

Dr. Emily J. Selove

Current Address:

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Education

Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles **June, 2021**
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
Dissertation: *The Hikaya of Abu al-Qasim al-Baghdadi: The Comic Banquet in Greek, Latin and Arabic.*

B.A. Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences **2006**
Major: Near Eastern Studies
Second Major: College Scholar, Translation of Arabic Literature
G.P.A. 3.9 (*summa cum laude*)

Center for Arabic Study Abroad, Cairo, Egypt **2009**
Summer intensive language program

Oxford University, Oxford, UK
Digital Humanities Summer School, July 8-12th, 2013
Recognized student during Michaelmas and Hilary terms 2008-2009

University of Damascus, Damascus, Syria
Advanced Arabic, August 2007

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VA
Arabic Summer Language Program, 2005

Academic Positions

Senior Lecturer, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter **2015-present**

Research Associate, Department of Classics, University of Manchester **2012-2014**

Arabic instructor and Manuscript Catalogue Researcher, UCLA **2009-2011**

Awards and Grants

Leverhulme Trust Research Project, 2019-2022 (£126,588)
A Sorcerer's Handbook: Medieval Arabic Magic in Context

Early Career Seed Fund Award, 2016 (£2,444)
To fund "Curse Words" workshop with international collaborators at the University of Exeter

Wellcome Trust Small Grant, 2015 (£3,189)
“A Pseudo-Aristotelian Medical/Magical Manuscript”

UC President’s Society of Fellows
Awarded to the top two dissertation year fellowship proposals, 2011-2012.

Romani Fellowship
Awarded by UCLA’s Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2011-2012.

UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2011-2012
UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, 2010
UCLA Mellon Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, 2008-2009
UCLA Lenart Fellowship, 2008-2009
UCLA Dean’s Fellowship, 2008-2009
UCLA Foreign Language and Area Studies funding, 2007-2008
UCLA Chancellor’s Prize
Awarded to the most highly recruited entering academic doctoral students, 2006-2008.

Cornell University Dean’s Scholar, 2002-2006
Cornell University College Scholar, 2003-2006
Near Eastern Studies Department’s Certificate of Achievement in Intermediate Arabic, 2005
Dean’s Scholar Grant to attend Middlebury’s summer program, 2005
Messenger-Chalmers Prize, awarded to the undergraduate thesis "giving evidence of the best research and most fruitful thought in the field of human progress and the evolution of civilization during some period in human history or during human history as a whole," 2006.

Publications

“Magic as poetry, poetry as magic: A Fragment of Arabic Spells,” (journal of Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft journal, 2020).

“Heretics and Party-Crashers: Al-Khāṭīb al-Baghdādī’s *Kitāb al-Taṭfīl*,” co-authored with John Turner (Journal of the School of Abbasid Studies, 2019).

A Baghdad Textbook, (edited) A co-authored textbook on the subject of medieval Baghdad. (Theran Press, 2019)

“Medicine and Literature,” in *1001 Cures: Medicine in the pre-modern Middle East*, the Foundation for Science, Technology, and Civilization (2018).

“Two New Texts on Medicine and Natural Philosophy by Abū Bakr al-Rāzī,” co-authored with Peter Pormann, (Journal of the American Oriental Society, forthcoming in 2017).

Hikāyat Abī al-Qāsim: A Literary Banquet, a scholarly monograph (Edinburgh University Press, 2016).

“Making Men and Women: Arabic Commentaries on the Gynaecological Hippocratic Aphorisms in Context,” co-authored with Rosalind Batten, in *Annales Islamologiques* 48, on "The Body in the Medieval Islamic World," (2015).

“Medicine, *Mujūn*, and Microcosm in Ḥikāyat Abī al-Qāsim al-Baghdādī,” in the *Journal of the School of Abbasid Studies* (Brill, 2015).

“*Mujūn* is a Crazy Game: The chess game in *Ḥikāyat Abī al-Qāsim*,” in *The Rude, the Bad, and the Bawdy: essays in honour of Geert Jan van Gelder*, edited by Marlé Hammond, Arie Schippers, and Adam Talib (Gibb Memorial Trust, 2014).

“Who Invited the Microcosm?” in *Abbasid Studies: Occasional Papers of the School of Abbasid Studies*, (Gibb Memorial Trust, 2013).

“Authorizing the Authorless: A Classical Arabic Dream Interpretation Forgery,” co-authored with Kyle Wanberg, in *Mundus vult decipi*, edited by Javier Martínez (Madrid: Ediciones Clásicas, 2012).

Selections from the Art of Party Crashing in Medieval Iraq, an English translation of *Kitab al-Tatfil* by al-Khatib al-Baghdadi (Syracuse University Press, 2012). An 11th-century collection of stories about uninvited guests. This translation was excerpted in the January 2012 edition of *Harper’s Magazine*, and featured on BBC Radio Four and World Service, as well as in *Spolia*, *The Sun*, *The National*, and *The Manchester Evening News*.

“Crashing the Text: Speaking of Eating in *Hikayat Abi al-Qasim*” in *Marginalia*’s 2011 issue, *Taste* (Cambridge Medieval Reading Group, 2011), <http://www.marginalia.co.uk/journal/11taste/>.

Forthcoming Publications

“The Apotropaic Phallus in Medieval Arabic Literature and Culture?: The Evil Eye and Other Shared Beliefs of the Roman and the Arabo-Islamic Empires,” (Festschrift for Professor Amy Richlin).

The Imitation of Abu al-Qasim, an English translation and new critical edition of *Hikayat Abi al-Qasim* by Abu al-Mutahhar al-Azdi, co-translated and edited with Laudian Professor Emeritus Geert Jan van Gelder (Gibb Memorial Trust).

“The Sorcerer Scholar: Siraj al-Din al-Sakkākī between Grammar and Grimoire” (Gerlach Press).

Reviews

Review of *Kitāb Mi’at laylah wa-laylah (A Hundred and One Nights)*. Edited and translated by Bruce Fudge, in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2019).

Review of *Language between God and the Poets: Ma‘nā in the Eleventh Century*, by Alexander Key. *The Medieval Review*, 2019.

Review of *The Sultan’s Sex Potions, Arab Aphrodisiacs in the Middle Ages*, Nasir al-Din al-Tusi, ed. and trans Daniel L. Newman. *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies (Bulletin of the School of Abbasid Studies)*, 2015).

Review of *Al-Qāḍī al-Quḍā’ī, A Treasury of Virtues: Sayings, Sermons and Teachings of ‘Ali, with the One Hundred Proverbs Attributed to Al-Jahiz*, ed. and trans. Tahera Qutbuddin, in *Speculum* (April, 2014).

March, 2021

Review of *The Performing Arts in Medieval Islam: Shadow Play and Popular Poetry in Ibn Dāniyāl's Mamluk Cairo*, by Li Guo, in the *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 2013.