

ARZOO OSANLOO
Department of Anthropology
124 Aaron Burr Hall, Princeton University
Princeton, NJ 08544
aosanloo@princeton.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.

Professor, Department of Anthropology, 2025-present

Co-Founder; Co-Director, Human Rights Initiative, 2025-present

University of Washington, College of Arts and Sciences, Seattle, Washington

Professor, Department of Law, Societies, and Justice, 2020-present

Associate Professor, Law, Societies, and Justice Program, 2009-2020

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Law, Societies, and Justice Program, 2002-2009

·Adjunct Appointments:

School of Law, 2009-present

Department of Anthropology, 2009-present

Program in Comparative Religion, 2009-present

Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, 2002-present

Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, 2002-present

Director, Middle East Center, Jackson School for International Studies, 2015-2023

·PI, IFLE, Title VI, National Resource Center, Department of Education Award, 2018-2022

Chair, Middle East Studies MA Program, Jackson School for International Studies, 2015-2023

Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

Visiting Fellow and Associate Professor, The Program in Law and Public Affairs, 2011-2012

New York University, New York, New York

Center Fellow, International Center for Advanced Study, New York University, 2005-2006

EDUCATION

Stanford University, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Stanford, California

Doctor of Philosophy, Cultural and Social Anthropology, 2002

Dissertation: *At the Juncture of Islam & Republic: Socio-Legal Constructions of Women's Rights in Iran*

American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C.

Juris Doctorate *cum laude*, 1993

Administrative Law Journal

Institute of Transnational Law, Université Libre de Bruxelles; Brussels, Belgium, Summer 1991

International Human Rights Clinic, 1992-93

University of Colorado, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Boulder, Colorado

Bachelor of Arts *cum laude*, May 1990

Double major in French Literature and English Literature

Honor's Thesis: *Play Within the Play in Hamlet, The Tempest, and Midsummer Night's Dream*

Université de Bordeaux III, Talence, France, 1988-89

PUBLICATIONS

Books (Monographs and Edited Volume)

- ▶ [*Care in a Time of Humanitarianism: Stories of Refuge, Aid, and Repair in the Global South*](#). Co-editor with Cabeiri deBergh Robinson. Berghahn Books, 2024.
- ▶ [*Forgiveness Work: Mercy, Law, and Victims' Rights in Iran*](#). Princeton University Press, 2020.
 - Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies Book Award, 2022 (biennial prize for best scholarly monograph in Iranian and Persian Studies).

- Herbert Jacob Book Prize, Law & Society Association, 2021 (best book in Law & Society Studies).
- Honorable Mention, 2021 Political & Legal Anthropology Book Prize in Critical Anthropology.
- Honorable Mention, 2021 Clifford Geertz Prize in the Anthropology of Religion.

- [*The Politics of Women's Rights in Iran*](#). Princeton University Press, 2009.

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- “The Quiet Part of Sanctions: Changing Social Relations,” *Sanctions as Siege Forum, Third Space, Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, 21(1): 132-137, March 2025, <https://doi.org/10.1215/15525864-11575561>.
- “Entangled Lives: Enduring Under Sanctions,” *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development* 14(2): 264-281, Summer 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1353/hum.2023.a917000>.
- “Reflections in Reconciliation and Revolution,” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* 42(2): 538–540, August 2022, <https://doi.org/10.1215/1089201X-9988022>.
- “Everyday Forgiveness: The Practice and Politics of Mercy,” *HAU: Journal of Anthropological Theory* 11(2): 800-806, Fall 2021, <https://doi.org/10.1086/716488>.
- “The Law Knows No Shame: On Robert Redfield’s ‘Primitive Law’ and the Persistence of Honor in Contemporary Societies,” *American Anthropologist* 121(3): 729-733, August 2019, <https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.13300>.
- “On Not Saving the Muslim Women (and Men),” Special Forum: Trump’s Presidency and Middle East Women’s Studies, *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, 13(3): 479-482, November 2017, <http://jmnews.org/special-forum-trumps-presidency-middle-east-womens-studies/>.
- “Framing Rights: Women and Family Law in Pre- and Post-Revolutionary Iran,” *New Middle Eastern Studies* Vol. 5: 1-18 (2015), <http://www.brismes.ac.uk/nmes/archives/1415>.
- “When Blood Has Spilled: Gender, Honor, and Compensation in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning,” *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 35(2): 307–325, November 2012, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1555-2934.2012.01205.x>.
- “*Khoon Reekht: Tahleel-e Jensi az Kayfar va Mojazaat dar Iran*” (Blood Has Spilled: A Gendered Analysis of Crime and Punishment in Iran), S. Shahshahani, trans. *Farhang va Ensan (Culture and Being)*, Tehran, Iran, 5(2): 103-122, Fall 2009/Winter 2010.
- “Whence the Law: Politics of ‘Women’s Rights,’ Regime Change and the Vestiges of Reform in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” *Radical History Review* 101: 42-58, Spring 2008, <https://doi.org/10.1525/can.2006.21.4.570>.
- “The Measure of Mercy: Islamic Justice, Sovereign Power, and Human Rights in Iran,” *Cultural Anthropology* 21(4): 570-602, November 2006, <https://doi.org/10.1525/can.2006.21.4.570>.
- “Islamico-civil ‘rights talk’: women, subjectivity, and law in Iranian family court,” *American Ethnologist* 33(2): 191-209, May 2006, <https://doi.org/10.1525/ae.2006.33.2.191>.
- “Doing the ‘Rights’ Thing: Methods and Challenges of Fieldwork in Iran,” *Iranian Studies* 37(4): 675-684, December 2004, <https://doi.org/10.1080/0021086042000324215>.

Articles in Legal Studies Journals

- “Lessons from the Suffrage Movement in Iran,” *Yale Law Journal - Forum on 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage – the 19th Amendment* Volume 129: 496-511, January 20, 2020. <https://www.yalelawjournal.org/forum/lessons-from-the-suffrage-movement-in-iran>.

“Redress: Rights and Other Remedies, A Comment on David Engel’s Article on Rights Consciousness,” *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies* 19 (2): 493-503, Summer 2012. <https://www.repository.law.indiana.edu/ijgls/vol19/iss2/6/>.

Articles/Chapters in Peer-reviewed Collections

(in production) “Working to Cultivate Forgiveness: Social Practices, Religious Mores, and Law in Action,” in *Forgiveness: The Virtues Series*. Adam Green, ed. London: Oxford University Press (expected 2026).

“The Enduring Logic of Mercy: Humanitarianism’s Eclipse of Human Rights,” in *Reckoning with Law in Excess: Mobilization, Confrontation, Refusal*. M. Goodale and O. Zenker, eds. London: Cambridge University Press, 2025. Pp. 144-162.

“Benevolent Arts: The Persistence of Mercy in Humanitarian Logics,” in *Care in a Time of Humanitarianism: Stories of Refuge, Aid, and Repair in the Global South*. A. Osanloo and C. deBergh Robinson, eds. London: Berghahn Books 2024. Pp. 112-127.

“Introduction: Care in a Time of Humanitarianism,” co-authored with C. deBergh Robinson, in *Care in a Time of Humanitarianism: Stories of Refuge, Aid, and Repair in the Global South*. A. Osanloo and C. deBergh Robinson, eds. London: Berghahn Books 2024. Pp. 1-32.

“Conclusion: Closing Conversation Lessons in Humanitarianisms from the Global South,” with C. deBergh Robinson. In *Care in a Time of Humanitarianism: Stories of Refuge, Aid, and Repair in the Global South*. A. Osanloo and C. deBergh Robinson, eds. London: Berghahn Books 2024, pp. 298-306.

“Entanglements: Lives Lived under Sanctions,” *Rethinking Iran Initiative, Iran under Sanctions*, Johns Hopkins University, April 2021. <https://www.rethinkingiran.com/iran-under-sanctions>.

“Subjecting the State to Seeing: Charity, Security, and the Dispossessed in Iran’s Islamic Republic,” in *Governing Gifts: Faith, Charity, and the Security State* (School for Advanced Research Advanced Seminar Series). E. James, ed., Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2019. Pp. 59-77.

“Righteous Injuries: Victim’s Rights and Offender’s Suffering in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning” in *Injury and Injustice: Cultural Practices of Harm and Redress*. A. Bloom, D. Engel, and M. McCann, eds., London: Cambridge University Press, 2018. Pp. 96-114.

“Evidence, Certainty, and Doubt: Judge’s Knowledge in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning,” in *Truth, Intentionality and Evidence: Anthropological Approaches to Crime and Tort*. Y. Ben Hounet and D. Puccio-Den, eds., Routledge Press, 2017. Pp. 28-45.

“Women and Criminal Law in Post-Khomeini Iran,” in *Social Change in Post-Khomeini Iran*. M. Monshipouri, ed. Hurst Publishers, 2016. Pp. 91-112.

“Crime and Reconciliation: Women’s Peace Initiatives in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” in *Women and Peace in the Islamic World: Gender, Agency and Influence*. Y. Saikia and C. Haines, eds., I.B. Tauris, 2014. Pp. 224-245.

“Les pratiques sociales et légales du pardon dans le système judiciaire iranien,” in *Justice, Religion, Réconciliation*. Y. Ben Hounet, S. Lefranc & D. Puccio-Den, eds., Editions L’Harmattan. Collection « La religion en question » 2014. Pp. 83-94.

“Khomeini’s Legacy on Women’s Rights and Roles in the Islamic Republic of Iran,” in *A Critical Introduction to Khomeini*. A. Adib-Moghaddam, ed., Cambridge University Press, 2014. Pp. 239-255.

- “From Status to Rights: The Shifting Dimensions of Women’s Affairs and Family Law in Iran.” In *Feminist Activism, Women’s Rights and Legal Reform*, M. Al-Sharmani, ed., ZED Books, 2014. Pp. 125-150.
- “Human Rights By Any Other Name.” In *Iran Confronting 21st Century Challenges: In Honour of Mohammad-Reza Djalili*. H.E. Chehabi, F. Khosrowkhavar, and C. Therme, eds., Mazda 2013. Pp. 79-95.
- “Contesting Governance: Authority, Protest, and Rights Talk in Post-Republican Iran.” In *Comparative Authoritarianisms: Syria and Iran*. S. Heydemann and R. Leenders, eds., Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2012. Pp. 127-142.
- “What a focus on ‘family’ means in the Islamic Republic of Iran.” In *Family Law in Islam: Divorce, Marriage and Women in the Muslim World*. M. Voorhoeve, ed., I.B. Tauris, 2012. Pp. 51-76.
- “Iran.” In *Case Studies in Comparative Politics*, D.J. Samuels, ed., Pearson Press, 2012. Pp. 407-447.
- “Refusing Mercy: The Hunger Strike Controversy as a Challenge to the State’s Monopoly on Violence in Iran.” In *Policing and Prisons in the Middle East*. L. Khalili and J. Schwedler, eds., Columbia University Press, 2010. Pp. 263-277.

Encyclopedia Essay

- “Courts.” In *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology: Anthropology Beyond Text*. Hilary Callan, ed., London: John Wiley & Sons Ltd., 2018.

Book Review Essays

- Negar Mottahedeh, *Whisper Tapes: Kate Millett in Iran*. Stanford University Press, 2019, *Review of Middle East Studies (RoMES)*, 54(1): 112- 116, June 2020, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/rms.2020.17>.
- Lawrence Rosen, *Islam and the Rule of Justice: Image and Reality in Muslim Law and Culture*. University of Chicago Press, 2018, *Anthropology Quarterly*, 92(3): 955-961, Summer 2019, <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/734019>.
- Matthew S. Erie, *China and Islam: The Prophet, the Party, and the Law*. Cambridge University Press, 2016, *Law and Society Review*, 52(3): 816-820, September 2018, <https://doi.org/10.1111/lasr.12356>.
- Orkideh Behrouzan, *Prozak Diaries: Psychiatry and Generational Memory in Iran*. Stanford: University Press, 2016, *Iranian Studies*, Summer 2018, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00210862.2018.1502055>.
- Marion H. Katz, *Women in the Mosque: A History of Legal Thought and Social Practice*. Columbia University Press, 2014, *Journal of the Society for Contemporary Thought and Islamicate World*. September 10, 2015, <http://sctiw.org/sctiwreviewarchives/archives/705>.

Public Scholarship: Invited Commentaries, Interviews, and Essays

- [“When mercy doesn’t season justice: Rights versus humanitarian relief,”](#) Forum on Religion and Violence, *The Immanent Frame*, September 18, 2024.
- [“ICC: Recovering the Rule of Law amidst the Rubble of Gaza,”](#) Present Tense Forum, *American Anthropological Association*, July 18, 2024.

[“Iran, In Her Name: Women Rise, State Violence, and the Future of Iran,”](#) Americans for Middle East Understanding, *The Link*, Vol. 56(2): 3-14, December 2023.

[“The Politics of Women’s Rights in Iran,”](#) *Haqq Podcast*, Ergo Studios, July 26, 2023.

[“Rights in an Age of Benevolence: Women’s Revolutionary Uprisings in Iran,”](#) *Hot Spots, Field Sights, Society for Cultural Anthropology*, June 29, 2023.

[“Challenging Benevolence: What’s Revolutionary about Iranian Women’s Uprisings?”](#) *Rethinking Iran, Feminist Futures*, Johns Hopkins University, May 2023.

[“The Woman Question,”](#) *Throughline*, National Public Radio, October 20, 2022.

Co-PI, Co-Host, Webinar series *Humanitarianisms: Migrations and Care through the Global South*, <https://www.humanitarianisms.org/webinar-archive.html>, October 2020 – May 2021.

Co-editors of the website *Humanitarianisms* —with pedagogical resources, webinar series, public blog, and scholarly resources, beta version launched Jan. 2021, <https://www.humanitarianisms.org>.

“Improving the Status of Women: An Interview with Arzoo Osanloo,” *Tarikh Irani (Iranian History) Journal*, in Persian, May 26, 2019, <http://bit.ly/2LhwzHm>.

“Methods as Politics and the Anthropology of Change in Iran,” *American Anthropologist*, Vol. 120(1): 150-51, March 2018, <https://doi.org/10.1111/aman.12996>.

“Forbearance Advocacy and Criminal Sanctioning in Iran,” *The Foreign Policy Centre, Iran Human Rights Review, Women and Human Rights Issue*, October 2016, http://www.ihrr.org/ihrr_article/women-en_forbearance-advocacy-and-criminal-sanctioning-in-iran/.

“Postscript to ‘When Blood Has Spilled: Gender, Honor, and Compensation in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning,’” *Political and Legal Anthropology Review Online*, June 2015, <http://www.polaronline.org/virtual-issues/promise-and-pathos-of-law/postscripts-2/>.

“Interview with Arzoo Osanloo about ‘The Measure of Mercy,’” *Curated Collections, Cultural Anthropology Online*, December 14, 2014, http://www.culanth.org/curated_collections/19-everyday-islam/discussions/22-interview-with-arzoo-osanloo-about-the-measure-of-mercy.

Guest Editor, *Zannegaar Journal*, Issue 11, “Law, Culture, and Gender,” March 2013, (in English and Persian), <http://zannegaar.net/about-en>.

“On Agamben’s Zone of Indistinction in post-Soviet Russia: A Response to Alexei Yurchak,” *Current Anthropology* 49(2): 218-219, April 2008.

Reprint/Translation

Miara litości: sprawiedliwość islamska, władza suwerenna i prawa człowieka w Iranie (The Measure of Mercy: Islamic Justice, Sovereign Power, and Human Rights in Iran). Trans. Marek Pawlak. Reprinted in, *Tematy z Szewskiej (Topics from Szewska Street): Journal of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology*, University of Wrocław, 1(4): 53-71, May 2010.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

Royalty Research Fund, Scholar Award, University of Washington, Summer 2024. Summer Salary.

Royalty Research Fund Award, University of Washington, September 2023 – September 2024.

Course buyout and research bursary.

Global Innovation Fund, Office of Global Studies, Research Award, University of Washington, 2023-24.

Co-PI, Wenner-Gren Foundation, Conference Grant, 2022-2023.
 Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies Book Award, 2022, biennial prize recognizing best scholarly monograph in Persian/Persian Gulf Studies.
 Herbert Jacob Book Prize 2021, *Law and Society Association*, recognizing new, outstanding work in law and society scholarship.
 Honorable Mention, 2021 Clifford Geertz Prize in the Anthropology of Religion.
 Honorable Mention, 2021 Association for Political and Legal Anthropology Book Prize in Critical Anthropology.
 Global Innovation Fund, Office of Global Studies, Teaching and Curriculum Award, University of Washington, 2021-22.
 Center for Global Studies, JSIS, Course Development Grant, University of Washington, summer 2020.
 Technology Teaching Institute Fellowship, summer 2020.
 Co-PI, Mellon Foundation, Sawyer Seminar Series, *Humanitarianisms: Migration and Care through the Global South*, 2019-2022 (\$225,000).
 PI, Title VI, Department of Education Award, 2018 – 2022.
 National Resource Center: \$290,000 annually (\$956,000 total 4-year total).
 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowships: \$300,000 annually (\$1,200,000 4-year total).
 Society of Scholars, Simpson Center for Humanities, University of Washington, 2015 – 2016.
 Two course buyout
 Simpson Center for Humanities, University of Washington, July 2013 – 2014.
 Colloquium Award: \$3,239
 Social Sciences Advisory Council, Fetzer Institute, July 2012 – July 2014.
 Research Award: \$84,999
 Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University, September 2011 – June 2012.
 Center Fellowship: \$50,000
 Center for Global Studies, Course Development Grant, University of Washington, summer 2010.
 Royalty Research Fund Award, University of Washington, May 2010 – August 2010.
 Course buyout and \$30,000
 Royalty Research Scholar Award, University of Washington, summer 2009.
 Summer salary
 Mortar Board Undergraduate Honor's Society, Excellence in Teaching Award, 2008.
 Schwartz Endowment, Office of Global Affairs, University of Washington, Travel Award, fall 2007.
 4x4 Teaching Fellowship Award, University of Washington, 2006-07.
 Jackson School, International Studies, Course Development Grant, University of Washington, 2007.
 Center Fellowship, International Center for Advanced Study, New York University, 2005-06.
 Marc Lindenberg Center Mobility Grant, University of Washington, summer 2005.
 Curriculum Transformation Project Award, Dean's Office, University of Washington, 2003-04.
 Geballe Dissertation Fellow, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, 2001-2002.
 Dept. of Cultural and Social Anthropology, Stanford University, Mellon Dissertation Grant, 2000-1.
 Institute for International Studies, Stanford University, O'bie Shultz Fellowship, fall 2000.
 School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Stanford University, Graduate Research Opportunity Grant for Doctoral Research in Tehran, Iran, 1999.
 Department of Cultural & Social Anthropology, Stanford University, Mellon Grant for Doctoral Research, Tehran, Iran, 1998-1999.
 Department of Anthropology, Stanford University, Mellon Bridge Grant, summer 1998.
 Law and Society Association, Graduate Student Conference Bursary, spring 1998.
 International Area Studies/Human Rights Center, University of California, Berkeley, spring 1998.
 Department of Anthropology, Stanford University, Pre-dissertation Grant, California, summer 1997.
 Department of Anthropology, Stanford University, Pre-dissertation Grant, Pakistan, summer 1996.
 Department of Anthropology, Stanford University/Mellon, Graduate Fellowship, 1995-98.
 American University, Washington College of Law, Dean's Fellowship in Gender and Law, 1991-92.

INVITED SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Individual Lectures and Keynotes

States Sanctions: Material and Affective Conditions of Economic Sanctions i/on Iran, Keynote Lecture, Max Planck Institute, Spring School, March 24, 2026.

By-Design: The Material and Affective Conditions of Being under Economic Sanctions in Iran, Friday Morning Seminars: Culture, Psychiatry and Global Mental Health, Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, October 17, 2025.

The Enduring Logic of Mercy: Humanitarian Care and the Eclipse of Human Rights, Department of Anthropology, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, February 1, 2024.

The Enduring Logic of Mercy: Humanitarian Care and the Eclipse of Human Rights, American Bar Foundation, Evanston, IL, October 4, 2023.

The Violence of Benevolence and Women's Revolutionary Movement for Rights in Iran and Beyond, Department of International Relations, Lehigh University, April 19, 2023.

Iranian Women's Revolutionary Movement for Rights at the Precipice of a Global Movement, International Law Students Association, Notre Dame Law School, Notre Dame, IN, March 28, 2023 [virtual].

The Challenge of Rights in a Time of Benevolence: Women and Law, Iran and Beyond, International Law Society, University of Houston Law Center, February 28, 2023 [virtual].

Challenging Benevolence: Iranian Women's Revolutionary Movement for Rights in Iran and Beyond, Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, Princeton University, Feb 1, 2023.

The Violence of Benevolence and the Struggles for Women's Rights in Iran, Moghadam Program in Iranian Studies, Stanford University, January 26, 2023.

Making Room for Forgiveness: Conflict, Mediation, and Justice in Iranian Criminal Courts, Yale-National University of Singapore, Law Liberal Arts, Elm College, August 26, 2022.

Care Economies and the Eclipse of Human Rights, **Keynote** Address, Iranian Sociological Association, June 15, 2022 [virtual].

The Rise of Humanitarian Care and the Eclipse of Human Rights, Global Dialogue Series, Conceptualizing Human Rights, Global Studies Division, Stanford University, May 20, 2022 [virtual].

Forgiveness Work: Conflict, Mediation, and Justice in Iranian Criminal Courts, Department of Anthropology, University of Nevada, Reno, April 19, 2022 [virtual].

Forgiveness Works: The Art of Forgiveness in Iranian Criminal Law, Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies, George Mason University, April 13, 2022 [virtual].

Forgiveness Work: In Conversation, Mushtaq Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences LUMS University, Lahore, Pakistan, November 30, 2021 [virtual].

Forgiveness Work: In Conversation, Department of Law, Politics, and Society Program, Drake University, November 16, 2021 [virtual].

Adjudicating Crime, Advocating Forbearance: Conflict, Mediation, and Justice in Iranian Criminal Courts, Department of Anthropology, McMaster University, November 12, 2021 [virtual].

- Preserving Right, Forgiving Wrong: Codifying Mercy in Iranian Criminal Laws*, Iranian Studies Unit, Arab Center for Research & Policy Studies, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Nov 11, 2021 [virtual].
- 'When Mercy Seasons Justice': Forbearance in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning & its Persistent Logic in a Global Era*, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Cornell University, November 8, 2021 [virtual].
- The Enduring Logic of Mercy and its Discontents*, Department of Anthropology, Australian National University, September 20, 2021 [virtual].
- Forgiveness Work and Iranian Criminal Justice*, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, December 9, 2020 [virtual].
- Forgiveness Work: Mercy, Law, and Victims' Rights in Iran*, Conflict Studies Center, School of Oriental and Asian Studies, University of London, November 24, 2020 [virtual].
- Forgiveness Work: Crimtorts and Process*, University of Texas-Austin, School of Law, November 9, 2020 [virtual].
- Forgiveness Work: A Conversation*, Center for Iranian Studies, Princeton University, September 24, 2020 [virtual].
- Forgiveness Work: Forbearance in Iran's Laws of Criminal Sanctioning*, Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law, Brumley Speaker Series, University of Texas-Austin, October 30, 2019.
- Doing Research in Iran*, Center for South Asian and Middle East Studies, University of Illinois, October 22, 2019.
- The Blue Feeling of Death and the Art of Forgiveness in Iran*, Center for Middle East Studies, University of Arizona, April 12, 2019.
- Judicial Forbearance Advocacy: Conflict and Mediation in Iranian Criminal Courts*, College of Law, University of Arizona, April 11, 2019.
- The Gender of Forbearance: Women and 'Forgiveness Work' in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning*, Iranian Studies and Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto, March 8, 2019.
- Moral Striving and the Care of Others: Forgiveness Work in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning*, Department of Anthropology and the Watson Institute, Brown University, February 22, 2018.
- The Gender of Forbearance: Women's Roles in Peacemaking in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning*, Women and Gender Studies, Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration, Seattle University, February 8, 2018.
- Waiting on Forbearance: The Slow Work of Forbearance Activism in Iran (and Methodological Reflections)*, International Studies Institute, University of New Mexico, November 6, 2017.
- Embodied Forbearance: Mercy and Mediation in Iranian Criminal Law*, Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, October 24, 2017.
- When Mercy Seasons Justice: Revelation and Reform in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning*, Center for the Study of Law and Society, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, March 6, 2017.
- Making Room for Forgiveness: A Look at Iran's Victim-Centered Approach to Criminal Justice*, Center for South Asian and Middle East Studies, University of Illinois, November 11, 2016.
- Mercy's Enduring Logic: What Refugees and Criminals Have in Common*, West Coast Law and Society Retreat (Plenary), University of California, Irvine, School of Law, February 26, 2016.

Preserving Right, Forgiving Wrong: Legal Enactments of Mercy in Iranian Criminal Sanctions, Council on Middle East Studies, Yale University, February 19, 2016.

Mediating Mercy: Stirring Faith in Forgiveness, Kevorkian Center and Iranian Studies, New York University, February 18, 2016.

The Art of Forgiveness in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning, Islamic Studies Program, University of Michigan, February 12, 2015.

Forgiveness in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning: Women's Rights and Politics in Iran, Muslim Studies Program, Michigan State University, November 5, 2014.

Le raisonnement du juge: les nouveaux développements du code pénal en Iran, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie sociale, CNRS/EHESS, Collège de France, Paris, France, November 12, 2012.

Questioning Liberalisms: Women's Rights and Politics in Iran, Centre for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, September 28, 2012.

From Status to Rights: The Shifting Dimensions of Women's Activism in Iranian Family Law Reform, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, September 26, 2012.

The Islamic Mandate of Forgiveness in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Oslo, Norway, September 25, 2012.

Humanity and Forgiveness in Islamic Criminal Sanctioning in Iran, Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, April 16, 2012.

'Don't Ask Just the Devil': Human Rights and Forgiveness in Iran, **Keynote** Speaker, Human Rights in Islam Colloquium, Duke University, February 24, 2011.

The Politics of Family Protection and the Instrumentalization of "Women's Rights" in Iran, Loyola University of Chicago, November 11, 2010.

Calling the French President's Wife a "Prostitute": The Global Politics of Protecting Iranian Women, Department of Anthropology, Brown University, November 4, 2010.

Questioning Liberalisms: Women's Rights and Politics in Iran, Comparative Politics, American University in Paris, Paris, France, April 19, 2010.

Reflections on Sanctioning in Islamic Criminal Law in Iran, Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, December 7, 2009.

Negahi be qavanin-e mojarat-e Eslami dar Iran (A Look at the Laws of Criminal Punishment in Iran), Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, December 6, 2009.

Advocacy in Post-Republican Iran: Or, How Iran's Newly Authoritarian Regime Engenders a New Politics of Rights Talk, **Keynote** Speaker, Translegality: Law and Literature Association of Australia and Law and Society Association of Australia and New Zealand Joint Conference, Griffith Law School, Brisbane, Australia, December 5, 2009.

Republicanizing Islam: Gender, Power and Law in Iran, Department of Anthropology Colloquium, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, February 9, 2009.

The Non-State Pardon: Islamic criminal sanctioning and the mandate of forgiveness in Iran, University of Puget Sound, April 24, 2008.

La Notion de "pardon" dans la justice Islamique (The notion of "pardon" in Islamic Justice). French

Institute for Iranian Studies in Iran, Tehran, Iran, November 14, 2007.

The Mischievous Gaze: "Women's Rights" as Exhibition at the Brink of War with Iran. Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, October 15, 2007.

Forging a Rift: Discourse and Politics in Iranian Human Rights. Middle East Studies, University of Arizona, November 2, 2006.

Human Rights in Iran: The Politics and Prose of a Discursive Space, International Center for Advanced Studies, New York University, April 21, 2006.

There Are No Ladies Here: Women's Rights, Regime Change and the Vestiges of Reform in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Middle East Studies, Yale University, April 12, 2006.

The Measure of Mercy: Islamic Justice, Sovereign Power and Human Rights in Iran, International Center for Advanced Studies, New York University, October 21, 2005.

Women and Civil Society in Contemporary Iran, Near East Center, Cornell University, April 7, 2005.

The Measure of Mercy: Human Rights in Iran, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, December 8, 2003.

Women's rights and new legal formations in Iran, Law and Society, Green College, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, October 30, 2003.

Islamico-civil "rights-talk": Iranian Women and politico-legal mobilization in family court, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, March 10, 2003.

(Re) Visiting Islam's Republic: Personal Reflections on Women's Rights in Iran, **Keynote** Address, 29th Annual Western Anthropology and Sociology Undergraduate Research Conference, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA, April 13, 2002.

At the Juncture of Islam and Republic: Socio-Legal Implications for Women's Rights in Iran, Comparative Law and Society Studies Center, University of Washington, November 26, 2001.

Revealing Liberal Islam: Conditions for Women's Rights in Iran, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, November 15, 2001.

Colloquia/Symposia/Roundtable

Benevolence, Forgiveness, and the Ambiguities of Power, The Human Flourishing Program, Harvard University, April 21, 2023.

Panelist, *Women, Life, Freedom: The Iranian Protests and their Implications,* Middle East/Islamicate Worlds Studies, Hamilton College, March 30, 2023 [virtual].

Panelist, *Reinventing Citizenship Amid Democratic Backsliding Colloquium Series,* O. P. Jindal Global University (India) and University of York (UK), December 13, 2022 [virtual].

Panelist, *In Protest and Solidarity, A Teach-In on the Feminist Uprising in Iran,* Human Rights Program, School of Law, University of Miami and the Center for the Humanities in an Urban Environment, Florida International University, Miami, FL, November 17, 2022 [virtual].

Panelist, *Iran's Protest Movement,* Center for Multicultural Services and Programs, Indiana State University, November 1, 2022 [virtual].

Panelist, *Women and the Politics of Life: A Teach-in on Iran*, Center for Middle East Studies, University of California, Berkeley, October 20, 2022 [virtual].

Gender, Revolution, and Constitutional Ethnography in Iran, The Symposium on Constitutional Ethnography, University of Alabama, School of Law, October 14, 2022 [virtual].

Panelist, *Iran's Political Uprisings: "Women, Life, Freedom" Shake the Regime in Iran*, Roundtable, Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, Syracuse University, October 11, 2022 [virtual].

The Forgotten Mundane: Contemporary Iran Beneath and Beyond Politics, Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, Princeton University, January 26, 2022 [virtual].

Sanctions, Politics, and Everyday Life, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, May 19, 2021 [virtual].

Not One Word More: Non-Democratic Agendas and the Antinomies of Rule in Iran, Democratic Agendas, Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, April 21, 2017.

The Place of Forgiveness in Iranian Civil Society, Ethnography of Iran: Past and Present, Princeton University, October 3, 2015.

Righteous Injuries: Victim's Rights and Offender's Suffering in Iran's Islamic Criminal Sanctioning, Injury as Cultural Practice, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, September 6, 2014.

Judicial Discretion and 'Forgiveness Reasoning' in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning, Islam and Forgiveness: Reflections on Justice and Conflict Resolution in Muslim Contexts, University of Washington, February 7, 2014.

Crime and Forgiveness in Tehran's Criminal Court, Fetzer Institute Global Gathering, Assisi, Italy, September 21, 2012.

Les Pratiques Sociales et Légales du Pardon Privé des Sanctions Criminelles dans le Système Judiciaire Iranien, Colloque de Justice, Religion, & Réconciliation, Association Française de Sciences Sociales des Religions, CNRS, Paris, February 6, 2012.

Crime and Reconciliation: Women's Peace Initiatives in Iran, Women, Islam and Peacebuilding Conference, Center for Study of Religion and Conflict, Arizona State University, March 11, 2011.

"Human Rights" By Any Other Name, Iran Confronting 21st Century Challenges, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland, June 18-19, 2010.

Doing the 'Cultural Work': Women's Scriptural Reading Groups in Iran, Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, Annual Symposium, Wesleyan University, October 10, 2008.

When Blood Has Been Spilled: Gendered Logics of Criminal Sanctioning in Iranian Islamic Law, Gender and Politics of 'Traditional' Muslim Practices, Pembroke Center, Brown University, March 7, 2008.

Whence the Law: Politics of 'Women's Rights,' Regime Change and the Vestiges of Reform in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Symposium: The State of Middle East Studies, Cultural and Social Anthropology, Stanford University, May 17, 2007.

Righting Wrongs: Liberal Strategies for Pre-empting War in Iran and Beyond, Project for Critical Asian Studies and Simpson Center for the Humanities UW, February 22, 2005.

Workshops

Reflections on Minorities, Citizenship, and Authority, Minorities and Full Citizenship: Challenges and Opportunities in Interfaith Dialogue Workshop, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilizations, The Aga Khan University, London, May 2, 2025.

PhD Doctoral Seminar, Pozen Center for Human Rights, University of Chicago, April 10, 2025.

Iranian Women, Embracing Constitutionalism, and the Challenge of Gender Equality, Workshop on Constituting Transformation? Ethnographic Insights into the Potentials and Pitfalls of Constitutional Law in Action, Hamburg Institute for Social Research, Hamburg, Germany, November 21- 22, 2024.

The Patient Stone: The Neoliberal Life of Sanctions, Lives Lived Under Sanctions: Anthropology of Sanctions Conference, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University, September 15, 2023.

Enduring Logic of Mercy and the Eclipse of Human Rights, Political Violence and its Legacies Workshop, Yale University, March 2, 2023.

Gender, Law, and Religion, Training Initiative for Asian Law and Society Scholars, National University of Singapore, August 22 – 25, 2022.

The Rise of Care & the End of Human Rights, After Law Workshop, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, June 6-10, 2022.

Benevolent Arts and the Persistence of Humanitarian Logics, Humanitarianisms in the Global South I & II, University of Washington, March 15, 2022 & December 12, 2021 [virtual].

Iran Under Sanctions, International Crisis Group and Johns Hopkins, School of Advanced International Studies, July 19, 2019.

Research in 'Danger Zones', Center for Middle East Studies, University of Arizona, April 12, 2019.

The Interface of Human Rights and Anthropology in Legal Practice, School of Law, University of Arizona, April 11, 2019.

Writing the Living Shari'a, Near and Middle East Studies, University of Toronto, March 9, 2019.

Righteous Injuries: Victim's Rights and Offender's Suffering in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning, Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, October 25, 2017.

Affective Judgment: Sentimental Reasoning and Judicial Discretion, Islamic Studies Program, University of Michigan, February 13, 2015.

Arriving at Truth: Judge's Knowledge in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning, Truth, Intentionality and Evidence, Centre Jacques-Berque pour les Études en Sciences Humaines et Sociales, CNRS, Rabat, Morocco, January 28-30, 2015.

Women and Law in Post-Revolutionary Iran, Social Change in Post-Khomeini Iran, Center for International and Regional Studies, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Doha, Qatar, October 20-1, 2012 and March 16-17, 2013.

Law and Social Sciences/National Science Foundation, Interdisciplinarity in Law and Society Studies, Kent Law School, Chicago, May 25-6, 2011.

Experts and Evidence in Asylum: Collision or Collusion of Law and Anthropology, History, Law, and Practice of Asylum, Columbia University, February 11, 2011.

Authority, Protest, and Rights Talk in Post-republic Iran, Authoritarianisms, Regime Resilience and State-Society Relations: Comparing Political Change in Syria and Iran, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, May 27-29, 2010.

Gendering State-Building, Islam, and Republic in Iran, Gender, Sexuality & Formations of the State Question of “the Islamicate” Across Turkish-Persian Landscapes, Department of Anthropology & Center for Middle East Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, April 30-May 1, 2010.

Advocacy in Post-Republican Iran: How Iran’s Newly Authoritarian Regime Engenders a New Politics of Rights Talk: Law against the State, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale, Germany, April 14-16, 2010.

Reconciling or Litigating: Dealing with Iran’s Post-election State. Justice for Iran Conference, The Hague, The Netherlands, March 19 - 20, 2010.

From Status to Rights: The Shifting Dimensions of Women’s Affairs and Family Law in Iran, Islamic Family Law, Oslo Coalition for Freedom of Religion & Belief, Cairo, Egypt, January 8-10, 2010.

In the Absence of Proof: Sworn Oaths in Iranian Criminal Sanctioning, Islamic Legal Reasoning Conference, University of Washington, School of Law, June 5, 2009.

Women and Islamico-civil rights talk in Iran, "Who’s Afraid of Sharia?" Center for the Critical Analysis of Social Difference, Columbia University, October 3, 2008.

Human rights, rule of law, civil society: old words, new times, West Coast Law & Society Retreat, Oakland, CA, March 12, 2005.

Annual Conference Papers

Hope’s Eternal Spring: Nostalgia and Renewal in the Arts, Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., November 23, 2025.

The Refugee System of Care, Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal, November 4, 2023.

Sanctioned States of Mind: Economic Punishment and Affective Warfare, American Anthropological Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, November 9, 2022.

Practice and Ethics in Ethnography of Iran, Association for Iranian Studies Annual Conference, Salamanca, Spain [virtual], August 31, 2022.

Care Economies and the End of Human Rights, Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Lisbon, July 16, 2022.

Iranians Under Sanctions: Alienation and Everyday Entanglements, Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting [virtual], December 3, 2021.

The Enduring Logic of Mercy. American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, November 21, 2019.

Legal Logics and Gendered Subjectivities: A Comment on Katherine Lemons’ Divorcing Traditions. American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC, November 21, 2019.

How Human Rights Were Denuded of Transformative Potential. International Law Association, Annual Conference, New York, October 19, 2018.

- Preserving Right, Forgiving Wrong: Mercy's Law in Iranian Criminal Sanctions.* Islamic Legal Studies, Annual Conference, Helsinki & Tampere, June 9, 2018.
- Caching Honor: Re-reading Redfield's 'Primitive Law.'* American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., December 2, 2017.
- Merciful Discretions: Legal Consciousness and Moral Affects.* Law and Society Association, Annual Meeting, Mexico City, Mexico, June 23, 2017.
- Willing Mercy: Bureaucratic Frames of Forgiveness in Iran.* American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 20, 2015.
- Equity over Equality: Debating Gender Justice and Humanity in Iran.* American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 5, 2014.
- Sentiment and Justice in Iranian criminal sanctioning: Making the case for forbearance.* American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 21, 2013.
- Politics and Discourse in Iranian Family Law Reforms 2007 – Present.* American Association of Law Schools, Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 7, 2012.
- Subjectivities and State Formations in Post-revolutionary Iran.* Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 1, 2011.
- The Role of 'Woman' and the Meaning of 'Family' in Post-Republican Iran.* World Conference on Middle East Studies, Bi-Annual Meeting, Barcelona, Spain, July 21, 2010.
- Advocacy in an Age of Regime Change: A New Politics of 'Rights Talk' in Iran.* Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 22, 2009.
- Legal Mobilization and Women's Rights in Post-Election Iran.* West Coast Law and Society Retreat, Stanford University School of Law, Stanford, CA, October 16-17, 2009.
- Policing Humanity: Sovereignty, Law and Hunger Strikes in Iran.* Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Berlin, Germany, July 24-30, 2007.
- Refusing Mercy: Challenging the State's Monopoly on Violence in Iran.* Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 20, 2006.
- Refusing to Live in the Service of Life: Challenging the State's Monopoly on Legitimate Violence in Iran.* American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 3, 2005.
- The Pardon Power in the U.S. and Iran: Subjects and Sovereigns in Comparative Perspective.* Law and Society Association, Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, June 4, 2005.
- Women Lawyers in Iran: At the Vanguard of Reform.* International Sociological Association, Working Group on the Legal Profession, Ile de Berder, France, July 2, 2004.
- The Modern State, Sovereign Authority and Human Rights: What is the Measure of Mercy?* Society for Cultural Anthropology, Portland, OR, April 30, 2004.
- Iran's Islamico-civil courts, hybridized subjectivity and new understandings of Justice.* Human Rights from the Bottom-Up Conference, University of Washington, April 2, 2004.
- Rethinking the 'Clash': rights-talk in post-revolutionary Iran.* American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November 23, 2003.

Performing Rights, Transforming Identity, Women's Rights Practice in Tehran's Family Court, American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C., November 30, 2001.

Islamic Human Rights: Romancing and Resisting Human Rights in Iran, MacArthur Consortium Gender in an International Context Workshop, University of Minnesota, November 3, 2001.

Performing Identity: Shifting Discourses of Women's Rights in Iran, American Ethnological Society Conference, Montréal, Canada, May 5, 2001.

Practicing Mercy: The 'Eventing' of Islamic Human Rights in Iran, American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November 2000.

Public Presentations

The Challenge of Human Rights in Iran (and why Iranian women are at the vanguard of a revolutionary movement for rights), Hamandishi Graduate Student Group, University of Calgary, September 8, 2023 [virtual].

Social Study of the Women Led Movement in Iran, Exchange on Equity Roundtable, San Diego County Bar Association, June 5, 2023 [virtual].

Iran's Judiciary System, Today in International Politics Speaker Series, New York, April 4, 2023 [virtual].

Women, Life, Freedom: Iranian Women's Contributions to Public Life and Democracy, Urban Land Institute, Toronto, March 6, 2023.

The Crisis in Iran: The Neglected Relationship Between Culture and Rights, **Keynote**, Marin County Bar Association, November 16, 2022.

Iran: Gender and Rights After State Violence, University of Washington, Bothell, October 8, 2022.

[*In Her Name: Women Rising, State Violence, and the Future of Iran*](#), *Jadaliyya*, September 28, 2022 [virtual].

[*Political Ethics of Sanctions: Lessons from Iran and Iraq*](#), *Jadaliyya*, April 7, 2022 [virtual].

The Art of Forgiveness in Iranian Criminal Law (in Persian), The Iran Circle, March 5, 2022 [virtual].

Forum on Refugees, Asylum Law, and the Executive Order, Amnesty International, UW Chapter, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, February 28, 2017.

Teaching Iran, Roundtable on Teaching the Middle East on Campus, Jackson School for International Studies, Seattle, WA, May 7, 2015.

Forgiveness in Criminal Sanctioning in Iran, The Religious Society of Friends, University Friends Meeting, Seattle, WA, April 26, 2015.

Politics and Rights in a Modern Islamic Republic, Search for Meaning Book Festival, Seattle University, Seattle, WA, February 15, 2014.

Findings on Forgiveness in Iranian Criminal Court, Fetzer Institute, Kalamazoo, MI, February 27, 2013.

Rights and non-Rights: Women's lives in Iran, House of Literature, Oslo, Norway, September 26, 2012.

Debating Islamic Republic (still): Liberalization and Authoritarianism in the post-2009 era, World Affairs Council, Olympia, Washington, January 20, 2011.

- Iran, Women and Geopolitical Conflict*, Stroum Jewish Community Center, Mercer Island, Washington, October 28, 2009.
- Legacy of Iran's 2009 Presidential Election*, Organizer and Moderator, University of Washington, Middle East Center, October 3, 2009.
- Iran, Women and Human Rights*, Voices Education Project: Workshop on Iran, Seattle, October 3, 2009.
- Critical Understandings of Women's Rights in Iran*, Revolution Books, Seattle, July 18, 2009.
- Career Paths in Human Rights: From Lawyer to Scholar (and Back)*, Faculty Spotlight, Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity, Ethnic Cultural Center, University of Washington, May 21, 2009.
- Discussing 'The Politics of Women's Rights in Iran,'* Washington Talking Book and Braille Library, May 20, 2009 (radio program recorded for statewide broadcast).
- Contemporary Issues in Iranian Women's Rights*, **Keynote** Address, Northwest International Education Association, Bothell, Washington, May 15, 2009.
- Writing Women's Rights in Iran*, Elliot Bay Bookstore, Seattle, Washington, April 29, 2009.
- Modern Iran: The Future of the Past*, Panel Discussant, University of Washington, April 2, 2009.
- The Women's Rights in Iran*, South Puget Sound Community College, Olympia, WA, January 22, 2009.
- The Politics of Women's Rights in Iran*, The Fieldston School, New York, November 13, 2008.
- Contemporary Refugee Issues*, Master Teachers Institute, Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, July 11, 2008.
- Geopolitics and Women's Rights in Iran*, Teachers as Scholars Seminar, Seattle Arts & Lectures with Simpson Center for the Humanities, February 9 & March 2, 2008.
- Young Global Leaders' Summit on US-Iran Relations and Islam*, Moderator, Americans for Informed Democracy, Seattle University, February 12, 2008.
- Media Coverage and the US and Iranian Relations*, Iranian-American Community Alliance, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, January 31, 2008.
- Representing Others: Iran and its complicated relationship with the West*, Edmonds Community College, Global Futures Series, Seattle, WA, January 23, 2008.
- What do Women's Rights in Iran have to do with the War on Terror?* Americans for Informed Democracy, Seattle, WA, October 20, 2007.
- Teaching Race, Gender, Ethnicity in Transnational Perspective*, National Women's Studies Association Conference, Oakland, CA, June 18, 2006.
- The Conditions of Women's Rights in Iran: Politics, Discourse, and Practice*, New Approaches in Middle East Scholarship, NYU Community College Teachers Workshop, New York, April 8, 2006.
- The Discourse of "Women's Rights": Examining Women's Empowerment Movements in Iran*, Community College Masters Teachers Institute, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, July 8, 2005.
- The State and Women's Rights in Iran*, Edmonds Community College, Edmonds, WA, February 18, 2004.
- The Body and the Soul: Women in Muslim Societies and the Politics of Intervention*, Women and Military

Intervention, AAUW, Northwest Regional Meeting, Seattle, WA, October 11, 2003.

Women in Iran's Emerging Civil Society, Iran and the U.S.: Dilemmas and Prospects since the fall of Saddam Hussein, MEC, JSIS, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, June 11, 2003.

Women's rights and status in postcolonial societies, North Seattle Community College, May 22, 2003.

Regional perspective: Iraq, Iran and Syria in the aftermath of war, JSIS, Beyond Baghdad, May 13, 2003.

At the Juncture of Islam and Republic: Possibilities for Women, Gender and Islam, JSIS, December 5, 2002.

Iranian Women & Discourses of Rights, Women's Voices in Muslim Law and Society, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA, March 7, 2002.

Emerging Spaces of Empowerment: Locating Iranian Women's Rights-Talk, In Visible Crisis: Health and Human Rights in Middle East, Stanford University, February 10, 2002.

Women's Rights in Iran: Some Considerations for Asylum Officers, San Francisco Asylum Office, San Francisco, March 6, 2001.

Women's Legal and Social Rights in U.S. and Iran: Commonalities and Differences, Women's Qur'anic meeting, Tehran, Iran, November 1999 (in Persian).

ORGANIZER: CONFERENCES, ROUNDTABLES, AND LECTURE SERIES

Lives Lived under Sanctions: Anthropology of Sanctions Conference 2023, Johns Hopkins University (JHU)-SAIS, Rethinking Iran, September 14-15. Co-organized with Narges Bajoghli (JHU) two-day field-building conference on the Anthropology of Sanctions, with funding from SAIS, The Wenner-Gren Foundation, and UW-Office of Global Affairs.

Shocks and Aftershocks of the Turkey-Syria Earthquake, Middle East Center, University of Washington, March 2, 2023. As Center director, organized roundtable featuring scholars and experts on the region to discuss the geological and political sources of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria and the consequences.

Afghanistan and its Regional Relationships, Middle East Center, University of Washington, November 4, 2021. As Center director, organized roundtable featuring scholars and experts on the region to address U.S. withdrawal and regional consequences for relationship with Afghanistan.

Humanitarianisms: Migrations and Care through the Global South, funded by Andrew W. Mellon and UW Simpson Center, April 2019 – August 2022. Co-organizer, to decenter and explore migration within the Global South, where the vast majority of migrations take place.

Afterlives of Uprising: Critical Appraisals of Post-Revolutionary MENA, Middle East Center, University of Washington, January 2019 – 22, Title VI-funded initiative to hold speaker series on examining the post-revolutionary, post-Arab Spring Middle East and North Africa.

Voices in the Middle East, Middle East Center, University of Washington, fall 2015-2023. Yearly speaker series featuring original and innovative scholarship on the Middle East and North Africa.

Migrations Within the Middle East and North Africa, Middle East Center, University of Washington, February 23, 2017. As Center director, organized roundtable featuring scholars and experts on the region addressing migrations, displacements within the region.

Persian Gulf Past and Present, Middle East Center, University of Washington, November 4, 2015. As Center director, organized roundtable discussion on history and politics of the regions, including its borders, resources, conflicts, and collaborations.

Islam and Forgiveness: Reflections on Justice and Conflict Resolution in Muslim Contexts, Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington, February 6-7, 2014. Sole organizer of symposium featuring world renowned experts on conflict resolution in diverse Muslim societies.

Iranian Futures: Reflections on 25 Years of Islamic Republic, Middle East Center, University of

Washington, 2004-2005. Sole organizer of lecture series featuring internationally renowned scholars.

Human Rights from the 'Bottom-Up' Lecture Series and Conference, LSJ/CLASS, University of Washington, 2003-4. Co-organizer, featuring internationally renowned human rights activists.

COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT

Undergraduate

Refugees: Seeking Protection Amid Crisis and Disaster, ANTH 288 (enrollment 15)
Anthropology, Princeton University

- Examine the creation, production, and proliferation of law and legal categories related to the status of refugees and asylum-seekers in the U.S and abroad. Integrate anthropological and sociolegal perspectives on law's ability to create meaning in the examination of the deeper implications of asylum and refugee law in the Global North and beyond.

Sanctioned States, LSJ 490/LSJ 510 (max. enrollment 15)
Law, Societies and Justice, University of Washington

- Analyze international sanctioning system and mechanisms for levying boycotts, embargoes, and different forms of sanctions – direct and indirect, unilateral and multilateral. Consider ethics, geopolitics, statecraft, and sanctions regimes in light of just war theory, collective punishment, global politics and neoliberalism.

Human Rights Law in Culture and Practice, LSJ 321/ANTH 323 (enrollment 200)
Anthropology & Law, Societies and Justice, University of Washington

- Approach key human rights issues with aim of gaining deeper understanding of the meaning and practices of topics in human rights. Examine historical and theoretical foundations of human rights, institutions that make up international and regional human rights systems, analyze legal, social, economic, historical, and political complexities surrounding specific questions in human rights. Explore topical issues including sovereignty, liberalism and inequality, enforcement, intervention, genocide and ethnic cleansing, and global political economy. Consider, also, "culture" as an indicator of human rights variance.

Reconciliation: The Politics of Forgiveness in a Global Age, LSJ 426 (enrollment 25)
Law, Societies and Justice, University of Washington

- Systematically analyze international system and mechanisms for reconciliation at transnational level. Consider occidental moral philosophies and secular human rights system, alongside local knowledge and non-Western value systems.

Domesticating International Human Rights Law: Perspectives on Refugees, LSJ 425/ANTH 497 (enrollment 25)
Anthropology & Law, Societies and Justice, University of Washington

- Examine the creation, production, and proliferation of law and legal categories related to the status of refugees and asylum-seekers in the U.S and abroad. Integrate anthropological and sociolegal perspectives on law's ability to create meaning in the examination of the deeper implications of asylum and refugee law in the Global North and beyond.

Women's Rights and Politics in Muslim Societies, LSJ 421/ANTH 498 (enrollment 25)
Anthropology & Law, Societies and Justice, University of Washington

- Focus on women's political and legal status in Muslim-majority societies with emphasis on lived experiences. Unpack stereotypes of women in Muslim societies. Focus on local settings and examine political, economic, social, and historical conditions through which women perceive their roles, rights, and identities. Engage with feminist and post-colonial theories and theories of the state. Explore debates on human rights and women's rights.

Engendering the Global War in Terror, LSJ 490/ANTH 490/SIS 490 (enrollment 30)
Anthropology, Law, Societies and Justice, and International Studies, University of Washington

- Focus on disparate impact of war and state security apparatuses on lives of women and children.

Explore distinct impact of the “global war on terror” (GWOT) on women and gender relations, with a specific emphasis on the impact of the GWOT on the lives of people living in the Middle East and North Africa region and of people of Middle Eastern descent living elsewhere.

Culture and Rights: Exploring Meanings and Practices of Human Rights, ANTH 150 (enrollment 25)
Anthropology, University of Washington

- Approach two complex issues within the human rights context: culture and rights. Aim to gain deeper understanding of meanings and practices of human rights. Examine complexities of culture and rights-based concept of human rights while evaluating social, legal, political, and economic issues. Topics include nation-state sovereignty, crimes against humanity, genocide and ethnic cleansing, torture, gendered violence, humanitarian intervention, and enforcement.

Arab and American Identities in Tension and Cooperation, CHID 471 Study Abroad Dialogue Course
Exploration Seminar in Cyprus, Program in Comparative History of Ideas, University of Washington

- Gain better understanding of "American" and "Arab" identities while living in formerly divided Cypriot village. Cyprus, historically a meeting place for political summits, serves as the location for students from the University of Washington and The American University of Cairo to engage in dialogue, share ideas, and confront perceptions. Texts critically examine how ideas of national, ethnic, and other forms of identity inform constructions of "the other", history, and memory. Seek new approaches for communication, understanding, empathy, and reconciliation.

Graduate

Ethnographies of Justice (enrollment 17)

Law, Societies, and Justice, University of Washington//Anthropology, Princeton University

- Seminar examines the work of ethnographic monographs as both acts of justice and scholarly contribution. Takes seriously the call in the disciplinary practices of Anthropology to “work with” others while considering the knowledge production that emerges through both the methodological praxis and text.

Decentering Migration and Decolonizing Humanitarianism, HUM (enrollment 15)
Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington

- Micro-seminar taught in concert with the Sawyer Seminar *Humanitarianisms: Migrations and Care through the Global South*. Seeks to decolonize rhetoric and understanding of humanitarianism, hospitality, and what it means to care for distant-others by interrogating the histories of forced migration and practices of humanitarian care from the Global South.

Migration and Care through the Global South, LSJ 510/490 (enrollment 15)
Law, Societies, and Justice, University of Washington

- Seminar taught in concert with the Sawyer Seminar *Humanitarianisms: Migrations and Care through the Global South*. Seeks to decenter understanding of humanitarianism by examining the histories of forced migration and practices of humanitarian care for forced migrants that developed outside of Europe and North America. Employs comparative examination of issues through three kinds of queries: decenter migration and decolonize humanitarianism; consider comparative approaches to humanitarianism; and rethink what all of this means for humanity.

Humanitarianism: the politics of sacred life, LSJ 510/490 (enrollment 15)
Law, Societies, and Justice, University of Washington

- Seminar considers why we care about the suffering of others. Asks when do we decide to extend compassion to those living precarious lives? Explores ethical principles and institutions that guide these commitments. Takes anthropological and sociolegal approaches to understanding humanitarianism as an “ethic of kindness” that guides social, political, and moral debate around addressing the suffering of people far-away who bear little resemblance to us. Readings examine which lives the international community sees as worthy of saving, and why. Begins with an examination of theories underlying social concern with suffering. Considers historical foundations and legal instruments of international humanitarian action and explores contemporary acts of humanitarianism in different upheavals, crises, and conflict situations.

Gender and Law in Muslim-Majority Societies, LSJ 510A (enrollment 15)

Law, Societies, and Justice, University of Washington

- Seminar considers social realities of gender and law in Muslim-majority states. Examine post-colonial state-building as process contributing to contemporary articulations of Islam and gender roles and to building a coherent past in dialogue with modernity. Main questions of the course include: What are some of the different ways post-colonial states in Muslim-majority societies have taken shape? How are gender and law implicated in these processes? Aim to understand the complexities of gender and law in Muslim-majority societies, while also questioning how knowledge is produced. Challenges positivist assumptions about categories such as gender, law, and family, while taking critical view of how scholars write, research, and approach these subjects as research topics in Muslim-majority societies.

Law and Society in Muslim Contexts, LSJ 510 (enrollment 15)

Law, Societies, and Justice, University of Washington

- Seminar brings insights from sociolegal studies to the study of Islamic law and society. Uses post-structuralist theories to trace meanings of 'shari'a' referred to as 'Islamic law' and 'umma' or 'Muslim community' in Muslim contexts. Considers socio-legal issues in Muslim-majority states by exploring state structures and civil institutions, especially juridical, which include 'fiqh' or 'Islamic jurisprudence,' hybrid legal systems, and operations of Islamic laws. Aim to unpack political, cultural, and economic logics underlying regulatory systems to gain understanding of how Islamic principles (shari'a) are translated into law (qanun) through civil codes and how they operate legally and socially in Muslim-majority societies. Examine post-colonial state-building, integration of Islamic principles, family and personal status laws, and criminal sanctioning. Also consider jurisprudential debates on human rights, death penalty, and gender equality.

Islam and Forgiveness, HUM (enrollment 15)

Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington

- Micro-seminar examines forgiveness in Islam through scriptural texts as well as sociolegal and anthropological studies; explore restorative justice practices in Muslim-majority societies.

Critical Reflections on Production of Knowledge in Middle East Studies, ANTH 569 (enrollment 15)

Anthropology, University of Washington

- Seminar casts critical eye on production of knowledge on and about the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Draws on anthropological tools for critique; focus on discerning how colonial and western histories, writings, and policies have shaped understandings of MENA. Question seeming reified or taken-for-granted topics, including modernity, Islamic law and practice, religious revival, gender relations, and women's roles. Explore new approaches to studying the region, particularly with regard to nationalism, diasporic communities, and politics of rights.

Modernity and Anthropological Critiques, ANTH 567 (core graduate seminar; enrollment 15)

Anthropology, University of Washington

- Seminar explores key concepts in modernity and examines how anthropologists employ social theories of modernity, both in data collection and writing. Focus on formation of the triad – state, property and self – defined and refined since the European enlightenment, and through which contemporary worldviews are shaped, including the academy, the disciplines, and how we study 'others' and ourselves. Encounter critiques of modernity as a structured social order, a 'meta-narrative,' and singular epistemology.

Law, Liberalism and Modernity, ANTH 533 (graduate seminar; enrollment 15)

Anthropology, University of Washington

- Seminar examines relationship between law, culture, and power in contemporary societies. Grapple with modern liberal law through post-structuralist theories, including feminist and critical race, and consider subjectivity, agency, and identity. Explore how law in society plays a constitutive and productive role, not just repressive or coercive ones. Consider relationship between liberal law and the body, possessive individualism, and discourses of rights.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

American Anthropological Association

Executive Board (*elected*), Association for Political and Legal Anthropology, 2019-22
APLA Book Prize in Critical Anthropology, Chair, 2022
PoLAR, Graduate Paper Prize Committee, 2019-2021
Middle East Section, Book Award Committee, 2016-2017
Executive Board (*elected*), Middle East Section, 2010-2013
Program Chair, MES Invited Panels, 2012-2013
Graduate Student Paper Prize, Co-Chair 2011-12

Association for Iranian Studies

Committee on Academic Freedom, Chair, 2020 – 2024
Program Committee, 2015-16

Law and Society Association

Herbert Jacob Book Prize Committee, 2018
Governance Committee, 2016-2019
Board of Trustees (*elected*), 2014-2017
Membership Sub-Committee, 2015
International Activities Committee, 2012-2014
International Scholarship Prize Committee, 2011-2012

Middle East Studies Association

Board of Directors (*elected*), 2021 – 2024
Global Academy, 2023 – 2024
Committee on Academic Freedom, 2020 - 2024
Task Force on Civil and Human Rights, 2017- 2023
Albert Hourani, Middle East Studies, Book Award Committee, 2016
Houshang Poursahariati Iranian Studies Book Award Committee, 2012

National Science Foundation

Law and Social Science Division, Regular Panel, Panelist, 2011-2013
Cultural Anthropology Division, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, Panelist, 2008-2010

Journals, Editorial Boards

Law and Social Inquiry, Editorial Board, 2025 - present
Annual Review of Law and Social Sciences, Editorial Committee, 2022 - present
Political and Legal Anthropology Review, Editorial Board, 2015 - present
Journal of Middle East Women's Studies, Editorial Board, 2014 - present
Law and Society Review, Editorial Advisory Board, 2016 - 2019
Journal of Legal Anthropology, Editorial Board, 2006 – present

Advisory Boards

Member, Board of Advisors, *Zanngaar*, Institute of War and Peace Reporting, 2013 - present
Faculty Advisor, Fetzer Institute, Advisory Council on the Social Sciences 2011 – 2013

Membership in Professional Organizations

American Anthropological Association
Association for Iranian Studies
Association for Middle East Women's Studies
International Society for Islamic Legal Studies
Law and Society Association
Middle East Studies Association

Reviewer

Peer Reviewer for Journals

American Anthropologist, *American Ethnologist*, *Anthropology of the Middle East*, *Comparative Studies of South Asia and the Middle East*, *Cultural Anthropology*, *Current Anthropology*, *Feminist Economics*, *International Journal of Crime, Law, and Social Change*, *Journal of Islamic Law and Society*, *Journal of Law and Religion*, *Journal of Legal Anthropology*, *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, *Law and*

Society Review, Law and Social Inquiry, Muslim World Journal of Human Rights, Political and Legal Anthropology Review, Revue des Mondes Musulmans et de la Méditerranée, and others.

Peer Reviewer for Publishers of Manuscripts

Cambridge University Press, Duke University Press, I.B. Tauris, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, Rutgers University Press, Stanford University Press, University of California Press, University of Minnesota Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, University of Washington Press.

Proposal Reviewer

American Councils for International Education
Fetzer Institute
National Science Foundation
Cultural Anthropology Division
Law and Social Sciences Division

Program Reviewer

Middle East and North African Studies, University of Arizona, December 8-9, 2022.
Illinois Global Institute, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, October 21-22, 2019.

LANGUAGES

English, native speaker
French, fluent in speaking, reading, and writing
Persian, fluent in speaking, advanced proficiency in reading and writing

BAR MEMBERSHIP

Admitted in Maryland

RELEVANT LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Van Der Hout & Brigagliano, Attorney

San Francisco, CA, 9/97 - 12/98, 4/00 - 9/01

- Immigration and Asylum and Refugee practice. Prepared & filed applications in support of asylum-seekers or persons in removal proceedings before U.S. Immigration Court. Processed asylum claims from all over the world, with specialized practice in Iranian, Afghan & Fijian-South Asian cases.

Wasserman, Mancini & Chang, Attorney

Washington, D.C., 3/94 - 8/95

- Immigration and Asylum and Refugee practice. Represented clients in immigration matters. Prepared business, nonimmigrant & immigrant visa applications; employment certification, adjustment of status applications. Represented asylum-seekers & in deportation hearings in Immigration Court and Board of Immigration Appeals. Filed immigration related complaints in District Court and Court of Appeals.

International Human Rights Law Clinic of American University, Student Attorney

Washington, D.C., 8/92 - 5/93

- Represented refugees in asylum claims. Extensive client counseling & negotiation with government agencies. Wrote client statements, pre-hearing & appellate briefs. Filed motions & litigated in Immigration Court. Human rights lobbying, writing & filing petitions on labor violations to Congressional sub-committee; writing & filing petition to Congress for ratification of Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; writing & filing petition in Inter-American Commission on Human Rights for D.C. statehood.

United States Immigration Court, Law Clerk to Judge John F. Gossart, Jr.

Baltimore, MD, Summer 1992

- Researched deportation & exclusion cases, drafted opinions in alien-smuggling case & asylum

cases. Revised court's local rules & drafted the court's pleading format.