

**Osman Balkan**  
Curriculum Vitae

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science  
Swarthmore College  
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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science	2016 – Present
THE LAUDER INSTITUTE AT THE WHARTON SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA Director, Lauder Europe Summer Regional Program	2018 – Present
CORNELL UNIVERSITY Lecturer, Department of Near Eastern Studies	2008 – 2009

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## EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Ph.D., Political Science (2016), M.A., Political Science (2012)

*Dissertation:*

“Death On The Move: Burial, Repatriation, and the Politics of Belonging Among Muslims in Germany”  
Honorable Mention, Ernst B. Hass Best Dissertation Award, American Political Science Association

REED COLLEGE  
B.A., Political Science, Phi Beta Kappa (2005)

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## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Political Identity, Migration and Citizenship, Religion and Politics, Transnationalism, Race and Ethnicity, Islam, Europe, the Middle East, Political Ethnography, Qualitative and Interpretative Methods, Necropolitics

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## PUBLICATIONS

**Book Manuscript:** *Dying Abroad* (work in progress)

**Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters**

2019. “The Cemetery of Traitors” in *Turkey’s Necropolitics: Mobilizing Death and Destruction*.  
Ed. Banu Bargu. Edinburgh University Press. Pgs. 232 – 252.

2019. “Not In My Graveyard: Citizenship, Memory, and Identity in the Wake of the Boston Marathon Bombing”  
in *The Democratic Arts of Mourning*. Eds. David McIvor and Alexander Hirsch. Lexington Press. Pgs. 83 – 101.

2018. “The Islamic Deathscapes of Germany.” *Project on Middle East Political Science*. Vol. 32. Pgs. 39 – 43.

2016. "Charlie Hebdo and the Politics of Mourning." *Contemporary French Civilization*. Vol. 41, No. 2. Pgs. 253-271.
2016. "Between Civil Society and the State: Bureaucratic Competence and Cultural Mediation Among Muslim Undertakers in Berlin." *Journal of Intercultural Studies*. Vol. 37, No 2. Pgs. 147 – 161.
2015. "Burial and Belonging." *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*. Vol. 15, No. 1. Pgs. 120 – 134.
2015. "Until Death Do Us Depart: The Necropolitical Work of Turkish Funeral Funds in Germany" in *Muslims in the UK and Europe*. Ed. Yasir Suleiman. Cambridge University Press. Pgs. 19 – 28.

### Other Publications

2019. "Bring Out Your Dead: Corpses and the Limits of Sovereign Power in James Martel's *Unburied Bodies*." *Theory & Event*. Vol. 22, No. 4. Pgs. 1125 – 1127.
2016. "Disorder at the Border: Europe's Migrant Crisis in Comparative Perspective." (Editor's Introduction for Symposium) *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*. Vol. 16, No. 1. Pgs. 118 -120.
2015. Review of *Islam and the Politics of Culture: Memory, Aesthetics, Art*. Eds. Frank Peter et al. In *Review of Middle East Studies*. Vol. 49, No. 2. Pgs. 200 – 202.
2014. Kurtar Tanyilmaz. "The Deep Fracture in the Big Bourgeoisie of Turkey" in *The Neoliberal Landscape and the Rise of Islamic Capital*. Eds. Nesecan Balkan et al. Berghahn Books. (Translation: Turkish to English)
2007. "Alcohol" in *Encyclopedia of Islam in the United States*. Ed. Jocelyn Cesari. Greenwood Press. Pgs. 48-50.
2006. Ülker Gökberk. "Mekan Olarak Geçmiş: Walter Benjamin'in Das Passagen-Werk Çalışmasının İstanbul'un Eski Levanten Semtlerindeki Yankıları" in *Bellek, Mekan, Imge*. Multilingual Press. (Translation: English to Turkish)

### AWARDS

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| 2017 | Ernst B. Haas Best Dissertation Award, Honorable Mention, American Political Science Association |
| 2016 | Best Graduate Student Paper Award, American Anthropological Association                          |
| 2014 | Presidential Leadership Award, University of Pennsylvania  |
| 2013 | Alvin Z. Rubenstein Memorial Award for Graduate Student Teaching, University of Pennsylvania     |
| 2005 | Phi Beta Kappa, Reed College   |

### GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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| 2019-20 | Lang Center for Civic & Social Responsibility Engaged Scholarship Grant, Swarthmore College |
| 2018-19 | Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Development Grant, Swarthmore College                              |
| 2017-18 | Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Development Grant, Swarthmore College                              |
| 2015-16 | SAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania                          |
| 2015-16 | Graduate Fellowship for Teaching Excellence, University of Pennsylvania                     |
| 2014    | Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD) Research Grant                               |
| 2014    | Penfield Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania,                      |
| 2013    | Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute in European Studies Fellowship, University of Minnesota     |

### INVITED TALKS

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| November 2019 | "Adaptable Authoritarianism: Turkey, Russia, and the European Union in a Shifting Global Order," Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania |
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September 2019	“The Political Afterlives of Dead Migrants,” Center for Middle East Studies, Brown University
September 2019	“The Biopolitics of Borders: Death, Deterrence, Resistance,” Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life, Columbia University
April 2019	“Finding Religion in the Cemetery,” Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs, Boston University
November 2018	“Is Immigration Good or Bad for Democracy,” Andrea Mitchell Center for the Study of Democracy, University of Pennsylvania
November 2018	“Death in the Diaspora,” Radboud University (Netherlands)
October 2018	“The Jamal Khashoggi Tragedy and Its Implications for the Middle East,” Swarthmore College
March 2018	“Death Out of Place: Mortuary Practices of Turkish and Kurdish Communities in Germany,” University of Arizona, School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies
November 2017	“The Political Afterlives of Terrorism in Europe,” Pomona College, Political Science Department
November 2017	“The Right to Have Rites,” Haverford College, Peace, Justice, and Human Rights Program
March 2017	“The Cemetery of Traitors,” Tri-College Political Theory Workshop, Philadelphia
December 2016	“Charlie Hebdo and the Politics of Mourning,” University of Copenhagen
November 2016	“Repatriation, Burial, and the Politics of Belonging among Muslims in Germany,” Université du Québec à Montréal, Faculté des Sciences Humaines
April 2015	“The Graves of Berlin,” UPenn, Democracy, Constitutionalism, and Citizenship Workshop
June 2014	“Dead Bodies on the Move,” Humboldt University, Berlin
March 2014	“The Necropolitical Work of Islamic Funeral Funds in Germany,” Cambridge University, Centre of Islamic Studies

## **SELECTED CONFERENCES**

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2019	American Political Science Association Western Political Science Association Migration, Identity, and Politics Conference, Carleton University Middle East Studies Association
2018	American Political Science Association Council for European Studies Project on Middle East Political Science “Islam in Europe and the United States” Conference International Migration, Integration, and Social Cohesion in Europe Conference
2017	American Political Science Association International Studies Association Philadelphia Europeanists Workshop
2016	Western Political Science Association Council for European Studies

2015 Western Political Science Association  
International Studies Association

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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2018 – 2020 Executive Council Member, American Political Science Association  
“Migration and Citizenship” Section (elected)  
2018 – Present Co-Convener, APSA “Political Ethnography Working Group  
2017 – Present Associate Editor, Communications Team, *International Political Sociology*  
2016 – 2019 Associate Editor, Special Features Section, *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*

Manuscript Reviewer for: *European Journal of International Relations*, *International Political Sociology*, *Theory & Event*, *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*, *Journal of Intercultural Studies*, *Mortality*, *Museum Anthropology*, *Diversité Urbaine*.

## DEPARTMENTAL & CAMPUS SERVICE

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2019 – 20 Organizer, “Mobilities” Lecture Series, Swarthmore College  
2018 – 19 Organizer, “Contending Visions of the Middle East Colloquium,” Swarthmore College  
2017 – Present Organizer, “Global Ethnographies Workshop,” Tri-College Consortium  
2017 – 18 Co-Organizer, “Searching for Sanctuary: Borders, Migration, and Human Rights,” Swarthmore  
2016 – 17 Organizer, “Borders and Migration Workshop,” Tri-College Consortium  
2016 – Present Campus Advisor, Critical Languages Scholarship Program  
2016 – Present Faculty Mentor, Richard Rubin Scholar Mentoring Program  
(for low income and first generation college students), Swarthmore College  
2016 – Present Organizer, “Culture and Identity in Europe” Lecture Series, Swarthmore College  
2015 – 16 Coordinator, Penn-Temple European Politics Colloquium  
2014 Organizer, “Ruptures,” Penn Political Science Graduate Conference  
2013 – 14 Organizer, Penn Political Theory Graduate Workshop  
2013 Organizer, “Order and Change,” Penn Political Science Graduate Conference  
2012 – 14 Organizer, UPenn Social Theory Workshop

## PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Resident Director, Critical Languages Scholarship Turkish Program, Istanbul (2010) and Izmir (2011)  
Selection and Advisory Committee, Critical Languages Scholarship, 2009 – Present

## LANGUAGES

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English (Native), Turkish (Native), French (Reading and Speaking), German (Reading)

## PERSONAL

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Born: Greensboro, NC May 7, 1983. Raised: Clinton, NY and Istanbul, Turkey. Have lived in Ankara, Berlin, Brussels, New York, Portland, Philadelphia, Rennes.

## REFERENCES

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Anne Norton  
Professor, Department of Political Science  
University of Pennsylvania  
[anorton@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:anorton@sas.upenn.edu)

Carol Nackenoff  
Richter Professor of Political Science  
Swarthmore College  
[cnacken1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:cnacken1@swarthmore.edu)

Jeffrey Green  
Professor, Department of Political Science  
University of Pennsylvania  
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