

## **ROHAN ADVANI**

[rohadvani@g.ucla.edu](mailto:rohadvani@g.ucla.edu)

### **EDUCATION**

**Ph.D. Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles, June 2026 (expected).**

Advisors: Kevan Harris, Ching Kwan Lee.

MA Thesis: “Banking in Freedom or Freedom in Banking? Financial Development in Singapore and Kuwait in the Era of Decolonization.”

**M.A. Near Eastern Studies, New York University, May 2018.**

Advisors: Arang Keshavarzian, Zachary Lockman, Helga Tawil-Souri.

Thesis: “Port Politics: A Political Economy Analysis of the Beirut Port in the Post-Civil War Period.”

**B.S.F.S., Regional and Comparative Studies, Georgetown University, May 2016.**

Advisors: Daniel Neep.

Thesis: “Pockets of Privilege: A Historical, Spatial, and Political Economy Analysis of Industrial Zones in Palestine.”

### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA, June – September 2022.

Center for Near Eastern Studies Support, UCLA, September 2020 – September 2022.

Graduate Dean’s Scholar Award, Graduate Division, UCLA, September 2020 – September 2022.

Graduate Fellowship, Graduate Division, UCLA, September 2020 – June 2021.

Falak Sufi Memorial Essay Prize, New York University, April 2018.

Henry McCracken M. MacCracken Fellowship, New York University, September 2016 – May 2018.

The Regional and Comparative Studies Medal, Georgetown University, May 2016.

Magna Cum Laude Honors, Georgetown University, May 2016.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

***Journal Articles (peer reviewed)***

“Pockets of Privilege: A Historical, Spatial, and Political Economy Analysis of Industrial Zones in Palestine,” *New Middle Eastern Studies* 7 (2017).

### ***Book Chapters***

“A Realm Without Rights: Noncitizen Workers and Exclusive Citizenship in the Gulf,” in Thanassis Cambanis and Michael Wahid Hanna (eds.) *Citizenship and its Discontents: The Struggle for Rights, Pluralism, and Inclusion in the Middle East*. (New York: TCF Press, 2019), 134-159.

### ***Book Reviews***

“The Imperious Interventions of Gulf Capital,” *Middle East Research and Information Project*, August 28, 2019.

### ***Online Publications (selected)***

“A World Still Disfigured by 9/11,” with Peter Schwartzstein, et al., *The Century Foundation*, September 1, 2021.

“Sowing Scarcity: Syria’s Wheat Regime from Self-Sufficiency to Import Dependency,” *Jadaliyya*, February 16, 2021.

“A Dangerous Transition for America and the Middle East,” with Thanassis Cambanis, et al., *The Century Foundation*, November 25, 2020.

“A Pit(i)less Blame Game at the Beirut Port of Institutional Corruption,” *The Public Source*, September 22, 2020 (republished by *Jadaliyya* on September 30, 2020).

“Revealed: The UK media company silencing Syrian activists on Facebook,” with Kareem Chehayeb, *Middle East Eye*, July 21, 2020.

“Humanitarian responses to the coronavirus bring the UAE and Syria publicly closer,” *Syria Direct*, April 15, 2020.

“Constructing Commercial Empire: The United Arab Emirates in the Red Sea and the Horn,” *The Century Foundation*, December 9, 2019.

“Economic crisis looms as the Syrian pound plummets to an all-time low,” with Waleed al-Nofal, *Syria Direct*, November 26, 2019.

“A Realm Without Rights,” *The Century Foundation*, April 16, 2019.

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Forming Finance: The Establishment of a Domestic Financial Sector in the Persian Gulf, 1952-1973,” Presented at the Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference, November 29 – December 5, 2021.

“Banking as Freedom: Developing Finance and Financing Development in the Persian Gulf and Singapore (1952-1973),” Presented at Social Science Historical Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, November 11-14, 2021.

Discussant (with Dr. Mona Fawaz) on Panel “Citizenship as Political Action: Innovative Approaches,” Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship, The American University of Beirut, October 2, 2019.

“Pockets of Privilege: A Historical, Spatial, and Political Economy Analysis of Industrial Zones in Palestine,” Presented at MESAAS Graduate Conference, Columbia University, February 23, 2017.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Assistant, UCLA, 2021 – Present.

- Comparative and Historical Methods SOC110, Fall 2021 & Spring 2022.
- Culture, Power and Development IDS110, Winter 2022.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Syria Direct**, Amman, Jordan. October 2019 – June 2020.  
Reporter and Arabic-English Translator.

**The Century Foundation**, New York, NY. August 2018 – July 2019.  
Senior Foreign Policy Associate.

**Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies**, New York, NY. April 2018 – August 2018.  
Assistant.

**Center for Contemporary Arab Studies**, Washington, D.C. August 2014 – May 2016.  
Research Assistant.

### **SERVICE & OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Newsletter Co-Editor, *Global and Transnational Sociology Section, American Sociological Association*. Fall 2021 – Present.

Co-Coordinator, *Political Sociology and Global South Working Group, UCLA*. Fall 2021 – Present.

Administrator, *Center for Social Theory and Comparative History, UCLA*. Fall 2021 – Present.

Volunteer, *Herts for Refugees, Hertfordshire, UK*. 2021.

Podcast Producer, *Digging a Hole: The Legal Theory Podcast, Yale University*. Fall 2020 – Present.

Podcast Producer, *Order from Ashes, Century International*. Fall 2019 – Present.

Consultancy and Freelance Work: *Open Society Foundation, Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute, Institute for Palestine Studies, Alternative Policy Solutions (American University in Cairo), Arab Reform Initiative.*

Professional Memberships: *American Sociological Association, Social Science History Association, Middle East Studies Association.*

## **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

**English,** Native speaker (fluent).

**Arabic,** Professionally proficient in Modern Standard Arabic and Levantine dialect.