

**Student Profile**

**Daniel Carnie – Comparative Literature PhD Program**



**Your Time at UCI**

What made you decide to pursue a graduate degree?

*I wanted to teach, and my reading interests were on the academic side. I also thought that, as an activist, it would make sense to learn as much as I could about things in the world that I don't like. This university has given me opportunities to pursue all this and more.*

Why did you choose to come to UCI?

*This university has faculty members who are highly respected in their fields. In my field particularly, the scholars are unbeatable. Their commitment to thought, and (also!) to graduate students is*

*truly unique. The faculty-members who I've had the privilege of knowing are true mentors. Aside from that, there are a lot of resources at our disposal. It's easy in our department for people to pursue, and even to shape their education around, unique interests. That being said, the fact that the school has cut the second year of regular Arabic instruction is a little worrisome.*

How would you explain your research and its significance to your grandparent?

*Come back to school and I will explain in seminar!*

What are your hobbies/passions outside of research?

*Listening to music.*

**Reflections**

What are you most proud of accomplishing (so far) in your graduate program?

*I am proud that the graduate conference we put on last year went well. And I'm proud of learning enough Arabic to read texts in the language.*

What advice do you have for a new graduate student in your program?

*Absorb as much as you can during your first two years (like a sponge).*

**Career**

What do you see yourself doing in five or ten years?

*I want to be a faculty member at a research university, like everyone else!*