

Amanda Caterina Leong

Position : Lecturer
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Teaching and Research Areas :

Academic Qualifications

- 2021 Currently enrolled in the University of California, Merced as a Ph.D Candidate in Interdisciplinary Humanities.
- 2020 Visiting Scholar at Northeastern University, Boston for The Women’s Writers Project for Spring 2020.
- 2019 Student Researcher in the summer 2019 Harvard University’s Institute of World Literature.
- 2016 M.A dissertation titled “Photography and Empathy’s Ethical Potential” in May 2016. Dartmouth College.
- 2016-2018 MA in Liberal Studies with a focus in Creative Writing (2016-2018) from the Guarini School of Graduate and Advanced Studies, Dartmouth College.
- 2012-2016 BA Honours English Studies and Comparative Literature (2012-2016) with Second Class First division from the Faculty of Arts, University of Hong Kong.

Languages: English (Native), Persian (Intermediate), Arabic (Beginner), Portuguese (Intermediate)

Teaching Experiences

- Spring 2021: Teaching Assistant for Arts of the Islamic World, University of California, Merced.
- Fall 2020: Teaching Assistant for Foundations of English Literary Studies, University of California, Merced.
- Spring 2020: Teaching Assistant for Topics in Middle Eastern History and Research, University of California, Merced.
- Fall 2019: Teaching Assistant for History of the Middle East to 1500, University of California, Merced.
- Spring 2019: Teaching Assistant for Social Dance and African Identities, University of California, Merced.

- Fall 2018: Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Sociocultural Anthropology, University of California, Merced.
- Fall 2017-Winter 2018: Writing Tutor for Writing 2-3, Research and Composition, Dartmouth College.
- Fall 2016-Winter 2017: Writing Tutor for Writing 2-3, Research and Composition, Dartmouth College.
- Fall 2016: Teaching Assistant for Slavic Folklore, Comparative Literature, Dartmouth College.
- Fall 2014-Winter 2015: After School Program Teacher, Cognitio College, Hong Kong SAR.

Publications

- “How to Quarantine: Lessons from a 19th century Qajar Iranian Prince” published in Ajam Media MC, <https://ajammc.com/2021/07/05/how-to-quarantine-qajar-prince/>
- “How Iranian Princess Taj al-Saltana Saw a 19th Century Global Pandemic” published in Ajam Media MC, <https://ajammc.com/2020/11/15/taj-al-saltana-global-pandemic/>
- Collection of poems won New Hampshire’s Best Emerging Poets 2019 and was published in Z Publishing’s House Anthology November 2019.
- “Hope for Middle East Reforms” and “امید برای تحول در خاورمیانه: بازبینی حمله ۱۳۵۸ به مسجدالحرام، چهل سال از وقوعه واقعہ پس از واقعہ” published in IranWire, <https://iranwire.com/en/blogs/26/6562,https://iranwire.com/fa/blogs/215/34873>
- “Home is Being Able to Go Back” published in the Chicago Review of Books’ Arcutus Magazine, <https://arcturus.chireviewofbooks.com/home-is-being-able-to-go-back-d3d3bd637fcb>
- “Live Free or Die” published in Fourth and Sycamore, <https://fourthandsycamore.com/2018/01/16/live-free-or-die-an-essay-by-amanda-caterina-leong/>
- “Brigadeiros and the Mail” published in the After Happy Hour Review, <https://issuu.com/afterhappyhourreview/docs/ahhrfall2017final/34>
- “Lymantria dispar or Why do you get to keep me” published in Medium’s P.S. I Love You, <https://psiloveyou.xyz/lymantria-dispar-or-why-do-you-get-to-keep-me-876eed4d398>

Attendance at Conferences and Seminars

- Paper “The Princess Remembers: Representing the Early-Modern East” presented in the “World-Making, 1500-1800” Conference, February 2019, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- Paper “Contesting Patriarchal Kingship: The Humayunnama as a Mirror for Princesses” presented in Symposia Iranica, April 2019, St. Andrews, Scotland.
- Paper “Theory of Intelligent Act and Taj al-Saltana’s Crowning Anguish” co-presented with Mehran Moradi Spitmaan in Georgia Philological Association Meeting, May 2019, Macon, Georgia.
- Paper “Theory of Intelligent Act” co-presented with Mehran Moradi Spitmaan in “Neurohumanities: Promises and Threats” conference, June 2019, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Paper “Coloring Cosmopolitanism: Re-thinking Sino-Iranian-American Intimacies” presented in the First Biennial Conference on Contemporary Iranian Studies, November 2019, University of Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.
- Paper “Mughal Woman Warrior: Haram Begim and Female Javanmardi” presented in the International Conference Women and War: Power, Gender, and Representation, Dec 6-7, 2019, Cidade Universitaria de Lisboa, Portugal.

- Paper “Female Javanmardi in a Mughal Context: The Humayunnama” presented in the Modern Language Association 2020 Seattle Conference, Jan 7-10, 2020, Seattle, WA.
- Paper “Contesting Patriarchal Kingship: The Humayunnama as a Mirror for Princesses” presented in the 17th Annual South Asia Graduate Student Conference in the University of Chicago, March 5-6, 2020, Chicago, IL.
- Paper “Contesting Patriarchal Kingship: The Humayunnama as a Mirror for Princesses” presented in Middle Eastern Studies Association Conference, October 28-31, 2020 (virtual)
- Paper “Re-thinking the Persianate: Gender-bending Javanmardi Chivalry in the Writings of Mirza Abul Hassan Khan and Joseph Emin” presented in Persianisms: Cultural Encounters in the Anglophone World Conference, December 10-12, 2020 (virtual). University of York, United Kingdom.
- Paper “Adapting Research Plans during COVID-19: What a 19th century Qajar Iranian Princess Can Teach Us About a Global Pandemic” presented in the Center for Humanities’ Medical Humanities Center, January 26, 2020 (virtual), UC Merced, CA.

Exhibition

- Essay “Home is Being Able to Go Back”, invited for a reading by Dartmouth Writers Society as part of their 1st Annual “Lit(erary) Night”.
- Short Film “How is Being Able to Go Back”, co-directed with Mehran Moradi Spitmaan, showcased in Digital Arts Expo Summer 2018, https://youtu.be/fvcK4_rWDnc

Additional Academic and Professional Information

- Served as a member in the Graduate Dean’s Advisory Council at University of California, Merced from September 2018-June 2019.
- Worked as a Research Assistant in Tuck Business School at Dartmouth College from May 2018 to August 2018.
- Interned for Office of Visa and Immigration Service in Dartmouth College Summer 2018.
- Worked as a part time communications and media writer for Grafficity, LLC at Hanover, New Hampshire from Dec 2017- June 2018.

Awards/Scholarships/Fellowships

- Winner of the 2020-2021 UC Merced’s Fred and Mitzie Ruiz Fellowship.
- Winner of the Middle East Medievalists’ 2021 Fellowship for Graduate Students of Color in Medieval Studies.
- Winner of UC Merced’s Summer 2020 Interdisciplinary Humanities Outstanding Scholarship and Research Award.
- Recipient of the 2020 University of Chicago’s Graduate Student Travel Grant.
- Recipient of the MLA 2020 Graduate Student Travel Grant to participate in MLA 2020 Seattle Conference.
- Recipient of the American Institute of Iranian Studies Travel Grant to participate in the First Biennial Conference on Contemporary Iranian Studies in Tehran, Iran.
- Recipient of the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender Graduate Student Travel Grant to participate in the Women and War Conference in Lisbon, Portugal.
- Recipient of the American Institute of Iranian Studies Travel Grant to participate in Symposia Iranica 2019.

- Co-Recipient of the Neukom Institute for Computational Science Travel Grant to participate in the Neurohumanities Conference in Lisbon, Portugal.
- Co-Recipient of the Dartmouth Guarini Graduate School Travel Grant to participate in Georgia Philological Association Meeting in Macon, Georgia.
- Recipient of Spring 2018 IH Travel Award from UC Merced to participate in UCSB's World-Making Conference.
- Recipient of 2017 Dartmouth College's Leslie Center for Humanities Grant.
- Recipient of Macau Government GAES Postgraduate Scholarship to study at Dartmouth College for the academic year 2016-2018
- Winner of Maisie Choa English Poetry Prize for the academic year 2015-2016 at the University of Hong Kong.
- Recipient of Evergreen Scholarship for Student Enrichment for the academic year 2014-2015 at the University of Hong Kong.