

ABDUL RAHMAN LATIF

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EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York, NY

PhD Candidate in Religion

Current

Concentration: Islamic Studies

Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA

Masters of Theological Studies

August 2016 – May 2018

Concentration: Islamic Studies

Duke University, Durham, NC

Bachelor of Arts with High Distinction

May 2016

Major: Religion, Minors: Linguistics and Turkish

Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

ACADEMIC INTENSIVE PROGRAMS

CLS Persian, Online

June-August 2021

Learned high intermediate contemporary Persian.

Edep- Advanced Islamic Studies Summer Program, Istanbul, Turkey

July 2019

Studied traditional Islamic sciences in Arabic.

Ibn Haldun University Ottoman Turkish Intensive Program, Istanbul, Turkey

July 2017

Develop skills for reading texts from the Ottoman Archives

Bogaziçi University Turkish Language and Culture Program, Istanbul, Turkey

June – August 2015

Studied Advanced Modern Turkish

Islamic Institute of International Thought Summer Student Program, Herndon, VA

June 2015

Participated in 120+ hours of coursework in Islamic Studies

Qasid Arabic Institute, Amman, Jordan

August 2014

Studied classical and colloquial Arabic

Critical Muslim Studies: De-colonial Struggles Summer School, Granada, Spain

May 2014

Gained an understanding of de-colonial and post-colonial thought

HONORS AND AWARDS

Hajja Razia Sharif Sheikh Fellowship, Columbia University

August 2021- May 2022

Presidential Scholar, Harvard Divinity School

August 2016 – May 2018

Mellon Oral History Fellowship, Duke University

October 2015 – May 2016

Schiff Summer Research Fellow, Duke University

August 2015

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellow, Duke University

Summer 2015 & 2014

North Carolina Religious Studies Association Best Undergraduate Paper

November 2014

Robertson Scholar, Duke University and UNC-Chapel Hill

August 2012 – May 2016

SELECT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The William Jewett Tucker Center at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH Muslim Chaplain and Associate Director Counsel students, lead religious services, represent the Tucker Center, participate in campus-wide initiatives.	September 2022- Current
Manuscripts of the Muslim World Project, Columbia University Libraries, New York, NY Cataloger Catalogued dozens of Islamic manuscripts in Arabic, Persian, and Ottoman Turkish.	Fall 2019- Spring 2020
Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA Affiliate Campus Minister for the Muslim Student Association (Muslim Chaplain) Counseled students, represented them in interfaith events, and led religious services.	August 2017 –May 2018
Boston Islamic Seminary Academy Program (now 'Iqra Academy'), Boston, MA Academic Coordinator Planned curriculum and found instructors for a year-long Islamic Studies program for the community.	August 2017 –May 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor for “Introduction to World Religions” Mercy College, New York, NY	Fall 2021- Fall 2022
TA for “East Asian Buddhism” with Professor Michael Como Columbia College, Columbia University, New York, NY	Spring 2022
TA for “Qur’an” with Professor Najam Haider Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY	Fall 2021
TA for “Chinese Religious Traditions” with Professor Daniel Tuzzeo Columbia College, Columbia University, New York, NY	Spring 2021
TA for “Theory (in Religion)” with Professor Mark Taylor Columbia College, Columbia University, New York, NY	Fall 2020
TA for “Religion and Film” with Professor Clemence Boulouque Columbia College, Columbia University, New York, NY	Spring 2020
TA for “Islam” with Professor Najam Haider Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY	Fall 2019
Instructor for “Created Worlds” Speculative Fiction House Course Trinity College, Duke University, Durham, NC	Fall 2013

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

<i>"Teaching the Names: Primordial Appellation and Its Ramifications in Qur'an 2:31"</i>	
Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting	November 2019
<i>"Space Jihad and New Mecca(s): Islam and Science Fiction"</i>	
Paper presented at Columbia University Religion and the Future Conference	April 2019
<i>"Early Histories and Menakibnames: Ottoman Sunni Devotion to the ahl al-Bayt"</i>	
Paper presented to the University of Chicago Shi'i studies Symposium	October 2018
<i>"On the Asl of Specious Arguments: Muslims on Evolution"</i>	
Paper presented to Diyanet Islamic Research Institute and GMU Graduate Student Colloquium on Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies	April 2017
<i>"Stealing the Prophet's Body"</i>	
Paper Presented to Harvard Divinity Ways of Knowing Conference	November 2016
<i>"On the Asl of Specious Arguments: Muslims on Evolution"</i>	
Paper Presented to ACC Meeting of the Minds	April 2016
<i>"The Sufi and The Mahdi"</i>	
Paper presented to the North Carolina Religious Studies Association Conference	November 2014

LANGUAGES

Arabic- Advanced
 Persian- High Intermediate
 Modern Turkish- Advanced
 Spanish- Advanced
 Indonesian- Beginner
 Ottoman Turkish- Reading Proficiency
 Chagatai Turkish- Intermediate Reading Proficiency