

CURRICULUM VITAE

Foroogh Farhang

Department of Anthropology
University of Vermont
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Academic Employment

2024-present Assistant professor of Anthropology, the University of Vermont
2023-2024 Postdoctoral Fellow, The Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs,
Brown University

Education

2023 Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology, Northwestern University
2014 M.A. in Gender Studies, Central European University
2012 B.A. in Marine Engineering, Amirkabir (Polytechnic) University of Technology

Research and Teaching Interests

Migration and displacement, borders, human rights and humanitarianism, inequality and poverty, political economy, social movements, Syria, Lebanon, Iran, the Middle East

Field Research

Ethnographic research on Syrians' displacement and burials, economic crisis, and impoverishment in Lebanon (June-August 2017, July 2018-November 2019)
Ethnographic research on the after-effects of the 1988 chemical bombardment of Eastern Kurdistan, in Iran (July-August 2016)
Exploratory research with the Kurdish community of Nashville, Tennessee (March 2016)
Ethnographic research on urban mural paintings in Tehran, Iran (2014)

Grants and Fellowships

National/International Competitions

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (2018)
Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (2018)
Orient Institut Beirut Doctoral Fellowship (2018)

University Competitions

Northwestern University Global Impacts Graduate Fellowship (2020)
Earle Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (2018)
Northwestern University Graduate Research Grant (2018)
Northwestern University Summer Language Grant (2017)
Equality, Development, and Globalization Studies Graduate Research Grant (2017)
Buffett Institute for Global Studies Graduate Dissertation Research Grant (2017)
Anthropology Fan/Foster Research Grant for Summer Research (2017)
Northwestern University Graduate School Conference Travel Grant (2016)
Buffett Institute for Global Studies Graduate Dissertation Research Grant (2016)
Northwestern University Anthropology Fellowship (2015)
Central European University Thesis Research Grant (2013)
Central European University Master's Fellowship (2013)

Teaching

Instructor of Record

Beyond Refugeehood: Politics of mobility, border regimes, and humanitarianism (Brown University, Spring 2024)
Culture and Society (Northwestern University, Summer 2022)
Forced Migration and its Discontents (Northwestern University, Winter and Spring 2020)

Teaching Assistant

Ways of Knowing (Northwestern University Qatar, Fall 2022)
Human Origins (Northwestern University, Winter 2017, 2018)
Anthropology in Historical Perspective (Northwestern University, Fall 2017)
Myths and Symbolism (Northwestern University, Spring 2017)
Introduction to International Public Health (Northwestern University, Fall 2016)

Publications

Monograph

In progress *The Traveling Dead: Narratives of death and displacement in post-2011 Lebanon*

Editor-reviewed and Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

In Progress “The Middle Ground for the Dead: The political economy of care for displaced Syrians in Lebanon,” for *American Ethnologist*.

In Progress “Bodies on the Move: Traversing the Middle East’s Warscape,” Colloquy collection for *Cultural Anthropology*.

R&R “Death of a Stranger: Gharib as a window to a regional understanding of displacement beyond refugeehood,” for *Comparative Studies for Society and History*.

2024 “We want to live”: Syrians and life’s entanglement with death in Lebanon,” for *Jadaliyya*. Online access: <https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/45713/“We-want-to-live”-Syrians-and-the-Unreasonable-Perpetuation-of-Life-in-Lebanon> Online access:

<https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/45713/“We-want-to-live”-Syrians-and-the-Unreasonable-Perpetuation-of-Life-in-Lebanon>

- 2022 “The Poor and the Displaced in the Same Boat,” *Anthropology News*. Online access: <https://www.anthropology-news.org/articles/the-poor-and-the-displaced-in-the-same-boat/>
- 2021 “[Cities, Urban Areas and Climate Migration](#),” Policy paper, Co-authored with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), The Global Parliament of Mayors (GPM) 2021 International.

Conference and Workshop Presentations

Panels and Workshops Co-organized

- 2024 Panel organizer. *Bodies on the Move: Undoing everyday violence of security projects in the Middle East and North Africa*. European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA).
- 2022 Workshop Organizer and Moderator. “To See What is Coming: Life, Death and their Ever-shifting Threshold in Contemporary Iran,” a talk by Dr. Shahla Talebi, for Colloquium for Global Iran Studies (CoGIS).
- 2021-22 Workshop Organizer. *Storytelling and Violence: Narratives of Insecurity in the Middle East and North Africa*. Interdisciplinary Research Workshop, Middle Eastern and North African Studies Program (MENA), Northwestern University.
- 2021 “Strangers of the Grave: Living and Dying in Al-Ghuraba Cemetery in Northern Lebanon,” presented on the panel *Living with the Dead: Cemeteries, Shrines, and Collective Memory in the Middle East*. Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting.
- 2019 Panel Organizer and Presenter. *Other Ways of Living, Other Ways of Dying: Temporalities of Waiting and Suspension in the Experiences of Seeking Refuge*. American Anthropological Association annual meeting. Paper: “Other Ways of Dying: Syrian’s Burials in Lebanon.”
- 2018 Panel Discussant and Chair. “Iran.” International Conference on Reconstructing Neighborhoods of War, Orient Institut Beirut.

General Conference and Workshop Participation

- 2024 “Care for the Dead: Syrians and contested spaces of death in Lebanon,” on the panel *Asperities of Care and Repair* at American Ethnological Society (AES) Spring Conference.
- 2024 “The Middle Ground for the Dead: Syrians’ burials and Islamic regimes of care in Lebanon,” Work in Progress Workshop at the Watson Institut, Brown University.
- 2022 “Shifting landscapes of Death: Syrians’ burials and the bottom-up governance of land and bodies in Lebanon,” presented on the panel *Power at the Margins*, at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting.
- 2022 Roundtable participant. “In Her Name: Women Rising, State Violence, and the Future of Iran.” Jadaliyya Conversation about Iran Protests (9/28)
- 2022 Paper discussant. *Fighting for the Oppressed: Street Protests, Religious Ritual, and the Politics of Masculinity in Post-Revolutionary Iran* By Alex Shams. PHS Workshop at the University of Chicago.

- 2021 “Strangers of the Grave: Living and Dying in Al-Ghuraba Cemetery in Northern Lebanon,” presented on the panel *Living with the Dead: Cemeteries, Shrines, and Collective Memory in the Middle East*. Middle East Studies Association annual meeting. Online.
- 2020 Panel Discussant. “The Aftermath of the Assassination of Qassem Soleimani.” The Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University.
- 2019 Participant. Lebanon Dissertation Summer Institute. American University of Beirut.
- 2018 Participant. “Digging in the Archive: Imagining place and Envisioning a Future Past,” Art History Workshop, Northwestern University.
- 2017 “The Palimpsest of Selfhood Memory: The multilayered representation of the chemical bombardment of the village of Zardeh,” presented on the panel *Anthropology of News Production: A Focus on Minority Media Journalists*, at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting.
- 2017 “The space-time-memory of the day of the bombardment: Reflections on the contested narratives of selfhood among Zardeh Ahl-e-Haqq Kurds in Iran,” Urban Community Workshop, Northwestern University.
- 2016 “Politics of Inclusion and the Right to Health: A Case Study of the Village of Zardeh,” presented on the panel *Anthropology of State Formation in the Age of Structural Violence*, at the American Anthropological Association meeting.
- 2016 “The Collapse of Time: Archaic Language and Authentic Community,” on the panel *Locating Kurdistan: Community and Sovereignty*, at the Middle East History and Theory Conference, The University of Chicago.

Invited Talks

- 2023 “Understanding Feminist Movements Across Borders: Building transnational solidarity,” Tokyo College.
- 2022 “Which Women and Whose Life and Freedom?: On the polarized front of the Iranian uprising,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- 2022 “In her Name: Women rising, state violence, and the future of Iran,” Jadaliyya Reports.
- 2022 “Woman, Life, Freedom: A view from the margins,” Northeastern Illinois University.
- 2021 “Lives and Deaths of Syrians in Lebanon,” Guest Lecturer for Arabic 121-20 course, Northwestern University
- 2020 “Other Ways of Living, Other Ways of Dying: Syrians’ burials in Lebanon,” Graduate Research Symposium, Anthropology Department, Northwestern University
- 2019 “Navigating a Life with the Dead: Syrians’ burial practices in Lebanon,” The Orient Institut Beirut.
- 2018 “Islam, Death, and (forced) Migration,” Guest Lecture for Anthropology of Islam course, Northwestern University.

Service and Public Engagement

- 2023 Reviewer, Anthropological Quarterly
- 2023 Guest speaker, PellaPod-Death and Human Remains; Part I&II. College of Wooster.

Related Work and Research Experience

- 2021-22 Graduate Student Representative at the Middle East and North African Studies (MENA) program’s Equity Committee, Northwestern University.

- 2021 Steering Committee Member, Colloquium for Global Iran Studies (CoGIS), Northwestern University.
- 2021 Collaborator, Global Parliament of Mayors, Mannheim, Germany.
- 2021 Research Intern, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs.
- 2018-19 Program Curriculum Developer and Instructor, PADILEIA Program, American University of Beirut (AUB).
- 2018-19 Outreach volunteer, Basmeh o Zeitooneh non-profit, Beirut and Tripoli, Lebanon.
- 2007-2012 Instructor and creativity coach, the Society for Protecting the Rights of The Child, non-profit, Tehran.

Languages

- Farsi (native)
- English (fluent)
- Levantine Arabic (Fluent), Modern Standard Arabic (Advanced)
- Spanish (Intermediate)
- French (Intermediate)

Professional Memberships

- American Anthropological Association (AAA)
- American Ethnological Society (AES)
- Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
- European Association for Social Anthropologists (EASA)
- Association for Iranian Studies (AIS)