

Curriculum Vitae

Abraham Marcus
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Education

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| Ph.D. in History, Columbia University | 1979 |
| M.Phil in History, Columbia University | 1978 |
| Certificate of the Middle East Institute, Columbia University | 1977 |
| B.A. in Middle Eastern History and Political Science, Tel Aviv University | 1973 |

Employment History

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| Associate Professor, Department of History, The University of Texas at Austin | 1987- |
| Director, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, The University of Texas at Austin | 1995-2003 |
| Chair, Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures (reorganized as Department of Middle Eastern Studies), The University of Texas at Austin | 2002-03 |
| Assistant Professor, Department of History, The University of Texas at Austin | 1980-87 |

Program Affiliations

Department of Middle Eastern Studies
Center for Middle Eastern Studies
Islamic Studies Program
Jewish Studies Program

Research Languages

Arabic, Hebrew, Turkish (including Ottoman), Judeo-Arabic, French, and German

Course Topics and Areas of Teaching

Modern Middle Eastern politics and history; Arab social history; the Ottoman Empire; Middle Eastern cities and urban life; music cultures of the Middle East; death in history and across cultures; Jews of the Middle East; readings in Arabic documents and sources.

Awards and Fellowships

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| Albert Hourani Book Award of the Middle East Studies Association of North America | 1991 |
| American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship | 1990-91 |
| National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend | 1983, 1990 |
| Whiting Fellowship | 1978-79 |
| President's Fellowship | 1977-78 |

Publications

Books:

The Middle East on the Eve of Modernity: Aleppo in the Eighteenth Century. New York: Columbia University Press, 1989, 418pp. Paperback edition, 1992. Winner of the 1991 Albert Hourani Book Award. Selected for inclusion in the ACLS History E-Book Project.

Al-Sharq al-awsat 'ashiyat al-hadatha: Halab fi al-qarn al-thamin 'ashar. Translation of *The Middle East on the Eve of Modernity* by Ayman Sayyid Darwish and Abraham Marcus. Aleppo: Dar Shu'a' li 'l-Nashr, 2009.

Edited Books:

The Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, vol. 6: *The Middle East* (New York: Routledge, 2002), Consulting Editor.

An Encyclopedia of World History, 6th revised ed., General Editor Peter Stearns (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2001), Editor for the Middle East and North Africa.

The Encyclopedia of Social History, General Editor Peter Stearns (New York: Garland, 1994), Editor for the Middle East.

Articles and book chapters:

“Post-Medieval Aleppo” and “The Picciotto Family,” articles in *Encyclopedia of Jews in the Islamic World*, Executive Editor Norman A. Stillman (Leiden: Brill, 2010) (9,000 words).

“Death,” “Middle Eastern Cities and Urbanization,” and “Waqf Charitable Foundations,” articles in *The Encyclopedia of Social History*, General Editor Peter Stearns (New York: Garland, 1994).

“Burial Patterns and Cemeteries in Syria, 1700-1920,” in Jean-Louis Bacqué-Grammont (ed.), *Cimetières et traditions funéraires dans le monde islamique* (Ankara, 1996).

“Aleppo (Halab),” in *Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East* (New York: Macmillan, 1997).

Contributions to *An Encyclopedia of World History* (total 47,000 words):

“Iran, Iraq, and Anatolia, 945-1258”

“The Mongol Empire and Its Successors, 1258-1501”

“The Ottoman Empire, 1280-1512”

“The Ottoman Empire, 1512-1808”

“The Ottoman Empire, 1808-1914”

“Arabia, 1745-1800”

“Arabia, 1801-1914”

“Egypt, 1805-1914”

“Poverty and Poor Relief in Eighteenth-Century Aleppo,” *Revue du monde musulman et de la Méditerranée*, 55-56 (1990), 171-179.

“Privacy in Eighteenth-Century Aleppo: The Limits of Cultural Ideals,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 18 (1986), 165-183.

“Real Property and Society in the Premodern Middle East: A Case Study,” in *Property, Social Structure and Law in the Modern Middle East*, edited by Ann Elizabeth Mayer. (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1985), pp. 109-128.

“Men, Women and Property: Dealers in Real Estate in Eighteenth-Century Aleppo,” *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, 26 (1983), 137-163.

Book reviews in various periodicals, including *The Middle East Journal* and *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

Book Project in Progress

The Jews of Aleppo: History, Culture, and Legacy

Other Creative Activities

“Istanbul: Portrait of a City,” a pictorial exhibit conceived and developed with Professor Ian Manners (opened October 1994, has gone on a national tour and has been viewed by over 30,000 people).

Organized over a dozen concerts of Middle Eastern music on the UT campus, 1995-2004.

Performed with the University of Texas Middle Eastern Music Ensemble and the Austin Middle Eastern Ensemble, 1992–2002. The most recent performances include:

A concert of Middle Eastern and Sephardic music, accompanying singer Gérard Edery, May 10, 2002.

A concert of Sephardic Music of the Eastern Mediterranean, San Antonio Museum of Art, March 18, 2001.

A concert of Sephardic Music of the Eastern Mediterranean, Jessen Auditorium, February 17, 2001.

A concert of Traditional Arab Music with Egyptian guest musician George Sawa, Jessen Auditorium, February 13, 1999.

A concert of Arab and Turkish Music with my Austin Middle Eastern Ensemble, Jessen Auditorium, March 6, 1999 (as part of Explore UT).

A concert of Turkish Sufi and Traditional Music with Turkish guest musician Latif Bolat, Jessen Auditorium, July 3, 1999.

I composed and performed part of the soundtrack for the Moroccan film *Murmures (Whispers)* by Hakim Belabbes, issued in 2001.

Selected presentations in academic conferences

“The Alliance Schools in Aleppo: Integration in a ‘Difficult’ Place,” paper presented in the conference on Syrian Jewry and Its Diaspora, Mexico City, September 2008.

“Writing the History of Syrian Jewry,” a paper presented in the symposium on Jews Among Arabs, Vanderbilt University, November 30-December 1, 2006.

“Religious Studies in Academic Programs in the U.S.,” a paper presented in the international conference *Espérance d’Abraham: Dialogue Inter-Religieux*, Al Akhawayn University, Morocco, April 30-May 3, 2000.

Panel chair and discussant in the conference on *The New Imperial History*, The University of Texas, February 18-20, 2000.

Panel chair and discussant in the conference on *World History 2000*, Austin, February 11-12, 2000.

Panel chair and discussant in an international conference on *Sacred Music and Aesthetics in North Africa*, Fez, Morocco, June 3-5, 1999.

Chair and discussant in a panel on music and culture in the Middle East at the annual meeting of the Texas Association of Middle East Scholars, held at UT, February 20, 1998.

“Trends and Agendas in Research on Istanbul,” a concluding presentation at the international conference on Istanbul: The Making of a City, The University of Texas, March 24-25, 1995.

“Civil Life and the State in the Middle East: Some Historical Observations,” a paper presented at the Civil Society Workshop, The University of Texas, March 4, 1995.

“The Jews in Syrian Society: A Parochial or Integrated Community?,” invited lecture at the Symposium on Islamic Universalism and Religious Diversity: Christians, Muslims, and Jews in Middle Eastern Society, Smith College, April 1993.

“Writing and the Running of a Premodern Middle Eastern City,” paper presented at the Conference on Documenting Cultures: Written and Unwritten in Pre-Industrial Societies, Columbia University, New York, October 1992.

“The Family in Eighteenth-Century Aleppo: Evidence from the Shari’a Court Records,” paper presented at the Sixth International Conference on the Social and Economic History of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey, Aix-en-Provence, France, July 1992.

“The Making of Local Custom,” paper presented at the Workshop on the Place of Law in Islamic Societies, Washington University, St. Louis, May 1992.

“The Way of Death in Eighteenth-Century Syria,” paper presented at the Colloquium on The Ottoman Empire in the Eighteenth Century, Cambridge University, England, April 1992.

“Burial and Funerary Practices in Syria, 1700-1920,” paper presented at the International Colloquium on Cemeteries and Funerary Traditions in the Islamic World, Istanbul, September 1991.

“Guilds and Market Regulation in Eighteenth-Century Aleppo,” paper presented at the Ninth Symposium of Ottoman Studies, Jerusalem, July 1990.

“Social and Economic Trends in the Middle East, 1400-1700,” an hour-long presentation opening discussions at the Seminar in Middle Eastern History, 1401-1683, Salzburg, Austria, March 1990.

“Food and Subsistence Crises in the Ottoman City,” paper presented at the International Conference on Urban Economy and Society in the Ottoman Empire, Aix-en-Provence, France, December, 1989.

“Notables, Commoners and Others: The Social Hierarchy of the Middle Eastern City,” paper presented at the Symposium on the City as Social Crucible, The University of Texas, April 1986.

“Law and the Dynamics of Property in Islamic Society,” paper presented at the Conference on Property Law and Property Rights in the Contemporary Middle East, Bellagio, Italy, November 1980.

“The Waqf in Eighteenth-Century Aleppo,” paper presented at the International Seminar on the Social and Economic Aspects of the Muslim Waqf, Jerusalem, July 1979.

“The Real Estate Market in Eighteenth-Century Aleppo,” paper presented at the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Ann Arbor, Michigan, November 1978.

Conferences Organized

Conference (co-organized with Professor Mohammad Mohammad) on Arabic Studies: Language, Text, and Cultural Expression, held at the University of Texas at Austin, April 21, 2001.

Conference (co-organized with Professor Ian Manners) on The City in the Middle East: New Perspectives, held at the University of Texas at Austin, March 6-7, 1998.

Conference (co-organized with Professor Ian Manners) on Istanbul: The Making of a City, held at the University of Texas at Austin, March 24-25, 1995.

Program Development

I initiated and saw to completion two new degree programs: a dual graduate degree in Middle Eastern Studies and Law, and a dual graduate degree in Middle Eastern Studies and Information Science (1995-1997). They offer a combination of professional training and area expertise that only a few other schools in the country make available.

At the request of the Dean of Liberal Arts I developed the Mediterranean Crossroads Program, a College program that includes two semesters of course work and a summer study in the Middle East. I raised the seed money for the program, put in place the on-site arrangements, and led it for its first two years (2000 and 2001), taking groups of UT students to Turkey, Egypt, and Israel for four-five weeks.

I developed Challenges of September 11: Turkish Perspectives, an interdisciplinary summer study-abroad program based in Istanbul and involving the participation of Turkish faculty in addressing key issues in understanding current Middle Eastern realities. I directed the on-site arrangements and took a group of ten UT students to Turkey on the program’s first run in summer 2002.

Outside Institutional Grants Secured

Directed the preparation and wrote the narrative for the Title VI grant proposal (over 150 pages) submitted to the U.S. Department of Education for support of Middle Eastern studies at UT. Award of \$1,800,000 received for 2003-2006.

Directed the preparation and wrote the narrative for the Title VI grant proposal (over 150 pages) submitted to the U.S. Department of Education for support of Middle Eastern studies at UT. Award of \$1,153,000 received for 2000-2003.

Directed the preparation and wrote the narrative for the Title VI grant proposal (over 150 pages) submitted to the U.S. Department of Education for support of Middle Eastern studies at UT. Award of \$966,000 received for 1997-2000.

Secured a grant of \$30,000 for student academic travel to Israel from the Dorot Foundation for 2000-2002.

Secured a grant of \$30,000 for student academic travel to Israel from the Dorot Foundation for 1996-1999.

Secured a grant of \$30,000 from the Alcoa Foundation for development of the Mediterranean Crossroads study-abroad program, 1998.

Secured grants totaling \$3,500 from the Institute of Turkish Studies for library development and lecture series, 1996-1998.

Academic and Professional Service

Graduate Adviser, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas at Austin, 1993-96

Member of the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) external team that conducted an on-site review of the study-abroad program in Amman, Jordan, 2003.

Member of the board of the The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq, 2003-2004.

As Director of Middle Eastern Studies (1995-2003) I participated in many national meetings concerned with area studies, including the annual meetings of the directors of the Western Consortium of Middle East Studies Centers; the annual meetings of center directors with Department of Education officers in Washington; and the meetings of the Coalition for International Education.

Member of an external team invited by the Provost of UCLA to conduct an on-site review of the university's Center for Near Eastern Studies. I participated in the on-site visit (November 14-16, 2001) and in drafting an extended evaluation report.

Director of the 1999 Summer Institute of the Western Consortium of Middle East Centers, held at UT June 21-August 13, 1999.

Member of the Governing Council of the Center for Arabic Study Abroad in Cairo, 1998-2000.

Member of the editorial board of the journal *Islamic Law and Society*.

Member of the Albert Hourani Book Award Committee of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, 1998.

Member of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Dissertation Fellowship Committee for the Middle East, 1995-96.

Chair, Humanities Dissertation Award Committee of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, 1993.

Member of the Screening Committee for the American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) Fellowships, 1992.

Historical consultant for PBS Timeline television series, 1985-90

Public Service

I gave many talks to campus groups and civic organizations, as well as newspaper and TV interviews, most frequently during my service as Director of Middle Eastern Studies.