

ERIC LOB

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations, Miami, FL
Associate Professor of Middle East Comparative Politics, 2020-Present

Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations, Miami, FL
Assistant Professor of Middle East Comparative Politics, 2014-2020

Brandeis University Crown Center for Middle East Studies, Waltham, MA
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2013-14

EDUCATION

Princeton University, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton, NJ
PhD, September 2013

- Dissertation: “An Institutional History of the Iranian Construction Jihad: From Inception to Institutionalization (1979-2011).”
- Committee Members: Dr. Mirjam Künkler, Dr. Cyrus Schayegh, Dr. Ezra Suleiman, Dr. Amaney Jamal, and Dr. Michael Reynolds.
- Conducted fieldwork in the Iranian provinces of Azerbaijan, Bushehr, Fars, Golestan, Isfahan, Khurasan, Semnan, Tehran, and Yazd, and in Lebanon’s Southern Beirut, Bekaa Valley, and South (2009-12).
- Visiting scholar at the University of Tehran Faculty of Social Sciences Department of Rural Sociology, Tehran, Iran (Spring 2011), and the French Institute of the Near East (*Institut français du Proche-Orient*), Damascus, Syria (Summer 2010) and Beirut, Lebanon (Summer 2012).

Intensive Language Programs:

- Dehkhoda Institute, Tehran, Iran, Intermediate and Advanced Persian (2009-11).
- Damascus University, Damascus, Syria, Advanced Arabic (2006-7).
- Georgetown University, Washington, DC, Advanced Arabic (2005-6).
- Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, DC, Elementary Arabic (2003).

Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, DC
MA in International Relations, December 2005

University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School, Philadelphia, PA
BA in Communications, Minor in French, May 1996

PUBLICATIONS

Book:

- *Iran’s Reconstruction Jihad: Rural Development and Regime Consolidation after 1979* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020) (paperback 2022).

Journal Articles and Book Chapters:

- “Iran’s Construction Jihad in Africa: Development, Diplomacy, and Influence in the 1990s,” in Cyrus Schayegh (ed.), *Global Histories of the Middle East and North Africa* (Washington, DC: Wilson Center) (revise and resubmit).
- “Analyzing Iran’s Border Provinces Through the Framework of the Security-Development Nexus and the Woman, Life, Freedom Protests,” *Digest of Middle East Studies* (with Mazaher Koruzhde) (revise and resubmit).
- “Iran-Venezuela Relations: Presidents, Postures, and Pressures,” in Luciano Tosta, Mike Wuthrich, and Rami Zeedan (eds.), *Middle East and Latin America Relations* (Gainesville, FL: The University Press of Florida)

(revise and resubmit).

- “Merciful Like the Father: The Vatican’s Interreligious Dialogue, Faith-Based Development, and Humanitarian Aid Involving Middle Eastern Migrants and Refugees,” *The Journal of Muslim Philanthropy and Civil Society* (with Natalia Liviero) (revise and resubmit).
- “A Risk-Seeking Iran: Explaining Iran’s Military Support for Russia in the Ukraine War,” in Mehran Kamrava (ed.), *Iran Looks East: New Directions in Iranian Foreign Policy* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press) (with Mazaher Koruzhde) (forthcoming).
- “Khomeini Meets Bolivar: Iran’s Expanding Relations with Venezuela and Bolivia through their Presidents, Postures, and Pressures,” *Middle East Critique* (2025): 1-23.
- “A Political Economy Analysis of Changes and Continuities in Iran-Africa Trade Relations: A Case of South-South Dependency?” *Review of Social Economy* (2024): 1-38 (with Hakan Yilmazkuday).
- “The Security-Development Nexus and the Jina Mahsa Amini Protests in Iran’s Border Provinces,” *Iranian Studies* (2024): 1-6.
- “Iran’s Drone Industry and Its Military Cooperation with Russia in Ukraine,” in Adib Farhadi, Mark Grzegorzewski, and Anthony J. Masys (eds.), *The Great Power Competition Volume 5* (New York: Springer, 2023), 111-140.
- “A New Arms Race Frontier: The Emerging Drone Competition Between Iran and its Regional Rivals,” in Mohammad Eslami and Alena Vysotskaya Guedes Vieira (eds.), *The Arms Race in the Middle East* (New York: Springer, 2023), 67-87.
- “Iran-Africa Relations under Raisi: Salvaging Ties with the Continent,” *The Muslim World* (2023): 193-208.
- “Mobilizing and Framing Construction Jihād and Islamic Development in Revolutionary Iran,” *The Muslim World* 112.1 (2022): 130-50.
- “Rouhani’s Africa Policy: Disengagement, 2013-21,” *Middle East Policy* 29.1 (2022): 154-73 (with Reza Bagheri).
- “Iran’s Foreign Policy and Development Activities in Africa: Between Expansionist Ambitions and Hegemonic Constraints,” in Robert Mason and Simon Mabon (eds.), *The Gulf States and the Horn of Africa: Interests, Influences and Instability* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2022), 68-98.
- “Iranian Reconstruction, Development, and Aid in Syria,” *The Middle East Journal* 75.2 (2021): 223-42.
- “Covid-19 and Development Challenges in the Third World,” in Mahdi Javdani Moqaddam and Amir Mohammad Esmaeili (eds.), *Understanding International Politics after Covid-19: Challenges, Issues and Perspectives* (Tehran: Imam Sadiq University Press, 2020), 243-62.
- “Construction Jihad: Wartime and Post-War Reconstruction and Development in Lebanon,” in Luigi Narbone (ed.), *Fractured Stability: War Economies and Reconstruction in the MENA* (Florence: European University Institute, 2019), 54-62.
- “Iran and Hizbullah’s Development Organization in Lebanon: The Case of *Jibād al-Binā’*,” *Die Welt des Islams* 59.3-4 (2019): 411-42.
- “The Politics of Development and Security in Iran’s Border Provinces,” *The Middle East Journal* 73.2 (2019): 263-84 (with Nader Habibi).
- “Construction Jihad: State-Building and Development in Iran and Lebanon’s Shi’i Territories,” *Third World Quarterly* 39.11 (2018): 2103-25.
- “War, Mobilization, and Development in the Islamic Republic of Iran: From the Construction Jihad to the Trench Builders Association (1979-2013),” in Ángel Alcalde and Xosé Manoel Núñez Seixas (eds.), *War Veterans and the World after 1945: Cold War Politics, Decolonization, Memory* (London: Routledge, 2018), 150-66.
- “Development, Mobilization and War: The Iranian Construction Jihad, Construction Mobilization and Trench Builders Association,” in Narges Bajoghli and Amir Moosavi (eds.), *Debating the Iran-Iraq War in Contemporary Iran* (London: Routledge, 2018), 23-42 (Reprinted from *Middle East Critique* 26.1 (2017): 25-44).
- “Researching Hizbullah in Lebanon,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 49.3 (2017): 521-25.
- “The Islamic Republic of Iran’s Foreign Policy and Construction Jihad’s Developmental Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 48.2 (2016): 313-38.

Review Essays and Book Reviews:

- “Review of Afshon Ostovar’s Wars of Ambition,” *The Middle East Journal* 78.23 (2025): 287-89.
- “Review of Mehran Kamrava’s How Islam Rules in Iran,” APSA-MENA Newsletter 7.2 (2024): 85-87.
- “Review of Mehran Kamrava’s Triumph and Despair,” *The Middle East Journal* 77.2 (2023): 234-35.
- “Review of Shahram Chubin and Charles Tripp’s Iran and Iraq at War,” *H-War* (2022): 1-3.
- “Review of Annie Tracy Samuel’s The Unfinished History of the Iran-Iraq War,” *Iranian Studies* (2022): 1-3.
- “Review of Mahmoud Pargoo and Shahram Akbarzadeh’s Presidential Elections in Iran,” *Political Science Quarterly* 137.2 (2022): 447-48.
- “Regime Resilience, Social Welfare, and Economic Development in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” *Bustan* 9.2 (2018): 111-31.
- “Review of Misagh Parsa’s Democracy in Iran,” *The Middle East Journal* 71.3 (2017): 495-97.
- “Review of Ronen Cohen’s Revolution Under Attack,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 48.3 (2016): 599-601.
- “The Evolution of Scholarship on Middle East Authoritarianism: Essentialism, Democratization, and Resilience,” *Iranian Studies* 48.3 (2015): 489-99.
- “Review of Mary Hegland’s Days of Revolution,” *Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia* 2.1 (2014): 112-15.

Op-Eds and Policy Briefs:

- “Prospects for Regime Change in Iran: Myth or Reality?” *Middle East Analitika*, July 3, 2025.
- “Iran and Ethiopia have a security deal – here’s why they signed it,” *The Conversation*, May 13, 2025.
- “What are the implications of Trump’s victory for the ongoing tensions in the Middle East?” *Middle East Analitika*, November 8, 2024.
- “Iran’s intervention in Sudan’s civil war advances its geopolitical goals – but not without risks,” *The Conversation*, May 28, 2024.
- “How Iran selects its supreme leader – a political scientist and Iran expert explains,” *The Conversation*, May 23, 2024.
- “Iran crash: President Raisi’s fate raises concerns in Tehran over potential loss of loyalist,” *The Conversation*, May 19, 2024.
- “Iran is Trying to Jumpstart Economic Relations with Africa,” *International Policy Digest*, May 7, 2024.
- “The Tit-For-Tat Exchange between Israel and Iran amid De-Escalatory Aspirations,” JGI Policy Spotlight Blog, April 25, 2024.
- “Why are the Israelis Stalling?” *The National Interest*, October 26, 2023.
- “Iran’s Complicated Dance with West Africa,” *International Policy Digest*, October 20, 2023.
- “Raisi goes to Africa in search of allies for Iran,” Stimson Center, July 26, 2023.
- “Assessing the threat of Iran’s drone carriers,” Middle East Institute, March 7, 2023 (with Edward Riehle).
- “The Difficulty of Disrupting Iranian Drones,” *The National Interest*, January 14, 2023 (with Edward Riehle).
- “Iran and cryptocurrency: Opportunities and obstacles for the regime,” Middle East Institute, December 27, 2022.
- “Iran-Venezuela relations: Presidents, postures, and pressures,” Middle East Institute, August 22, 2022.
- “Iran’s drone factory in Tajikistan,” Middle East Institute, June 3, 2022.
- “Iran-Africa relations under Raisi: Salvaging ties with the continent,” Middle East Institute, April 11, 2022.
- “Halal trade cooperation between Iran and Russia,” Middle East Institute, January 26, 2022.
- “Institutional Continuities and Changes in the Islamic Republic of Iran: The Case of Construction Jihad,” The Iran 1400 Project, November 4, 2021.
- “Rural deprivation and regime durability in Iran,” Middle East Institute, November 1, 2021.
- “Interview: Biden ‘has political capital’ to engage with Iran,” *Asia Times*, October 23, 2020 (with Kourosh Ziabari).
- “The Promise and Politicization of Post-War Reconstruction in Haret Hreik,” TRAFO Blog for Transregional Research, February 18, 2020.

- “Mobilizing Construction Jihad in Revolutionary Iran,” *Maydan*, February 4, 2020.
- “Roundtable: Backdrop & Reverberations of Soleimani’s Assassination (Part 1: Iran),” *Jadaliyya*, January 15, 2020 (with Maryam Alemzadeh and Arshin Adib-Moghaddam).
- “There’s a battle in Iran over the IRGC’s business empire,” *The Washington Post*, January 5, 2017 (with Nader Habibi).
- “Realists Should Expect America and Turkey to Stick Together,” *The National Interest*, August 24, 2016.
- “What Iran will really do with its sanctions relief windfall,” *The Washington Post*, November 4, 2015.
- “Understanding Iran’s Supreme Leader on the Nuclear Deal,” *POMEPS Studies: Iran and the Nuclear Deal* 13 (April 29, 2015), 18-20 (Reprinted from *The Washington Post*, April 14, 2015) (with Amir Hossein Mahdavi).
- “Is Hezbollah Confronting a Crisis of Popular Legitimacy?” *Crown Center Middle East Brief* 78 (March 2014).

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PAPERS

- “From the Shah’s Corps to Khomeini’s Jihad: Iran’s Unsustainable Development and Environmental Degradation,” The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Virtual (November 2024), and Christopher Newport University “Exploring the Middle East” Conference, Newport News, VA (February 2025).
- “The Role of Syrian Venezuelans in Strengthening Relations between Venezuela and its Middle East Allies,” Leipzig University Workshop on Arab Diaspora Communities in Latin America, Leipzig, Germany (November 2024).
- “A Path Dependent Perspective on Occupation and Famine in Wartime Iran: The Roots of Delayed Development, Aspirational Independence, and Anti-Imperialism,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Research Workshop and Consultation “Iran, the Holocaust, and World War II,” Washington, DC (September 2024).
- “A Risk-Seeking Iran: Explaining Iran’s Military Support for Russia in the Ukraine War,” Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies Annual Iranian Studies Unit Third Annual Conference, Doha, Qatar (September 2023), and University of Tehran Third Biennial Conference on Contemporary Iranian Studies, Tehran, Iran (November 2023) (with Mazaher Koruzhde).
- “Iran-Venezuela Relations: Presidents, Postures, and Pressures,” The University of Kansas The Middle East and Latin America Conference, Lawrence, KS (April 2023).
- “The Geopolitical Implications of Social Unrest and External Pressure in Iran,” Policy Studies Organization Middle East Dialogue 2023, Washington, DC (March 2023) (with Mazaher Koruzhde).
- “Iran-Africa Relations under Raisi: Salvaging Ties with the Continent,” Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies Annual Iranian Studies Unit Second Annual Conference, Doha, Qatar (August 2022), and Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO (December 2022).
- “A Political Economy Analysis of Changes and Continuities in Iran-Africa Trade Relations: A Case of South-South Dependency?” Autonomous University of Madrid Second International Congress “Dynamics of South-South Relations,” Madrid, Spain (February 2022), Security in Context Conference “Landscapes of Insecurity and Multipolarity,” University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK (September 2022), and Tsinghua University Third Area Studies Forum, Beijing, China (July 2023).
- “Iranian Reconstruction, Development, and Aid in Syria: Geopolitical Interests, Conflict-Based Drivers, and Transnational Linkages,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (October 2020), and Association for Iranian Studies Thirteenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference, Salamanca, Spain (August-September 2022).
- “Salvaging the Horn of Africa: Iran’s Military Assistance to Ethiopia in Tigray,” Italian Society for Middle Eastern Studies Conference, Naples, Italy (June 2022).
- “Faith-Based Development, Humanitarian Aid, and Interfaith Dialogue between Christian Donors and Muslim Beneficiaries in the Middle East: The Case of Caritas and Syrian Refugees in Jordan,” The Indiana University Muslim Philanthropy Initiative Fifth Annual Symposium on Muslim Philanthropy and Civil Society, November 11, 2021 (with Natalia Liviero).
- “The Successes and Setbacks of Iran’s Foreign Policy and Developmental Activities in Africa (1985-2021),” Iscte-University Institute of Lisbon Conference “New Gulf Streams Middle East and Eastern Africa

Intersected,” Lisbon, Portugal, September 16, 2021.

- “Rural Reconstruction, Development, and Aid in the Islamic Republic of Iran: The Case of the Construction Jihad,” George Mason University Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies Conference “Islam and Humanitarianism,” Fairfax, VA (November 2019), and The Muslim World journal workshop on Islam and humanitarianism (September 2020).
- “The Promise: The Politicization of Post-War Reconstruction in Southern Beirut,” Orient-Institut Beirut International Conference “Reconstructing Neighborhoods of War,” Beirut, Lebanon (December 2018).
- “Construction Jihad: A Model for Wartime and Post-War Reconstruction, Development, and Stabilisation in the MENA?” European University Institute Annual Conference “Exiting war economy dynamics,” Florence, Italy (November 2018).
- “The Contradictions and Consequences of Civil Society and Governance in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX (November 2018).
- “Iran’s Foreign Policy and Developmental Activities in Africa (1985-2018),” University of Cambridge Gulf Research Meeting, Cambridge, United Kingdom (August 2018).
- “The Cultural Production of Jihadi Culture and Management,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (November 2017).
- “Development, Mobilization, and War in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” LMU Munich International Workshop ‘War Veterans and the World after 1945,’ Munich, Germany (July 2017).
- “Construction Jihad: State-Building and Development in Lebanon’s Shi‘i Territories,” Arab Council for the Social Sciences Third Conference, Beirut, Lebanon (March 2017).
- “Iran and Hizbullah’s Development Organization in Lebanon: The Case of *Jihād al-Binā’*,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (November 2016).
- “The Islamic Republic of Iran’s Foreign Policy and Construction Jihad’s Developmental Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa,” Tel Aviv University and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Conference on Islam in Africa, Tel Aviv and Beersheba, Israel (May 2016).
- “Development as Politics: The Iranian Construction Jihad and Revolutionary Regime Consolidation,” Florida Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL (April 2016).
- “The Overseas Operations of the Iranian Construction and Agricultural Jihad in Sub-Saharan Africa (1984-2009),” Swiss Society for African Studies Conference “Islam in Africa,” Berne, Switzerland (April 2015), Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa Annual Conference, Washington, DC (October 2014), and Afro-Middle East Centre Conference “In Whose Interests? Exploring Middle East Involvement in Africa,” Pretoria, South Africa (November 2013).
- “The Iranian Construction Jihad: Islam and Nationalism in Post-Revolutionary Developmental and Political Discourse,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (November 2014).
- “The Iranian Construction Jihad: Social and Political Currents of Modern Iranian History,” Association for the Study of Persianate Societies Sixth Biennial Convention, Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina (September 2013).
- “The Iranian Construction Jihad: The Inception and Institutionalization of a Revolutionary Movement (1979-2011),” New York University Iranian Studies Initiative Junior Scholars Research Workshop, New York, NY (May 2013).
- “Lebanese Hezbollah and the Arab Spring: A Crisis of Legitimacy?” Arab Council for the Social Sciences Inaugural Conference on Arab Transformations, Beirut, Lebanon (March 2013).
- “The Iranian Construction Jihad and the Genesis of a Revolutionary Movement,” Irmgard Coninx Foundation Sixteenth Roundtables on Rebellion to Revolution, Berlin, Germany (October 2012).
- “The Legacy of the Iranian Construction Jihad: Micro-Mobilization or Regime Mouthpiece?” Association for Iranian Studies Ninth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference, Istanbul, Turkey (August 2012).
- “Construction Jihad and the End of the Iranian Revolution,” Harvard University Mahindra Humanities Center Graduate Student Conference “How to End a Revolution?” Cambridge, MA (April 2012).
- “The Iranian Construction Jihad: From Inception to Institutionalization (1979-2011),” Princeton University Arab Political Development Workshop, Princeton, NJ (December 2011).

- “The Iranian Construction Jihad: A Case of Elite Counter-Mobilization,” American Sociological Association Collective Behavior and Social Movements Workshop, Las Vegas, NV (August 2011).
- “Rural Mobilization and Power Consolidation in Post-Revolutionary Iran and Syria,” Princeton University Arab Political Development Workshop, Princeton, NJ (October 2010).
- “A Tale of Two Revolutions: Syrian and Iranian Land Reform,” Social Science Research Council Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship Workshop, San Diego, CA (June 2010) and Philadelphia, PA (September 2010).

INVITED PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

Panels:

- “Escalating Regional Conflicts and the Global Security Order,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (April 2024).
- “Defending Democracy in an Age of Sharp Power,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (April 2024).
- “The Role of International Organizations in the Israel-Hamas Conflict,” Usanas Foundation, Delhi, India (December 2023).
- “Aging and International Development,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (November 2023).
- “Effectiveness of Economic Sanctions as an Instrument of Foreign Policy,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (October 2023).
- “Stories from the Majority World: From Failed Governance to Model Democracies,” Florida International University Conference on Global Democracy, Miami, FL (March 2022).
- “In Protest and Solidarity: A Teach-In on the Feminist Uprising in Iran,” University of Miami and Florida International University, Miami, FL (November 2022).
- “Iran, Mahsa Amini, and Women’s Rights,” Bucknell University Institute for Public Policy, Lewisburg, PA (November 2022).
- “Documenting the IRGC,” Wilson Center History and Public Policy Program Global Middle East Seminar Series, Washington, DC (February 2022).
- “Syria Today: How Assad ‘Won’ beyond the Military,” Middle East Institute, Washington, DC (September 2021).
- “The Geopolitics of EU-Middle Eastern Relations,” Florida International University Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, Miami, FL (March 2021).
- “An Update on Europe-Iran Relations,” Florida International University Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, Miami, FL (November 2020).
- “Reframing Syrian Refugee Insecurity through a Feminist Lens,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (October 2020).
- “Terrorism, Violent Extremism, and U.S. National Security Interests,” Florida International University Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy, Miami, FL (September 2020).
- “Iran and the Coronavirus: From Government Management to Economic Sanctions,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (April 2020).
- “Troubled Waters: US-Iran Relations and Diplomacy,” Iranian Cultural Society of South Florida, Miami, FL (February 2020).
- “Turmoil in the Middle East,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (January 2020).
- “The Iranian Revolution at Forty,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (February 2019).
- “The Legacy of George H.W. Bush,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (December 2018).
- “The First World War and the Making of the Modern Middle East,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (October 2018).

- “What Threat Does Iran Pose to the US?” University of Nebraska, Omaha and Lincoln, NE (September 2018).
- “The Balfour Declaration and the Making of the Modern Middle East,” Florida International University Jewish Museum of Florida, Miami, FL (February 2018).
- “The Future of Violent Extremism Globally,” Florida International University Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy, Miami, FL (February 2018).
- “Macro and Micro Causes of Political Violence and Terrorism,” Florida International University Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy, Miami, FL (February 2017).
- “Terrorism, Domestic and International,” Broward County Crime Commission Conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL (February 2017).
- “Doing Research in Iran: Strategies and Experiences,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (November 2016).
- “Living in an Age of Uncertainty: Panel and Discussion on Terrorism with Experts at Florida International University,” Florida International University, Miami, FL (November 2016).
- “People on the Move,” Amnesty International Art for Amnesty Opening Reception, Miami, FL (August 2016).
- “Trouble in Turkey: Erdogan and the Consequences of a Failed ‘Coups,’” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (July 2016).
- “The Iranian Nuclear Deal,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (March 2016).
- “The Iranian Army Corps of Engineers,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations, Miami, FL (March 2016).
- “Security in the Middle East,” Florida International University Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy, Miami, FL (February 2016).
- “The Syrian Crisis in Focus,” Florida International University Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (October 2015).
- “Development as Politics: Iran’s Construction Jihad,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations, Miami, FL (February 2015).
- “Current Conflicts in the Middle East: Iraq and Gaza,” Florida International University School of International and Public Affairs, Miami, FL (September 2014).
- “Two-State Solution: Limits and Opportunities,” Bentley University Department of Global Studies, Waltham, MA (April 2014).
- “Iran: From Elections until Now,” Harvard University Center for Middle East Studies, Cambridge, MA (October 2013).
- “Taking the ‘Social’ Seriously: Ethnographies of Power in Contemporary Iran,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (December 2011).

Presentations:

- “Book Launch: Eric Lob’s ‘Iran’s Reconstruction Jihad: Rural Development and Regime Consolidation after 1979,’” Princeton University Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, Princeton, NJ (November 2020), Tel Aviv University Alliance Center for Iranian Studies, Tel Aviv, Israel (January 2021), Boston College Department of Sociology and International Studies, Boston, MA (April 2021), The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies Rethinking Iran Initiative, Washington, DC (April 2021).
- “The US Election: Implications for Iran-US Relations,” Imam Sadiq University Department of International Relations, Faculty of Political Science and Islamic Studies, Tehran, Iran (August 2020).
- “Iranian Reconstruction, Development, and Aid in Syria,” National Defense University, Washington, DC (June 2020) and University of Oklahoma Farzaneh Family Center for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies, Norman, OK (November 2019).
- “US-Iran Relations: On the Brink,” Florida International University School of International and Public Affairs Consular Corps of Miami Luncheon Keynote Address (September 2019).

- “Terrorism and Violent Extremism,” Florida International University Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy, Miami, FL (March 2018).
- “Is Hezbollah Confronting a Crisis of Popular Legitimacy?” Brandeis University Crown Center for Middle East Studies, Waltham, MA, and Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations, Miami, FL (February 2014).
- “The Iranian Construction Jihad: Theoretical and Sociological Implications (in Persian),” University of Tehran Faculty of Social Sciences Department of Rural Sociology, Tehran, Iran (March 2011), and Islamic Azad University Department of Rural Sociology, Semnan, Iran (April 2011).

AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Research Grant, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (2023).
- Kimberly and Dorothea Green Fellowship for Senior Faculty, Florida International University (2022-23).
- Humanities Research Grant, Provost-Wolfsonian Public Humanities Lab (2020-21).
- Article Prize, Honorable Mention, Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society (2020).
- Seed Funding for Interdisciplinary Faculty Research, Florida International University (2019-20).
- Kluge Fellowship, John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress (2017-18).
- Humanities Research Grant, Florida International University (2016).
- Global Learning Faculty Fellowship, Florida International University (2016).
- Morris and Anita Broad Research Fellowship Award, Florida International University (2015-18).
- Best Ph.D. Dissertation Award, Foundation for Iranian Studies (2014).
- Mashayekhi Dissertation Award (First Honorable Mention), Association for Iranian Studies (2014).
- Best Conference Paper, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (2014).
- Research Grant, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (2014).
- Travel Grant, American Institute of Iranian Studies (2013).
- Lawrence of Arabia Academic Fellowship, Princeton University Near Eastern Studies Program (2013).
- International Essay Competition Award and Travel Grant, Irmgard Coninx Foundation (2012).
- TRE Grant, George Washington University Project on Middle East Political Science (2012).
- Travel Grant, Dean’s Fund for Scholarly Travel, Princeton University Graduate School (2011).
- Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship, Social Science Research Council (2010).
- Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, Princeton University Near Eastern Studies Program (2008-11).

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate:

- Politics of the Middle East (CPO 3403), Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Fall 2014-16, 2018-20, 2022-24, Summer 2017-19, 2021-22, 2024-25).
- Political Violence and Revolution (CPO 4057), Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2015-19, 2022, Fall 2020, 2022-25).
- Arab-Israeli Conflict (CPO 4401), Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2016-21).
- International Relations of the Middle East (INR 3274), Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring & Fall 2015).
- Independent Study of Elementary Arabic (INR 4905), Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2015).
- Guest Lecturer, “The Iranian Reconstruction Revisited: A Critical Reexamination of President Hashemi Rafsanjani’s Political, Economic, and Sociocultural Policies (1989-97),” The Iranian Revolution: From Monarchy to the Islamic Republic (HIST 112), Brandeis University Department of History (Fall 2013).
- Assistant Instructor to Dr. Nancy Coffin, Elementary Arabic (ARA 102), Princeton University Department of Near Eastern Studies (Spring 2012).
- Assistant Instructor to Dr. Bernard Haykel, The Politics of Modern Islam (NES 269/ POL 353), Princeton University Departments of Near Eastern Studies and Politics (Fall 2009).

- Assistant Instructor to Dr. Hebatalla Elkhateeb-Musharraf, Advanced Arabic (ARA 301), Princeton University Department of Near Eastern Studies (Fall 2008).

Graduate:

- Approaches to Area Studies (INR 5017), Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2020-26, Summer 2023).
- The Politics of Conflict and Development (ISS 6993), Florida International University Master of Arts in Global Affairs (Spring 2021).
- Seminar in Politics of the Middle East (CPO 6407), Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Fall 2016, 2018-19).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “Geopolitical Risk and Inflation Across Economies,” Florida International University Department of Economics (Summer 2025).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “Iran’s Relations with Rising China,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Fall 2024).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “An Empirical Comparative Analysis of the Colombian FARC and Kurdish PKK-YPG Guerrillas’ Contributions to Gender Equality,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Summer 2024).
- Dissertation Committee Chair, “The Vatican: Protecting Christian Minorities in the Middle East Through the Use of Interreligious Dialogue as a Soft Power Foreign Policy Strategy,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2024).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “The Regional Response to the Boko Haram Crisis: Examining the Challenges of Cooperation,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Fall 2023).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “The New Generation of Political Elites in Iran: Genealogy, Evolution, and Trajectory,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Fall 2023).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “Genealogy of Human Rights Discourse in Modern Iran,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2023).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “The Transnational Shia Ulama: Genealogy, Historical Evolution, and Contemporary Implications,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2022).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “Longing for the Homeland: The Palestinian American Diaspora and Palestinian Advocacy in the United States,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2022).
- Dissertation Committee Chair, “A Political Economy of Religion: Maintaining State Legitimacy Through Religious Discourse in the Arab Gulf,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Fall 2021).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “A Regional Power in the Making: Making Sense of Ethiopia’s Influence in the Horn of Africa,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Fall 2020).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “Rethinking Why Gender Norms Matter: The Case of Syrian Women Refugees in Lebanon,” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2019).
- Dissertation Committee Member, “Dynamics of Iranian-Saudi Relations in the Persian Gulf Regional Security Complex (1921-79),” Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (Spring 2018).
- Instructor, Elementary Arabic, Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs (Spring 2009).

PROFESSIONAL, DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Professional:

- Non-Resident Scholar, The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2025-present.
- Visiting Fellow, German Institute of Global and Area Studies, 2025.
- Middle East Studies Association Book Awards Committee Member, 2025.
- International Editorial Board Member, Scientific Quarterly of Political and International Approaches, 2024-Present.
- Editorial Board Member, American Political Science Association-Middle East North Africa Newsletter, 2023-Present.
- Political Economy of Multipolarity Working Group Participant, Security in Context, 2020-Present.
- Non-Resident Scholar, Middle East Institute Iran Program, 2021-24.
- Board of Trustees Member, American Institute of Iranian Studies, 2018-24.
- Panel Organizer, “State and Societal Resilience and Vulnerability in Post-Revolutionary Iran: Between the Local and Transnational,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (October 2020).
- Panel Co-Organizer, “Contested Cultures of Revolution: Cultural Production in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC (November 2017).
- Roundtable Co-Organizer, “Fieldwork in the Middle East: Challenges and Possibilities,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 49.3 (2017): 501-33 (with Paola Rivetti).
- Reviewer, *Politics, Religion, and Ideology*, 2025.
- Reviewer, *The RUSI Journal*, 2025.
- Reviewer, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, 2025.
- Reviewer, Springer, 2025
- Reviewer, *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, 2025.
- Reviewer, *Islamic Africa*, 2025.
- Reviewer, *Politics and Religion*, 2024-25.
- Reviewer, *Third World Quarterly*, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2024-25.
- Reviewer, *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, 2015, 2022, 2025.
- Reviewer, Lexington Books, 2024.
- Reviewer, *Government and Opposition*, 2024.
- Reviewer, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 2024.
- Reviewer, McFarland, 2024.
- Reviewer, *African Affairs*, 2024.
- Reviewer, *International Migration*, 2024.
- Reviewer, *Journal for the Middle East and Africa*, 2024.
- Reviewer, *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development*, 2024.
- Reviewer, *Middle East Critique*, 2022, 2024.
- Reviewer, *Journal for Interdisciplinary Middle Eastern Studies*, 2021, 2023-24.
- Reviewer, *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 2023.
- Reviewer, *Comparative Politics*, 2023.
- Reviewer, *Contemporary Politics*, 2022.
- Reviewer, *Polity*, 2021, 2022.
- Reviewer, Routledge, 2018, 2021.
- Reviewer, *Political Research Quarterly*, 2021.
- Reviewer, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, 2020.
- Reviewer, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 2020.
- Reviewer, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
- Reviewer, Cambridge University Press, 2016.

- Reviewer, *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, 2009.

Departmental and University:

- Political Science Graduate Program Director, Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (2022-present).
- Political Science Graduate Program Committee, Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (2015-16, 2020-22).
- Panel Co-Organizer, “An Update on Europe-Iran Relations,” Florida International University Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, Miami, FL (November 2020).
- Graduate Faculty and Dissertation Advisor Status Committee, Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (2020).
- Evaluating Teaching Project Committee, Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (2019-20).
- Tenure, Promotion, and Personnel Committee, Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (2018-20).
- Political Science Assessments Coordinator, Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (2016-19).
- Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Graduate Student Development and Seminars, Florida International University Department of Politics and International Relations (2014-15).
- Discussant, Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium on Islamist Resurgence in Syria and Tunisia, Princeton University Department of Near Eastern Studies (2013).
- Graduate Student Committee, Princeton University Department of Near Eastern Studies (2012-13).
- Group Leader, Dissertation Writing Workshop, Princeton University Writing Center (2012-13).
- Discussant, Workshop on Contemporary Arab Regionalism and Authoritarianism, Princeton University Department of Near Eastern Studies (2010).
- Organizer of Weekly Arabic Language Table, Princeton University Program of Near Eastern Studies and Forbes College (2009-13).
- Graduate Residential Adviser, Princeton University Forbes College (2009-13).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Institute of Iranian Studies
- American Political Science Association
- American Sociological Association
- Arab Council for the Social Sciences
- Association for Iranian Studies
- Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa
- Association for the Study of Persianate Societies
- French Institute of the Near East (*Institut français du Proche-Orient*)
- Middle East Studies Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Social Science Research Council

LANGUAGES AND TRAVEL

- Proficient in written and spoken Arabic, Persian, and French.
- Traveled extensively throughout the Middle East, including Egypt, Iran, Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Syria, Turkey, and Yemen.

Last updated: August 15, 2025