# THEO A. KNIGHTS

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#### **EDUCATION**

PhD University of Chicago, Chicago, IL Expected June 2029

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations 4.0/4.0

MSt University of Oxford, Oxford, UK June 2022

Oriental Studies, Distinction

MA University of Chicago, Chicago, IL June 2021

Middle Eastern Studies Overall GPA: 4.0/4.0

BA University of Chicago, Chicago, IL June 2020

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

Overall GPA: 3.887/4.0

*Honors*: Phi Beta Kappa, The Dean's List (2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017)

## **AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

2021-22 The Oxford Nizami Ganjavi Centre Scholar

Full international course fee waiver and £15,009 living stipend

2020-21 United States Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS)

Academic Year Fellowship — Uzbek

The Center For East European And Russian/Eurasian Studies

2020-21 CMES Full Tuition Scholarship

2020 Institute of Turkish Studies Summer Language Study Grant

Advanced Level Certificate, Ottoman Summer Program, ANAMED, Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

2020 United States Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS)

Summer Fellowship — Turkish

The Center For East European And Russian/Eurasian Studies

2019-20 **Dean's One-Half Tuition Scholarship** 

2016 **Jeff Metcalf Fellowship Grant for Internships** 

#### **EXPERIENCE**

Oct 2019 – The Center For East European And Russian/Eurasian Studies, Chicago, IL

June 2021 Student Assistant

- Assist in developing a library of online resources for K-12 education
- Collaborate with Humanities Computing at the University of Chicago to redesign and rebuild the Center's website in Drupal 8
- Responsible for transferring content from the old website and for publishing all new posts to the website
- Assist in administering Zoom training to participants in conferences sponsored by the Center

June – **Oriental Institute**, Haifa, Israel Aug 2016 *Metcalf Intern, Tell Keisan Excavations* 

• Conducted hand excavation of Bronze Age Phoenician and Israelite cultural artifacts and architectural features

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Forthcoming: Review of *An Ottoman Cosmography: Translation of Cihānnümā*. By Kātib Çelebi. Edited by Gottfried Hagen and Robert Dankoff. Translated by Ferenc Csirkés, John Curry, and Gary Leiser. Leiden: Brill, 2021. Pp. xiv + 694. €263 (cloth)," *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 82, no 1 (October 2023).

"A Revolutionary Center in the East?: Early Turkish Socialist Thought Between the Third International and the Turkish National Movement," *Lights: The Middle Eastern Studies Student Association Journal* 5, no 1+2 (Spring 2021): 77-94.

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

#### **Papers Presented**

2020 "A Revolutionary Center in the East?: Early Turkish Socialist Thought Between the

Third International and the Turkish National Movement," The 15th Annual Pre-Conference for Graduate Students in Turkic/Turkish Studies, American Association of Teachers of Turkic Languages, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, October 10, 2020 (Virtual)

2021 "A Revolutionary Center in the East?: Early Turkish Socialist Thought Between the

Third International and the Turkish National Movement," 27th Annual Association of Central Eurasian Students Conference, Indiana University Bloomington, Bloomington, IN,

February 27, 2021 (Virtual)

2021 "A Revolutionary Center in the East?: Early Turkish Socialist Thought Between the

Third International and the Turkish National Movement," 35th Annual Middle East History and Theory Conference, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, May 1, 2021 (Postponed

from May 1, 2020)

## **SERVICE & ACTIVITIES**

2022-23 Middle East History and Theory Workshop, Convener

& 2023-24 Convenes the NELC Department's weekly yearlong series of workshops on the History of the Islamicate

World

• Won a \$2000 grant from the Council for Advanced Studies to support the workshop

and invite outside speakers

2023-24 Middle East History and Theory Graduate Student Conference, Organizer

Revives and organizes the Center for Middle Eastern Studies' 2-day graduate student conference after an

extended COVID hiatus

2020-21 University of Chicago Turkish Circle, Coordinator

Organized and convened a weekly yearlong series of lectures and conversations in modern Turkish

#### **LANGUAGES**

Turkish: Advanced reading, writing, speaking

Ottoman Turkish: Advanced reading

Uzbek: Elementary reading, writing, speaking

Modern Standard Arabic: Elementary reading, writing, speaking

Persian: Elementary reading, writing, speaking

French: Limited reading ability