

Dr. Waleed Mahdi is assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma with expertise in US-Arab cultural politics. He conducts research on cultural representation and identity politics in American, Arab, and Arab American contexts. Dr. Mahdi is a recipient of several national and international awards, and his peer-reviewed work appears in *American Quarterly*, *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*, *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, and *Mashriq and Mahjar*.

Dr. Mahdi's current book project analyzes Yemeni and Yemeni American creative expressions of agency in the twenty-first century. He is co-authoring a book that examines US-Arab "war on terror" alignment in Arabic-speaking media and entertainment. He is also guest-editing the special issue "MENA Migrants and Diasporas in Twenty-First-Century Media."

Dr. Mahdi's recent book *Arab Americans in Film: From Hollywood and Egyptian Stereotypes to Self-Representation* (2020) examines how Arab American belonging is constructed, defined, and redefined across Hollywood, Egyptian and Arab American cinemas. He also completed a multi-institutional research collaboration with Columbia University, the University of Jordan and the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies about the relationship between art and politics in the 2011 Arab Spring's revolutionary public spheres.