

## Zachary D. Sheldon

3710 North Damen Ave. | Chicago, IL 60618 | (917) 238-1904 | zdsheldon@uchicago.edu

### EDUCATION

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- 2014-2020      **University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology**  
Ph.D. in Socio-cultural and Linguistic Anthropology  
Dissertation: “Waiting on Embers: Duration, Dispossession, and Everyday Life among Iraqi Migrants in Jordan.”  
Committee: Hussein Agrama (chair), Julie Chu, John Kelly, Orit Bashkin
- 2012-2014      **University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology**  
M.A. in Socio-cultural and Linguistic Anthropology  
Advisor: Hussein Agrama
- 2007-2011      **Tufts University**  
B.A. in Anthropology  
Highest Thesis Honors

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Migration and refugees, Modern Middle East, imperialism, everyday life, cities, class relations, games

### FELLOWSHIPS & FUNDING

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- 2020-2022      Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship, Division of the Social Sciences, The University of Chicago (\$92,000)
- 2016-2017      Predoctoral Research Fellowship, The Council of American Overseas Research Centers (\$19,500)
- 2014-2015      Student Research Fellowship with supplementary Critical Language Enhancement Award, U.S. Fulbright Program (\$29,700)
- 2012-2016      Graduate Research Fellowship Program, National Science Foundation (\$95,000)
- 2012-2013      Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education (\$15,000)

### PUBLICATIONS

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- (in preparation) “Putting Ethics into Play: Friendship, Frustration, and the Resonance of *jaakaaroo* at an Iraqi Café in Jordan.” *American Ethnologist*.
- (accepted for publication, Summer 2021) “Managing the Humanitarian Workplace: Capitalist Social Time and Iraqi Refugees in the United States.” *Anthropology of Work Review*.
- (2017) “Refuge, Market, and Garden: Tropes of Jordanian Stability among Amman’s Iraqi Residents” in *POMEPS Studies*, 25:66-69

## PRESENTATIONS

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### INVITED TALKS

- 2017 “Safe but not Settled: Iraqi Refugees in Jordan” American Center of Oriental Research, Amman, Jordan.
- 2016 “Reading the Janet Abu-Lughod Library” The Sijal Institute, Amman Jordan
- 2015 “Rethinking Migration & Hospitality” The Center for British Research Libraries, Amman, Jordan.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 (accepted but unable to attend) “The Cosmopolitan National Status Group: Applying Hanna Batatu’s Theory of Classes to the Contemporary Iraqi Diaspora.” Conference: Iraq Studies: Past, Present and Future. Columbia University.
- 2019 “Transits and Transformations of the Iraqi Carp.” Conference: Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.
- 2019 “‘What are Classes?’: Hanna Batatu’s Historical Sociology”, Conference: Beyond Turmoil and Conflict: Iraq Since 2003, New York University Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies.
- 2018 “Urban Spaces of National Politics: The Iraqi Elections in Amman”, Conference: Contemporary Amman and the Right to the City, Columbia University Global Center, Amman, Jordan
- 2018 (Panel Chair), “The Dilemma of Embodying Nationality for Iraqis in Amman”, Conference: Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Jose, California.
- 2017 “Tropes of Jordanian Stability among Iraqis” Workshop: Project on Middle East Political Science, University of Southern California.
- 2016 “On the Uses of Disorder in Amman: Young Iraqis and the Urban ‘Garden.’” Conference: Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association. Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2015 (coauthored with Eleonore C. Rimbault), “Kafka in the Attic.” Conference: Walter Benjamin in Palestine: On the Place and Non-Place of Radical Thought. Ramallah, Palestine.
- 2013 “After Freedom: Iraqi Refugee Resettlement in the United States.” Conference: Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, Illinois.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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- 2019 Social Sciences Division Doctoral Completion Grant
- 2018 University of Chicago Urban Doctoral Fellowship
- 2015 Department Prize for Best M.A. Essay

## ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

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- 2018 “Nationality, Class, and Iraqi Migrants in Jordan.” The Blog of the American Center of Oriental Research ([acorjordan.org](http://acorjordan.org)).
- 2017 “The World in the City and the City in the World: Reading the Janet Abu-Lughod Library.” *Jadaliyya* ([jadaliyya.com](http://jadaliyya.com)).

## SERVICE & RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT

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### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2018-2019 Advisory Member, Dean’s Council on Doctoral Education, Division of Social Sciences.
- 2013-2014 Department Coordinator, Social Science Student Activities Fund.

### OTHER SERVICE

- 2019 Research Consultant, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.
- 2018 Research Consultant, Internal Displacement Monitoring Center.
- 2017-2018 Volunteer, Welfare Together for Development & Training, Amman, Jordan
- 2015 English as a Second Language Instructor, Collateral Repair Project, Amman, Jordan

### RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT

- 2013-2016 Senior Editorial Assistant, *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.
- 2012 Research Assistant for Dr. Hussein Agrama.
- 2010 Research Assistant for Dr. Amahl Bishara.

## TEACHING

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### POSTDOCTORAL TEACHING FELLOW, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

- 2020-2021 “Self, Culture, and Society.” College seminar course on social theory.  
“Games: Theory, Practice, & Experience.” College lecture course on digital ethnography.

### UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISOR, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

- 2019 “*Foodcultura: The Art and Anthropology of Food and Cuisine*.” Undergraduate research practicum focused on urban ethnography of food.

### LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

- 2016, 2018 “Power, Identity, and Resistance.” College seminar course on political theory.

LEAD INSTRUCTOR, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GLOBAL CENTER - AMMAN

2015 "The World in the City and the City in the World." Reading seminar for scholars and professionals designed around works held in the Janet Abu-Lughod Library.

TEACHING INTERN, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

2015 "Power, Identity, and Resistance." College seminar course on political theory.

TEACHING ASSISTANT, TUFTS UNIVERSITY

2011 "Popular Cultures of the Middle East." College lecture course on music, television.

WRITING TUTOR, TUFTS UNIVERSITY

2009-2011 Provided one-on-one writing assistance to students majoring in the social sciences.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION**

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American Anthropological Association

**LANGUAGES**

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English, Arabic (Ammani & Baghdadi dialects spoken, Modern Standard reading and writing), French (for academic reading)

**REFERENCES**

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Hussein Agrama  
hagrama@uchicago.edu  
Tel: (773) 834-4496  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Chicago  
1126 East 59<sup>th</sup> St.  
Chicago, IL 60637

John Kelly  
johnkelly@uchicago.edu  
Tel: (773) 702-4333  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Chicago  
1126 East 59<sup>th</sup> St.  
Chicago, IL 60637

Julie Chu  
juliechu@uchicago.edu  
Tel: (773) 702-7708  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Chicago  
1126 East 59<sup>th</sup> St.  
Chicago, IL 60637

Orit Bashkin  
oritb@uchicago.edu  
Tel: (773) 834-8346  
Department of Near Eastern Languages  
and Civilizations  
University of Chicago  
1126 East 59<sup>th</sup> St.  
Chicago, IL 60637