



**Amy Fallas**

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**EDUCATION**

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- 2024 **PhD., History (ABD), UC Santa Barbara**, Santa Barbara, CA  
Fields: Modern Middle East, Ottoman History, British Empire, U.S. Religion and the Cold War  
Dissertation title: “Their Own Poor:” Charitable Societies, Communal Identities, and the Making of Sectarianism in Modern Egypt, 1879-1939
- 2017 **M.A., History, Yale University**, New Haven, CT
- 2012 **B.A., Political Science, Grove City College**, Grove City, PA  
Magna Cum Laude, High Honors in Political Science  
Study Abroad at the American University in Cairo (AUC), 2010-2011

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS**

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- 2024 **Instructor**, Santa Barbara City College (Spring 2024)
- 2023 **Affiliated Scholar**, American University in Beirut (Fall 2023)  
**Affiliated Scholar**, Orient Institute in Beirut (Fall 2023)  
**Scholar in Residence**, The Center for Economic, Legal, and Social Studies and Documentation (CEDEJ) in Cairo (Spring-Summer 2023)
- 2022 **Guest Scholar**, Netherlands-Flemish Institute (NVIC) in Cairo - Universiteit Leiden (Fall 2022)  
**Instructor**, Cairo Institute for Liberal Arts Studies (Spring 2022)

**SELECT FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS**

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- 2023 Humanities & Social Sciences Research Grant, UCSB Graduate Division 2023-24  
UCSB Graduate Division Internship Fellowship  
Interdisciplinary Humanities Council Graduate Dissertation Fellowship 2023-24
- 2022 Dissertation Completion Fellowship in Coptic Orthodox Studies, Orthodox Christian Studies Center, Fordham University 2022-23  
University of California Humanities Research Institute’s Dissertation Support Grant  
UCSB Graduate Division Summer Dissertation Writing Workshop  
Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) Research Fellowship 2022-23
- 2021 American Society for Church History (ASCH) Research Fellowship 2021-22  
American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE) Dissertation Research Fellowship 2021-22  
Wadad Kadi Fellowship, Middle East Studies Association  
Steve and Barbara Mendell Graduate Fellowship in Cultural Literacy 2021-22  
UCSB History Department Research Award 2021-22
- 2020 CMES at UCSB Fall Research and Language Award  
Orfalea Center for International Studies Graduate Fellowship, 2020-21 (renewed for 21-22)  
Borchard European Studies Research Fellowship, 2020-21
- 2019 UCSB Center for Middle East Studies Summer Research Fellowship  
Steven Hay Scholarship Award

- 2017 UCSB History Associates Graduate Fellowship  
Yale Center for Race, Indigenous, and Transnational Migration Research Fellowship, Cairo  
Foreign Languages and Area Studies Fellowship Finalist in Arabic at Yale University  
Critical Languages Scholarship (CLS) in Arabic at Yale University in Oman
- 2016 Yale History Department, Oral History Fellowship  
Foreign Languages and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) in Arabic at Yale University, in Morocco

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

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- 2025 “The First Duty of Charity:” Medical Philanthropy, Sectarian Infrastructures, and Legacies of the Coptic Hospital in Twentieth Century Cairo,” accepted for publication in edited volume with the *Revue des mondes musulmans et de la Méditerranée* (REMMM)
- 2024 Death of a Prime Minister: The Assassination of Boutros Ghali and Mediating Sectarianism in Egypt, 1906-1911,” article under peer review.  
“Sectarian Politics? Securitization, Urban Development, and Coptic Advocacy in Cairo,” chapter in *Cairo Securitized* with American University in Cairo Press, ed. Paul Amar, 2024.
- 2023 “Sectarianism and Charity in Modern Egypt: The Coptic Case. Interview with Amy Fallas by Annalaura Turiano,” 42 *Revue Diasporas, Circulations, Migrations, Histoire* (2023).  
“Charity and Philanthropy in Middle East History,” *History Compass*, 21(3-4), e12760.
- 2022 “H-Diplo Article Review of Karine Walther, ‘Dorothy Thompson and American Zionism,’ *Diplomatic History* 46:2 (April 2022) 263-291.
- 2016 “From the Cedars to the Frontlines: Danbury’s Greater Syrian Immigrants and the Great War,” *Connecticut History Review Journal*, 55, no. 2 (Fall 2016), 140-152.

## ACADEMIC REVIEWS

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- 2020 “The Chaldeans: Politics and Identity in Iraq and the American Diaspora,” Book Review, *Arab Studies Journal* 28, no. 1 (Spring 2020), 122-126.  
“Orthodox Religion and Politics in Contemporary Eastern Europe,” Book Review, *Journal for Religion, State and Society* 48, no. 2 (Summer 2020).
- 2019 “Between Christ and Caliph: Law, Marriage, and Christian Community in Early Islam,” Book Review, *Reading Religion*.

## SELECT EDITORIALS AND PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

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- 2023 “The Power of El Salvador's Palestinian Diaspora,” *Institute of Palestine Studies*  
“Palace Intrigue,” *Contingent Magazine*  
“Rebelling Against Time in Cairo,” *Mada Masr*
- 2022 “When Unity Discourse Dismisses Systemic Sectarianism in Egypt,” *Tabrir Institute for Middle East Policy* – also translated into Arabic and Spanish  
“The Faith-Based Politics of El Salvador’s Millennial President,” *Religion and Politics*

- “The Forbidden Photographs,” *Rusted Radishes Beirut Literary Magazine*
- “Beyond Sectarian Violence: Socioeconomic Challenges for Copts in Egypt,” *Tabrir Institute for Middle East Policy*
- 2021 “The Great History of Small Things,” *Contingent Magazine*
- “El Pueblo de Dios: Latino Evangelicals and Christian Zionism,” *The Revealer*
- “How I Met My Mother (and Billy Graham),” *The Revealer*
- 2020 “Some Textbooks Still Parrot Donald Trump’s Skewed Version of U.S. History,” *Washington Post*
- “American Protestantism’s Commodification of the Middle East’s ‘Holy Lands,’” *Sojourners*
- “In the Garden of Eden with Shakira,” *Sojourners*
- 2019 “Ramy Kamel, Mada Masr, and Seeing Coptic Issues as Civil Liberties in Egypt,” *Tabrir Institute for Middle East Policy*
- “What the Taming of Christian Spaces Reveals about Egypt’s Security Complex,” *Jadaliyya*.
- “El Salvador’s Bukele at Crossroads in Relations with Ancestral Land,” *Palestine Square*
- 2018 “The Landmark 85-Year-Old Report Absent from Debates over Missionary’s Death,” *Religion Dispatches*
- “Orthodox Schism Reveals Political Dynamics in Russia and Ukraine,” *Columbia Journal of International Affairs*
- “Assessing Coptic Reform Through the International Christian Student Movement,” *Coptic Canadian History Project*
- “Pence’s Empty Promises to Christians in the Middle East,” *Yale Journal of International Affairs*
- “Syria’s Christians Reckon with Survival,” *Sojourners*
- 2017 “Targeted Yet Faithful: Egypt’s Copts, Wary of Restrictions, Celebrate Virgin Mary Feast,” *Sojourners*

## **ARCHIVE GUIDES**

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- 2020 “Researching Modern Egypt Online,” Digital Archives Review, *HAZINE*
- Research under Covid Lockdowns, or How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love Online Resources,” *Egypt Migrations*
- 2019 “Researching Modern Coptic History: A Guide to the Archives in the US and Egypt,” Archives Review, Coptic Canadian History Project
- 2016 “The Armenian-Syrian Relief Fund in World War I-Era Connecticut,” *Connecticut Digital Newspaper*

## SELECT CONFERENCE, WORKSHOP, AND COLLOQUIUM PRESENTATIONS

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- 2023
- Medical Philanthropy and the Sectarian Question in Egypt: On Sources and Method, American Academy of Religion Conference, Nov 2023
- “Demolishing the Past: The Politics of History and Recovering Loss in Egypt’s Private Archives,” CMES Spotlight Series, Nov 2023
- “The First Duty of Charity:” Medical Philanthropy, Sectarian Infrastructures, and Legacies of The Coptic Hospital in Twentieth Century Cairo, Middle East Studies Association Conference, Nov 2023
- “Becoming Sectarian in Egypt: Charitable Societies and the Politics of Ta’ifa in Twentieth Century Cairo,” The archival journey of entrenched post-Ottoman minorities, Istanbul, Oct 2023
- “The Sectarian Question,” Beirut Summer School at the American University in Beirut, July 2023
- “The First Duty of Charity:” The Coptic Hospital and the Making of a Sectarian Corridor in Twentieth Century Cairo, Impossible Archives: Rewriting the Contemporary in Egypt, Cairo, June 2023
- “Transnational Paper Trails: A Palestinian Charitable Society in Bethlehem, Cairo, and San Salvador,” Global South-South conference in Mexico City, May 2023
- “Between Cross and Crescent: Coptic Christian Mobilization in Egypt’s Revolution of 1919,” American Historical Association, Jan 2023
- 2022
- “Death of a Prime Minister: The Assassination of Boutros Ghali and Mediating Egyptian Sectarianism, 1906-1911,” Middle East Studies Association, Dec 2022
- “Extranjeros Indeseables:” Migration, Religion, and Racialization of Palestinians in 20th Century El Salvador,” American Academy of Religion, Nov 2022
- “Forging Sectarian Geographies in Egypt: Legacies of the Coptic Hospital from the Interwar Period to the Maspero Massacre,” Properties of Christianity Workshop, Sept 2022
- “Extranjeros Indeseables: Migración, Religión y Racialización de los Palestinos en El Salvador del Siglo XX,” Semana de Medio Oriente y Norte de África, Aug 2022
- “Modern Coptic History and the Specter of the Sectarian Question in Egypt,” International Coptic Congress, Brussels, July 2022
- “The International Ecumenical Movement and the Friends of the Bible Coptic Society,” Coptic Education Conference, Cairo, Feb 2022
- 2021
- “Death of a Prime Minister: The Assassination of Boutros Ghali and the Origins of Egyptian Sectarianism, 1906-1911,” CMES Spotlight Series, Nov 2021
- “Imperial Diplomacy and Esther Fahmy Wissa’s Advocacy in Interwar Egypt,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Montreal—*online due to COVID-19*, Nov 2021

- “The Gospel of Wealth: Charity and the Making of Modern Egypt, 1879-1939,” American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, Nov 2021
- 2020 “El Olor de La Berenjena: “The Palestinian Diaspora, Racialized Migration, and State-Making in Interwar El Salvador,” *Semana de Medio Oriente y Norte de África*, CIDE, Dec 2020
- “Between Heaven and Empire: Esther Fahmy Wissa’s Advocacy in Interwar Egypt,” UCSB Gender and Sexuality Workshop, June 2020 – *online due to COVID-19*
- “The Gospel of Wealth: Charity and the Making of Ecumenical Elites in Egypt, 1881-1931,” Post- Sectarianism Workshop, University of Cambridge, Jan 2020
- 2019 “Vanguard of the Persecuted? Middle East Christians and American Statecraft under Trump,” Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, Nov 2019
- “Refusal, Agency, and Modernity: Complicating Coptic Reform through the International Student Movement, 1919-1939,” International Coptic Studies Symposium, June 2019
- “For the Life of the World”: Christian Activism and the Ecumenical Student Movement in the Global Sixties,” Graduate Student Cold War Conference, George Washington University, May 2019
- 2018 “Scandalizing the Nation: Islamic Law, Religious Diplomacy, and the Struggle over Sovereignty in Interwar Egypt,” Southern California Islamic Studies Graduate Student Conference, Oct 2018
- “A Theology of American Evangelical Saviorism: Political Imagination, Religious Salvation, and the Plight of Christians in the Contemporary Middle East,” Religion, Populism & Pluralism Conference, Yale University, May 2018
- “That They All May Be One:” Global Ecumenism, National Coptic Reform, and the Egyptian Student Movement, 1900-1922,” Second Annual Coptic Canadian History Project Conference, York University, Apr 2018.

## **ORGANIZED PANELS AND LECTURES**

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- 2023 “Loss, Recovery, and Community Engagement: Archiving the MENA,” Middle East Studies Association, Organizer and Presenter, Nov 2023
- 2022 “New Directions in the Latin East: Between Latin America and the Middle East,” Middle East Association Studies, Organizer and Presenter, Dec 2022
- “Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Christianity in the Midst of Catastrophes,” American Academy of Religion, Presider, Nov 2022
- “Archives and Community Building: A 3-part Webinar Series,” grant-funded collaboration between Egypt Migrations and the Orfalea Center, Organizer and Presenter, Jan-April 2022
- 2021 “Finding Funding in Middle East Studies,” UCSB Center for Middle East Studies, Organizer and Discussant, June 2021
- “New Directions in Middle East Christianity,” American Academy of Religion, Organizer and Discussant, Nov 2021

- “Central Asian Pilgrims and the Ottoman Hajj at the End of Empire,” UCSB Center for Middle East Studies, Discussant, June 2021
- 2020 “Social Welfare in Modern Egypt,” Middle East Studies Association, Organizer and Presenter
- “Mahjar Matters: Writing a History of World War I from the Syrian Diaspora,” UCSB Center for Middle East Studies Lecture, Discussant, Sept 2022
- 2019 “The Politics of Suffering:” Minorities and the State in the Modern Middle East, Middle East Studies Association panel, Organizer, Dec 2019

## **INVITED LECTURES**

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- 2023 “Becoming Sectarian in Egypt: Charitable Societies and the Politics of Religious Difference in Twentieth Century Cairo,” University of Buffalo
- “Becoming Sectarian in Egypt: Charitable Societies and the Politics of Religious Difference in Twentieth Century Cairo,” Orient Institut in Beirut
- 2022 “Researching in Cairo,” Invited lecture, Leiden University in Cairo
- 2019 “The Politics of Protection: Middle East Christians and American Statecraft Under Trump,” invited lecture, University of California, Santa Barbara
- “Middle Eastern Christianity: Between Antiquity and Modernity,” invited lecture, University of Bridgeport
- 2017 “Lest They Perish: Refugee Resettlement in Connecticut,” televised lecture, Connecticut Old State House Lecture Series
- 2016 “Coming to America: The Story of Danbury’s Lebanese Immigrants,” special guest lecture, Danbury History Museum

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- 2024 History of the Modern Middle East, Instructor of Record, Santa Barbara City College, Spring 2024
- Modern Iran and Global Politics, Teaching Assistant, UCSB, Winter 2024
- 2023 World History, Teaching Assistant, UCSB, Summer 2023
- 2022 Archives of Memory and Forgetting in the Middle East, Instructor of Record, Cairo Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences, Winter 2022
- 2021 Intro to Middle East Studies, Instructor of Record, UCSB, Summer 2021
- The Middle East from Muhammad to the Nineteenth Century, Teaching Assistant, UCSB, Spring 2021
- 2020 Modern Middle East History, Teaching Assistant, UCSB, Fall 2020 Modern Europe, Teaching Assistant, UCSB, Spring 2020
- The Middle East from Muhammad to the Nineteenth Century, Teaching Assistant, UCSB, Winter 2020
- Interracial Intimacies, Reader, UCSB, Winter 2020
- 2019 Intro to Mexican History, Teaching Assistant, UCSB, Fall 2019

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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2023-Present	American Academy of Religion, Religion and Migration Steering Committee
2021-Present	American Academy of Religion, History of Christianity Steering Committee American Academy of Religion, Middle East Christianity Steering Committee
2020	UCSB Library, Graduate Student Representative for Middle East Librarian Search UCSB Center for Middle East Studies, Executive Committee Graduate Representative History Department, Library Committee Graduate Representative Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Nominating Committee
2019-2020	Graduate Student History Graduate Student Association, VP of Communication
2018-2020	UCSB Center for Middle East Studies, Graduate Committee

## COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

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<b>Assistant Editor</b> , <i>Arab Studies Journal</i>	July 2019-Present
<b>Editorial Intern</b> , <i>Journal for Palestine Studies</i>	June-July 2019
<b>Graduate Assistant</b> , Center for Middle East Studies (CMES), UCSB	Nov 2018- June 2019
<b>Photo Essay Editor</b> , <i>Yale Journal of International Affairs</i>	May 2017-May 2018
<b>Communications Assistant</b> , Council on Middle East Studies (CMES), Yale University	Aug 2017-Jan 2018

## PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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<b>Research Assistant</b> , UCSB History Department	Jan 2020-April 2020
<b>Freelance Research Assistant</b> , Yale History Department	Oct 2017-May 2018
<b>Archival Consultant</b> , St. Andrew's United Church of Cairo	August 2017
<b>Subject Research Writer</b> , Connecticut State Library	Nov 2015-May 2016
<b>Curatorial Assistant</b> , Gunn Memorial Museum	July 2014-May 2015
<b>Researcher and Archival Assistant</b> , Town of Newtown, Historians Office	Aug 2012-Jan 2015

## LANGUAGES

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Native proficiency in English and Spanish  
Advanced proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic (OPI score advanced high for MSA), Egyptian Colloquial  
Intermediate reading proficiency in Turkish, French, and Portuguese  
Beginner Persian

## ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

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American Academy of Religion  
Middle East Studies Association  
American Historical Association  
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations