

Elena Dodge Corbett

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Curriculum Vitae

Education:

Ph.D. Candidate, History of the Modern Middle East, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC), The University of Chicago. Admitted to candidacy January, 2004. Dissertation: *Jordan First: Archaeology and Perceptions of National Identity in Jordan*. Dissertation committee: Dr. Ada Holly Shissler (chair), Dr. Salim Yaqub, Dr. Mary C. Wilson. Anticipated graduation date: Autumn 2008.

M.A., Islamic Archaeology, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, The University of Chicago, June 2000. M.A. thesis: *Blind Date: a Century at Qasr al-Hayr Al-Sharqi*. Based on archaeological and historical evidence, an Abbasid-era foundation was proposed, challenging the traditional Umayyad dating of this eastern Syrian site. M.A. readers: Dr. Donald Whitcomb (advisor), Dr. Walter E. Kaegi.

B.A., Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, May 1998. *Magna cum laude*. Major: Anthropology. Minor: Biology. GPA: 3.75. Honors Thesis: *Islamic Glass from Aila: Implications for the City's Role in Trade During the Umayyad and Abbasid Periods*. Established a typology of glass vessels found in Islamic levels of the Roman Aqaba Project's excavation and proposed sources of their manufacture. Thesis supervisor: Dr. Janet D. Jones.

Relevant Teaching/Research Experience:

August 2007-present Academic Programs Coordinator, Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies, and Instructor of Arabic, Language Studies Department, the United States Naval Academy

May-July 2007 Instructor, Beginning Arabic, St. Mary's College of Maryland

Summer 2006

Program Coordinator, Critical Language Initiative Summer Intensive Beginning Arabic Course, Amman, Jordan; officially a live-in administrative employee of the American Center for Oriental Research (ACOR), host of the program, for its inaugural 8-week season; duties included: consultation on program design, pedagogical issues and methods of evaluation of students and the program in general; serving as liaison between ACOR and the Language Center of the University of Jordan; helping to organize and accompany the students on trips and lectures; serving as *liason* between the ACOR staff and students; holding nightly office hours to assist students in language acquisition beyond their mandatory classroom and tutorial hours; facilitating students' familiarity with Amman and Jordan in general; handling any behavioral and disciplinary issues

Summer 2005

Residential Program Coordinator and Instructor; Program Coordinator for the University of Chicago's Summer Immersion Arabic Program and Instructor for Second-Year Immersion Arabic component; designed a curriculum for nine-week residential immersion Arabic program for beginning through high intermediate levels; taught a course in the second level of the program; lived with the students and scheduled on- and off-campus activities

Summer 2004

Teaching Assistant; TA for High Intermediate Arabic in the University of Chicago's Summer Intensive Arabic Program

Immersion Teaching Assistant; acted as TA for Elementary Modern Standard Arabic students in the University of Chicago's first Summer Intensive Arabic Immersion Program

Instructor for the Graham School at the University of Chicago; designed and taught an 8-week course for non-credit continuing education program for adults entitled, "Introduction to Arabic Language"

Fall 1995-Spring
1998

Lab Assistant to Dr. Janet Jones (archaeological glass artifacts specialist), Bucknell University

Spring 1997,
1998

Teaching Assistant, Sophomore Core Biology Course, Bucknell University

Fellowships and Honors:

Autumn 2006	University of Chicago Humanities Division Dissertation Travel Grant (for archival research at various locations in Oxford and London)
Sept. '05-Sept. '06 Fall 2004	Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellowship, Jordan American Center for Oriental Research (ACOR)/Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Fellowship (dissertation research in Amman, Jordan)
June '03-June '04	Center for Arabic Study Abroad Fellowship (CASA)
Sept. '02-June '03	FLAS/Title VI Fellowship (Arabic)
Sept. '01-June '02	FLAS/Title VI Fellowship (Arabic)
Summer 2001	FLAS/Title VI Fellowship (Arabic)
Summer/Fall 2000	Ryerson Fellowship (Humanities Division award for archaeological travel and research)
Summer 2000	Helen Rich Grant (NELC award for travel related to archaeological excavations)
May 1998	Election to Phi Beta Kappa, Bucknell University
1994-1998	Tuition Exchange Scholarship, Bucknell University

Arabic Language Training:

Instructor	Institution	Duration
Noha Khdaïr	private tutor, Amman, Jordan	Sept. 2005-November 2006
Khalil Yousef	private tutor, Amman, Jordan	Sept. 2005-August 2006
Nihad Khdaïr	private tutor, Amman, Jordan	Oct. 2004-Feb. 2005
Various	American University in Cairo, Center for Arabic Study Abroad (CASA)	June 2003-June 2004
Dr. Farouk Mustafa	University of Chicago	Sept. 2002-May 2003
Dr. Mustafa Kamal	University of Chicago	March-June 2002
Dr. Farouk Mustafa	University of Chicago	Sept. 2001-March 2002
Azza Hassanein	Middlebury College	Summer 2001
Allal al-Hajjam		
Various	University of Jordan, Amman	Autumn 2000 (audit)
Dr. Farouk Mustafa	University of Chicago	Sept. 1999-March 2000
Dr. John Eiseley	University of Chicago	Summer 1999
Dr. Li Guo	University of Chicago	Oct. 1998-June 1999

Modern Turkish Language Training:

Instructor	Institution	Duration
Dr. Hakan Ozođlu	University of Chicago	Sept. 2002-June 2003
Dr. Hakan Ozođlu	University of Chicago	Sept. 2001-June 2002

Languages (outside region of focus):

French: High level of reading ability, no speaking ability
 German: Moderate reading ability, elementary speaking ability
 Russian: Very elementary reading and speaking ability (refresher course required)

Archaeological Field Experience:

January 2006 **Wadi Hafir Petroglyph Survey**. Assisted my husband, Glenn J. Corbett, in an archaeological survey component of his dissertation research.
 Aug.-Sept. 2000 **Qinnisrin, Syria (near Aleppo)**. University of Chicago excavation of the Early and Medieval Islamic Hadr. Director: Dr. Donald Whitcomb.
 May-July 2000 **Aqaba, Jordan**. North Carolina State University excavation of Roman, Byzantine, and Early Islamic Aila/Ayla (Roman Aqaba Project/RAP). Was also in-field glass artifacts specialist. Director: Dr. S. Thomas Parker.
 May-July 1996 **Aqaba, Jordan**. Duties same as above.

Other regional travel /study abroad experience:

Dec. 2007 **Jordan**. Led group of USNA midshipmen on trip hosted by HRH Prince Hassan of Jordan.
 Oct.-Dec. 2006 **England**. Archival research.
 Oct. 2006 **Syria**. Personal travel.
 May 2006 **Yemen**. Group travel with the Friends of Archaeology, Jordan.
 Nov. 2005 **Palestine and Israel**. Archival research, personal travel.
 Dec. 2004 **Lebanon**. Personal travel.
 Nov. 2004 **Egypt**. Personal travel.
 Sept. 2003 **Turkey**. Personal travel.
 Aug. 2003 **Jordan**. Pre-dissertation research on archaeology and identity in Jordan. Writing dissertation proposal and grant applications.
 Sept. 2002 **Jordan**. Pre-dissertation research.
 July-Aug. 2000 **Egypt**. Personal travel.
 Sept.-Dec. 1997 **Semester at Sea (University of Pittsburgh)**. Ports included: Kobe, Japan; Shanghai, China; Hong Kong, P.R.C.; Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Chennai, India; Port Said, Egypt; Limassol, Cyprus (included trip to the Green Zone and the T.R.N.C.); Piraeus, Greece; Cadiz, Spain; and Casablanca, Morocco.

Relevant work /volunteer / other experience:

Sept. 2001-May 2003 Volunteer for outreach programs sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) at the University of Chicago. Spoke to school, university, and community groups about various topics related to the Middle East. Helped the same groups with their own projects related to the Middle East.

- Sept. 2002-May 2003 Member of Students for Peaceful Coexistence, a
Recognized Student Organization (RSO) at the University of
Chicago, a dialogue group about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.
- July-Dec. 2002 Worked at the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) in
Chicago, helping to catalog and organize their Turkish and
Arabic- language collections.

Public Presentations:

- May 2007 “Great Britain, the U.S. and Paradigms of Modern Jordan’s Ancient
Identity;” presented at the 10th Annual International Conference in the
History and Archaeology of Jordan, Washington, DC and at the Middle
East History and Theory Conference at the University of Chicago
- April 2007 “East of Jordan: an Historical and Geographical Perspective,” delivered
to the Rotary Club of Washington, PA
- September 2006 “Questioning the Stability of ‘Moderate Arab Regimes’: the Case of
Jordan,” lecture given at Washington and Jefferson College, Washington,
PA
- June 2006 “Jordanian Currency and the Cultural Heritage Landscape,” delivered at
the Second World Congress of Middle Eastern Studies, Amman, Jordan
- February 2006 “What do Historians of the Modern Middle East Do?,” presentation to
CIEE program undergraduates at AMIDEAST, Amman, Jordan
- January 2004 “Jordan First: Archaeology and Perceptions of National Identity in
Jordan,” presentation for the Middle East History and Theory
Workshop at the University of Chicago.
- April 2000 “Conversion by the Trowel? The Quest for an Islamic
Archaeology,” paper delivered at the Middle East History
and Theory Conference at the University of Chicago.

Publications:

“Jordan’s History in Stamps.” *Emerging Jordan*, 2006.

Review of Kimberly Katz, Jordanian Jerusalem: Holy Places and National Spaces. Gainesville: The University of Florida Press. 2005. *Arab Studies Journal*, Vol. XIV, No. 2, Fall 2006, pp. 129-132.

Review of Betty S. Anderson, Nationalist Voices in Jordan: the Street and the State. Austin: University of Texas Press. 2005. *Arab Studies Journal*, Vol. XIII No. 2/Vol. XIV No. 1, Fall 2005/Spring 2006, pp. 125-128.

Affiliations:

The Palestine Exploration Fund. Member since November 2006.

The Middle East Studies Association (MESA). Member since February 2006.

Friends of Archaeology, Amman Jordan. Member since October 2004.

References:

Academic: Dr. Ada Holly Shissler, academic adviser and dissertation committee chair, The University of Chicago
 Dr. Farouk Abd al-Wahab Mustafa, Arabic professor, The University of Chicago
 Dr. Salim Yaqub, member of dissertation committee, The University of California at Santa Barbara

Professional: Dr. Barbara A. Porter, Director, The American Center of Oriental Research, Amman, Jordan
 Mr. Christopher Tuttle, Assistant Director, The American Center of Oriental Research
 Mr. Rusty Rook, Associate Director, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, The University of Chicago

Additional: Mr. Alain McNamara, Director, The Jordanian-American Bi-National Commission for Educational Exchange (Fulbright Commission, Amman, Jordan)
 Dr. Mary Ellen Lane, Director, The Council for American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC)

