

**Curriculum Vitae**

**Lena Meari**

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**Research Interests:** Geopolitics of Knowledge Production, Subject Formation, Decolonizing Methodologies, Critical Feminist Theory and Research, Revolutionary Movements.

**Education**

- 2012 Post Doctorate  
Center for Palestine Studies, Columbia University
- 2011 PhD, Anthropology  
Sociocultural Anthropology and Designated Emphasis in Feminist Theory and Research  
University of California, Davis  
Dissertation title: *Sumud: A Philosophy of Confronting Interrogation*
- 2005 M.A., Gender, Law and Development Studies, with Distinction  
Birzeit University  
Dissertation title: The Roles of Palestinian Rural Women from the Economic and Cultural Dimensions: The case of Al-Birweh Village
- 2003 M.A., Clinical Psychology, Magna cum Laude  
Tel Aviv University  
Dissertation title: The Effects of Woman's Employment on Gender Relations inside the Family
- 1996 B.A., Psychology & Multi-Disciplinary Studies  
Haifa University
- 1991 Bagrut Examinations, Science Section  
Orthodox High School- Haifa

**Teaching and Research Experience**

- 2012- Assistant Professor  
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Institute of Women Studies, Birzeit University  
Courses taught include: Feminist Thought, Critical Questions of Gender and Development, Qualitative Research Methods, Anthropological Readings of Revolutionary Movements, Settler Colonialism, Mental Health, Social Psychology, Decolonizing Psychology Seminar,
- 2010-2011 Graduate Student Researcher (GSR)  
Working with Professor Suad Joseph at UC-DAVIS on a research project on the representations of Veiled Muslim Women in the U.S. print media
- 2010 Lecturer  
Anthropology Department, University of California-Davis  
Course: Themes in the Anthropology of Islam and the "Middle East"

- 2005-2009 Teaching Assistant  
Anthropology Department, University of California-Davis  
Courses: Cultural Anthropology; Anthropology of Linguistics;  
Resistance movements; Anthropology of Islam and the “Middle East”
- 2001-2005 Teaching Assistant and Researcher  
Institute of Women Studies, Birzeit University  
Courses: Introduction to Women Studies, Women in the Arab World  
Researches: Gender & land, Property & Housing Rights; Palestinian  
Families’ Coping Strategies; Ethnography of Checkpoints

### **Recent and Ongoing Research Projects**

- 2016- Masculinity Constructions in Palestine  
Qualitative Research Coordinator, Institute of Women Studies
- 2016- Reconceptualizing Resilience from a Palestinian Perspective: A  
Preliminary Investigation, a joint research project with Said Shehadeh
- 2015- Palestinian Political Prisoners Movement  
Senior Researcher, Institute of Women Studies
- 2014-2015 “Gender and Households in Communities Under Threat: Addressing the  
Needs of Palestinian Men, Women and Children in “Area C” of the West  
Bank”  
Senior Researcher, Institute of Women Studies
- 2013-2014 “Development, Inequality and Popular Mobilizations: Towards Opening a  
Horizon for Alternative Development”  
Senior Researcher, Arab Council for the Social Sciences
- 2012-2014 “Gender equity research and engagement with Critical Social Movements  
and Actors”  
Research Coordinator, Institute of Women Studies

### **Publications: Articles and Book Chapters**

- 2017 Colonial Dispossession, Developmental Discourses, and Humanitarian  
solidarity in ‘Area C’: The Case of the Palestinian Yanun Village,  
*Community Development Journal* (forthcoming)
- 2015 Re-signifying “Sexual” Colonial Power Techniques: The Experiences of  
Palestinian Women Political Prisoners, in *Rethinking Gender in  
Revolutions and Resistance: Lessons from the Arab World*, editors: Maha  
El-Said, Lena Meari, Nicola Pratt, Zed Books
- 2015 Reconsidering Trauma: Towards a Palestinian Community Psychology,  
*Journal of Community Psychology*, Vol. 43, No.1, 76-86
- 2014 Sumud: A Palestinian Philosophy of Confrontation in Colonial Prisons,  
edited collection on power and resistance in prison settings, *South Atlantic  
Quarterly*, Vol. 113, No. 3, 547-578  
<http://saq.dukejournals.org/content/113/3/547.full.pdf>

- 2010 The Roles of Palestinian Peasant Women: The Case of Al-Birweh Village 1930-1960, in *Displaced at Home: Ethnicity and Gender among Palestinians in Israel*, ed. Rhoda Kanaaneh and Isis Nusair, SUNY Press
- 2007 The Activities of Palestinian Rural Women in Mandate Palestine: Economical and Cultural dimensions, in *Palestinian Feminist Writing: Between Oppression and Resistance*, ed. Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian, Mada Al-Carmel, Haifa (Arabic)

**Edited Books**

- 2015 Rethinking Gender in Revolutions and Resistance: Lessons from the Arab World, editors: Maha El-Said, Lena Meari, Nicola Pratt, Zed Books

**Book Reviews**

- 2012 Violence, Nonviolence and the Palestinian National Movement  
*Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol 42, No. 1, 86-87
- 2012 Rethinking Agency: Saba Mahmood's Politics of Piety  
*Review of Women's Studies*, Birzeit University, Vol. 7

**Sample of Papers presented at Conferences and Workshops**

- 2016 "The Intersection of Feminism and National Liberation Movements"  
AWID Forum, Brazil
- 2014 "The Predicament of Position: Discourses on Arab Women"  
Network of Institutes of Women Studies in the Arab World Workshop,  
Institute of Women Studies, University of Jordan, Jordan
- 2014 "Conceptual and Methodological Issues in the Practice of Development"  
Development as Power: Learning from the Field Seminar, Center for  
Development Studies, Birzeit University, Palestine
- 2013 "Colonialism and Development, Close Affinity: The case of Palestine"  
Rethinking Palestine Conference, University of Vienna, Austria
- 2013 "Palestinian Youth's Engagement with the Colonizer: A Reflection on a  
Recent Past"  
Palestinian Youth: the Forms of Everyday Engagement Conference,  
Department of Social and Behavioral Science Department, Birzeit  
University, Palestine
- 2013 "Sumud: A Challenge to Colonial Sexual Power Techniques in Colonized  
Palestine"  
Rethinking Gender in Revolutions and Resistance: Lessons from the Arab  
World Conference, Warwick University, England
- 2013 "Trauma Versus Sumud"  
Community Psychology Conference, Psychology Department, Birzeit  
University, Palestine
- 2012 "Carceral Politics in Palestine and Beyond: Gender, Vulnerability, Prison"

Center for Palestine Studies Conference, Columbia University, USA  
<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/palestine/programs/featuredevent.html#carceraltalk>

- 2011 “The Subjectivity of *Sumud* and its Relation to Pain and Body”  
The Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Conference, USA
- 2011 “Re-Structuring the Self and Politics: The Experiences of Palestinian  
Political Activists under Interrogation”  
The Society for Psychological Anthropology Conference, USA
- 2010 “Formations of Violence in the Palestinian Reality: Colonialism, Power  
Structures and Gender Relations”  
The Annual Conference of the Women Studies Institute, Birzeit  
University, Palestine
- 2009 “Women’s Struggles for Democracy on the Outside”  
Noble Women Initiative Conference, Guatemala
- 2006 “The Roles of Palestinian Rural Women in Colonial Palestine”  
The Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Conference, USA

#### **Awards and Fellowships**

- 2013-2016 Returning Scholar, The Academic Fellowship Program, OSI Europe  
Foundation
- 2012 Ibrahim Abu Lughod Award in Palestine Studies  
Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Center for Palestine Studies, Columbia  
University
- 2011 Social Sciences Dean’s Doctoral Fellowship for Excellence, University of  
California, Davis
- 2011 The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Writing Award
- 2008 International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) - Social Science  
Research Program (SSRC)
- 2008 The Wenner-Gren Foundation
- 2008 The Middle East Research Competition (MERC)
- 2007 University of California-Davis- Summer Research Fellowship
- 2005-2007 Fullbright PhD Fellowship

#### **Languages**

Arabic- Read- fluent, spoken- fluent, written- fluent  
English- Read- fluent, spoken- fluent, written- fluent  
Hebrew- Read- fluent, spoken- fluent, written- fluent