

MARO YOUSSEF

Department of Sociology, The University of Texas at Austin
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EDUCATION

- (Expected 2021) Ph.D. Sociology, University of Texas at Austin
Dissertation: *Women's Movements During Democratic Transitions: The Case of Tunisia*
Doctoral Portfolio: Women's and Gender Studies
- 2010 M.A. Middle East Studies, George Washington University
- 2008 B.A. History, University of California, Santa Cruz

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Qualitative Methods; Gender; Democracy; Civil Society; Religion; Middle East and North Africa

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

- 2020 **Youssef, Maro.** "Algerian Feminists Navigate Authoritarianism." In [Women Rising: Resistance, Revolution and Reform in the Arab Spring and Beyond](#), edited by Rita Stephan and Mounira M. Charrad. New York: New York University Press.
- Forthcoming **Youssef, Maro.** "Women in Egyptian Film Posters." In *Egyptian Cinema Posters: Design, Cinema and Society from 1930 to 1990*. Cairo: City Light Posters.

Book Reviews

- 2018 **Youssef, Maro.** Review of Hanan Hammad's "Industrial Sexuality: Gender, Urbanization, and Social Transformation in Egypt." *Review of Middle East Studies* (RoMES) 52(1).

Public Sociology: Op-eds & Blogs

- 2020 Sarah Yerkes and **Maro Youssef.** ["Coronavirus Reveals Tunisia's Revolutionary Gains for Women Only Exist on Paper."](#) *New Arab* and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, June 22, 2020.
- 2019 **Youssef, Maro** and Hamza Mighri. ["Women's Groups Take on Radicalization in Tunisia."](#) *Sada*, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, March 26, 2019.
- 2018 **Youssef, Maro.** ["A Murky State-Civil Society Relationship in Tunisia."](#) *OpenDemocracy*, November 2, 2018.
- 2018 Charrad, Mounira M. and **Maro Youssef.** ["Feminist Associations in Post Revolution Tunisia."](#) Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University and *Houston Chronicle*, August 30, 2018.
- 2018 **Youssef, Maro.** "Russia in the Middle East: It's not all About Syria." Robert Strauss Center for International Security and Law Blog, University of Texas at Austin.

- 2017 Charrad, Mounira M. and **Maro Youssef**. [“Feminist Associations under Authoritarianism in Tunisia.”](#) Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University and *Houston Chronicle*, May 15, 2017.
- 2017 **Youssef, Maro**. “Ann Swidler on the Romance of AIDS Altruism.” Department of Sociology Graduate Student Blog, University of Texas at Austin.
- 2015 **Youssef, Maro**. “Understanding New Forms of Domination Through French Pragmatism and Phenomenology.” Department of Sociology Graduate Student Blog, University of Texas at Austin.

Manuscripts Under Review

Youssef, Maro. “Convenient Partners: How Women’s Civil Society Organizations Use Foreign Assistance to Maneuver the Democratic Transition in Tunisia.”

Manuscripts in Preparation

Youssef, Maro. “Separate Spheres: Feminist Mobilizations in Democratizing Tunisia.”

Youssef, Maro. “The Emergence of Islamist Feminism in Tunisia.”

SELECT GRANTS AND HONORS

PhD: External

Dissertation Completion Fellowships

- 2020 Eisenhower/ Roberts Graduate Fellowship \$10,000
 2020 AAUW Austin Chapter Dissertation Fellowship, \$2,800
 2020 Global Religion Research Initiative (GRR) Dissertation Fellowship, Notre Dame University \$28,000

Dissertation Writing and Fieldwork Fellowships

- 2019 United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Peace Scholar Award, \$20,000
 2019 PEO Women Sisterhood International, Dissertation Scholar Award, \$15,000
 2018 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, \$34,000 (declined)
 2018 Joseph H. Fichter Research Grant: Association for the Sociology of Religion, \$3,000
 2018 Kisco Cares Scholarship and Kisco Spirit Scholarship, \$10,000

Professional Development and Travel Awards: \$2,000 (total)

- 2015- 2020 Middle East Studies Association (MESA); American Institute for Maghrib Study (AIMS); American Political Science Association Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Section

PhD: University of Texas at Austin

Dissertation Fieldwork and Writing Fellowships

- 2020 Graduate School Continuing Fellowship, \$15,627
 2019, 2020 Dean’s Prestigious Award, \$2,000 (total)
 2019 Summer Writing Fellowship, \$6,600
 2017, 2019 Brumley Next Generation Fellowship: Robert Strauss Center, \$6,250
 2018, 2019 International Education Fee Scholarship: International Office, \$2,700
 2017 Global Research Fund: Office of the Vice President for Research, \$3,000

Professional Development and Travel Awards \$2,000 (total)

2016- 2020 College of Liberal Arts; Center for Women's & Gender Studies

Pre-Dissertation Fellowships

2017 Student Excellence Award, \$5,000

2015 Recruitment Research Fellowship, \$5,000

Master's

2006-2010 Thomas Pickering Fellowship: U.S. State Department & Woodrow Wilson Center (for tuition, travel, room and board over 4 years), \$100,000

2009 Graduate Fellowship, George Washington University, \$20,000

2009 Research Travel Grant: Middle East Institute, George Washington University, \$2,000

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016 **Research Assistant and Grader**, Professor Pamela Paxton. Sociology Department, University of Texas at Austin

2016 **Researcher**, Professor Mounira M. Charrad. Sociology Department, University of Texas at Austin

2010 **Research Assistant and Copy-Editor**, German Marshall Fund, Transatlantic Academy

2009- 2010 **Research Assistant and Syllabus Designer**, Elliott School for International Affairs, Geography Department, George Washington University

POLICY & CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

2019 **Algeria Expert Panelist**, Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), U.S. Department of State

2014-2015 **Arabic Language Consultant**, Institute for Middle East Studies. George Washington University

2010- 2014 **Foreign Affairs Analyst**, U.S. Department of State Political Section, U.S. Embassy in Tunisia (2014) Bureau of Intelligence and Research (2012-2014)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) (2010-2012)

2009 **Political Affairs Pickering Fellow**, Political Section, U.S. Embassy in Turkey.

2008 **Intelligence Analysis Pickering Fellow**, Bureau of Intelligence and Analysis. U.S. Department of State

2006 **Arabic Language Intern**, Arabic Department, Foreign Service Institute. U.S. Department of State

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2020 "Convenient Partners: How Women's Civil Society Organizations Use Foreign Assistance to Maneuver the Democratic Transition in Tunisia," Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA) and Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA). Virtual Meetings.

2020 "Varieties of Feminism During and After the Arab Spring: Islamist and Secular Feminisms in Tunisia," American Political Science Association (APSA) Middle East and North Africa Virtual Workshop.

- 2020 “A Divided but Effective Movement: Islamist and Secular Feminists in Tunisia,” Project on Middle East Politics (POMEPS) Virtual Workshop on Social Movements.
- 2019 “From Meetings in their Living Rooms to Meetings in Parliament: Professionalization in the Tunisian Women’s Movement,” American Political Science Association (APSA) Middle East and North Africa Workshop on Women in Politics. Rabat, Morocco.
- 2019 “Women’s Mobilization During Democratic Transitions: The Case of Tunisia,” Annual Meeting of *Mobilization: An International Quarterly Journal*. San Diego, CA.
- 2017 “A New Generation of Tunisian Feminists,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA). Washington, DC.
- 2017 “Bargaining with the Devil: A History of Women’s Rights in Modern Day Algeria,” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA). Montreal, Canada.
- 2016 “Filmmakers’ Praise and Critique of State Policies under Authoritarianism in Egypt,” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA) and the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP). Seattle, WA.
- 2016 “Algeria: Terrorism and the Islamist Ghost,” Annual Meeting of the Center for Women and Gender Studies, University of Texas at Austin. Austin, TX.
- 2015 “Can Islamists be Democratic? A Comparative Study on Egypt & Tunisia,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA). Denver, CO.
- 2014 “Algerian Women Navigate Authoritarianism,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA). Washington, DC.
- 2013 “North African Women Reclaim their Agency through Social Media,” Annual Meeting of the Association of Middle East Women’s Studies. (AMEWS) New Haven, CT.
- 2010 “State Feminism on the Silver Screen: Modernity, Class, and Gender in Nasserist Films,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) and Annual Meeting of the World History Association (WHA). San Diego, CA.

INVITED TALKS

- 2019 The State Department, Washington DC. Presentation on “U.S. Foreign Assistance, Women’s Rights, and Civil Society in Tunisia.”
- 2019 AMIDEAST, Tunis, Tunisia. Presentation on “Women’s Activism in Post-Arab Spring Tunisia.”
- 2018 Speaker at Pomona College, Claremont, CA. Presentations on “the Role of the State Department in U.S. Foreign Policy.” And “Public Service and American Politics.”
- 2017 The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX. Presentation on “State Feminism and Women’s Rights in the Middle East and North Africa.”
- 2015- 2018 The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX. Presentation on “Bureaucracy and the State Department.”

- 2015 Lakeside School, Seattle, WA. Presentation on “The Role of Women in the Arab Spring.”
- 2012-2014 Foreign Service Institute, State Department, Arlington, VA
Presentations on “Human Rights in Bahrain.” And “Interagency Cooperation During the Arab Spring.”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2015- 2018 **Teaching Assistant**, The University of Texas at Austin
Department of Sociology
Introduction to Sociology, Effective Philanthropy, The Power of Giving, Gender, Race & Class in American Society, Sociology of Gender, Social Psychology, Sociology of Health
- 2009- 2010 **Teaching Assistant**, The George Washington University
Elliott School of International Affairs
Arab-Israeli conflict, Challenges and Change in the Middle East
- 2005- 2008 **Teaching Assistant**, The University of California, Santa Cruz
Values and Change in a Diverse Society (writing course), Arabic

TUTORING EXPERIENCE

- 2018- Present **Senior SAT, Arabic, and Writing Tutor**, Lakhani Coaching
- 2008- Present **Arabic Tutor**, self-employed
- 2016- 2017 **Economics, Government, Writing, and History Tutor**, Athletics Department. The University of Texas at Austin
- 2005- 2008 **Humanities & Social Science Tutor**, Learning Support Services. The University of California, Santa Cruz

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY

- 2015- 2018 Graduate Student Recruitment, the University of Texas at Austin
- 2015-2018 Power, History & Society, the University of Texas at Austin, Coordinator
- 2008-2014 Graduate Student Recruitment, George Washington University
- 2007- 2008 Oakes Graduation Committee, the University of California, Santa Cruz
- 2005- 2006 Oakes College, University of California, Santa Cruz, Residential Assistant
- 2005- 2006 Oakes College Senate, University of California, Santa Cruz, Co-Chair
- 2004-2008 Student Recruitment, University of California, Santa Cruz, Ambassador

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Reviewer
- Review of Middle East Studies*
- Feminist Media Studies*
- Law and Social Inquiry*
- Journal for North African Studies*
- 2017 Middle East Studies Association (MESA), Nominating Committee

LANGUAGES

Arabic: Fluent Reading, Speaking, and Writing; English: Fluent Reading, Speaking and Writing; French: Advanced Reading and Writing, Intermediate Speaking

AFFILIATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

American Institute for Maghrib Studies (AIMS)

American Sociological Association (ASA)

American Political Science Association (APSA)

Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

Pacific Council on International Policy

University of Texas Center for Women's and Gender Studies

University of Texas Strauss Center for International Security and Law

University of Texas Rapoport Center for Human Rights

University of Texas Power, History, and Society Network

University of Texas Urban Ethnography Lab