

Soheila Amirsoleimani

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EDUCATION:

B.A., 1984 CSUN, Northridge (English Honors)
M.A., 1986 The University of Michigan (Near Eastern
Studies)
PH.D., 1995 The University of Michigan (Near Eastern
Studies)

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT:

University of Michigan	Instructor 1992-1995
University of Utah	Assistant Professor 1995-2003
University of Utah	Associate Professor 2003-

SUMMER TEACHING:

University of Pennsylvania	Lecturer 1991
University of Michigan	Lecturer 1993-1994
University of Michigan	Visiting Professor 1995
Foreign Language Teaching Center Europe, Germany	Instructor 1996
Ohio State University	Assistant Professor 1997
UCLA	Assistant Professor 1998

GRANTS, AWARDS, HONORS, RESEARCH LEAVE:

The American Numismatic Society	Summer 1992
Pre-Tenure Leave	Spring 1997
Faculty Research Assignment	Fall 1999
Travel Grant to Central Asia	Summer 2000
Sabbatical Leave	2004-2005
Visiting Scholar (UC, Berkeley)	2004-2005
Post-tenure Leave	Spring 2017
Research Leave	Spring 2020

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND DUTIES:

The Society for Iranian Studies

Middle East Studies Association

The American Numismatic Society

American Association of Teachers of Persian (president, 2006-2009; executive secretary, 2004-2005)

American Institute of Iranian Studies (judge on The Lois Roth Prize for Literary Translation from Persian to English, 2011-present)

The Association for the Study of Persian Literature (2013-present)

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

Marg ham abist (Death is Also Blue), collection of Persian poems, IBEX Publishers, Inc., 2002.

Kalaf-i abi (The Blue Yarn), collection of Persian poems, IBEX Publishers, Inc., 2009.

Awkwardly Do I Walk, collection of English poems, IBEX Publishers, Inc., 2012.

Narinji, rang-i khushbakhti (Orange, the Color of Happiness), collection of Persian poems, IBEX Publishers, Inc., 2014.

"Ghazni," poem in the volume, The Mirror of the Heart, A Thousand Years of Persian Poetry Written by Women, editor, Dick Davis, Penguin/Mage, October 2019.

Ahuvan va maqbariha (Deer and the Shrines), collection of Persian poems, IBEX Publishers, Inc., 2021.

A Mennonite in Khiva, collection of English poems, IBEX Publishers, Inc., 2021.

Refereed Articles:

"Truths and Lies: Irony and Intrigue in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," Iranian Studies, 32, 1 (1999), 1-19.

"Women in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," Der Islam, November issue (2001), 229-248 (solicited for translation into Persian by Bukhara Magazine, tr. Farzaneh Ghojaloo, ed. Soheila Amirsoleimani, February 2012).

"Paper and Metal: the Irony that Ensues (The Coinage of Mas`ud of Ghazna, 421-431/1030-1040)," Iran, (2002), 163-171.

"Of This World and the Next: Metaphors and Meanings in the Qabus-namah," Iranian Studies, 35, nos. 1-3 (2002), 1-22.

"Clothing in the Early Ghaznavid Courts: Hierarchy and Mystification," Studia Iranica, 32, (2003), 2, 213-242.

Reviews:

M.C. Hillman, A Lonely Woman: Forugh Farrokhzad and Her Poetry, The Middle East Journal, 43, 4 (1989), 712-713.

Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, Recasting Persian Poetry: Scenarios of Poetic Modernity in Iran, Middle East Librarians Association Notes, 64 (Spring 1997), 8-9.

M.R. Ghanoonparvar, Translating the Garden, Int. J. Middle East Stud. 35 (2003).

Guity Nashat and Lois Beck, editors, Women in Iran, From the Rise of Islam to 1800, Iranian Studies, 37 (2004), 729-31.

Review of “Comparing and Analyzing of Two Stories from Iran and China (Khotan),” solicited by the journal, Frontiers of Literary Studies in China, Beijing, China, 2014.

FORTHCOMING:

Encyclopedia Entries:

Bu Sahl Zawzani, solicited by Encyclopedia Iranica, expected date of publication – 2020.

Hasanak, solicited by Encyclopedia Iranica, expected date of publication – 2020.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

A Necessary Calamity: Women in 11th Century Persian Texts (monograph), under contract for the Studies in the History of Iran and Turkey Series (editor—Professor Carole Hillenbrand/University of Edinburgh), Routledge.

Metaphor and Irony in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi (monograph).

Missteps and Uncertainties (collection of essays and sketches), under contract with IBEX Publishers, Inc.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ORGANIZING:

Language Workshop on Persian Language Pedagogy, American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP), co-organizer with Dr. Mahvash Shahegh (AATP executive secretary) Washington, D.C., 2008.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PARTICIPATION:

"The Use of Irony in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," Middle East Studies Association, Los Angeles, California, November, 1988.

"Rhetoric in Historical Persian Texts: 1000-1100 cs.," Middle East Studies Association, Toronto, Canada, November, 1989.

"Khurasan in the Eyes of Its Historians: 10-12th cs.," Middle East Studies Association, St. Antonio, Texas, November, 1990.

"Irony in Book Six of Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," The American Oriental Society Meeting, Cambridge, Massachusetts, March, 1992.

"A Story of Intrigue in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," The American Oriental Society Meeting, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, April, 1993.

"Truths and Lies: Irony and Intrigue in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," The Second Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies, Bethesda, Maryland, May, 1998.

"Women in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," The Fourth European Conference on Iranian Studies, Paris, France, September, 1999.

"Hierarchy and Mystification: Stories of Hats and Robes in the Reign of Mas`ud of Ghazna," The Third Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies, Bethesda, Maryland, May, 2000.

Discussant, "Iran and Iranians from the Salt Lake City Community: Recollections from Home and Experiences in Diaspora," University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, November, 2001.

“Metaphors and Meanings in the Qabus-namah,” The Fourth Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies, Bethesda, Maryland, May, 2002.

Chair, Annual Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP), MESA Conference, Boston, MA, 2006.

Chair, Annual Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP), MESA Conference, Montreal, Canada, 2007.

Chair, Annual Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP), MESA Conference, Washington, D.C., 2008.

Participant, establishment of The Association for the Study of Persian Literature, Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Fall 2013.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS:

"A Survey of Women in Iranian History and Literature," Women in Middle East Society Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, February, 1997.

"Post-Revolutionary Women Writers of Iran," Women in Middle East Society Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, February, 1998.

"Remembering K. Allin Luther and the Nizami Ganjavi Poetry Group," The Poetry of Nizami Ganjavi: Knowledge, Love, and Rhetoric, A Symposium in Commemoration of the late K. Allin Luther, The Program and the Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, February, 1998.

Poetry reading, "Mishinasam an kasi ra ...," "Tanha-nishastah," "An ba`d az zuhr-i pa'izi," Middle East Studies Association, Chicago, Illinois, November, 1998.

"Irony in Tarikh-i Bayhaqi," Humanities Conference, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, April, 1999.

"Illuminating Iran: Persian Culture and Civilization," Middle Eastern Threads in Western Culture, Middle East Center, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, October, 1999.

“Alexander the Great in Iran,” The Journey of Alexander the Great Workshop, Middle East Center, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, October, 2001.

“Persian Literature and Iranian Culture,” Workshop on Iran, Outreach Program, Middle East Center, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, April, 2007.

“Clothing in The Early Ghaznavid Courts,” Recovering Afghanistan’s Past: Cultural Heritage in Context, University of California, Berkeley, 2008.

Hyphenated Lives: Muslim Americans in the U.S., California State University, East Bay, 2009.

Hinckley Institute Forum on Muslims in America, Hinckley Institute, fall 2016.

Opening the Mind’s Eye, the U. of U. Honors College Praxis Lab, fall 2016.

Muslim-Americans in the U.S., guest speaker in Sociology course,

MEDIA

“Utah Muslims face challenges in America, but love its freedom,” The Salt Lake Tribune, September 12, 2016.

TEACHING:

Language and Literature:

Elementary-Advanced Persian

Advanced Persian Language Skills I & II

Seminars in classical and
modern Persian texts

Literature, Culture, History, Religion, Gender:

Women's Voices: Egypt and Iran

Post-Revolutionary Literature
of Iran

Women's Voices: Iran, Afghanistan,
and Tajikistan

Women's Voices: Memoirs by Iranian Women

Classical Persian Literature

Trends in Modern Persian Literature

Kings and Kingship in Classical
Persian Literature

Introduction to Persian Literature

Medieval Iranian Cities in History
and Literature

Persian Culture and Civilization

Afghanistan: History, Literature
and Culture

God, Love, and Mysticism (Islamic mysticism – works
from the Persian, Arabic, Turkish, and Urdu traditions)

Heroes and Anti-Heroes (literary texts from Greek,
Persian, Chinese, French,
and English)

What is Literature?

Middle East Studies/Approaches and Methodologies (team-taught annually)

Iranian Film

Hyphenated Lives: Muslim-Americans in the U.S.
(Diversity Course)

Women in Modern Iran

Introduction to the Study of Literature & Culture

PARTICIPATION IN LANGUAGE PEDAGOGY WORKSHOPS:

ACTFL, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Summer 1990.

American Association of Teachers of Persian/American Association of Teachers of Turkish, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Summer 1991.

American Association of Teachers of Persian/American Association of Teachers of Turkish, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Summer 1992.

Foreign Language Training Center Europe, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, Summer 1996.

Western Consortium Multi-Language Conference, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, Spring 1998.

Western Consortium Multi-Language Conference, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, Spring 2000.

Western Consortium Multi-Language Conference, University of Texas, Austin, Austin, Texas, Winter 2001.

Assessment of Persian Language Tests, Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS), University of Oregon, Eugene, May, 2008.

American Association of Teachers of Persian and Arabic Workshop, NYU, 2009.

American Association of Teachers of Persian Workshop, The University of Pennsylvania, 2010.

SERVICE:**University**

Undergraduate Council	2013-2016
Academic Senate	2020-2023

College of Humanities:

College Diversity Committee	2008-2010
College Career Development Committee	2013-2015

Middle East Center:

Graduate Committee	1995-2001
Financial Aid Committee	1995-2001
Marion Farouk-Sluglett Award Committee	1997-1999
Outreach Committee Faculty Advisor	1997-2000
Persian Search Committee	1998
Middle East Center Search Committee	2001
Middle East Center FLAS applications review	2019

Department of World Languages & Cultures:

Sector Head, Persian	1997-
Classics Search Committee	2000
TAC Committee	2000-2002
	2005-2008
	2011-2012
	2018-2021
Executive Committee	2012-2013
Relations with Centers committee	2013-2014
RPT committee chair (Asaad Al-Saleh)	2013-2014
RPT committee member (Nathan Devir)	2013-2014
RPT committee member (Christine Everaert)	2013-2014
Post-Tenure committee member (Randall Stewart)	2013-2014
Department Language Committee	2013-2014
Non-Fulbright FLTA review of applications from Iran	2013-2014
Diversity Designation application submitted for course: Muslim-Americans in the U.S.	2013-2014
RPT Secretary	Fall 2014
Peer Review Observations (Rimma Garn, K. Cho, David Gruenbaum, Janet Kerr)	2011-2014

Non-Fulbright FLTA (Persian)	2013-present
RPT Chair	2016-2017
Chair RPT Committee (Nathan Devir)	2017-2018
RPT Committee Member (Tanya Flores)	2018-2019
RPT Representative (John Wynne)	2018-2019
RPT Committee Member (Alejandro Quinn)	2019-2020
RPT Committee Member (Talia Dajes)	2020-2021
Japanese Search Committee	2019-2020
WLC Major Committee	2021-2022

Students:

Faculty Representative, The Iranian Students Association	1998-2000
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Faculty Advisor, Interfaith Youth at the U.of U.	2015-2016
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SERVICE

COMMUNITY:

Faculty Representative, The Iranian Resource and Activity Network of Utah	1997-2000
Organizer, Persian Lecture Series	1998-2000
Organizer and Chairperson: (Iran and Iranians from Salt Lake City: Recollections from Home and Experiences in Diaspora)	2001
Organizer, Persian Hour (weekly event)	2005-2008 2012-2016

SERVICE

PROFESSION:

Committee member, Association for the Establishment of
Study of Persian Literature, Fall 2013-present

Critical Language Scholarships (American Councils),
review of applications for intensive summer study of
Persian in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 2011

Critical Language Scholarships (American Councils),
review of applications for intensive summer study of
Persian in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 2013

Critical Language Scholarships (American Councils),
review of applications for intensive summer study of
Persian in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 2019

Judge, the Lois Roth Prize for Literary Translation from
Persian to English, 2011-present

Member, Editorial Board of the Journal of Fine Arts,
Performing Arts, and Music, University of Tehran, 2019-
present

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEES:

Salman Bashir, "Philosophy of the Limit in Ibn al-Arabi's
Barzakh Concept and the True Nature of Infinity,"
Languages and Literature, Ph.D. dissertation committee,
defended on May 24, 2000.

Yally Livnat, "The Lives of Adolescent Arab Girls in the Israeli Galilee," Anthropology, Ph.D. dissertation committee, defense on October 17, 2007.

Joseph Kreidel, Middle East Center, Master's committee, Fall 2008.

Maranda Skoubye, Middle East Center, Master's committee (chair), 2013.

Jeremy Prindle, Middle East Center, Master's committee (chair), 2014.

Hediyeh Hosseini, WLMA, Fall 2014.

Raghad Safah, WLMA, graduated, 2015.

Sahar Sanavi, WLMA, graduated, Fall 2015.

Amanda Jarvis, Middle East Studies (Honors), thesis, "Leftists as Political Opposition in Iran" (chair), graduated, 2015.

Michael Salazar, Religious Studies major, Senior Capstone Project (chair), graduated, 2015.

Chelsey Zamir, History Department, Master's committee, thesis, "A Pigeon with Two Nests: A Case of First – And Second Generation Iranians," (committee member), graduated, December 2016.

Brittany Franaschouk, History Department, Master's committee, 2020-2021.

Jared Lambert, History Department, Master's committee, 2020-2021.

HOBBIES AND ACTIVITIES

Arabic and Persian calligraphy (trained in calligraphy school in Tehran-Iran)

nature photography

city photography

amateur guitar playing

