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EDUCATION

- 1995: Ph.D., with Distinction, Yale University, Religious Studies
- 1992: M.Phil., Yale University, Religious Studies
- Additional graduate study at the American University in Cairo, Institut Bourguiba des langues vivantes (Tunisia) and Tübingen University (Germany)
- 1984: B.A., with High Distinction, Valparaiso University, History

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- Since 2019** **Professor of Religious Studies, History, and Philosophy at Penn State**
- 2018-2019 Professor of Religious Studies and History at Penn State
- 2003-2018 Associate Professor of Religious Studies and History at Penn State
[Spring, 2008 Visiting Professor of Religious Studies at Oberlin College]
- 1995-2003 Assistant Professor of Religion at Bard College

Fall, 1994: Teaching assistant at Yale University; 1992-1993: Visiting lecturer at Amherst College; Fall, 1991: Adjunct assistant professor of history at Fairfield University; 1991-1992: Teaching assistant at Yale University.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

Muhammad's Heirs: The Rise of Muslim Scholarly Communities, 622-950. Studies in Islamic Civilization. Cambridge University Press, 2017.

The Cambridge Companion to Muhammad. Editor and contributor. Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Muslim Medical Ethics: From Theory to Practice. Co-editor and contributor with Thomas Eich. Studies in Comparative Religion. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008.

Islamic Ethics of Life: Abortion, War and Euthanasia. Editor and contributor. Studies in Comparative Religion. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2003 (reprint, 2005).

Early Mālikī Law: Ibn ‘Abd al-Ḥakam and his Major Compendium of Jurisprudence. Studies in Islamic Law and Society. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2000.

Judaism and Islam in Practice: A Sourcebook. Co-author with Jacob Neusner and Tamara Sonn. London: Routledge, 2000.

GUEST EDITOR OF JOURNALS:

Journal of Religious Ethics 23.1 (2008) “Islam and Bioethics”

The Muslim World 89.2 (1999) “The Islamic Ethics of Life”
Reviewed in: *Arab Studies Quarterly* 22 (2000): 114-116.

ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS:

“A tenth-century Islamic manuscript from Kairouan, Tunisia” forthcoming in MAVCOR [Material and Visual Cultures of Religion] journal.

“MS Chester Beatty 3001 and the apotheosis of Malik b. Anas (d. 179/795)” *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 49 (2020), 249-275.

“Islamic Origins and Incidental Normativity” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 84.1 (2016), 28-43.

“Interpreting Material Evidence: Religion at the ‘Origins of Islam’” *History of Religions*, 55 (2015), 121-147.

“Introduction to Special Issue. Islam and Ecology: Theology, Law and Practice of Muslim Environmentalism” *Worldviews* 16 (2012), 213–217.

"The Formation of Islamic Law: the Egyptian school, 750-900." *Annales Islamologiques*. 45 (2011): 123-140.

“Contradictory Evidence and the Exemplary Scholar: The Lives of Sahnun b. Sa`id (d. 854)” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 43.1 (2011): 115-132.

“Islam and Bioethics beyond Abortion and Euthanasia” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 23.1 (2008): 3-12.

“Response to ‘Cultivating a Liberal Islamic Ethics, Building an Islamic Civil Society’” *Journal of the Society for Christian Ethics* 27.1 (2007): 23-26.

“Theorizing Charismatic Authority in Early Islamic Law” *Comparative Islamic Studies* 1.2 (2005): 129-58.

“The *Minor Compendium* of Ibn ʿAbd al-Hakam (d. 214/829) and its reception in the early Mālikī school.” *Islamic Law and Society* 12.2 (2005): 149-81.

“Jihad and Islamic History” in *ARC, The Journal of the Faculty of Religious Studies, McGill University*, 30 (2002):191-210.

Revised version in *Religion, Terror and Violence: Religious Studies Perspectives*, eds. Bryan Rennie and Philip L. Tite (Routledge, 2008), 144-159.

“Islamic Ethics of Saving Life: A comparative perspective.” *Medicine and Law* 21 (2002): 225-41.

“Literary Genealogies from the Mosque-Library of Kairouan.” *Islamic Law and Society* 6 (1999): 393-402 (Review article of *Beiträge zur Geschichte der Hadīth- und Rechtsgelehrsamkeit der Mālikiyya in Nordafrika bis zum 5. Jh. d.H.* by Miklos Muranyi)

“Introduction” to the special issue entitled “The Islamic Ethics of Life,” *The Muslim World* 89 (1999): 117-21.

“Early Islamic Jurisprudence in Egypt: Two scholars and their *Mukhtasars*.” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 30 (1998): 167-82.

Reprinted in *Islamic Law (Critical Concepts in Islamic Studies)*, edited by Gavin N. Picken, Routledge, 2010.

“Re-reading the History of Early Mālikī Jurisprudence,” *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 118 (1998): 233-38. (Review article of *Das “K. al-Wādiha” des ʿAbd al-Malik b. Habīb: Edition und Kommentar zu Ms. Qarawiyyīn 809/40 (Abwāb al-Tahāra)* by Beatrix Ossendorf-Conrad.)

OTHER SCHOLARLY ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS:

“Constructing Muslim Charisma” *Routledge International Handbook of Charisma*, edited J.P. Zuquete, (New York: Routledge), 2021, 163-174.

“The Rise of Islam in a Judaeo-Christian Context” in *Light upon Light: Essays in Islamic Thought and History in Honor of Gerhard Bowering*, edited by Jamal Elias and Bilal Orfali. *Studies in Islamic History and Civilization* (Leiden: E.J. Brill), 2019, 24-44.

“Exploring the Uncomfortable Questions: the experience of inter-religious work” in *Engaging Others, Knowing Ourselves: A Lutheran Calling in a Multi-Religious World*, ed. Carol Lahurd (Minneapolis: Lutheran University Press), 2016, 88-111.

“Muhammad the peacemaker; Muhammad the warrior. Contesting images of Islam’s Prophet after 9/11” in *Muhammad in the Digital Age*, ed. Ruqayya Khan (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2015), 35-56.

“Sahnūn’s *Mudawwana* and the piety of the ‘Shariah-minded’ in *Islamic Law in Theory: Studies on Jurisprudence in Honor of Bernard Weiss*, eds. Kevin Reinhart and Robert Gleave. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2014, 129-141.

“Sahnūn b. Sa‘īd (d. 240/854)” in *Islamic Legal Thought: A Compendium of Muslim Jurists*, eds. Oussama Arabi, David Powers, and Susan Spectorosky. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2013, 64-84.

“Introduction” to the *Cambridge Companion to Muhammad*. Cambridge University Press, 2010, 1-18.

with Thomas Eich, “Medical Ethics and Muslim Perspectives” in *Muslim Medical Ethics*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008, 1-13.

“Taking and saving life: The Islamic context” in *Islamic Ethics of Life*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2003, 1-19.

“The ‘good death’ in Islamic theology and law” in *Islamic Ethics of Life*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2003, 177-93.

“The Essential Sharia: Teaching Islamic law in the religious studies classroom” in *Teaching Islam*, ed. Brannon Wheeler. New York: Oxford, 2002, 77-93.

“Competing Theories of Authority in early Mālikī Texts” in *Studies in Islamic Legal Theory*, ed. Bernard Weiss. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2001, 3-22.

“Islam” in *Death and the Afterlife*, ed. Jacob Neusner. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2000, 60-78.

“Islam” in *Women and Families*, ed. Jacob Neusner. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1999, 1-25.

“Islam” in *Evil and Suffering*, ed. Jacob Neusner, Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1999, 120-41.

“Islam” in *Sacred Text and Authority*, ed. Jacob Neusner, Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1998, 31-59.

“Islam” in *God*, ed. Jacob Neusner. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1997, 85-111.

“Sources for Studying Islam” in *The Pilgrim Library of World Religions*, ed. Jacob Neusner. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1997-2000, xx-xxiii.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES:

“Ibn al-Qāsim” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, *forthcoming*.

“Ibn Lahī‘a” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, *forthcoming*.

“Ibn ‘Abd al-Ḥakam, ‘Abdallāh” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2018.

“Ibn Abd al-Hakam, Family” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2016.

“Ashhab b. ‘Abd al-‘Azīz” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2009, 1:115-17.

“Asbagh b. al-Faraj” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2009, 1:107-8.

“Asad b. al-Furāt” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2008, 1:169-71.

“Slaves and Slavery” in *The Encyclopedia of the Qur’ān*, ed. Jane Dammen McAuliffe, et al. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2001-5, 5:56-60.

“Servants” in *The Encyclopedia of the Qur’ān*, 4:576-80.

“Prisoners” in *The Encyclopedia of the Qur’ān*, 4:276-78.

“Mālik ibn Anas” in *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*, ed. Richard C. Martin, et al. New York: Macmillan, 2004, 2:426-27.

“Sharia” in *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*, 2:618-19.

“Justice and Injustice” in *The Encyclopedia of the Qur’ān*, 3:69-74.

“Captives” and “Concubines” in *The Encyclopedia of the Qur’ān*, 1:289-90 and 1:396-97.

BOOK REVIEWS:

“*The Lives of Muhammad*. By Kecia Ali.” Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2014. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 83.4 (November, 2015), 1157-1160.

“*Earth, Empire and Sacred Text. Muslims and Christians as Trustees of Creation*. By David L. Johnston.” London: Equinox, 2010. *Comparative Islamic Studies* 8 (2014), 220-223.

“*The Expert Witness in Islamic Courts: Medicine and Crafts in the Service of Law* by Ron Shaham.” Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010. *Islamic Law and Society* 19 (November, 2012): 458-61.

“*Marriage and Slavery in Early Islam* by Kecia Ali.” Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2010. *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 44.2 (May 2012): 379-81.

“*The Canonization of al-Bukhārī and Muslim. The Formation and Function of the Sunnī Hadīth Canon* by Jonathan Brown.” *Islamic Law and Society*, 17 (July 2010): 279-82.

“*The Development of Exegesis in Early Islam: The Authenticity of Muslim Literature from the Formative Period* by Herbert Berg.” *Islamic Law and Society* 12 (2005): 419-22.

“*Jewish and Islamic Law. A Comparative Study of Custom during the Geonic Period* by Gideon Libson.” *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 29 (2004): 449-454.

“*A Magic Still Dwells: Comparative religion in the postmodern age* edited by Kimberley Patton and Benjamin Ray.” *Religious Studies Review* 36 (2002): 227.

“*Reinterpreting Islamic Historiography* by Tayeb El-Hibri.” *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin* 36.1 (2002): 83-84.

“*Islamic Law: Theory and practice* edited by Robert Gleave and Eugenia Kermeli.” *Law and Religion* 15 (2001-02): 417-19.

“*Contingency in a Sacred Law: Legal and ethical norms in the Muslim Fiqh* by Baber Johansen.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 121 (2001), 108-109.

“*The Origins of Islamic Law* by Yasin Dutton” in *Islamic Law and Society* 7 (2000), 398-400.

“*The Formation of the Sunni Schools Of Law, 9th-10th Centuries C.E.* by Christopher Melchert” in *Religious Studies Review* 26.1 (January, 2000): 107.

“*The Dual Nature Of Islamic Fundamentalism* by Johannes J. G. Jansen” in *Religious Studies Review* 26.1 (January, 2000): 110-11.

“*A History of Islamic Legal Theories: An introduction to Sunnī usūl al-fiqh* by Wael Hallaq” in *The Middle East Journal*, 53.4 (1999): 661-63.

“*Islamic Legal Interpretation: Muftis and their fatwas*, ed. Masud, Messick and Powers” in *Religious Studies Review* 24 (1998).

“*Eunuchs and Sacred Boundaries in Islamic Society* by Shaun Marmon” in *Religious Studies Review*, 23.2 (April, 1997): 200.

“*Der heilige Krieg (Ġihād) aus der Sicht der mālikitischen Rechtsschule* by Mathias von Bredow” in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 117 (1997): 179-80.

“*Al-Maqasid* by Noah Ha Mim Keller” in *Religious Studies Review* 22.4 (October, 1996): 356.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

COURSES TAUGHT AT PENN STATE

HIST 83s *The Arabian Nights* in Islamic Cultural Perspectives (first-year seminar)

HIST 108 The Crusades

HIST 181 Introduction to the Middle East

HIST 297H Theorizing Gender and Islam

HIST 302w Cairo as Microcosm of the Islamic World

HIST 302w Charismatic Authority

HIST 471 Classical Islamic Civilization (Cross-list with RL ST 471)

RL ST 001 World Religions

RL ST 107 Introduction to Islam

RL ST 108 Muhammad and the Qur’an (now RLST 164/ARAB 164)

RL ST 130 Western Religious Ethics

RL ST 131 Bioethics (cross-listed with PHIL 132)

RL ST 197H Ethics of Climate Change
RL ST 497a Cairo as Microcosm of the Islamic World
RL ST 497c Muhammad and the Qur'an
RL ST 497c Islam in Africa
RL ST 597c Feminism and Islam (cross-listed with Women's Studies and History)

Various Independent Studies

ADVISING:

Honors thesis adviser for Eric Funk (2011), Kaitlyn Randol (2012), and Chelsea Allen (2014)
M.A. committee member for Stella Murray, Architecture (2019)
Ph.D. committee member for Rebekah Zwanzig, Comparative Literature (2018)
Ph.D. committee member for Riadh Bounatirou, Comparative Literature (2011)
Ph.D. committee member for Ziad Bentaher, Comparative Literature (2009)
M.A. Thesis advisor for Elizabeth Ullrich, Political Science and Women's Studies (2005)
Ph.D. committee member for Samira Sayeh, French and Francophone Studies (2005)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Kairouan Manuscript Project, Director. (January 2017 - 2020).

Leading an international team of scholars to effect the preservation, cataloguing, and digitization of Arabic manuscripts in Kairouan, Tunisia.

The first phase, already underway, is focused on establishing a working relationship with Tunisian partners. The second phase will support a risk assessment and disaster response plan. The final phase seeks to establish a world-class conservation laboratory in Tunisia to attract scholars and conservators from all over the world to work on these important manuscripts. <https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/kairouan.html>

Penn State Liaison, CIC initiative for the Digital Islamic Studies Curriculum (2014-2019)
Member, Material Islam steering committee, American Academy of Religion (2013-2019)

Editorial Board, *Comparative Islamic Studies*. London: Equinox. (2001-present)
Manuscript review for *Harvard Middle Eastern and Islamic Review*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, *Islamic Law and Society*, *Journal of Religious Ethics*, and for several university presses.

External reviewer of candidates for promotion and tenure at various universities.
Fellowship proposal review for National Humanities Center, Fulbright and for American Research Center in Egypt.

Other contributions:

Member of the Advisory Council to the Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church

in America, on Lutheran-Muslim Relations (2013-present)
Co-leader of a workshop on Islamic law, American Academy of Religion, Atlanta
(October 29, 2010).
Respondent to a Panel on Islam and Ecology. American Academy of Religion, Atlanta,
(October 30, 2010).
Member, International Scientific Committee, Third International Conference on Islamic
Medical Ethics, Ankara, 2010.
Organized Special Topics Forum on “The Encyclopedia of the Qur’an” at American
Academy of Religion (AAR) national meeting, November, 2006.
Appointed to the Task Force on the Independent Meeting of the American Academy of
Religion (AAR), 2003.
Presided over panel on “The Legacy of Franz Rosenthal” at the AAR meeting in Atlanta
(2003).
Presided over panel on “Teaching Islam after September 11” at the AAR meeting in
Toronto (2002).
Member of the international planning board for the Haifa (Israel) conference on Islamic
Medical Ethics in 2001
Steering committee member for International Masters program in Middle East Studies at
Ben Gurion University (Beersheva, Israel).
Organized panel for the AAR meeting in Orlando (1998): “The Islamic Ethics of Life:
killing and saving;” co-sponsored by the sections on Islam and Ethics.

SERVICE TO PENN STATE

Leadership roles:

Coordinator, Schreyer Honors College Ethics Curriculum (2020-present)
Team leader, Religious Studies Re-organization (2020-present)
Religious Studies Scheduling Officer (2014-2019)
Co-convener, Rock Ethics Institute initiative on Religion, Spirituality and Public Life
(2017-2019)
Director, Rock Ethics Institute initiative on Religious Ethics (2007-2017).
Director of Graduate Studies, History department (2014-15)
Director, Middle East Studies Committee (2013-14)
Director, Religious Studies Program (2006-7)
Co-chair, Middle East Studies Committee (2003-6)
Co-Director, Society for the Study of Religion (2012-14; 2016-present)