

Mohsen Jalali

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Cell: (+1) 413-695-0984

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

PhD in Political Science, 2013-2023

(Dissertation: *Politics is Conspiracy: Everyday Political Conversations in Afghanistan*)

Smith College, Northampton, MA

Diploma in American Studies, 2009-2010

(Thesis: *American Interests in the 1953 Coup in Iran*)

Tehran University, Iran

MA in Philosophy, June 2006

(Thesis: *Active Intellect: Avicenna in Comparison with Thomas Aquinas*)

Tehran University, Iran

BA in Philosophy, May 2003

WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Midwestern State University, Dept. of Political Science
(2023 – present)

Instructor, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Dept. of Political Science (Spring, 2023)

Instructor, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Dept. of Political Science (Summer, 2019)

Teaching Assistant, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Dept. of Political Science, (2014-2022)

Persian Instructor, Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, *Amherst, MA*
(August 2008 – 2022)

PUBLICATIONS

Mohsen Jalali, "Narratives of Pride: Afghan Migrant Laborers in Iran," *Comparative Migration Studies* 12, no. 1 (September 18, 2024): 39, <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40878-024-00399-8>.

TALKS

"American War in Afghanistan," Lifelong Learning Center, Wichita Falls Museum of Arts, November 4th, 2024

“Politics as Conspiracy,” Lifelong Learning Center, Wichita Falls Museum of Arts, September 30th, 2024

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 “National Iranian American Council: The Rise and Decline of a Foreign Policy NGO.” MESA, November, Washington D.C..

2025 “Supporting Conspiracy Theories: Does It Imply Belief?” NEPSA (New England Political Science Association), April, Bretton Woods, NH

2025 “I am not a conspiracy theorist but ...: healthy doubts or an anti-truth shrug.” SPSA (Southern Political Science Association), January, San Juan Puerto Rico

2024 “Ethnic Group as Conspiracy Theory.” APSA (American Political Science Association), September, Philadelphia

2024 “Ethnicity is Conspiracy Theory.” NEPSA (New England Political Science Association), April, Newport RI

2024 “Power of Naming: Democratization and Foreign Powers.” SPSA (Southern Political Science Association), January, New Orleans

2023 “Ambivalences: Frontstage Unity and Backstage Divides.” Midwest Political Science Association, April, Chicago (Online)

2023 “Ambivalences: Frontstage Unity and Backstage Divides.” New England Political Science Association, April, Mystic CT

2021 “Narratives of Pride: Afghan Migrant Laborers in Iran.” Politics of Race, Immigration and Ethnicity (PRIEC), November, at University of Northern Texas

2021 “Stories of Success: Afghan Migrant Laborers in Iran.” New England Political Science Association, April (online)

2021 “Foreign Founders: Afghanistan’s Lost Hope for the New Beginning.” Midwest Political Science Association, March (online)

2019 “Identity Formation and Potential for Populism in Afghanistan.” Midwest Political Science Association” Northeast Political Science Association, Philadelphia

2019 “*Gharib* as the New Identity in Afghanistan.” Central Eurasian Studies Society, October, Washington D.C.

AWARDS

- Awarded Intramural Grant for Spring and Summer of 2025 by MSU Texas Office of Sponsored Programs and Research
- Awarded the Summer Research and Writing Grant for Summer 2023 by Department of Political Science
- Awarded the Summer Research and Writing Grant for Summer 2022 by Department of Political Science

- Awarded the Summer Research and Writing Grant for Summer 2021 by Department of Political Science
- Awarded the Summer Research and Writing Grant for Summer 2020 by Department of Political Science
- Awarded the Summer Research and Writing Grant for Summer 2019 by Department of Political Science
- Awarded Dissertation Fieldwork Grants by University of Massachusetts, Fall 2018
- Awarded the Summer Research and Writing Grant for Summer 2017 by Department of Political Science
- Awarded full scholarship for attending two-week long workshop at the Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR) at Syracuse University, Summer 2015
- Awarded full scholarship for the one-week-long workshop at the ICNC Summer Institute at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. This is a training workshop for the leading professional education program in the world focusing on the advanced, interdisciplinary study of civil resistance, 2013
- Fulbright Scholarship, Institute of International Education (IIE), August 2008 – June 2009

Teachings

- **American Government** (POLS 1333)
- **American Government** (POLS 1433)
- **Intro to Global Studies** (POLS 3213)
- **Middle Eastern Politics** (POLS 3213)
- **Political Conspiracies** (POLS 4933)

OTHER WORK Experience

Research Fellow

Nonviolent Initiative for Democracy, July 2012 – 2014

Research Scholar

Smith College, Department of American Studies, September 2011- December 2012

- Advising students in the Diploma in American Studies Program to navigate them throughout the one-year study and experience at Smith College and Five College area

Blogger, October 2010 – 2013

www.padsokhan.com

Freelance Writer

- BBC Persian
- Radio Zamaneh (Persian)
- Rooz Online (Persian)
- JARAS (*Jonbesh-e Rah-e Sabz*)

LANGUAGES

- Persian (Native Speaker)
- English (Fluent)

- Arabic (Advanced)

REFERENCES

Prof. Regine Spector

Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Email: rspector@polsci.umass.edu

Prof. Amel Ahmed

Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Email: aahmed@umass.edu

Prof. Noah Coburn

Department of Anthropology, Bennington College

Email: ncoburn@bennington.edu