

**Dr. Emily J. Selove**

**Current Address:**

11 Aspect House  
59 Coombe Vale Rd.  
Teignmouth, TQ14 9EG  
Devon, UK

**Education**

**University of California, Los Angeles**

Doctor of Philosophy, June 2012

Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

Dissertation: *The Hikaya of Abu al-Qasim al-Baghdadi: The Comic Banquet in Greek, Latin and Arabic.*

**Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences, Ithaca, NY**

Bachelor of Arts, May 2006, *summa cum laude*

Major: Near Eastern Studies

Second Major: College Scholar, Translation of Arabic Literature

G.P.A. 3.9

**Center for Arabic Study Abroad, Cairo, Egypt**

Summer intensive language program, 2009

**Oxford University, Oxford, UK**

Digital Humanities Summer School, July 8-12<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Recognized student during Michaelmas and Hilary terms 2008-2009

Conducted dissertation research with Professor Geert Jan van Gelder.

**University of Damascus, Damascus, Syria**

Advanced Arabic, August 2007

**Middlebury College, Middlebury, VA**

Arabic Summer Language Program, 2005

**Awards and Grants**

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.

## **Experience**

### **Lecturer (UK), 2015-**

University of Exeter  
Conducting research, and teaching and supervising subjects related to Classical/Medieval Arabic literature and language.  
Courses Taught/Co-taught: Arabian Nights: Perception and Reception, From Holy Text to Sex Manuals in Classical Arabic Literature, Intermediate and Advanced Arabic language, Reading and Translating.  
I am also the organiser of monthly magic research group meetings of colleagues within the University of Exeter.

### **PhD Supervision** (I am also second supervisor for five additional PhD students):

Mohammed Asiri, "The Image of America and Americans in Alghosaibi's literature."  
Mohammed Sanad, "Analysing the critical style of Abu-Hilāl al-'Askarī (395- 400 AH)."  
Hassan Asiri, "Argumentative Dimensions in the Sareeh Hijazi Ghazal Poetry in the Umayyad Period."

### **Research Associate, 2012-2014**

University of Manchester, UK  
Department of Classics  
Acted as deputy director of the Arabic Commentaries on the Hippocratic Aphorisms project, maintaining the manuscript catalogue, running meetings and reading groups, and leading on digital humanities issues, as well as transcribing and conducting research on the Arabic commentaries themselves.

### **Manuscript Catalogue Researcher, 2011**

Conducted research for UCLA's Minasian Collection of Persian and Arabic manuscripts.

### **Arabic instructor, 2010-11**

UCLA elementary Arabic instructor, Qur'anic and Literary Arabic  
Taught a self-designed course using multiple classical Arabic grammars and texts.

**Arabic instructor, 2009-10**

UCLA elementary Arabic instructor, Modern Standard Arabic  
Taught the standard *Al-Kitab* series, a proficiency-based curriculum.

**Teaching and Research Assistant, summer 2008, 2009**

Worked as a Cornell University Arabic summer school teaching assistant and research assistant to Professor Munther Younes.

**Memberships**

**School of Abbasid Studies** member, 2010-present.

I have also been a member of the ACLA, MESA, and the Societas Magica.

**Publications**

“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).

*A Baghdad Textbook*, (edited) in progress. A co-authored textbook on the subject of medieval Baghdad for year-six students.

“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/> .

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

“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).

*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 11<sup>th</sup>-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*.

"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).

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

### **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).

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

*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).

### **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 *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.

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).

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).