News & Happenings

The King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies Quarterly Newsletter



CENTER ANNOUNCEMENTS



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Upcoming Courses

The King Fahd Center will offer two undergraduate level courses during the Summer 2013 sessions (below). A complete listing of upcoming Fall 2013 courses can be found on page 11.

• WLIT3983 The Quran

First 5-week session, Monday-Friday, 11:00-12:30 pm

• HIST3043 History of the Modern Middle East Second 5-week session, Monday-Friday, 9:15-10:45 am



Caravanserai

The King Fahd Center will be hosting a second music residency the week of April 14-20 as part of Caravanserai: A place where cultures meet. The vibrant, spiritual chamber melodies of the Orchestra of Fes will take audiences on a sonic tour to the heart of Morocco's rich musical heritage. Directed by the legendary Mohammed Briouel, one of Morocco's premiere orchestra and chamber group directors, Orchestra of Fes has toured the world giving concerts of Andalusian, Arab, and Sephardic music. They will appear with vocalist Françoise Atlan, considered one of the world's finest vocal interpreters of Sephardic music. Atlan has devoted much of her career to exploring the Arab-Andalusian repertoire of the Fes tradition.

APRIL EVENTS

April 1-30 Morocco in Transition at the Fayetteville Public Library

April 12 (1:00 PM) Can We the People Tolerate Islamic Law? Anti-Sharia Legislation and the U.S. Constitution

> April 12 (2:00 PM) **Arabic Speech Contest**

April 17 (6:30 PM) Musical Workshop with the Orchestra of Fes featuring Françoise Atlan

> April 18 (7:00 PM) They Were Promised the Sea: Screening and Discussion with Filmmaker Kathy Wazana

April 19 (12:00 PM) Classical Andalusian Music: A lecture by Dr. Philip Schuyler

April 19 (8:00 PM) Performance by the Orchestra of Fes featuring Françoise Atlan



UPCOMING EVENTS

Caravanserai: Morocco in Transition

April 1-30, 2013 at the Fayetteville Public Library

Morocco in Transition presents 21 photographs by three contemporary Moroccan photographers who investigate the social and environmental transformations experienced in Morocco since the early 20th century. The exhibit explores the country's dynamic landscape, juxtaposing urban and rural settings, and highlights individual and cultural diversity through candid portraits of Moroccan women. Together, the images depict a country that is continually in transition at the crossroads of ancient and modern cultures.

Can We the People Tolerate Islamic Law?
Anti-Sharia Legislation and the U.S. Constitution

April 12, 2013 at 1:00 PM Leflar Law Center Courtroom, Room 240 Free and Open to the Public

The Journal for Islamic Law and Culture and the King Fahd Center will co-sponsor a forum on the constitutional question of religious law in light of recent efforts in states like Oklahoma to pass legislation outlawing 'Sharia Law.' Speakers will include Mark Potok (Senior Fellow, Southern Poverty Law Center), John Eismore (Foundation for Moral Law), Bernard Freamon (Professor, Seton Hall University School of Law), Abed Awad (Awad and Khoury LLP), and Stephen Sheppard (Distinguished Professor of Law, UA). Discussion will be moderated by Joel Gordon, Director of the King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies.

Arabic Speech Contest

April 12, 2013 at 2:00 PM, Arkansas Union 514 Free and Open to the Public

The annual Arabic Speech Contest is part of this year's "Fulbright Language Festival" and includes Arabic, Chinese, EASL and Japanese. An awards ceremony and cultural presentations by students from each

participating language will follow the competitions in the Arkansas Union Theatre at 4:30 PM. The public is invited to attend.



Musical Workshop with the Orchestra of Fes featuring Françoise Atlan

April 17, 2013 at 6:30 PM, Fayetteville Public Library Free and Open to the Public

The Orchestra of Fes will delight audiences with a concert of Andalusian classical music, a tradition at the core of contemporary Moroccan culture and evolved over centuries of cultural exchange between North Africa, Spain, Portugal, and southern European Muslim traditions. The beautiful voice of Jewish vocalist Françoise Atlan will join the chamber ensemble to highlight the rich tradition of Sephardic music that is an integral part of the Moroccan experience. This concert provides an opportunity for the public to enjoy a free musical performance by the Orchestra of Fes featuring Françoise Atlan, and to learn more about Moroccan music and culture through conversations with the artists.

They Were Promised the Sea: Screening and Discussion with Filmmaker Kathy Wazana

April 18, 2013 at 7:00 PM, Giffels Auditorium Free and Open to the Public

They Were Promised Sea (2011), a 'myth shattering' documentary and 'intimate journey' about the exodus of Morocco's deep-rooted Jewish community in the 1950s and 1960s will be screened at 7 pm in Giffels Auditorium. Director Kathy Wazana will be present to answer questions and discuss her work.

Classical Andalusian Music:

A lecture by Dr. Philip Schuyler

April 19, 2013 at 12:00 PM, Old Main 319 Free and Open to the Public

As part of the upcoming Caravanserai residency with the Orchestra of Fes and Françoise Atlan, ethnomusicologist Dr. Philip Schuyler will return to the U of A. He will speak on Moroccan Andalusian music, putting it in the context of Arab history, east and west; the ecumenical spirit of Andalusia; the interrelationship of the arts, principally music, poetry, and architectural design; and developments of the tradition in North Africa.

Performance by the Orchestra of Fes featuring Françoise Atlan

April 19, 2013 at 8:00 PM, Walton Arts Center Tickets \$5 for students, \$10-25 for community

The Orchestra of Fes and Françoise Atlan are featured performers in the Walton Arts Center 10x10 Series. They will give a public performance at the WAC, Thursday, October 18th at 7:00 PM. Tickets for this performance are \$5 for students and between \$10-25 for community members and are available at the Walton Arts Center box office. For more information regarding tickets visit the WAC website or call 479-443-5600.

Caravanserai: A place where cultures meet is produced by Arts Midwest on behalf of the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations with leadership support from the Building Bridges Program of the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art. Major support is provided by Robert Sterling Clark Foundation. This project is made possible in part by a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters and MetLife Foundation All-In: Re-imagining Community Participation Program. Additional assistance has been provided by our lead Moroccan partners, the Essaouira Mogador Association and the Office of Moroccan National Tourism.

FACULTY NEWS



Nikolay Antov (HIST) will spend AY 2013-14 in Turkey supported by a fellowship from the American Research Institute in Turkey-National Endowment for the Humanities (ARIT-NEH). Professor Antov will carry out research for a book project titled "Imperial Expansion, Colonization, and Conversion to Islam in the Islamic World's 'Wild West': The Formation of the Muslim Community in Ottoman Deliorman, 15-16 C". This research will supplement 3 months of work last summer in the Ottoman imperial archives in Istanbul.

Mounir Farah (CIED) has been named Outstanding Faculty Member by the Office of Sponsored Student Programming, the Graduate School and International Education.



Media Citations

Najib Ghadbian (PLSC) is on leave this semester while he heads up the Washington, DC and New York City offices for the Syrian National Council. An AP profile that ran in the Washington Post and on other web sites in March 2013.

Jerry Rose's (ANTH) work in the ancient Egyptian city of Amarna is featured prominently in "Ancient Egyptian Cemetery Holds Proof of Hard Labor" in National Geographic Daily News (March 2013).



Presentations/Scholarly Activities

Sarwar Alam (MEST) presented "Sufism Without Boundaries: The Maizbhandariyya Tariqa and Interfaith Dialogue in Modern Bangladesh" at the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, Regional Meeting 2013 in Greenville, South Carolina on March 16, 2013.

Nikolay Antov (HIST) presented "The Ottoman Danubian Serhad in the Early 16th century: Challenges and Policies" at Indiana University on March 24, 2013 at the 32nd György Ránki Hungarian Chair Symposium "Hungary on the border-land of two world powers: the Habsburgs and the Ottomans".

Joel Gordon (HIST) to spoke to Transport Security Administration (TSA) personnel about Islam and Muslim cultures as part of a diversity programming week at Northwest Regional Airport on October 19, 2012, and on "The United States and the Arab Spring" at Qaid-i Azim University in Islamabad, Pakistan on December 27, 2012. He also attended the First Symposium of Saudi Scientific Chairs in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in early January 2013.

Ted Swedenburg (ANTH) spoke on "The International Circulation of Palestinian Kufiyas" at the American University in Beirut, Lebanon on March 21, 2013.



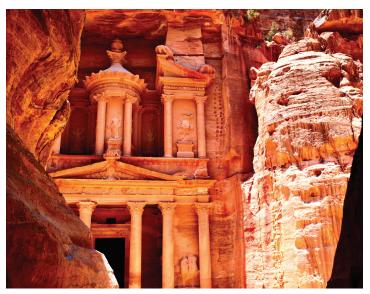
Publications

Jesse Casana (ANTH) published "Radial Route Systems and Agro-Pastoral Strategies in the Fertile Crescent: New Discoveries from western Syria and southwestern Iran" in Journal of Anthropological Archaeology (2013). He co-authored, with Jackson Cothren (CAST), "The CORONA Atlas Project: Orthorectification of CORONA Satellite Imagery and Regional-Scale Archaeological Exploration in the Near East" in Mapping Archaeological Landscapes from Space (Springer 2013). Both papers build upon a project completed in 2011 that has corrected 1960s imagery of the entire Middle East and making it available online through a digital atlas, now available.

Paula Haydar's translation of *June Rain*, the highly acclaimed novel by Jabbour Douaihi, has just been released. The 2006 novel was shortlisted for the prestigious International Prize for Arab Fiction. Paula's translation (in collaboration with Center alumna

Nadine Sinno) of Lebanese novelist Rachid al-Daif's *Who's Afraid of Meryl Streep* has been accepted by the University of Texas Press.

Tom Paradise (GEOS) contributed regional knowledge and cartographic experience to Millennium Press's *EARTH*, a highly anticipated and acclaimed atlas. 100 of the world's best cartographers, geographers and oceanographers were asked to contribute the atlas's 800 images and 355 maps. Paradise contributed the text for sections on Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt in addition to his cartographic and photographic contributions to the North Africa region and Jordan. He also published "Cultural Heritage Management and GIS in Petra, Jordan" in *ArcNews* Summer 2012 on his extensive work in Petra, Jordan.



Petra, Jordan. Photo courtesy of Tom Paradise.



Research

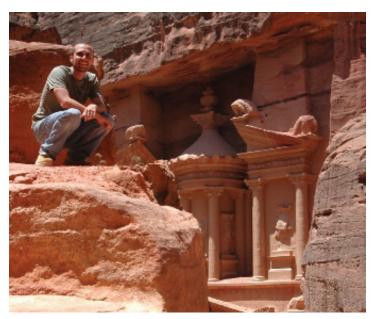
Kenneth Brown, former Visiting Scholar at the King Fahd Center, is currently in Marrakesh, Morocco on an artist's residency from Dar al-Ma'mun, where he is working on his manuscript about Mediterranean cities.

Jesse Casana (ANTH) signed a 5-year agreement with the antiquities authorities in Erbil, Iraq for a new regional survey project on the Upper Diyala (Kurdish Sirwan) River.

GRADUATE NEWS



Christopher Angel (PhD ENDY) has received a Summer Research Grant from the King Fahd Center to undertake research in Amman, Jordan for his dissertation "Comprehensive Analysis of Nabataean Urban Geography and Morphology in Petra, Jordan", examining the classical period urban morphology of Petra, Jordan using innovative GIS, remote sensing (satellite imagery) and cartography to reconstruct the city and region during the period of Petra's high empire from 100 BC to 300 AD.



Christopher Angel in Petra, Jordan. Photo courtesy of Tom Paradise.

Kaelin Groom (MA GEOG) has received a Summer Research Grant from the King Fahd Center to undertake research in Jordan, studying rock decay and tafoni development in Petra and investigating the effects of climate, tourism and geology on the deterioration of Petra, Jordan's unique sandstone architecture.

Jaime Holland (MA ANTH) has received a Summer Research Grant from the King Fahd Center to undertake research in Lebanon, studying language at the Lebanese American University and written street art/graffiti in Beirut. **Sonia Kapur** (PhD PUBP) has received a Summer Research Grant from the King Fahd Center to undertake research in California on immigrant women from South Asia.

Ethan Morton-Jerome (ABD ANTH) has been awarded a fellowship from the Palestine American Research Center (PARC) to continue fieldwork in the West Bank on Palestinian labor on West Bank settlements and Palestinian Authority efforts to create employment alternatives.

Matthew Parnell (ABD HIST) has won the James J Hudson Doctoral Prize in the Humanities from Fulbright College. Parnell will be heading to Egypt in April on a fellowship from the American Research Center in Egypt to continue dissertation research on Youth and Politics in late 19th and early 20th Century Egypt.

Peter von Groote (MA GEOG) has received a Summer Research Grant from the King Fahd Center to undertake research in Jordan, mapping the poorly researched period of Byzantine/Crusader fortification in and around Petra, investigating and reconstructing the urban layout and architecture of Petra's unique Medieval Fortress at al-Habis.

Keith Whitmire (PhD ANTH) has received a Summer Research Grant from the King Fahd Center to undertake language and musical training in Cairo, Egypt as part of his research on Arab Pop and the Egyptian Revolution.



Job Offers

Ahmet Akturk (ABD HIST, supervisor Joel Gordon) has accepted a tenure-track position in History at Georgia Southern University, to begin August 2013. He will defend his dissertation on Kurdish nationalism in Syria under the French Mandate in May.

Tuna Kalayci (PhD ANTH, supervisor Jesse Casana) has accepted a post-doctoral position at the Institute for Mediterranean Studies in Crete.



Presentations

Ahmet Akturk (ABD HIST) presented his paper "Many Faces of Religion: Kurdish Nationalism in French Mandatory Levant" at the MESA annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, in November 2012. He also offered a course entitled "The Israeli and the Palestinian Conflict" to members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in October/November 2012.

Kaveh Bassiri (PhD CLCS) took part in a book forum organized by the OMNI Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology on the Literature of U.S. 'Enemies' on February 22, 2013, discussing Forbidden: Poems from Iran and its Exiles. Kaveh also presented "The Text is in the Context: on translating Nima Yushij" at the American Literary Translators Association conference in October 2012, and "Friends/Enemies on the Border: National Identity in Iranian War Cinema" at the MESA annual meeting in November 2012. He also served as moderator for a panel entitled "Role and Impact of International Anthologies" at the Association of Writers and Writing Programs 2013 conference and read from his poetry.

Matthew Parnell (ABD HIST) presented his paper "What is National Unity?: Examining *al-wahida al-wataniyya* in the Egyptian 1919 Revolution" at the MESA annual meeting in November 2012.

Wawan Yulianto (PhD CLCS) presented "Trespassing Ethnic and Generic Borders as an Activism" at the Regional Graduate Student Literature Conference at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, in March 2013.



Professional Service

Ahmet Akturk (ABD HIST) joined the editorial board of *Kürt Tarihi* [Kurdish History], a popular history magazine in Turkish during the summer of 2012.

Kaveh Bassiri (Phd CLCS) became an editor for /One/, a quarterly journal of literature, art and ideas, as well as serving as advisor for Poet Voices of the Muslim World, a project funded by the Bridging Cultures Program of the National endowment for the Humanities.



Publications

Ahmet Akturk (ABD HIST) published "Seeing Celadet Bedirkhan on TRT 6" in *Kürt Tarihi* (2012).

Christopher Angel (PhD GEOS) has published two maps related to his work in Petra, Jordan: "Oblique 3-D view of the Valley of Petra" in ArcNews Summer 2012 and "3-D View of Petra: Digital Elevation Model with Monuments" in "Archaeologists Dig up New Uses for GIS", Cadalyst September 2012.

Kaveh Bassiri (PhD CLCS) published poems in *Drunken Boat* (Fall 2012), *Beloit Poetry Review* (Summer 2012), *RHINO* (Spring 2012), and two poems in the anthology *The Forbidden: Poems from Iran and its Exiles* (2012). He also published the play "Notebook of Questions" in *Post Road*, (Fall 2012) and a translation of "The Seventh Day" by Roya Zarrin in *The Massachusetts Review* (Fall 2012).

An **excerpt** of **Nicole Fares'** (MA TRANS) translation of Sahar Mandour's novel *32* was published in *Jadaliyya* in February 2013.

Kaelin Groom (MA GEOG) published "Case Hardening Vignettes from the Western USA: Convergence of Form from a Divergence of Hardening Processes" in *Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Yearbook* (2012) and "The Role of Fieldwork in Rock Decay Research: Case Studies from the Fringe" in *Geomorphology* (forthcoming, available online 22 December 2012).



Research

Meshari Alenazi (MA GEOG) will undertake research in Kuwait (summer 2013) examining the perception of nature preserves and their integration into the urban plans and expansions across Kuwait City and the region.

Yousif Alkandari (MA GEOG) will conduct research in Kuwait (summer 2013) investigating the evolution of green space and urban parks in Kuwait City since its rapid growth in the 1970s. Using geoinformatics he is reconstructing the urban morphology of the region from a small town to a booming metropolis, focusing on the location, size, distribution, and function of its green spaces.

Ali Capar (MA HIST) conducted research on the Nusayri in Turkey during the summer of 2012, and visited the Ottoman Archives in Istanbul for soon to be defended thesis "The Ottoman-Nusayri Relationship between 1830-61".

Ryan Cochran (MA GEOG) undertook research in Petra, Jordan interviewing hundreds of European visitors to Petra to examine their personal and national opinions as to the role of the 'Arab Spring' social and political movements on the perceived stability and future of the region.

Andie Duplantis (MA GEOG) undertook research in Jerusalem with MEST support (summer 2012), collecting surveys that examined and assessed the role of religion and demographics in better understanding policies and opinions regarding urban growth, migration, security and 'quality of life' across Israel and Palestine.

Grace Henderson (MA GEOG) undertook research in Jerusalem with MEST support (summer 2012), to examine the role of perception, culture, religion, and gender in affecting the policies and attitudes regarding natural hazards in the highly seismically active region of Israel, Palestine and Jordan.



West Wall, Jerusalem. Photo courtesy of Tom Paradise.

Daniel Snyder (MA GEOS) undertook research in Petra, Jordan (summer 2012), utilizing remote sensing, GIS, cartography, GPS to examine the complex world of the Roman occupation and annexation of Petra, Jordan in 106AD. He is investigating the integrated effects the cultural and political merging on urban planning, cultural implications, resource management, trade, architecture, and religion.



Theses Defended

Tricia Nellesen (PhD ANTH, supervisor Ted Swedenburg) defended her dissertation, "The Consciousness of Water: Narrative Flows, Environmental Change, and the Voices of Yemen" in February 2013 and will graduate in May 2013.

Yulia Uryadova (PhD HIST, supervisor Joel Gordon) defended her dissertation, "Bandits, Terrorists, and Revolutionaries: The Breakdown of Civil Authority in the Imperial Ferghana Valley, 1905-1914" and graduated in December 2012.

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS



Allie Arend (ENGL/MEST/FREN) will travel to England on a full scholarship from Durham University to participate in the summer course on history and culture of England.

Sean Bryant (IR/MEST) was awarded funding to attend a seven week summer program in San Bernardino, California as part of Project GO to study Arabic.

Charles Denny (IREL/FREN, ARAB minor) spent the Fall 2012 semester studying with the CIEE-Language and Culture program in Amman, Jordan, with funding from Honors College and Sturgis grants. He will spend the summer in France as part of his degree requirements for his French major and will also study Arabic there. His summer travels are supported by Honors College grants.

Elizabeth Heckmann (IREL/MEST) has been accepted into the CIEE Language and Culture program in Amman, Jordan for the 2013-2014 academic year. She has received scholarship support from the Honors College Study Abroad Grant, the Sturgis Grant, the CIEE Gain Scholarship, and the Department of Middle East Studies Study Abroad Scholarship.

Saba Naseem (JOUR/MEST, ARAB minor) is currently studying in Morocco on a CLS Scholarship.

David Sommi (IREL/MEST, ARAB minor) has been accepted by the Butler University Institute for Study Abroad, into the SOAS, University of London, Academic Year 2013 Program.

Brendan Sparks (IREL/MEST, Arabic minor) has been accepted by the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center to study intensive Arabic this summer for 6 weeks in Oman. The program provides full funding.

Samantha Vaughn (FREN/IREL/PLSC, ARAB and CHIN minors) is currently studying for the Spring 2013 semester in Morocco through the International Studies Abroad in Meknes program called "Language, Culture, and Society." Her study abroad is supported by the Cleveland C. Burton Undergraduate Fellowship in International Relations and an Honors College study abroad grant. Following her stay in Morocco, she will travel on a U.S. State Department Critical Languages Scholarship (CLS) to do intensive Arabic in Alexandria, Egypt in Summer 2013.

ALUMNI NEWS

Manal al-Natour (PhD CLCS 2012), Assistant Professor of World Languages, West Virginia University, has published 'The Role of Women in the Egyptian 25th January Revolution' in the *Journal of International Women's Studies* (2012).

Farid al-Salim (PhD HIST 2008), Visiting Assistant Professor of History, University of Memphis, has published *Palestine and the Decline of the Ottoman Empire* (IB Taurus).

Rasha el-Endari (MA ANTH 2012), a Fulbright Scholar from Syria, completed her MA in December 2012 and has begun the PhD program in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Toronto.

Jason Hermann (PhD ENDY 2012), a Center-funded student, completed his PhD in December 2012 and has begun a 3-year postdoctoral research position at the Neukom Institute at Dartmouth.

Nadine Sinno (PhD CLCS 2009), Assistant Professor of Arabic, Georgia State University, has accepted a tenure-track position in Arabic at Virginia Tech University

Laila Taraghi (MA PLSC 2012) has been accepted, with funding, into a PhD program in Public Affairs at Portland State University.

EGYPT

TELL AMARNA BIOARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL 2014, AMARNA (MIDDLE EGYPT)

Directors	Dr Jerry Rose and Professor Barry Kemp (University of Arkansas and Amarna Trust)
Sponsors	King Fahd Centre for Middle East Studies, University of Arkansas and the Amarna Trust
Period	New Kingdom, 18th Dynasty
Dates	12 May – 11 June 2014 (approximately)
Apply by	1 August 2013 (actual)
Team	4 staff; 12 Field School places
Experience	No previous experience required
Minimum age	18 (College/University age)
Minimum stay	Full session
Language	English
Cost	University Study Abroad Fees of c. \$2,970, which covers all costs once student arrives in Cairo including tours of archaeological sites; Tuition for 6 credits estimated at \$1,378. Airfares, entry visa to Egypt, some meals in Cairo, and souvenirs not included.
Board & lodging	The project is housed in the Amarna research facilities where we sleep, eat, and work. Meals and laundry are provided. Each person is given a private bedroom.
Health/insurance	No vaccination required. Health insurance is required and fees provide a travel policy that covers catastrophic health problems.
Passport/Visa	Valid passport at time of application. Tourist visa upon entry to Egypt



Since the late 1980s Dr Jerome Rose has been excavating and conducting osteological analysis in Egypt. Beginning in 2007, he has been taking groups of qualified students with him on his bioarchaeological analysis field work and is willing to take up to 12 students to Tell Amarna for the 2014 season

This is an intensive program providing the opportunity to study the excellently-preserved skeletal material, including paleopathology, of the commoners from Tell Amarna, the city built by Pharaoh Akhenaton. Students are given the opportunity to improve their osteological analytical skills no matter the level where they begin. The team spends the entire time cleaning, analyzing and interpreting the skeletons excavated two months earlier.

Participants will be instructed as to which hotel and at what time they should arrive in Cairo. After two days of tours everyone goes to

Amarna on a bus. Participants will also experience life at a British archaeological excavation and tour the houses, palaces, temples, and tombs of Tell Amarna, led by Professor Barry Kemp.

Useful reading

- http://www.amarnaproject.com/pages/recent_projects/excavation/south_tombs_cemetery/
- Rose, J. and M. Zabecki (2009) The commoners of Tell el-Amarna. *In S.* Ikram and A. Dodson (eds) *Beyond the Horizon: Studies in Egyptian Art, Archaeology and History in Honour of Barry J. Kemp*, Vol 2, Cairo: Supreme Council of Antiquities.
- Kemp, Barry, Stevens, Anna, Dabbs, Gretchen R., Zabecki, Melissa, Rose, Jerome C. 2013. Life, death and beyond in Akhenaten's Egypt: excavating the South Tombs Cemetery at Amarna. *Antiquity* 87(335):64–78.

Contact Dr Jerry Rose, Department of Anthropology, University of Arkansas		
Tel +1-479-575-2508	Email jcrose@uark.edu	
Fax +1-479-575-6595	Web http://studyabroad.uark.edu/egypt	





King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies

202 Old Main University of Arkansas Fayetteville, AR 72701 http://mest.uark.edu

Phone: 479-575-2175 Fax: 479-575-3629

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Joel Gordon, Center Director • Tom Paradise, Faculty Editor • Nani Verzon, Program Coordinator & Editor-in-Chief