

Rebecca E. Léal

Department of French and Italian
511 Phillips Hall
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1409
319-353-2214 (office)
rebecca-leal@uiowa.edu

2297 Holiday Rd
Coralville, IA, 52241
319-351-2260 (home)
814-229-9733 (cell)

e-portfolio: <http://myweb.uiowa.edu/rleal>

Education

Ph.D. in French and Francophone World Studies, University of Iowa
(Defended Nov. 7, 2011)

Thesis: « Mon père, l'étranger : représentations et stéréotypes des
immigrés algériens en France »

Advisor: Michel Laronde

My work analyzes the representations of first generation North African immigrants by their children in Arabo-French immigration literature and cinema. The “Beur generation” paved the way for dialogue about and representation of post-World War II North African migrant labor through the opening of a polyphonic discourse concerning colonial and post-colonial history. Beur authors and cinematographers have broken the long standing collective pact of silence surrounding the first generation of North African immigrants, a silence which has led to an empty and imagined history of a generation that is spoken of, but who does not speak. In filling the void concerning North African parents, these works often result in filtered representation and history as they reproduce the very stereotypes about first generation immigrants that are so rampant in dominant French culture; the “reconstruction” of history and the representation of its actors that takes place through Beur cultural productions are thereby strongly influenced by dominant French institutions.

Ph.D. coursework, Pennsylvania State University
September 2006-August 2007

M.A. in French Literature, University of Iowa
May 2006

B.A. in Political Science, French, International Business Certificate,
Diplôme de français des affaires, 1er degré, mention très bien
Graduated with High Distinction, University of Iowa
December, 2003

Languages

Near native fluency in French
Intermediate proficiency in Arabic

**Teaching
Experience
(2004-present)**

Course Instruction in French (full responsibility for courses taught)

University of Iowa

- Graduate Translation Courses
 - 9:215, French Reading for Research I (Summer 2009)
 - 9:216, French Reading for Research II (Summer 2011)
- Advanced Undergraduate Literature and Culture Courses
 - 9:115, Business French (Fall 2011)
 - 9:111, Introduction to Reading and Writing in French (Fall 2008-Spring 2009; Fall 2011-Spring 2012)
 - 9:112, French Grammar (Fall 2009-Spring 2010)
- Language and Culture Courses
 - 009:010, First Year French Review (Fall 2004)
 - 009:002, Elementary French II (Spring 2005)
 - 009:011, Intermediate French I (Fall 2005; Spring 2008; Summer 2008)
 - 009:012, Intermediate French II (Spring 2006; Summer 2006; Fall 2007)
 - Curriculum Support for Intermediate French Programs (2008-9)
 - Teaching Support for First Year French (Fall 2011)
 - Instructor, University of Iowa Lifetime Enrichment Adult Program (Spring 2012)

Pennsylvania State University

- FR 137, The History of Paris, First Year Seminar (Spring 2007)
- FR 002, Second Year French (Fall 2006)

Publications

- Book Review. Haddad, Joumana. *I Killed Scheherazade: Confessions of an Angry Arab Woman*. *CELAAN: Revue du Centre d'Etudes des Littératures et des Arts d'Afrique du Nord*. (forthcoming)
- “Masking Islam? Aminata Sow Fall’s *The Beggars’ Strike*.” *Chimères* (under review)
- “Ruptures and Transmissions: Representations of the Arab-French Mother by Daughters in Popular Cultural Productions.” *Dalhousie French Studies* (under review)
- Translation, “Lorsque la rastalogie, la *dub poetry* et l’Antillanité-Tout-Monde d’Edouard Glissant entrent en relation,” Anny Dominique Curtius in *Revue des Sciences Humaines, Special issue in memory of Edouard Glissant* (forthcoming)
- Translation, “Gandhi et Au-Béro, ou comment inscrire les traces d’une mémoire indienne dans une négritude martiniquaise,” Anny Dominique Curtius, originally published in *L’Esprit Créateur*, Summer 2010 (forthcoming)

**Papers
Delivered**

- “Motherhood in Exil: Myths and Representations of Franco-Algerian Post-War Maternity.” Women in French Conference, Arizona State University, Feb 24-25, 2012.
- “Documentaire, fiction, œuvre engagée: Genre Crossings in the Filmography of Yamina Benguigui.” 20th-21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium. Long Beach, CA, Mar 29-31, 2012.
- “Française de deuxième génération: Constructions of Girlhood in Banlieue Literature and Film.” French Literature Conference, Columbia, SC, Mar 15-17, 2012.
- “Postcolonial Ecologies: From *Bidonvilles* to *HLM*, Childhood in French Slums.” Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, KY, Apr 19-21, 2012.
- “Ma mère, l'étrangère : stéréotypes des immigrées algériennes en France.” Congrès du Conseil International d'Études Francophones, Aix-en-Provence, May 29-June 5, 2011.
- “My Mother, the Stranger: Stereotypes and Irony in the Representation of Algerian Immigrants in France.” European Studies Group Luncheon Series, University of Iowa, Spring 2012.
- “Mon père, l'Étranger: Stereotypes of Algerian Immigrants in Beur Literature and Cinema.” French Forum. Univ. of Iowa, Dec. 6, 2010.
- “The Cult of Franco-French Culture: Immigrant Stereotypes and Mimetic Practices in Beur Narratives.” 20th-21st Century French and Francophone Studies Conference, Toronto, Mar 25-27, 2010.
- “Mon père, l'Étranger: Representation of Algerian Immigrants Through the Eyes of their Children.” UI Crossing Borders and European Studies Convocation, Feb 26-27, 2009.
- “Immigrée, beurette, islamiste: Three Generations of Maghrébines in France.” Proposal Accepted, International Programs Conference, University of Iowa, Spring 2008.

**Other
Professional
Experience**

- Simulated Oral Proficiency Interview (SOPI) Workshop, sponsored by the Center for Applied Linguistics, February 18-19, 2011
- Translator, Haiti Project, International Writing Program, University of Iowa (October 2010 -present)
- Conference Organizer, The 1st University of Iowa Graduate Symposium in French and Francophone Studies, “Trespassing, Translation, Transcendence and Transvestism: Finding Comfort in the Space Between,” February 7, 2009.
- Presided over French & Italian Forum, University of Iowa (Dec. 2008)
- Discussant, Professor Paul Benhamou Lecture, University of Iowa (2008)

Teaching and Research Interests	20 th - and 21 st -century French immigration literature and film Colonial and post-colonial history and politics Arabic language and cultural studies Francophone literature from North Africa, Quebec, and the Caribbean
Courses Taken in Research Area	Arabic Language Courses- Independent Study, Advanced Arabic I, Intermediate Arabic I & II, Intensive Elementary Arabic I & II Literature of Immigration: Evolution of Beur and Afro-French Cultures (M. Laronde) Crossing Borders: Pilgrimage Accounts and Approaches (James Giblin) Gender in Modern Europe (Elizabeth Heineman) Interpreting Oral Histories (Janine Sawada, Morten Schlutter) Black Paris (PSU: Thomas Hale, Jennifer Boittin, Jonathan Eburne) Islam in Africa (PSU: Jonathan Brockopp) France: The Other Citizens (PSU: Jennifer Boittin) Migration in Africa (PSU: Cassandra Veney) Studies in Francophone Lit: Screening Slavery (Anny-Dominique Curtius) Women in Francophone Lit and Cinema (Anny-Dominique Curtius) Francophone Literature of the African Diaspora (Jacques Bourgeacq) Quebecois Literature (Michel Laronde) The Politics of the Middle East: A History of the Arab Peoples Economics of Growth and Development Politics of African Development Economies in Transition
Departmental Service	Simulated Oral Proficiency Interview (SOPI) Rater for Outcome Assessment of Graduating Seniors, University of Iowa (Spring 2011) International Students Orientation Leader, University of Iowa (2008) Translation Services, University of Iowa, (2008-present) English Second Language Instructor, Kirkwood College (2008-present) Curriculum Support for French Program, University of Iowa (2008-2009) Webmaster, Department of French, Penn State University (2006-2007) French Language Tutor, University of Iowa (2005-present)
Competitive Awards and Grants	Nominee, ACLS New Faculty Fellowship (October 2011) Nominee, Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Council on Teaching, University of Iowa (February 2011) Fellowship, University of Iowa Graduate College (Summer 2010) International Programs Graduate Student Travel Award, University of Iowa (March 2010) Graduate Student Senate Travel Grant, University of Iowa (2010; 2011) Fellowship, Department of French and Italian, University of Iowa (Fall 2004-Spring 2005)

**Professional
Associations**

Women in French
Modern Language Association
Conseil International d'Études Francophones
American Association of Teachers of French
European Studies Group, University of Iowa

References

Michel Laronde, Professor
Department of French and Italian
563 Phillips Hall
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1409
Tel. (319) 335-2264; michel-laronde@uiowa.edu

Roland Racevskis, Professor
Department of French and Italian
551 Phillips Hall
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1409
Tel. (319) 335-2252; roland-racevskis@uiowa.edu

Anny Curtius, Associate Professor
Department of French and Italian
111 Phillips Hall
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1409
Tel. (319) 335-2261; anny-curtius@uiowa.edu