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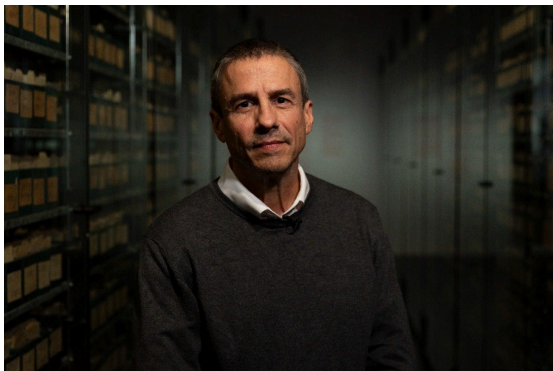
Friends of the Foundation for Palestinian Studies Fund Project

Foundation for Palestinian Studies Fund - University of Waterloo

Since its launch in 2021, the [Foundation for Palestinian Studies Fund at the University of Waterloo](#) has provided our students, faculty, staff, and wider community with the opportunity to learn about the rich and complex body of scholarly, artistic, literary, creative, and popular works generated by Palestinians spanning the globe. Through a [public lecture series](#), we seek to understand new perspectives and to work for peace and justice in this region of the world.

Wednesday May 13, 2026: "The Gaza Doctrine: Implications for International Law and the future of the Middle East": A lecture by Neve Gordon

Neve Gordon introduced what he calls the "Gaza Doctrine," a concept he uses to describe a pattern of modern warfare characterized by mass civilian displacement, significant civilian casualties, and extensive destruction of civilian infrastructure. He examines how, in the context of the violence in Gaza, Israel frames its military operations as lawful actions targeting Hamas, and how international law is invoked in that justification. Gordon further argues that similar patterns may be emerging in other conflicts in the Middle East, and raises broader questions about the role of European countries and Canada in shaping or enabling evolving norms of international warfare where "might makes right".



Neve Gordon joined the School of Law at Queen Mary University of London after teaching for seventeen years at Ben-Gurion University in Israel. He is the author of *Israel's Occupation* (University of California Press, 2008) and co-author of *The Human Right to Dominate* (Oxford University Press, 2015), *Human Shields: A History of People in the Line of Fire* (University of California Press, 2020, published in paperback in 2026 with a new preface and epilogue). He

is a Fellow of the British Academy of Social Sciences, a panel member of the Gaza Tribunal and a board member of the International State Crime Initiative.

November 26, 2025: Poetry, Pain, and the Promise of Palestine: A lecture by Sa'ed Atshan

Dr. Sa'ed Atshan is Associate Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies and Anthropology and Chair of the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies at Swarthmore College. He has previously served as an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Emory University, as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Senior Research Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, and as a

Postdoctoral Fellow at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies. He earned a PhD in Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies and MA in Social Anthropology from Harvard University, an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School, and BA from Swarthmore College.

Dr. Atshan is the author of *Queer Palestine* and the *Empire of Critique* (Stanford University Press, 2020), coauthor (with Katharina Galor) of *The Moral Triangle: Germans, Israelis, Palestinians* (Duke University Press, 2020), and co-editor (with Galor) of *Reel Gender: Palestinian and Israeli Cinema* (Bloomsbury, 2022).



Dr. Atshan gave a compelling lecture on the role of poetry in capturing the realities of contemporary Palestinian life in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and beyond.

November 27, 2023: What a Difference a Year Makes in Israel-Palestine: A lecture by Jon Allen

Jon Allen (LL.B., LL.M.) is a Senior Fellow, Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy. He joined Canada's Department of External Affairs in 1981 and has held numerous posts including Director General, North America Bureau (2001-2004) and Minister (Political Affairs) at the Canadian Embassy in Washington (2004-2006). As Assistant Deputy Minister, Americas (2010-2012), he managed Canada's relations with North America, Latin America and the Caribbean. From 2006 to 2010, Allen was Canada's Ambassador to Israel. From 2012 to 2016 he was Ambassador to Spain and Andorra.



Allen currently serves as a Distinguished Fellow of the Canada International Council, the Chair of Project Rozana Canada, a not for profit whose objective is to build bridges between Palestinians and Israelis via the health sector, and a Member of the Board of AmbCanada. [Watch here](#)

November 20, 2023: Palestine and the Culture of Denial: A lecture by Saree Makdisi

Dr. Saree Makdisi is Professor and Chair of English at the University of California, Los Angeles. His teaching and research are situated at the crossroads of several different fields, including British Romanticism, imperial culture, colonial and

postcolonial theory and criticism, and the cultures of urban modernity, particularly the revision and contestation of charged urban spaces, including London, Beirut and Jerusalem. He has written extensively on the afterlives of colonialism in the contemporary Arab world, and, in addition to his scholarly articles, has also contributed pieces on current events to a number of newspapers and magazines, including the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Guardian*, and the *London Review of Books*. Makdisi's most recent book is *Tolerance is a Wasteland: Palestine and the Culture of Denial* (University of California Press, 2022). [Watch here](#)



October 13, 2022: The Hundred Years' War on Palestine: a lecture by Rashid Khalidi, honouring Dr. Feridun Hamdullahpur, President Emeritus of the University of Waterloo.



Dr. Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies in the History Department at Columbia University. Based on his 2020 book, *The Hundred Years' War in Palestine: A History of Settler Colonialism and Resistance 1917-2017*, Professor Khalidi laid a framework for understanding the conflict in Palestine and the ongoing realities of settler colonialism and resistance. Dr. Khalidi received his BA from Yale in 1970, and his D.Phil. from Oxford in 1974. He is co-editor of the *Journal of Palestine Studies*, and was President of the Middle East Studies Association, and an advisor to the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid and Washington Arab-Israeli peace negotiations from October 1991

until June 1993. [Watch here](#)

May 24, 2022: The Kindness of Strangers, Being Palestinian, Living the Law. Inaugural Lecture in the Study of Palestine at University of Waterloo.

Dr. Reem Bahdi was appointed the Dean of Windsor Law in 2021. She is the first Palestinian law professor in Canada, and the first Palestinian law dean in North America. She joined the faculty in 2002 where her teaching and research has focused on access to justice



in both Canada and Palestine. Dean Bahdi co-created and co-directed KARAMAH, The Project on Judicial Independence and Human Dignity, an initiative aimed at supporting human dignity in Palestine through research, continuing judicial education and civil society engagement. She received the 2017 Guthrie Medal for her research, teaching and advocacy in furtherance of access to justice in Ontario and was appointed a member of the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists in 2015 for national research excellence. The Student Law Society at Windsor Law has bestowed the award for exemplary teaching and dedication to Windsor Law on her three times and the University of Windsor has recognized her research with five distinguished teaching awards. [Watch here](#)