

John F. Nowak

EDUCATION

Harvard University (Cambridge, Massachusetts) Doctoral Student with the Committee on the Study of Religion (Islamic Studies)	2018–present
Harvard Divinity School (Cambridge, Massachusetts) Master of Theological Studies in Islamic Studies	2014–2016
McGill University (Montreal, Canada) Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, First Class Honors Minor in Arabic Language, Minor in Religious Studies	2007 – 2010
American Institute of Indian Studies (Lucknow, India) Intensive Summer Mughal Persian Language Program	Summer 2019
American Institute of Indian Studies (Lucknow, India) Intensive Summer Urdu Language Program	Summer 2017
Middlebury College (Oakland, California) Intensive Summer Arabic Language Program	Summer 2015
American University in Cairo (Cairo, Egypt) Intensive Arabic Language Study and Political Science Seminar	Summer 2009

AWARDS/HONORS

Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program Fellowship Harvard University	2018–present
Foreign Language in Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship US Department of Education	Summer 2019
Toynbee-Peper Fund Recipient Harvard Divinity School	2015–2016
Foreign Language in Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship US Department of Education	Summer 2015
Dean's Fellowship Harvard Divinity School	2014–2016
Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society McGill University	March 2010

Albert Spanier Memorial Prize in Political Science May 2009
McGill University

J. Jeffery Semaan Prize for Arabic Language May 2009
McGill University

Golden Key Honor Society Fall 2008
McGill University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Islam and Muslim Societies; Identity; Reform; Literature; South Asia; Piety; Transnational Migration; The Modern State; Secularism

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, D.C.) Winter 2011
Middle East Program Intern.

The Amadeus Institute (Rabat, Morocco) June 2010–June 2012
Junior Fellow of Middle East Politics, Security and Conflict Resolution. Dec. 2010–June 2012

Researcher. June 2010–Dec. 2010

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

“Islam and the Other: The Case of Apostasy in Morocco.” Presented at “Religion and the Other.” 18-19 March 2016, The Department of Religious Studies, UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina, United States of America.

“Religion, the State and Shifting Global Systems: The Tablighi Jama'at and the London Mosque.” Presented at “Shifting Global Systems? - The 2016 Pardee School Graduate Conference.” 19-20 February 2016, Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, United States of America.

“Tablighi Jama'at: Apolitical Movement?” Presented at “Islamism and Post-Islamism: Religious and Political Transformations in Muslim Societies.” 13-14 March 2015, School of Religion, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Kaplan Test Prep (Boston, Massachusetts) June 2018–present
Pre-College Instructor

Achievement First (Providence, Rhode Island) July 2017–July 2018
Fourth and Second Grade Teacher, Writing and Language Arts.

KIPP: MA (Lynn, Massachusetts) July 2016–July 2017
Sixth Grade Teacher, English Language Arts.

Gwinnett County Public Schools (Norcross, Georgia) 2011–2014
Fifth Grade Teacher, Social Studies and Language Arts.

Gwinnett Online Campus (Norcross, Georgia) Nov. 2012–May 2014
Course Developer.

Teach For America (Atlanta, Georgia) 2011–2013
Corps Member.

American Middle East Institute & Omani Ministry of Higher Education Summer 2012
Intensive Language Immersion Instructor in jointly sponsored program.

COMMUNITY AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Resident Tutor at Leverett House July 2019 – present

Graduate Assistant in the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard Divinity School
Sept. 2015 – Aug. 2016

Orientation Facilitator at Harvard Divinity School Aug. 2016

American Field Services (Boston, Massachusetts) June 2014 – Nov. 2016
Returnee Coordinator for the Massachusetts Bay Area Team.

Cultural Authentic Pictorial Lexicon (Egypt and Oman) Summer 2009, 2012
Arabic Language Photo Contributor.

Junior Peacemakers (Montreal, Canada) Sep. 2007 – May 2010
Program Coordinator.

LANGUAGES

Urdu: Lower Advanced Proficiency

Persian: Upper Intermediate Proficiency

Arabic: Lower Advanced Proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic

French: Professional Working Proficiency