

Curriculum Vitae

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A PDF version is available for download.*

POSITION	Emmy Noether Junior Research Group Leader, DFG project “The Evolution of Islamic Societies (c. 600–1600 CE): Algorithmic Analysis into Social History” (EIS1600), Universität Hamburg, Asien-Afrika-Institut
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ORCID	0000-0001-7331-3858
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PDF	Download this CV as PDF (generated from this page) · typeset long version, June 2025

Employment

2021–2027	Emmy Noether Junior Research Group Leader, DFG project “The Evolution of Islamic Societies (c. 600–1600 CE): Algorithmic Analysis into Social History” (EIS1600), Universität Hamburg, Asien-Afrika-Institut
2018–2021	Senior Research Fellow, ERC project “Knowledge, Information Technology, & the Arabic Book” (KITAB), PI Prof. Dr. Sarah Bowen Savant, Aga Khan University– London, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations
2017–2021	Universitätsassistent für Digital Humanities, Universität Wien, Institut für Geschichte
2015–2017	Research Fellow, Universität Leipzig, Institut für Informatik, Lehrstuhl für Digital Humanities

2013–2015	Postdoctoral Associate, Tufts University, Department of Classics & Perseus Project
2006–2012	Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan, Department of Near Eastern Studies
2004–2006	Junior Researcher, Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences (formerly St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies), St. Petersburg (IOM RAS)

Education

2006–2013	Ph.D. (December 2013) and M.A. (April 2010) in Near Eastern Studies (Arabic & Islamic Studies), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (official record)
2001–2004	Post-graduate program in Islamic Studies, Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg
1999–2001	St. Petersburg State University, Faculty of Oriental Studies (History of the Arab Countries)
1998–2001	Specialist in Sociology (B.A. & M.A. equivalent), St. Petersburg State University, Faculty of Sociology
1999–2001	Baltic State Technical University, Faculty of Humanities (Political Science), St. Petersburg

Digital Humanities Projects

2021–2027	EIS1600: The Evolution of Islamic Societies (c. 600–1600 CE): Algorithmic Analysis into Social History. Emmy Noether Junior Research Group, DFG (#445975300), Universität Hamburg. Principal investigator. Project page · eis1600.aai.uni-hamburg.de
2014–	OpenITI: Open Islamicate Texts Initiative (2014–2016: OpenArabic). Co-PI with Matthew T. Miller (University of Maryland) and Sarah Bowen Savant (Aga Khan University–London). About 8,700 titles by over 3,300 authors, some 861 million words. Project page · github.com/OpenITI
2014–	OpenITI mARkdown. A light-weight annotation scheme for Arabic-script texts: structural, morphological, and semantic tagging designed as a research method rather than an exchange format. Description
2014–	al-Ṭurayyā Project. A gazetteer (over 2,000 toponyms) and a geospatial model of the early Islamic world, with Masoumeh Seydi. Project page · althurayya.github.io
2025	OpenITI NgramReader and M10 Book Classification. Two online applications published as appendices to <i>Digital Humanities for Arabic and Islamic Studies</i> (Brill, 2026). Project page
2019–	OpenITI AOCp: Arabic-script OCR Catalyst Project. Co-led with Matthew T. Miller, Sarah Bowen Savant, David Smith, and Raffaele Viglianti; funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. openiti.org
2018–2021	KITAB: Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book. ERC project (PI Sarah Bowen Savant); senior research fellow responsible for corpus development and text-reuse analysis. kitab-project.org

2015

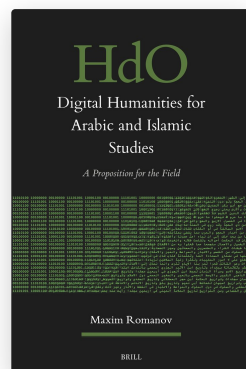
Classical Arabic Through the Words of the Prophet: A Frequency-Based Ḥadīṭ Reader. Computationally generated teaching materials (Perseus Project & Department of Classics, Tufts University). PDF

Publications

BOOKS

2026

new



Digital Humanities for Arabic and Islamic Studies: A Proposition for the Field

Handbook of Oriental Studies, Section 1: The Near and Middle East, vol. 199. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2026. E-book (PDF) published 1 September 2026, ISBN 978-90-04-76053-0; hardback 1 October 2026, ISBN 978-90-04-76052-3

An open online supplement with all figures from the book, enlargeable for closer examination, is published by Brill on figshare under a CC BY 4.0 licence (DOI 10.6084/m9.figshare.32324454).

Two interactive applications accompany the case studies: the OpenITI NgramReader and the M10 Book Classification.

► ABSTRACT

► CONTENTS

Brill (order or read online)

Online supplement: figures (figshare, open)

Appendix 1: NgramReader

Appendix 2: Book Classification

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

2019

1001 Morphological Patterns: Algorithmically Generated Materials for Teaching Classical Arabic

In *Innovations and Traditions in Arabic and Islamic Studies: A Festschrift in Honor of Professor Oleg I. Red'kin*, 262–274. St. Petersburg: St. Petersburg University Press, 2019

PDF Publisher

PEER-REVIEWED

2019

Studying the History of the Arabic Language: Language Technology and a Large-Scale Historical Corpus

Yonatan Belinkov*, Alexander Magidow*, Alberto Barrón-Cedeño, Avi Shmidman, and **Maxim Romanov** (* equal contribution) · *Language Resources and Evaluation* 53 (2019): 771–805. Springer

DOI PDF (author version)

PEER-REVIEWED

2018

A Digital Humanities for Premodern Islamic History

Roundtable on Digital Humanities, *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 50, no. 1 (2018): 129–134. Cambridge University Press

DOI PDF Read as a note

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

2018

Digitizing the Textual Heritage of the Premodern Islamicate World: Principles and Plans

Matthew Thomas Miller, **Maxim G. Romanov**, and Sarah Bowen Savant (alphabetically) · Roundtable on Digital Humanities, *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 50, no. 1 (2018): 103–109. Cambridge University Press

DOI PDF

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

2017

Algorithmic Analysis of Medieval Arabic Biographical Collections

Speculum 92, no. S1 (2017): S226–S246

DOI PDF

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

OPEN ACCESS

2017

Observations of a Medieval Quantitative Historian?

Der Islam 94, no. 2 (2017): 462–495

DOI PDF

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

2017

Important New Developments in Arabographic Optical Character Recognition (OCR)

Benjamin Kiessling, Matthew Thomas Miller, **Maxim Romanov**, and Sarah Bowen Savant (alphabetically) · *al-'Uṣūr al-Wuṣṭá: The Journal of Middle East Medievalists* 25 (2017): 1–13

PDF Read as a note

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

OPEN ACCESS

2016

After the Classical World: The Social Geography of Islam (c. 600–1300 CE)

In *Ars Islamica: Festschrift in Honor of Stanislav Mikhailovich Prozorov*, edited by Mikhail Piotrovsky and Alikber Alikberov, 247–277. Moscow: Vostochnaya Literatura (Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Oriental Studies), 2016

PDF

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

2016

Digital Age, Digital Methods

In *Ars Islamica: Festschrift in Honor of Stanislav Mikhailovich Prozorov*, edited by Mikhail Piotrovsky and Alikber Alikberov, 129–156. Moscow: Vostochnaya Literatura (Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Oriental Studies), 2016

PDF

PEER-REVIEWED

2016

Toward Abstract Models for Islamic History

In *The Digital Humanities and Islamic & Middle East Studies*, edited by Elias Muhanna, 117–149. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2016. ISBN 978-3-11-037454-4

PDF DOI

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

2014

Toward the Digital History of the Pre-Modern Muslim World: Developing Text-Mining Techniques for the Study of Arabic Biographical Collections

In *Analysis of Ancient and Medieval Texts and Manuscripts: Digital Approaches*, edited by Tara L. Andrews and Caroline Macé, 229–244. Turnhout: Brepols, 2014

[DOI](#) [PDF](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

2012

Dreaming Ḥanbalites: Dream-Tales in Prosopographical Dictionaries

In *Dreams and Visions in Islamic Societies*, edited by Özgen Felek and Alexander Knysh, 31–50. Albany: SUNY Press, 2012. ISBN 978-1-4384-3993-8

[PDF](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

2007

The Term Šūfī: Spiritualizing Simple Words

Pismennyie Pamyatniki Vostoka / Written Monuments of the Orient 5 (2007): 149–159

[PDF](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

2005

Electronic Databases on Islam in Arabic, Persian, and English: A Review

Stanislav M. Prozorov and **Maxim Romanov** · *Pismennyie Pamyatniki Vostoka / Written Monuments of the Orient* 2, no. 3 (2005): 240–257. With a summary in English · in Russian

[PDF](#) [PDF \(IOM RAS\)](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

2004

The Paradigm of the Science of Ḥadīṭ (‘ilm al-ḥadīṭ)

Vostok / Oriens 5 (2004): 5–11. With a summary in English · in Russian

[PDF \(IOM RAS\)](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

2009

Ḥadīṭ Reports in Ibn al-Jawzī's (d. 597/1201) System of Argumentation, Based on His Talbīs Iblīs ("Devil's Delusions")

Khristianskii Vostok / Christian Orient, n.s. 5 (XI) (2009): 310–316.
Moscow: Indrik (Russian Academy of Sciences and the State Hermitage). Accepted for publication in 2003 · in Russian

[PDF](#) [PDF \(IOM RAS\)](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

2003

Principles and Procedures of Extracting and Processing Data from Arabic Sources: Historical and Biographical Sources

Stanislav M. Prozorov and **Maxim Romanov** · *Vostok / Oriens* 4 (2003): 117–127. With a summary in English · in Russian

[PDF](#) [PDF \(IOM RAS\)](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

CONFERENCE PAPERS, PROCEEDINGS, AND POSTERS

2023

Enhancing State-of-the-Art NLP Models for Classical Arabic

Tariq Yousef, Lisa Mischer, Hamid Reza Hakimi, and **Maxim Romanov** · In *Proceedings of the Ancient Language Processing Workshop (RANLP 2023, Varna, 8 September 2023)*, 160–169

[PDF \(proceedings\)](#) [ACL Anthology](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

OPEN ACCESS

EIS1600

2022

Establishing Parameters for Stylometric Authorship Attribution of 19th-Century Arabic Books and Periodicals

Till Grallert and **Maxim Romanov** · In *Digital Humanities 2022: Book of Abstracts* (University of Tokyo), 346–348

PEER-REVIEWED

2019

Open Islamicate Texts Initiative: A Machine-Readable Corpus of Texts Produced in the Premodern Islamicate World (poster)

Maxim Romanov, Matthew Thomas Miller, Sarah Bowen Savant, and Masoumeh Seydi · In *Digital Humanities 2019 Conference Papers* (Utrecht University, 9–12 July 2019)

The poster won the Utrecht Centre for Digital Humanities award for innovative and interdisciplinary research.

[Abstract](#) [Poster](#)

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

OPEN ACCESS

2019

al-Ṭurayyā, the Gazetteer and the Geospatial Model of the Early Islamic World

Maxim Romanov and Masoumeh Seydi · In *Digital Humanities 2019 Conference Papers* (Utrecht University, 9–12 July 2019)

[Abstract](#)

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

OPEN ACCESS

2019

Orbis-in-a-Box (OIB): Modeling Historical Geographical Networks (poster)

Maxim Romanov, Masoumeh Seydi, James Baillie, Karl Grossner, and Rainer Simon · In *Digital Humanities 2019 Conference Papers* (Utrecht University, 9–12 July 2019)

[Abstract](#) [Poster](#)

KEY

PEER-REVIEWED

OPEN ACCESS

2017

Premodern Geographical Description: Data Retrieval and Identification

Masoumeh Seydi, **Maxim Romanov**, and Chiara Palladino (alphabetically) · In *Proceedings of the 11th Workshop on Geographic Information Retrieval (GIR'17)*, 4:1–4:10. New York: ACM Press, 2017

[DOI](#) [PDF](#)

PEER-REVIEWED

2016

Shamela: A Large-Scale Historical Arabic Corpus

Yonatan Belinkov, Alexander Magidow, **Maxim Romanov**, Avi Shmidman, and Moshe Koppel (alphabetically) · In *Proceedings of the Workshop on Language Technology Resources and Tools for Digital Humanities (LT4DH)*, 45–53. Osaka, 11–17 December 2016

PDF ACL Anthology

PEER-REVIEWED

OPEN ACCESS

DISSERTATION

2013

Computational Reading of Arabic Biographical Collections with Special Reference to Preaching in the Sunnī World (661–1300 CE)

Ph.D. dissertation, University of Michigan, 2013

Deep Blue (U of Michigan) PDF (46 MB) Read as a note

KEY

WORKING PAPERS, PREPRINTS, AND TEACHING MATERIALS

2017

Algorithmic Analysis of Medieval Arabic Biographical Collections (preprint)

Leipzig University, May 2017. Published in *Speculum* 92 (2017)

PDF Published version

2016

Observations of a Medieval Quantitative Historian? (preprint)

Leipzig University, September 2016. Published in *Der Islam* 94 (2017)

PDF Published version

2015

Classical Arabic Through the Words of the Prophet: A Frequency-Based Ḥadīṭ Reader

Perseus Project & Department of Classics, Tufts University, 2015. A computationally generated introduction to the language of Ḥadīṭ (205 pages)

PDF How it was made

KEY

2014

After the Classical World: The Social Geography of Islam (661–1300 CE) (working paper)

Tufts University, April 2014. Published in *Ars Islamica* (2016)

PDF Published version

DATA, SOFTWARE, AND DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS

2023

OpenITI: A Machine-Readable Corpus of Islamicate Texts, Primary Version 2023.1.8

Lorenz Nigst, **Maxim Romanov**, Sarah Bowen Savant, Masoumeh Seydi, and Peter Verkinderen · Zenodo, 2023. Data set. About 8,700 unique titles by over 3,300 authors; some 861 million words (2.4 billion with all versions)

DOI GitHub Documentation

KEY

2025

ADHFAIS Appendix 1: OpenITI NgramReader (based on OpenITI, release 2023.1.8), version 1

Zenodo, 2025. An online application for tracing the use of words and phrases across the Arabic written tradition; companion to *Digital Humanities for Arabic and Islamic Studies*

Application DOI

KEY

2025

ADHFAIS Appendix 2: M10 Book Classification (based on OpenITI, release 2023.1.8), version 1

Zenodo, 2025. An experiment in soft classification of the works of the Arabic written tradition against ten types of texts

Application DOI

KEY

2014
ongoing

al-Turayyā Project: Gazetteer and Geospatial Model of the Early Islamic World

Maxim Romanov and Masoumeh Seydi · althurayya.github.io.
Over 2,000 toponyms and route sections georeferenced from
Georgette Cornu's *Atlas du monde arabo-islamique à l'époque
classique*

[Website](#) [Project page](#)

KEY

2014
ongoing

OpenITI mARkdown: A Light-Weight Annotation Scheme for Arabic-Script Texts

Structural, morphological, and semantic tagging designed as a
research method; the format of the OpenITI corpus

[Description](#) [Editor highlighting \(Kate\)](#)

KEY

2015

betaCode for Arabic: Conversion Routines

Python scripts for typing fully vocalized Arabic in ASCII and
converting it into Arabic script and several transliteration
schemes

[GitHub](#) [Read the note](#)

Invited Talks, Guest Lectures, Keynotes

2025

April 2025
Turkey · online

Islamicate Digital Humanities: What is it and Why Bother?

Invited Lecture in the course "Special Topics in Digital History",
invited by Hasan Umut, April 14, Boğaziçi University, Turkey

2024

November 2024
Germany

Future in the Past: Constructing the Social History of the Premodern Islamic World with Modern Computational Methods

At Digital Humanities and Medieval Middle Eastern Texts: Assessments and Perspectives, November 8, University of Tübingen. Invited by Federico Montinaro

July 2024
Germany

A Corpus-Driven Approach in Religious Studies: A Case Of Islam

University of Bochum, July 12, 2024

July 2024
Germany

Digital Humanities in the context of Religious Studies

University of Bochum, July 12, 2024

2023

November 2023
Spain

Teaching Computational Analysis with the ‘Prosopografía de ulemas de al-Andalus’

At Remembering al-Andalus and the Maghrib in the Mashriq, 23–24 November 2023, Escuela de Estudios Árabes, CSIC, Granada (Spain)

October 2023
Germany

Arabic biographical collections as a source for modeling social transformations, cultural production, and demography

At Demography, Economy and Law in (Post-)Imperial Worlds 800 to 1600 – Latin Europe and the Western Islamic World in Comparison, Workshop, at RomanIslam Center, Universität Hamburg, October 17, 2023

2022

April 2022
Germany

Made by People, Tied by People: Modeling Islamic Urban Networks from Biographical Data (ca. 600–1300 CE)

Invited Lecture at RomanIslam Center, April 20, 2022

April 2022
USA

To DB or not to DB: LOD-like Approach and Algorithmic Analysis

At Digital Praxis in the Humanities (lecture series), Yale University, April 11, 2022

2021

September 2021
Germany

Prospects of Middle Eastern Studies in the Context of Digital Humanities

At Third Summer School in Islamicate Digital Humanities for Scholars in Manuscript Studies, August 30 – September 10, 2021

KEYNOTE

2020

December 2020
France · online

OpenITI mARkdown: Between Method and Standard

At Étudier et publier les textes arabes avec le numérique, GIS Asie, études africaines et Moyen-Orient et mondes musulmans. December 8–10, 2020.

November 2020
Austria

Computational History and Historiography of the Medieval Islamic World

An invited lecture in *070227-1 Introduction to Digital Humanities (2020W)*, taught by Tara Andrews, University of Vienna, November 24, 2020

November 2020
Austria

Data Science & Digital Humanities: Modeling Arabic Written Tradition

An invited lecture in *040172 VU Doing Data Science (MA) (2020W)*, taught by Jan Fabian Ehmke & Yilka Velaj, University of Vienna, January 7, 2020

January 2020
Austria

Algorithmic Analysis into Social History: A Case of Medieval Islamic History

An invited lecture in *070227 VO Introduction to Digital Humanities (2019W)*, taught by Tara Andrews, University of Vienna, January 7, 2020

2019

September 2019
Spain

“The Marvels of Old in the Digital World”: Toward the Methodological Turn in Middle Eastern Studies

Knowledge and Power Seminar Series, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, CSIC, Madrid, September 12, 2019

May 2019
Lebanon

“Digital Dust of the Arabic Past”: Corpus-Based Research in Arabic & Islamic Studies

Keynote at Digital Humanities Institute 2019, Beirut, May 3–5, 2019

KEYNOTE

April 2019
Russia

Arabic History & Historiography in the Digital Age

invited lecture at Higher School of Economics, St.Petersburg

February 2019
Hungary

Arabic History & Historiography in the Digital Age

invited lecture at Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies and OTTOCONFESSIONS, ERC-funded Project (PI Dr. Tijana Krstic), Central European University, Budapest

2018

April 2018
Qatar

“Iftaḥ Yā Simsim!” Finding Digital Keys to the Treasures of the Arabic Written Tradition

Keynote at “Research Data Management in Digital Humanities”, International Conference, University College London—Doha, April 17–18, 2018

KEYNOTE

February 2018
Austria

“Open Sesame!” Digital Analysis of the Arabic Written Tradition: Part I—On Social History

Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, February 6, 2018

2017

May 2017
Netherlands

The Corpus, The Network, & The Book Continuum

The fifth lecture of the KITAB LUCIS lectures (others given by Sarah Savant), Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society, Leiden University

May 2017
Netherlands

Computational Reading of Arabic Biographical Collections

Invited Lecture at The Leiden University Centre for Digital Humanities (LUCDH), Leiden University

February 2017
USA

Premodern Arabic Biographical Collections: A Digital Approach

Invited Lecture at University of Pennsylvania

2017
Germany

Arabic Written Tradition & the Digital Humanities

Invited lecture, given at Universität Hamburg (April 24, 2017) and Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main (March 24, 2017)

2016

November 2016
USA

From Text to Map: Arabic Biographical Collections and Geospatial Analysis

Invited Lecture, at Center for Geographic Analysis, Harvard University

June 2016
Germany

Future in the Past: Using Modern Computational Methods for the Analysis of Premodern Arabic Texts

guest lecture at "Society and Religion in the Arab World" (an introductory Arabic and Islamic Studies seminar taught by Marie Hakenberg), Leipzig University

May 2016
Germany

Annotation of Geographical Data

With Chiara Palladino; Session 14 of Sunoikisis Digital Classics 2016

April 2016
Germany/USA

Discovering Spatial and Chronological Patterns in Historical Texts

invited lecture at Unlocking the Digital Humanities, A Seminar organized by Leipzig University & Tufts University, Spring 2016

2016
USA

Writing a 50-volume book in 14th-century Damascus: Algorithmic Analysis, Text Reuse & the Arabic Written Tradition

Invited lecture, given at Davidson College (November 9, 2016) and the University of Michigan (March 10, 2016)

2015

December 2015
USA/Netherlands

Arabic and Islamic Studies and the Digital Humanities

The Brill Workshop on the Digital Humanities, Leiden (December 2–3) and Boston (May 1–2)

February 2015
USA

Digital Humanities & the Premodern Islamic World: Of Graphs, Maps, and 30,000 Muslims

Invited public lecture, The Gustav E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies, University of California—Los Angeles, February 25, 2015

2015–2016
USA/Germany/UK

Of Graphs, Maps, and 30,000 Muslims: Premodern Arabic Texts & the Digital Humanities

Invited lecture, given in different versions at the Center for Digital Humanities / Department of History, University of South Carolina (November 14, 2016); Duke University (November 11, 2016); University of Tübingen (May 11, 2016); MITH, University of Maryland (March 2, 2016); University of St Andrews (November 27, 2015); University of Manchester (November 25, 2015); SOAS, University of London (November 23, 2015)

2014

August 2014
USA

The Social Geography of the Islamic World (661–1300 CE): on the Method

invited talk at PROSOP Workshop, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL (August 15, 2014)

April 2014
USA

Distant Reading of Arabic Biographical Collections

guest lecture at “Saints and Sinners in Muslim Literature” (Mimi Hanaoka) at the University of Richmond, Richmond, VA (April 10, 2014)

April 2014
USA

The Social Geography of the Islamic World (661–1300 CE)

invited talk at the University of Richmond, Richmond, VA (April 10, 2014)

April 2014
USA

Future in the Past: Using Digital Methods to Study Medieval Arabic Texts

brown bag lecture at Tufts University (April 7, 2014).

April 2014
USA

Classical Arabic through the Words of the Prophet: Teaching Classical Arabic in the Digital Age

brown bag lecture at Tufts University (April 2, 2014).

March 2014
USA

Studying Classical Arabic Sources in the Digital Age: Social Geography & Social History

invited talk at Holy Cross Manuscripts, Inscriptions and Documents Club the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA (March 14, 2014)

February 2014
USA

Building a Historical Gazetteer

Guest Lecture at "Computational methods in the humanities," An honors course (Prof. David J. Birnbaum) at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA (February, 21, 2014)

February 2014
USA

Connectedness of the Islamic World (661–1300 CE)

invited talk at the European Union Center of Excellence & European Studies Center, the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA (February, 20, 2014)

2014
USA

Computational Reading of Classical Arabic Sources: the Case of Biographical Collections

Invited talk, given at the Department of Classics, Tufts University (March 10, 2014); Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY (February 11, 2014); and the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities, University of Nebraska–Lincoln (January 30, 2014)

Conference Papers and Presentations

2024

October 2024
UK

Navigating Seas of Biographies: A Computational Pipeline for Biography Identification in Historical Corpora (EIS1600 Project Paper)

Together with Alicia González Martínez (*delivered the presentation*), Tariq Yousef, and Hamid Reza Hakimi, at the *Arabic Pasts 2024: Histories and Historiographies*, October 3–5, 2024, at Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilizations.

September 2024
Germany

Data-Driven Periodization of Classical Arabic and the Arabic Written Tradition

At the *Societies in Transition: Law, Culture and Politics in the Middle East (30th International DAVO Congress)*, University of Göttingen, September 26–28, 2024

September 2024
Germany

A Book of 30,000 Biographies: Computational Analysis of Sources of “The History of Islam” of al-Dahabī (d. 748/1348)

At *Textual Transmission in the Islamic Manuscript Age: On the Variance, Reception, and Usage of Arabic and Persian Works from the Middle East to the Indian Subcontinent*, German-Japanese Bilateral Conference, University of Münster, September 5–7, 2024

August 2024
Armenia

Digital Humanities for Arabic and Islamic Studies: what is it and why bother?

At *Texts, Interpretations, and Entanglements in the Study of Islamic History*, International Conference at the Yerevan State University, August 28–30, 2024

June 2024
USA

Modeling Social History: A Deep Learning Approach to Arabic Historical Tradition

Together with Alicia González Martínez, Tariq Yousef (*delivered the presentation*), and Hamid Reza Hakimi, at *DH 2024: Reinvention & Responsibility*, the annual conference of the Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations, at The Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, Arlington, VA / Washington, D.C., August 6–9, 2024, Published: <https://tinyurl.com/DH2024-MSH>.

POSTER

June 2024
Germany

Text Reuse in the Arabic Written Tradition: A Case of Biographical Collections

At *Making of a Sage: Corpora of Wise Sayings in a Religio-Historical Perspective*, International Workshop at Göttingen University, organized by Ute Pietruschka, June 28–29, 2024

March 2024
UAE

Computational typology of texts as a means of modeling the development of the Arabic written tradition

At The Praxis of Digital Humanities: Expanding Horizons and Transforming Scholarship in the Arab/Islamic world, a symposium, March 6–7, 2024, Department of Arabic and Translation Studies (ATS), American University of Sharjah (AUS)

2023

December 2023
Japan

Ṣundūq al-ġarāʾib fī-l-ʿaṣr al-raqāʾim: Reading Medieval Texts in the Digital Age

At The Middle East and Europe, 1097–1517, Waseda University, Tokyo, 9–10 December, 2023

October 2023
UK

Modelling the Development of Premodern Islamic Societies from Biographical and Historical Data

(together with: Hamid Reza Hakimi, Lisa Mischer, and Tariq Yousef), at Arabic Pasts 2023, 5–6 October 2023, Aga Khan University—London

September 2023
Bulgaria

Enhancing State-of-the-Art NLP Models for Classical Arabic

Together with Tariq Yousef, Lisa Mischer (*delivered presentation*), and Hamid Reza Hakimi, at Ancient Language Processing Workshop, at Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing, September 8, Varna, Bulgaria

June 2023
USA

OpenITI mARkdown : Balancing Between a Standard and a Research Method

At Digital Publication of Right-to-Left Script Corpora, June 29–30, 2023; The University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA

June 2023
Germany

Finding and Linking Information in Arabic Historical Texts

(together with Lisa Mischer, Hamid Reza Hakimi, Tariq Yousef), at Data Linking Workshop 2023: Computer Vision and Natural Language Processing – Challenges in the Humanities, Center for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Universität Hamburg, June 27–28, 2023

March 2023
Germany

Algorithmic Analysis into Social History

At LOOP Workshop, Ruhr Universität Bochum, March, 9–10, 2023

2022

September 2022
Germany

Similarity-Based Networks for Islamicate Digital Humanities

At "Computational Contributions to the Social and Cultural Histories of the Islamicate World", a *Panel*, co-organized with Till Grallert, at 34. Deutscher Orientalistentag 12.-17.09.2022, Freie Universität Berlin (100 Jahre DOT)

July 2022
Germany

Modeling the Development of Premodern Islamic Societies through Computational Analysis of Written Sources

At Linked Open Tafsir Conference 2022, July 18 -20, 2022, Bad Homburg, Germany

2021

October 2021
Germany

Being Pragmatic: Data and Authority Files in the OpenITI Corpus

At <AUTHOR><TITLE><PLACE>: Authority Records and Manuscripts in Libraries and Research (hybrid workshop), a workshop co-organised by the "Orient-Digital" project at Berlin State Library and "Bibliotheca Arabica" (Saxon Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Leipzig) October 27–29, 2021

October 2021
online

OpenITI: The Corpus for The Field

At "Digitalizing Humanities. Humanizing digitalization", online congress, organized by Enrique Capdevila (*Petrifying Wealth-IH*) and Arturo Guerrero (*EuQu-ILC*), October 20–21, 2021

2020

October 2020
USA · online

One Source to Rule Them All: Constructing the Master Chronicle for Islamic History

At Middle East Studies Association 54th Annual Meeting (online), October 5–17, 2020

October 2020
USA · online

Big Data and Mega Corpora in the Middle East Studies: The Case of Arabic Written Tradition

At Middle East Studies Association 54th Annual Meeting (online),
October 5–17, 2020

August 2020
Germany · online

Digital Humanities with non-European sources: The Case of Arabic

At “Hack the Middle East”: an Introduction to Digital Humanities,
an Online Workshop, *Die Junge Akademie*, August 11–12, 2020

July 2020
Germany · online

OpenITI

At Digitalisierungsworkshop der orientalistischen Fächer BA/ER
(Workshop on Digital Tools in Oriental Studies BA/ER), Universität
Bamberg & Universität Erlangen, July 4, 2020

2019

October 2019
USA/UK

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed: Computational Analysis of Writing Practices of Islamic Scholars

At: • Middle East Studies Association 53rd Annual Meeting,
November 14–17, New Orleans, LA, USA; • Arabic Pasts: Histories
and Historiography, 17–19 October 2019, Aga Khan University,
London

July 2019
Netherlands

Open Islamicate Texts Initiative: A Machine- Readable Corpus of Texts Produced in the Premodern Islamicate World

At Digital Humanities 2019, Utrecht University, July 9–12 (In
collaboration with: Matthew Thomas Miller, Sarah Bowen Savant,
and Masoumeh Seydi)

POSTER

July 2019
Netherlands

al-Ṭurayyā, the Gazetteer and the Geo-Spatial Model of the Early Islamic World

At Digital Humanities 2019, Utrecht University, July 9–12 (In
collaboration with: Masoumeh Seydi, who also presented)

July 2019
Netherlands

Orbis-in-a-box (OIB): Modeling Historical Geographical Networks

At Digital Humanities 2019, Utrecht University, July 9–12 (In collaboration with: Masoumeh Seydi, James Ballie, Karl Grossner, and Rainer Simon)

POSTER

June 2019
Japan · online

Computational Historiography: al-Ḍahabī's *Ta' rīḥ al-islām* and His Sources

At the Sixth Conference of the *School of Mamluk Studies*, Tokyo, Japan, June 15–17 2019

April 2019
Russia

Interconnectedness of Texts and Computational Modeling of the Arabic Written tradition

(*in Russian*: "Преемственность текстов и компьютерное моделирование арабской письменной традиции"), at The 41st Annual Session of St Petersburg Arabists, The Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences. April 8–10, 2019.

February 2019
UK

Modeling Society from Text: a Method in Arabic Studies

At Decoding the Past. Digital Tools for the Analysis of Historical Data, *a Workshop*, University of London, February 21–22, 2019

2018

December 2018
Spain

al-Ḍahabī's treatment of his Andalusī sources: toward understanding of compilation methods of medieval historians

At *The Maghrib in the Mashriq* (i.e.: *Islamic West in Islamic East*), a congress, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid, 20–21 December 2018

December 2018
Netherlands

Prospects of Corpus-Based Research: Computational Methods and the OpenITI Corpus

At *Whither Islamicate Digital Humanities*, Academy Colloquium, The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Amsterdam, 13–15 December 2018 (organized by Christian Lange & Melle Lyklema, Utrecht University)

May 2018
Italy

Modeling Arabic Written Tradition: Enhancing Traditional Text analysis with Computational Techniques

At Launching RASCIO: Reader, Author, Scholar in Context of Information Overflow, a Workshop organized by Dr. Élise Franssen, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, May 24, 2018

2017

November 2017
USA

Looking for the author behind the words: Stylometric Analysis of al-Dahabī's (d. 1347) Writings

At A New Corpus for the Islamicate World and Methods for Its Exploration, a Panel co-organized by Sarah Savant and Matthew Miller, at Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

October 2017
Austria

Modeling Social History of the Premodern Islamic World

At Evolution of Social Complexity, a Workshop organized by Complexity Science Hub Vienna, October 2–3, 2017

September 2017
Spain

Digital Humanities in the field of Islamic studies

At Digital Humanities & the History of al-Andalus and the Maghreb: Challenges and Opportunities, a Research Seminar at Escuela de Estudios Árabes—Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Cuesta del Chapiz, 22, Granada

May 2017
Italy

Why do we need a corpus and computational methods?

At Navigating the House of Wisdom: How to write a good book in the medieval Middle East, a Workshop at the University of Milan, May 25th–26th 2017.

April 2017
United Arab Emirates

Algorithmic Analysis of Premodern Arabic Biographical Collections: Approach, Infrastructure, Open Data

At Digital Humanities Abu Dhabi—DHAD, a Workshop at New York University Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 10–12 April 2017

January 2017
Germany

80/20: Facilitating Computational Analysis with Named-Entities Recognition

At Digital Infrastructure for Named Entities Data, a Workshop, Leipzig University, January 11–13, 2017

2016

December 2016
Spain

An Accidental Gazetteer: Linked Data for Historical Geography of the Classical Islamic World

At Linked Pasts 2016, a symposium series dedicated to facilitating practical and pragmatic developments in Linked Open Data in History, Classics, Geography and Archaeology, December 15–16, 2016 (hosted at: Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, Madrid)

November 2016
USA

Of A Network and A Node: ‘The History of Islam’ of al-Dahabī (d. 1348) and its place in the Premodern Arabic Textual Tradition

At *Networked Texts: New Ways of Seeing the Arabic Textual Tradition (750–1500)*, a Panel co-organized by Sarah Savant and Maxim Romanov, at Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

September 2016
USA

Presentation on Islamic[ate] DH Projects at Leipzig University

At Activism, Advocacy, and Scholarship on Islam in the Digital Realm: Prospects, Progress, and Challenges, a workshop organized by the Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies & Civilizations, Boston University (September 16 & 17, 2016)

2015

October 2015
USA

“al-Dahabī’s Monster”: Dissecting a 50-Volume Arabic Chronicle-cum-Biographical Collection from the 14th Century CE

At *Distant Reading & the Islamic Archive*, Conference at Brown University, October 16, 2015

September 2015
UK

**The Ta' rīḥ al-islām of al-Dahabī (d. 748/1347 CE):
Computational Exploration of the Life-Cycle of a 50-
Volume Arabic Chronicle-cum-Biographical Collection**

At Arabic Pasts: Histories and Historiographies: Research Workshop, co-hosted by the Aga Khan University, Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations and SOAS, University of London (September 25–26, 2015)

July 2015
USA

**Cultural Production in the Islamic World (600–1900 CE):
mining an Ottoman bibliographical collection from the
early 20th century**

At The Keystone Digital Humanities Conference, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (July 22–24, 2015)

May 2015
USA

Analyzing Arabic Biographical Collections at Scale

At Digital Ottoman Platform Workshop, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ (June 8–12, 2015)

May 2015
USA

The Writing Culture of Nīshāpūr in the 11th Century

[In collaboration with Sarah Savant, Aga Khan University, London; paper delivered by Sarah Savant], at Iranian Cities from the Arab Conquest to the Early Modern Period, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (May 1–2).

2014

November 2014
USA

**Exploring Islamic Written Legacy: Computational
Reading of Hadiyyat al- 'ārifīn**

At Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

March 2014
USA

**Computational Processing of Toponymic Data from
classical Arabic Sources**

At Working with Text in a Digital Age, A Workshop at Tufts University (the Perseus Project) (March 29, 2014).

February 2014
USA

Visualizing Islamic Geography at Scale

At Data Big and Small: Computer Science, the Humanities and Social Science: Conversations between representatives from Leipzig, Northeastern, Princeton & Tufts, a workshop at Tufts University (the Perseus Project) (February 3–4, 2014).

2013

October 2013
USA

Abstract Models for Islamic History

At Digital Humanities and Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI (October 24–25, 2013).

October 2013
USA

Islamic World Connected (661–1300 CE)

At Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

April 2013
USA

Toward Abstract Models for Islamic History

Poster at *Word, Space, Time: Digital Perspectives on the Classical World*, an interdisciplinary conference organized by the Digital Classics Association, University at Buffalo, SUNY, April 5–6, 2013

POSTER

March 2013
USA

Exploratory Analysis of Arabic Biographical Collections: the Case of al-Ḍahabī's (d. 1347 CE) *Ta' rīḡ al-islām*

At: • the 223rd Meeting of the American Oriental Society (AOS), Portland, OR; • the 8th Annual Pearl Kibre Medieval Study Conference: "New Media and the Middle Ages", The Graduate Center, CUNY, New York, NY.

February 2013
USA

«Connectedness» of the Islamic World (600–1300 CE)

At 7th Annual Near Eastern Studies Graduate Student Colloquium, U of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2012

November 2012
USA

Social History of the Muslim World in the Digital Age: Making Sense of 29,000 Biographies from al-Ḍahabī's «History of Islam»

At Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

November 2012
USA

**Social History of the Muslim World in the Digital Age:
Making Sense of 29,000 Biographies from al-Dahabī's
«History of Islam»**

At Cyberinfrastructure Days, University of Michigan, November 7–8, 2012. Received: "People's Choice Award Winner"

POSTER

October 2012
USA

**Writing the Digital History of the Premodern
Muslim World, 670–1300 CE: Exploratory Analysis of
Primary Sources**

At Interdisciplinary Workshop under the rubric "Forum on Research in Medieval Studies" (FoRMS), the Medieval Lunch Series, University of Michigan.

August 2012
USA

Mining pre-Modern Islamic Sources

At "Working with Text in a Digital Age," the summer institute at Tufts U, Medford, MA.

April 2012
Russia

**Dreaming Ḥanbalites: Dream-Tales in
Prosopographical Dictionaries**

(in Russian), at the 34th Annual Session of St. Petersburg Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.

April 2012
Belgium

**Digital History of the Muslim World: Computer-Aided
Analysis of Biographical Dictionaries**

At Methods and means for digital analysis of ancient and medieval texts and manuscripts, a workshop at the Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven & the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium (KVAB), Brussels.

2010

November 2010
USA

**«Popular» Preaching in the Sunnī Context and the
Legitimization of Wa‘ḏ in the Late 12th Century CE**

At Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

2009

November 2009
USA

Aḥmad b. Ḥanbal's (d. 241/855) Argumentative Strategies
At Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting,
Boston, MA.

April 2009
USA

Dreaming Ḥanbalites
At Dreams and Visions in Islamic Societies, conference,
University of Michigan.

2004

March 2004
Russia

The Origins of the Term Ṣūfī
(in Russian), at the 26th Annual Session of St. Petersburg
Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.

2003

December 2003
Russia

The Paradigm of the Science of Ḥadīṭ (‘ilm al-ḥadīṭ)
(in Russian), at the Annual Academic Session, SPbIOS/IOM of
RAS.

April 2003
Russia

**Argumentation with Ḥadīṭ Reports in Ibn al-Jawzī's
Talbīs Iblīs (“Devil’s Delusions”)**
(in Russian), at the 25th Annual Session of St. Petersburg
Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS

2002

April 2002
Russia

Ibn al-Jawzī’s Image in the Western Scholarship
(in Russian), at the 24th Annual Session of St. Petersburg
Arabists, SPbIOS/IOM of RAS.

Panels, Workshops, and Roundtables Organized

2025

July 2025
Germany

From Classical ML to AI in Arabic and Islamic Studies: A Hands-On Workshop

(part of EIS1600 project activities), a 4-day workshop at *Afrika-Asien Institut*, Universität Hamburg (EIS1600 Project), with Tariq Yousef, Ryan Muther, and Alicia González Martínez. Funding: DFG, EIS1600 Emmy Noether Project

2024

September 2024
Germany

Stylometry and the Digital Humanities: Unraveling Authorship and Periodization in Arabic Textual Traditions

a panel co-organized with Till Grallert and Maroussia Bednarkiewicz at the 30th International Congress of Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vorderer Orient (DAVO), Göttingen, 26–28 September 2024

2022

September 2022
Germany

Computational Contributions to the Social and Cultural Histories of the Islamicate World

a panel co-organized with Till Grallert, at: 34. Deutscher Orientalistentag 12.–17.09.2022, Freie Universität Berlin (100 Jahre DOT)

2020

July 2020
Austria/UK · online

Stylometry Workshop with Maciej Eder

Department of History, University of Vienna & The KITAB Project, Aga Khan University, London. July 1–3, 2020.

2019

June 2019
Japan

Approaching Mamlūk Historiography: Narratologically, Literarily, Computationally

A panel at the Sixth Conference of the School of Mamlūk Studies, Waseda University, Tokyo, June 15–17, 2019

2018

July 2018
Austria

ORBIS-esque Hackathon

Department of History, University of Vienna (co-organized with Tara Andrews and Mária Varga); planning document: tinyurl.com/orbis-esque.

2017

November 2017
USA

A New Corpus for the Islamicate World and Methods for Its Exploration

a panel co-organized with Dr. Sarah Savant (AKU-London) and Dr. Matthew Thomas Miller (UMD) at MESA, Washington, DC–2017

2016

November 2016
USA

Networked Texts: New Ways of Seeing the Arabic Textual Tradition (750–1500)

a panel co-organized with Dr. Sarah Savant (AKU-London), MESA, Boston–2016

November 2016
USA

Non-traditional methods for Teaching Traditional Languages

a roundtable at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), Boston 2016

2015

December 2015
Germany

Analyzing Text Reuse at Scale / Working with Big Humanities Data

At Leipzig University, organized by Thomas Köntges & Maxim Romanov (within the framework of Leipzig Workshop Week, 14–18 December 2015).

December 2015
Germany

Digital Arabic and Digital Persian Research Workshop

At Leipzig University, organized by Maxim Romanov (within the framework of Leipzig Workshop Week, 14–18 December 2015).

2013

November 2013
USA

Digital Humanities in Middle East Studies

(organized together with Børre Ludvigsen and Will Hanley), a series of two panels and a roundtable: "Traditional Sources, Nontraditional Methods," "Digital Communication," and Roundtable at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), New Orleans 2013.

2010

November 2010
USA

Islamic Preaching

a *panel* at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), San Diego, 2010

Teaching

2023–2024
Historical methods · DH

Computational Analysis of Data from Audition Certificates, with R

Universität Hamburg · Winter 2023/24

Co-taught in tandem with Konrad Hirschler's course, using data from the Audition Certificates Platform.

[Course site](#)

2023
Historical methods · DH

Digital Humanities in African-Asian Studies: Analysis of Prosopographical Data with R

Universität Hamburg · Summer 2023

Built around the *Prosopografía de ulemas de al-Andalus* (eea.csic.es/pua).

[Course site](#)

2022
Historical methods · DH

Text Analysis in R

Universität Hamburg · Summer 2022

[Course site](#)

2022
Historical methods · DH

Digital Humanities in Middle Eastern Studies

Universität Hamburg · Winter 2021/22

[Course site](#)

2021
GIS · DH

GIS Inquiries with R

University of Vienna · Summer 2021 (SE seminar, PM 3)

[Course site](#)

2017–2020
Historical methods · DH

DH Methods: Historical Inquiries with R

University of Vienna · Summer 2020 (text analysis module),
Summer 2019, Winter 2017/18 (SE seminar, PM 3)

[Course site \(2020\)](#)

2018–2020
DH

Tools and Techniques for Digital Humanities

University of Vienna · Winter 2020, Summer 2019, Summer 2018
(KU Methodenkurs)

2018
History

Of Arabs, Persians and Turks: Patterns of Dynastic Rule in the Islamic World (c. 600–1600 CE)

University of Vienna · Summer 2018 (MA Proseminar)

2017–2018
History

The Near East at the Time of the First Crusade, 1045–1144

University of Vienna · Winter 2017/18 (BA Proseminar), co-taught
with Tara Andrews

2017–2018
History

The Medieval Near East and Europe according to Muslims, Christians, and Jews: Comparative Perspectives

University of Vienna · Winter 2017/18 (seminar), co-taught with
Tara Andrews

2016–2017
Islamicate texts · DH

Islamicate World 2.0: Studying Islamic Cultures through Computational Textual Analysis

University of Maryland (College Park) and Leipzig University ·
Winter 2016/17, co-taught with Matthew Thomas Miller

2015
Classical Arabic · DH

Classical Arabic Through the Words of the Prophet

Tufts University · Spring 2015

An introduction to classical Arabic through the corpus of Ḥadīṭ, taught
from a frequency-based reader generated for the course.

2014–2015
Text analysis · DH

Introduction to Text Mining for Students of the Humanities

Tufts University · 2014–2015

2014
History · DH

Mapping the Classical Islamic World

Tufts University · Winter 2014

Digital project: mapping data from al-Muqaddasī's geographical treatise (10th century CE).

2012
History · DH

The First Millennium of the Islamic Near East, 600–1600 CE

University of Michigan · Fall 2012, as teaching assistant for Michael Bonner

2010–2011
Religion · History

Introduction to Islam

University of Michigan · Spring 2011, Winter 2011 (as teaching assistant for Sherman Jackson), Spring 2010

2007–2010
Language

Elementary Modern Standard Arabic

University of Michigan · 2007–2010

2006–2007
Classical language

Elementary Classical Arabic

University of Michigan · 2006–2007

Workshops and Summer Schools Taught

September 2025
Switzerland

Summer School on Digital Humanities for Islamic Studies

University of Bern, September 1–4, 2025. Organizers: Tobias Hodel and Serena Tolino

July 2025
Germany

From Classical ML to AI in Arabic and Islamic Studies: A Hands-On Workshop

A 4-day workshop at the Asien-Afrika-Institut, Universität Hamburg, organized within EIS1600 with Tariq Yousef, Ryan Muther, and Alicia González Martínez

September 2024 Germany	Introduction to Digital Humanities in Islamic Studies: A Hands-On Training A 1-day workshop at the Seminar für Arabistik/Islamwissenschaft, Universität Göttingen, with Jens Scheiner, September 25, 2024
September 2024 Spain	Computational Analysis of Andalusian Prosopography A 5-day workshop on the <i>Prosopografía de ulemas de al-Andalus</i> (eea.csic.es/pua) at the Escuela de Estudios Árabes, Granada, with Mayte Penelas and Maribel Fierro, as part of the project <i>Al-Andalus y el Magrib en el Oriente islámico: movilidad, migración y memoria</i> (AMOI-II)
December 2023 Japan	Intensive Workshop in Islamic Digital Humanities A 2-day workshop organized with Wakako Kumakura, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, December 16–17, 2023
July 2018 Belgium	Digital Islamic Humanities: A 3-Day Intensive Course Ghent University, July 2–4, 2018, in collaboration with the Ghent Centre for Digital Humanities. Plan and materials: dih-sms2018-ughent.github.io
November 2017 Netherlands	Workshop on Digital Humanities in Islamic and Arabic Studies SENSIS ERC Project (PI Christian Lange), Utrecht University, November 30–December 1, 2017
July 2016 Germany	From Text to Map A two-week intensive introduction (32 contact hours) to working with humanities data in digital mapping environments, co-taught with David J. Wisley (American University of Beirut) at <i>Culture & Technology</i> , the European Summer University in Digital Humanities, Leipzig University
February 2015 USA	Digital Humanities & Islamic Studies University of California, Los Angeles. Organized by Asma Sayeed and the Gustav E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies

October 2014
USA

Textual Corpora and the Digital Islamic Humanities

Brown University; session leader together with Elli Mylonas,
organized by Elias Muhanna (details)

Supervision

2025–
Ph.D.

Hamid Reza Hakimi

Patterns in the Financial History of the Islamic World (1–1000 AH / 600–1600 CE): Computational Analysis of Data from Chronicles

Universität Hamburg, African and Asian Studies · main advisor

2022
M.A.

Lisa Mischer

A Digital Humanities Approach to Biographical Dictionaries from the Arabic Written Tradition: Extraction and Enrichment of Historical Data

Universität Leipzig, Digital Humanities · external advisor

2022
B.A.

M. Xenia Kudela

Measuring Style: Stylometric Analysis of Collaborative Authorship between Ṭāhā Ḥusayn and Tawfīq al-Ḥakīm in “The Enchanted Castle” (al-Qaṣr al-maṣhūr)

Freie Universität Berlin, Arabic Studies · external advisor

2022
Ph.D.

Masoumeh Seydi

Geospatial Analysis and Modeling of Textual Descriptions of Pre-modern Geography

Universität Leipzig, Computer Science / Digital Humanities · external advisor

2015
B.A. Honors

Cameron Jackson

An Interactive Map of the Classical Islamic World

Tufts University, Computer Science and Arabic Studies

Third-Party Funding

2021–2027	Emmy Noether Programme Grant, German Research Foundation (DFG). About €1,900,000
2012–2013	Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. \$24,000
2012	Rackham Research Fellowship, University of Michigan. \$3,000

Fellowships, Awards, and Honors

2015–2016	Research Fellowship (Visiting Fellow), Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law School (declined)
2013	Hajja Razia Sharif Sheikh Scholarship Award in Islamic Studies, University of Michigan

Service to the Field

2021, 2023, 2025	Panel member (SH5 “Cultures and Cultural Production”), ERC Consolidator Grant calls, European Research Council
2015–	Reviewer for journals and funding bodies at the intersection of digital humanities, Arabic and Islamic studies, and history. Recent reviews for <i>Journal of Abbasid Studies</i> , <i>Journal of Digital Islamic Research</i> , <i>Digital Scholarship in the Humanities</i> , <i>Temenos</i> , <i>Journal of Law and Religion</i>
2013–	Regular consultation on the design of digital projects in the historical study of the Islamic world, including over a dozen ERC-funded and academy projects in the US, Canada, the UK, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Israel, Japan, Austria, and Germany

Professional Membership

2024–	Union Européenne des Arabisants et Islamisants (UEAI)
2023–	School of Abbasid Studies (SAS)
2016–	Middle East Medievalists (MEM)
2012–	American Oriental Society (AOS)
2008–	Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

Skills

Languages	Russian (native) · Arabic (advanced, modern standard and classical) · English (near-native) · German (B1) · French (reading)
Computing	R, Python, QGIS, LaTeX; cluster computing; machine learning