

Zamira Abman

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(805) 377-5957

EDUCATION

- 2015 Ph.D., History, University of California, Santa Barbara
Areas of Concentration: Soviet Union/Russia, Soviet Central Asia, and
Modern Middle East
- Dissertation Title: "State feminism in Soviet Central Asia: A Case Study of
Muslim women in Soviet Tajikistan, 1924-1982"
- 2006 M.A., International Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution, University of
Notre Dame
- 2004 B.A., American Studies and International Relations,
American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

PUBLICATIONS

Coerced Liberation: Muslim Women in Soviet Tajikistan (manuscript under revision with the University of Toronto Press)

"History of women's movements in Soviet Tajikistan: early to mid-20th century," *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*, Fall (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." (2005)
University of Colorado.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2018-Present Director, Comparative International Studies major, SDSU
Responsibilities – Major development and outreach, student advising,
teaching senior capstone course;
- Fall 2015-Present Adjunct Professor, History Department, Women's Studies, Center for
Islamic and Arabic Studies, and Weber Honor's College, San Diego State
University
Course: The Soviet Experiment and its legacy, Gender in the Middle
East, Women in Muslim Societies, World History for Teachers,
World History; Western Civilization
- Spring 2016-2019 Adjunct Professor, Grossmont College

Course: Emerging Modern Middle East

- Fall 2016-2018 Adjunct Professor, Mesa College
Courses: Modern Middle East History; World History 101;
Western Civilization 106; World History 100;
- Summer 2017-2019 Instructor, University of California, Santa Barbara
Course: 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)
- Fall 2006 Research Specialist and Teaching Assistant, University of Minnesota
Course: Islamist Politics in Central Asia

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

- 2022 Darlene Shiley Faculty Award for Excellence in teaching, SDSU
- 2021 Most Influential Faculty Award, San Diego State University
- 2020 SDSU Critical Thinking Grant Award
- 2019 Most Influential Faculty Award, San Diego State University
- 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

- 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

- 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 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 (native)	Uzbek, Kyrgyz (proficient)

REFERENCES

Edward Beasley
Department of History San
Diego State University
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Adrienne Edgar
Department of History
UC Santa Barbara
edgar@history.ucsb.edu

Stacey Sinclair
Weber Honors College
San Diego State University
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