Ayşe Baltacıoğlu-Brammer is an assistant professor of History at New York University. Her area of expertise is early modern Ottoman and Safavid Empires. Her publications examine empire formation in the Middle East and its enmeshment with sectarian, geo-political, and fiscal issues, particularly in inter-confessional and inter-imperial contact zones such as Anatolia, Kurdistan, and western Iran. She has been awarded fellowships by the Institute for Advanced Study, NYU's Center for Humanities, and Bradley Foundation. She is currently completing her monograph, tentatively titled *Politics of Sectarianism in the Early Modern Middle East: Ottoman Sunnism, Safavid Shiism, and the Qizilbash.*