

**MOJTABA EBRAHIMIAN**  
Adjunct Lecturer  
History and Society Division  
Babson College  
21 Babson College Drive  
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481  
[mbrahimian@babson.edu](mailto:mbrahimian@babson.edu)

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Middle Eastern History, Iranian History, Intellectual History, Travel Studies

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Near Eastern Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson, 2020  
M.A. Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson, 2018  
M.A. English Literature, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran, 2011  
B.A. English Language and Literature, University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran, 2008

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2023-present Adjunct Lecturer in Modern Middle Eastern History  
History and Society Divisions  
Babson College, Babson Park MA

2021-2024 Preceptor in Persian  
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
Harvard University, Cambridge MA

2018-2020 Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Fellow  
School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies  
University of Arizona, Tucson AZ

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- *Reimagining Europe: Persian Travel Writing and New Perceptions of Europe in Early Nineteenth-Century Iran*. Draft manuscript completed.

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2025 “Female Voices and Historical Trends in the Longest Persian Novel: A Radical Criticism of Mahmūd Dawlat’ābādī’s *Kilīdar* (1978-1984).” *International Journal of Persian Literature*, Volume 10 (June 2025)
- 2023 “The European Other, the Indo-Iranian Self and the Discourse of Wonder in the Earliest Persian Travelogues of Europe.” *Studies in Travel Writing*. 26, no.1 (2023): 34-52. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13645145.2023.2197257>
- 2023 “‘Abd al-Rahim Talebof’s Promotion of Nationality and National Sociopolitical Reform in *Kitab-i Aḥmad* (1890–1894).” *International Journal of Persian Literature*. Volume 8 (September 2023): 41–60. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5325/intejperslite.8.0041>
- 2021 “Islamic Rule and Iranian Women in the Films of Hatef Alimardani.” *Journal of Islamic and Middle Eastern Multidisciplinary Studies: Mathal* 7, no.1 (2021): 1-21. DOI: [10.17077/2168-538X.1128](https://doi.org/10.17077/2168-538X.1128)
- 2020 “*Vaqaye’-e Ettafaqiyeh* (1851-1861) and the Education of the Iranian Nation in the Middle of the Nineteenth Century.” *Iran: Journal of the British Institute of Persian Studies* 59, no. 1 (January 2020): 130-146. DOI: [10.1080/05786967.2020.1713022](https://doi.org/10.1080/05786967.2020.1713022)

### Refereed Book Chapter

- 2023 “One Thousand Years of Persian Travel Writing and *Siyāhatnāmeḥ-ye Ebrāhim Beyg (1895)* as *Safarnāmeḥ*” in *Routledge Handbook of Persian Literature*. Edited by Kamran Talattof (New York: Routledge, 2023): 45-67.

### Non-Refereed Publications

- 2022 “*Safarnāmah Nivīsān-i Qājāri: Tārīkh Nigāran-i ‘Asr-i Jadid*” (Qajar Travel Writers: Historians of the Modern Period) in *Tajrobe Magazine* 156, no. 6 (March 2022): 138-139.

- 2021            Review of *The Love of Strangers: What Six Muslim Students Learned in Jane Austen's London*, by Nile Green. *Iranian Studies* 54, no. 5-6 (December 2021): 996-1000.  
DOI: [10.1080/00210862.2020.1717294](https://doi.org/10.1080/00210862.2020.1717294)
- 2014            Review of *The Coup: 1953, the CIA, and the Roots of Modern U.S.-Iranian Relations*, by Ervand Abrahamian. *The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences* 31, no. 2 (Spring 2014): 101-4.
- 2013            Review of *The Oxford Handbook of Iranian History*, ed. Touraj Daryaee. *The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences* 30, no. 3 (Summer 2013): 107-11.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Babson College**

- “Modern Middle East,” Instructor, Fall 2024  
Evaluations: 4.96/5
- “Modern Middle East,” Instructor, Spring 2024  
Evaluations: 4.85/5
- “Modern Middle East,” Instructor, Fall 2023  
Evaluations: 4.87/5
- “Modern Middle East,” Instructor, Spring 2023  
Evaluations: 4.94/5

### **University of Arizona**

- “What is Politics?” Teaching Assistant for Noam Chomsky, Fall 2019
- “Religion of Islam,” Instructor, Fall 2018, Summer 2016  
Evaluations: 4.87/5 (Fall 2018)  
Evaluations: 4.67/5 (Summer 2016)
- “Religion of Islam,” Teaching Assistant, Spring 2018
- “Middle Eastern Humanities,” Instructor, Spring 2017  
Evaluations: 4.48/5
- “Middle Eastern Humanities,” Teaching Assistant, Fall 2017
- “Introduction to Political Islam,” Instructor, Summer 2017, Fall 2016  
Evaluations: 5/5 (Summer 2017)  
Evaluations: 5/5 (Fall 2016)
- “Middle East in the Twentieth Century,” Instructor, Spring 2016  
Evaluations: 4.75/5

## **Harvard University**

“Elementary Persian,” Instructor, 2021-2024

Evaluations: 4.7/5 (Spring 2023)

Evaluations: 4.8/5 (Fall 2022)

Evaluations: 5/5 (Spring 2024)

“Intermediate Persian,” Instructor, 2021-2024

Evaluations: 4.8/5 (Spring 2023)

Evaluations: 4.7/5 (Spring 2024)

“Advanced Persian,” Instructor, 2021-2024

Evaluations: 5/5 (Fall 2023)

Evaluations: 5/5 (Spring 2023)

Evaluations: 4.8/5 (Fall 2022)

## **Mentoring**

2023-2024: Served as advisor for a BA Junior Tutorial on contemporary Iranian history.

2021-22: Served as main advisor for one AM thesis in the Harvard Center for Middle Eastern Studies. The student won the Best 2021-2022 AM Thesis Award from the CMES.

## **University of Wisconsin-Madison**

“Intermediate Persian,” Faculty Associate, Summer 2019

“Advanced Persian,” Faculty Associate, Summer 2018

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2022      | Certificate of Teaching Excellence<br>Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University                                    |
| 2018-2019 | Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Fellowship for Excellence in Persian Studies<br>Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute (Amount Awarded: \$15,000) |
| 2018      | Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award<br>College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Arizona                       |
| 2017-2018 | Roshan Institute Fellowship for Excellence in Persian Studies<br>University of Arizona (Amount awarded: \$5,000)                        |

- 2017                   Dissertation Completion Fellowship  
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Arizona  
(Amount awarded: \$5,000)
- 2016-2017           Roshan Graduate Fellowship  
University of Arizona (Amount awarded: \$5,000)
- 2014-2015           Roshan Graduate Fellowship  
University of Arizona (Amount awarded: \$2,500)
- 2012-2013           Roshan Graduate Fellowship  
University of Arizona (Amount awarded: \$4,150)

### **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

#### **Papers**

- 2023                   “Progress as a Historical Phenomenon: What Has Happened in Europe over the Last Centuries according to the Early 19th Century Iranian Travelers to Europe.” 57th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Montréal, Québec, Canada, November 2-5.
- 2023                   “The European Other and the Indo-Iranian Self in the Earliest Persian Travelogues of Europe.” 10<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Iranian Studies, Leiden University, Leiden, August 21-25.
- 2019                   “The Significance of Liberal Ideas in Iran’s Early Modern Reforms: The Case of Abd al-Rahim Talebof’s Treatise on Education.” 19th Annual Southwest Graduate Conference, University of Arizona, Tucson, March 12-14.
- 2018                   “Religious Anxiety of the Iranian King in His Encounter with Christian Europe: A Reading of Nasir Al-Din Shah’s 19th Century European Travelogues” 7th Annual Ways of Knowing Graduate Conference on Science and Religion at Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University, Cambridge, October 26-27.
- 2018                   “Formation of a New Historical Consciousness and the Rise of a Novelistic Narrative Discourse in Nineteenth Century Iran.” 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial Iranian Studies Conference, University of California, Irvine, August 14-17.

- 2018 “Nineteenth-Century Persian Travelogues and the Rise of Modern Geography in Iran.” The Annual Southwest Graduate Conference, University of Arizona, Tucson, March 18-20.
- 2016 “Transforming Times in Mohammad Ali Jamalzadeh and Sa’di: A Chronotopic Analysis.” 50th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Boston, November 17-19.
- 2014 “Convergence of History and Literature: Fin de Siècle Iran in Mohammad Ali Jamalzadeh’s *Once Upon a Time* (1921).” 14th Annual Southwest Graduate Conference, University of Arizona, Tucson, April 20-22.

### INVITED TALKS

- 2024 “A Brief History of the Middle East, Islam, and Iran”  
Diversity Discussions, US Department of Veterans Affairs  
Online Presentation
- 2023 “Modern Persian Fiction,” NELC Sophomore Tutorial  
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
Harvard University, Cambridge MA
- 2022 “The European Other and the Persianate Self in the Earliest Persian Travelogues of Europe,”  
Persian and Persianate Studies Seminar  
Harvard University, Cambridge MA
- 2022 “Travel Writing and the Muslim World,” Undergraduate Course  
Department of World Languages and Literatures  
Boston University, Boston MA
- 2021 “Approaches to Middle Eastern Studies,” Graduate Seminar  
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
Harvard University, Cambridge MA
- 2018 “Nineteenth-Century Persian Travelogues and the Rise of a New Historical Consciousness in Qajar Iran”  
Middle Eastern and North African Studies Colloquium Series  
University of Arizona, Tucson AZ

2017 “Language and Society in the Middle East,” Graduate Seminar  
School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies  
University of Arizona, Tucson AZ

2014 “The Arab Spring,” Undergraduate Course  
School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies  
University of Arizona, Tucson AZ

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

#### **Article Reviewer**

2021-2022 *Iranian Studies*

2015-2019 *Zaytoon: Academic Journal of Middle East and North Africa Graduate Student  
Organization*, University of Arizona, Tucson AZ

2018 *Asian Affairs: An American Review*

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

2023 Integration of Generative AI in Teaching Workshop  
Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning  
Harvard University, Cambridge MA

2022 Colleague Conversations: Using Humanities Skills to Solve Problems Across  
Disciplines  
Harvard University, Cambridge MA

### **ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS**

2022-2023 Seminar Chair  
Persian and Persianate Studies  
Mahindra Humanities Center  
Harvard University

2021-2023 Organizer/ Grant Writer, *Poetry Night*  
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations  
Harvard University

## **LANGUAGES**

|         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| Persian | Native Speaker             |
| Arabic  | Advanced Reading Knowledge |
| French  | Advanced Reading Knowledge |

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Middle Eastern Studies Association
- Association for Iranian Studies
- Association for the Study of Persianate Societies