Loren D. Lybarger

Curriculum Vitae

May 2021

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| Ohio University  Department of Classics and Religious Studies  Ellis Hall 248  Athens, OH 45701  [lybarger@ohio.edu](mailto:lybarger@ohio.edu) | 1000 S. Roosevelt Avenue  Columbus, Ohio 43209-2545  [ldlybarger@gmail.com](file:///C:\Users\clwr\Documents\Professional\Lybarger,%20Professional%20Documents\%20CV,%20etc\ldlybarger@gmail.com)  740-707-9917 |

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Divinity School, University of Chicago, 2002

M.A. Christian-Muslim Relations, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, 1995

M.A. Linguistics, American University in Cairo, 1991

B.A. History, Earlham College, 1986

**EMPLOYMENT**

Ohio University, Athens, Department of Classics and Religious Studies

Professor, 2021-present

Associate Professor, 2012-2021

Assistant Professor, 2006-2012

California State University, Chico, Department of Religious Studies

Assistant Professor, 2002-2006

**RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP**

**Books**

2020 [*Palestinian Chicago: Identity in Exile*](https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520337619/palestinian-chicago). Oakland, CA: University of California Press. Available as open access e-book and in paperback

2007 *[Identity and Religion in Palestine: The Struggle between Islamism and Secularism in the Occupied](https://press.princeton.edu/books/paperback/9780691155425/identity-and-religion-in-palestine)*

*[Territories](https://press.princeton.edu/books/paperback/9780691155425/identity-and-religion-in-palestine).* Princeton, NJ: 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 of the forum and co-author with Mary Ellen Konieczny and Kelly H. Chong of introductory essay)

**Refereed Journal Articles**

2021 “Secularism and the Religious Shift in Palestinian Chicago: Implications for Solidarity and Activism,” *Journal of Palestine Studies* <https://doi.org/10.1080/0377919X.2021.1899516>

2018 “Religion and the Commemoration of the Disappeared in Argentina 40 Years after the

Dictatorship: A Study of Martyrological Memory at the Church of Santa Cruz,” with James

S. Damico and Edward Brudney, *Journal of Religion and Society* 20: 1-29:

<https://dspace2.creighton.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10504/116848/2018-15.pdf>

2016 “Commemoration, Testimony, and Protest in Argentina: An Exploration of Response and

Responsibilities,” with James S. Damico, *Ubiquity: The Journal of Literature, Literacy, and the Arts*

3, no. 1 (Spring): <http://ed-ubiquity.gsu.edu/wordpress/research-volume-3-number-1/>

2015 “How Far is Too Far? Defining Self and Other in Religious Studies and Christian

Missiology,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 84, no. 1; online publication date,

September 1, 2015:

<http://jaar.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2015/09/01/jaarel.lfv067.full?keytype=ref&ijkey=b7CuaHqPubnMxh7>

2014 “Nationalism and the Contingency of the Religious Return among Second-Generation

Palestinian Immigrants in the United States: A Chicago Case Study,” *The Muslim World* 104

(July): 250-280

2012 “Theory as a Tool in the Social Scientific Study of Religion and Martin Riesebrodt’s *The*

*Promise of Salvation*,” with Mary Ellen Konieczny and Kelly H. Chong, *The Journal for the*

*Scientific Study of Religion* 51, 3: 397-411

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 Chapter**

2013 “Other Worlds to Live In: Palestinian Retrievals of Religion and Tradition,” chapter in

*Palestine and the Palestinians in the 21st Century*, edited by Rochelle Davis and Mimi

Kirk, Bloomington and Indianapolis, IN: Indiana University Press

**Online Publications**

2014 “A Disenchanted Exile: Secularism and the Islamic Revival among Second-Generation

Palestinian Immigrants in Chicago,” *Religion and Culture Web Forum*, University of Chicago

Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion (May) <https://voices.uchicago.edu/religionculture/2014/05/25/a-disenchanted-exile-secularism-and-the-islamic-revival-among-second-generation-palestinian-immigrants-in-chicago/>

2009 Response to Alain Epp-Weaver, “Theological Cartography and Arboreal Imagination in

Israel-Palestine,” *Religion and Culture Web Forum*, University of Chicago Martin Marty Center

for the Advanced Study of Religion (April), <http://divinity.uchicago.edu/religion-and-culture-web-forum-archive-20092008>

**Book Reviews**

2020 *A History of Muslims, Christians, and Jews in the Middle East*, by Heather J. Sharkey, *Mashriq &*

*Mahjar* 7, no. 2 (June)

2015 *Mapping Exile and Return: Palestinian Dispossession and a Political Theology for a Shared Future*, by

Alain Epp-Weaver, *The Journal of Religion* 95, no. 4 (October)

2015 *The Forgotten Palestinians: A History of the Palestinians in Israel*, by Ilan Pappé, in *The European*

*Legacy: Toward New Paradigms* 20, 3 (January): 304-306

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10848770.2014.999555?abstract?ai=1gr&af=R&mi=46r472&journalCode=cele20>

2014 *Hamas and Civil Society in Gaza: Engaging the Islamist Social Sector*, by Sara Roy in *The European Legacy:* *Toward New Paradigms* 19, 4 (July): 516-517 <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10848770.2014.927232#.U71zZlZt-NA>

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* 18, 1 (January): 105 <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10848770.2012.719861#.U71z6FZt-NA>

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 Submission or Pending Publication**

*Commemorative Literacies and Labors of Justice: Resistance, Reconciliation and Recovery in Buenos Aires and Beyond* (book manuscript, with James S. Damico and Edward Brudney; under contract with Routledge Press, Expanding Literacies in Education Series, as of November 30, 2020; finalized manuscript due to publisher by April 30, 2021)

“Religious Discrimination” in *The Encyclopedia of Religious Ethics*, edited by William Schweiker, Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell (accepted for publication)

“Deliver Us from Evil:” Religion and the Problem of Political Violence and Peace,” chapter for an edited volume to be published by the Contemporary History Institute and Baker Peace Conference at Ohio University (accepted for publication; publishing date still to be determined)

**Manuscripts in Preparation**

*Islamist Transformations: Crisis and Renewal in the Muslim Brotherhood, From Decolonization to the Arab Spring*

(prospective book manuscript, exists in two-part article draft form)

**Encyclopedia Articles**

2012 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

**BLOG POSTS, MEDIA PUBLICATIONS, AND MEDIA APPEARANCES**

2018 “Essential Reading: Sufism,” *Jadaliyya* (August 3): <http://jadaliyya.com/Details/36361/Essential-Reading-Sufism>

2017 “Other Jerusalem Realities: the ‘City of Prayer’ in Palestinian Nationalist Imaginaries,” *Contending Modernities: A Blog about Catholic, Muslim, and Secular Interaction in the Modern World* (December 23): <http://contendingmodernities.nd.edu/global-currents/jerusalem-palestinian-imaginaries/>

2016 “CM Reacts: Election of Sadiq Khan—Loren Lybarger,” *Contending Modernities: A Blog about Catholic, Muslim, and Secular Interaction in the Modern World* (May 9): <https://contendingmodernities.nd.edu/global-currents/cm-reacts-election-of-sadiq-khan-loren-lybarger/>

2015 “Religious Revitalization of US Muslim-Palestinians: New Solidarities and New Tensions,” *Sightings* (July 16): <https://divinity.uchicago.edu/sightings/articles/religious-revitalization-us-muslim-palestinians-new-solidarities-and-new>

2014 “Will Boycotting Israel Work? The Challenge of Religion and Ethnic-Nationalism in the Search for a Just Peace,” *Sightings* (May 22): <https://divinity.uchicago.edu/sightings/will-boycotting-israel-work-challenges-religion-and-ethnic-nationalism-search-just-peace-—>

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

**GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS**

2020 Ohio University 1804 Special Library Endowment grant with Miriam Intrator, Alden

Librarian for Rare Books, to purchase a Qur’an manuscript and a facsimile of a fine

Qur’an.

2015-16 Senior Visiting Fellowship, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of

Notre Dame, declined due to requirement to return to teaching duties at Ohio University

2015-16 Ohio University 1804 Fund Curriculum Development Grant: “Reimagining the

Research Assignment,” a collaboration with Alden Library at Ohio University to reassess and reconceive the undergraduate research assignment

2013-15 Senior Fellowship (two years), Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion at

the University of Chicago

2013-14 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship

2012 Arts for Ohio grant ($5,000) for “Salaam! Performing the Music of the Middle East / Inspiring Lives through Tradition and Innovation,” concert and lecture demonstration, principal organizer and grant writer, Ohio University, Athens, May 9

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 CouncilGrant

2009 Arts for Ohio grant ($6,000) for “Rahim AlHaj: When the Soul is Settled,” lecture-demonstration and concert featuring the classical musical traditions of Iraq; principal organizer and grant writer, Ohio University, Athens, October 12

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, University of Chicago Divinity School

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 stipendfor advanced Arabic study at the University of Chicago

**INVITED TALKS**

2017 “Religion and the Crisis of Secularism in Palestinian Chicago,” Center for the Study of Religion, The Ohio State University, October 18, 2017

2016 “The Contingencies of Islamic Religious Identity in the US Palestinian Diaspora,” Islamic Studies Program, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, September 29-30

2015 “Palestinian Nationalism and Religion in the US Diaspora,” Middle East and North Africa Studies Program, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, May 11

2015 “The Time and Space of Exile,” Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, April 28

2014 “Understanding the Religious Return among Palestinian Immigrants in Chicago,” presentation of research to the faculty of the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 4

2014 “Secularism and the Religious Return among Palestinians in Chicago,” Martin Marty Center for the Advanced Study of Religion, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, March 6

2014 “The Islam in Me Exploded!’ A Secularist Goes Islamic and Other Tales from Chicago’s ‘Little Palestine,’” Center for Interreligious Engagement, DePaul University, Chicago, IL, February 3

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: Islamic Revitalization and Palestinian National Identity in the Exile,” presented at the “Colloquium on Interdisciplinary Study” at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (March 2)

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)

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 21st 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**

2020 “Secularism and the Religious Shift in Palestinian Chicago: Identity

Transformations in Exile,” Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association,

Washington, D.C. (held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic), October 5-17, 2020

2018 “Secular-Religious Confluences in the Formation of Palestinian Immigrant Identities in

Chicago,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO, November

17-20

2017 “*¡La Impunidad No Será Eterna!* Catholicism and the Commemoration of the Disappeared in

Argentina 40 Years after the Dictatorship,” with James S. Damico, Annual Meeting of the

American Academy of Religion, Boston, Massachusetts, November 18-21

2017 “Religion and Commemoration in Argentina 40 Years after the Dictatorship: The Church of Santa Cruz,” with James S. Damico, Religion in the Public Sphere: Conflict or Dialog? California State University, Chico, CA, September 15-16

2016 “Response(s) and Responsibilities across Textual Trajectories: Documentary Film and Literacy Research During Commemorative Events in Argentina,” with James S. Damico and Alexandra Panos et al, Sixth Annual Conference of the Literacy Research Association: Mobilizing Literacy Research for Social Transformation (November 30-December 3)

2016 “Secularism in the Aftermath of the Islamic Revival in Chicago’s ‘Little Palestine,’” paper

presented at the Ohio Symposium on Middle East Studies, “Beyond the Margins:

Researching and Teaching the Middle East in Ohio,” Dayton, Ohio, April 8-9

2015 “Commemorative Practices in Argentina: Exploring our Respons[abilities] as Readers,

Researchers, and Citizens,” roundtable presentation with James S. Damico at the Annual

Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) April 20

2014 “Mapping Exile and Return: Political Theologies of Border Construction and Binationalism

in Palestine-Israel,” roundtable discussion at the Annual Meeting of the American

Academy of Religion, San Diego, California, November 22-25

2014 “Remembering ‘The City of the Holy’ in Chicago’s ‘Little Palestine’—Myth, Metaphor, and

U.S. Multiculturalism,” paper presented at “Remembering Jerusalem: Imagination, Memory,

and the City,” King’s College, London, UK, November 6 and 7

2013 “Committing to Alterity: Toward a Non-Theological Mode of Living Well Together across

the Secular-Religious Divide,” presented 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,” presented 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 18-21

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, DC, November 20-23

2005 “Political Constriction and Multi-Directional Reframing of Palestinian Islamism during the

Oslo Peace Process,” Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, August 13-16

2003 “Secularist-Islamist Generational Dynamics in the formation of Palestinian Identity: 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 Divergent 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**

2016 Series of three lectures on Islamic Religion for Ping Institute Summer Seminar on “Islam in

Global Perspective,” Ohio University, Athens, June 15-17

2016 “‘Radical Islam:’ What’s Religion Got to Do with It?” Café Conversation, Ohio University,

March 21 (<https://www.ohio.edu/research/communications/news-announcements/news-story.cfm?newsItem=0C528515-5056-A874-1D03B12AB077FA55>)

2016 “Secularism and the Religious Return among Palestinians in Chicago,” Classics and World

Religions Colloquium, Ohio University, October 7

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, Ohio University, Athens, 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

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Politics and Religion**

Political Islam (undergraduate seminar with graduate section, explores a wide range of cases of political Islamic movements in the contemporary period)

Religion and Violence (upper-level undergraduate survey of religious movements that have engaged in violence)

Religion and Political Radicalization (upper-level undergraduate seminar examining different factors that cause religious group to become politically radicalized; cases are drawn from a diversity of religions and societies, globally)

Palestinians and Israelis (upper-level undergraduate seminar that explores the history and politics of the Israel-Palestine issue with special attention given to how religion has contributed to the conflict but also opens up unexpected avenues of conflict transformation)

**Theory and Methodology; Contemporary Issues in Religion**

Theories of Religion (upper-level undergraduate survey of key debates, approaches, and seminal thinkers in the non-theological study of religion)

Contemporary Religious Thought (examines the responses of religious intellectuals across the globe to contemporary challenges, especially of secularization and secularism)

**Religious Traditions; Comparative Religions**

Introduction to Islam (undergraduate lecture course with graduate section, surveys history, doctrines, practices, key texts, sectarian developments, and modern debates in Islam)

Sufism (undergraduate seminar with graduate section, examines cases of Sufism ranging from its origins in present-day Iraq and Iran to contemporary examples)

Introduction to the Study of Religion (undergraduate survey focusing on key comparative question in the study of religion)

Judaism, Christianity, Islam (undergraduate survey of the basic tenets, practices, and histories of the three major monotheisms)

American Religions (explores historical and ethnographic examples of how American society and culture shape different religious communities and how these communities have also affected public debate about religion in the US)

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

**National and International Organizational Leadership and Consultations**

2021-present Executive Committee member ex-oficio as immediate past-President, Ohio University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors

2017-2021 President, Ohio University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors

2015-2017 Consultant with Global Covenant of Religions (founded by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jerry White), working group on the “weaponization of religious language”

2010-2016 Board Member, Palestinian American Research Center, an affiliate of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers

**Book and Article Manuscript Review**

* Gorgias Press
* Princeton University Press
* Brill
* University of California Press
* Routledge Press
* *Mashriq Mahjar Journal*
* *Terorism and Political Violence*
* *Middle East Law and Governance*
* *Journal of Religion*
* *History of Religions*
* *Contemporary Islam*
* *Politics, Religion, and Ideology*

**UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**Taskforces, Faculty Senate, Departmental Committees**

2016-19 Baker Fund Research Proposal Review Committee, Ohio University, Athens

2016-17 Chair, Curriculum Committee, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio

University, Athens

2015-16 Merit Review Committee, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio

University, Athens

2015-16 Research Travel Committee, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio

University, Athens

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-present Library Liaison for World Religions acquisitions, Department of Classics and World Religions, Ohio University, Athens

**Graduate Student and Honors Thesis Committees**

2021 Reader, M.A. thesis, Amal Shimir, International Development Studies,

“Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of Armed Groups and Militias

in Iraq” (completed)

2020 Reader, Ph.D. Dissertation, Ghanem Elhersh, School of Media Arts and Studies, “Framing Arabs: An Analysis of the US Animated Films’ Representations of Arab Stories and Characters” (in process)

2020 Reader, M.A. Thesis, Benafsha Faizy, Communication and Development Studies, “Positioning Transitional Justice in Afghanistan: A Qualitative Study” (completed)

2019 Reader, Ph.D. Dissertation, Jeffrey McCambridge, Department of English, ‘‘These hethen houndes we shal a-tame’: Medieval and Early Modern Representations of Islam in English Poetry and Drama” (in process)

2018 Chair, M.A. Thesis, Bakari Lumumba, African Studies, Ohio University, “Is Pan-

Africanism Dead?: The relevancy of Garveyism in the Age of Globalism: The politics of Black self-determination in the Southeastern United States,” African Studies (completed)

2017 Supervisor, Anne Chester, Honors Thesis, Department of Classics and World Religions, “Foodie Culture, Muslim Identity, and the Rise of Halal through Media”

2017 Reader, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee, Priyadarshini Gupta, Department of English,

Ohio University, “Reincarnations of Neo-Orientalism: Islam and its Representations in Post-9/11 Literature” (completed)

2017 Reader, Ph. D. Dissertation Committee, Samba Camara, Interdisciplinary Arts, Ohio

University, “Recording Post-Colonial Nationhood: Islam and Popular Music in

Senegal” (completed)

2015 Reader, Ph.D. Dissertation Committee, Javaid Bhat, Department of English, Ohio

University, “Romance, Freedom and Despair: Mapping the Continuities and Discontinuities in the Kashmir English Novel in a Post Colonial Framework,” (completed)

2014 Director, M.A. Thesis, Chelsea Flenar, The Center for Middle Eastern Studies, The University of Chicago, “The Kurdistan Regional Government in U.S. Foreign Policy: A Tenuous Pursuit of a Collaborative Partnership” (completed)

2013 Reader, MA Thesis Committee, Samba Camara, African Studies Program, Ohio University, “Religion and Politics in Senegal: *Ndigel*and its impact on Senegalese Democracy: A Case Study with the Senegalese Migrant Community in Columbus, OH” (completed)

2010 Reader, MA Thesis Committee, Fatih Yildirim, Department of Sociology, Ohio University, “The role of Islamic Institutions in Identity Formation among Somali Adolescents in Columbus, Ohio” (completed)

2010 Chair, MA Thesis Committee, Khariroh Khariroh, Southeast Asian Studies Program, Ohio University, “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, Ohio University, “Internet Islam: An analysis of U.S.-based websites dedicated to promoting an Islamic viewpoint in the post 9/11 world” (completed)

2008 Reader, MA Thesis Committee, Farid Mutaqin, Southeast Asian Studies Program, Ohio University, “Progressive Muslim Feminists in Indonesia: From Pioneering to the Next Agenda” (completed)

2008 Reader, M.A. Thesis Committee, Moayed al-Hawazi, Department of Political Science, Ohio University, “Shiite School of Iraq and Support for Democracy: Textual Analysis for Statements of Ayatollah Ali Al Sistani” (completed)

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**Faculty Advocacy Organizing**

2016-present Initiator and facilitator, Faculty Response Network (to address political

initiatives—the proposed Muslim registry and proposed mass deportation of

undocumented immigrants—that threaten core values at Ohio University)

**Student Group Advising**

2011-2013 Faculty Advisor, Project Nur, American Islamic Congress, Ohio University, Athens

chapter

2007-2013 Faculty Advisor, Arabic Language Students Association, Ohio University, Athens

2004-06 Faculty Advisor, Middle East Studies Students Association, California State University, Chico

2004-06 Faculty Advisor, Muslim Students Association, California State University, Chico

**Event / Conference Organizing and Proposal Writing**

2017 “Intersectional Social Justice Activism: Jewish American Palestine Solidarity and the Transformation of American Judaism,” Atalia Omer, Associate Professor, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 5-7

2015 “The Transformation of the Prophet Moses Festival in Jerusalem: From Islamic Pilgrimage to Civic Ceremony,” Awad Halabi, Associate Professor of History, Wright State University, public lecture and class visits (principal organizer for this event), November 4-5

2015 “Exiling Chicago’s Poor: A *Dialogos* Workshop on ‘Criminal Activity Eviction’ and Ex-Offender Reintegration—Understanding the Problem, Probing Avenues for Change,” Principal Organizer with the support of the Spiritual Life Program, Rockefeller Chapel, University of Chicago; Institute of Politics, University of Chicago; and the Invisible Institute, June 1

2012 “Salaam! Performing the Music of the Middle East / Inspiring Lives through Tradition and Innovation,” concert and lecture demonstration, principal organizer and grant writer, Ohio University, Athens, 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, University of Chicago Divinity School, January 14

2009 “Rahim AlHaj: When the Soul is Settled,” lecture-demonstration and concert featuring the classical musical traditions of Iraq, principal organizer and grant writer, Ohio University, Athens, October 12; funded by a $6,000.00 Arts for Ohio award

2007 Martin Riesebrodt, “A Clash of Civilizations? Religion, Identity, and Conflict in the Modern World” and “Defining, Understanding, and Explaining Religion,” two public lectures, principal organizer, Ohio University, Athens, November 7

2006 Joe Sacco, “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 J. Ruether, “Historical Perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict,” public lecture and class visits, principal organizer, California State University, Chico, April

**COMMUNITY**

2015 Founder of the *Dialogos* Initiative on Religion, Policy, and Social Justice, Chicago, IL

2010 Founder and coordinator, Athens Anti-Racism Network, Athens, OH (currently inoperative)

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

**RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2001 DePaul University, Chicago, Department of Religious Studies, Adjunct 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, University of Chicago International House

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: advanced, all skill areas

French: reading ability

German: reading, with dictionary

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion, 1999-present

American Studies Association, 2020-present

Middle East Studies Association, 2000-present

Palestinian American Research Center, 2000-present

American Association of University Professors, 2006-present