

Assistant Professor, Anthropology & International Studies  
School of International Studies  
University of the Pacific, Stockton CA  
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**APPOINTMENTS**

2009-Present Assistant Professor, Anthropology, University of the Pacific, Stockton CA  
2008-09 Postdoctoral Fellow, Urban/Global Studies, Trinity College, Hartford CT  
2006-08 Postdoctoral Fellow, International Studies, University of Iowa, Iowa City IA  
2006 Research Fellow, Harvard University Grad. School of Design, Cambridge MA

**EDUCATION**

2006 PhD, Anthropology, Harvard University, Cambridge MA  
2000 AM, Middle East Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge MA  
1997 BS (distinction/honors), Psychology, James Madison University, Harrisonburg VA

**RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS**

Urban studies; anthropology and architecture; globalization and political economy; critical theory; 20<sup>TH</sup> Century Arab politics, culture, and literature; Arab Gulf, Iraq, Iran, South Asia

**DISSERTATION**

2006 'Not Their Fathers' Days': Idioms of Space and Time in the Urban Arabian Gulf.  
Dissertation Committee: Steven C. Caton (advisor), Theodore Bestor, Engseng Ho, Hashim Sarkis (Harvard Graduate School of Design)

**AWARDS AND GRANTS**

2008—09 Trinity College Paul E. Raether Postdoctoral Fellowship  
2008 Trinity College Research and Travel Awards  
2006—08 University of Iowa International Programs Postdoctoral Fellowship+Travel Awards  
2006 Harvard Graduate School of Design, Aga Khan Fellowship  
2005—06 Harvard Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship  
2005 Cora Du Bois Dissertation Completion Fellowship  
2004 Honorable Mention, Best Student Paper, 9<sup>th</sup> IASTE Conference  
2003 Fulbright-Hays DDRA Dissertation Research Fellowship  
2003 Fulbright Cultural Exchange/II E Fellowship (declined)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

- In Progress      *Rethinking Cities and Communities in the Global Era*, co-edited with Xiangming Chen. Book proposal under negotiation.
- Under Contract    *The Politics of Cultural and Spatial Representation in Dubai*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. (Manuscript to be completed Fall 2009).
- 2010                (as editor) *The Superlative City: Dubai and the Urban Condition in the Early Twenty-First Century*. Cambridge: Harvard University Graduate School of Design.  
<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog/KANSUP.html>

Articles/Chapters

- In Progress      A Tale of Two (Asian) Cities: Dubai and Singapore Before and After the Crisis. Trinity College Center for Urban/Global Studies Working Paper, <http://www.trincoll.edu/NR/rdonlyres/6AC70970-9982-4528-BD21-971C085A029B/0/KANNACORRECTEDMAY102009.pdf> (to be a chapter in X. Chen and A. Kanna, eds., *Rethinking Cities and Communities in the Global Era*).
- In Progress      Culture, Production, Space: Henri Lefebvre and Urban Anthropology. Article manuscript.
- Forthcoming     Urbanist Ideology and the Production of Space in the UAE: An Anthropological Critique. In Marina Peterson and Gary McDonogh, eds., *Global Downtowns*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
- 2010                Flexible Citizenship in Dubai: Neoliberal Subjectivity in the Emerging 'City—Corporation.' *Cultural Anthropology* 25 (no. 1, February 2010).
- 2010                Making Cadres of the 'City—Corporation': Cultural Identity and Politics in Neoliberal Dubai. *Review of Middle East Studies*, theme issue on the Culture Concept in Political Struggle.
- 2005                The 'State Philosophical' in the 'Land Without Philosophy': Shopping Malls, Interior Cities, and the Image of Utopia in Dubai. *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review* 16(2):59—73.

## SELECTED INVITED LECTURES, CONFERENCE PAPERS, &amp; PRESENTATIONS

- 2009 "Starchitects," Sheikhs, and the Production of Space in the Neoliberal Arab Gulf. Panel Paper, to be presented at Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, November and American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, December.
- 2009 "Do Muslim Cities Need Saving?" (with apologies to Lila Abu-Lughod): Urbanist Ideology in the United Arab Emirates. Anthropology Research Colloquium, University of the Pacific School of International Studies, 19 October.
- 2009 Spatialization and Foreign Bodies: The Politics of Space and Regimes of Labor Discipline in the Gulf. Invited Paper, "Reconceptualizing Migration: Spaces, Bodies, Politics" Conference, Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University, 2—3 April.
- 2009 Flexible Citizenship and Ambivalent Arab Identity in the Arab Gulf. Invited Paper, NYU Center for Near Eastern Studies Colloquium Series, 26 January.
- 2008 Flexible Citizenship in Dubai: Ambivalences of Arab Identity in the Emerging "City—Corporation." Panel Paper, "The Culture Concept in Political Struggle: Insights from the Middle East and North Africa" Panel, American Anthropological Association annual meetings, San Francisco, November.
- 2008 Urbanism as Orientalism?: The Notion of Sustainability as Discourse and Politics in Contemporary Arab Urbanism. Invited Lecture, School of Architecture, Art & Historic Preservation, Roger Williams University, 11 July.
- 2008 At the Crossroads: The Commodification and Culturalization of Labor in the Gulf. Panel Paper, Gender, Connectivity, and Change in the Gulf Arab States Conference, University of California-Irvine, 18 April.
- 2008 Politics and Sexuality in mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century Cairo Urban Life: Naguib Mahfouz's *Midaq Alley* and Yusuf Chahine's *Cairo Station*. Presentation, New York University, 10 March.
- 2008 Scaling Gulf Studies: Suggestions for Future Research at the Intersection of Geography Political Economy, and Cultural Studies. Invited Paper, Workshop on Indian Ocean Port Cities, Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, 8-10 February.
- 2008 Locality in Mobility in an Arabo—Indian Ocean City: Neoliberal Geographies, Transnational Connections, and the Production of Identity in Dubai. Invited Lecture, Department of Anthropology, University of California-Santa Cruz, 14 January.

- 2007 The City—Corporation and the Localized Work of Urban Order: Reading The Modernist City in the Neoliberal Age. Panel paper, 2007 Annual Conference of the American Anthropological Association, 28 November, Washington DC.
- 2007 Language, Islam, and the War on Terror. Panel presentation, University of Iowa Human Rights Center Seminar on the occasion of the Publication of Poems from Guantanamo: The Detainees Speak. 24 October 2007.
- 2007 Modernity's Anomalous Spaces: An Unconventional Look at Dubai. Invited Lecture, 'Issues in Islamic Urbanism' Series, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 10 April.
- 2007 Dubai: An Anthropology of the Future on the Neoliberal Spatial Frontier. Invited Lecture, Yale University, Department of Anthropology Colloquium. January 19.
- 2006 The City as Dialectical Artwork: Critical and Ethnographic Notes on Boom Dubai. Invited Lecture, University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology Colloquium. November 13.
- 2006 Utopian Traces and Figures in the City: Notes on Walter Benjamin's Passagenarbeit (Arcades Project). Panel presentation, 'Re-thinking Marxism' conference, University of Massachusetts-Amherst. October 26, .
- 2005 Reflections (in) Exile: Some Observations of Life Among Iraqis in the Gulf. Panel paper, Conference on the War in Iraq, University of California-Santa Barbara, March.
- 2004 The 'State Philosophical' in the 'Land Without Philosophy': Shopping Malls, Interior Cities, and the Utopian Imagination in Dubai. Panel paper, 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE), Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, December.
- 2004 Public Space in a Gulf City: The Cases of the Deira Fish Market, the Nasser Square Suq, and the Deira City Centre Compared. Invited Lecture, Department of Sociology, University of Sharjah, UAE. March.
- 2000 Homelands of the Mind: Arab Identity in the American Diaspora. Panel paper, American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, San Francisco, November.

## TEACHING

- 2010 University of the Pacific, SIS, Perspectives on World History (with Professors A. Giraldez and A. Richard)
- 2009-10 University of the Pacific, SIS, Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- 2009 University of the Pacific, SIS, The Middle East, Globalization and Empire
- 2009 Trinity College, International Studies, The Making of Modern Dubai
- 2008 Trinity College, Dept of Anthropology, Introduction to Urban Anthropology
- 2008 University of Iowa, International Studies, Cities of the Global South
- 2007 University of Iowa, International Studies, Modern Arab Narratives of Identity
- 2006-07 University of Iowa, International Studies, The Middle East Today: A Social Inquiry
- 2006 Harvard University, Department of Anthropology, Undergraduate Thesis Reader
- 2005 Harvard University, Core Program, Food and Culture, Head Teaching Fellow
- 2004 Harvard University, Core Program, Modern Arabic Narratives: Self, Society, and Culture (Teaching Fellow)
- 2002-03 Harvard University, Department of Anthropology, Food and Culture (Teaching Fellow)
- 2002 Harvard University, Core Program, Understanding Islam and Contemporary Muslim Societies (Teaching Fellow)
- 2002 Harvard University, Core Program, Religion and Modernization: Cultural Revolutions and Secularism (Teaching Fellow)

## FIELD RESEARCH

- 2000—2007 United Arab Emirates, several trips of between two weeks and ten months each.
- 2000—2004 Bahrain, several weeks
- 1999—2001 Lebanon, several months
- 1999 Syria, two weeks
- 1998 Saudi Arabia, two weeks

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2006—2009 Book Editor, Harvard University Graduate School of Design (see publications, above)
- 2006—2007 Cultural Consultant, Work Architecture Company, New York  
[www.integral.jeanbeaudoin.com/newsilkroad/pa\\_150606\\_teams.pdf](http://www.integral.jeanbeaudoin.com/newsilkroad/pa_150606_teams.pdf)
- 1998—1999 Volunteer, *Harvard Middle East and Islamic Review* Editorial Board

## ACADEMIC &amp; PUBLIC SERVICE

- 2010 Book Review, Transnational Migration to Israel in Global Comparative Context by Sarah S. Willen, MESA Bulletin/Review of Middle East Studies
- 2010 Book Review, Dubai: The Vulnerability of Success by C.M. Davidson, MESA Bulletin/Review of Middle East Studies
- 2009 External Reviewer, Article Manuscript, International Journal of ME Studies

- 2008 External Reviewer, Article Manuscript, City and Society
- 2008 External Reviewer, Article Manuscript, Architectural Theory Review
- 2007-08 Jury Member, Third International Conference of the Center for the Study of Architecture and Urbanism in the Arab Region (CSAAR), Dhahran, Saudi Arabia/Sharjah, UAE
- 2007 Country Expert, UAE, Middle East Desk, MERIP, [www.middleeastdesk.org](http://www.middleeastdesk.org)
- 2007 External Reviewer, Article Manuscript, City and Society
- 2007 Panel Chair, 'The Business of Arabic Prose,' Panel organized by the International Writing Program, University of Iowa, 14 October
- 2007 Presentation, 'Why Do They Hate Us?: Popular American Stereotypes of the Middle East,' Intercultural Communication Seminar, School of Journalism and Mass/Com, University of Iowa, 11 September
- 2006 Discussant, Islam and Muslim Societies Seminar, Coe College, Cedar Rapids IA
- 2004-05 Student Coordinator, Harvard U. Department of Anthropology Middle East Workshop
- 2000 Book Review, The Innocence of the Devil by Nawal El Saadawi. Harvard Middle Eastern and Islamic Review 5: 173—175.

NON-SPECIALIST PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA ACTIVITIES

- 2008 Article, (with Arang Keshavarzian), 'The UAE's Space Race: Starchitects and Sheikhs Envision the Future.' Middle East Report 248 (Fall): 34—39.
- 2007 Article, 'Dubai in a Jagged World.' Middle East Report 243 (Summer): 22—29. [www.merip.org/mer/mer243/kanna.html](http://www.merip.org/mer/mer243/kanna.html)
- 2007 Article, 'The South Asian Experience in the Gulf: Diversity and Struggle' SAMAR: South Asian Magazine for Action and Reflection 27 (November), [www.samarmagazine.org](http://www.samarmagazine.org)
- 2007 Interview, Voices of the Middle East and North Africa, KPFA Radio, Berkeley CA, 3 September, [www.kpfa.org](http://www.kpfa.org)
- 2007 Article, 'Trois bonnes raisons de trouver que le Golfe est moderne,' Qantara: Magazine des cultures arabe et méditerranéene 64 (Juillet 2007): 32—35.
- 2007 Consultant, Wide Angle, PBS Documentary, The Sand Castle, on architectural competition to build a complete city in Ras al-Khayma, UAE, 24 July, [www.pbs.org/wnet/wideangle/shows/uae](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/wideangle/shows/uae)
- 2007 Interview, Associated Press/Dubai, Historical, Political, and Social Background in Gulf, UAE, and Dubai. 9 July.
- 2007 Interview, Voice of the Cape, Muslim Affairs Programming, Cape Town, South Africa, 14 June, [www.vocfm.co.za/public](http://www.vocfm.co.za/public)
- 2007 Interview, Caravan, Muslim and Arab Affairs Program, McGill University Radio, Montreal, 13 June, [www.ckut.ca](http://www.ckut.ca)
- 2007 Op-ed Column, 'America, Israel, Palestine: A More Honest Approach,' Iowa City Press-Citizen, 14 April.
- 2006 Article, 'Dispatch from the Subdivision Archipelago,' Harvard Design Magazine 25: 95—96.

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- 2000—Present      American Anthropological Association:  
                         American Ethnological Society  
                         Society for Cultural Anthropology  
                         Society for Urban, National and Transnational/Global  
                         Anthropology  
                         Middle East Section (nominee for Board Member; member, Senior  
                         Scholar & Student Paper Awards Committees, Spring 2009)
- 2003—Present      Middle East Studies Association of North America

**LANGUAGES**

English	native fluency
Modern Standard Arabic	speech and reading near-fluent
German	speech good, reading excellent
French	reading good

**REFERENCES (please contact me for more detailed information)**

Professor Xiangming Chen, Dean and Director  
Center for Urban and Global Studies  
Trinity College

Professor Vijay Prashad  
Professor of South Asian Studies and International Studies  
Trinity College

Professor Steven C. Caton  
Department of Anthropology  
Harvard University

Professor Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld  
Department of Anthropology  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Professor Engseng Ho  
Department of Cultural Anthropology  
Duke University

Professor A. Hashim Sarkis  
Graduate School of Design  
Harvard University

Professor James L. Watson  
Department of Anthropology  
Harvard University