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# Academic employment

Adjunct Lecturer, Sciences Po Paris, 2024-present.

Teaching and Research Fellow, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2017-20.

Adjunct Lecturer, Parsons Paris - The New School, 2016-17.

Adjunct Lecturer, Sciences Po Paris - Campuses of Poitiers and Reims, 2016-17.

### Education

**Dual Ph.D.** in Political Science and Sociology, CERI-Sciences Po Paris and Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. 2024.

Dissertation title: "Mirages of Race: Blackness, Racialization, and the Black movement in Tunisia."

Supervisors: Charles Kurzman, Nadia Marzouki, Daniel Sabbagh.

Affiliated researcher, Institut de Recherche sur le Maghreb Contemporain (IRMC) - Tunis, 2020-2024.

Duke-UNC Middle East Studies Certificate, 2021.

M.A. Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2020.

Thesis: "Conceptualizing Narratives of Religious Generational Gap between Muslim Immigrants and their French-Born Descendants."

Committee: Charles Kurzman (chair), Jacqueline Hagan, and Rahsaan Maxwell.

M.Res. Economics, Sciences Po Paris, 2015.

Thesis: "Sanskritization and Gender: Discrimination in Labor Market at the Intersections of Religion and Caste in India."

Committee: Etienne Wasmer (chair) and Denis Fougere.

B.A. Social Sciences, Sciences Po Paris - Campus of Menton, 2013.

Undergraduate exchange, American University of Beirut, 2012–2013.

# Research and teaching interests

Race and Racialization in Africa and the Middle East, Politics of Migration and Citizenship, Political and Social Theory, Qualitative methods.

### Published research

Comment la Tunisie produit des "migrants irrèguliers." Plein Droit n.139:35-38. 2023.

Earlier draft published in English as: How Tunisia Produces "Irregular" Migrants. *The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy*. 2023.

In search of the Black "ghetto:" Racial and spatial stigma in Tunisia. *POMEPS Studies 49: Urban Politics in the Middle East.* 2023.

Remembering Jamila Debbech Ksiksi - An Interview with the Late Tunisian Lawmaker and Anti-Racist Activist. *MERIP Middle East Report Online*. 2023.

Reprinted in El Intérprete Digital (in Spanish)

Making Tunisia non-African again - Saied's anti-Black campaign. Review of African Political Economy. 2023.

Interviewed for POMEPS Middle East Political Science Podcast S12 Episode 19

Being excess bodies: Shame in the age of climate coloniality. Review of African Political Economy. 2022.

Fieldnotes from Bhar Lazreg: Research Methods from the Margins of Tunis. *Jadaliyya*. 2022. (note: this is an introduction to an article-series on Bhar Lazreg that I edited)

Reprinted in Middle East Studies Pedagogy Initiative and El Intérprete Digital (in Spanish)

The Limits of Confronting Racial Discrimination in Tunisia with Law 50. *MERIP Middle East Report 299*. 2021 (Summer).

La construction et la contestation de la blackness autour de la Méditerranée : cas de la Tunisie et de la diaspora tunisienne en France. *Le Carnet de l'IRMC*. Tunis, Tunisia. 2021

Quality management in higher education: Developments and Drivers. Paris, France: IIEP-UNESCO. (with Michaela Martin) 2017.

Policies and Politics of Teaching Religion in India. *Policies and Politics of Teaching Religion*. Ed. by Karim El Mufti and Theodor Hanf. Baden Baden: Nomos. 145-152. 2013.

# Forthcoming publications

A la recherche du "ghetto" noir - race, classe et espace en Tunisie. Revue Tunultes. forthcoming.

"Too many Africans there": Racializing Urban Peripheries in the Face of Border Externalization and Tunisia's Economic Precarity. In *Inequality and Mobility: Eroding Capabilities and Aspirations in Post-Revolutionary Tunisia* edited by Jörg Gertel and Katharina Grüneisl. Bielefeld, Germany: Transcript Verlag. forthcoming.

Within and outside the Black-Maghrebi binary: A conversation with Maha Abdelhamid. *Meridians*. forthcoming.

Is Tunisian President Kais Saied's anti-'African' politics indeed a rupture? *Handbook on Arab Authoritarianism*. Bloomsbury. submitted.

Reflecting race through the law criminalizing racial discrimination in Tunisia. in preparation.

# Teaching and Research Experience

#### Sciences Po Paris

Revolutions and their afterlives: The case of Middle East and North Africa, Fall 2024 (as instructor of record).

Race, migration, and citizenship in the Middle East and North Africa, Fall 2024 (graduate-level course; as instructor of record).

Minorities and minoritization in contemporary Middle East and North Africa, Spring 2024 (as instructor of record).

Introduction to Sociology, Spring 2017 (as TA).

Advanced Quantitative Methods for Social Sciences, Fall 2016 (as instructor of record).

International Finance, Fall 2015 (as TA).

Research Assistant to Etienne Wasmer at LIEPP (2014–15) and Nadia Marzouki at CERI (2019–21)

#### Teaching in Tunisia

"Public spaces and inequalities" workshop on qualitative methods, École Nationale d'Architecture et d'Urbanisme de Tunis, Co-convener (with Cyrine Bouajila), March–April 2022.

"Populism and inequalities in the MENA region" guest-lecture series, in *Political Economy* taught by Hamza Meddeb, South Mediterranean University, February and May 2021.

### University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Sociology of Islam, Spring 2020 (as TA).

Data Analysis, Fall 2019 (as TA).

Sex and Gender in Society, Fall 2018 (as TA).

Sociological Theory, Spring 2018 (as TA).

Health and Society, Fall 2017 (as TA).

Research assistant to Charles Kurzman, Fall 2020.

#### Parsons Paris - The New School

Introduction to Political Economy, Springs 2016 and 2017 (as instructor of record).

Quantitative Reasoning I, Fall 2016, (as instructor of record).

Quantitative Reasoning II, Spring 2017 (as instructor of record).

## Selected essays

"Saadia Mosbah, Black Tunisian Activist, Arrested on 6 May 2024." Jadaliyya. 2024 (19 June).

"From Dignity to Racial Purity? Saied's Anti-"African" Agenda." Nawaat. 2024 (7 May).

"A double standard" *Africa is a country.* 2023 (12 July).

Reprinted in ZAM Magazine

"The humiliating weight of Frenchness in Tunisia" Africa is a country. 2023 (31 January).

"Under Surveillance: Testimony from a Global South migrant in Tunisia" *Nawaat*. Tunis. 2023 (25 January).

Reprinted in French by Nawaat.

"Blue Borders, Dark Bodies: The Mediterranean as a Site of Racist Murder." *The Wire.* New Delhi, India. 2022 (11 August).

"A Woman in the Public Space: Ramadan in Tunis' Bab Souika." *The Markaz Review*. Los Angeles, USA. 2022 (9 May).

"'Islamic World': The Problems With India's Construction of West Asia as Uniformly Muslim." *The Wire*. New Delhi, India. 2022 (24 February).

Reprinted in Nepali in Naya Patrika Daily (Nepal).

"Borders live on dark bodies, even in Tunisia" Nawaat. Tunis, Tunisia. 2021 (29 November).

"Tunisia: On Moments of Political Uncertainty and Attempts to Negotiate the Meaning of Democracy" *The Wire*. New Delhi, India. 2021 (6 August).

"The Covid catastrophe isn't about India being "poor", Tunisia neither." *Nawaat*. Tunis, Tunisia. 2021 (11 May).

"From Farmers' Stir in India to Tunisian Protests, it is a Story of Masses Left Behind" *The Wire*. New Delhi, India. 2021 (14 February).

"By Hanging the Nirbhaya Case Convicts, Did India Kill Patriarchy?" *The Wire*. New Delhi, India. 2020 (23 March).

"No Country Needs a Burqa Ban" The Wire. New Delhi, India. 2019 (27 October).

"Not just Mexicans, more and more Indians are entering Donald Trump's US illegally." *The Print*. New Delhi, India. 2019 (21 September).

"Not just Sanskrit, Gujarati owes a lot to Arabic and Persian languages too." *ThePrint*. New Delhi, India. 2019 (18 August).

Reprinted in Dawn (Pakistan).

### Book reviews

Review of Translating Blackness: Latinx Colonialities in Global Perspective by Lorgia Garcia Peña (2022). Lateral: Journal of the Cultural Studies Association. 2023.

Review of *Tunisia's Modern Woman: Nation-Building and State Feminism in the Global 1960s* by Amy Aisen Kallander (2021). *Research Africa Reviews.* 6(3): 49-52. 2022.

Review of Sensuous Cinema: The Body in Contemporary Maghrebi Film by Kaya Davies Hayon (2018) Journal of Religion and Film. 25(2): Article 10. 2021.

Review of Muslim Women in French Cinema: Voices of Maghrebi Migrants in France by Leslie Kealhofer-Kemp (2015). Journal of Religion and Film. 23(2): Article 10. 2019.

Review of Europe, India, and the Limits of Secularism by Jakob de Roover (2015). Reading Religion: American Academy of Religion. 2019.

Review of What is Political Islam? by Jocelyne Cesari (2018) The Maydan. 2018.

Reprinted in Arabic in *Hekmah* (translation by Reem Alameri) and in Somali in *Geeska* (translation by Aadan Ducaale)

# Fellowships, grants, & awards

#### External awards

Beyond Borders Ph.D. Scholarship, Zeit-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius Foundation, 2022–24 (Euro 33,600).

Research Residence at Villa Salammbô, Institut français de Tunisie, March-April 2023. (declined for security reasons)

Bourse de terrain (fieldwork scholarship), Noria Research, 2022 (Euro 1,500).

KLF Research Fellow, Kamel Lazaar Foundation - Tunisia. 2022. (declined for security reasons)

Merian Centre for Advanced Studies in the Maghreb (MECAM) Fellow - Identities and Beliefs program, Spring 2022 (Euro 13,000).

Global Religion Research Initiative (GRRI) Project Launch Grant, University of Notre Dame and Templeton Foundation, 2020–21. (\$9,100)

Religions and Public Life Fellowship, Kenan Institute for Ethics, Duke University, 2019–20. (\$1,250)

AFS-JENESYS Scholarship, Government of Japan, 2007.

Kennedy-Lugar AFS-YES Scholarship, U.S. Department of State, 2006–2007.

#### Internal awards

Graduate Tuition Incentive Scholarship (tuition waiver), UNC-CH, 2021-24.

Bourse de terrain (fieldwork scholarship), CERI-Sciences Po, 2022 (Euro 2,000)

Global Partnership award, UNC Global. 2021-22. (\$3,000)

Digital Dissertation Fellowship 2021, Carolina Digital Humanities, UNC-CH. Summer-Fall 2021. (\$4,000)

Graduate School Summer Fellowship, UNC-CH. Summer 2021. (\$5,000)

Pilot Research Grant, Department of Sociology, UNC-CH, 2020-21 (\$1,000) and 2018 (\$500)

Humanities for the Public Good Initiative Award, UNC-CH and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Summer 2020. (\$5,000)

Pre-Dissertation Exploration Award, Carolina Global Initiative, UNC-CH, Summer 2020. (Awarded without funds because of travel restrictions related to COVID-19)

Maynard Adams Fellowship, Carolina Public Humanities, UNC-CH, 2019–20. (\$2,000)

The Graduate and Professional Student Federation Travel Grant, UNC-CH, 2019. (\$600)

Ruth Mitchell - Pitts START Fellowship, Center for European Studies, UNC-CH, 2018. (\$2,000)

Emile Boutmy Scholarship, Sciences Po Paris, 2010–2015.

Babel Initiative Grant (Morocco), Sciences Po Paris, 2012.

# Selected conference presentations and invited lectures

### Conference presentations and workshops

"Race, migration, and citizenship in the Middle East and North Africa," convener, Sciences Po Paris, February 2025 (tentative).

"A lifetime of racial stigma in Tunisia." Interdisciplinary Exchange Colloquium for Scholars in Social Sciences and Humanities - Zeit Stiftung Bucerius-Hamburg, April 2024.

"Reflecting race through the law criminalizing racial discrimination in Tunisia," Annual Graduate Student Research Workshop, NYU-Abu Dhabi, March 2024.

"Governing sub-Saharan migration in Tunisia," CIVICA Summer School at European University Institute - Italy, September 2023.

"L'éthique de la recherche face aux violences anti-migrantes en Tunisie" for the panel 'Etre noir.e dans le monde arabe.' Congrès du GIS Moyen-Orient et mondes musulmans, Lyon, July 2023.

Co-moderator for "Inequality and racism in Tunisia: Historical precedents and present-day crisis," ASU-Center for Maghrib Studies, 6 April 2023.

Co-organiser and speaker for "Populisme, politique migratoire et racisme en Tunisie," Centre d'histoire, Sciences Po Paris, 9 March 2023.

The social construction of a neighborhood as Black: The case of Gahbaya in Gabes, Tunisia, POMEPS workshop, Lebanon, February 2023.

"The making and application of the law criminalizing racial discrimination (Law 50) in Tunisia." *Centre d'Études Maghrébines à Tunis (CEMAT).* December 2022.

"Hindaoui/a: The Racialized Imaginations of South Asian bodies in the MENA"

Eugenic Legacies across the MENA Symposium, October 2022.

Deutscher Orientalistentag, Berlin, September 2022.

"De/constructing "disorder" in Bhar Lazreg," *Inequalities and mobilities in Tunisia* workshop hosted by MECAM, Nabeul (Tunisia), June 2022.

"Conceptualizing Black Masculinity/ies: Reading with and through silences," *Minorities in the Maghreb Conference*, Tunisia, May 2022.

"Parler de race en étant racisé," *Terrains*, IRMC-Tunis, April 2022.

"Tracer la ségrégation raciale urbaine : le cas de l'arrondissement de Bhar Lazreg dans le Grand Tunis," (Mapping urban racial segregation: the case of Bhar Lazreg in Greater Tunis)

Insaniyyat: International Forum for Humanities and Social Sciences, Tunis, September 2022.

Deutscher Orientalistentag, Berlin, September 2022.

Congrès national de l'Association Française de Science Politique, France, July 2022.

Cities in the Middle East workshop. UCL (London) and Sciences Po Paris, April 2022.

"The 2011 revolution as a moment of cultural renaissance? The case of Stambeli in Tunisia," *Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual meeting*, December 2021.

"Talking about racism in the Arab world in the context of global Islamophobia," *Islamophobia and/in Post-Secular States Conference*, University of Alberta, Canada, November 2021.

"La construction et la contestation de la *Blackness* en Tunisie," Doctoral workshop, Institut de Recherche sur le Maghreb Contemporain (IRMC), Tunis, May 2021.

"La discrimination des noir.e.s en Tunisie et le mouvement contre le racisme après la révolution de 2010." Rencontre internationale UMA/ULB - 2010–2020, une décennie de changements dans le monde arabe, Tunis, January 2021.

""Islam/ophobia is for the Arabs": The non-comprehensibility of Black Muslims by the State." *Religions and Public Life conference on "Church and State*," Duke University, April 2020.

"Making Muslims speak in the age of the 'veil debates' in France." 17th Annual Duke-UNC Middle East and Islamic Studies Graduate Student Conference, UNC-CH, February 2020.

"Conceptualizing generational differences in religion among Muslim immigrants and their descendants in France."

Culture and Politics Workshop, Department of Sociology, November 2019.

North American Association of Islamic and Muslim Studies (NAAIMS) 48th Annual Conference, Boston University, September 2019.

IRES Graduate Student Workshop, Chapman University (California), June 2019

"Church-state relations and pluralistic values in the Middle East and North Africa region," Annual meeting, Middle East Studies Association, San Antonio (Texas), November 2018.

#### Invited academic lectures

"Ghettos, banlieues, and everything in between: Dis/entangling race and space in Tunisia," invited talk as a part of *Race, racism, and xenophobic violence at the tips of Africa*, Africa Program, Sciences Po Paris, October 2024.

"Migration, race, and populism in Tunisia," invited talk as a part of *How we Talk about Tunisia: Interrogating Dominant Narratives*, Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies, University of California - Santa Barbara, June 2024 (online).

"L'impossibilité d'étudier le tiers monde avec un passeport du tiers monde,"

Retour de terrain, CERI-Sciences Po, June 2023.

Groupe de réflexion sur le (non-)accès au terrain (NATER)-AFSP, June 2023.

"Surveillance de l'Etat et racialisation en Tunisie," Noria Research, Paris, April 2023.

"Producing Bhar Lazreg as 'African'" guest-lecture, in *Cities and migration* taught by Thomas Lacroix, Sciences Po Paris, April 2023.

"Tunisie: Un Racisme d'etat assumé?" invited by African Futures Lab, April 2023.

"Ya Hasra? Le passé nostalgique comme une construction racialisée," Du racisme anti-Noirs en Tunisie, CAREP-Fondation Frantz Fanon-IRMC, October 2022.

"Entangled Histories: The Black movement in Tunisia and the criminalization of racial discrimination through Law 50," MECAM Spectrum Talks, June 2022.

"De/constructing mental maps of Tunis governorate," AlterLab series, École Nationale d'Architecture et d'Urbanisme de Tunis, March 2022.

"Ahmedabad (India): Making city out of discourses," AlterLab series, École Nationale d'Architecture et d'Urbanisme de Tunis, October 2021.

"Populism and inequalities in the MENA region" guest-lecture series, in *Political Economy* taught by Hamza Meddeb, South Mediterranean University, Tunis, February and May 2021.

"Conceptualizing race in/through North Africa" guest-lecture, in *Race, religion, and politics* taught by Elizabeth Shakman Hurd, Northwestern University, March 2021.

"Europe Changing the *Deen*? (Im)migrating, Integrating, and Interrogating Islam," guest-lecture in *Sociology of Islam* taught by Prof. Charles Kurzman, UNC-CH, April 2020.

"Gender and religion in the film Wadjda," guest-lecture in Women/Gender/Islam taught by Samah Choudhury, UNC-CH, April 2020.

"Being and the Body: Facing 'self' on the field." Ethical Concerns and Global Research: Contemporary Europe in Focus, Center for European Studies, UNC-CH, January 2020.

### Selected public-facing talks and interviews

Televised and radio interviews for:

Les Enjeux internationaux. France Culture. 2024. (14 May).

BBC News World Service. 2024 (24 February).

France Inter. 2023 (15 August)

One World with Zain Asher. CNN-International. 2023 (17 July).

AlJazeera. 2023 (12 July).

Radio France Internationale. 2023 (27 June)

I24. 2023 (28 February)

"La politique étrangère de la France en Afrique," Europe Ecologie Les Verts. *La Fête de l'Humanité*, September 2023.

Interviewed by Wassila Belhacine in "Racisme anti-noirs dans le monde arabe : le difficile dévoilement d'un tabou." *Libération.* 2023 (29 August).

"Blackness in Tunsia," Education Abroad Program, AMIDEAST-Tunisia, June 2023.

Interviewed by Gérald Papy in "Le migrant, commode bouc emissaire." *Le Vif.* Belgium. 2023 (27 April).

"Constructing and contesting race in Tunisia," US Embassy in Tunisia and Libya (external office), February 2022.

"Explained: Why Tunisia, Birthplace Of The Arab Spring, Is Witnessing Protests Once Again"

Indiatimes. India. 2021 (4 August).

"Understanding Racism in the Arab World and Beyond," International Education Week: Social Justice and Human Rights around the World, UNC-CH, November 2020.

# **Skills**

Languages:

Fluent in English, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Tunisian Arabic, and Urdu.

Advanced-level skills in Modern Standard Arabic, Lebanese and Egyptian Arabic

Basic skills in Kiswahili and Turkish.

Programming and coding: Atlas.ti, R, Stata, and LATEX.

### Professional Associations

Member of the Scientific Council, Programme Moyen Orient-Afrique du nord, Sciences Po Paris, 2024-present.

American Sociological Association (ASA).

Association Française de Science Politique (AFSP).

Groupement d'Intérêt Scientifique (GIS) - Moyen-Orient et Mondes musulmans (MOMM).

Middle East Studies Association (MESA).

# Referees

Charles Kurzman, Professor of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Nadia Marzouki, Research Fellow, French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)-CERI Sciences Po Paris.

Daniel Sabbagh, Senior Research Fellow, CERI Sciences Po Paris.

Last updated: October 9, 2024