

# CHELSIE MAY

Curriculum vitae

## EDUCATION

- 2020 **Ph.D.** Candidate | Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations | University of Chicago  
Dissertation: "Watching Whiteness Work?: The Racialization of Jewish Women in Iraq and Israel/Palestine." (defense: June 2020)
- 2013 **M.A.** | Near Eastern and Judaic Studies | Brandeis University
- 2011 **B.A.** | Middle Eastern-North African Studies | University of California, Los Angeles | Study Abroad: Hebrew University of Jerusalem

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Modern Middle East and Islamic history, gender and sexuality in the Middle East, theories of gender and sexuality, Critical Race Studies, intersectionality, Iraqi history, Arab Jewish and Mizrahi history

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journal Articles

- 2020 "Not a Figure in the Past?: Zionist Imperial Whiteness, The Iraqi Communist Party, and Their Reverberating Histories of Race and Gender, 1941-1951." *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*. (forthcoming, March 2020)
- 2018 "Girls of the Eastern Communities!: The Intersectionality of Female Arab Jewish Immigrants, Israel-Palestine 1947-1960." *The Journal of Jewish Identities*, pp. 245-266.

### Book Reviews

- 2020 *Arabs and Jews in Ottoman Palestine: Two Worlds Collide* by Alan Dowty. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2019. *AAR's Reading Religion*. January 2020.
- 2017 *Gender in Judaism and Islam: Common Lives, Uncommon Heritage* eds. Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet and Beth S. Wenger. New York, New York: NYU Press, 2014. *Religious Studies Review* 43:3.
- 2014 *Rhinestones, Religion, and the Republic: Fashioning Jewishness in France* by Kimberly A. Arkin. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2014. *Sephardic Horizons*.

### Further Scholarly Writing

- 2020 *Shalvi/Hyman Encyclopedia of Jewish Women*. "Jewish Women in the Iraqi Communist Party." Entry. (forthcoming, Spring 2020)

## TEACHING

**Instructor of Record** - University of Chicago  
2019 Reading Cultures: Collection, Humanities Core

**Teaching Assistant** - University of Chicago  
2020 Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations  
2019 Islamic History and Society-3: The Modern Middle East  
2019 Readings in World Literature: Can We Read World Literature?  
2019 Readings in World Literature: Autobiography  
2018 Readings in World Literature: Epics  
2018 Arab America  
2018 History of Iraq, 1917-2015

**Pedagogy Training** (10 week-long courses) - University of Chicago  
2018 Critical Pedagogies in the University Classroom  
2018 Pedagogies of Writing  
2016 Course Design and College Teaching

## **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS**

**Fellowships** - University of Chicago  
2019-2020 Chicago Center for Teaching Fellows Program  
2017 Nicholson Center for British Studies Graduate Fellowship

**Research Grants** - University of Chicago  
2018 Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies, University of Chicago  
2018 Humanities Division Writing Training Compensation, University of Chicago  
2017 Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture, University of Chicago  
2015 Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture, University of Chicago

**Awards**  
2019 Journal of Middle East Women's Studies Graduate Student Paper Prize

**Conference Travel Grants**  
2017 Graduate Council Travel Fund Award, University of Chicago  
2015 Rosalie Katchen Travel Award, The Hadassah-Brandeis Institute

## **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS & ORGANIZED PANELS (SELECT)**

### **Panels Organized**

2019 "A Racialized Modern: Race as a Category of Analysis Throughout Modern Middle East Histories." Middle East Studies Association Conference. New Orleans, LA. November 17.

2016 "Arab Jewish Belonging in the Middle East after Israel's War of 1948." Middle East Studies Association Conference. Boston, Massachusetts. November 18. (co-organizer).

### **Papers Presented**

2019 "What Kind of Agreement Was Even Possible?" Zionist Imperial Whiteness, The Iraqi Communist Party, and the Disparate Future of Iraq's Jews." Association for Jewish Studies Conference, San Diego, CA. December 17.

2019 "What Kind of Agreement Was Even Possible?" Zionist Imperial Whiteness, The Iraqi Communist Party, and the Disparate Future of Iraq's Jews." Middle East Studies Association Conference. New Orleans, LA. November 17.

2019 "Intersectionality in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Middle East History Writing." International Intersectionality Conference at the University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA. March 8.

2017 "'A Girl So Quiet Will Do Everything We Tell Her:' The Authority of Emotions for Zionism in 1940s Iraq." Middle East Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C.. November 19.

2016 "Intersectionality, Belonging and the Immigration of Arab Jewish Women: Reading Louise Cohen, Shoshana Levy and Shoshana Almoslino between Iraq and Israel." Middle East Studies Association Conference. Boston, Massachusetts. November 18.

"'Girls of the Eastern Communities': The Intersectionality of Female Arab Jewish Immigrants, Israel-Palestine 1947-1960." Association for Jewish Studies Conference. San Diego, California. December 18.

2015 "On A Contemporary Notion of Arab Jewish Identity: Reading Haviva Pedaya Intersectionally." Middle East Studies Association Conference. Denver, Colorado. November 23.

"Levantinism, Youth Aliyah, and the Image of Jacqueline Kahanoff: The Authorship of Ramat-Hadassah-Szold: Youth Aliyah and Classification Centre." Association for Jewish Studies Conference. Boston, Massachusetts. December 13.

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

2020 Area Studies Book Club Co-Founder

2019-2020 Humanities Division Dean's Student Advisory Board Department Representative

2019-2020                      Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations Student-Faculty Committee Representative

2016-2017                      Middle East History and Theory (MEHAT) Workshop Co-Coordinator

## **TUTORING**

**Writing Program** - University of Chicago  
2018-2019                      Undergraduate Academic Writing Tutor

## **LANGUAGES**

Modern Hebrew: full proficiency | Modern Standard Arabic: proficient | French: reading proficiency | Turkish: beginner

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Middle East Studies Association | Association for Jewish Studies

## **REFERENCES**

Orit Bashkin, Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, E: [oritb@uchicago.edu](mailto:oritb@uchicago.edu)  
University of Chicago, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Pick Hall for International Studies 5828 South University Ave., Room 223 Chicago, Illinois 60637

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University of Michigan, Department of Judaic Studies, LSA Judaic Studies 2111 South Thayer 202 S Thayer St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Holly Shissler, Associate Professor of Ottoman and Modern Turkish History, E: [ashissle@uchicago.edu](mailto:ashissle@uchicago.edu)  
University of Chicago, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Pick Hall for International Studies 5828 South University Ave., Room 215 Chicago, Illinois 60637

Ghenwa Hayek, Assistant Professor of Modern Arabic Literature, E: [ghenwa@uchicago.edu](mailto:ghenwa@uchicago.edu)  
University of Chicago, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Pick Hall for International Studies 5828 South University Ave., Room 228 Chicago, Illinois 60637 (teaching reference)

Jessica Kirzane, Lecturer in Yiddish, E: [jkirzane@uchicago.edu](mailto:jkirzane@uchicago.edu)  
University of Chicago, Department of Germanic Studies, Cobb Hall 1050 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 501 Chicago, Illinois 60637 (teaching reference)