

NASIR ALMASRI

Predocctoral Fellow, Middle East Initiative Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA
PhD Candidate, Political Science Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

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Research Interests

Social movements; authoritarianism; moderation + radicalization; class conflict; Islam; colonialism; regional security; Middle East and North Africa.

Professional Experience

Harvard Kennedy School, Middle East Initiative, Cambridge, MA (2022-2024)
Predocctoral Fellow

Middle East Institute, Washington, DC (2023-2024)
Graduate Fellow

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA (2017-Present)
PhD Candidate (ABD), Political Science

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL (2015-2017)
MA, International Relations

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Edwardsville, IL (2011-2015)
BS, Political Science
BA, History

Research

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Nasir Almasri, Blair Read, and Clara Vandeweerd. "[Mental Health and the PhD](#): Insights and implications for Political Science." 2022. *PS: Political Science and Politics*.

Working Papers

Nasir Almasri. "The Pendulum Effect: Exclusion and shifting dominance between moderate + radical factions in opposition groups."

- Invited to Revise + Resubmit at *Comparative Political Studies*.

Nasir Almasri. "Islam, the War on Terror, and pitfalls of the moderate-radical dichotomy" (under review).

Nasir Almasri, Dana El Kurd, and Alexei Abrahams. "Twitter, diaspora activism, and demobilization in the Middle East."

Book Projects

Nasir Almasri. “How Exclusion shapes Moderation and Radicalization in the Middle East.”

Nasir Almasri. “Arab Regional Power Competition and the Palestinian National Movement.”

Work in Progress

Nasir Almasri and Ali Javeed. “Islam, Incels, and Ideological Change.”

Nasir Almasri. “Who Boycotts? BDS in state legislatures and private associations.”

Nasir Almasri. “A Third Lebanon War? Technological Advancement, Civilian-Centric Warfare, and Israel’s Ground-Air War Dilemma.”

Book Chapters

Nasir Almasri and Dana El Kurd. “[Mental health and well-being in graduate school.](#)” In *Strategies for Navigating Grad School and Beyond*, edited by Kevin G. Lorentz ii, Daniel J. Mallinson, Julia Marin Hellwege, Davin Pheonix, and J. Cherie Strachan, the American Political Science Association.

Nasir Almasri and Amirah Aly. “When work is personal: closeness to research and its effect on well-being and productivity.” In *Academic Chutes and Ladders: How the hidden curriculum makes or breaks academic careers*, edited by Kerry Crawford and Leah Windsor.

Awards and Fellowships

Islamic Scholarship Fund, Makhraj Endowed Scholarship, \$4000 (2023)

Center for International Studies, Summer Study Fellowship, \$3500 (2021, 2022)

Islamic Scholarship Fund, Alassar Endowed Scholarship, \$5000 (2022)

Security Studies Program Special Summer Funding, \$3000 (2020)

Kenan Sahin Presidential Graduate Fellowship, MIT (2017-18)

Islamic Scholarship Fund, \$3000 (2017)

Morton A. Kaplan Prize for Best MA Thesis, \$1000, University of Chicago (2017)

University Full Tuition Scholarship, University of Chicago (2016-17)

Social Science Full Tuition Scholarship, University of Chicago (2015-16)

Dr. Gordon D. Bush Political Science Award, \$1000, SIUE (2014-15)

Dr. Timothy P. Fischer Award in Historical Studies, \$500, SIUE (2013-15)

URCA Associate Research Grant, \$2400, SIUE (2014-15)

Outstanding Student Leader Award, SIUE (2013, 2014, 2015)

Chancellor’s Meridian Full Tuition Scholarship, SIUE (2011-15)

Professional Experience

Research

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Research Analyst, Program on Political Violence (2016-2017)

Research Analyst, Chicago Project on Security and Threats (2016-2017)

Teaching

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Teaching Assistant for “Introduction to Comparative Politics” (Fall 2019)

Teaching Assistant for “Causes and Consequences of War” (Spring 2020)

Teaching + Learning Lab, MIT, Cambridge, MA

Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program (Spring 2023)

Teaching Development Fellow, Dept. of Political Science (2023-2024)

Presentation + Talks

Invited Talks

Guest Lecture: Religion-State Relations in the Middle East

Boston College, taught by Marsin Alshamary (Sep. 2023)

Guest Lecture: Palestine-Israel: History and Contemporary Politics

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Oct. 2021, Apr. 2019, Apr. 2018)

Panel: Surveillance in the Muslim Community, Islamic History Month

Simon Fraser University, Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies (Nov. 2020)

Panel: Roots, Rhythm, and Resistance: An Anti-Racism Symposium

West Coast - Coalition Against Racism Society (May 2022)

Conferences and Workshops

Middle East Studies Association (2023)

Southwest Mixed-Methods Research (2023)

American Political Science Association (2022, 2023)

Harvard MENA Research Workshop (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020)

POMEPS Junior Scholars Workshop (2020)

Midwest Political Science Association (2017, 2021, 2023)

MIT Security Studies Working Group (2020)

International Studies Association (2017)

UChicago Program on International Security Policy (2017)

Service

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Teaching Development Fellow, Political Science (2023-2024)
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group in Political Science (2020-2021)
Graduate Anti-Racist Political Science Collective (2020-2022)
Coordinator, Security Studies Working Group (2019-2020)
Chair, Graduate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (2018-2019)
Executive Member, MIT Graduate Student Council (2018-2019)

The University of Chicago

Social Science Graduate Student Advisory Council (2015-2016)

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Chair, Multicultural Center Council (2014-2015)
University Policy and Budget Council (2011-2012, 2014-2015)
University Quality Council (2014-2015)
Search Committee, Dean of College of Arts and Sciences (2014-2015)

Language

English (native), Arabic (advanced), Spanish (intermediate)

References

Richard Nielsen: rnielsen@mit.edu

Fotini Christia: cfotini@mit.edu

Roger Petersen: rpeters@mit.edu

Tarek Masoud: tarek_masoud@hks.harvard.edu