**Saman Seyfi**

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## Education

**BA in Sociology, The University of Tehran, Tehran, 2017-2021**

GPA: 3.92 (18.99 out of 20), Rank 3/38

**MS in Sociology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater 2024-Present**

## Fields of Interest

Sociology of Sexuality and Gender, Political Sociology, Sociology of Culture, Sociology of Education, Inequality

## Awards and Achievements

**Honored with Graduate Assistantship** at Oklahoma State University (2023)

**Ranked 3rd** among undergraduate students of Sociology of Social Science Faculty at University of Tehran (2021)

**Iran's National Elites Foundation** **Scholarship** (2017-2021)

**Hami Foundation of The University of Tehran** **Scholarship** (2020)

**Ranked 24th among 183,122 participants** in the National Bachelor University Entrance (2017)

**A member of Winner Team** in Khaje Nasir Toosi National Debate Competition (2015)

**Accepted in National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents** (NODET) middle school national entrance exam among more than 100 thousand participants (2011)

## Publication

- Samim, Reza and Seyfi, Saman. (In Press). *Two-faced the University of Tehran; the Genesis of the UT*. Tehran: Institute for Social and Cultural Studies.

I have written about four chapters of the book under supervision of Dr. Samim. Foundation of the University of Tehran was investigated in relation with political and social struggles of Reza Shah’s reign.

## Unpublished Paper

- Seyfi, Saman and Samim, Reza. (2022). *The University of Tehran and Conflicts of Intellectuals on Democracy and Tradition.* Unpublished manuscript. the Institute for Social and Cultural Studies.

The paper will be submitted to Iranian Studies Journal. The research highlights the role of the first modern university in Iran for democracy and its opponents.

## Selected Projects

- Seyfi, Saman. (2022).*Who is Afraid of Feminism? High School Students’ Perception of Feminism and Anti-Feminism*, Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran. (Mentored by Dr. Nooh Monavvari)

Even though the recent “Women Life Freedom” movement is marching in the society, there is prevalent suspicion about feminism, especially on social media. The research inspects this type of content and students’ interpretation of it.

-Seyfi, Saman. (2021). *Sexual Economy of Aghazadeh (high-born) Series and the Systematic Corruption in Iran*. Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran. (Mentored by Dr. Nooh Monavvari)

The main question of this paper is what the most-watched streamed series in Iran history, Aghazadeh produced by a state-affiliated company, could reveal about the upcoming changes in the Iran’s political sphere. I applied psychoanalysis theories to discover the unconsciousness of the series.

-Seyfi, Saman. (2020). *Were Our Ancestors Openly Homosexual? Same-sex Relationships in Premodern Iran.*Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran.

A historical-comparative and postcolonial analysis of same-sex relationships in premodern Iran in comparison with the Ottoman Empire. The main goal was understanding people’s actions and attitudes free from anachronistic bias resulted from our contemporary perspective. The paper will be presented at the Students Symposium of Social Science.

-Seyfi, Saman and Akbari, Rohollah. (2020).*Tehran and Modernity: What Marshall Berman Would Say About Tehran?* Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran. (Mentored by Dr. Kalantari)

We took Marshall Berman’s “All That is Solid Melts Into Air” as a guide to examine modernization of Tehran. We focus on how Neoliberal urban policy after Iran and Iraq war produced social conflicts and deviances.

-Nozari, Mostafa andSeyfi, Saman and Neysaz, Saleh. (2020).*The Fall of an Ideology: Gradual Secularization of Islamic Republic of Iran in the Mirror of Iran-Iraq Movies*. Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran.

Applying discourse analysis of prominent movies about the Iran-Iraq war, we discovered how sublime war-justifying values of martyrdom (in Persian: Shahadat) and edification (in Persian: Tazkieh) transformed into secular values such as defending national security. We concluded the transformation is a result of the engagement of IRI in the Middle East wars like Syria war.

-Seyfi, Saman and Feyz Karimlou, Mahdi. (2020).*Tendency to Singlehood among Iranian Youths*. Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran.

A qualitative analysis of reasons and attitudes for remaining single. By using thematic analysis and semi-structured interview the transformation from traditional values to “romantic love” was recognized as the core reason.

-Seyfi, Saman. (2019).*Phenomenology and Sexualities: Husserl, Merleau-Ponty and de Beauvoir*. Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran. (Mentored by Dr. Zaeri)

The paper elaborated on how phenomenology explains sexuality and sexual differences in contrast with Genealogy and Post-modern approaches.

-Hannani, Tina and Neysaz, Saleh andSeyfi, Saman. (2019).*Discourse Analysis as a Methodology.* Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran. (Mentored by Dr. Kalantari)

The paper reviews different types of discourse analysis methods, including Michael Foucault and Ernesto Laclau.

-Seyfi, Saman and Taghadomi, Mahdi and Feyz Karimlou, Mahdi. (2019).*Who Did Steal the 44th Article of the Constitution?* Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran. (Mentored by Dr. Roozkhosh)

We tracked evolution of interpretation of the 44th article (which has been contemporarily interpreted as a permission of immense privatization of public goods) in relation with neoliberalism and changes in the political sphere of Iran, particularly since 2000.

-Seyfi, Saman. (2018).*The Rise and Fall of the Palestinian Left, Case Study of PFLP*. Unpublished manuscript. the University of Tehran. (Mentored by Dr. Zaeri)

A critical and historical analysis of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, depicting conflicts between PFLP and other parties, especially Hamas. Finally, what was their presumed utopia for Palestinian besides Israelian was investigated.

## Research Experiences

- **Research Assistant of Dr. Reza Samim at the Institute for Social and Cultural Studies** (2020-2022)

I was responsible for searching related sources and theories and writing a few chapters on research about the foundation of the modern education in Pahlavi era. The study culminated in two upcoming books and a paper that is intended to be submitted to Iranian Studies Journal.

- **Part-time Researcher at the Center for Strategic Studies** (2020)

Two international reports were analyzed and translated to highlight common flaws in the education systems of various countries in order to recommend policies for addressing problems of Iran’s education system. One of them could be found [here](https://css.ir/fa/content/125653/%D8%B3%D8%B1%D8%AF%D8%B1%DA%AF%D9%85%DB%8C_%D8%B4%D8%BA%D9%84%DB%8C_%D9%86%D9%88%D8%AC%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%86_%D8%AF%D8%B1_%D8%AC%D9%87%D8%A7%D9%86).

- **Part-time Researcher at the Social Security Organization Research Institute** (2019)

Based on books published by the Institute, I wrote a policy paper which summarized the history of welfare in Iran, then proposed an analysis about the current situation with regard to the historical background. In the conclusion, the neoliberal turn of Iran played an important role and I mentioned the problems resulted from the shift which should be addressed.

## Teaching Experiences

- **Social Science Teacher** at Allameh Helli 2 High School (2021 – Present)

- **Organizer and Lecturer of the Workshop** of Humanities in the City: What Historical Places of Tehran Could Reveal about Our History? Held by Sharafodin High School (July 2022)

- **Teacher of Movie and Literature Criticism** at Sharafodin High School (2019 - 2021)

- **Educational** **Consultant of the 12th Grade** at Allameh Helli 4 High School (2020)

- **Teacher of Social History of Art** at Sharafodin High School (Summer 2019)

- **Teacher** of “How to Publish a Magazine?” at Allameh Helli 1 High School (2017-2019)

- **Social Science Teacher** at Allameh Helli 5 High School (2017 – 2019)

## Professional Experiences

- **Intern and Junior Consultant at United Nations Information Center (UNIC)**, Tehran, (Nov 2022 – Oct 2023)

At UNIC, I’m in charge of creating content for UN social media, translation, editing, taking footage and producing video clips, preparing concept notes for meetings and analyzing the UN IRAN accounts’ data to suggest more efficient communication strategies to promote humanitarian projects. I have promoted to Junior Consultant since February and was assigned with

- **Book Reviewer**, the Research Center for Islamic Culture and Arts, Tehran (2021)

I wrote reviews for books mostly about the media and western philosophers for the Research Center for Islamic Culture and Arts which are published on [their website](https://shop.rcica.ir/product/%d8%b3%d9%84%d8%a8%d8%b1%db%8c%d8%aa%db%8c-%d8%a7%db%8c%d9%86%d8%aa%d8%b1%d9%86%d8%aa%db%8c/).

- **Independent Documentary Editor and Screen Writer**, (2017 – 2018)

Group-production of a documentary about students’ reluctance to study humanities’ major at high school level.

## Selected Non-academic Publications

- Seyfi, Saman. (2019). High School Students' Experiences in Sociology Classes. *Sare (Sociology Association of the University of Tehran),* [*16*](https://t.me/tehransociology/341)*,* 24 - 26.

- Seyfi, Saman. (2016). How the University Entrance Exam Punished Lower Class Students. *Pedagogy Magazine*, [*2*](https://t.me/c/1068480142/50)*,* 25 - 31.

## Voluntary Work

- **Member of Binesh Cultural Association of Tehran University**, 2018 - Present

- **Secretary of Binesh Cultural Association of Tehran University**, 2019 - 2020

- **Entrance Exam Teacher** for students of Bashagard (marginalized district of Iran), 2019

## Certificates

- **Mathematics for Machine Learning Specialization,** Imperial College London on Coursera (On progress)

- **Applied Data Science with Python Specialization,** University of Michigan on Coursera (On progress)

- **Mathematics for Machine Learning: Linear Algebra**, Imperial College London on [Coursera](https://www.coursera.org/account/accomplishments/certificate/VQAEWW5K75BA), June 2022

- **Winter School on Political Economy**, Held by Allameh Tabataba’i University in partnership with universities from Iran and Russia, March 2021

- **Introduction to Data Science in Python**, University of Michigan on [Coursera](https://www.coursera.org/account/accomplishments/certificate/K4GUYLA377CQ), November 2021

- **Feminism and Social Justice**, University of California, Santa Cruz on [Coursera](https://www.coursera.org/account/accomplishments/certificate/T65QE5SKZ39Q), September 2021

- **Summer School of Social Science**, Science and Culture University, 2019

- **Embodiment in Shopping Malls**, mentored by Dr. Maryam Dezhamkhooy, Held by Binesh Association, Winter 2018

- **Sustainable Development**, instructor: Hamoon Tahmasebi, Held by Cultural Association of Binesh, November 2018

## Additional Courses

- **Principal of Gender Studies and History of Feminism in Iran**, lecturer: Golnaz Malek, Held by Binesh Association, Fall-Summer 2021

- **Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science** [Bootcamp](https://sicss.io/boot_camp/), July 2021

- **Python Courses** on [CodeWithMosh](https://codewithmosh.com/p/python-programming-course-beginners), October 2021

- **Reading Machiavelli’s ’The Prince’**, lecturer: Dr. Reza Samim, held by Cultural Studies Association of University of Science and Culture, January 2019

- **Spinoza and Us**, lecturer: Dr. Reza Samim, held by Cultural Studies Association of University of Science and Culture, April 2019

- **There is No Tradition: Reviewing Foucauldian Research on Iran’s History**, lecturer: Dr. Mohammad Molla Abbasi, Sociology Association of the University of Tehran, Winter 2017

## Software

SPSS / Python / LaTeX / R / STATA / Adobe Audition / Adobe Premiere / Adobe Illustrator

References and further information are available upon request.