

Mahyar Entezari

Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures
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EDUCATION

- 2011–2015 PhD, Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures, University of Texas at Austin (UT)
- 2006–2009 MA, Middle Eastern Studies, Dual-Language Track in Arabic & Persian, UT
- 2002–2003 Universität Göttingen, Germany (academic exchange)
- 2001–2004 BA, German Studies, University of California, San Diego (summa cum laude)
- 1999–2001 Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, Calif.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2018–present Lecturer in Foreign Languages, Department of Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures (MELC), University of Pennsylvania (Penn)
- 2013–present Coordinator, Persian Language & Culture Program, MELC, Penn
- 2013–2018 Lecturer, MELC, Penn

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

- 2023 Interpreter, CETRA Language Solutions, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania
- 2015 Consultant, Linguistic Data Services, Wilmington, Delaware
- 2010–2011 Site Specialist, International Studies Abroad, Austin, Texas
- 2008 Research Analyst, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Austin
- 2007 Interim Events Coordinator, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UT
- 2005–2006 Instructor, ELS Language Center, Hayward, Calif.
- 2005 Tutor, SF Language Services, Calif.
- 2005 Translator, Persian News Network, Martinez, Calif.
- 2002–2003 Peer Advisor, UC Education Abroad Program, Göttingen, Germany

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

- 2014–2025 Member, Language Advisory Committee, Penn
- 2013–2024 Co-organizer & Speaker, Middle East Film Festival, Penn
- 2022–2023 Member, Rebranding Committee, MELC, Penn
- 2020 Member, Persian Lecturer Hiring Committee, Penn Language Center
- 2017–2019 Member, Recovered Language Pedagogies Working Group, Penn
- 2018 Organizer, Dari Workshop, Middle East Center, Penn
- 2015–2018 Coordinator, Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Orientation, Penn
- 2006–2007 Representative, Graduate Student Assembly, UT

PUBLICATIONS

- forthcoming “Rebellion on Reel: The Iran–Iraq War in Films by Iranian Dissidents,” *Arms, Letters, and the Humanities: Essays on Language, Culture, and Military Themes*, The West Point Press
- forthcoming “The Politics of Twentieth-Century Persian Prose Fiction,” *Persian Language and Literature: In Honor of Michael Craig Hillmann*
- in progress *The Other Self: Images of Afghans in Iranian Cinema*
- 2016 “The Pre-Islamic Past in Modern Iranian Culture: A Cultural Materialist Reading,” *A Persian Mosaic: Essays on Persian Language, Literature and Film*
- 2011 “Azadaran-e Bayal,” *Encyclopædia Iranica*

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018 Travel Grant, Middle East Center, Penn
- 2014 Travel Grant, MELC, Penn
- Fall 2013 Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Fellowship, UT*
- Spring 2013 Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Fellowship, UT
- 2013 Graduate School Continuing Fellowship, UT*
- 2012 Graduate Travel Fellowship, Dept. of Middle Eastern Studies, UT
- 2010–2011 Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship, UT*
- 2009–2010 Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship, Turkish, UT
- 2008–2009 David Bruton, Jr. Graduate School Fellowship, UT
- Summer 2008 Research Assistantship, Middle Eastern Studies, UT
- Summer 2007 Critical Language Scholarship (Persian & Tajik), Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- Summer 2007 Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship, Arabic, UT*
- 2006–2007 Center for Middle Eastern Studies Scholarship, UT
- 2004–2005 Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship, Oldenburg, Germany
- 2002–2003 UC Education Abroad Program Scholarship, Göttingen, Germany

**These are grants that I declined in order to pursue other opportunities.*

AWARDS & HONORS

- 2007, 2012 Professional Development Award, Middle Eastern Studies, UT
- 2004 Phi Beta Kappa, UCSD Chapter
- 2004 Caledonian Society (John Muir College Honor Society), UCSD
- 2001–2004 Provost’s Honors, John Muir College, UCSD

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Depictions of the Iran–Iraq War by Iranian Dissident Directors,” Panel: *Military Sound and Image*, West Point Conference on Language, Culture, and Military, United States Military Academy
- 2014 “Representations of Afghans in Iranian Cinema,” Panel: *Religio-ethnic Minorities and Iranian Nationalism*, Association for Iranian Studies, Montreal

- 2012 “The Other Theocracy: The Islamic Republic of Iran’s Discourse on the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan,” Panel: *Perspectives on Iran across Time*, Middle Eastern Studies Association, Denver
- 2010 “The *Ta’ziyeh* Topoi of Gholamhoseyn Sa’edi’s Drama,” Panel: *Persian Literary and Cinematic Representations of a Society in Transition*, Association for Iranian Studies, Los Angeles
- 2009 “Gholamhoseyn Sa’edi’s Postcolonial Dramas,” Panel: *Genre and Political Thought*, Annual Graduate Conference on Comparative Literature, UT

INVITED TALKS

- 2020 “The Image of the Afghan in Iranian Cinema,” University of British Columbia
- 2019 “In Search of Indo-Persia: A Deconstruction of South Asia and the Middle East,” The Lauder Institute, Penn
- 2018 “Multiculturalism and the Image of the Afghan in Iranian Cinema,” Center for Iran & Persian Gulf Studies, Princeton University
- 2016 “Ancient Persia in Modern Iran: Nationalism, Nation-Building, and National Identity,” Camden County College, Blackwood, New Jersey

OTHER TALKS

- 2023 “Equality in Iran,” Women, Life, Freedom Webinar, Dept. of History, Penn
- 2020 “Promoting Proficiency in Persian,” University of British Columbia
- 2018 “A Dialectology of Dari Persian,” Dari Workshop, Penn
- 2018 “Azeri Language and Culture in Iran,” Azeri Workshop, Penn
- 2016 “*The Cow* and Iranian New Wave Cinema,” Penn Cinema Initiative
- 2016 “Using Film as a Teaching Tool,” Center for Teaching & Learning, Penn

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Pennsylvania

Elementary Persian I (2013–2024)
 Elementary Persian II (2014–2025)
 Intermediate Persian I (2013–2024)
 Intermediate Persian II (2014–2025)
 Persian for Heritage Speakers (2022–2024)
 Iranian Cinema: Gender, Politics, and Religion (2014–2025)
 Modern Middle Eastern Literatures in Translation (2014–2018, 2022)

University of Texas at Austin

Intensive Persian I (2011–2012)
 Intensive Persian II (2012)

SENIOR THESIS ADVISING

- 2018–2019 *Mirror in the Gulf: Sovereignty, Legitimacy, and Identity in Iran’s 20th-Century Bahrain Controversy*, Carson Kahoe, Penn

- 2016–2017 *Communicating Through Conflict: Radio Israel’s Public Diplomacy Toward Iranians*, Arielle Panitch, Penn
 2016–2017 *Pre-Islamic Symbolism and the Ideologies of the Pahlavi and Ba’ath Regimes*, Avi Colonomos, Penn
 2014–2015 *Representations of Nationalism in Post-Revolutionary Iranian and Egyptian Film*, Peixin Mo, Penn

STUDENT ADVISING

- 2023 Advisor, Farsi Conversation Group, Penn Persian Society
 2015–2016 Advisor, Chai Chat (advanced Persian language table), Penn
 2012 Mentor, Intellectual Entrepreneurship Pre-Graduate Internship, UT
 2007–2009 Language & Culture Mentor, Persian Language Program, UT

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University of Pennsylvania

- 2024–2025 Co-organizer, Nowruz Celebration, Penn
 2024–2025 Social Media Manager, Persian at Penn
 2014–2025 Webmaster, Persian Language Program, Penn
 2015–2025 Language Examiner for Persian, Penn Language Center
 2019, 2023 Reappointment Evaluator, Hispanic & Portuguese Studies
 2022 Interview, “A Window to Another World,” *34th Street Magazine*
 2014–2022 Language Evaluator for Persian, Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Scholarships and Fellowships, Middle East Center
 2018, 2021 Application Reviewer, FLAS Program, Middle East Center
 2020 Speaker, Middle East Center Outreach Program, Penn
 2020 Interview, “The Forever War – Stories of the War in Afghanistan,” *Penn Political Review*
 2020 Moderator, “Contemporary Iranian Fiction in Translation: A Panel Discussion with Moniro Ravanipour, Mohamad Ghanoonparvar, Fatemeh Shams, and Mahyar Entezari,” Kelly Writers House, Penn
 2019 Moderator, “The Revolution’s Impact on Culture and Media,” The Iranian Revolution at 40: A Half-Day Symposium
 2015, 2019 Judge, Persian Translation Contest, Middle East Center
 2018 Discussant, Iran Graduate Student Workshop
 2017 Discussant, *PoemTalk*, Kelly Writer’s House
 2016 Reappointment Evaluator, Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures
 2014–2015 Organizer, Modern Middle East Languages Info Sessions

University of Texas

- 2012–2013 Organizer, History of the Middle East Lecture Series
 2008–2012 Volunteer, Explore UT (open house event)
 2011 Volunteer, Fulbright Program Orientation

