

**AUSTIN M. O'MALLEY**  
Curriculum Vitae  
University of Arizona  
845 N. Park Ave., #442  
Tucson, AZ 85719  
austinomalley@email.arizona.edu  
(651) 271-5623

## **EDUCATION**

- 2017 Ph.D., Honors, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago  
Dissertation: *Poetry and Pedagogy: The Homiletic Verse of Farid al-Din 'Aṭṭâr*
- 2009 M.A., Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago
- 2007 B.A., Honors, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago

## **RESEARCH AND TEACHING SPECIALIZATIONS**

Persian Literature  
Sufism  
Islamic Civilization

## **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

- 2017- Roshan Institute Assistant Professor of Persian and Iranian Studies  
School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies  
University of Arizona, Tucson AZ
- 2014-17 Lecturer in Persian  
Program in Middle East and North African Studies  
Northwestern University, Evanston IL

## **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS**

- 2019 Research Professorship  
School of Behavioral Sciences Research Institute, University of Arizona

- 2018 Course Development Grant  
Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Arizona
- 2018 International Travel Grant  
Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Arizona
- 2017 Honorable Mention, Foundation For Iranian Studies Dissertation Prize  
Foundation for Iranian Studies, Bethesda MD
- 2016 Graduate Council Travel Grant  
University of Chicago
- 2015-16 Junior Fellow  
Martin Marty Center, University of Chicago Divinity School
- 2013 Jafar and Shokoh Farzaneh Paper Prize  
University of Oklahoma, Norman OK
- 2009 Critical Language Scholarship  
Council of American Overseas Research Centers
- 2007 Justin Palmer BA Thesis Prize  
Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 “KHAYYAM, OMAR iv. English Translations of the *Rubaiyat*.” In *Encyclopædia Iranica*, edited by Ehsan Yarshater and Elton Daniel, 16:464-70. Leiden: Brill.
- 2019 “An Unexpected Romance: Reevaluating the Authorship of the *Khosrow-nâma*.” *Al-Uşûr al-Wuṣṭâ: The Journal of Middle East Medievalists* 27: 201-232.
- 2019 “From Blessed Lips: The Textualization of the Abu Sa‘id’s Dicta and Deeds.” *Journal of Persianate Studies* 12, no. 1: 5-31. doi: [10.1163/18747167-12341330](https://doi.org/10.1163/18747167-12341330)
- 2018 “Rhetoric, Narrative, and the Remembrance of Death in ‘Attâr's *Mosibat-nâmeḥ*.” *Iranian Studies* 51, no. 1: 23-46. doi: [10.1080/00210862.2017.1345302](https://doi.org/10.1080/00210862.2017.1345302)
- 2018 “Poet’s Orders: Poetry and Text as Spiritual Medicine in the Works of ‘Attâr.” In *Proceedings from the Fifth Annual Conference on Oriental Texts*, edited by L. Goriaeva and V. N. Nastish, 197-207. Moscow: Institute of Oriental Studies, 2018.

## INVITED TALKS

- 2019 University of Maryland, College Park MD, May 16  
Yarshater Junior Scholars Workshop  
“Situating Wisdom: Didacticism and Pedagogy in the Persian Literary Tradition”
- 2019 University of Chicago, Chicago IL, March 8  
Symposium on Persian and Iranian Studies in Honor of Heshmat Moayyad  
“From Blessed Lips: The Textualization of Abu Sa‘id’s Dicta and Deeds”
- 2018 University of Oklahoma, Norman OK, November 6  
“Persian Digital Humanities: Research Workshop”
- 2018 University of Chicago, Chicago IL, May 23  
Roundtable Participant, “Careers in Middle Eastern Studies”
- 2017 University of Chicago, Chicago IL, May 26  
Roundtable Participant, “Global Medievalisms: Notes from the Fields”
- 2014 University of Oklahoma, Norman OK, April 24  
“Reading as Spiritual Exercise: An Inquiry into the Paratextual Material of ‘Attâr’s Oeuvre”
- 2012 Ferdowsi University, Mashhad, Iran, December 29  
“Pezhuhesh-e adabiyât-e fârsi dar Âmrikâ”

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

### Convener

- 2016 Modern Language Association, Austin TX, January 7-10  
“‘Imagined’ Performance Contexts in Medieval Persian Literature”
- 2012 Middle East Studies Association, Denver CO, November 17-20  
“‘Each Story is a Treasure House’: Didacticism, Allegory and Interpretation in Classical Persian Literature”

### Presenter

- 2018 Association for the Study of Persianate Societies, Tbilisi, March 9-13  
“Utterance, to Maxim, to Text: The Verses and Auspicious Sayings of Abu Sa‘id”
- 2017 International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo MI, May 11-14  
“Justifying the Allegorical Fantastic”

- 2016 American Academy of Religion, San Antonio TX, November 19-22  
 “Utterance, to Maxim, to Text: The Verses and Auspicious Sayings of Abu Sa‘id”
- 2016 Institute of Oriental Studies, Moscow, October 24-26  
 “Poet’s Orders: Poetry and Text as Spiritual Medicine in the Works of ‘Aṭṭâr”
- 2016 Middle East History and Theory Conference, Chicago IL, May 6-7  
 “Poet’s Orders: Homiletic Verse as Spiritual Medicine in the Works of ‘Aṭṭâr”
- 2016 American Academy of Religion Midwest, Muncie IN, April 1-2  
 “Narrative, Homily, and Spiritual Practice: Remembrance of Death in the *Conference of the Birds*”
- 2016 Modern Language Association, Austin TX, January 7-9  
 “Preaching through Text: ‘Aṭṭâr and the Homiletics of Transformation”
- 2014 International Society for Iranian Studies, Montreal QC, August 7-9  
 “The Heuristics of the *Moşibat-nâma*”
- 2013 South Central Modern Language Association, New Orleans LA, October 3-5  
 “‘See Yourself without Yourself’: Reading Self and Subject in ‘Aṭṭâr’s *Moşibat-nâma*”
- 2012 Middle East Studies Association, Denver CO, November 17-20  
 “Moralizing Voices and Interpretive Confusion”
- 2012 International Society for Iranian Studies, Istanbul, August 2-4  
 “‘When a Woman is a Man on the Path of God’: Râbe‘a as an Exemplar of Spiritual Manliness”
- 2011 International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo MI, May 12-15  
 “Wives, Mothers, Sisters, and Old Crones: Women and Gender in the *Tazkerat al-owleyâ*”
- 2011 American Oriental Society, Chicago IL, March 11-14  
 “‘Aṭṭâr’s *Tazkerat al-owleyâ* and the Reinvention of Abu Yazid Bestâmi”
- 2010 Middle East History and Theory Conference, Chicago IL, May 14-15  
 “Prophethood, Sainthood, and the *Me‘râj*: Abu Yazid in ‘Aṭṭâr’s *Tazkerat al-owleyâ*”
- 2009 Middle East History and Theory Conference, Chicago IL, May 8-9  
 “Bâyazid ebn Solaymân in Safavid Historiography”

## **Discussant**

- 2015 Middle East History and Theory Conference, Chicago IL, May 1-2  
“Mysticism, Devotion, and Didacticism in Pre-Modern Texts”
- 2013 Middle East History and Theory Conference, Chicago IL, May 3-5  
“Sufis in their Settings”
- 2010 Middle East History and Theory Conference, Chicago IL, May 14-15  
“Panel in Honor of Heshmat Moayyad”

## **DEPARTMENTAL/CAMPUS TALKS**

### **Presenter**

- 2018 Southwest Graduate Conference, University of Arizona, March 22  
Brownbag Discussion, “The Poetry of Wisdom: The Rhetoric of Didacticism in the Persian Literary Tradition”
- 2018 Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Arizona, January 19  
“The Persian Book of Kings, Approaches for Educators”
- 2017 Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Arizona, December 7  
Panelist, Career Development Series, “The Academic Job Application Process”
- 2017 Persian Circle, University of Chicago, February 21  
“An Introduction to ‘Aṭṭâr’s Quatrains / Mo‘arrefi-ye robâ‘iât-e ‘Aṭṭâr”
- 2016 NELC Department Colloquium, University of Chicago, April 6  
“Narrative, Homiletics, and the Remembrance of Death: The Poetry of ‘Aṭṭâr as Spiritual Performance”
- 2015 MENA Monday, Northwestern University, May 4
- 2015 Islamic Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, February 27  
“Allegory and Symbolic Action”
- 2013 Persian Circle, University of Chicago, March 6
- 2009 Persian Circle, University of Chicago, October 13
- 2009 Persian Circle, University of Chicago, May 19

### **Discussant/Moderator**

- 2019 Southwest Graduate Conference in Middle East Studies, U. of Arizona, April 29
- 2018 Southwest Graduate Conference in Middle East Studies, U. of Arizona, March 22
- 2015 Islamic Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, April 2
- 2014 Middle East History and Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, November 20
- 2011 Middle East History and Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, September 30

### **OUTREACH AND PUBLIC TALKS**

- 2019–20 Faculty Resource Fellow  
Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Arizona
- 2019 Iransaraa Community Association of Southern Arizona  
“Ḥakim ‘Omar Khayyam,”
- 2018 Iransaraa Community Association of Southern Arizona  
“Āsheq-e sokhan-gu: Āhvâl-e zendagi va âşâr-e Jalâl al-Din Rumi”

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **University of Arizona**

Myth, Epic, and History in the Persian Book of Kings (Spring 2020)

Kingship, Gender, and Authority in Medieval Iran (Spring 2020)

History of the Middle East, 600-1453 (Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2018)

History of the Iranian Plateau, 600-1501: Religion, Authority, Literature (Fall 2018)

Ethnic and Religious Minorities of the Middle East (Spring 2018)

Poetry for the Prince: Medieval Persian Literary and Court Culture (Fall 2017)

#### **Northwestern University**

Intermediate Persian (2015-17)

Elementary Persian (2014-17)

**University of Chicago**

Middle Eastern Studies, MA Preceptor (2013-15)

Elementary Persian, Language Assistant (2010-14)

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, BA Preceptor (2012-13)

Illustrated Arabic and Persian Manuscripts, Writing Intern (2013)

Academic and Professional Writing, Lector (2010-13)

Greek Thought and Literature, Writing Intern (2011-12)

**PEDAGOGY TRAINING**

2013            STARTALK Persian  
George Washington University, Washington DC, June 3-20

2009            Academic and Professional Writing Training Program  
Writing Program, University of Chicago, October-November

**SERVICE**

**Departmental Service**

2018-            Director of Graduate Studies, Roshan GIDP, University of Arizona

2018-            Curriculum Committee, Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Arizona

2017-            Roshan Program Executive Committee, Roshan GIDP and Middle Eastern and North African Studies, University of Arizona

2017-            Taleghani Fellowship and Lecture Committee, Department of Linguistics, University of Arizona

2016-17        Faculty Advisor, Persian Association Representing Students (PARS), Northwestern University

2015-16 Director of Persian Circle, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Chicago

2010-12 Director of Persian Circle, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Chicago

### **Disciplinary Service**

2019– Peer-reviewer for *Religion and Literature*

2019– Peer-reviewer for *PMLA*

2019– Peer-reviewer for *Quidditas*

2018– Peer-reviewer for *Iranian Studies*

### **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Persian Near-Native, Primary Research Language

Arabic Reading Knowledge, Secondary Research Language

German Reading Knowledge

French Reading Knowledge

Turkish Basic

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Middle East Medievalists

Association for Iranian Studies

Association for the Study of Persianate Societies

Middle East Studies Association

### **References Available upon Request**