

Shahin Berenji

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Political Science
Southern Methodist University
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EDUCATION

University of California Los Angeles

Ph.D in Political Science, September 2017

Dissertation: "Accepting Risks and Making Bold Gestures: Why Decision-makers Initiate Conciliation in Rivalries"

Committee: Deborah Larson (Chair), Marc Trachtenberg, Robert Trager, and Stanley Wolpert

M.A. in Political Science, October 2010

University of Southern California, December 2006

B.A. in Political Science, *Magna cum laude*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations Theory, Political Psychology, Diplomacy/Diplomatic History, Conflict Resolution, Foreign Policy Decision-Making, the International Relations of the Middle East, the Cold War, and Qualitative Methodology

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Colin Powell Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in International Relations, Department of Political Science and John G. Tower Center for Public Policy and International Affairs, Southern Methodist University, Fall 2020

Lecturer, Department of Political Science, UCLA, Fall 2017- Spring 2020

Adjunct Professor, Department of Political Science, California Lutheran University, Spring 2019

Instructor/Teaching Fellow, Department of Political Science, UCLA, Summer 2015, 2016, 2017

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

"Sadat and the Road to Jerusalem: Bold Gestures and Risk Acceptance in the Search for Peace," *International Security* Vol. 45, No. 1 (Summer 2020): 127-163. Available: https://doi.org/10.1162/isec_a_00381

"Consumers and the Case for Labeling Genfoods." *Journal of Research for Consumers* Issue 13, 2007. Available: http://jrconsumers.com/Academic_Articles/issue_13/academicGEfoodethicspaper_post_review_V3.pdf

WORKING PAPERS

(Revise and Resubmit) "Engaging the Reagan Administration, from Small Steps to Bold Proposals: Gorbachev and the Windy Road to Reykjavik"

“Signaling and Reassurance: Ronald Reagan’s 1984 Peace Offensive”

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“On the Brink: The War Scare of 1977”

OTHER WRITINGS

“Jimmy Carter’s Role in Securing Middle East Peace,” *E-International Relations*, April 2016, available: <http://www.e-ir.info/2016/04/21/the-camp-david-accords-jimmy-carters-role-in-securing-middle-east-peace/>

Book Review written for *History, Politics, and Diplomacy of the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Source Document Reader*, ed. Kenneth W. Stein (Atlanta: Center for Israel Education, 2013), March 2015, available: <https://israeled.org/product/arab-israeli-conflict/>

“Consumers & Genetically Engineered Foods,” *USC Journal of Law and Society* 3, Fall 2007, available: <https://dornsife.usc.edu/assets/sites/232/docs/JLSVolume4.pdf>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Engaging the Reagan Administration, from Small Steps to Bold Proposals: Gorbachev and the Windy Road to Reykjavik,”

International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, April 7, 2018

UCLA International Relations Reading Group, June 2, 2017

(Presenter and Chair) “Understanding why Decision-Makers Initiate Conciliation through Bold Gestures: An Examination of Anwar Sadat’s Peace Initiatives from 1977,” *International Society of Political Psychology*, San Diego, July 5, 2015

(Co-presented with Elizabeth Goodhue, Carrier Sanders, and Molly Jacobs) “Fostering Civic, Disciplinary, and Professional Development through Academic Internships,” *18th Annual Continuums of Service Conference*, Long Beach, April 9, 2015.

“Understanding why Decision-Makers make Bold Gestures: An Examination of Sadat’s Jerusalem Initiative and its Effects on the Egyptian-Israeli Rapprochement,” *International Studies Association Annual Convention*, New Orleans, February 19th, 2015.

“Costly Signaling and Trust-Building in International Relations: Why States Over-Reassure? An Examination of Anwar Sadat’s Jerusalem Initiative,” *International Association for Conflict Management*, Tacoma, WA, July 3, 2013

INVITED TALKS

“Region in Turmoil: The Middle East and its Unending Civil Wars,” *Beyond the Headlines* Speaker Series, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of California Los Angeles, March 5, 2019

“U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East,” West Los Angeles College Annual Global Conference, October 21, 2016

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Non-Senate Faculty Professional Development Award, UCLA Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Personnel, February 2018, February 2019, March 2020

UCLA Department of Political Science

Dissertation Fellowship, September 2016-June

2017 Research Grant, Summer 2014, 2015, 2016

Dissertation Research Grant in Political Psychology, UCLA Department of Psychology, Summer 2016

UCLA Graduate Division

Research Travel Grant, Winter 2015

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship, Summer 2009, 2010

Middle East Studies Research Travel Grant, UCLA Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for Israel Studies, Fall 2014

Dispute Resolution Research Center (DDRC) Travel Scholarship, Northwestern University, June 2013

First Prize in the Professional Writing Category at USC's Undergraduate Writers' Conference, 2007

Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, 2006; Golden Key International Honors Society, 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

SMU, Sole Instructor

Introduction to International Relations (PS 1380), Fall 2020

UCLA, Sole Instructor

Foreign Policy in an Uncertain World (PS 139), Fall 2017, 2018, 2019

International Politics, 1914 to the Present (PS 138B), Winter 2018, 2019, 2020

The International Relations of the Middle East (PS 132A/PS 132B), Spring 2018, Spring 2020

World Order (PS 122A), Spring 2019

World Politics (PS 20), Summer 2015, 2016, and 2017

California Lutheran University, Sole Instructor

American Foreign Policy (PS 365), Spring 2019

UCLA, Teaching Assistant/Teaching Fellow

Political Science Civic Engagement Course (PS 195CE), Elizabeth Goodhue/Michael Thies, Center for Community Learning, Fall 2012-Summer 2016

Data Analysis (PS 6), John Zaller, Fall 2011

International Law (PS 123A), Leslie Johns, Spring 2011

World Politics (PS 20), Leslie Johns, Winter 2011

Environmental Politics & Governance (UP 260-graduate seminar), Stephanie Pincetl, Fall 2010

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Research Assistant, Barbara Geddes, Summer 2011, Winter-Spring 2012
Researched authoritarian regimes (particularly, those in the Middle East and South Asia) as part of a NSF-funded project

Editorial Assistant, *American Political Science Review*, Fall 2009-Summer 2010

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), Summer Academy Fellow, June 30-July 2, 2015

Part of UCLA delegation hosted by Kuwait's Ministry of Information to learn about the political and economic developments in Kuwait and the broader Middle East, Summer 2011

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, *Communication Studies*

Member of the American Political Science Association (APSA), International Studies Association (ISA), and International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP)

MEDIA APPEARANCES AND INTERVIEWS

Interviewed and quoted in a newspaper article commemorating the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, November 6, 2019, *the Argonaut*, available: <https://argonautnews.com/walls-of-the-mind/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Language Skills: English (native), French and Farsi (Intermediate)

On-Campus Activities:

Presenter & Participant, International Relations Reading Group, 2011-12, 2015-2019

Mentor in the Alumni Mentor Program, 2014-2015

REFERENCES

Available upon Request