

Zaynab Quadri

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., American Studies, The George Washington University	May 2022 (projected)
B.A., History and Anthropology, Northwestern University, <i>cum laude</i>	June 2015

DISSERTATION

“Security Environments: Private Military Contracting and U.S. Empire in the Twenty-First Century.”
Committee: Melani McAlister (Chair); Dara Orenstein; Elisabeth Anker.

This interdisciplinary project analyzes the politics of defense contracting in the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars as a function of empire, arguing that corporate power in the form of private military contractors (PMCs) is critical to the global projection of U.S. military power.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Article. “War is Still a Racket: Private Military Contracting, U.S. Imperialism, and the Iraq War.” *American Quarterly*. Under Revision, Special Issue, Summer 2022.

Journal Article. “TGI Friday’s in Kandahar: Military Contracting, Taste Recognition, and Intimacies of Force in the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.” *Journal of Transnational American Studies*. Under Revision, Special Forum, Spring 2022.

Book Review. “Israel in the American Mind: The Cultural Politics of US-Israeli Relations, 1958-1988, by Shaul Mitelpunkt.” *The English Historical Review*. Oxford University Press. December 13, 2019.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2021. “Waste, Fraud, and Abuse: Private Military Contractors, The Security State, and The Politics of Accountability.” American Studies Association. Virtual Conference. October 9-13.

2021. “Beyond Nisour Square: Private Military Contractors and the U.S. Security State.” Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. Virtual Conference. June 17-20.

2020. “Climates of Fear: Privatized War and the Anthropocene.” Inhuman Memory: Race and Ecology Across Time Scales. King’s College London. London, England. May 14.

2019. “‘Genius, Billionaire, Playboy, Philanthropist’: Tony Stark, Iron Man, and Post-9/11 Imperial Fantasy-Making.” *Striking Back?: On Imperial Fantasies and Fantasies of Empire*. Max Planck Research Group, “Empires of Memory.” Göttingen, Germany. September 12-13.

2019. “‘Nowhere Special’: Marvel’s Sokovia as (Neo)Liberal Empire’s Deafening Structural Silence.” Pop Culture Association National Convention. Washington D.C. April 17-20.

2019. “‘Nowhere Special’: Marvel’s Sokovia as (Neo)Liberal Empire’s Deafening Structural Silence.” NeMLA Regional Convention. Washington D.C. March 21-24.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & HONORS

2021	Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Institute for Citizens & Scholars
2021	Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship, GWU Institute for Middle East Studies
2020	Essay Contest Winner, Waging Peace in Vietnam, from Veterans for Peace
2016-2020	Presidential Merit Graduate Assistantship, GWU Dept. of American Studies
2017-2020	Summer Research Stipend, GWU Dept. of American Studies
2018	Jeffrey C. Kasch Foundation Summer Funding, GWU Dept. of American Studies
2017	Oxford University History, Politics & Society Summer Program
2013-2015	Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Northwestern University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2021	The Iraq Wars, Instructor
Fall 2020	U.S. Media and Cultural History (Professor Melani McAlister), Graduate Teaching Assistant
Spring 2020	Gender & Sexuality in U.S. History (Professor Sylvea Hollis), Graduate Teaching Assistant
Fall 2019 and Fall 2018	Film & Politics (Professor Elisabeth Anker), Graduate Teaching Assistant
Spring 2019	The U.S. in a Global Context (Professor Melani McAlister), Graduate Teaching Assistant

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Arabic: Intermediate Level
Spanish: Intermediate Level
Urdu: Conversational