

JASMIN DARZNIK

Assistant Professor of English
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EDUCATION

PhD, MA, English Literature, Princeton University, 2008
Concentration: 20th/21st Century American Literature
MFA, Fiction, Bennington College Writing Seminars (expected 2014)
JD, University of California, Hastings College, 1997
BA, English and German, *magna cum laude*, University of California, Los Angeles, 1994

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Washington and Lee University,
Department of English, 2009-present (on leave 2013-2014)
Visiting Professor, California College of the Arts,
Writing and Literature Program, August 2013-present
Fellow, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, 2011-2012
Visiting Professor, University of Virginia,
Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, Fall 2009
Adjunct Professor, California College of the Arts, Writing & Literature Program, Spring 2008
Assistant Instructor, Princeton University, Department of English, 2003-2004

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, Outstanding “Rising Star” Faculty Award, 2013
Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Robert C. Vaughan Fellowship, 2011-2012
Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, Mednick Memorial Fellowship Grant, 2011
Washington and Lee University, Lenfest Grant, 2011
Washington and Lee University, Lenfest Grant, 2010
Middle Eastern Studies Association, Scholarly Travel Grant, 2007
Princeton University, Dean’s Fund for Scholarly Travel, 2007
Princeton University, Dean’s Fellowship for Summer Research, 2001
Princeton University, Presidential Fellowship, 1999-2005

WRITING HONORS AND AWARDS

Santa Fe Art Institute, Writer-in-Residence, 2013
William Saroyan International Prize for Writing, Shortlist Selection, 2012
Corporation of Yaddo Residency, 2012
Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Fellowship, 2012
Bennington Writing Seminars, Liam Rector Scholarship, 2012
Library of Virginia, People’s Choice Award in Nonfiction, Finalist, 2011
Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, William Sloan Fellowship in Nonfiction, 2011
Norman Mailer Colony, Scholarship, 2009
Steinbeck Fellows Program, Fellowship in Creative Writing, 2008-2009
Iowa Review Award in Non-Fiction, Finalist, 2007
Zoetrope: All-Story Short Fiction Competition Prize, 2006

(Writing Honors and Awards Continued)

The San Francisco Foundation, Tanenbaum Award for Non-Fiction, 2006
Marin Arts Council, New Work Fellowship in Creative Prose, 2005-2007

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Good Daughter (Grand Central Publishing, 2011). A *New York Times* bestseller, translated into eight languages and published in 13 countries.

Middle East/West: Writing by Middle Eastern Immigrants in Post-9/11 America (in progress). Excerpts published in *The Journal of Multi-Ethnic U.S. Literatures* and *Journal of Middle Eastern Women's Studies*.

Anthologized Works

"Transcontinental Candy," *Love and Pomegranates: New Stories from Iran*. Edited by Meghan Sayres. (Nortia Press, May 2013).

"California Dreams, Iranian Décor," *California Prose Directory: New Writing from the Golden State*. Edited by Charles McLeod (Outpost19 Press, May 2013).

"Unveiled," *Tremors: New Fiction by Iranian American Writers*, co-edited by Persis Karim and Anita Amirrezvani (University of Arkansas Press, March 2013).

"Persian, English," *The Blair Reader* (8th edition). Edited by Laurie Kirszner and Stephen Mandell (Longman Pearson, Jan. 2013).

Essays

"Burning and Accommodating," *B'taarof Magazine*, Fall 2012.

"California Dreams, Iranian Decor," *New York Times*, Aug. 2012.

"Home Is Where They Let You Live," *New York Times*, May 2012.

"My Mother, Her Secrets," *New York Times*, May 2010.

"Avenue Moniriyeh," *Cimarron Review*, Winter 2009.

"Driving American," *San Francisco Chronicle Magazine*, Dec. 2007.

"Masquerade," *Washington Post Magazine*, Oct. 2007.

"Safety Zone," *San Francisco Chronicle Magazine*, Nov. 2006.

"The Shah's New Clothes," *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, Sept. 2006.

“Transcontinental Candy,” *San Francisco Chronicle Magazine*, Oct. 2005.

Short Stories

“Unveiled,” *Tremors: New Fiction by Iranian American Writers*, March 2013.

“Ziba,” *Los Angeles Review*, Issue 4, Winter 2007.

“Ablutions,” *Alimentum*, Winter 2007/2008.

“Zari,” *Twelve Ways*, July 2006.

“Homecoming,” *ZZZZVA*, Fall 2006.

Peer-Reviewed Academic Articles

“Love and Other Poetic Inventions: Reimagining the Beloved in Shahriar Mandanipour’s *Censoring an Iranian Love Story*.” To be published in *Beloved: Love and Languishing in Middle Eastern Literatures*, I.B. Tauris, Spring 2014.

“Forugh Goes West: Resurrecting Forugh Farrokhzad in Iranian Diasporic Art and Literature,” *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies*, Winter 2010.

“The Perils and Seductions of Home: Iranian American Return Narratives,” *Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States (MELUS)*, special issue on Iranian American Literature, Summer 2008.

“Dreaming in Persian: An Interview with Gina Nahai,” *Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States*, Summer 2008.

Book Reviews

“The Erotics of Contemporary Iran,” review of Pardis Mahdavi’s *Passionate Uprisings*, *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies*, Fall 2011.

“Veiled Readings—Contemporary Autobiographies from the Middle East,” a review of *Soft Weapons* by Gillian Whitlock and *Let Me Tell You Where I Have Been* by Persis Karim, *Women’s Review of Books*, Nov./Dec. 2007.

“The Art, Life and Legacy of Forugh Farrokhzad, Iran’s Poet of Exile.” *Women’s Review of Books*, Nov./Dec. 2006.

“Leaving Home—and Finding It,” a review of Nelofer Pazira’s *A Bed of Red Flowers*, *Women’s Review of Books*, Jan./Feb. 2006.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Readings

Why There Are Words Literary Salon, Sausalito, CA, scheduled for Nov. 2013

Litquake, "Off the Richter Scale" San Francisco, CA, Oct. 2013

University of Colorado, Denver, Oct. 2013

O'Hanlon Center for the Arts, Mill Valley, CA, Aug. 2013

Rockridge Regional Library, Lexington, VA, April 2013

Virginia Festival of the Book, Charlottesville, VA, March 2012

Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, VA, March 2012

Commonwealth Club, Richmond, VA, Feb. 2012

Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Nov. 2011

Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA, Nov. 2011

Princeton Club, New York, NY, Nov. 2011

Mill Valley Public Library, Mill Valley, CA, Nov. 2011

Why There Are Words Literary Salon, Sausalito, CA, Nov. 2011

Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA, Oct. 2011

O'Hanlon Center for the Arts, Mill Valley, CA, Aug. 2011

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Middlebury, VT, Aug. 2011

Tiburon Public Library, Tiburon, CA, July 2011

The Branson School, Ross, CA, July 2011

Seattle Center, Seattle, WA, June 2011

Asian American Writers' Workshop, New York, NY, May 2011

Virginia Festival of the Book, Charlottesville, VA, March 2011

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, March 2011

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, March 2011

Labyrinth Books, Princeton, NJ, March 2011

Over the Moon Bookstore, Crozet, VA, March 2011

AWP Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., Feb. 2011
Politics and Prose, Washington, D.C., Feb. 2011
Long Island Public Library, Little Neck, NY, Feb. 2011
Book Soup, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 2011
University of California, Los Angeles, Feb. 2011
University of California, Irvine, Feb. 2011
Warwick's, La Jolla, CA, Feb. 2011
Center for Literary Arts, San Jose, CA, Feb. 2011
Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA, Feb. 2011
A Great Good Place for Books, Oakland, CA, Feb. 2011
Books Inc., San Francisco, CA, Feb. 2011
University of California, Berkeley, Feb. 2011
Pegasus Books, Berkeley, CA, Feb. 2011
The Branson School, Ross, CA, Feb. 2011
Capitola Book Cafe, Capitola, CA, Feb. 2011
Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, Jan. 2011
Barnes and Noble, Charlottesville, VA, Jan. 2011
Intersection for the Arts, San Francisco, CA, July 2009
Intersection for the Arts, Jackson-Phelan-Tanenbaum Readings, Oct. 2007
San Francisco Public Library, Sept. 2006
California College of the Arts, San Francisco, CA, July 2006

Selected Academic Presentations

Panelist and Reader, "Beyond the 'Axis of Evil'": Shattering the Stereotypes of Iran and Iranians," Association of Writing Programs Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, scheduled for March 2014.

Invited Speaker, "To Write a Country: Home, Family, and the Art of Remembrance in the Iranian Diaspora," Moghadam Program in Iranian Studies, Stanford University, April 2013.

Invited Speaker: "The Art of Discontinuity: Time and Memory in Jennifer Egan's *A Visit from the Goon Squad*," Washington and Lee University, Tom Wolfe Seminar, April 2013.

Invited Speaker, Writers in Print/In Person Series, American University, Nov. 2012.

Invited Speaker, International Education Week, University of West Georgia, Nov. 2012.

Presenter, "Of Iran, America, and the Writing In Between: Memoir and the Creation of Iranian Diasporic Identity," part of the conference "Women's Life Narratives from the Middle East and South Asia," University of Virginia, Oct. 29-30, 2012.

Featured Author, Fifth IAAB International Conference on the Iranian Diaspora, University of California, Los Angeles, October 13-14, 2012.

Discussant, "Alternative Biographies in the Middle East and South Asia: The Porous Boundaries of a Genre," University of Virginia, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures, April 2012.

Invited Speaker, "On Fact and Fiction in Middle Eastern Novels, Biographies, and Autobiographies," Middle Eastern Studies 2559, University of Virginia, April 2012.

Invited Speaker, Sweet Briar College, March 2012.

Panelist, "Whither the Iranian Diaspora? Questions for Scholars & Activists," Middle Eastern Studies Conference, Dec. 2011.

Invited Speaker, "Human Rights and the Arts in Iran Today," Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C., March 2011.

Invited Speaker, University of Virginia, Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures Speakers Series, March 2011.

Organizer and Reader, "Writing Human Rights: Voices from the Iranian Diaspora," AWP Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., Feb. 2011.

Moderator and Organizer, "Imagining Iranian Lives: New Approaches to Literature of the Iranian Diaspora," MLA Annual Convention, Los Angeles, CA, Jan. 2011.

Invited Speaker, University of Virginia, Studies in Women and Gender Speakers' Series, Nov. 2010.

Keynote Speaker, Knowledge Empowering Women Leaders (KEWL) Annual Dinner, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA, Nov. 2009.

Presenter, "A Crisis in Iranian American Letters," Fourth International Iranian Alliances Across Borders Conference on the Iranian Diaspora, University of California, Berkeley, April 2009.

Presenter, "The Contrapuntal Aesthetic of Marjane Satrapi," part of the panel "Between Host and Home: Iranian American Literature," MLA Annual Convention, Dec. 2008.

Featured Speaker, "Writing Ourselves into Literature: California Writers of the Iranian Diaspora." Program sponsored by the Dr. Samuel M. Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture at the University of California, Irvine, May 2008.

Presenter, "The Perils and Seductions of Home: Return Narratives of the Iranian Diaspora." American Comparative Literature Association Conference, April 2008.

Panelist, "In Times of Terror Do the Voices of Iranian American Women Writers Matter?" Association of Writing Programs (AWP) Conference, New York, Feb. 2008.

Presenter, "Forugh Farrokhzad in the Art and Literature of the Iranian Diaspora," part of the panel "Old Muses, New Voices: Remaking and Reclaiming Iran in the Emerging Literature of the North American Iranian Diaspora." Middle Eastern Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada, Nov. 2007.

Invited Speaker, "Truth, Lies, and Memoir," Princeton University Writing Program, Oct. 2007.

Conference Organizer, Presenter, and Moderator, "Forugh Goes West: The Art, Life, and Legacy of Iran's Rebel Poet." Conference jointly sponsored by the Departments of English and Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, Oct. 2007.

Selected Civic Presentations

Invited Speaker, "The Lie That Tells A Truth: Imagining the Life of Iranian Icon Forugh Farrokhzad," Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Oct. 2012.

Moderator, "Crossing Boundaries in Fiction," Virginia Festival of the Book, March 2012.

Featured Author, Virginia Festival of the Book, Charlottesville, VA, March 2012.

Keynote Speaker, Words Alive Annual Authors' Luncheon, San Diego, CA, Nov. 2011.

Invited Speaker, Left Coast Writers' Literary Salon, Nov. 2011.

Invited Speaker, Central Virginia Writing Project, University of Virginia, July 2011.

Featured Author, Fifth Annual Iranian Festival, Seattle, WA, June 2011.

Featured Author, Richmond Junior League 66th Annual Dinner, May 2011.

Featured Author, International Women's Literary Festival, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD, March 2011.

Featured Author, Virginia Festival of the Book, Charlottesville, VA, March 2011.

Broadcast Presentations and Interviews

Radio

The Writer's Voice, Virginia Voice, WCVE (NPR)

Perspectives, KQED (NPR)

Tell Me More (with guest host Jacki Lyden) (NPR)

Outlook, BBC (U.K.)

The Takeaway, WNYC (NPR)

The Diane Rehm Show, WAMU (NPR)

Late Mornings with Jeff Schechtman, KVON (NPR)

Writer's Block, KQED (NPR)

Cover to Cover, KPFA

7th Avenue Project, KUSP (NPR)

The Suzy Khatami Show, WKIRN

The Mimi Geerges Show, Sirius XM Satellite Radio

The Moncrieff Show, Newstalk Radio (Ireland)

Woman's Hour, BBC (U.K.)

Definitely Not the Opera, Canadian Broadcasting Company

Wordy Birds, WRIR (NPR)

The Morningline, WLNI

Tell Me More with Michel Martin, NPR

Television

The Today Show, NBC, July 2013

WVIR Charlottesville, NBC, March 2012

World Report, HDNet, March 2011

Virginia This Morning, CBS, Feb. 2011

San Diego Living, CBS, Feb. 2011

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

- **Assistant Professor of English, Washington and Lee University (2009-present)**

English 100 *First Year Writing Seminar/Becoming American*

English 100 *First Year Writing Seminar/American Autobiography*

English 105 *First Year Writing Seminar/Race and Ethnicity in Contemporary Autobiography*

English 203 *Introduction to Creative Writing: Fiction*

English 206 *Introduction to Writing: Creative Nonfiction*

English 262 *Topics in American Literature: Literature, Race, and Ethnicity*

English 293 *Topics in American Literature: History, Trauma, and Human Rights*

English 299 *Writing Seminar for Prospective Majors: Contemporary Creative Nonfiction*

English 308 *Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction*

English 309 *Advanced Creative Writing: Memoir*

English 369 *Contemporary American Fiction*

English 380 *Twentieth Century American Immigrant Literatures*

English 403 *Directed Individual Study: Creative Nonfiction*

English 413 *Senior Capstone: Literature and Human Rights*

English 413 *Senior Capstone: The Art of the Essay*

- **Adjunct Instructor, California College of the Arts, Fall 2013**

Writing 1: *Language Dynamics*

Writing 1 ESL: *Language Dynamics*

- **Visiting Professor of Iranian Literature, University of Virginia (Fall 2009)**

Middle Eastern Studies 3559: *Gender, Human Rights, and Literature in Iran* (graduate seminar)

- **Adjunct Professor, California College of the Arts, Writing and Literature Program (Spring 2008)**

Literature 304: Literary “Masterpieces”

- **Assistant Instructor, Princeton University, Department of English, 2003-2004**

The Contemporary Novel, Professor Elaine Showalter

Comparative American Literatures, Professor William Gleason

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Academic Service

Glasgow Endowment Committee for Visiting Writers, 2012-present
 Stuart Prize Committee, 2013
 Coulling Prize Committee, 2012-2013
 English Department Self-Study Committee for Creative Writing, 2012-2013
 Coulling Prize Committee, 2010-2011
 Creative Writing Honors Theses Coordinator, 2010-2011
 Creative Writing Honors Theses Advisor (2), 2010-2011
 Independent Study Instructor, Winter 2011
 Creative Writing Honors Thesis Advisor, 2009-2010
 First Year Writing Seminar Committee Member, 2009-2010
 Wornum Prize Committee Member, 2010-2011
 Shannon-Clark Lecture and Retreat Host, Fall 2010
 Glasgow Reading Host, Spring 2010

Professional Service

Corporation of Yaddo, Literature Panel Judge, 2013
MELUS, Manuscript Reader, 2012
 Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Fellowship Competition Reader, 2012
 Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Komaki Fellowship Judge, 2011
 University of Nebraska Press, Manuscript Reviewer, 2011

Creative Writing Workshops

“Memoir,” Book Passage, Sept.- Oct. 2013
 “Writing Your Family Memoir,” Writer House, Charlottesville, VA, Nov. 2012
 “Your Family As Story,” Senior Center, Charlottesville, VA, May 2012
 “The Art of Place: A Craft Workshop for Creative Nonfiction Writers,” Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, Summer 2011
 “Your Family As Story,” Persian Cultural Center, Berkeley, Nov. 2011
 “Writing Memoir,” Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA, Nov. 2011
 “Your Family As Story,” Mill Valley Public Library, Mill Valley, CA, Nov. 2011
 “Writing Memoir,” Book Passage, Corte Madera, CA, Aug. 2011

Affiliations

PEN American Center, Professional Member
 Association of Iranian American Writers, Member
 Association of Writing Programs, Member
 Middle Eastern Studies Association, Member
 Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States (MELUS), Member
 Modern Language Association, Member

REFERENCES

Dr. Marc Conner, Associate Provost and Jo M. and James Ballengee Professor of English
Washington and Lee University
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Dr. William Gleason, Chair and Professor of English
Princeton University
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Princeton, NJ 08544
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Ms. Amy Hempel
Briggs Copeland Lecturer in Fiction
Harvard University
Department of English
Cambridge, MA
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Dr. Persis M. Karim, Professor of English and Comparative Literature
San Jose State University
Department of English
1 Washington Square
San Jose, CA 95192
Email: persisk@yahoo.com
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Dr. Suzanne Keen, Dean of the College and Thomas Broadus Professor of English
Washington and Lee University
Lexington, VA 24450
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Dr. Farzaneh Milani, Chair and Professor of Middle Eastern & South Asian
Languages & Cultures
University of Virginia
Cabell Hall 532
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Charlottesville, VA 22904
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Dr. Amy Motlagh, Associate Professor of English and Director of the Creative Writing Program
American University in Cairo
Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Alsaud Hall
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Cairo, 11511 Egypt
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Dr. Michael Wood
Charles Barnwell Straut Class of 1923 Professor of English and Comparative Literature.
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