SARA SCALENGHE

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2024–present	Professor, Department of History, Loyola University Maryland
2014–2023	Associate Professor, Department of History, Loyola University Maryland.
2009–2014	Assistant Professor, Department of History, Loyola University Maryland.
2007–2009	Assistant Professor, Department of History and Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (joint appointment), Indiana University.
2006–2007	Qatar Post-Doctoral Fellow, The Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University.

EDUCATION

2006	Ph.D. with Distinction, Middle Eastern and North African History, Georgetown University.
2000	M. A. with Distinction, Arab Studies, Georgetown University.
1993	B. A. with First Class Honors, Arabic with Persian, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, UK.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2027	*Disability History in the Modern Middle East*. Co-edited with Beverly Tsacoyanis. Bloomsbury, forthcoming.
2026	*Histories of Emotions and Disability: Reclaiming Pain, Agency, and Intersectionality*. Co-edited with Ninon Dubourg and Pieter Verstraete. Manchester University Press.
2014	*Disability in the Ottoman Arab World, 1500-1800*. Cambridge University Press, 2014. Paperback edition in 2016. Winner of the 2016 Disability History Association Outstanding Book Award. Honorable Mention, 2015 British-Kuwait Friendship Society Book Prize in Middle Eastern Studies.

Special Journal Issue

2025	Ninon Dubourg, Sara Scalenghe & Pieter Verstraete, guest editors of the "Medieval Histories of Disability and Emotions," a special issue of the *Journal of Medieval History*, vol. 51, issue 2, April 2025, 149-252.

Edited Volume - Section Editor

2023	Section editor, with Geoffrey Reaume, of "History of Disability" (6 chapters). *Handbook of Disability: Critical Thought and Social Change in a Globalizing World*. General editors Marcia H. Rioux, José Viera, Alexis Buettgen, Ezra Zubrow. Springer.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters and Journal Articles

2027	"Transgressive Bodies in Sufism." In *Sufism and the Body*, edited by Eyad Abuali and Sara Abdel-Latif. Brill, forthcoming, 2027.
2026	"Introduction. From the Centre to the Margins. Rethinking the History of Disability in the Wake of the Affective Turn." In *Histories of Emotions and Disability: Reclaiming Pain, Agency, and Intersectionality*, edited by Ninon Dubourg, Sara Scalenghe, and Pieter Verstraete, 1-30. Manchester University Press.
2025	Ninon Dubourg, Sara Scalenghe, and Pieter Verstraete, "Medieval Histories of Disability and Emotions: An Introduction," *Journal of Medieval History* 51, no. 2 (April 2025): 149-161.
2023	"Disability History: Introduction." In *Handbook of Disability: Critical Thought and Social Change in a Globalizing World*, co-authored with Geoffrey Reaume. General editors Marcia H. Rioux, José Viera, Alexis Buettgen, Ezra Zubrow. Springer.

2022 "The Body and Revolution in the Middle East." Co-authored with Sherene Seikaly. In *Routledge Handbook on Women in the Middle East*, edited by Suad Joseph and Zeina Zaatari, 135-146. New York: Routledge.

2019 "Disability Studies in The Middle East and North Africa: A Roundtable." *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 51, no. 1: 109-134. Invited organizer, editor, and contributor of "Disability Studies in the Middle East and North Africa: A Field Emerges," 109-112.

2018 "Disability in the Premodern Arab World." In *The Oxford Handbook of Disability History*, edited by Catherine Kudlick, Kim Nielsen and Michael Rembis, 71-84. Oxford University Press. *The Oxford Handbook* is the winner of the 2021 Rosen Prize of the American Association for the History of Medicine and the winner of the 2019 Disability History Association Outstanding Book Award.

2005 "The Deaf in Ottoman Syria, 16th-18th Centuries." *Arab Studies Journal* 12-13 (Fall 2004/Spring 2005): 10-25.

2004 "Conducting Research in Lebanon: An Overview of Historical Sources Outside of Beirut (Part II)," co-authored with Nadya Sbaiti. *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin* 38, no. 1: 187-195.

2003 "Conducting Research in Lebanon: An Overview of Historical Sources in Beirut (Part I)," co-authored with Nadya Sbaiti. *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin* 37, no. 2: 68-79.

Encyclopedia Articles, Interviews, Reflection Pieces

2012 "Teaching the History of Women and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa." *Perspectives on History* 50, no. 8: 40-42.

2009 "The Body in Islamic Law." In *The Oxford International Encyclopedia of Legal History*, ed. Stanley N. Katz, 298-301. New York: Oxford University Press.

2008 "Female Life Cycle: Menstruation and Menopause." In *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Women in World History*, ed. Bonnie G. Smith, vol. 2, 264-266. New York: Oxford University Press.

2006 "Disability." In *Medieval Islamic Civilization: An Encyclopedia,* ed. Josef Meri, vol. 1, 208-209. New York: Routledge.

2004 "'We Want People to Think the Unthinkable:' An Interview with Nizar Saghieh." *Middle East Report* 230: 34-36. (On LGBT rights groups in Lebanon).

Book Reviews

2016 Review of Sherine Hamdy, *Our Bodies Belong to God: Organ Transplants, Islam, and the Struggle for Human Dignity in Egypt*, in *Review of Middle East Studies* 50, no. 1: 92-94.

2016 Review of Dana Sajdi, *The Barber of Damascus: Nouveau Literacy in the Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Levant* in *The Arab Studies Journal* 24, no. 1: 276-280.

2015 Review of Bruce Masters, *The Arabs of the Ottoman Empire, 1516-1918: A Social and Cultural History*, in *The Middle East Journal* 69, no. 1: 158-159.

Work in Progress

A History of Women and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa. Book co-authored with Judith Tucker and Nadya Sbaiti. Under contract with Cambridge University Press. In preparation.

Disability in the Late Ottoman and Colonial Middle East (tentative title). A monograph on the history of disability in the 19th and early 20th centuries. In preparation.

COURSES TAUGHT

HS 100	Encountering the Past: Introduction to U.S. Disability History
HS 101	The Making of the Modern World: Europe
HS 107	The Making of the Modern World: The Middle East
HS 223	Women and Gender in the Middle East
HS 251	Global Histories of Disability
HS 300	The Historian's Craft
HS 368	The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict
HS 394	Colonialism and Nationalism in the Middle East and North Africa
HS 406	History Honors Thesis Seminar I
HS 407	History Honors Thesis Seminar II
HS 449	The Modern Middle East through Literature and Film

HS 481	Seminar: The History of Disability in Comparative Perspective
HS 489	Seminar: America in the Middle East
HS 491	Seminar: Migration, Displacement, and Refugees in the Middle East
HS 498	Seminar: Histories of Intellectual Disability
HS 499	History Capstone
GT 201	Introduction to Global Studies
GT 401	Internship: Global Studies International Experience
FOZP1A	European History and Culture (for Loyola students studying abroad in Belgium)

TEACHING ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITIES

2019	Jack and Anita Hess Teaching Faculty Seminar (one week), "Disability, Eugenics, and Genocide: Nazi Germany, Its Antecedents and Legacy," United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.
2018	Global Service-Learning Institute, intensive one-day training, Haverford College
2018	Center for Community, Service, and Justice (CCSJ), semester-long Service-Learning Faculty Fellow Seminar, Loyola University Maryland

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

2024	Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentoring, Loyola University Maryland.
2016	Winner, 2016 Disability History Association Outstanding Book Award.
2015	Honorable Mention, 2015 British-Kuwait Friendship Society Book Prize in Middle Eastern Studies 2015 (administered at Cambridge University).
2015	Dean's Achievement Award, Loyola University Maryland.
2008	2008 Harold N. Glassman Award for best dissertation in the Humanities, Georgetown University.
2007	Irving K. Zola Award for Emerging Scholars in Disability Studies, First Prize for the essay "Blindness in the Early Modern Middle East." Awarded by the Society for Disability Studies.
2007	Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Award for best dissertation in the Humanities. Honorable mention. Awarded by the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA).

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS (since 2015)

2015–2016	Senior Research Sabbatical, Loyola University Maryland.
2019, 2023, 2025	Summer Research Grant, Loyola University Maryland.
2018	Fellow in the 2019 Jack and Anita Hess Faculty Seminar, "Disability, Eugenics, and Genocide: Nazi Germany, Its Antecedents and Legacy," United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.
2018	National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Project Director, "Global Histories of Disability," a Summer Institute for College and University held at Gallaudet University, Washington, DC, June 18 - July 13, 2018.
2016	National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Scholar, "Transcending Boundaries: The Ottoman Empire, Europe, and the Mediterranean World, 1500-1800." Washington, DC.
2016, 2017	Summer Research Grant, Loyola University Maryland.
2015–2016	Senior Research Sabbatical, Loyola University Maryland.

INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS (since 2014)

2026	"Writing the History of Disability in the Ottoman Empire," guest lecture in Dr. Pieter Verstraete's course "Disability in Education," KU Leuven.
2020	"Disability in the Ottoman Empire." US Naval Academy in Annapolis, November 17.
2019	"Disability in Middle Eastern History: Challenges and Possibilities." University of Delaware, April 10.
2019	"Disability Studies in the Middle East and North Africa: A Field Emerges." Georgetown University, March 27.
2016	"Recent Work in Disability Studies." University of Oklahoma, December 2.
2016	"Disability History in Comparative Perspective: The Ottoman Empire and Early Modern Europe." University of Oklahoma, March 24.

2015 "Disability in the Middle East, Past and Present: An Introduction." The University of Maryland, November 12.

2015 "Disability in the Ottoman Arab World," Ottoman and Turkish Studies Seminar, Columbia University, October 29.

2015 "Girls' Education in Islamic Societies: A Historical Overview." Shepherd University, WV, April 6.

SELECTED CONFERENCES (since 2014)

Conferences Organized

2023 "Histories of Disability and Emotions: An International Conference." Co-organized with Ninon Dubourg and Pieter Verstraete. Leuven Centre for Health Humanities (KU Leuven), Online, June 13–15.

Papers Presented

2021 "Disability and Education in the Arab World: Historical Perspectives." Sixth ENIUGH Congress on World and Global History, Turku, Finland (online).

2019 "Photography and Disability in the Late Ottoman Empire." Middle East Studies Association annual conference, New Orleans, LA.

2019 "Visual Representations of Disability in the Late Ottoman Empire." International conference "Experiences of Dis/ability from the Late Middle Ages to the Mid-Twentieth Century," Tampere University, Finland.

2018 "Disability and Education in the Arab World: Historical Perspectives." International conference "Interdisciplinary Approaches to Disability: The MENA Region in the Modern Period," Cairo, Egypt.

2018 "Suicide in Ottoman Syria." Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

2018 "Photographing Disability in the Ottoman Empire." World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES), Sevilla, Spain.

2017 "Intersex in Early Modern Arab-Islamic Texts." "Extraordinary Bodies in Early Modern Nature and Culture" Workshop, Uppsala University, Sweden.

2017 "The Disabled Body in Nineteenth-Century Orientalist Photography." Nineteenth-Century Studies Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

2017 "Empire, Charity, and the Construction of Disability: The Case of the British Syrian Mission, 1860-1918." "Empires of Charity," an interdisciplinary workshop, the University of Warwick, U.K.

2015 "Doing Disability History in Non-Western Societies: A Perspective from the Arab World." "Living with (and without) the Americans with Disabilities Act: Reflections, Refractions, and Reactions in Disability History," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY.

2014 "Writing the History of Disability in the Middle East: The State of the Field." "Disability, Revolution, and the Politics of Hope," a symposium held at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.

Roundtables

2026 "Beyond Disability: Ableism and Ability in Historical Analysis" at the 2026 Canadian Society for the History of Medicine Conference.

2023 "Narrating Disability in Early Modern Contexts." Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

2022 "Disability Studies in the Middle East and North Africa: A Roundtable." Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

2018 "Globalizing Disability History: Contributions from Latin America, the Middle East, South Asia, and East Asia." American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

SELECTED SERVICE AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MARYLAND (since 2014)

2025–present Board of Rank and Tenure, Member

2023–present Faculty Senator for the History department

2021–2023 Director, Loyola International Nachbahr Huis, Leuven, Belgium

2019–2021 Chair, Department of History

2010–2019 Global Studies Steering Committee, Member

2018–2019 Interfaith Innovation Board, Member

2018	Chair, Search Committee, Director of Global Studies
2017	Research and Sabbatical Committee, Member
2017	Moderator of Diversity Reading Group in Disability Studies
2016	Chair, Search Committee, African History tenure-track position
2016–2019	Teaching and advising in the Messina program for first-year students

SELECTED SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION (since 2014)

2017–2020	President, Disability History Association
2015–2022	Member, Editorial Review Board, *Disability Studies Quarterly*
2018–present	Board Member, Middle East Studies Pedagogy Initiative
2021	Chair, Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Undergraduate Education Award Committee
2020	Peer Reviewer, University of Vienna/European Commission REWIRE (Reinforcing Women in Research) postdoctoral fellowship program
2019	Peer Reviewer, National Humanities Center Fellowship Competition
2018–2020	Member, Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Undergraduate Education Committee
2017–present	Member of the Manuscript Review Board of *Review of Disability Studies: An International Journal Manuscript*
2017	Member, Program Committee, Society for Disability Studies
2017	Member, Program Committee, Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference
2014–2016	Board Member and Treasurer, Disability History Association
2016	Peer Reviewer, NEH-Kluge Fellowship
Nov. 2015	"Disability in the Medieval Islamic World," a video teaching module for "The Global Middle Ages," an Initiative on Technology Enhanced Learning (ITEL) project, Georgetown University
2006–present	Peer reviewed articles for *The American Historical Review, Medieval Encounters, The Arab Studies Journal, Comparative Studies in Society and History, History Compass, Middle East Report, Disability Studies Quarterly, Review of Disability Studies, Globalizations*
2010–2015	Member of the Selection Committee, Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education
2013–2016	Peer Reviewer for the Society for the Disability Studies Annual Conference (Orlando 2013, Minneapolis 2014, Atlanta 2015, Phoenix 2016)
2014	Peer Reviewer, National Resource Centers Competition (Title VI), U.S. Department of Education

LANGUAGES

English, Arabic, Italian, French, Spanish, Ottoman Turkish (read), Persian (read)