

# CHELSIE MAY

Curriculum vitae

## EDUCATION

- 2021 **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: May 2021)
- 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*. 16 (1): 41-61.
- 2018 "Girls of the Eastern Communities!: The Intersectionality of Female Arab Jewish Immigrants, Israel-Palestine 1947-1960." *The Journal of Jewish Identities*. 11 (2): 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, Fall 2020)

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

**Fellowships** - University of Chicago

2020-2021	Franke Institute for the Humanities Dissertation Fellowship
2020	Greenberg Center for Jewish Studies Dissertation Fellowship (declined)
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
2018	Humanities Division Writing Training Compensation
2017	Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture
2015	Center for the Study of Race, Politics and Culture

**Research Awards**

2019	Journal of Middle East Women's Studies Graduate Student Paper Prize
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**Conference Travel Grants**

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

**TEACHING****Instructor of Record** - University of Chicago

2019	Reading Cultures: Collection, Humanities Core
2019	Fundamentals of Teaching in the Humanities (co-taught)

**Teaching Assistant** - University of Chicago

2020	Writing for Research
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

**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.

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

Bryan Roby, Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies, E: [robbyb@umich.edu](mailto:robbyb@umich.edu)  
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)