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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.

Reviewed in: *Islamic Law and Society*, 28 (2021), 113 – 117; *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 83.2 (2020), 336–338; *Review of Middle East Studies*, 53.1 (2019), 163-166; *Journal of late antiquity*, 11.2 (2018), 448-450; *The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*, 35.2 (2018), 91-94.

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

Reviewed in: *English Historical Review*, 02/2015, Volume 130, Issue 542, 142-44; *Reference Reviews*, 02/2011, Volume 25, Issue 2, 11-12; *Tijdschrift voor Geschiedenis*, 05/2011, Volume 124, Issue 2, 255-56; *Journal of American Oriental Society*, 09/2012, 489-91; *Islamic Sciences*, 12/2016, 187; *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 2011, 493-495; *The Middle East Journal*, 09/2010, 686; *Choice* 48.3 (Nov 2010): 516.

*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.

Reviewed in: *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 2009, 477-478; *Scitech Book News*, 03/2009

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

Reviewed in: *Library Journal* 128.8 (May 1, 2003): 120; *Middle East Journal* 57.4 (Autumn 2003): 705; *Nursing Philosophy* 5.2 (July 2004); *Religious Studies Review* (October 2004); *Choice* "Outstanding Academic Title" (April, 2004); *Salamanticensis* 51 (2004): 448-50; *Journal of Islamic Studies* 2005 16(3):376-8; *Islamic Law and Society*, 01/2005, 429-32.

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

Reviewed in: *Islamic Law and Society* 9 (2002): 271-274; *Journal of Islamic Studies* 13 (2002): 42-49; *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 122 (2002): 91-93; *Der Islam* 80.1 (2003): 157-61.

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

Reviewed in: *Studies in World Christianity*, 10/2001, Volume 7, Issue 2, 254-55; *Choice* 38 (2000): 348; *Journal of Semitic Studies* 48.1 (Spring, 2003), 109-121 (reprinted in *Review of Rabbinic Judaism* 6.2-3 [2003], 333-345). *Reviews in Religion & Theology*, 11/2001, Volume 8, Issue 5, 495-542.

#### 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:

“Early Mālikī Manuscripts: a retrospective” *Études Asiatiques - Asiatischen Studien* 78 (2024), 3-18.

“A tenth-century Islamic manuscript from Kairouan, Tunisia” in MAVCOR [Material and Visual Cultures of Religion] journal (2022). <https://mavcor.yale.edu/mavcor-journal/object-narratives/tenth-century-islamic-manuscript-kairouan-tunisia>

“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 Mālikīyya 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 ‘Abd al-Malik b. Habīb: Edition und Kommentar zu Ms. Qarawīyyīn 809/40 (Abwāb al-Tahāra)* by Beatrix Ossendorf-Conrad.)

#### OTHER SCHOLARLY ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS:

“Senegalese responses to climate change, an ethical analysis” forthcoming in *Recovering Sustainable Traditions: Environment, Economic Thought, and Islamic Ethics*, edited by Sami al-Daghistani (Leiden: E.J. Brill).

“The Kairouan manuscript collection” in *Manuscripts and Arabic-script writing in Africa*, edited by Charles Stewart and Ahmed Chaouqui Binebine. Cairo: Islamic Manuscripts Association, 2023, 82-104.

“Constructing Muslim Charisma” *Routledge International Handbook of Charisma*, edited by 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 Spector. 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, 2020.

“Ibn Lahī‘a” in *Encyclopedia of Islam* (third edition). Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2020.

“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:

Christian Müller, *Recht und historische Entwicklung der Scharia im Islam*. Berlin, Germany: Studies in the History and Culture of the Middle East, vol. 46. Walter de Gruyter, 2022. *Islamic Law and Society*, 31 (2024): 1-7.

“*Law and Politics under the Abbasids. An intellectual portrait of al-Juwaynī*.” By Sohaira Z. M. Siddiqui.” Cambridge Studies in Islamic Civilization. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019. *Islamic Law and Society*, 29 (2022): 213-216.

“*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.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Foreword” in Nejmeddine Hentati, *Ḥanaḥī Fiqh in Ifrīqiya in the 3rd/9th Century*, Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2024,.

“Foreword” in Abla Hassan, *On Pain and Suffering: A Qur'anic Perspective*, Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2022, xi-xiv.

"Centre Climate." A series of eight columns in the *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA), focusing on the impact of climate change in Centre County. June 6, July 5, August 4, September 3, October 6, November 3, 2019, January 4 and November 2, 2020.

Co-author with Michael Mann, "You Can't Save the Climate by Going Vegan. Corporate Polluters Must be Held Accountable." *USA Today*. June 3, 2019.

“Trump’s actions bad for education” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). February 3, 2017



- “Two dangerous lies poised to define Trump presidency” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). December 14, 2016
- “Environmental justice calls for our attention” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). October 29, 2016.
- “Cyclists take inspiration from faith” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). April 21, 2016.
- “Religion, ethics and climate change go hand in hand” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). September 13, 2015.
- Co-author with Jesse Ballenger “Climate change is major health threat” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). October 15, 2013.
- “Faith Groups Address Environmental Issues” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). September 21, 2009.
- Co-author with Sandhya Bhattacharya, “Conference Report: Islam and Bioethics,” *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences* 23:3 (2006): 151-5.
- “Understanding Islamic Ethics” Op-ed in *Centre Daily Times* (State College, PA). November 1, 2004.
- “Dancing with Death: Revisiting Martyrdom in an Era of Suicide Bombers” *The Cresset* 67.5 (June 2004): 17-23.
- “Resources for Teaching Islam” (editor and contributor) *Religious Studies News* 17.2 (March, 2002), 9, 12 and 21.
- Co-author with several others “Statement from Scholars of the Islamic Religion” in *Amerasia Journal* 27:3 (2001): 277-280.
- “Viewpoint” in *The Poughkeepsie Journal*. October 13, 2001.
- “Research Report” in *The Fulbrighter* (Cairo, Egypt), November, 2000.

#### WORK IN PROGRESS

*Kairouan Manuscript Cultures / Cultures des manuscrits à Kairouan*, co-editor with Asma Helali (under review)

*Manuscripts, Scholars, and Power in the Mediterranean* (Book manuscript in progress)

*Producing Charismatic Authority: history, memory, and the power of religious followers* (Book manuscript in progress)

#### PAPERS PRESENTED

- 2023: “Early Maliki Manuscripts as Relics and Reliquaries” presented to the Seminar, *History of Mālikism through the Manuscript Tradition* at the Instituto de Lenguas y Culturas del Mediaterráneo y Oriente Próximo, Madrid

- “Colonizing Manuscripts” presented to the workshop *Works in progress in Middle East Studies*. Penn State University
- 2022: “Archive and memory: The Arabic manuscripts from Kairouan in historical context,” keynote for the workshop *Legal texts and scholarly communities as reflected in the Raqqada collection*, Hamburg, Germany
- “Muslim Responses to Climate Change: a preliminary analysis” to the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Denver.
- 2021: “An Empire of Books” to the conference, *New Perspectives in Romanization and Islamization*, Hamburg, Germany [delivered remotely].
- “The history and importance of the Kairouan manuscript collection” to the conference, *Arabic Manuscripts in Africa*, Alexandria, Egypt [delivered remotely] <https://youtu.be/0xcP-MqyWKU>
- 2020: “Climate Change in the Muslim World: Starting a Conversation” to the conference “Islam, Environmental Science, and Conservation,” Michigan State University
- “When did Egyptian scholars of Islamic law become Mālikīs?” to the workshop: *Narratives on the Maliki legal school: inside and outside views (from the early period to the present)*, University of Exeter, Exeter, UK
- 2018: “The Kairouan Manuscripts in their Mediterranean Context” to the workshop: *The Islamic Heritage of Kairouan, Tunisia in Historical Context*, Centre for the Study of Manuscripts and Cultures, Hamburg University, Hamburg, Germany
- “Early Arabic Manuscripts as Relics and as Reliquaries,” First Millennium workshop, University of Maryland.
- “Muslim Scholarly Communities: a deep dive into the libraries of Kairouan,” Workshop on Kairouan Manuscripts, Departments of History and Jewish Studies, Penn State.
- 2017: “Scholarly communities and the production of early Qur’ans,” Institute for Isma’ili Studies, London.
- The Earliest Arabic Manuscripts and the Rise of Book Culture among the ‘Ulama’ “Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Boston, MA.

- “The Rise of Islam in a Judaeo-Christian context,” Hamburg University, Hamburg, Germany.
- 2016: “Scholars and connectivity: the early Arabic manuscript as relic and reliquary” presented at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting in San Antonio.  
 “The materiality of the study of Islamic law” presented at the *Wissenschaftskolleg*, Berlin.  
 “The Rise of Islam in a Judaeo-Christian context,” Michigan State University.
- 2014: “Muhammad in a Judaeo-Christian context” invited presentation at Lehigh University.
- 2013: “Material Evidence as Normative Discourse” Annual Meeting, American Academy of Religion, Baltimore.  
 “The Ethicist as Activist: where do you draw the line?” Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia  
 “Interpreting material evidence: religion at the “origins of Islam.” Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Penn State.
- 2012: “Female charismatic authority: two examples” invited panel presentation for: Thematic Conversation-Spaces, Networks, Institutions: Men, Women, and Islamic Authority in the Twentieth Century. Middle East Studies conference, Denver.  
 “Medina on the Mediterranean: Networks of knowledge and authority in the early Maliki school of law.” Closing conference at the National Endowment for the Humanities summer institute “Networks and Knowledge: Synthesis and Innovation in the Muslim-Christian-Jewish Medieval Mediterranean” Barcelona.
- 2011: “Muhammad the Warrior; Muhammad the Peacemaker. Visions of Islam’s Prophet ten years after 9/11. Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas.  
 "Early Maliki Intertextuality: Competing texts within and around Ibn Abd al-Hakam’s Minor Compendium." Presented at the conference "The Authority of Legal Texts - Jewish and Islamic Perspectives." Co-sponsors: Ben Gurion University, Hebrew University, Centre de Recherche Français à Jerusalem.  
 "Sufi Saint, Shiite Imam... and Sunni Jurist? The Muslim legal sage in comparative perspective." Presented at the conference Norm and Noumenon: Religious Law and Religious Studies. Co-sponsors: Mellon Foundation and the Center for the Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

- 2010 “The Lost Manuscripts of Egypt: Reconstructing the Earliest School of Islamic Law.” Presented to the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Georgetown University.
- 2009: “Early Islamic Legal Manuscripts: What we know, what we may yet discover” to the Second Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age, Philadelphia.  
 “Custom, not *sunna*” presented to the sixth International Conference on Islamic Law, Exeter, England.  
 “Muslim Bioethics and its relationship to Islamic law” presented to the Working group on Islamic law at the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid and to St. Joseph’s University (Philadelphia) program in bioethics.  
 “History and Biography: reflections on the life of Saḥnūn b. Sa‘īd (d. 240/854)” invited lecture at Tübingen University.
- 2008: “Early Māliki Law: A New Text” presented to a conference on Islamic Law at the University of Exeter (UK).  
 “History, Biography and Text: reflections on the life of Saḥnūn b. Sa‘īd (d. 240/854)” at the second Alta (Utah) Conference on Islamic Legal Theory.
- 2006: “Cultivating a Space for Islamic Ethical Discourse: a Response to Sohail Hashmi” to the Society for Christian Ethics meeting in Phoenix.
- 2005: “Early Islamic law: A new text” to the American Oriental Society meeting in Philadelphia and at Bochum University (Germany).
- 2004: “Saḥnūn b. Sa‘īd and the Meaning of the *Mudawwana*” to the Middle East Studies Association meeting in San Francisco.  
 “Charismatic Authority in Islamic Traditions: the Weberian Paradigm Revisited” at Swarthmore College.
- 2003: “Dancing with Death: Revisiting Martyrdom in an Era of Suicide Bombers” at Valparaiso University as the 10<sup>th</sup> Warren G. Rubel Lecturer in Christian Higher Learning.
- 2001: “Islamic Ethics of Saving Life: A comparative perspective” to the International Conference on Islamic Medical Ethics. Haifa, Israel.
- 2000: “Charisma and Legal Authority” to the Faculty Seminar, Bard College.  
 “The Beginning of the Maliki School” (in Arabic) to the Faculty of Social

Sciences, University of Tunis (Tunisia) and to the graduate seminar on Islamic law, University of Fez-Sais (Morocco).

“The prayer for rain in *al-Mukhtasar al-Saghīr* by Ibn `Abd al-Hakam (d. 214/829)” to the closing conference of the Working Group on Islamic Law and the State, Institute for Advanced Study, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

- 1999: “Competing theories of authority in early Mālikī texts” to the Working Group on Islamic Law and the State, Institute for Advanced Study, the Hebrew University.  
 “The 'good death' in the classical Islamic sources” to the Middle East Studies Association in Washington, D.C.  
 “Theory or Theology: Understanding Mālikī *usūl al-fiqh*” to a special conference on Islamic legal theory sponsored by the University of Utah, Salt Lake City.
- 1997: “A Mirror for Qādīs: the lives of °Abdallāh b. °Abd al-Hakam (d. 214/829) and Sahnūn b. Sa°id (d. 240/856)” presented to the Middle East Studies Association in San Francisco and the Second International Conference on Islamic Law in Granada, Spain.  
 “MS Kairouan 14/94 and the puzzle of early Mālikī fiqh” to the Columbia Arabic Seminar, Columbia University.
- 1996: “The Authenticity of Mālik b. Anas' Juristic Dicta” to the American Oriental Society in Philadelphia.  
 “Muslims in Dialogue with non-Muslims” to the Bard College conference on ecumenical dialogue, entitled “Inventing a Common Future.”
- 1996: “Slavery in the Qur'ān and in Early Islamic Society” to the American Academy of Religion in New Orleans.
- 1994: “The Development of the *mukātab* and the *umm walad* in Early Islamic Law” to the Workshop on Islamic Law in Ann Arbor, Michigan.  
 “Early Debates in the Formation of Islamic Law: the Case of Slavery” to the American Academy of Religion in Chicago.  
 “The Importance of °Abdallāh b. °Abd al-Hakam (d. 214/829) for the Early Mālikī School in Egypt” to the American Oriental Society in Madison, Wisconsin.
- 1993: “Paradox or Contradiction: Free Will and Determinism in the Qur'ān” to the Five College Religion Faculty Seminar, Northampton, Massachusetts.

#### SELECTED LECTURES

- 2019: "Archive and Historical Memory: The world's oldest Arabic manuscripts and selection bias" to Society for the Study of Religion, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Penn State.
- 2018: "Climate Change is an Ethical Issue" to Council of Sustainable Leaders Sustainability Showcase, Sustainability Institute, Penn State.  
"Religion, Ethics, and Climate Change." To Digital Islamic Studies Curriculum, Michigan State University (January 17, 2018).
- 2017: "The Arabic Manuscripts of Tunisia" to College of the Liberal Arts Alumni Development Council, Penn State.  
"What everyone needs to know about the Qur'an," to Methodist Women's Association, State College; also to Foxdale Retirement Community.  
"Muhammad's Heirs: the rise of Muslim scholarly communities" to the University Women's Association, Schlow Regional Library, State College.
- 2014: "Celebrating Ramadan" to the Mount Nittany Medical Center roundtable on welcoming Muslim patients.  
"Religion, Ethics and the Environment" at the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center, Penn State.  
"Overview of Islam" to the Office of Research Protections, Penn State.
- 2012: "Introduction to the Qur'an," 3-hour seminar for the Allegheny Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- 2010: "The Researcher as Activist: Organ Trafficking in Egypt" to the Scholarship and Research Ethics Brown Bag, Office of Research Protections, Penn State.
- 2008: "Editing the Cambridge Companion to Muhammad" at Oberlin College.  
"Muslim views of Peace" at John Carroll University.
- 2007: "The Many names of Muhammad" at the American University in Cairo.
- 2006: "Salman Rushdie and the real *Satanic Verses*" part of the Institute for the Arts and Humanities lecture series, Penn State.  
Lecture on "Islam and Muslim Students" for University Wide Staff Development Day, Penn State.
- 2005: "War and Conflict in Islamic History" presented to the Trustee Partners' breakfast, Penn State.

- Lecture on “Islam and Muslim Students” for University Wide Staff Development Day, Penn State.  
 “Visions of Peace and Justice in the Qur’an” at LaSalle College as part of their Diplomat in Residence Program.
- 2004: “Muslim perspectives on death and dying” Brown bag series, Department of Humanities, Penn State College of Medicine.  
 “Islamic law: a new text” as part of the Penn State comparative literature luncheon series.  
 “Jihad and Islamic History” as part of the War and Ethics lecture series, Rock Ethics Institute at Penn State  
 “Islamic Ethics of Saving Life: A comparative perspective” as the “First Annual Distinguished Speaker in Comparative Religion” at the American University in Cairo.  
 “Maimonides in Historical Context” as part of the Penn State commemoration of Maimonides’ 800<sup>th</sup> death anniversary entitled “Maimonides the Blessed, Maimonides the Cursed – The Rambam: Still Controversial After 800 Years.”
- 2003: “The History of the Qur'an: from compilation to canonization” as part of the Penn State Religious Studies lecture series.  
 “Terrorism, Jihad and Islamic History” at Simon’s Rock College
- 2002: “Islamic Law, War, and Terrorism” at Skidmore College.  
 “Jihad and Islamic History” at Sacred Heart University and Millsaps College.  
 “The Rational Distribution of Scarce Resources in Islam” presented to the Bard College Economics Club.  
 Presentations on Jihad and Islamic history at Riverside Church (New York City), Woodstock Jewish Congregation, Ulster County Interfaith Council.
- 2001: “Muslim understandings of Jihad” to Bard High School/ Early College and several other local venues, including: Millbrook Day School; Millbrook Academy.  
 “Islamic Ethics of War and Peace” as part of Bard College Family Weekend and several other local venues including: Hudson Valley Ministerium.  
 “Contested Images of Muslim Women” at Bard Conference “God and Sexuality.”
- 2000: “Dawr al-Qur`ān fī ta`rīkh al-Islām wa-ta`rīkh al-lughat al-`arabiyya (The Role of the Qur’an in the History of Islam and the Arabic Language)” at Bard College.

- “Problems in manuscript research” at the Centre des Études Maghrébines à Tunis.
- 1999: “Compilation and canonization of the Qur’ān” at Tel Aviv and Syracuse Universities.  
 “The Manuscript collections of Kairouan, Tunisia” at Ben Gurion University.  
 “The Qur’an as a source for slavery in seventh-century Arabia” at Yale University.
- 1998: “Theological and political aspects of teaching Islam” at University of Washington.  
 “Marking Space: mosque architecture in Cairo” at Marion College, Wisconsin.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2024 Fellowship, RomanIslam – Center for Comparative Empire and Transcultural Studies, Hamburg University.
- 2020 Co-PI "Barakat Trust Conservation Interns: Preserving the Written Heritage of Kairouan, Tunisia," from the Barakat Trust to support the training of conservation interns in Kairouan. Total awarded: \$12,084.00.  
 Co-PI "Pattern Analysis of Early Arabic Manuscripts," Center for Humanities and Information, Universities and Colleges. Total awarded: \$4,000.00.  
 Petra Kappert Fellowship, Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Hamburg University. \$24,000.00.
- 2018 Grant (\$5,500) from the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, University of Hamburg, for initial investigation of collection in Kairouan, Tunisia, April of 2019. And for conservators from Tunisia to travel to Germany in December of 2019.
- 2017 Grant (\$4,000) from Center for Global Studies to support Symposium on Tunisian manuscripts.  
 Second grant (\$35,000) from the Digital Islamic Studies Curriculum program to support teaching of HIST 108 (Crusades) simultaneously at Penn State and Michigan State; renewed 2018 and 2019.
- 2016 Collaborative Colloquium award from the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Penn State (with Daniel Falk); renewed 2017-2021.  
 Digital Humanities Grant from the Center for Humanities and Information to support work on Tunisian Manuscripts.



- Grant from College of Liberal Arts to support development of new General Education integrative studies (IS) course on the Ethics of Climate Change
- Major grant (\$35,000) from the Digital Islamic Studies Curriculum program to support teaching of HIST 108 (Crusades) simultaneously at Penn State and Michigan State.
- 2015 Grant support from Institute for the Arts and Humanities, College of Liberal Arts, and the Digital Islamic Studies Curriculum program to explore development of Islamic Studies program at Penn State
- 2013 Fellowship, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Penn State.
- 2012 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute in Barcelona, participant.
- 2010 "Religious Ethics of Climate Change" Rock Ethics Institute, Penn State, \$5,000.00. (funded: October 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011). <http://paipl.org>. Grant to support educational activities throughout Pennsylvania on the Religious Ethics of Climate Change; renewed, 2011-2016.
- 2008 Named the Mead-Swing Visiting Professor of Religious Studies at Oberlin College.
- 2006 "Teaching across the disciplines" award from the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Penn State, for a graduate course on the Modern Islamic World (fall semester, 2007) with Tijana Krstic (History) and Bettina Mathes (German).
- Grants to support the International Conference on Islam and Bioethics from the College of Liberal Arts and the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Penn State.
- 2005 Rock Ethics Institute Initiative Grant: "Religious Ethics"
- 2004 *Choice magazine* "Outstanding Academic Title" awarded to *Islamic Ethics of Life*.
- International Programs Faculty Travel Grant to enhance course: "Cairo: microcosm of the Islamic world"
- 2003 Warren G. Rubel Lecturer in Christian Higher Learning, Valparaiso University.
- 2002 Freeman Foundation grant to develop new course: "Islam in Asia."
- Guest professorship, Center for Religious Studies, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium (declined)
- 2000 Fulbright Senior Scholar award for research in Tunisia, Morocco and Egypt.
- 1999 Fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Study, The Hebrew University; Fellowship from the Spanish Ministry of Education for study in Spain (declined); Social Studies Research Council grant (declined).
- 1996 Bard College Faculty Research and Travel Grant for research in Tunisia.
- Pre-1995: American Research Center in Egypt fellowship for four months of

research (1995); Prize dissertation fellowship from the Whiting Foundation (1993-94); German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) stipend for study in Germany (1993); Fulbright fellowship for study in Egypt (1990-91); Yale University graduate fellowships (1988-92); Henry Hart Rice fellowship for travel in the Middle East (1990); Rotary Foundation fellowship (declined); Graduated from Valparaiso University “with High Distinction,” and with “Senior Honors” (1984); associate of Christ College honors program, member of Phi Alpha Theta, History Honors Society (1981-84).

## 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)

PHIL 3H The Ethical Life  
 PHIL

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/PHIL/METEO 133N 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 - Present).

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 (2013-17)

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:**

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)

##### **Committee work:**

Immediate tenure committee, College of Liberal Arts (2017-19)  
 Humanities Institute advisory board (2017-19)  
 Search committee: Rock Ethics Institute Director (2015-16)  
 Search committee chair, Middle East, History department (2014-15)  
 Promotion and Tenure, History Department (2009–11; 2015-17).  
 Policy Committee, History department (2005-6; 2011-12; 2013-14; 2015-16)  
 Middle East Studies committee, member (2003-present)  
 Graduate Evaluation Committee (2010–11; chair, 2014-15)  
 Search committee, Arabic and African Literature (2011-12)  
 Rock Ethics Institute Internal Advisory Committee (2006-8)  
 Search committee chair, Buddhism, History department (2006-7)  
 Search Committees, Bioethics and STEMS, Liberal Arts (2005-6)  
 Graduate Placement Committee, History department (2004-5)  
 Graduate Affairs Committee, History department (2003-5)  
 Mock interviews for Fulbright, Rhodes and Marshall scholarships (2003-16)

##### **Other:**

Organized workshop  
 Organized three panels on the revolutions and uprisings in the Middle East at Penn State

in Spring of 2011 and spring of 2012.

Developed "white paper" on Arabic language teaching with Prof. Arthur Goldschmidt (2011).

Organized conference at Penn State: "Stewardship or Sacrifice: Religion and the Ethics of Climate Change" October 7-8, 2009, co-sponsored by Jewish Studies, the Rock Ethics Institute, and the Center for Ethics and Religious Affairs.

Board member, Lutheran Campus Ministry. (September 2007 - 2011).

Organized and moderated "Lobby Talk" at WPSU public television on "Muslims in America" November 15, 2006; aired January 11, 2007.

[http://streams.wpsx.psu.edu/Muslims\\_in\\_America01112.html](http://streams.wpsx.psu.edu/Muslims_in_America01112.html)

Organized international conference at Penn State on "Islam and bioethics: concerns, challenges and responses." March 27-28, 2006.

Served on panel discussion on Thomas Friedmann at the Schreyer Honors College (2003).

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Spring, 2011 Three-week course on prayer in world religions, Grace Lutheran Church.

Fall, 2010 Three-week course on Muslim and Christian encounters in history, State College Presbyterian.

Fall, 2004 Three-week mini-course on Islam at Grace Lutheran Church, State College

Fall, 2003 Public lecture on Islamic Ethics at Barnes and Noble Bookstore, State College

Fall, 2002 Taught "Religion of Islam" at the Eastern Correctional Facility (Wawarsing, New York) as part of the Bard Prison Initiative.  
Taught mini-course "The Mosques of Cairo" at the Lifetime Learning Institute of Bard College

2001-2002 Numerous presentations to local religious and civic groups in the wake of 9/11

1998 Taught Islamic art in the Red Hook, New York, schools as part of BRIDGES program

## INTERVIEWS

For the past fifteen years I have served as a regular source for local and national news outlets (including the Washington Post, New York Times, CBS radio and various NPR affiliates) on the subjects of Islamic law, religious ethics, religion and warfare and Middle Eastern history. Television appearances include "Conversations Live: Climate Change" (WPSU TV, 2017), "Conversations Live: Climate Change; part 2" (WPSU TV, 2017), "Muslim views of Jihad" (EBRU TV, 2009) "Muslims in

Pennsylvania” (WPSU TV, 2006)” and “Secrets of the Qur’an” (History Channel, 2005).

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

GERMAN	Fluent
ARABIC	Excellent reading of both classical and Modern Standard Arabic; good conversational skills in Egyptian and Levant dialects; basic comprehension in Tunisian dialect.
FRENCH	Excellent reading, moderate spoken
SPANISH	Good reading, moderate spoken
HEBREW	Reading with dictionary
PERSIAN	Reading with dictionary

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

### **AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION**

Member, Material Islam Seminar steering committee (2013-2018)

Member, International Connections Committee (2004-8)

Co-chair of the section for the study of Islam (2000-2003)

Webmaster of Islam Section web page (1997-2001)

Islam Section Steering Committee (1996-2003)

Moderator of IslamAAR, on-line discussion group (1995-2006)

### **AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR MAGHRIB STUDIES**

### **AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY**

### **AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT**

### **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ISLAMIC LEGAL STUDIES**

### **MIDDLE EAST MEDIEVALISTS**

### **MIDDLE EAST STUDIES ASSOCIATION**