

# Loren D. Lybarger

## Curriculum Vitae

August 2013

Ohio University  
Department of Classics and World Religions  
210 Ellis Hall  
Athens, OH 45701  
lybarger@ohio.edu  
740-597-2100  
On leave 2013-2015

5807 S. Dorchester Avenue, 7F  
Chicago, IL 60637-1777  
ldlybarger@gmail.com  
740-707-9917

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Chicago, 2002  
M.A. Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, 1995  
M.A. American University in Cairo, 1991  
B.A. Earlham College, 1986

## EMPLOYMENT

Ohio University, Athens, Department of Classics and World Religions, Associate Professor, 2006-present

California State University, Chico, Department of Religious Studies, Assistant Professor, 2002-2006

## RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

### Book

2007 *Identity and Religion in Palestine: The Struggle between Islamism and Secularism in the Occupied Territories*, Princeton University Press; reissued as paperback in August 2012

### Edited Special Topics Journal Forum

2012 Special Topics Forum on Martin Riesebrodt's *The Promise of Salvation*, in *The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 51, 3 (co-editor)

### Refereed Journal Articles

2012 "Theory as a Tool in the Social Scientific Study of Religion and Martin Riesebrodt's *The Promise of Salvation*," *The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 51, 3: 397-411 (co-author)

2008 "The Demise of Adam in the *Qisas al-Anbiya*: the Symbolic Politics of Death and Reburial in the Islamic Stories of the [Biblical] Prophets," *Numen* 55, 5: 497-538

- 2007 “For Church or Nation? Islamism, Secular-Nationalism, and the Transformation of Christian Identities in Palestine,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 75, 4: 777-813
- 2005 “Palestinian Identity in the Post-Oslo Period: A Case-Study of Generation Effects in a West Bank Refugee Camp,” *Social Compass* 52, 5: 143-156
- 2000 “Gender and Prophetic Authority in the Qur’anic Story of Maryam: A Literary Approach,” *The Journal of Religion* 80 (April): 240-270

### Book Reviews

- 2013 *Barriers to Democracy: The Other Side of Social Capital in Palestine and the Arab World*, by Amaney Jamal in *The European Legacy: Toward New Paradigms*: I:10.1080/10848770.2012.719861
- 2012 *Whitewashed: America’s Invisible Middle Eastern Minority*, by John Tehranian, in *Journal of American Ethnic History* 31, 2 (Winter): 154-155
- 2010 *A History of Palestine: From the Ottoman Conquest to the Founding of the State of Israel*, by Gudrun Krämer, in *The European Legacy: Toward New Paradigms* 15, 5 (August): 817-118
- 2009 *Hamas in Politics: Democracy, Religion, Violence*, by Jeroen Gunning, in *Contemporary Islam: Dynamics of Muslim Life* (March): 325-328
- 2004 *Faithlines: Muslim Conceptions of Islam and Society*, by Riaz Hassan, in *The Journal of Religion* 84, 3 (July): 495-496
- 2004 *Green Crescent over Nazareth: The Displacement of Christians by Muslims in the Holy Land*, by Raphael Israeli, in *The History of Religions* 43, 3 (February): 254-255
- 2003 *The Wrath of Jonah: The Crisis of Religious Nationalism in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, by Rosemary Radford Ruether, and Herman J. Ruether, in *The Journal of Religion* 83, 3 (July): 494
- 2001 *Religion and State: The Muslim View of Politics*, by L. Carl Brown, in *The Journal of Religion* 81, 3 (October): 687
- 2000 *Shattering the Myth: Islam Beyond Violence*, by Bruce B. Lawrence, in *The Journal of Religion* 80, 2 (April): 363-365
- 1999 *A Muslim and a Christian in Dialogue*, by Badru D. Kateregga and David W. Shenk, in *Princeton Seminary Review* 20, 1: 99-101

### Manuscripts in Press

- 2013 (projected) “Other Worlds to Live In: Palestinian Retrievals of Religion and Tradition,” chapter in *Palestine and the Palestinians Today*, edited by Rochelle Davis and Mimi Kirk, Bloomington and Indianapolis, IN: Indiana University Press

- 2014 (projected) Review of Sara Roy, *Hamas and Civil Society in Gaza: Engaging the Islamist Social Sector* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2011), scheduled for publication in *The European Legacy: Toward New Paradigms* 19, 1

### **Manuscripts in Submission**

- 2013 “Nationalism and the Contingency of the Religious Return among Second-Generation Palestinian Immigrants in the United States: A Chicago Case-Study,” *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs* (submitted in June)
- 2013 Review of Ilan Pappé, *The Forgotten Palestinians: A History of the Palestinians in Israel* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2011), *The European Legacy: Toward New Paradigms*, (submitted in February)

### **Manuscripts in Preparation**

“How Far is Too Far? Debates about Alterity as Struggles for Identity in Religious Studies and Christian Missiology” (article, projected submission to *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, September 2013)

“A Disenchanted Exile: Palestinian Secularism in Chicago” (article, projected submission to *Comparative Studies in Society in History*, December 2013)

*Secularism and the Religious Return among Palestinians in Chicago* (book, projected completion date, December 2014)

*Islamist Transformations: Crisis and Renewal in the Muslim Brotherhood—Egypt, Palestine, Sudan* (book, projected completion date, 2015)

### **Encyclopedia Articles**

- 2013 Four articles on “Arafat, Yasser” (750 words), “Hamas” (750 words), “Palestine” (750 words), and “P.L.O.” (1,000 words), in *Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*, edited by Gerhard Böwering, Patricia Crone, Wadad Kadi, Deven Stewart, and M. Qasim Zaman, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press
- 2010 “Religious and Ethnic Communities in Palestine, Pre-1948” (2,800 words), *Encyclopedia of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, edited by Cheryl A. Rubenberg, Boulder, CO: Lynne-Rienner Publishers

### **Online Publication**

- 2009 Response to Alain Epp-Weaver, “Theological Cartography and Arboreal Imagination in Israel-Palestine,” *Religion and Culture Web Forum*, University of Chicago Divinity School <http://divinity.uchicago.edu/martycenter/publications/webforum/archive.shtml>

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS**

- 2013-14 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship
- 2013-14 Senior Fellowship, Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion, Divinity School, University of Chicago
- 2011 Ohio University 1804 Fund Undergraduate Teaching Award to support development of content-rich online modules for Introduction to the Study of Religion
- 2010 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend
- 2010 Ohio University Research Council Grant
- 2005 Summer Scholars Research Grant, California State University
- 2003 Research and Creative Activities Grant, California State University
- 2003 Faculty Development Grant, California State University, declined in lieu of simultaneous receipt of Research and Creative Activities Grant
- 2001-02 MacArthur/CASPIC Fellow, Council for Advanced Studies in Peace and International Cooperation, University of Chicago
- 2001-02 Junior Fellowship, Martin Marty Center for Advanced Research in Religion, University of Chicago Divinity School, declined in lieu of MacArthur/Caspic Fellowship
- 2000-01 Henry Luce Foundation Fellow in Theological Education, University of Chicago Divinity School
- 1999-00 Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellowship, Bethlehem, West Bank
- 1999 Distinction, Doctoral Qualifying Exams, three areas: Key Concepts in the Sociology of Religion; Sociological Theories of Religion—Classical and Contemporary; Islam—History and Ethnography; Modern Christianity, Divinity School, University of Chicago
- 1999-00 J. Coert Rylaarsdam Prize in the University of Chicago Divinity School for Outstanding Work in Interfaith Relations
- 1996-97 Title VI Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, one-year tuition and stipend for Advanced Arabic Study at the University of Chicago

## **INVITED TALKS**

- 2012 “Contingency and the Religious Return among Palestinians in Chicago,” presented at the conference on “Minorities in Islam / Muslims as Minorities,” Wake Forest University, October 18, 19, and 20

- 2012 “The Religious Return among Palestinians in Chicago: A Meditation on Contingency and the Dialectics of Loss and Hope in Exile,” presented at the School of Education, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN (February 20) and also at “Colloquium on Interdisciplinary Study” at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (March 2)
- 2011 “Seeing Palestinians: Violence and Narrative,” University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York in cooperation with the Palestinian American Research Center and the Council on American Overseas Research Centers, April 21
- 2011 “Women, Islamism, and Secularism in Palestine,” University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York in cooperation with the Palestinian American Research Center and the Council on American Overseas Research Centers, April 20
- 2010 Respondent to Sylvia Black Fishman, “The Present and Future of Jews in America,” response entailing presenting a similar assessment of the situation of Muslims in the United States, Ryterband Lecture Series, Wright State University, United Theological Seminary, and University of Dayton, Dayton OH, October 27
- 2009 “Being Muslim in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Negotiating Islam and the Globalized Secular,” and “Religion, Tradition, and Identity in Palestine,” Distinguished Diversity Lecturer, Ohio State University, Mansfield, November 5
- 2009 Respondent to Jon Levenson (Harvard University Divinity School): “Resurrection in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam,” and “Re-Examining Monotheisms: Judaism, Christianity and Islam,” Ryterband Lecture Series, Wright State University, United Theological Seminary, and University of Dayton, Dayton OH, October 26
- 2009 “Other Worlds To Live In: Palestinian Retrievals of Religion and Tradition under Conditions of Chronic National Collapse,” Annual Symposium of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University: “Palestine and the Palestinians Today,” April 2 and 3

## **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

- 2013 “Committing to Alterity: Toward a Non-Theological Mode of Living Well Together across the Secular-Religious Divide,” accepted for presentation at the roundtable on “Disciplining a Secular-Religious Divide: Living Together Well,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, New Orleans, LA, October 10-13
- 2012 “A Disenchanted Exile: Palestinian Secularism in Chicago,” accepted for presentation at the roundtable on “Disciplining a Religious/Secular Divide: Secular States,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Denver, CO, November 17-20

- 2011 “Retrieving Secularization, Explaining Religious Revitalization: The Case of Islamic Institutionalization among Somali and Palestinian Immigrants in the United States,” presented at the roundtable on “Disciplining a Religious/Secular Divide,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Washington, D.C., December 1-4
- 2010 “‘Deterritorialization’ and the Politics of Islam among Palestinians in the United States,” presented at the Palestinian American Research Center’s sponsored panel on “Islam and Politics in Palestine,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, San Diego, November
- 2008 “Religion, Secularity, and the Dialectics of Collective Identity in Palestine,” Annual Meeting of the Ohio Academy of History, Wright State University, Dayton, OH, April 11-12
- 2005 “Policing Palestinian Islamism: Repression, Resistance, and the Re-Structuring of Identities in the Post-Oslo Period,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Washington, D.C., November 20-23
- 2005 “Political Constriction and Multidirectional Re-Framing of Palestinian Islamism during the Oslo Peace Process,” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 13-16
- 2003 “Secularist-Islamist Generational Dynamics in the Formation of Palestinian Identity—A Case Study of a Refugee Camp in the Post-Oslo Period,” Annual Meeting of the International Society for the Sociology of Religion, Turin, Italy, July 21-25
- 2002 “Generational Processes in the Formation of Palestinian Islamist Consciousness,” Annual Meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, Chicago, August 15-17
- 2001 “Islamization and the Formation of Diverging Generation Identities in Fatah, Post-Oslo,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, San Francisco, November 17-20
- 1998 “The Dynamics of Religious Authority in Palestinian Society: Historical and Theoretical Considerations,” Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Chicago, IL, March 21

#### **CAMPUS AND DEPARTMENTAL TALKS**

- 2013 “Hearing the Qur’an,” presented as part of the “Muslim Journeys” lecture series at Alden Library, Ohio University, Athens, April 27
- 2013 “How Can We Know the Good in the Absence of God,” presented to the Scholars’ Colloquium, Ohio University, Athens, February 21
- 2009 “Religious Studies Fieldwork and the Religious Other,” presented to the Classics and World Religions Colloquium, September 16

- 2007 “For Church or Nation? Islamism, Secular-Nationalism, and the Transformation of Palestinian Christian Identities,” International Studies Forum, Ohio University, Athens, September 21
- 2007 “What is Islam?” Diversity Workshop, Ohio University Southern, Ironton, OH, February 3
- 2003 “Prospects for Peace in the Middle East: Israeli, Palestinian, and American Perspectives,” Center for Applied and Professional Ethics, CSU, Chico, April 22, 2003
- 2001 “Religion, Generations, and Collective Memory among Muslim and Christian Palestinians in Post-Oslo Bethlehem,” University of Chicago Divinity School, May 8

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Theory and Religion, Comparative Religions, Politics and Religion**

Theories of Religion  
 Religion and Violence  
 Religion and Political Radicalization  
 American Religions  
 Palestinians and Israelis

### **Islam**

Introduction to Islam (undergraduate lecture course with graduate section)  
 Political Islam (undergraduate seminar with graduate section)  
 Sufism (undergraduate seminar with graduate section)

### **Introductory Religion Courses**

Introduction to the Study of Religion  
 Judaism, Christianity, Islam

## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

### **Organizational Leadership**

- 2010-present Board Member, Palestinian American Research Center (an affiliate of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers)
- 2009-present Secretary, Ohio University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors

### **Book and Article Manuscript Review**

Princeton University Press

Brill

*Journal of Religion*

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

### Taskforces, Faculty Senate, Search Committees

- 2012-13 Provost's Taskforce on Faculty Total Compensation, Ohio University, Athens
- 2012-15 Faculty Senate, College of Arts and Sciences Representative, Ohio University, Athens (on leave for AY 2013-14)
- 2012-13 Faculty Senate Sub-Committee on Finances and Facilities, Ohio University, Athens
- 2012-13 Merit Review Committee, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio University, Athens
- 2012-13 Search Committee for the Drs. Ram and Sushila Gawande Chair in Indian Religion and Philosophy, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio University, Athens
- 2009-10 Search Committee for position in Biblical Literatures, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio University, Athens
- 2008-13 Library Liaison for World Religions acquisitions, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio University, Athens

### Graduate Student Committees

- 2013 Reader, MA Thesis Committee, Samba Camara, African Studies Program, "Religion and Politics in Senegal: *Ndigel* and its impact on Senegalese Democracy: A Case Study with the Senegalese Migrant Community in Columbus, OH"
- 2010 Reader, MA Thesis Committee, Fatih Yildirim, Department of Sociology: "The role of Islamic Institutions in Identity Formation among Somali Adolescents in Columbus, Ohio"
- 2010 Chair, MA Thesis Committee, Khariroh Khariroh, Southeast Asian Studies Program: "Women's Movement in Indonesia's Pesantren: Negotiating Islam, Javanese Culture, and Modernity" (completed with honors)
- 2009 Reader, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee, Mohamed Sati, School of Media Arts and Studies, "Internet Islam: An analysis of U.S.-based websites dedicated to promoting an Islamic viewpoint in the post 9/11 world"



- 2008 Reader, MA Thesis Committee, Farid Mutaqin, Southeast Asian Studies Program: “Progressive Muslim Feminists in Indonesia: from Pioneering to the Next Agenda”
- 2008 Reader, M.A. Thesis Committee, Moayed al-Hawazi, Department of Political Science, “Shiite School of Iraq and Support for Democracy: Textual Analysis for Statements of Ayatollah Ali Al Sistani”

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

### **Student Group Advising**

- 2011-present Faculty Advisor, Project Nur, American Islamic Congress, Ohio University chapter
- 2007-present Faculty Advisor, Arabic Language Students Association, Ohio University
- 2004-06 Faculty Advisor, Middle East Studies Student Association, California State University, Chico
- 2004-06 Faculty Advisor, Muslim Students Association, California State University, Chico

### **Event / Conference Organizing and Proposal Writing**

- 2012 “Salaam! Performing the Music of the Middle East / Inspiring Lives through Tradition and Innovation,” concert and lecture demonstrations, principal organizer and grant writer, Ohio University, May 9, funded by a \$5,000.00 Arts for Ohio award
- 2011 “Comparing Religions: Theory and Method,” conference in honor of Martin Riesebrodt, principal organizer, Divinity School, University of Chicago, January 14
- 2009 “Rahim Alhaj: When the Soul is Settled,” A lecture-demonstration and concert featuring the classical musical traditions of the Middle East,” concert and lecture demonstrations principal organizer and grant writer, Ohio University, October 12, funded by a \$6,000.00 Arts for Ohio award
- 2006 Joe Sacco, “To Hell with Objectivity! Graphic Art and the Journalist’s Vocation,” public lecture and class visits, principal organizer and grant writer, California State University, Chico, April
- 2003 Lowell Lybarger (tabla) and Ed Pias (pakhawaj), “An Evening of South Asian Drum Music,” concert and lecture demonstrations, principal organizer and grant writer, California State University, Chico, September 29
- 2003 Rosemary Radford Ruether and Herman, “Historical Perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict,” public lecture and class visits, principal organizer, California State University, Chico, April

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH**

- 2010 Founder and coordinator, Athens Anti-Racism Network
- 2009 “Observations on the Current Situation in Gaza,” Christ Lutheran Church, Athens, OH, July 26
- 2007 “The Religious and Political Aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict,” The First Presbyterian Church, Delaware, OH, February 25
- 2005 “Basic Beliefs and History of Islam,” Paradise Center for Tolerance and Non-Violence, Paradise Public Library, Paradise, CA

## **MEDIA PUBLICATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

- 2007 “ Hamas may become victim of own success: Isolating group further serves no one’s interest,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, Sunday, June 24: E3
- 2000 “Chicago Tonight,” WTTW, Channel 11, televised panel addressing the outbreak of the al-Aqsa Intifada, October 16

## **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2001 DePaul University, Chicago, Department of Religious Studies, Apprenticing Instructor, supported by Luce Foundation Fellowship (Introduction to Islam)
- 1999-2000 Research Associate, Bethlehem University, West Bank
- 2000 Independent Study Supervisor, School for International Training, Study Abroad Program in the Middle East, Bethlehem, West Bank
- 1998 Teaching Assistant, Prof. Milton Rosenberg, Psychology of Religion, Department of Psychology, University of Chicago (Psychology of Religion)
- 1997 Lecturer, Muslim-Christian Relations, National Elderhostel Program, University of Chicago International House (Islam)
- 1996-97 English as a Second Language Instructor, International House, University of Chicago
- 1996 Research Assistant, Prof. Martin Riesebrodt, University of Chicago Divinity School
- 1995-96 Teaching Assistant, Prof. Harold Vogelaar, “History of Muslim-Christian Relations” and “Islamic Religious Thought,” Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
- 1991-93 Consultant, English Language Program, AMIDEAST, Gaza City, Gaza Strip
- 1989-91 Teaching Fellow, English Language Institute, American University in Cairo, Egypt

1988-89      Human Rights Fieldworker, Palestinian Human Rights Information Center,  
Jerusalem

1986-89      English Teacher, Mennonite Central Committee and Hope Secondary School, Bayt  
Jala, West Bank

## **LANGUAGES**

Arabic: fluent in Palestinian colloquial; strong Modern Standard reading and writing skills

Spanish: strong reading skills, functional listening/speaking/writing abilities

French: functional reading ability

German: reading, with dictionary

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion, 1999-present

Middle East Studies Association, 2000-present

American Association of University Professors, 2006-present