



M.A. in Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies Alumni

Matthew Malone, Canada

After finishing my studies, I worked as a butler in Tokyo, lived on a kibbutz in Israel, and taught in Riyadh. Then I earned common law and civil law degrees at McGill University, and went to work in Silicon Valley at a large international law firm. I now work as an investigative attorney at a boutique law firm in California.

Class of 2012



Jingyi Dong, China

After completing my MA, I went on to work for the Guangdong Technion - Israel Institute of Technology (in Guangdong, China) and IsCham, the Israeli Chamber of Commerce in China. Currently, I am in Kazakhstan pursuing a PhD in Public Policy at Nazarbayev University.

Class of 2016

Shaina Oppenheimer, USA

I am now living in Tel Aviv, working as a senior news editor at Haaretz. As of recently I am also a PhD candidate at Tel Aviv University, studying gender and extremism, more specifically the debate around female participation in jihad.

Class of 2018



Edward Morin Jr, USA

I am currently a job developer for a refugee resettlement agency in Salt Lake City, Utah. I assist refugees in becoming self-sufficient by being a liaison between local employers and refugee clients as they prepare for work life in the United States. I also occasionally do interpretation in French and Arabic.

Class of 2019

Ziyun Tang, China

After graduation, I came back to China to work as a Middle East marketing strategist in Baidu, Shenzhen. Currently I am working as an Arabic teacher at the Shenzhen Polytechnic and also as a translator. I plan to pursue a Ph.D in the future.

Class of 2016



Kaja Bouman, Netherlands

After I followed the Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies MA program, I went on to work at i24NEWS and later as a correspondent in Morocco. I'm currently working back home in the Netherlands as a journalist for a TV talk show.

Class of 2017





Christopher Whitman, USA

Currently I am the Representative/Head of Office for Medico International, a German NGO, based in Jerusalem and Ramallah. We work on access to healthcare and human rights, and have projects in the West Bank, Gaza and Israel.

Class of 2013



Ana Maialen Ortega Romeu, Mexico

I currently live in Mexico City and am a translator and editor for the Mexican Journal of Political and Social Sciences, as well as a freelance translator. In the future, I plan to pursue a PhD in the same field.

Class of 2018



Emmanuel Botton, France

I currently live in France and will move to Angola soon. My focus there is agriculture development, both on a commercial level and also 'small farming' with NGOs. We are working with top Israeli companies involved in a few related fields.

Class of 2012



Di Xu, China

After graduation, I joined the Huawei company. My academic background brought me back to Middle East and I am currently in charge of the Public Affairs and Communications Department of Huawei Kuwait. We work with the local government sectors, universities and media to fulfill the company's vision of equality, diversity and inclusion for a better digital world. My experience at the HebrewU helped me build my communication skills by interacting with classmates from around the world and getting to know the Middle East from professors from the US, Europe, Israel and Arab countries. Also, Israeli innovation and entrepreneurship have inspired me during my career.

Class of 2016



Ariel Lapson, USA

I am now the Program Officer for Experiential Jewish Education at the Samis Foundation in Seattle, WA. After finishing my MA at the Hebrew University, I spent several years working in international tradeshows and marketing in the Israeli high-tech and diamond industries before moving back to the US. Since my return to the US, I have served as the Assistant Director for Israel Education at the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago and the Israel and World Jewry Program Manager at the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle. In addition to working full time, I am currently pursuing a second Master's in Israel Education at the George Washington University.

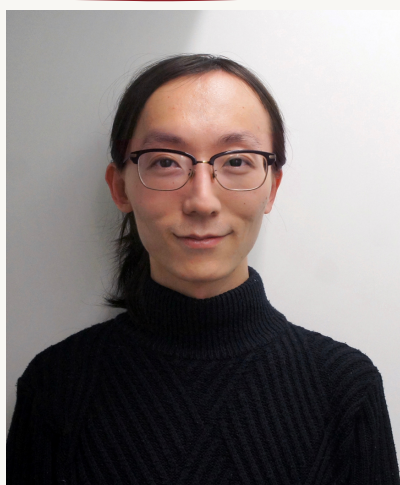
Class of 2012



Shangyun Shen, China

After graduating from the Hebrew University, I completed an internship in Coptology in Egypt and then came to Europe for a second master's degree in Heritage Studies. I'm now based in Paris, working in the secretariat of the European Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage.

Class of 2016





Nikolay Vasilyev, Russia

I'm based in London where I work as a UK-qualified solicitor advising clients from the IT, technology and asset management industries. In my leisure time I keep mastering colloquial Arabic; I also started learning Persian. At some point in the future I'll pursue a masters or PhD in Islamic law and its influence on the UK and EU law and practice.

Class of 2016

Paige Kohler, USA

I am currently living in San Diego, California. After graduating from the HU, I pursued a career as an archaeologist in the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) industry, most recently being hired as an Associate Archaeologist with PaleoWest, one of the largest CRM firms in the country. I welcomed my first child, Lana, in 2019 and I am currently pursuing a second Master's Degree in Anthropology/Archaeology.

Class of 2015



Guangmiao Yang, China

I am in the UK, doing a master's degree in Research Methods (Anthropology) at Durham University. I plan to do a PhD after finishing this program, majoring in Anthropology and focusing on the Middle East.

Class of 2018

Alex Myers, South Africa

I am currently working in IT, as a cybersecurity engineer and penetration tester, based in Bucharest, Romania.

Class of 2015



Xiaoyu Liu, China

I am living in Beijing and working at the Bank of China's head office as a product manager of the bank's app .

Class of 2016

Daniel Samet, USA

I am currently a PhD student in History at the University of Texas at Austin, where I research American foreign policy toward the Middle East.

Class of 2017