

MASSIMO RAMAIOLI

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020 – Assistant Dean, School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Habib University

2017 – Assistant Professor, Social Development and Policy Program, Habib University

2014 – Instructor, Amman Study Abroad Program, Center for International Exchange and Education

2012 – Instructor, Maxwell School and Department of Political Science, Syracuse University

EDUCATION

2017 – Ph.D., Political Science, Syracuse University, USA

Fields: Comparative Politics and International Relations

Thesis: “Contentious Politics in the Arab Middle East: Jordanian Salafism and the Social Appropriation of Tradition”

2007 – M.A., Near and Middle Eastern Studies, SOAS, University of London, UK

Thesis: “Saddam Hussein Ba’athi Rule: A Case of Totalitarianism? State and Society in Iraq, 1979-1990”

2005 – M.A., African and Asian Studies, University of Pavia, Italy

Thesis: “Religione e Politica nella Società Iranica: Dai Teologi di Stato allo Stato dei Teologi [Religion and Politics in the Iranian Society: From the Theologians of the State to the State of Theologians]” - *Regione Toscana MA Thesis Award, Florence, Italy*

2003 – B.A., Social Sciences, University of Pavia, Italy – *magna cum laude*

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND SPECIALIZATIONS

Middle East Politics, Political Islam, International Relations Theory, Contentious Politics, Postcolonial Theory, Gramscian Theory.

INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

- M. Ramaioli. "New Kids on the Block: Salafi Parties," in *Routledge Handbook on Political Parties In The Middle East And North Africa*, ed. by F. Cavatorta, L. Storm and V. Resta, Routledge, 2021.
- M. Ramaioli. "The Making of a Minority: Subalternity and Minoritization of Jordanian Salafism," in *Minorities and State-Building in the Middle East. Minorities in West Asia and North Africa*, ed. by P. Maggiolini and I. Ouahes, Palgrave Macmillan, 2021.
- M. Ramaioli. "Interviewing Salafis," in *Doing Political Science Research in the Middle East and North Africa: Methodological and Ethical Challenges*, ed. by F. Cavatorta and J. Clark, Oxford University Press, 2018, pp. 122-134.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- M. Ramaioli. "Pakistan in a Neoliberal World," in *The Kaleidoscope that is Pakistan*, ed. by IPRI Margalla Dialogue Series, 2019, pp. 77-91.
- M. Ramaioli & G. Lissi. "Questione Libanese, Forze di Pace in Medio Oriente e l'Impegno dell'Italia [The Lebanese Issue: Peace Forces in the Middle East and the Contribution of Italy]," *Il Politico*, University of Pavia, Vol. I, January 2010.

BOOK PROJECT

Title Proposal: "Religious Intellectuals: Islamism, Ideologues and Salafis' Hegemonic Project"

In which ways do Islamist intellectuals affect political mobilization through their ideological work? In this project, I deploy a Gramscian framework to analyze how Islamist ideologues impacted Salafi movements (both peaceful and violent) in the Middle East between 1988 and 2005, with a focus on Jordan.

WORKING PAPERS

- M. Ramaioli. "Political Islam in Late Modernity: Perspectives from Vattimo's 'Weak Thought' Theory." Manuscript in preparation for *Politics, Religion and Ideology*.
- M. Ramaioli. "'Ulama and Islamist Leaders as Gramscian Intellectuals: Changing Landscapes of Religious Authority.'" Manuscript in preparation for *Journal of Cultural and Religious Theory*.
- M. Ramaioli & S. Chu. "US Policy Towards Tibet from 1945 to 1969: A Postcolonial Critical Discourse Analysis," manuscript in preparation for *Asian Critical Studies*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Habib University, Karachi, Academic Years 2017-2021

Development and Social Change, Introduction to Political Science, What is Modernity?, Seminar on Comparative Politics, International Political Economy, Introduction to Political Philosophy, History and Politics of the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict, Seminar on International Relations and Postcolonial Theory

Sijal Institute for Arabic Language and Culture, Amman, Summer 2017
Seminar on International Relations and Postcolonial Theory

Center for International Exchange and Education, Amman Study Center, Academic Years 2014-15 and 2016-17
Politics of Development, International Politics of the Middle East, Jordan: A Case Study, Seminar on the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict

Maxwell School, Syracuse University, Academic Year 2012-2013
Global Community

Department of Political Science, Syracuse University, Summer 2013
Middle East Politics

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Muslim Migration and European Identity”, European Studies Center, University of Karachi, November 2019.

“Applying Critical Discourse Analysis in Postcolonial Analysis of Foreign Policy Making,” Western Political Science Association Conference, Vancouver, April 2017.

“US Policy Towards Tibet from 1945 to 1969: A Postcolonial Critical Discourse Analysis” American Political Science Association, San Francisco, September 2017.

“Fahm Badil li-l-Mujtama’ al-Madaniy: at-Taghrir wa al-Muqawamah fi Antonio Gramsci [Alternative Understanding of Civil Society: Change and Resistance in Antonio Gramsci],” 2015 Leaders of Democracy Fellows Alumni Conference, Istanbul, December 2015.

“The Logic of Othering: Dynamic Constructions of Tibet and China in US Foreign Policy Discourse”, Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2013; and International Studies Association, New Orleans, February 2015.

“Contentious Politics in the Arab Middle East: Islamism and the Social Appropriation of Tradition”, Association for the Study of Middle East and Africa Conference, Washington DC, November 1, 2014.

“Spatial Politics: A Geographical Theory of Territorial Collective Identity Formation”, Northeastern Political Science Association Conference, Boston, November 15, 2012.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2018 Habib University Research Grant
- 2016 International Institute of Islamic Thought Research Grant
- 2015 Roscoe Martin Dissertation Research Grant
- 2014 Association for the Study of Middle East and Africa Research Grant
- 2014 Summer Research Grant, Middle Eastern Studies Program, SU
- 2014 Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs Research Grant, SU
- 2013 Travel Grant, Eisenhower Library
- 2013 Maxwell School Summer Fellowship, SU
- 2012 Maxwell School Summer Fellowship, SU
- 2011 Maxwell School Summer Fellowship, SU
- 2010 Summer Research Grant – Department of Political Science, SU
- 2004 BA Best Student Award, University of Pavia
- 2004 Summer Language Training Scholarship, University of Pavia

SELECTED LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS

- “Islamic Modernity: Reflections on Abduh and Khomeini”, Ismaili Tariqah and Religious Education Board, Karachi (March 8, 2020)
- “The Deepening Crisis in the Middle East”, Discussion panel, Karachi Literature Festival (February 28, 2020)
- “The Rise of Identity Politics”, Discussion panel, Karachi Adab Festival (February 15, 2020),
- “Fahm Badil li-l-Mujtama’ al-Madaniy: at-Taghrir wa al-Muqawamah fi Antonio Gramsci [Alternative Understanding of Civil Society: Change and Resistance in Antonio Gramsci],” Sijal Institute for Arabic Language and Culture, Amman (November 7, 2016)
- “Islam: sects, doctrines and its Middle Eastern geography,” Syracuse University Public Diplomacy Program (September 6, 2011, September 5, 2012, February 23, 2016)
- “A Gramscian Read of Modernization: An Alternative Discourse on Development” Center for International Exchange and Education, Amman (March 1, 2015)
- “Part of the Solution or Part of the Problem? The Rise of Salafism in the Middle East,” 2015 Leaders of Democracy Fellows Alumni Conference, Istanbul (December 3, 2015)
- “Political Islam: The Challenge of Modernity” The New School for Social Research, New York City (October 6, 2012 and September 30, 2015)
- “Hezbollah between Lebanon and Iran” Syracuse University Middle East Studies Program (November 3, 2014)
- “Islam: Approaching a System of Meanings” The New School for Social Research, New York City (September 19, 2012)

“Iraq: Politics, Security, Democratization?” Syracuse University Middle East Studies Program
(February 2 and November 8, 2011; April 7, 2014)

ACADEMIC AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

At Habib University

2019-2020 – Faculty Senate
2019-2020 – Chair, Faculty Research Grant Committee
2018-2019 – Undergraduate Capstone Projects Coordinator
2017-2018, 2019-2020 – Social Development and Policy Program Selection Committee
2017-2018 – Strategic Planning Committee

At Syracuse University

2011-2012, 2012-2013 – Graduate Studies Committee
2010-2011 – Graduate Studies Admission Committee

Reviewer

December 2019- – Journal of European Studies
November 2016- – Journal on Muslim Philanthropy and Civil Society
June 2018- – Journal of Current Affairs
May 2017- – Polity Press
March 2018- – Palgrave McMillan

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

February 2019 – *European Council for Political Research Winter School*, Bamberg University
Ten days intensive workshop on quantitative analysis (statistical inference and OLS models), R-Studio software.

June 2014 – *Institute for Qualitative and Multimethod Research (IQMR)*, Syracuse University
During this two-week intensive methods training workshop, I focused on discourse analysis, ethnography, and process tracing.

2011-12 – *Future Professoriate Program (FPP)*, Syracuse University
I organized incoming departmental graduate students’ orientation program and professional development seminars, in particular regarding qualifying exams preparation, teaching assistant’s role and duties, addressing international students’ concerns

NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS

January 2020- – *Editorialist*, Il Cittadino, local newspaper daily, Lodi, Italy
I write fortnight opinion pieces on international politics (<https://www.ilcittadino.it/>)

January 2016- – *Middle East Contributor*, Quadrante Futuro, Centro Einaudi, Turin. Italy

I write reports on the politics and political economy of the Middle East and South Asia in the context of regional and global developments (<http://www.quadrantefuturo.it/>)

2008-9 – *Educational Project Coordinator*, Scuola Media Cabrini, Sant’Angelo Lodigiano, Italy
I coordinated a teaching project for socially disadvantaged teenagers in junior high school. I covered basic history, geography and English.

January-April 2006 – *Intern*, Italian Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya

I provided daily press review, back office work, and assistance to diplomats.

LANGUAGE SKILLS AND TRAINING

Languages

Native Italian, Advanced Arabic, Advanced French, Basic Spanish

Arabic Language Training

September-December 2014 - Media Arabic, MALIC Center, Amman June-July

2011 - Advanced level, American Centre, Fes, Morocco

June-August 2010 - Upper level I – Lebanese American University, Beirut, Lebanon

October 2007-March 2008 - Intermediate Arabic Certificate, Higher Language Institute, Damascus University, Syria

July 2004 - Level B Certificate, Institute des Langues Vivantes, Tunis, Tunisia

REFERENCES

Dr. Mehrzad Boroujerdi (Advisor)

Director, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech

mehrzad@vt.edu

Dr. Christopher S. Taylor

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Habib University

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Dr. Francesco Cavatorta

Professor, Department of Political Science, Université Laval

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Dr. Elena Corbett

Director of Education Abroad, AMIDEAST

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Dr. Gavan Duffy

Associate Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science, Syracuse University

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Dr. Tazim Kassam

Associate Professor, Department of Religion, Syracuse University

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