

Melanie S. Tanielian

1342 Brookfield Dr. • Ann Arbor, MI. 48013

E-Mail: meltan@umich.edu

<https://tanielian.history.lsa.umich.edu/about>

Academic Positions

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

May 2018-present

Associate Professor, Department of History and Program for
Comparative and International Studies

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

June 2012 to May 2018

Assistant Professor, Department of History and Program for
Comparative and International Studies

University of San Francisco, California

Spring 2011

Adjunct Faculty, Department of History

Education

Ph.D. **University of California, Berkeley**, History, Summer 2012

Dissertation: *The War of Famine: Everyday Life in Wartime Beirut and Mount
Lebanon (1914-1918)*

Chair: Beshara Doumani

Winner, 2012 Best Dissertation Syrian Studies Association

M.A. **University of California, Berkeley**, History, Spring 2007

Chair: Beshara Doumani

B.A. **University of California, Berkeley**, Middle Eastern Studies, Spring 2004 (High Honors)

Honors Thesis: *Christian Minorities in Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Aleppo*

Chair: Leslie Peirce

Best Undergraduate Thesis Award, Center of Middle East Studies

B.A. **University of California, Berkeley**, Religious Studies, Spring 2004 (High Honors)

Emphasis: The History of Islam

Publication

Monograph

- *The Charity of War: Famine, Humanitarian Aid, and World War I in the Middle East*, Stanford University Press, 2017.

Articles

- “Feeding the City: The Beirut Municipality and Civilian Provisioning during World War I.” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 46 (2014): 737-758.
- “Politics of Wartime Relief in Ottoman Beirut.” *First World War Studies* 5 (2014): 69-82.
- “Food and Nutrition (Ottoman Empire/Middle East).” *1914-1918-Online International Encyclopedia of the First World War*, ed. by Ute Daniel, Peter Gatrell, Oliver Janz, Heather Jones, Jennifer Keene, Alan Kramer, issued by Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin 2014-10-8.
- “Disease and Public Health (Ottoman Empire/ Middle East).” *1914-1918-Online International Encyclopedia of the First World War*, ed. by Ute Daniel, Peter Gatrell, Oliver Janz, Heather Jones, Jennifer Keene, Alan Kramer, issued by Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin 2014-10-8.

Book Reviews

- “A Taste of Home: The Modern Middle Class in Ottoman Beirut” by Toufoul Abou-Hodeib,” *American Historical Review*, (2018) 123 (2): 666-668.
- "The Emergence of Minorities in the Middle East: The Politics of Community in French Mandate Syria" by Benjamin Thomas White," *English Historical Review*, (2015) 130 (547): 1602-1604.
- “Between State Amnesia and the Foot Soldier’s Remembrance” review of Haugbolle, Sune, *War and Memory in Lebanon. H-Levant, H-Net Reviews*. October 2010.

Articles Under Review and in Preparation

- “Beyond Peripheries: Writing the History of World War I,” submitted to *War & Society* November 2016 (in preparation)
- “The Insanities of Provisioning: The Lebanon Hospital for Mental Disease During the Great War,” (in preparation)
- “With a Camera to Syria: Genocide, Humanitarianism, and Colonial Encounters” in preparation be submitted to *Journal of Genocide Research*.
- An Abandoned Wretch, a Meddlesome Crank, and a University Scandal?: Academic Freedom in Times of War at the University of Michigan (1917-1918) (in preparation)

Selected Grants, Fellowships and Awards

- **ACLS Fellowship**, American Council for Learned Societies, New York City. 2018-19
- **Institute for Advanced Studies**, Hanse Wissenschaftskolleg, Germany 2018-19
- **Large Course Initiative Award**, LSA/CLRT University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. 2015
- **Eisenberg Faculty Fellowship (2014-15)**, Eisenberg Institute, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. 2014-15

- **National Endowment for the Humanities**, Summer Seminar Grant, Georgetown University, Washington, DC. 2014
- **Syrian Studies Association (2012)**, Best Dissertation Award 2012
- **Dean's Normative Times Fellowship**, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2011-12
- **Allan Sharlin Memorial Grant**, Institute for International Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2010-11
- **DAAD Graduate Fellowship**, German Academic Exchange Service, Berlin, Germany. 2010-11
- **Sultan Fellowship for Arab Studies**, Center for Middle East Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2010-11
- **Mentored Research Award**, Graduate Division, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2009-10
- **Research Travel Grant, Center for Middle East Studies**, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2009-10
- **Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor**, Graduate Division, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2008
- **Pre-Dissertation Research Grant**, Graduate Division, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2007
- **Andrew Mellon Travel Grant**, Graduate Division, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2007
- **Language Study Summer Grant**, History Department, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2006
- **Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship**, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 2005-06

Invited Talks & Contributions

- "A City Under Siege: Beirut During the Great War." Invited Lecture, [Baker Peace Conference](#), Ohio University, Athens, OH. March 25, 2016
- "World War I the End of the Lebanese Family? Transnationalism and Networks of Benevolence." Invited Contribution, [Centre for the Advanced Study of the Arab World and MIHAN at the University of Manchester](#), Manchester, UK. December 11, 2015
- "A Purely Local Initiative: Civil Society and Wartime Relief in Ottoman Beirut." Invited Lecture, [Middle East and](#) November 19, 2015

- [North Africa History Seminar Series](#), Department of History
Georgetown University, Washington, DC.
- “Famine, Food, and Female Volunteerism in the Context of World War I in the Middle East.” Invited Lecture, [Crossing Borders: International Humanitarian and Peace Work during World War I](#), Department of History Dayton University, Dayton OH. April 9, 2015
 - “The Syrian Famine in the Global Context.” Invited Contribution, [World War I in the Middle East](#), Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Washington, DC. November 17, 2014
 - “The War that Saved Empire: World War I in the Middle East.” Invited Lecture, [Northwood University’s Forum for Citizenship & Enterprise](#), Midland, MI. September 7, 2014
 - “Emotional, Intimate and Family Histories,” Invited Contribution, [The Peripheries of World War I: New Methodological and Spatial Perspectives](#), New York University, NYU. May 15, 2014
 - “Politics of Neutrality: American Humanitarian Relief in Ottoman Beirut.” Invited Lecture, [Americans in the Middle East Seminar Series](#) at Boston University, Boston, MA. September 26, 2013
 - “The War of Graffiti: Contested Spaces in Beirut.” Invited Lecture, [Center for Middle East and North African Studies](#), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. September 12, 2013
 - “Seeds of Conflict the Making of the Modern Middle East.” Invited Lecture, [Osher Life Long Learning Institute](#), University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI. September 12, 2013
 - “‘Protecting the Innocent’: Humanitarian Child Transfer after the Adana Massacre (1909).” Invited Lecture, [Armenian Studies Program](#), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. January 16, 2013
 - “Teaching Silences: Women as Change Makers in the Middle East.” Invited Lecture, [ORIAS Summer Institute for K-12 Teachers: Absent Voices: Experiences of Common Life in World History](#), Berkeley, CA. July 12, 2011
 - “Women as Agents of Change: The Egyptian Uprising of 2011.” Invited Lecture, [Muslim Students Association Teach IN](#), University of San Francisco, CA. February 25, 2011
 - “World War I: The Beginning of the End?” Invited Lecture, [University of California](#), Berkeley, CA. August, 2010
 - “Methodology of Oral History.” Invited Lecture, Lebanese University, Beirut, Lebanon. May 15, 2010
 - “Seeds of Conflict: The French Mandate Rule in Syrian and Lebanon.” Invited Lecture, [University of California](#), Berkeley, CA. March 2008

Organized Symposia, Exhibits, Panels and Workshops

- Rescue or Internment? Orphans of the Armenian Genocide.” *Workshop* Armenian Studies Program, Ann Arbor, MI. <https://www.i.umich.edu/asp> March 17, 2017
- “1917: Michigan’s Great War and Its Aftermath.” *Symposium* for Making Michigan, Bicentennial Celebration, Ann Arbor, MI. <https://lsa.umich.edu/bicentennial> February 17, 2017
- “Sykes Picot at 100: Mapping, Migrants, and Myths.” *Roundtable*, Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Boston MA. <https://mesana.org> November 19, 2016
- “Now or Never: Collecting, Documenting and Photographing WWI.” *Exhibit* for the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide, Armenian Studies Program, Ann Arbor, MI. <https://www.i.umich.edu/asp> January-April, 2015
- “Teaching about Genocide: Challenges and Approaches.” *Workshop*, Armenian Studies Program, Ann Arbor, MI. <https://teachinggenocideworkshop.wordpress.com> March 14, 2015
- “Gender, Sexuality and Violence.” Graduate Student *Conference*, Rackham Global Engagement Seminar, Ann Arbor, MI. <https://gendersexandviolence.wordpress.com> January 17, 2015

Conference Presentations & Contributions

- “An Abandoned Wretch and a Meddlesome Crank: Xenophobia, Academic Freedom, and the Intimidation of Un-American faculty at U of M during WWI (1917-1918)” *German Studies Symposium*, Ann Arbor, MI. January 16, 2018
- “Nourishing Bodies and Souls: The Maronite Church’s Relief Effort in Mount Lebanon during the Great War.” *Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association*, Washington, D.C. November 18, 2017
- “An Abandoned Wretch, a Meddlesome Crank, and a University Scandal?: Academic Freedom in Times of War at the University of Michigan (1917-1918).” *1917: Michigan’s Great War and Its Aftermath*, U of M Bicentennial Celebration, Ann Arbor, MI. February 17, 2017
- Empires, Nations, Bodies: New Approaches to the Armenian Genocide, *Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association*, Denver, CO. Panel Chair and Discussant. January 7, 2017
- “Gender and Politics of Wartime Relief in Ottoman Beirut (1914-1918).” *Not all Quiet on the Ottoman Fronts: Neglected Perspectives on a Global War, 1914-1918*, Istanbul, Turkey. April 9, 2014
- “Feeding the City: Municipal Politics in wartime Beirut.” *Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association*, New October 11, 2013

- Orleans, LA.
- “Diplomacy of Neutrality: Politics of American Humanitarian Relief in Ottoman Beirut (1914-1918).” *Annual Meeting of the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations*, Virginia, VA. June 22, 2013
 - “Surviving the Great War: The Tribulations and Successes of the Syrian Protestant College’s Aid Campaign.” *Celebrating the AUB’s 150 Anniversary*, Beirut, Lebanon. May 13, 2013
 - “The Politics of Humanitarian Aid: The Near East Relief in Greater Syria (1918-1923),” *Annual Ohio Academy of History*, Bowling Green, OH. April 6, 2013
 - ‘Do Mothers and Fathers Devour their Children?’ : Death and Survival of the Family During the Lebanese Famine (1914-1918),” *Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association*, Denver, CO. November 21, 2012
 - “Soup Kitchens, Orphanages, and the Making of the Middle Class: American Relief Work in Beirut and Mount Lebanon During WWI,” *Annual Meeting of the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations*, Hartford, CT. June 30, 2012
 - “Middle Eastern Women’s Voices: Art, Story, Song,” Chair and Discussant at the *Annual Meeting of the Western Association of Women Historians*, Berkeley, CA. May 4, 2012
 - “The Orphan Child as a Historical Agent in Post-WWI Greater Syria,” *Fifth Biennial Conference of the Society for the History of Children and Youth*, New York, NY. June 24, 2011
 - “Protecting the Innocent: Humanitarian Child Transfer after the Adana Massacre, 1909.” *UC Davis Human Rights Initiative Symposium: Lost Children: The Transfer of Children during Genocide and Civil Conflict*, Davis, CA. May 17, 2011
 - “Feeding the City: The Beirut Municipality and the Provisioning of Civilians During WWI,” *Western Ottomanists’ Workshop (WOW)*, Davis, CA. April 8, 2011
 - The Ghost of War: Remembering the Great Famine in Beirut and Mount Lebanon (1914-1918),” History Students Association Conference on *Collective Memory: The Voices of Remembering and the Silences of Forgetting*, San Francisco State University, CA. April 4, 2011
 - “City of Orphans: The Making of a Middle Class,” *Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association*, San Diego, CA. November 18, 2010

National and International Affiliations & Memberships

- Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
- American Historical Association (AHA)
- Syrian Studies Association (SSA)

- International Society for First World War Studies (ISFWWS)
- First World War in The Middle East and North Africa Scholarly Network
- Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- Lebanese University, Beirut, Lebanon
- American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon
- German Orient Institute, Beirut, Lebanon

Peer Reviews

- Manchester University Press
- Edinburgh University Press
- Études arméniennes contemporaines
- Stanford University Press
- Nebraska University Press
- Journal of Genocide Research
- Journal of Levantine Studies
- Childhood in the Past

Graduate Students

- Tugce Kayaal (NES, Dissertation Co-Chair)
- Kelly Hannavi (WS/Hist, First Year Advisor)
- Omer Sharir (Hist/Dissertation Committer)
- Dzovinar Derderian (NES, Dissertation Committee)
- Omer Sharir (History, Dissertation Committee)