

NEEMA NOORI

Professor
Department of Sociology
University of West Georgia

EDUCATION

(As of 1/19/24)

- 2006 Ph.D., Sociology, Columbia University, New York, New York
Delegating Coercion: Linking Decentralization to State Formation in Uzbekistan
- 2003 M. Phil., Sociology, Columbia University, New York, New York
- 1999 Intensive Uzbek language training, Tashkent Institute of World Languages, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- 1996 Intensive Russian language training, Tashkent Institute of Oriental Studies, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- 1995 M.A., Middle Eastern Studies, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas
- 1992 B.S., Economics; B.A., Middle Eastern Studies, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
- 1991 Summer Arabic program, University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2017-Present Professor, Department of Sociology, University of West Georgia
- 2013-2016 Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of West Georgia
- 2008- 2012 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, Georgia (tenure track)
- 2005-2008 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of International Studies, American University of Sharjah, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
- 1999-2005 Instructor, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, New York, New York
- 1999 Research Assistant, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, New York, New York
- 1998 Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology/School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, New York, New York
- 1994-1995 Research Assistant, Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative Studies of Higher Education, Nongovernmental Organizations, Decentralization and Community

Empowerment, Sociology of Development, State Formation in the Middle East and Central Asia, and the Social and Political legacies of the Iran-Iraq War

SCHOLARSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 Barrett, K., Kieh, G., Lee, G., Noori, N. *Torture: A Multidisciplinary Approach*. Lexington Press. (forthcoming 2024)
- 2017 Bertelsen, R. G., Noori, N., Rickli, J.M. (Eds.). *Transnational Knowledge Relations and Researcher Mobility for Building Knowledge-Based Societies and Economies in the Gulf*. Gerlach Press.
- 2017 "Academic Freedom and the Liberal Arts in the Middle East: Can the US Model be Replicated?" In *The Evolution of Liberal Arts in the Global Age*, edited by Peter Marber and Daniel Araya. Routledge. (This is a partially revised and updated version of the article, "Does Academic Freedom Globalize?")
- 2016 "The Political Economy of International Higher Education and Academic Labor in the Persian Gulf." In *The Transnational Politics of Higher Education*, edited by Isaac Kamola, Meng Hsuan-Chou, and Tamson Pietsch. Routledge.
- 2016 "The Politics of American-Style Education in the Middle East." In *A Decade of Questions: American Studies in the Middle East, 1998-2008*, edited by Eileen and Edward Lundy. University of Texas Press.
- 2014 Kamola, Isaac and Neema Noori. "Higher Education and World Politics." *Political Science and Politics* (Editor's Introduction).
- 2014 Noori, Neema. "Does Academic Freedom Globalize? The Diffusion of the American Model of Education and Academic Freedom." *Political Science and Politics*.
- 2013 Noori, Neema and Pia Anderson. "Overlapping Spheres of Governance: Accreditation Agencies and American-Style Universities in the Middle East." *International Journal of Culture, Politics and Society*.
- 2012 Noori, Neema. "Rethinking the Legacies of the Iran-Iraq war: Veterans, the Basij, and Social Resistance in Iran." *Annual Review of Political and Military Sociology*.
- 2012 Noori, Neema. "War, Revolution, and Social Change in Iran." In *Incorporating the Middle East into the Classroom*, edited by Jason Tatlock. University Press of Maryland.
- 2012 Noori, Neema. "Dubai: Global Gateway in the Desert." In *Places of Encounter: Time, Place and Connectivity in World History*, edited by Aran and Elaine MacKinnon. Westview Press.
- 2012 Noori, Neema. "Teaching Abroad in the Age of Empire." *Journal of Public and Professional Sociology* (Special Issue on Faculty Professional Development Abroad).
- 2006 Noori, Neema. "Expanding State Authority, Cutting Back Local Services: Decentralization and its Contradictions in Uzbekistan." *Central Asia Survey* 24: 533-549

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- August 21-27, 2022 "Competing Nationalisms: A Comparative Analysis of Higher Education Language Policy in Ukraine and Uzbekistan." Paper presented at the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) in Innsbruck, Austria.
- July 14-18, 2020 "Competing Nationalisms: Distinctive Language Policies in Two Post-Soviet Systems of Higher Education." Paper presented at the IV ISA forum of Sociology in Porto Alegre, Brazil. (virtual)
- March 10-12, 2017 "The Political Economy of International Higher Education in the Gulf." Paper presented at the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (Third Meeting). Beirut, Lebanon
- November 1-5, 2017 "Higher Education Reform in Ecuador, the Persian Gulf, and Ukraine." Paper presented at the Association for Humanist Sociology's annual meeting.
- September 22-24, 2016 "Transnational Knowledge Relations for Addressing Middle East Crisis." Served as discussant for roundtable at the Annual Nordic Conference on Middle Eastern Studies. University of Southern Denmark, Denmark.
- March 17-19, 2016 "The Political Economy of International Higher Education and Academic Labor in the Persian Gulf." Paper presented at the Italian Society for Middle Eastern Studies' Annual Meeting. Catania, Sicily.
- August 15-19, 2015 "Transnational Knowledge Relations and Researcher Mobility for Building Knowledge-Based Societies and Economies in the Gulf." Directed workshop at the Gulf Research Meeting. Cambridge University, UK.
- August 11, 2013 "Academic Freedom and the Globalization of the American Model of Education." Paper presented with Pia Anderson and Susann Sierra at the Society of the Study of Social Problems' Annual Meeting. New York, New York.
- SEPTEMBER 7, 2013 "Does Academic Freedom Globalize? The Diffusion of the American Model of Education, the Academy, and Academic Freedom." Paper presented at the 7th General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research. Bordeaux, France.
- October 10-12, 2013 "Measuring Academic Freedom." Paper presented with Salvador Peralta at the Georgia Sociological Association's Annual Meeting. Jekyll Island, Georgia.
- MARCH 22, 2012 "The Blame Game: Analyzing the Institutional Failures Underlying the Deepwater Horizon Disaster." Paper presented with Todd Matthews, Anita Rojas, and Lashelle Moss at the Southern Sociological Society's Annual Meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- APRIL 1-4, 2012 "Western Universities in the Middle East and Central Asia: Agents of Transnational Civil Society or Transnational Corporations?" Paper presented at the International Studies Association's Annual Convention. San Diego, California.

OCTOBER 20, 2011 "Teaching: Past, Present, and Future." Panelist for roundtable discussion at the Georgia Sociological Association's Annual Meeting. Savannah, Georgia.

JUNE 21, 2011 "The New Medievalism and Transnational Governance of Higher Education Institutions: A Comparison of American and European Accreditation Regimes in the Middle East." Paper presented with Rasmus Bertelsen at the 18th International Conference of Europeanists. Barcelona, Spain.

FEBRUARY 24, 2011 "Dubai as a Laboratory for the Analysis of Globalization." Paper presented at the Georgia Association of Historians Annual Conference. Savannah, Georgia.

AUGUST 17, 2010 "Veterans, the Basij, and the Rise of Administered Mass Organizations in Iran." Paper presented at the American Sociological Association's Annual Meeting. Atlanta, Georgia.

JULY 11-17, 2010 "Civil Society Organizations and Local Government Reform in Uzbekistan." Paper presented at the International Sociological Association World Congress. Gothenburg, Sweden.

JULY 7-10, 2010 "Overlapping Spheres of Governance: Accreditation Agencies and American-Style Universities in the Middle East." Paper presented at the First Annual Gulf Research Meeting. Cambridge University, UK.

FEBRUARY 13, 2010 "Accreditation Agencies, Soft Power, and the Diffusion of American-Style Universities to the Middle East." Paper presented at the International Studies Association's Annual Meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana.

OCTOBER 13, 2009 "Why Culture and Identity Matter Less than You Think: A Lecture on Culture, Identity, and Conflict in the Middle East." Public presentation delivered at the University of West Georgia. Carrollton, GA.

OCTOBER 2-4, 2009 "Rethinking the Legacies of the Iran-Iraq war: Veterans, the Basij, and Social Resistance in Iran." Invited as a guest speaker, Teaching the Middle East VII: Identities and New Realities in the Middle East. Workshop organized by Georgia State University and Georgia Perimeter College, Atlanta, Georgia.

AUGUST 7-9, 2009 "The Globalization of the American Model of Education," Paper presented at the Society for the Study of Social Problems' Annual Meeting. San Francisco, California.

MARCH 12-15, 2008 "Class-Based Mobilization and Veterans of the Iran-Iraq War." Paper presented at the Ninth Mediterranean Research Meeting. European University Institute, Florence-Montecatini Terme, Italy.

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2008 "From Buffer to Broker: Non-Governmental Organizations and Local Government Reform in Uzbekistan." Paper presented at the SSRC Conference on Inter-Asian Connections. Dubai, U.A.E.

OCTOBER 30-31, 2007 "United States, China, and the Middle East—Diplomacy, Strategy, and the Triangular Relationship." Invited as a guest speaker (with Nada Mourtada and John W. Fox). International symposium co-organized by Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., and the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies. Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.

OCTOBER 4-7, 2007 "The Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, Interoperability with NATO, and the Capacity Gap." (With Nada Mourtada) Paper presented at the Palermo Atlantic Forum hosted by the Italian Atlantic Committee (NATO), Palermo, Italy.

- APRIL 12-14, 2007 "Communist Roots and Contemporary Continuities: Functions of Mahalla as Agent of Coercion and Grassroots Service Provider, 1922-2003." Paper presented at the annual Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) Conference, Columbia University, New York, NY.
- AUGUST 3, 2005 "Constructing the State One Community at a Time: The Mahalla Initiative and State Formation in Uzbekistan." Paper presented at the American Sociological Association's Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2004 "Outsourcing the State: Delegating Security and other Critical State Functions in Post-Soviet Uzbekistan." Paper presented at the Middle East and Central Asia Politics, Economics, and Society Conference at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- APRIL 15-18, 2004 "Privatization in Eurasia." Panelist for the roundtable on privatization at the annual Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) Conference, Columbia University, New York, NY.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2022 U.S. Embassy Tashkent Public Diplomacy Section's Grants Program, Youth Empowerment Through International Exchange, \$249,913.00 (CO-PI)
- 2019 COSS Summer Initiative Course Improvement Grant (Submitted jointly with Dr. Beznosov), \$2,500
- 2018 Faculty Research Grant, University of West Georgia, \$3,200
- 2015 Gulf Research Center Travel Grant to present research paper at Gulf Research Meeting, \$1,500
- 2013 Teacher of the Year Award, College of Social Sciences, \$1,000
- 2010 IREX Eurasian and East European Studies Teaching Fellowship, \$12,000
- 2010 NSF Travel Grant to present research paper at ISA Conference, \$1,000
- 2010 Gulf Research Center Travel Grant to present research paper at Gulf Research Meeting, \$700
- 2010 Faculty Development Award, University of West Georgia, \$500
- 2008-2009 Faculty Development Award, University of West Georgia, \$1,500
- 2007-2008 Faculty Development Award, American University of Sharjah, \$1,500
- 2004-2005 Columbia University Public Policy Consortium Fellowship, \$5,000
- 2004 Corner House Fund Award, \$200
- 2003 Invited to participate in SSRC workshop on Governance in Eurasia
- 1999-2005 Cordier Fellowship, Tuition and Stipend
- 2001-2002 ACTR/ACCELS Fellowship for Dissertation Research (Title VIII), \$10,000
- 2001-2002 Pepsico Summer Travel Grant for language study in Uzbekistan, \$1,000

2001	Summer Fellowship, Columbia University, \$1,000
1999-2000	ACTR/ACCELS Full Year Fellowship for NIS Regional Language Study, \$10,000 (declined)
1999-2000	Mellon Foundation Grant for Sociology of Development workshop, \$400
1999	Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant to study Advanced Uzbek at the Institute of Languages and Literature, Tashkent, Summer 1992. \$5,000
1999	ACTR/ACCELS Summer Fellowship for NIS Regional Language Study, \$5,000

INSTRUCTION

COURSES TAUGHT

Lower Division	Introduction to Sociology (UWG & AUS) Introduction to Global Studies (UWG) Social Problems (UWG)
Upper Division	International Organizations (AUS) Globalization (UWG & AUS) Social Change in Central Asia (UWG) Social Change in the Middle East (UWG) Democratization in the Middle East (AUS) Sociological Theory (UWG) American Society (AUS) Urban Sociology (UWG) Global Political Economy (AUS) Military Sociology (UWG) Political Sociology (UWG) Terrorism (UWG) Communicating Sociology (UWG) Social Movements (UWG) Global and Comparative Development (UWG) Health and Social Networks (UWG)
Graduate	Political Sociology (UWG) Critical Social Analysis (UWG) Advanced Sociological Theory (UWG) Urban Sociology (UWG) Community Development (UWG)

PARTICIPATION ON M.A. AND PH.D. COMMITTEES

APPLIED REPORTS

Mitchell, Rebecca (2023). *Review of S.H.A.R.E House* (Chair)
Quarles, Alexa (2022). *Analysis of the Open-Door Home* (Chair)

League, Dustin R. (2021). *Before it's too Late: An Ethnographic Analysis of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice* (Chair)

M.A. THESES

- Grimes, Mitchell (2023). *Between the Lined and Color: Colorism in NFL Prospect Quarterbacks* (Chair)
- Ford, Katelyn (2021). *Analyzing the School-to-Prison Pipeline*
- Locke, Amber (2021). *White Women in Interracial Relationships: Experiences with Race*
- Poth, Christie (2019). *From Hashtags to Hate Groups: How Social Movements Strategize on Twitter* (Chair)
- Milligan, Melissa (2019). *The Response of Law Enforcement to Intimate Partner Violence on Male Violence within Heterosexual Relationships*
- Rodriguez, Aaron (2017). *Race, Place, and the Creation of Housing Policy in a Small Town* (Chair)
- DeYonker, Dorothy Seay (2016). *A Comparative Analysis of the Pittsburgh and Adair Park Neighborhoods in Atlanta following the Foreclosure Crisis* (Chair)
- Buehrer, Travis (2016). *Police Use of Force and the Armed Suspect*
- West, Kelsey (2016). *Chaco Christianity: How Millennials Redefine and Reinforce Religion in Campus Ministries*
- Neupane, Suresh (2015). *Political Opportunity Structure and Framing of Nepal's Madhesi Ethnic Conflict*
- Fretwell, Kristin (2014). *Effective or Not? Parents' Perceptions of Juvenile Detention Centers*
- Payne, Faith (2013). *Saving the Child: An Institutional Ethnography on the Court-Appointed Special Advocate*
- Reece, Katie (2013). *Defined as disability: an institutional ethnography on disability determination for people with HIV/AIDS*
- Reitz, Joshua (2012). *Comparing the Evolution of Environmental Movements in Sweden and the Netherlands: A Critique of Post-materialist Theory* (Chair)
- Moon, Cambria Ann (2012). *Who or What is the Tea Party: A Meta-Ethnography* (Chair)
- Susanna, Sierra (2013). *The Financial Aid Process and Student Debt as Mechanisms for Inequality: An Institutional Ethnography* (Chair)
- Brittany Hikes (2012). *Spatial Mismatch in Atlanta, Department of Sociology*
- Baird, Andrew (2010). *Analyzing Interactions with Parents at Celebration School: A Study in Institutional Ethnography*
- Parsons, Tiffany (2009). *Homelessness and the Homeless: A State of the Field*

Ph.D.

La Fleur, Richard (2015). *The Effects of Combat Zone Deployment on Veterans During the Reintegration Process*

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- CACSI Faculty Advisory Committee, 2022-Present
- CACSI Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2020-2022
- Sociology GPC, 2019-Present
- Chair of Faculty Search Committee, Sociology Program (UWG), 2021-2022
- UWG Global Learning Committee, 2019-Present
- Honors College Advisory Committee, 2017-2018
- Graduate Programs Committee, 2016-2019
- Regents Advisory Committee for Sociology (USG), 2016-2018
- Committee to Review K-12 Georgia Performance Standards for Social Studies (USG), 2015-2018
- Asian Studies Minor Development Committee (UWG), 2015-Present
- Director of Global Studies Program (UWG), 2018-Present
- Faculty Council (COSS), Spring 2017
- Committee to Review K-12 Georgia Performance Standards for Social Studies (USG), 2015-Present
- Tenure and Promotion Committee (COSS), 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019
- International Services and Programs Committee (UWG), 2013-2014
- Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology (UWG), 2011-2014, 2018

Faculty Senate (UWG), 2012- 2014
Multicultural Committee, Office of Institutional Diversity (UWG), 2012-2017
Budget Committee (UWG), 2013-2014
Student Affairs Committee (UWG), 2012-2013
RPG Initiative (UWG), Summer 2011
Georgia Middle East Student Symposium Program Committee (University System of Georgia), 2009-2011
Middle East Council (University System of Georgia), 2009-2012
Interdisciplinary (XIDS) Core Review Committee (UWG), 2008-2012
Chair of Personnel Committee, Department of Sociology (UWG), 2015, 2017
Chair of Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology (UWG), 2015-2016
Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology (UWG), 2011-2014; 2015-2016
Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology and Criminology (UWG), 2008-2009
Internship Coordinator for Sociology Department (UWG), 2012-2013
Internship Coordinator for Department of International Studies (AUS), 2005-2008
Chair of Faculty Search Committee (AUS), 2006-2008
Middle East Studies Minor Development Committee (AUS), 2006-2007
American Studies Minor Development Committee (AUS), 2005-2006
Faculty Promotion Committee (AUS), 2006-2007

ADVISEMENT OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Faculty Advisor for Amnesty International, 2012 – 2014

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Panelist, "Exporting the American Model of Education to the Gulf, organized and sponsored by the University of Michigan (CMENA Fall Colloquium Series), Fall 2022.
Panelist, Roundtable Discussion on The Monopoly of Violence, organized by Robert Kilpatrick and Lisa Connell, International Languages and Cultures Program, Fall 2022.
Guest Lecture, "The Politics of Russian Language Use in Ukraine," UWG Honors College Fireside Chat, Fall 2022.
Guest Lecture, "Moral and Scientific Implications of US and NATO funding for research on democratization in Central Asia," IB Theory of Knowledge Course, Noah Brewer, Carrollton High School, Fall 2021.
Panelist, Roundtable Discussion on The Monopoly of Violence, organized by Robert Kilpatrick and Lisa Connell, International Languages and Cultures Program, Fall 2021
Guest Lecture, "Social and Political Change in Central Asia," IB Theory of Knowledge Course, Noah Brewer, Carrollton High School, Fall 2019
Guest Lecture, "Becoming a Social Scientist in Central Asia," IB Theory of Knowledge Course, Noah Brewer, Carrollton High School, Spring 2017.
Guest Lecture, "The Dubai Model of Development," Political Sociology Department, Kharkov State University, Summer 2019
Guest Lecture, "Trump's Presidency," Political Sociology Department, Kharkov State University, Summer 2019
Guest Lecture, "Islam in the US and being Muslim in America" Social Work Skills, Professor Wood, Spring 2017
Guest Lecture, "Doomsday Prophets: American Migration to Ecuador," Fireside Chat for Honors College, Fall 2017
Guest Lecture, "The Frankfurt School and Fight Club," Interdisciplinary Panel on the film *Fight Club*, Spring 2017
Guest Lecture, "American Expats in Ecuador" Latin American History, Dr. Gary VanValen, Fall 2016
Guest Lecture, "What's the Value of Higher Education?" Honors College Freshman Seminar, Fall 2016
Guest Lecture, "Doomsday Escapists, Economic Refugees, and Adventuresome Retirees: An Overview of the North American Migrant Community in Ecuador." Office of Institutional Diversity, Spring 2015.
Guest Lecture, "How to Apply to Graduate School," Gordon State College, 2014.
Guest lecture, "The Globalization of the American Model of Development," The Psychology of

Globalization, Dr. Jeannette Diaz-Laplante, Summer 2010.
Guest lecture, "Terrorism in the Middle East," Terrorism, Dr. David Jenks, Fall 2010.
Campus-wide lecture entitled, "Globalization of the American Model of Education," Office of Institutional Diversity, Fall 2010
Guest Lecture, "America and the Middle East, "Terrorism, Dr. John Fuller, Spring 2009.
Guest Lecture, "The Dubai Model of Development," Dr. Andy Walter, Global Studies, Fall 2009.
Guest Lecture, "The Dubai Model of Development," Dr. Aran McKinnon, Global Studies, Summer 2009.
Guest Lecture, "The Dubai Model of Development," Dr. Aran McKinnon, Global Studies, Summer 2010.
Guest Lecture, "The Dubai Model of Development," Dr. Aran McKinnon, Global Studies, Summer 2011.
Campus-wide lecture entitled, "International NGO funding for democratic reform in Uzbekistan," Office of Institutional Diversity, Spring 2011
Guest Lecture, "Legacies of the Iranian Revolution," Dr. Elaine McKinnon, Comparative Revolutions, Spring 2012
Keynote Address for the Department of Foreign Languages' Honors Society Meeting, Spring 2012

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Guest Speaker, "Iran at the Crossroads." League of Women Voters, Spring 2023
Guest Speaker, "Red Sea Security." League of Women Voters, Spring 2020.
Guest Speaker, "Interfaith Dialogue." First Baptist Church, Fall 2019
Guest Speaker, "The Middle East: Regional Disorder." League of Women Voters, Spring 2019.
Guest Speaker, "The Cultural Heritage of the Middle East." Pilot International, Fall 2017.
Guest Speaker, "Shifting Alliances in the Middle East." League of Women Voters, Spring 2016.
Guest Speaker, "Great Power Politics and the Middle East." Military Officers Association of America, Spring 2016.
Guest Speaker, "U.S. Expatriate Life in Ecuador." Lion's Club, Fall 2015.
Guest speaker, "Islamic Awakening." League of Women Voters, Spring 2014.
Guest Speaker, "Great Power Politics and Central Asia." Lion's Club, Fall 2012.
Guest Speaker, "The Dubai Model of Economic Development." Lion's Club, Spring 2009.

MANUSCRIPTS REVIEWER

Social Forces, ad hoc review (2023)
Journal of Transnational American Studies, ad hoc review (2019)
International Journal of Sociology, ad hoc review (2016)
Social Problems, ad hoc review (2014)
Journal of Public and Professional Sociology, ad hoc review (2013)
American Journal of Sociology, ad hoc review (2010)
Studies in the Social Sciences Research Journal, ad hoc review (2011)
The Journal of Social Issues, ad hoc review (2011)

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Sociological Association
International Sociological Association
Central Eurasian Studies Society
Society for the Study of Social Problems
International Studies Association

OFFICES AND POSITIONS IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Chair of Standards and Freedom of Research, Publication, and Teaching Committee (Society for the Study of Social Problems), 2009-2012

LANGUAGES

Persian	Fluent
Uzbek	Conversant
Russian	Conversant
French	Reading
Arabic	Reading
Turkish	Reading
Spanish	Fluent