

**Zamira Abman**  
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**PUBLICATIONS**

*Coerced Liberation: Muslim Women in Soviet Tajikistan*, University of Toronto Press (May 2024)

“History of women’s movements in Soviet Tajikistan: early to mid-20th century,” *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures* (2019)

“Women and Islam: Analysis of the Soviet atheist propaganda, 1953-1982,” *Women and Gender in Twentieth Century Russia and the Soviet Union*, *Palgrave Handbook* (2017)

“Peacebuilding in Tajikistan: The Beyond Intractability Project,” University of Colorado Press (2005)

**Working Projects:**

*The inevitable conflict: the Soviet delimitation of Central Asia, case study of northern Tajikistan, 1930s-1990s* (received the American Council of Learned Societies fellowship (ACLS) to research this study)

*Construction of national and personal identities: Oral History of Jewish Muslims-Chala (ho) in Soviet Tajikistan, 1940s-1980s* (planned for submission in Fall, 2024)

**EDUCATION**

University of California, Santa Barbara, CA--Ph.D. in History, 2015

- Research areas: Eurasia, Soviet Union/Russia, and Modern Middle East
- Dissertation Title: “State feminism in Soviet Central Asia: A Case Study of Muslim women in Soviet Tajikistan, 1924-1982”
- Advisor: Adrienne Edgar

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN--M.A. in International Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution, 2006

American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan—BA in American Studies and International Relations, 2004

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Fall 2024                      Assistant Professor in History/Comparative and International Studies Departments, San Diego State University

Fall 2018-Present      Director, Comparative International Studies major, SDSU  
*Responsibilities* – Major development and outreach, student advising, teaching senior capstone course, curriculum development, assessment

Fall 2015-Present      Core faculty for the Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies  
Lecturer in History Department, Women’s Studies, European Studies, The Weber Honor’s College at San Diego State University

Courses:

WMNST 560: Women in Muslim Societies  
HONORS 495: Capstone course Honors seniors  
EUROP 430: Muslims in Europe  
HIST 411: World History for Teachers  
CINTS 400: Capstone course for CINTS seniors  
HONORS 313: The Soviet Experiment and its Legacy  
HONORS 113: Gender in the Middle East  
HIST 106: Western Civilization  
HIST 101: World History from 1700 to present  
HIST 100: World history from the beginning to 1700

**FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS**

2024 American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Fellowship, NY  
2024 Most Influential Faculty Award for Comparative and International Studies (CINTS), SDSU  
2023 Most Influential Faculty Award for History, SDSU  
2023 Most Influential Faculty Award for CINTS, SDSU  
2023 Critical Thinking Grant Award, SDSU  
2023 CAL Microgrant, SDSU  
2022 AAUW American Short-Term Research Publication Grant  
2022 Most Influential Faculty Award for the Weber Honors College, SDSU  
2022 Most Influential Faculty Award for CINTS, SDSU  
2022 Darlene Shiley Faculty Award for Excellent in Teaching for the Weber Honors College, SDSU  
2021 Most Influential Faculty Award for Social Science, SDSU  
2020 Critical Thinking Grant Award, San Diego State University  
2019 Most Influential Faculty Award CINTS, SDSU  
2019 Grossmont College Canvas Training Certification  
2015 UCSB Affiliates Graduate Fellowship  
2015 UCSB Academic Senate Nomination for Excellence in Teaching  
2014 Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, Pre-doctoral Fellowship, UCSB  
2014 Albert and Elaine Borchard European Studies Fellowship, UCSB  
2012-2014 Center for Middle Eastern Studies Summer Research Award, UCSB  
2013 Steve and Barbara Mendell Graduate Fellowship in Cultural Literacy, Department of Religious Studies, UCSB  
2012-2013 Dean's Graduate Fellowship, UCSB  
2012-2013 Fellowship, American Association of University Women, Washington, D.C.  
2009-2012 The Global Supplementary Grant, Open Society Institute, New York City, NY  
2010-2011 The Stephen and Eloise Hay Prize, Islamic Studies, UCSB  
2000-2004 George Soros Full Scholarship, AUCA, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

**ACADEMIC CONFERENCES, EVENTS, AND INVITED TALKS**

2024 The European Studies Department and the Comparative and International Studies Program event, Ukraine at the Crossroads: Assessing Two Years of War and Current Trends, SDSU  
2023 UCSD Extensions, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
Guest speaker, The Soviet emancipation of women, 1920s-1980s.

- 2023 AAUW Monterey Peninsula and Santa Cruz County Branches, Annual Luncheon  
Guest Speaker, The Soviet emancipation of women, 1920s-1980s.
- 2022 AAUW (The American Association of University Women) California Branch  
Annual Fund Event  
Guest Speaker, The Soviet emancipation of Muslim women, 1920s-1980s.
- 2022 Organized an event, “Voices from Ukraine,” in collaboration with the European  
Studies Department, San Diego State University
- 2021 Organized an event, “Building Solidarity with Afghan Women,” in collaboration with  
the Women’s Studies and the Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies, San Diego State  
University
- 2016 Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies, UCSB  
“The beneficiaries of Soviet state feminism: Tajik women professionals and their  
short-lived influence: 1953-1982.”
- 2014 The Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, San Antonio, TX  
“The Emancipation of the Muslim Women of Tajikistan under the Khrushchev  
regime, 1953-1964.”
- 2014 Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UCSB  
Conference on Women, Children, and Human Rights in the Middle East  
“State feminism in Muslim Central Asia, 1924-1982.”
- 2014 UCSB/GWU/LSE International Graduate Conference on the Cold War, UCSB  
“The Emancipation of the Muslim women of Tajikistan under the Khrushchev  
regime, 1953-1964.”
- 2013 3rd Annual Graduate Student Islamic Studies Conference, UCSB  
Theme: Reconstituting Female Authority. “The revival of the *zhensoveti*—  
women’s councils, emancipation of the Muslim women of Tajikistan under the  
Khrushchev regime, 1953-1964.”
- 2012 Association for the Study of Nationalities, Columbia University  
“Emancipation of Muslim Women of Central Asia, 1945-1982: Analysis of Soviet  
propaganda in women’s periodicals.”

### **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2016-2022 Lecturer, Grossmont College  
HIST 148: Emerging Modern Middle East  
HIST 106: Western Civilization  
HIST 101: World History from 1700 to present  
HIST 100: HIST 100: World history from the beginning to 1700
- Fall 2016-2018 Lecturer, Mesa College  
HIST 130: Modern Middle East History  
HIST 106: Western Civilization  
HIST 101: World History from 1700 to present  
HIST 100: HIST 100: World history from the beginning to 1700
- 2017-2019 Summer session instructor, University of California, Santa Barbara  
HIST 46: Modern Middle East History
- Summer 2014 Instructor, University of California, Santa Barbara  
Course: History of the Middle East and Gender
- 2009-2013 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Santa Barbara  
Courses: Introduction to Feminist Studies, Modern Middle East,  
World History (Prehistory–1700), Western Civilization (1700–Present)

- 2011-2012 Conducted oral history interviews for Adrienne Edgar, Professor at the University of California-Santa Barbara on inter-ethnic marriages in the Soviet Union in various cities in Tajikistan
- 2007-2009 Research Specialist/ Project Manager/ Community Organizer for a joint outreach project with the University of Minnesota, the Sabes Jewish Community, and Jewish Community Action, Twin Cities, MN.
- 2007 Research Intern, Counterpart International, Washington, D.C.
- 2006 Research Specialist and Teaching Assistant, University of Minnesota  
Course: Islamist Politics in Central Asia
- Fall 2006 Consultant, Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, St. Paul, MN  
Assessed women’s human rights violations in Tajikistan.
- 2005 Intern, The Carter Center, Atlanta, Georgia  
Researched political developments in West Africa and Southeast Asia.
- 2005 Election Observer, The Carter Center, Monrovia, Liberia  
Investigated democratic reform issues and monitored elections.

### **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

English (fluent) Tajik/Farsi (native)  
Russian (fluent) Uzbek, Kyrgyz (proficient)

### **SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Member of the SDSU Academic Senate, SDSU, 2021-2024  
Member of the Chairs and Directors Committee, College of Arts and Letters, SDSU, 2018-present  
Member of the Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies at SDSU, 2019-present  
Member of the SDSU Women Faculty of Color Empowerment Group, 2021  
Faculty Advisor for the Middle Eastern Student Association, Grossmont College, CA, 2019-2021  
Member of the International Studies Curriculum Committee, SDSU, 2019  
Student Organization Advisor- Preposterone Acapella Group, SDSU, 2018-2019  
Member of the Diversity Committee at Mesa College, San Diego, CA Fall 2016-2018

### **REVIEWS**

- Reviewed Isaac McKean Scarborough's book, Moscow’s Heavy Shadow: The violent collapse of the USSR for the Slavic Review Journal, 2024.
- Reviewed a grant for the ISRF Flexible Grants for Small Groups, 2024
- Reviewed an article for the Slavic Review Journal “Women in the public sphere of Dagestan: tradition, religion and modernization,” 2021.