

Hessam Dehghani

Assistant Professor of Teaching Persian Language and Culture
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Current Position

2021-present Assistant Professor of Teaching Persian Language and Culture (tenure-track)
Department of Asian Studies, University of British Columbia

Education

2019 PhD, Philosophy. Boston College, MA, United States
2012 PhD, Linguistics. Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran
2007 MA, Linguistics. University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Previous Academic Appointments

2020-2021 Associate Researcher, Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard
2019-2020 Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard Divinity School (one-year)
2011 Post-Doctoral Affiliate, University College Dublin (Jan.-July 2011)

Recent Scholarship of Teaching Funding Awarded

2023 The Dean of Arts Educational Leadership (EL) and Innovation Award, Granted at University of British Columbia to “establish a robust and standardized assessment framework and enhance the overall quality and effectiveness of the UBC Persian Program”

2023 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Seed grant for the project titled: “Developing the Cultural Diversity Awareness of the Heritage Language Learners, through Community-Based Education”

2022 Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF) for the project, “Interactive Web-based Course Material for Learning Alphabet and Basic Literacy Skills for Heritage Students of Persian”

Publications

Books

- In Progress* *Dastan Asan (1-3) Online Interactive Textbook for Heritage Learners of Persian*
- In Progress* *Dastan Asan 4, Short Story: Online Interactive Textbook*
- In Progress* *“Vāje Peydā”: Online Persian Learner’s Dictionary of Literary Terms*
- In Progress* *Hediye-ye Ma’nā Az Sakhtargeraei va Pasā-Sakhtargeraei tā Hermeneutic (The Gift of Sense from Structuralism and Post-Structuralism to Hermeneutics). Proposal approved by Elmi Publications, Tehran, Iran. In Persian.*

Peer Reviewed Articles

- 2020 “Natural Community and the Limits of Laws in Aristotle”. *Iranian Yearbook of Phenomenology*, Vol. 1, Phenomenology and Politics, Malekzadeh Hamid; Alamdari J Moini (ed.), 2020, doi: 10.22034/iyp.2020.239891 (in English)
- 2010 “Phenomenological Hermeneutics of Poetry: A Re-Reading of ‘The Walls’ by Ahmad Shamlou,” *Academic Journal on Persian language and Literature*, 42, 2010. In Persian.

Select (Book and Article) Translations from/into Persian /French / English

- 2016 *Este’āre-ye Zende*, Shavand Publications, Tehran, 2016. A translation of *La Métaphore Vive* into Persian.
- 2016 *Osture Shenāsi-ye Sefīd*, Shavand Publications, Tehran, 2016. A translation of Jacques Derrida’s *La Mythologie Blanche* into Persian

Select Invited Talks (scholarship of teaching)

- 2024 (International) “Performance-Based Instruction for 21st Century Learners” a 3-hour workshop presented at the *Iranian Society for Persian Language and Literature* (Sep. 21)
- 2021 “Teaching Persian on Nearpod: what is there to keep after Covid”, at *The American Association of Teachers of Persian* (July 11) - International
- 2021 “Learning literacy in Persian in a culturally immersed context,” at *UBC Heritage Language Teaching Workshop (AUG 19&20)*

2022 “Characteristics of the Fitting Input for Teaching Literacy to Persian Heritage Students” at *The American Association of Teachers of Persian* (Jan. 9) - International

Select Invited Talks (public)

2023 “Mehman-e Maman” Analysis of a movie by Daryush Mehrjoui, at *UBCPC event* (Nov. 24)

“Close-Up” The introduction and Analysis of “Close-up”, a movie by Abbas Kiarostami at the *Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF)* (Pantheon Series), Vancouver (Nov. 19)

2021 “Sun Children, a film by Majid Majidi”, at Belmont International Film Festival, Cambridge, Massachusettes. (April 26)

Representative Conference Activity/Presentations

Refreed Oral Presentation

2023 (international) “Community-based learning (CBL) as Critical Heritage Education: a case study” refereed presentation at *the 4th International Conference on Teaching Persian Language and Literature, University of Cambridge* (Dec 12-15)

2022 “The Impossible Gift of Sense in Rahnavard Zaryāb’s short story “The Snakes Under the Silverberry Trees” at *Alireza Ahmadian Lecture Series*, UBC (Jun. 18)

2021 “Teaching Persian on Nearpod: a case for the post-textbook era”, at *ELNet’s 2nd Marketplace Event, CTLT Celebrate Learning Week: Love it or Lose it: Ideas to keep in your teaching practice and ones to let go* (May 17)

2021 “Interactive Story-telling” at *NNELL Summer Summit 2021* (July 23-24)

2021 “Teaching literacy through Collaborative Story-Listening”, at the 3rd International Conference on Teaching Persian Language and Literature, University of Cambridge

- 2017 “Ricoeur on Following the Self,” 3rd Symposium on Contemporary Philosophy, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA.
- 2017 “The Course of Metaphor: Ricoeur on Following the Self,” Ricoeur Society Annual Conference, Chestnut Hill, MA.
- 2017 “Deleuze on Sense,” 1st Symposium on Contemporary Philosophy, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA
- 2015 “Interpretation and Action: The question of the Self or No-self in Derrida and Ricoeur,” Marquette University,” Interpretation Graduate Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- 2014 “Hajj: Dramatized Gift, Towards a Hermeneutic Interpretation of Islam,” Harvard Graduate Conference (Ways of Knowing Religion), Cambridge, MA.

Discussant

- 2022 “The Nature of Story”: Story reading with Abu Torab Khosravi” at UBC’s Persian Literature Reading Club Workshop, (Mar. 27)
- 2021 “New Insights from the East on Poetry and Politics: The Reconciliatory Thought of Sa’di Shirazi”, at Alireza Ahmadian Lecture Series, UBC (Dec. 4)

Employment Record

(a) At the University of British Columbia (full-time)

01/01/2021-Present

- PERS 104: Persian Reading and Writing for Persian-Speaking Students (UBC, Winter 2021 enrolment: 18 students)
- PERS 101: Basic Persian II (UBC, Winter 2021)
- PERS 400: Persian Short Story for Native and Heritage Speakers (Winter 2021)
- PERS 104: Persian Reading and Writing for Persian-Speaking Students (UBC, Fall 2021)
- PERS 100: Basic Persian I (UBC, Fall 2021)
- PERS 401: Contemporary Iranian Cinema for Advanced Speakers of Persian (UBC, Fall 2021)
- PERS 101: Basic Persian II (UBC, Winter 2022)
- PERS 200: Intermediate-Low Persian I (UBC, Winter 2022)
- PERS 400: Persian Short Story for Native and Heritage Speakers (Winter 2022)

(b) At Boston College : Lecturer and Teaching Fellow (part-time)

AY '14:

Fall (09/02/2013- 12/04/2013)

- PHIL 1070: Philosophy of the Person I

Spring (01/12/2014- 05/04/2014)

- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II
- LING3389: Advanced Topics in Linguistics (systemic Functional Linguistics)

Summer (06/22/2014- 07/31/2014)

- American Dearms: Tensions

AY '15

Fall (08/31/2014- 12/12/2014)

- PHIL 1070: Philosophy of the Person I
- LING3103: Language and Language Types (Typology)

Spring (01/19/2015- 05/09/2015)

- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II
- LING3324 Linguistic Structure of Persian

Summer (06/22/2015- 07/31/2015)

- American Dearms: Tensions

AY '16

Fall (08/27/2015- 12/03/2015)

- NELC133101 Persian for Scholars I
- NELC113101 Arabic for Scholars I

Spring (01/16/2016- 05/04/2016)

- NELC133202 Persian for Scholars II
- NELC113202 Arabic for Scholars II
- LING3324 Linguistic Structure of Persian

AY '17

Fall (08/27/2016- 12/03/2016)

- NELC133101 Persian for Scholars I
- NELC113101 Arabic for Scholars I

Spring (01/16/2017- 05/04/2017)

- NELC133202 Persian for Scholars II
- NELC113202 Arabic for Scholars II

AY '18

Fall (08/27/2017- 12/03/2017)

- NELC133101 Persian for Scholars I
- NELC113101 Arabic for Scholars I

- PHIL 1070: Philosophy of the Person I
- PHIL 1070: Philosophy of the Person I

Spring (01/16/2018- 05/04/2018)

- NELC133202 Persian for Scholars II
- NELC113202 Arabic for Scholars II
- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II
- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II

AY '19

Fall (08/26/2018- 12/10/2018)

- NELC133101 Persian for Scholars I
- NELC113101 Arabic for Scholars I
- PHIL 1070: Philosophy of the Person I
- PHIL 1071: Philosophy of the Person II

Spring (01/13/2019- 05/30/2019)

- NELC133202 Persian for Scholars II
- NELC113202 Arabic for Scholars II
- PHIL 1070 Philosophy of the Person I
- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II

Summer (05/14/2019- 08/02/2019)

- PHIL 1070 Philosophy of the Person I
- PHIL 1071 Philosophy of the Person II

AY '20

Fall (08/26/2019- 12/10/2019)

- NELC133101 Persian for Scholars I

Spring (01/13/2020- 05/30/2020)

- NELC133202 Persian for Scholars II

(c) At Bentley University (Assistant Professor, part-time)

AY '20

Spring (01/13/2020- 05/15/2020)

- PH101 Introduction to Philosophy
- PH101 Introduction to Philosophy

AY '21

Fall (08/26/2020- 12/18/2020)

- PH101 Introduction to Philosophy

(d) At Emmanuel College (Adjunct Instructor, part-time)

AY '21

Fall (08/27/2020)- 12/14/2020)

- THRS 2211 Islam

Service to the University and Community

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|--------------|---|
| 2021-present | Organizer and moderator of UBC Persian Literature Reading club monthly Events (13 Sessions) |
| 2021-presnet | Page admin, UBC Persian Literature Reading Club, Facebook Page |
| 2021-present | Instructor and Organizer of UBC Persian Literature Reading club's weekly reading groups |
| 2022 | Organizer and moderator of UBC Persian Program's Spring Panel Discussions on the "Literature of Migration and Exile" (3 Sessions) |
| 2021 | Education Consultant of Farsi Dar BC Campaign |
| 2021 | Search Committee Member: Faculty in Persian Literature and Culture |

Select Invited Talks

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| 2020 | "The Transformation of Laws in Following Islam," at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University (Feb 21) |
| 2019 | "The Phenomenological Description of the Pilgrimage and the Transformation of Laws in Islam," The Society for Phenomenology of Religious Experience, Valparaiso University, IN. |

Guest Lectures

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| 2020 | "Pilgrimage of Hajj: a Hermeneutic Interpretation of Islam" Harvard University Guest Lecture for Spiritual Cultivation in Islam Part II: The Modern Era, Cambridge, MA |
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Previous Grants and Awards

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| 2018 | The Donald J. White Teaching Excellence Awards Teaching Excellence Award, Granted at Boston College |
| 2018-2019 | Clough Center for Constitutional Democracy Fellowship for Studying Democracy and Community in Islam |

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- 2017-2018 Clough Center for Constitutional Democracy Fellowship for Studying Phenomenology of Community
- 2016-2017 Clough Center for Constitutional Democracy Fellowship for Studying Contemporary French Philosophy
- 2015-2016 Boston College Dissertation Fellowship
- 2014 Boston College Ernst L. Fortin Memorial Foundation Grant for learning French
- 2015 Boston College Ernst L. Fortin Memorial Foundation Grant for learning French
- 2016 Boston College Ernst L. Fortin Memorial Foundation Grant for learning French
- 2011 Doctoral Sabbatical Award from Allameh Tabatabai University

Previous Academic Service

- 2017-2019 Orientation Advisor, Boston College Academic Advising Center,
- 2017-2019 Pre-Major Freshman Advisor, Boston College,
- 2017 Conference Organizer, *The Territory of "A People": Questioning Community*, 2017

Languages

English: Near Native
 Persian: Native
 Classical Arabic: Advanced
 French: Intermediate Speaking, Listening and Writing; Advanced Reading and Translating
 Ancient Greek: Intermediate