sayed Issa, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

Is it possible to bridge the gap between sociolinguistic and theoretical linguistics? The case of diglossic variation in Arabic
Essa Al-Faifi, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

The Language Vitality of Moroccan Tamazight
Aaron Graybill, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

Shuk or Souk: A Virtual Journey to Machane Yehuda Market in Jerusalem
Britany Power, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

11:30 am-12:45 pm
Maghreb/ Sahara Studies
Chair: Dr. Gökçe Günel, University of Arizona
Place: Presidio Room, Student Union

Interactions between the Intimate and the Public in Maghrebi Female only Spaces
Salma Rebhi, Department of French and Italian, University of Arizona

Legality as a Critique: The Construction of Zawaya Identity and the contestation of Hassan Law
Abbas Braham, School of MENAS, University of Arizona
Ma’ al-Aynian: Saharan Citizenship Before the Western Sahara
July Blalack, SOAS, University of London

1:00 pm-2:30 pm
Modern Middle Eastern Societies
Chair: Dr. Leila Hudson, University of Arizona
Place: Presidio Room, Student Union

Alie Shakerbagy, Department of Sociology, Islamic Azad University, Iran

The Changing Role of Female Special Education Teachers in Saudi Arabia
Haya Alshahrani, Department of Disability and Psychoeducational Studies, University of Arizona

The Construction of Modern Shia Society through Memory
Robin Brackett, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

Iranian Influence and Ambitions in Syria
Berk Ozmeral, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

The Syrian Conflict as a Microcosm for Middle Eastern Social and Political Dynamics
Brandon Patrick, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

2:30 pm-4:00 pm
Arabic Literature and Culture, Past and Present
Chair: Dr. Yaseen Noorani, University of Arizona
Place: Presidio Room, Student Union

How minorities represent Arabic in the modern Arabic literature?
Sayed Islamil Daifallah, Department of Arabic Studies, American University in Cairo, Egypt

Taboos and Embargoes: Retelling Taboos and Embargoes of Homeland's Stories in Diaspora.
Riham Ahmed, Department of English, Aswan University, Egypt
The Formation of ʿAbd al-Qāhir al-Jurjānī’s (d. 471/1078) Poetics; Arabic Rhetoric
Mohamed Moustafa, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

Tahqiq, Human Perfection, and Sovereignty: Ibn ʿArabi and Early-Modern Islamic Empire
Christian Blake Pye, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Whom Should We Shoot: Assigning Blame and Revising History in 70s Egyptian Cinema
Hazem Fahmy, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas at Austin

From Ramallah to Berlin and Back Again - Transnational Feminism and the Circuits of Palestinian Hip-Hop
Alexander Karaman, Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Arizona

Specters of Accountability: Visceral Experience of Touring the Nakba with Zochrot
Neal Feldman, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

Keynote Address
6:00-8:00 pm, ILC Building, Room 150
Spring Equinox in North Africa: Ships, People, and Things in the Sea
by Dr. Julia Clancy-Smith
Professor of History and Regents Professor of Middle Eastern and North African Studies
University of Arizona
Friday, March 29

0:00-10:00 am
Conference Registration available in the Bonine Commons, Marshall Building Room 440

9:00am-10:30am
Persian Cultural History
Chair: Dr. Kamran Talattof, University of Arizona
Place: Sabino Room, Student Union

The Rise and Fall of Apartment Films in Iranian Cinema. Case Study: Asghar Farhadi
Shahram Parastesh, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

Animal Allegories and References in Farīd ud-Dīn Ṭūrğūz Nīshāpurī’s Manṭiq-uṭ-Ṭayr (1177)
Sajedeh Hosseini, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

A Feminist Reading of “The Story of the Poor Arab and His Wife's Altercation with Him” by Mevlena and Its Translation by Colman Barks
Mahsa Khalili Jahromi and Elham Khalili Jahromi, Shiraz University, Iran

Becoming Persian: Cultural Transitions and Continuity of Achaemenid Sardis
Samantha Richter, Department of Classics, University of Arizona

10:30 am-11:30 am
Turkish and Ottoman Studies
Chair: Dr. Benjamin Fortna, University of Arizona
Place: Sabino Room, Student Union

Turkey's Ambivalent Minority: Situating the Alevi within Çağaptay's Hierarchy of Turkishness/ Cultural Islam
Andrew Wickersham, Department of History, University of Arizona
Sean Tomlinson, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

11:45 am- 1:00 pm
Islamic Cultures in the Americas and Europe
Chair: Dr. Austin O’Malley
Place: Sabino Room, Student Union

Arab/Muslim stand-up comedy in the US, Latin America, and Europe: A discursive analysis
Ahmad Ismail, Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT), University of Arizona

La Morisca: Moorish Identity in Mexico as Told Through the Medina Women
Kaitlyn Armendariz, School of MENAS, University of Arizona

Historical Jesus and Muhammad: A Comparative Overview of Debates, Discussions, and Trends in both Fields
Arooj Alam, Middle Eastern Studies Program, City University of New York

Special Talk
Spring 2019 Middle Eastern and North African Studies Colloquium Series
Center for Middle Eastern Studies
3:00-4:00 pm, Marshall Building, Room 490
Why Should We Attend to Texts On Yemeni Tribal Law
by Dr. Paul Dresch
Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology
University of Oxford

Special Film Screening
6:00-8:00 pm
AME 205, 1130 N. Mountain Ave.
Naila and the Uprising (2017)
Followed by a discussion with Dr. Maha Nassar
The Middle East and North Africa Graduate Student Organization at the University of Arizona (MENA) began almost two decades ago with the help of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) and the School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies (MENAS). We have a long history of activity both on and off campus and are devoted to furthering scholarship of the Middle East and North Africa. The organization provides a platform for graduate students to participate in the planning of cultural events and academic exchanges related to the region. Furthermore, MENA aims to serve the University of Arizona and larger Tucson community in pursuit of a deeper sense of the culture, diversity, and history of this region. MENA began hosting the Annual Southwest Graduate Conference in Middle Eastern and North African Studies in April 2001. Dedicated to providing an opportunity for graduate students to receive valuable feedback on their academic papers in context and delivery, the conference has expanded to include graduate students from numerous universities within and outside the United States.

MENA would like to thank the following individuals for their support

**Professor Adel Gamal**

**Professor Anne Betteridge**

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**Jennifer Paine**

**Julie Ellison-Speight**

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**Professor Yaseen Noorani**

**Professor Sonia Shiri**

**Professor Leila Hudson**

**Professor Kamran Talattof**

**Professor Maha Nassar**

**Professor Austin O’Malley**

**Professor Benjamin Fortna**

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MENA would also like to thank the following co-sponsors:

Dr. Adel Gamal, Roshan Fellowship, and