

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Nadine C. Naber, assistant professor of women's studies, and assistant professor of American culture, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of women's studies, with tenure, and associate professor of American culture, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

2002	Ph.D.	University of California, Davis
1994	M.A.	San Francisco State University
1991	B.A.	University of San Diego

Professional Record:

2003 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Women's Studies and Program in American Culture, University of Michigan,
2003 – present	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
2002 – 2003	Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Women's Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – In both American Culture and Women's Studies, Professor Naber has taught at all levels and in a variety of formats, including lecture courses, seminars, team-taught courses, and a mini-course. She has taught seventeen courses since 2003, nine were cross-listed and most were thematic seminars in Arab American and women's studies. Professor Naber consistently employs pedagogy at the forefront of her undergraduate and graduate teaching. While she draws on scholarly materials from her expertise in the fields of gender, immigration, transnationalism, and diasporic studies, she uses web technology to support interactive learning. The result is a well-earned reputation among undergraduate and graduate students, colleagues, and community partners as a humane and inspiring mentor.

Research – Professor Naber's work in Arab American studies contributes equally to women's studies and American culture. Her published work draws primarily on two phases of ethnographic research and out of this research she has published three articles in peer-reviewed journals, one book chapter, and her forthcoming monograph, *Articulating Arabness: Gender and Cultural Politics in the Diaspora*. Her work has appeared in a surprising range of peer-reviewed journals, including *MIT Journal of Middle East Studies*, *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, and *The Muslim World*, reflecting the complexity of her commitments and her field of study. She has also published in *Feminist Studies*, a leading journal in women's studies, and *Cultural Dynamics*, an interdisciplinary social science journal that focuses on contemporary social issues.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Articulating Arabness: Gender and Cultural Politics between Empire and Diaspora, New York University Press, Series: Nation of Newcomers: Immigrant History as American History, forthcoming, 2011.

“Transnational families under siege: Lebanese in Dearborn, Michigan and the 2006 War on Lebanon,” *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies*, 5(3), 2009, pp. 145-174.

“Arab Americans and U.S. racial formations,” in *Race and Arab Americans Before and After September 11th*, with A. Jamal (co-ed.), Syracuse University Press, 2007, pp. 1-45.

“Arab American femininities: Beyond Arab virgin/American(ized) whore,” *Journal of Feminist Studies*, 32(1), 2006, pp. 87-111 (reprinted in *Sex, Gender, and Sexuality*, Oxford University Press, 2008, and in *Doing Gender Diversity: Readings in Theory and Real-World Experience*, Westview Press, 2009).

Service – Professor Naber’s most important service to Michigan is her contribution to building an Arab American studies presence, one of the first programs nationally in this emerging field. This has involved course development, an undergraduate certificate, a program website, and partnerships with community institutions, including an internship program and public events. These activities have given Michigan national and regional visibility, and formed the foundation for future growth. Especially significant are close ties to the Arab American community in Dearborn and the mentorship of a cluster of graduate students who will be among the future leaders in the field and the community. In the meantime, she has served well on undergraduate, graduate, program, and salary committees in both units.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Nadine Naber is an intellectual pioneer... For the first time, we have a scholar who can place Arab-American studies within a comparative ethnic studies frame, who is committed to seeing Arab-American fully within American studies... Unlike anyone else in the field, Nadine Naber is particularly attuned to issues of gender and sexuality... Her publications, especially her book, *Articulating Arabness*, will be landmarks for some time to come.”

Reviewer (B)

“She is one of the most outstanding scholars working in the field of Arab American Studies (AAS)... Most of us senior people... recognize that she is one of a handful of leaders (if not the leader) of this new field... ...[*Articulating Arabness*] will be...the only work of its kind to contextualize Arab American communities within the new transnational literature... What is groundbreaking about the manuscript is that it goes right to the issues that anti-imperialist Arab feminists are not supposed to talk about openly...”

Reviewer (C)

“I regard Nadine Naber as a signally important voice [of her generation] in the area of Arabs in America and of Ethnic Studies more generally. Her work engages a number of fields and disciplines with ingenuity and insight... ...the historical scope and sociological/ethnographic sensitivity of her research makes Naber’s contribution one of the most sophisticated and nuanced interventions to date in the fraught contemporary discussion of Arabs (and Islam) in the United States. I consider both *Articulating Arabness* and Naber’s jointly edited volume, *Race and Arab*

Americans before and after 9/11, to be among the best available scholarly volumes on Arab Americans...”

Reviewer (D)

“It is fair to say that Dr. Naber’s research has been pioneering. ...and a key builder of the field of feminist Arab American studies. ... Indicative of Naber’s stature as a founding figure is the way senior scholars...turn to her for advice and consultation. ... No one of her generation has done more to build the field of Arab American studies than has Nadine Naber.”

Reviewer (E)

“...I can say without a doubt that Dr. Naber ranks among one of the most talented scholars in the group [of Arab American studies scholars]. More importantly, her scholarship ranks highly when compared to others in the broader disciplines of ethnic studies, American studies, and Women’s Studies... Her forthcoming book, *Articulating Arabness*...is her best work yet. ...Naber is on the cutting edge of her field, theoretically, methodologically, and substantively.”

Reviewer (F)

“...Naber is becoming a magnificent, formidable, and indelible scholarly voice in the interdisciplinary fields that her work is so audaciously bridging. Upon publication of her book *Articulating Arabness* in the coming year, she will immediately leap into the forefront of Arab American Studies as a ‘primary name’ whose body of work is required reading for all of us who wish to write and teach about Arab political and cultural formations in the U.S...”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Naber is an established leader in her field who will continue to produce outstanding research over the course of her career. Her contribution to the teaching mission has been substantial and her service has been exemplary. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Nadine C. Naber be promoted to the rank of associate professor of women’s studies, with tenure, and associate professor of American culture, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Terrence J. McDonald
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,
Professor of History and Dean
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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