Nathaniel Shils

Wellesley College Political Science Department Pendleton Hall East, 231 Wellesley, MA 02481

Education

University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D., Political Science, 2022 M.A., Political Science, 2016

Dissertation Committee: Ian Lustick (supervisor), Robert Vitalis (chair), Brendan O'Leary

Hobart College B.A. Political Science & Critical Social Studies, *magna cum laude*, 2013

Academic Appointments

Wellesley College Visiting Lecturer (Visiting Assistant Professor) of Political Science, 2023-2024

University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Postdoctoral Fellow in Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for Israel Studies, 2022-2023

Bryn Mawr College Visiting Instructor of Political Science, 2020-2022

Hebrew University of Jerusalem Visiting Research Fellow at Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, 2019

Research and Teaching Interests

Self-determination, nationalism and ethnic politics, peace and conflict processes, power-sharing institutions, settler colonialism and indigenous politics, decolonization, Middle East politics, democratic theory, philosophy and methodology of the social sciences

Writing and Publications

Book Project: Uncertain Horizons of Self-Determination: The Politics of Strategy Formation Among Israelis and Palestinians After the Oslo Accords

Peer Reviewed Articles

"The Palestinians, Israel, and BDS: Strategies and Struggles in Wars of Position," with Ian Lustick. *Israel Studies Review* Vol. 37 No. 3 (2022) 28-57. https://doi.org/10.3167/isr.2022.370303

Under Review

"Disciplinary Memory and the Organization of Progressive Research Programs: Myopia or Neglect in the Annual Review of Political Science?" *Under Review at PS: Political Science and Politics*.

In Progress

"How Do States Annex Territory? Explaining Israel's Mechanisms of 'Annexation' and Processes of Territorial Incorporation." *Working Paper. Presented at Association for Israel Studies, Middle East Studies Association, 2023.*

"Agency and Conflict in the Boundary Problem of Democratic Theory" with Troels Skadhauge. Working paper. Presented at Midwest Political Science Association, 2021.

"Processes of Strategy Formation in National Self-Determination Movements: Palestinian Predicaments in Comparative Perspective." *Working paper. Presented at American Political Science Association & Middle East Studies Association*, 2022.

The Successes and Failures of BDS: Assessing the Impact of Social Movements." with Dov Waxman

"The Politics of Building Confederations: A Comparative, Process-Oriented Analysis of Proposals for an Israeli-Palestinian Confederation."

"What Do We Want from Political Theories of Territory? Normativity, Critique, and Real Politics."

"Settler Colonialism and Political Science: The Uses and Politics of a Category."

Reviews

"To Settle or Not to Settle? State Expansion and Civilian Settlement Projects After 1960." Review of *Post-Colonial Settlement Strategy* by Ehud Eiran. *International Studies Review* 22:4, 1004-1005 (2020).

Featured Review in Journal of Palestine Studies Vol. 49 No. 3, 84-89 (2020). Books Reviewed: Dana El Kurd, Polarized and Demobilized: Legacies of Authoritarianism in Palestine Yael Zeira, The Revolution Within: State Institutions and Unarmed Resistance in Palestine Menachem Klein, Arafat and Abbas: Portraits of Leadership in a State Postponed

Review of *Disciples of the State? Religion and State-Building in the Former Ottoman World* by Kristin Fabbe. *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* Vol. 25 No. 4, 461-463 (2019).

Public Writing & Reports

"The One-State Reality: A Genealogy of a Contested Idea." Forthcoming in *Currents: Briefs on Contemporary Israel, Fall 2023.*

"Visions and Realities of Israel-Palestine Beyond Partition." Review essay featuring Barnett et al. (Eds.) The One State Reality: What Is Israel/Palestine and Farsakh (Ed.) Rethinking Statehood in Palestine: Self-Determination and Decolonization Beyond Partition. Forthcoming in the Tel Aviv Review of Books, 2023.

Grants, Fellowships, Awards

Grants and Fellowships

- 2023 UCLA Conference Travel Grant, \$1500
- 2022 UCLA Conference Travel Grant, *\$1,400* Penn Political Science Conference Travel Grant, *\$1,000*
- 2021 Academic Year Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship for Arabic, Penn Middle East Center, \$18,000 language study tuition & \$15,000 stipend
 Summer Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship for Arabic, Penn Middle East Center, \$5,000 language study tuition & \$2,500 stipend
 Browne Center for International Politics at Penn, Summer Research Award, \$2,000
- John Anson Kitredge Fund Grant (private foundation), \$12,000
 Turner-Schulman Fellowship, Ctr. for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, & Immigration at Penn, \$1,000
 Penfield Dissertation Research Fellowship, Penn School of Arts and Sciences, \$2,000
 Schwartz Research Award, Penn Jewish Studies Program, \$1,000
 Browne Center for International Politics at Penn, Summer Research Award, \$1,000
- 2019 Teece Dissertation Research Fellowship, Penn School of Arts and Sciences, \$5,700 Browne Center for International Politics Summer Research Award, Penn, \$1,600 President Gutmann Leadership Award, Penn, \$1,150 Brenner Research Award, Penn Jewish Studies Program, \$1,500 Goldfein Research Award, Penn Jewish Studies Program, \$1,500 Summer Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship for Hebrew, Penn Middle East Center, \$5,000 language study tuition & \$2,500 stipend
- 2017 Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship for Hebrew, Penn Middle East Center, \$5,000 language study tuition & \$2,500 stipend
- 2015 Benjamin Franklin Fellowship (standard Penn funding package) 2015-19
- 2014 Geo L. Harrison Fellow (distinctive endowed funding package from Penn)
- 2012 U.S. State Department Critical Language Fellowship for Russian (Ufa, Bashkortostan)

Awards and Distinctions

- 2017 Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching, Penn School of Arts and Sciences
- 2015 Dean's Scholar Award, Penn School of Arts and Sciences
- 2013 Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate National Political Science Honor Society, HWS
- 2013 Maynard Smith Prize in Political Science (outstanding senior major), HWS
- 2012 James M. Williams Prize in Social Science (highest GPA in social sciences), HWS

Teaching

Wellesley College

Introduction to Comparative Politics	F 2023, S 2024
Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	F 2023
Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Politics	S 2024
Decolonization	S 2024

University of California, Los Angeles

Conflict and Power Sharing in Deeply Divided Places	WNTR 2023
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Bryn Mawr College

US and the Middle East	S 2022
Islam and Politics	S 2021
Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Politics	S 2021
Middle East Politics	F 20, F 2021
Politics of Nationalism	F 2020
Anti-Political Theory and Radical Study (co-taught with Joel Schlosser)	F 2020
Politics of International Law and Institutions	S 2020

Instructor at University of Pennsylvania

Oil and Politics in the Middle East (developed online course, not taught)	WNTR 2020
Freedom and Domination in American Political Thought, (co-taught with Loren Goldman)	SMR 2018

Teaching Assistant at University of Pennsylvania

International Politics of the Middle East, Prof. Robert Vitalis	F 2019
American Political Thought, Prof. Anne Norton	S 2017
Modern Political Thought, Prof. Loren Goldman	F 2016
Arab-Israeli Relations, Prof. Ian Lustick	S 2016
Political Change in the "Third World," Prof. Rudra Sil	F 2015

Hobart & William Smith Colleges

Teaching Assistant for Problems & Methods in the Study of Politics, Prof. Stacey Philbrick Yadav	F 2012
Peer Tutor for Introduction to Comparative Politics, Prof. Stacey Philbrick Yadav	S 2010

Other Training

Pedagogy Development at Bryn Mawr College

Pedagogical Partnership Program	2020-2021
Creating and Rethinking Syllabi Workshops	SMR 2020
Online Teaching Institute	SMR 2020

Summer Programs

Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies & The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Summer School on "Shaking Foundations," 2016

Jack Miller Center Summer Institute on "Property, Power, and the Rise of Atlantic Constitutionalism," 2015

Language Training

Arabic: Sijal Institute, 2021-2022 (summer intensive and academic year private tutoring, MSA & Levantine) Hebrew: Hebrew University, 2019; Tel Aviv University, 2017; University of Haifa, 2017 (intensives), coursework at University of Pennsylvania Russian: Bashkir State Pedagogical University, 2012; Bryn Mawr College Russian Language Institute, 2011 French: acquired basic reading and speaking competence prior to college.

Conferences and Presentations

202	3 Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal Association for Israel Studies Annual Conference, New York Y&S Nazarian Center Research Seminar, Los Angeles
202	2 American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Montreal Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, Denver
202	 Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, Virtual American Political Science Association, Virtual Association for Israel Studies Annual Conference, Virtual Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Virtual
202	American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Virtual University of Pennsylvania Comparative Politics Workshop, Philadelphia
201	9 Yitzhak Rabin Conference in Political Science at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC University of Pennsylvania Middle East Center, Philadelphia
201	7 University of Pennsylvania Political Theory Workshop, Philadelphia University of Pennsylvania Comparative Politics Workshop, Philadelphia
201	6 Western Political Science Association Annual Conference, San Diego University of Pennsylvania Political Theory Workshop, Philadelphia

Invited Talks & Speaking Engagements

External reviewer and workshop discussant for Palestine Strategy Group, *Identifying Areas of Palestinian Strategic Thinking: Engagements in the US*, 2023.

Guest lecture on research design and process in International Relations capstone senior seminar at Hobart & William Smith Colleges (taught by Stacey Philbrick Yadav), 2023.

Speaker at Annual Student Professor Dinner, UCLA Hillel, 2023. Guest lecture in Introduction to Middle East Studies at Bryn Mawr College (taught by Rubina Salikuddin), 2021 & 2022.

UPenn Middle East Center Speaker's Bureau Program (outreach at Philadelphia-area schools & community organizations): Camden Community College, Spring 2022; Central High School, 2017.

Moderator for discussion with Hiba Bou Akar at the Middle East Center, 2020.

Speaker on panel "Israel, Palestine, and the Occupation: A Conversation About the Viability of a Two-State Solution." Launch event for student group Penn Students Against the Occupation, 2020.

Discussant for International Relations Subfield Panel of Pi Sigma Alpha Regional Conference (undergraduate political science honors society), 2019.

Discussant at UPenn Political Science talks by Charles Freilich 2020, Julie Cooper 2016, Clarissa Rile Hayward 2016, Massimiliano Tomba 2015. Internal graduate student workshops in 2020, 2017, 2015.

Service and Other Experience

Manuscript Reviewer

International Studies Review, Israel Studies Review

Bryn Mawr College

Facilitator for two college-supported equity, inclusion, and anti-racism teach-ins: "The Palestinian Struggle for Justice Contextualized," 2022 "Thinking with Fred Moten and Stefano Harney: Reimagining Political Science," Spring 2021.

Advisor (x2), and second reader (x8) for Political Science Senior Capstones, 2020-2022.

University of Pennsylvania

Organizing committee for University of Pennsylvania Political Science Graduate student conference "State, Economy, and Inequality," 2016.

Research Assistant

Ian S. Lustick, research for preparation of an undergraduate seminar on the politics of transnational boycotts. Spring and Summer 2020.

Jeffrey E. Green, manuscript preparation for *The Shadow of Unfairness: A Plebian Theory of Liberal Democracy* (Oxford: 2016). Spring and Summer 2015.

Professional Affiliations

American Political Science Association International Studies Association Middle East Studies Association Association for Israel Studies

References

Ian Lustick Professor of Political Science University of Pennsylvania (215) 898-5719 ilustick@sas.upenn.edu Robert Vitalis Professor of Political Science University of Pennsylvania (215) 898-6497 rvitalis@sas.upenn.edu

Dov Waxman (Postdoc Supervisor) Professor of Political Science and Chair of Israel Studies University of California Los Angeles (310) 206-3555 dovwaxman@ucla.edu

Joel Schlosser (Teaching Reference) Department Chair Associate Professor of Political Science Bryn Mawr College (610) 526-5291 jschlosser@brynmawr.edu

Brendan O'Leary

Professor of Political Science University of Pennsylvania (215) 573-0645 boleary@sas.upenn.edu