

## Seth R. Graebner

Dept. of Romance Languages and Literatures  
Washington University  
Campus Box 1077  
1 Brookings Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899  
graebner@wustl.edu

### EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

Ph.D., French and Francophone Literature, June 2000  
Dissertation: "Out of Time, Out of Place: History, Nostalgia and the City  
in French and Algerian Writing since 1830"  
Susan Suleiman, Director, with Tom Conley and Jann Matlock

A.M., French, 1996.

Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN.

B.A., *summa cum laude*, June 1992.

### POSITIONS HELD

- 2008-present Associate Professor of French and of International and Area Studies, Washington University in Saint Louis
- 2014 Faculty Advisor for Special Collections, Olin Library, Washington University in Saint Louis
- 2002-2008 Assistant Professor of French and of International and Area Studies, Washington University in Saint Louis
- 2001-02 Fellow in International Studies, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
(American Council of Learned Societies fellowship program)
- 1998-99 Teaching Fellow, Romance Languages and Literatures, Harvard University
- 1997-98 École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France
- 1997-98 *lecteur*, École Normale Supérieure, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France

### HONORS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2019-20 Redefining Doctoral Education (RDE) Cross-Training Grant (\$15,000),  
Washington University Center for the Humanities

- 2009 ArtSci Council Faculty Award, Washington University (student-selected undergraduate teaching award)
- 2004 International Activities Fund Grant, Washington University
- 1999-2000 Center for European Studies/Krupps Foundation Research Grant
- Spring 1999 Harvard Graduate Society Grant
- 1997 Center for European Studies Summer Research Grant
- Spring 1997 Harvard Graduate Society Term-Time Research Grant
- 1996 Derek Bok Award for Excellence in Teaching (Harvard)
- 1992-93 Fulbright-IIE Fellowship, Rabat, Morocco

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book

*History's Place: Nostalgia and the City in French Algerian Literature.* Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2007.

### Journal Articles

“The Landscape to the South: Eugène Fromentin and the Postcolonial Nineteenth Century” *French Studies* 72:2 (April 2018), 194-208.

“The Louvre Abu Dhabi: French Universalism, Exported.” *L'Esprit Créateur* 54 (Summer 2014), 186-199.

“The Bird’s-Eye View: Looking at the City in Paris and Algiers.” *Nineteenth-Century French Studies* 36:1-2 (Fall/Winter 2007), 35-53.

“Contains Preservatives: Architecture and Memory in Colonial Algiers.” *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques* 33:2 (Summer 2007), 257-276.

“Kateb Yacine and the Ruins of the Present,” *Sub-Stance* 36:1 (Spring 2007), 139-163.

“Remembering 17 October 1961 and the Novels of Rachid Boudjedra.” *Research in African Literatures* 36:4 (Winter 2005), 172-197.

### Chapters in Books and Edited Collections

“Literature and the Colonial Cities.” In McNamara, Kevin, ed. *Cambridge Companion to the City in Literature.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014. 188-199.

“‘Unknown and Unloved’: The Politics of French Ignorance in Algeria, 1860-1930.” In *Identity, Memory, and Nostalgia: Algeria 1800-2000.* Ed. Patricia Lorcin. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2006. 49-62.

“Myriem and the Barbaresques: Politics and the origins of the Maghribi Francophone novel, 1920-1939.” In *Continental North-South and Diaspora Connections and Linkages. Annual Selected Papers of the ALA (New Series)*. Eds. Edris Makward, Mark L. Lilleleht, and Ahmed Saber. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2005. 441-458.

### Book Reviews

“*French Orientalist Literature in Algeria, 1845–1882: Colonial Hauntings*. By Sage Goellner.” *French Studies* 73.2 (April 2019), 325-326.

“*We are Imazighen: The development of Algerian Berber identity in twentieth-century literature and culture*, by Fazia Aitel.” *Journal of North African Studies* 21:1 (2016), 153-155.

“Patricia Lorcin, *Historicizing Colonial Nostalgia: European Women’s Narratives of Algeria and Kenya, 1900-Present*.” *H-France Review* 13: 141. 6 November 2013. <http://www.h-france.net/vol13reviews/vol13no141graebner.pdf>.

“*Gender and Identity in North Africa: Postcolonialism and Feminism in Maghrebi Women’s Literature*, by Abdelkader Cheref.” *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies* 8:2 (Spring 2012), 113.

“*Transcultural Modernities: Narrating Africa in Europe*, by Elisabeth Bekers et al., eds.” *JALA (Journal of the African Literature Association)* 6:1 (Winter/Spring 2011), 164-165.

“*African City Textualities*, by Ranka Primorac, ed.” *Research in African Literature* 42:1 (Spring 2011), 196-197.

“*Against the Postcolonial: ‘Francophone’ Writers at the Ends of French Empire*, by Richard Serrano.” *French Review* 80:4 (March 2007), 904.

“*Autobiography and Independence: Selfhood and Creativity in North African Postcolonial Writing in French*, by Debra Kelly.” *French Forum* 32: 1-2 (Winter 2007), 284-286.

“*Libyan Stories*, by Ahmed al-Fagih, ed.” *Journal of North African Studies* (Winter 2001).

### Video Recordings

Creator and host, *Into the Vault*. Olin Library and Arts & Sciences Communications, 2014.

“Darwin’s Orchid Book.” With Garland Allen.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QYT68Q\\_PKmQ&list](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QYT68Q_PKmQ&list)

“Galileo’s *Dialogue*.” With Michael Friedlander and Rebecca Messbarger.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4FmE0tYfgU>

“Diderot’s Encyclopédie.” With Tili Boon Cuillé.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_Ttv0L1nHZU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Ttv0L1nHZU)

“Isaac Newton’s Letter to Robert Hooke.” With Michael Friedlander.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhJqU0X0aRw>

## Encyclopedia Articles

[18 notices on Arabic and French-language North African writers] “Ben, Myriam,” “Berrada, Mohammed,” “Bouraoui, Hédi,” “Bouraoui, Nina,” “Debeche, Djamilia,” “Ghachem, Moncef,” “Ghalem, Nadia,” “Ghallab, Abdelkrim,” “Greki, Anna,” “Lemsine, Aicha,” “El Maleh, Edmond Amran,” “Mammeri, Mouloud,” “Mimouni, Rachid,” “Mrabet, Mohammed,” “Nadir, Chams,” “Ould Cheikh, Mohammed,” “Rezzoug, Leila,” and “Ryvel.” In *Encyclopedia of African Literature*. Ed. Simon Gikandi. London: Routledge: 2003.

“Léon-Gontran Damas.” In *Encyclopedia Africana*. Ed. Anthony Appiah and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. New York: Perseus, 1999.

## Press Article

“Topographies de la nostalgie dans la littérature algérienne: vers une histoire culturelle de la ville coloniale en Afrique du Nord.” [Topographies of Nostalgia in Algerian Literature: Toward a cultural history of the colonial city in North Africa] *La Presse de Tunisie* (July 1997).

## Translations

Francisi-Ducroux, Françoise. “The Gorgon, Paradigm of Image Creation.” In *The Medusa Reader*. Ed. Marjorie Garber and Nancy J. Vickers. New York: Routledge, 2003. 262-266.

Ennaji, Mohammed. *Serving the Master: Slavery and Society in 19th-Century Morocco*. New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1999.

Kably, Mohammed. “Legitimacy of State Power and Socioreligious Variations in Medieval Morocco.” In *In the Shadow of the Sultan: Culture, Power, and Politics in Morocco*. Ed. Rahma Bourquia and Susan Gilson Miller. Harvard Middle Eastern Monographs XXXI. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999. 17-29.

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

*Modernity from the Margins: Constructing and Observing Mediterranean Cities 1830-1900*. Book-length study currently two-thirds written.

“The Musée cosmopolite of 1829: Representing the Foreign in Paris.” Article for *Nineteenth-Century French Studies*.

## **LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

### Invited Lectures

“The Two Alexandrias.” Invited lecture at University of Minnesota, 20 April 2017.

“What We Mean by Exotic: Fromentin’s Algeria.” Invited lecture at Tulane University, 22 February 2016.

“The Louvre Abu Dhabi.” Invited paper at Building the Louvre: Architectures of Politics and Art” Symposium at The Ohio State University, 5 October 2012.

“The Perfect Massacre: Victimhood and Villainy in Public Memory.” Principal speaker at commemoration of the 17 October 1961 killings in Paris. Maison Française, Columbia University, October 17, 2011.

“Muhammed in the Métro: Remembering 17 October 1961 and the Novels of Rachid Boudjedra.” Lecture at the Department of French, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, February 17, 2005.

“Muqadimmat al-tarikh al-thaqafi lil-maghrib.” [An Introduction to the cultural history of Morocco] Lecture at the Brigham Young University Program in Middle East Studies, Marrakech, Morocco, June 16, 2001.

“Barbarous Practices: The Use and Abuse of Anthropological Fiction in Colonial Algeria.” Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Harvard University, October 9, 1998.

“Lire la Barbarie: Anthropologie officielle et roman indigène en Algérie aux années vingt.” École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France, May 5, 1998.

#### Conference Papers

“The End of Diaspora.” Forum CLCS European Regions, Modern Language Association Conference, Austin, TX, January 2016.

With Beth Fisher, Assoc. Director of the Teaching Center, Washington University in Saint Louis, “Using Flexible Technology to Improve Students' Analytical, Writing, and Discussion Skills.” iTeach symposium, January 2012.

“Nerval and Modern Melancholy.” Society for French Historical Studies Conference, Saint Louis, MO, March 2009.

“Representing Cosmopolitanism in 1830s Paris.” Western Society for French History Conference, Quebec, PQ, November 2008.

“The Cosmopolitan Museum: Representing the Foreign in Paris.” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, Nashville, TN, October 2008.

“Alternative Cosmopolitanisms: Paris and Alexandria.” [Invited] *The City Conference*, Washington University in Saint Louis, April 26, 2008.

“Eugène Fromentin and the Nineteenth-Century Exotic.” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, Mobile, AL, October 2007.

“Failing the Empire: The Place of Exotic Literature in Colonial Cultural History, 1880-1940.” Western Society for French History Conference, Long Beach, CA, October 2006.

“The Migrant Minaret: A Literary Topography of the Algerian Diaspora in Paris.” Division on Francophone Literature, Modern Language Association Conference, Washington, D.C., December 2005.

- “The *Roman indigène* [Indigenous Novel] in 1920s Algeria.” [Invited] *Berbers and Minorities in North Africa*, conference at Oregon State University at Portland, May 14, 2005.
- “Saint Brazza.” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, Washington University in Saint Louis, October 2004.
- “Desert Chic.” Special session on “The Post-Colonial Lowbrow,” Modern Language Association Conference, New York, December 2002.
- “History after the War: Assia Djebar’s Layered Fictions.” Division on Francophone Literature, Modern Language Association Conference, New York, December 2002.
- “Contains Preservatives: Historic Preservation and Collective Memory in Colonial Algiers.” Western Society for French History Conference, Baltimore, MD, October 2002.
- “Maps of Memory, Topographies of History.” 35th Annual Texas Tech University Comparative Literature Symposium, Lubbock, Texas, March 2002.
- “Writing the Modern City in Paris and Algiers.” Division on 19th-Century Comparative Literature, Modern Language Association Conference, New Orleans, December 2001.
- “Poisonous Practices: Representing Race in Eugène Sue’s *Mystères de Paris* [Mysteries of Paris].” Division on 19th-Century French Literature, Modern Language Association Conference, New Orleans, December, 2001.
- “Dragons and Displays: The Expositions Coloniales de Marseille, 1906 and 1922.” *Marseille, Bouillabaisse culturelle* [Marseille: Cultural Soup] colloquium at Georgetown University, 21 September 2001.
- “Practicing History in Theory: Assia Djebar’s *Vaste est la prison* [Vast is the Prison].” *PostColonialisms/ Political Correctnesses*, international conference in Casablanca, Morocco, April 2001.
- “*Algérie pour/par les Algériens* [Algeria by/for the Algerians]: The Colonial Anti-exotic.” Modern Language Association Conference, Washington, D.C., December 2000.
- “*Tableaux* from Paris to Algiers: Mercier and his Nineteenth-Century Readers.” Division on 18th-Century French Literature, Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, December 1999.
- “From Alsace to Algeria in 1900: Regionalism, Algerianism, and the *Fin-de-siècle*.” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, London, Ontario, October 1999.
- “Topographie idéale pour une histoire postcoloniale.” [Ideal Topography for a Post-colonial History] [Invited] Société Internationale d’Etudes Francophones [International Society of Francophone Studies] Conference, City University of New York Graduate Center, May 1999.
- “The Rue de Rivoli and its Fakes: Nostalgia and the City in Paris and Algiers, 1840-1860.” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, Athens, GA, October 1997.
- “Topographies de la nostalgie dans la littérature algérienne: vers une histoire culturelle de la ville coloniale en Afrique du Nord” [Topographies of Nostalgia in Algerian Literature: Toward a cultural history of the colonial city in North Africa]. *Le Maghreb à la croisée des cultures* [North Africa at Cultural Crossroads] conference, Hammamet, Tunisia, June 1997.

### Conference Organization, Responses, Sessions Chaired

Session Chair, "Passages, Seuils, Portes" Contemporary French and Francophone Studies Conference, Saint Louis, MO, March 2016.

Response and discussion. Beyond Orientalism: Abyssinia and/in the World. Volkswagen Fellows Symposium. Saint Louis, MO, May 2015.

Session Chair, "Exoticism." Consuming Passions: Economies of Desire in French Literature and Arts, 1100-1815. Saint Louis, MO, October 2013.

Organizer, with Elizabeth Childs, "Producing the Arab Other--Orientalism in French photography and text, 1850-1910." Society for French Historical Studies Annual Meeting, Saint Louis, MO, April 2009.

Respondent, "French America: Facts and Fictions." Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, KY, April 2006.

Organizer, "Teaching the Other: Muslims, Non-Muslims, and the Stories They Teach." International conference organized at Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., October 2002, on the portrayal of foreign religions in school textbooks in the US and the Islamic world.

Session Chair, "Beyond Tourism." Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, Champaign, IL, October 2000.

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

#### French and Francophone literature

French 461, "The French New World," Spring 2019.

French 321, "Introduction to Francophone Literatures," Fall 2010, 2016.

French 326, "Introduction to French Literature: The Prose Tradition," Fall semesters 2006-2008, 2011-12, 2014, Spring 2016, Fall 2018.

French 4192, "Tragedy and Farce in African Francophone Literature," Fall 2005, Spring 2010, Fall 2013, Spring 2017.

French 4191, "Les Îles françaises, Atlas d'une France tropicale," Spring 2005, 2009, 2012, Fall 2015.

French 459, "Writing North Africa," Fall 2003, Spring 2008, 2011, 2015.

French 443, "Contemporary Francophone Literature," Spring 2007 [Team-taught with Stamos Metzidakis].

French 3252, "French out of France: Introduction to Francophone Literatures," Spring 2003.

#### International and Area Studies

IAS 485, "Preparation for the Senior Honors Thesis," Fall 2018.

IAS 244, "Introduction to European Studies," Spring 2012, Fall 2013-17, Spring 2019, '20.

IAS 3602, "Borders, Checkpoints, and the Frontiers of Literature," Spring 2016, 2018.

IAS 425, "Senior Project Seminar," Spring 2008 [coordination of approximately 15 theses and research projects for senior IAS majors].

IAS 420, "Islam, Immigrants, and the Future of European Culture," Spring 2005 and 2007, Fall 2009-2012, spring 2014 [Writing-intensive].  
IAS 170, "Is There a Global Culture?" Fall 2004-2008, Spring 2010, 2011 [International Leadership Program freshman seminar].  
IAS 150, "Global Cities," Fall 2003 [ILP freshman seminar].  
IAS 203, "Crossing Borders II," Spring 2003, 2004, 2009 [Humanities course required for IAS majors].

### French Language

French 308, French Level 5: French Through Literary Texts, Fall 2004, 2009, 2017  
French 201, French Level 3: Intermediate French, Spring 2004.  
French 307, French Level 4: Advanced French, Fall 2002.

### Thesis Direction

Doctoral thesis direction: (French) Andia Augustin, Vincent Jouane; (Comparative Literature) Jessica Hutchins.

Doctoral thesis committees: (French) Hélène Martin, Cassidy Thompson, Robin Girard, Antoine Krieger, Christa Jones, Roswitha Zahlner-Casmier; (Comparative Literature) Maya Ganapathy, Richard Reitsma; (Music) Christina Linsenmeyer.

Senior honors thesis direction: (French) Felicia Baskin '09, Mimi Li '09, Adria Blount '08, Jonathon Repinecz '05, Louissa Oburra '04, Anna Swank '04, Valerie Rowles '03. (International and Area Studies) Abby Rochman '19, Lian States '12, Colleen Brady '11, Marty Nachman '11.

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

### Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

2019-	Chair's Advisory Committee
2018-	French representative to Chair's Evaluation Committee
2018-	Secretary to the Faculty
2018-	Olin Library representative for French
2013-15	Director of Graduate Studies in French
2010-12	Director of Graduate Studies in French
2010-11	Website redesign committee
Fall 2008	Director of Undergraduate Studies in French
2007-present	Summer Program in Dakar (Organized with Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo)
2007-2017	Production and national distribution of French graduate program brochure
2007-2016	Olin Library representative for French
Spring 2007	Director of Undergraduate Studies in French
Spring 2007	Study Abroad Adviser in French
2006-07	Website redesign committee



2006-present Undergraduate major advising  
2004-present Francophone Faculty Group (faculty study group, Coordinator since 2005)

### Program in International and Area Studies

2018- Honors Coordinator  
2015- Director of Undergraduate Studies  
2012 Designer of IAS assessment exercise, evaluation rubric, and reporting  
2011- Coordinator, Global Cultural Studies Track  
2010- Coordinator, European Studies Track  
Fall 2008 IAS Core Curriculum sub-committee  
2007-09 Capstone Coordinator  
2004-06 International Activities Fund selection committee  
Spring 2005 Undergraduate major evaluation activities  
2003-11 IAS Program Committee

### College and University

2017-18 Member, University Library Committee (ad-hoc replacement)  
Fall 2014- President, WU chapter of AAUP  
2014 Member, Provost's ad-hoc library committee  
2014 Faculty Adviser for Special Collections, Olin Library  
2013- Member, Executive Committee, WU chapter of AAUP  
2013-16 Secretary to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
2010-15 Member, Affirmative Action Monitoring Committee  
2010-12 Member, Faculty Fellowships Committee  
Spring 2011 Member, GSAS Ad-hoc committee on fieldwork  
2010-11 Graduate Council Representative  
Spring 2007 Member, Curriculum Committee  
Spring 2004 Member, Mellon-Mays Fellowship selection committee

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Manuscript review for: *PMLA*; *Studies in 20th- and 21st-Century Literature*; *Callaloo*; *History and Memory*; Penn State University Press, Lexington Press (Rowman and Littlefield).

Tenure dossier reviews for four state institutions and two Ivy League universities.

## **LANGUAGES**

French (near-native fluency)

Modern Standard Arabic (advanced reading, speaking, and writing)

Moroccan Arabic (conversational fluency)

Spanish (reading competence)

## **SOFTWARE**

Geographic Information Systems: ArcGIS, QIP

Three-dimensional modeling: Blender