

Nir Shafir is an assistant professor of history at UCSD whose work focuses on the Ottoman Empire/Middle East from 1200 to 1800. At UCSD, he teaches graduate and undergraduate classes on the history of the early modern and medieval Middle East, the history of science, global history, and historical approaches to disinformation, misinformation, and propaganda. He is an occasional contributor and editorial board member of the [Ottoman History Podcast](#) and served as its editor in 2018.

His first book is titled [The Order and Disorder of Communication: Pamphlets and Polemics in the Seventeenth-Century Ottoman Empire](#) and is coming out with Stanford University Press in 2024. The first half provides a unique and comprehensive description of the world of books, reading, and education in the early modern Ottoman Empire, where nearly all written works were copied by hand rather than printed until the late nineteenth century. The second half details how “pamphlets” fractured this world by exacerbating the virulent and vicious socio-religious debates that polarized Ottoman society in the second half of the seventeenth century.

Future projects include a social history of the Turkish language in the Ottoman Empire and an investigation into the cultural role of antiquity and antiquarianism in the early modern Middle East.