## Center for Middle East Studies

Brown Bag Lecture Series

## STRATEGIC ORIENTALISM:

Fantasies of Literary Origins in Modern Arabic and Hebrew Literatures

with

## Shir Alon

Mellon Faculty Fellow Washington and Lee University Monday, April 9 12-1 p.m. Farzaneh Hall, Room 145

When and how does a text become modern? How can the Arabic or Hebrew text be extracted from Orientalist methods of scholarship and reading, which consider it a testament to timeless traditions? The lecture will discuss works by the Tunisian-Arabic writer Mahmud al-Mas adi and the Hebrew writer Shmuel Yosef Agnon, illuminating the manner in which they negotiate legacies of Orientalism and fantasies of timeless origins as they argue for the place of Arabic and Hebrew in the modern world.



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College of International Studies UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

