

# JENNIFER ROSE WEBSTER

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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D., University of Washington. Department of History March 2015  
Dissertation: "Toward a Sacred Topography of Central Asia: Shrines, Pilgrimage, and Gender in Kyrgyzstan," directed by Professors Glennys Young and Joel Walker
- M.A.I.S., University of Washington. Jackson School of International Studies, June 2006  
Comparative Religion
- B.A., Reed College. Department of Biology May 2002  
Thesis: "Mr. Toad Goes for a Ride: Amphibian Decline, Its Causes, and Solutions through Management and Conservation," directed by Professor Robert Kaplan

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2012-2013 Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute Graduate Fellowship in Persian Studies
- 2012 International Research & Exchange Board (IREX) Individual Advanced Research Opportunity Fellowship in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan
- 2011 Chester A. Fritz Fellowship for research in Kyrgyzstan
- 2011 Maurice and Lois Schwartz Fellowship for research in Central Asia
- 2010 Maurice and Lois Schwartz Fellowship for research in Central Asia
- 2009 Maurice and Lois Schwartz Fellowship for research in Central Asia
- 2009-2010 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, summer and academic year Russian
- 2008-2009 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, summer and academic year Persian
- 2008 INSER Language and Cultural Exposure Travel Award
- 2005-2006 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, academic year Uzbek
- 2004-2005 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, academic year Arabic
- 2004 Social Science Research Council Fellowship for Uzbek language study

## PUBLICATIONS

In print: two book reviews

"New Research on Sacred Places in Central Asia." *The Silk Road* 11 (2013): 215-6.

“New Turns on the Silk Road.” *The Silk Road* 9 (2011): 154-5.

In preparation: three articles

“Conflicts of Healing: Medical Resorts, Pilgrimage, and Shrines in the Ferghana Valley”

“Memory, Modernity, and Islam in the Ferghana Valley: the Shrine of Takht-i-Sulaiman”

“Muslim Women in Soviet Central Asia.” Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 “The Second Meccas of Kyrgyzstan: Sacred Topography, Prophets, and Authority in Islam”  
*Authority in Islam: Dialectics of Fragmentation & Plurality*, Bloomington, IN, March 24-25.
- 2016 “Baqshys and Biomedicine: The Balance of Healing in Central Asia”  
Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Meeting, Princeton, NJ, November 4.
- 2016 “Bountiful Forest: The Fruits of Heaven at Arslanbob Ata”  
International Symposium on the Environmental Archive of Central Asia, Tashkent, April 18-19.
- 2015 “Resort or Shrine? Medicine, Tourism, and Pilgrimage in Kyrgyzstan”  
Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., October 17.
- 2015 “Becoming a Baqshy: Indigenous Healers in Rural Kyrgyzstan” Russia, East Europe, and Central  
Asian Studies NW Conference, Seattle, WA, May 2.
- 2015 “Locating the Past: The Case of Takht-i Sulaiman” American Historical Association Annual  
Meeting, New York, NY, January 3.
- 2011 “Sacred Space in the Pamirs through the Eyes of European Travelers” Russia, East Europe, and  
Central Asian Studies NW Conference, Seattle, WA, April 16.
- 2004 “Apocryphal Texts and Their Communities: Authority in the Scripture on the Ten Kings”  
Western Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, Seattle, WA, September 10.

## LECTURES & DISCUSSIONS

- 2017 “Burial Traditions and Cultural Identity in Central Asia,” Discussant Central Eurasian Studies  
Society Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, October 6.
- 2017 “Gender and Financial Inclusion,” UW Digital Financial Services Research Group Workshop,  
Seattle, WA, October 5.
- 2015 “In the Archives,” UW Digital History Colloquium, Seattle, WA, May 12.

- 2014 “Shrines and Healing in Contemporary Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan,” The Persian and Iranian Studies Program, Seattle, WA January 28.
- 2014 “Shrines and Pilgrimage: The Case of Takht-i Sulaiman,” UW History Department Colloquium, Seattle, WA, January 31.
- 2012 “Pilgrimage and Shrines in Central Asia,” IREX, Dushanbe, Tajikistan, July 12.
- 2012 “Negotiating Modernity: Places and Objects in the Context of Kyrgyzstan,” Research Seminar, Tian Shan Policy Center, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, June 12.

## LANGUAGES

Spanish, Russian, Persian (Farsi and Tajiki), Uzbek, Kyrgyz, Arabic (proficient)  
French, German, Coptic (reading)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Lecturer**, University of Washington, Department of History

2017 History of the Islamic Middle East, 600-1800 CE

2016 The Silk Road: Travel, Exchange, and Culture in Eurasia

2015 The Muslim Near East: From Late Antiquity to the Present

**Lecturer**, Western Washington University, Department of Liberal Studies

2017 Islamic Civilization

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, The Evergreen State College

2016 Russia and the Forging of Empires: Vikings, Mongols, and Slavs

2016 Beginning Russian Language

**Adjunct Faculty**, Seattle University, Department of International Studies

2015 East Meets West: A History of Travel Writers to and from the Islamic World

**Pre-doctoral Instructor**, University of Washington

2013/ 2014/ 2015 Middle Eastern History, 1453-1800

2011/ 2014 The Silk Road: Travel, Exchange, and Culture in Eurasia

2013 Teaching History (graduate seminar for new teaching assistants)

2011 Pilgrimage and Shrines in the Islamic World

2010 History of the Middle East: 1258-1798

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Washington

2014 African History: 1000-1880

2008/ 2011/ 2012/ 2014 The History of Christianity

2011 American Civilization: The First Century of American Independence

2009 The Ancient World

2008 War and Society in the Modern Middle East

2008 Iran, Afghanistan, and Central Asia, 1750-2001

2007 The Medieval Middle East

2007/ 2008 Environmental Studies: Interdisciplinary Foundations

2003/ 2006 The World of Late Antiquity

2004 Western Religions

### **SERVICE**

2013 Lead Teaching Assistant, History Department, University of Washington

2010-2011 Graduate Liaison Committee, History Department, University of Washington

2009 Discussion Facilitator, American Councils for International Education – National Security Language Initiative for Youth, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion

American Historical Association

Central Eurasian Studies Society