

## HILARY FALB KALISMAN

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Boulder, CO 80309-0234

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303-492-6232

### EDUCATION

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#### **University of California, Berkeley**

PhD in History, 2015

Dissertation: "Schooling the State: Educators in Iraq, Palestine and Transjordan c.1890-c.1960"

MA in History, 2009

#### **Brown University – Providence, RI**

Bachelor of Arts in Middle East Studies, 2006

*Magna Cum Laude*, Honors in Middle East Studies, Phi Beta Kappa

### EMPLOYMENT

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#### **Full time academic appointments:**

##### **University of Colorado Boulder**

Assistant Professor, History Department

2018-Present

Endowed Professor of Israel/Palestine Studies in the Program in Jewish Studies

##### **Furman University**

2016-2018

Assistant Professor, History Department

Co-Chair, Middle East and Islamic Studies Minor

#### **Visiting appointments:**

##### **Harvard University**

Non-Resident Fellow at the Middle East Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School Belfer  
Center for International Affairs

2019-2020

Visiting Associate at the Middle East Initiative, Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center  
for International Affairs

2018-2019

##### **Harvard University**

Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies

2015-2016

##### **Tel Aviv University, The Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies**

Guest Scholar

2014-2015

## RESEARCH

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**SCHOLARSHIP: (\* INDICATES PEER REVIEW)**

### BOOK

*\*Teachers as State-builders: Education and the Making of the Modern Middle East* Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 2022  
History of Education Society Outstanding Book 2022

### BOOK MANUSCRIPT IN PROGRESS

*"Standardized Testing" An Imperial and National Legacy of the Modern Middle East*

### ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

\*"A World of Tomorrow": Diaspora Intellectuals and Liberal Thought in the 1950s," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, 50:2, 2021, 92-107  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/0377919X.2021.1889875>

\*"Local and Colonial Educators in the Mandates for Iraq and Palestine: Contested Expertise within National and International Frameworks" in Philippe Bourmaud, Norig Neveu, Chantal Verdeil, *Experts Et Expertise Dans Les Mandats De La Société des Nations : Figures, Champs, Outils*. Paris, Presses de l'Inalco, 2020. 313-330

\*"The Next Generation of Cultivators': teaching agriculture in Iraq, Palestine and Transjordan (1920-1960)". *Histoire de l'Éducation*. No. 148, 2019, 143-164  
<https://doi.org/10.4000/histoire-education.3653>

\*"Education Policy in Iraq: Competing Visions of the State." in Benjamin Isakhan, Shamiran Mako and Fadi Dawood (eds.), *State and Society in Iraq: Citizenship under Occupation, Dictatorship and Democratization*, London, I.B. Tauris, 2017. 90-108

"The Little Persian Agent in Palestine: Husayn Ruhi, British Intelligence, and World War I," *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, Issue 66, September 2016, 65-74  
<http://www.palestine-studies.org/jq/fulltext/202341>

\*"Bursary Scholars at the American University of Beirut: Living and Practising Arab Unity," *The British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 42, No. 4, October 2015. 599-617  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/wyjsm8x9mB7zAiNjMJbW/full>

\*"Pedagogical paradox: Education and Internationalization in the Mandates for Palestine and Mesopotamia (Iraq)," *Kufa Review*, No. 2, Issue 3, Summer 2013, 53-72  
[http://journals.uokufa.edu.iq/index.php/Kufa\\_Review/article/view/226](http://journals.uokufa.edu.iq/index.php/Kufa_Review/article/view/226)

### POPULAR ARTICLES AND PODCASTS

"Schooling the Nation" with Gilad Halpern. Tel Aviv Review, January 2024.  
<https://tlv1.fm/the-tel-aviv-review/2024/01/08/schooling-the-nation/>

“Teachers as State-Builders: Education and the Making of the Modern Middle East” with Reuben Silverman. New Books Network. March 2023.

<https://newbooksnetwork.com/teachers-as-state-builders>

“Teachers as State-Builders: Education and the Making of the Modern Middle East.” New Texts Out Now, *Jadaliyya*. October 7, 2022.

<https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/44475>

"The American University of Beirut and the British Mandates" with Chris Gratien, Huma Gupta and Nir Shafir. Ottoman History Podcast, No. 213, March 2016.

Editor's pick for best podcast, 2016.

<http://www.ottomanhistoricalpodcast.com/2016/03/AUB-british-mandate.html>

"The Museum of Textbooks (Jordan)," *HAZINE*, October 9, 2014.

<http://hazine.info/museumoftextbooks/>

“Educators and Revolutions in the 20<sup>th</sup> century Middle East” with Douglas O’Reagan. Historical Outreach. No. 3, 2014.

<http://historicaloutreach.blogspot.com/2014/04/educators-and-revolution-in-20th.html>

"Iraqi Archival Sources in Israel," *The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARII) Newsletter*, Issue No. 8-1, Spring 2013. p. 12.

<http://uruk-warka.dk/news/01-2014/TAARII%20-%20Behnam%20Abusouuf%20web.pdf>

## AWARDS

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| 2023 | Outstanding Book Award, History of Education Society   |
| 2015 | The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq Dissertation Prize<br><i>Awarded bi-annually to the best U.S. doctoral dissertation on modern/medieval Iraq</i> |
| 2006 | Phi Beta Kappa, Brown University   |
| 2006 | Samuel C. Lamport Prize in International Understanding, Brown University   |

## Nationally Competitive Fellowships

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| 2019 | American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship   |
| 2019 | The National Academy of Education Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship  |
| 2017 | Summer Institute for Israel Studies Fellowship, Schusterman Center for Israel Studies, Brandeis University |
| 2013 | The National Academy of Education Spencer Dissertation Fellowship  |
| 2013 | The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq Research Fellowship for U.S. Scholars                     |

- 2012 Palestinian American Research Center Dissertation Fellowship  
*Declined due to additional funding received.*
- 2011 Institute of International Education Graduate Fellowship for International Study with Funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation  
*Received for dissertation archival research in the United Kingdom, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel in lieu of the canceled Fulbright Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship.*

### **University-level Competitive Fellowships**

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- 2023 Kayden Research Grant, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020, Center for Humanities & the Arts Small Grant Program, University of Colorado Boulder  
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- 2017 Research and Professional Growth Grant, Furman University
- 2017 John Block Fund Award, History Department, Furman University
- 2014 Dissertation Write-up Fellowship, History Department, University of California Berkeley
- 2012 Sultan Program of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley  
Graduate Student Fellowship
- 2011 Graduate Division University of California Berkeley Dean's Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2010 Graduate Division Summer Grant, University of California Berkeley
- 2009 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Scholarship, University of California Berkeley  
*Received for Arabic language study, Institut Français du Proche-Orient, Damascus, Syria.*
- 2007 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Scholarship, University of California Berkeley  
*Received for Arabic language study at the University of California, Berkeley*

### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

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#### **INVITED TALKS**

- 2023 "Reading, Writing, Revolution? Teachers and the Making of the Modern Middle East." Ole Miss University. Sponsored by the History Department, the Department of Teacher Education, the University Lecture Series, University of Mississippi Hillel, and the Oxford Jewish Federation
- 2023 "Teachers as State-builders: Education and the Making of the Modern Middle East" The Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies
- 2023 "Re-Making the Middle East" Rhodes College.
- 2023 "Islam and Gender" Rhodes College.

- 2023 “Teachers as State-builders: Education and the Making of the Modern Middle East,” Global Studies in Education Program, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
- 2023 “Teachers as State-builders: Education and the Making of the Modern Middle East” Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Haifa
- 2022 “Religion and Standardized Testing in the Modern Middle East” Workshop in Religion and Education, Stanford Graduate School of Education.
- 2021 “Testing the Transnational: Standardized Testing in Israel”, “Across Borders: Transnational/Comparative Approaches to the History of Jewish Education” Conference, at Stanford Graduate School of Education and the Taube Center for Jewish Studies in the Stanford School of Humanities & Sciences.
- 2020 “Testing Zionism: An Imperial and Middle Eastern History of the Bagrut” Scholars Seminar on Israel Studies, Brandeis University
- 2019 “Standardized Testing: An Imperial Legacy of the Modern Middle East” Harvard Middle East and North Africa Workshop at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government
- 2018 “Teachers without borders: Education across Britain's Middle Eastern Mandates” “Reordering the Middle East 1912-1948” Conference, Center for European Studies, Harvard University
- 2017 “A Practical and Impractical History of the Liberal Arts” Francis Bonner American Scholar Lecture Series
- 2016 “Sykes-Picot and the Modern Middle East” “High Noon at the Upcountry History Museum” Public lecture series
- 2016 “Schooling the State: A Transnational History of Public Education and Governance in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Middle East” The Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University
- 2016 “Reading, Writing, Revolution: Educators in the Interwar Middle East” The Watson Institute, Brown University
- 2015 “Teachers into Ministers: A History of Public Education and Regime Stability in the Middle East” The Harvard Kennedy School of Government  
<http://belfercenter.hks.harvard.edu/publication/26164/podcast.html>

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Policies and Palestinian Education: Standardized Testing from the Mandate into the Israeli State” The Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2023 “National Claims to Universal Standards: Examinations, Development and Decolonization,” International Standing Conference for the History of Education Annual Meeting
- 2023 “Local, National and Colonial Criteria: Standardized Testing in Britain's Middle Eastern

- Mandates.” The British Mandate in Palestine: Regional and Global Contexts, The Israel Academy of Arts and Sciences
- 2023 “National Claims to Universal Standards: Knowledge Production, Examinations and Decolonization” Becoming Independent; Institutions and Epistemologies of Knowledge Production in the Age of Decolonisation workshop, Cambridge University.
- 2022 “The Test and the Nation: Transnationalism, Sovereignty, and the History of Israel’s Standardized Testing” The Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2022 “Apostles of Knowledge: Modernity, Domesticity and the Transnational Schoolmistresses of 20th century Iraq” The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2022 “Merit and the Middle East: an Israeli-Palestinian history of standardized testing.” “Is there an Israeli History without Palestinian History?” International Workshop at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute
- 2022 “Testing the Waters: Palestinian Arab Educators, Zionism and Imperialism” Association for Israel Studies Annual Meeting
- 2021 “Decolonization and Standardized Testing across the Modern Middle East” The History of Education Society Annual Meeting
- 2020 “Standardized Futures: A political history of Jordan’s Tawjihi” The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2020 “A Tale of Three Exams: The Shared Origins of Israel’s Bagrut and Jordan’s Tawjihi in the Mandate for Palestine” The Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2020 “Global Iraq: Gender, Education and Travel” Iraqi Studies: Past, Present, and Future, Columbia University
- 2019 “The Gender of Teaching in Mandate Palestine” The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2019 “Intellectuals and Imperialisms in the Mandate for Palestine” The Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2018 “Teaching Palestine in the Context of Jewish Studies” The Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2018 “Colonialism and Cultivation: The Politics of Teaching Agriculture in the Mandate for Palestine” The American Historical Association Annual Meeting
- 2017 “Colonial Crossings: Educational networks across Britain’s Middle Eastern Mandates” The North American Conference on British Studies Annual Meeting
- 2017 “Learning Exile: Palestinian Educators Abroad” Palestinian Historians of Palestine Colloquium, Kings College London

- 2017 “Educating the Arab World: Intellectuals, Theory and Practice in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Iraq”  
The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2016 “Ruhi the Ingenious’: A Transnational Agent during the First World War”  
The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2016 “A Culture of ‘Cram’: Standardized Testing in Britain’s Middle Eastern Mandates”  
The North American Conference on British Studies Annual Meeting
- 2016 “Border Crossings: Educational Networks across Britain’s Mandates in the Middle East”  
The History of Education Society Annual Meeting
- 2015 “Subversive Teachers and the Limits of Rebellion: Government Schooling across the Interwar Middle East”  
The Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting
- 2015 “Local and Colonial Educators in the Mandates for Iraq and Palestine: Contested Expertise within National and International Frameworks”  
“Experts and Expertise in the League of Nations Mandates: Figures, Fields and Tools”  
International Conference INALCO (Paris)/Institut universitaire de France/Université Jean Moulin– Lyon3/Institut français du Proche-Orient (Ifpo)
- 2014 “Learning Exile: Palestinian Students and Educators Abroad 1940-1957”  
The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2014 “‘The Creation of World-Mind’: British Civil Servants, Education, and the Mandates for Iraq and Palestine”  
American Historical Association Annual Meeting, (Panel Organizer)
- 2013 “Teachers into Ministers: Palestinian and Jordanian Educators 1917-1958”  
The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2012 “‘Are They Educating Their Pupils for a World in which They are To Be First or Second?’: Government Schools and Citizenship in the Mandates for Mesopotamia(Iraq) and Palestine”  
The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting
- 2010 “Pedagogical paradox: Education and Internationalization in the Mandates for Palestine and Mesopotamia (Iraq)”  
International Standing Conference for the History of Education (ISCHE) 34, Society for the History of Children and Youth & Disability History Association  
*Finalist for the ISCHE Conference Paper Prize Award.*
- 2010 “Subjectivity at the Limits of a Colonial State: A Good Teacher in the Mandate for Palestine”  
The Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting

## CONFERENCE ROUNDTABLES

- 2023 “Teaching Israel-Palestine” Roundtable presentation at the Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies
- 2018 “Endowed Chairs and Professors of Israel Studies and Israel/Palestine Studies: Opportunities and Challenges.” The Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies

## TEACHING

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### Teaching Fields:

Modern Middle East, Modern Jewish History, History of Education, History of Childhood, Transnational History

### University of Colorado Boulder– Boulder, CO

#### Courses:

The United States and the Middle East	<i>Upper Division Seminar</i>
Jews in and of the Middle East	<i>Upper Division Course/Graduate Seminar</i>
History Today: Nationalism & Collective Memory in Israel/Palestine	<i>Upper Division Course with a study abroad component</i>
History of Modern Israel/Palestine	<i>Upper Division Course</i>
Readings in Global History: Transnational History	<i>Graduate Seminar</i>
Jewish History Since 1492	<i>Lower Division Lecture Course</i>
Modern Childhood in Israel/Palestine	<i>Upper Division Seminar/Graduate Seminar</i>
Students and Revolutions	<i>Lower Division Seminar</i>

### Individualized Instruction:

#### PhD student committee member:

Tiffany Beebe, second reader	Spring, 2022
Emily Swertfeger	
Michael Bunch	Summer, 2024
Kathleen King	

#### Undergraduate honors thesis committee member:

Sarah Collins	Spring, 2022
Samantha McKinsey	Spring, 2022
Gigi Saad, co-advisor	Spring, 2023
Shane Ball	Spring, 2023

#### Capstone project advisor:

Shane Ball	Fall, 2022
Julia Leone	Spring, 2022

### Furman University – Greenville, SC

Introduction to the Modern Middle East	<i>Lower Division Lecture Course</i>
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Last Islamic Empires: Ottomans, Safavids and Mughals

*Lower Division Lecture Course*

The Arab/Israeli Conflict

*Upper Division Lecture/Seminar*

Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Capstone Course

*Upper Division Seminar*

## SERVICE

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### SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:

- 2023 Board Member, Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies
- 2019-2023 Peer reviewer for *Open Educational Studies*, *History of Education Quarterly*, *Jewish Social Studies*, *The History of Education*, Cambridge University Press, *Asian Review of World Histories*, *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*
- 2020-3 External Evaluator, Israel Science Foundation

### BOOK REVIEWS

\*“The Historiography of Education in the Modern Middle East” *History of Education*, 52: No. 2-3, 2023, 311-329 <https://doi-org.colorado.idm.oclc.org/10.1080/0046760X.2022.2127006>

“Hilary Falb Kalisman; Educating Palestine: Teaching and Learning History under the Mandate. *Bustan: The Middle East Book Review* 1 December 2021; 12 (2): 171–175.

“Statecraft by Stealth: Secret Intelligence and British Rule in Palestine,” by Steven B. Wagner; and “Britain’s Pacification of Palestine: The British Army, the Colonial State, and the Arab Revolt, 1936–1939”, by Matthew Hughes, *Journal of Military History*, Vol. 85, No. 1, January 2021. 252-255

"Michael Brenner: In Search of Israel: The History of an Idea." *Contemporary Jewry* 39, no. 3-4 , 2019, 547-549

“Cyrus Schayegh. The Middle East and the Making of the Modern World (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2017). Pp. 496. \$49.95 Cloth. ISBN 9780674088337.” *Review of Middle East Studies* 52, no. 2, 2018, 428-431

"Review of Marwa Elshakry *Reading Darwin in Arabic: 1860-1960*," *Arab Studies Journal*, Vol. XXV, No. 1, Fall 2016, 181-185

"Review of Rabab El-Mahdi and Philip Marfleet,(eds.) *Egypt: The Moment of Change*," *Insight Turkey*, Vol. 16, No. 1, January-March 2011. 215-217

### INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE:

- 2023-Present Associate Director of Graduate Studies and member of the Executive Committee, University of Colorado Boulder Program in Jewish Studies. (On parental leave Fall 2023)

2024 2022	Organized History Department Faculty Seminar (Spring 2024 Singer Chair Search Committee member, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of History, University of Colorado Boulder
2021-2	Graduate Studies Committee, University of Colorado Boulder Program in Jewish Studies
2021	Undergraduate Studies Committee, University of Colorado Boulder Program in Jewish Studies
2020-1	Undergraduate Studies Committee, University of Colorado Boulder History Department
2019-Present	Organizer of Israel/Palestine Event Programming, University of Colorado Boulder
2017	Furman University Curriculum Committee
2017	Co-Chair, Furman University Middle East and Islamic Studies Minor

#### **Outreach:**

2024	Panelist, "Palestine & Israel: Let's Talk About It / Hablemos sobre Israel y Palestina" Poudre Library, Fort Collins, CO.
2024	Lecturer, "The Israel-Hamas War" the Boulder Flatirons Rotary Club, Boulder, CO.
2024	"Politics, History & Standardized Testing in the Middle East" Congregation Bonai Shalom, Boulder, CO.
2024	Panelist, "How to Remain A Humanist after a Massacre in 17 Steps" at the University of Colorado Boulder and at the Dairy Arts Center.
2024	Presenter, "Israel and 1967" Teach-in, University of Denver.
2024	Organizer, "Bridge over the Wadi: a film screening and Q&A with director Barak Heymann," University of Colorado, Boulder.
2023	Advisor, "A Home to Many" <i>Honest History</i> , issue 23. <a href="https://honesthistory.co/collections/magazines/products/issue-twenty-three-a-home-to-many">https://honesthistory.co/collections/magazines/products/issue-twenty-three-a-home-to-many</a>
2023	Interview with Voice of America Korea on the history of the Israel-Hamas war <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3d9b652m50U&amp;t=34s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3d9b652m50U&amp;t=34s</a>
2023	Interview with Fox 31 on the history of the Israel-Hamas war <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZKs1nu4uvv4R_qCU8mQSAKqqwYOxG0pS/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZKs1nu4uvv4R_qCU8mQSAKqqwYOxG0pS/view</a>

- 2023 Interview with Jennifer Soules “The how and what of the latest Israel-Hamas war”, CU Boulder Today
- 2023 “The History and Context of the Israel-Hamas War” public talk given at the Nederland Public Library and the Estes Valley Public Library
- 2023 “Israel, Biden-Trump, Tesla, and Netflix” Interview with “The Tape”, Bloomberg Radio  
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/audio/2023-10-19/israel-biden-trump-tesla-and-netflix>
- 2021 Presenter, “Israel, Palestine, and the United States: An Evening of Learning and Conversation with the Jewish Studies Faculty”
- 2021 Organizer, “The Promised Lands? A Film Series on Israel/Palestine and the United States with Ahmed Mansour & Dan Chyutin”
- 2021 “The History of Israel/Palestine” Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice Northern Arizona University.
- 2021 “Violence in Gaza halted for now” Global Insight, Arirang Television.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n11G\\_KFnrgjg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n11G_KFnrgjg)
- 2021 “International community divided over Middle East conflict” Foreign Correspondents, Arirang Television.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDZOtcZtj6Y>
- 2020 Organizer, “The End of the Tunnel is Dark: Reflections on the Covid-19 Pandemic Under Occupation with Weaam Hammoudeh”
- 2020 Organizer, “Under Quarantine: Immigrants and Disease at Israel’s Gate with Rhona Seidelman”
- 2020 “Public Education and Regime Stability in the Modern Middle East” Congregation Bonai Shalom, Boulder, Colorado.
- 2020 “Exams in Extremis: Standardized Testing, Politics, and Crisis in the Middle East” University of Colorado Boulder Peak to Peak Lecture Series.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Tuqd3ZBDCI&feature=emb\\_title](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Tuqd3ZBDCI&feature=emb_title)
- 2020 “Israel’s Annexation in Historical Perspective” Chavurah Public Lecture Series, Denver, Colorado.
- 2020 “A brief history of Palestinian nationalism and the Palestinian/Arab/Israeli Conflict” The Peace and Dialogue Leadership Initiative, Yale University.
- 2019 “Introduction to the History of Israel/Palestine and the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict” University of Colorado Denver Executive MBA program, Denver, Colorado.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Association of Middle East Children and Youth Studies

Association for Jewish Studies  
History of Education Society  
Middle East Studies Association  
North American Conference on British Studies

## **LANGUAGES**

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Arabic: High intermediate speaking, reading, and writing.  
Low-intermediate speaking in Palestinian and Syrian dialects  
Hebrew: High intermediate speaking, reading and writing.