

CANDACE MIXON, Ph.D.

Occidental College
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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

Ph.D., Religious Studies, Islamic Studies Track (2019)

Dissertation: “Mother of Her Father: Devotion to Fatima al-Zahra in Contemporary Iran”

Advisor: Julianne Hammer

Committee Members: Anna Bigelow, Carl Ernst, Charles Kurzman, Omid Safi

McGill University, Montreal, Quebec

Master of Arts, Islamic Studies (2011)

Thesis: “The Jadids in Bukhara: the Approaches to Reform of Aini and Fitrat”

Advisor: A. Uner Turgay

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Bachelor of Arts, High Honors, Religious Studies (2008)

Minors: Islamic Studies; Earth and Environmental Science

Honors Thesis: “Considering the Central Asian Muslims’ Experience in the USSR”

Advisor: Richard J. McGregor

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2020-Present Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA, Visiting Assistant Professor

Courses taught: Introduction to Islam; Holy Sh*t: Engaging the Materiality of Religion; Muslim Bodies: Islam, Gender, Health; Islamophobia; Islamic Art, Architecture, and Visual Culture. First Year Seminars (Writing Intensive): The Rose Garden: History and Culture of Iran; Islamophobia; Ethnography & the Study of the Contemporary Middle East

Summer Faculty Mentor, Obama Scholars Program (2022, 2023)

2019-2020 Macalester College, St. Paul, MN, Visiting Assistant Professor

Courses taught: Introduction to Islam; Islam, Race, and Politics; Modern Islam; The Qur’an and the Prophet; Martyrdom: Then and Now

- 2019 Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, Visiting Lecturer
Courses taught: Qur'an and the Prophet; Introduction to Islam; Gender in Islam
- 2018 Purchase College—SUNY, Purchase, NY, Adjunct Instructor
Courses taught: West Meets Non-West; Free Speech, Heresy, Gender, and Islamic Societies
- 2015-2018 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, The Friday Center for Continuing Education, Online Courses
Courses taught: Religions of Asia (5 terms); Introduction to Islamic Civilization (2 terms)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 "Review of Omar, LA Opera—Outlooks Series" *Material Religion* (forthcoming March 2023), DOI: 10.1080/17432200.2023.2170099.
- 2022 "The Riz Test: Teaching Against Islamophobia Through Film," *Journal of Religion & Film*: Vol. 26 no. 2, Article 4, <http://doi.org/10.32873/uno.dc.jrf.26.02.04>
- 2020 "Gender and Patriarchy in the Films of Muslim Nations: A Filmographic Study of 21st Century Features from Eight Countries (Review Essay)," *Journal of Religion & Film* 24 no. 2, DOI: 10.32873/uno.dc.jrf.24.2.005.
- 2020 "Negotiating the State and the Persianate: Ernst's Living Legacy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill." In *Words of Experience: Translating Islam with Carl W. Ernst*, ed. Ilyse Morgenstein Fuerst and Brannon M. Wheeler (Equinox: United Kingdom, 2020).
- 2019 "Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination, an Exhibition at the Met Fifth Avenue and the Met Cloisters," *Material Religion* 15 no. 3, DOI: 10.1080/17432200.2019.1590015.
- 2017 "Who Am I? Merely a Player." In *Fabricating Identities*, ed. Russell McCutcheon (Equinox: United Kingdom, 2017).

PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

- 2022 "Theology, Issues in North America." In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion (Encyclopedia of Islam in North America)*. Oxford University Press.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2022 “Say What Your Longing Heart Desires: Women, Prayer, and Poetry in Iran,” *Reading Religion* July 2022.
- 2021 “Believing in South Central: Everyday Islam in the City of Angels,” *Reading Religion* September 2021.
- 2020 “Identity, Politics, and the Study of Islam.” *Religious Studies Review* 46, no. 3.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

- 2022 New Harmonies Faculty Grant, Occidental College, Los Angeles, California
- 2018 National Endowment for the Humanities Seminar Participant: *The Bhagavad Gita: Ancient Texts, Modern Readers*, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
- 2017-2018 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, The Graduate School, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2017 Travel Grant, The Graduate School, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (ACLA Conference in Utrecht, Netherlands)
- 2016-2017 Ackland Art Museum Graduate Fellow, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2016 Off-Campus Dissertation Fellowship, The Graduate School, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Chicago; Amsterdam, Netherlands; Iran)
- 2014-2016 Summer Roshan Fellowship for Excellence in Persian Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Turkey; Iran)
- 2015 American Academy of Religion Travel Grant Award
- 2015 Kenneth Gaines Smith Summer Research Fellowship, The Graduate School, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Turkey)
- 2014 American Institute of Iranian Studies Pre-doctoral Dissertation Research Travel Fellowship (Iran)
- 2013 Connaught Summer Institute of Islamic Studies, Graduate Fellow, University of Toronto

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- 2022 Panel Respondent, “Islamic Piety and Devotion in New Contexts,” Contemporary Islam Group. *American Academy of Religion*. Denver, CO, November 19-22.
- 2022 “The Riz Test: Teaching Against Islamophobia Through Film,” *Association for Asian Studies*. Honolulu, HI, March 24-27.
- 2021 “Sura al-Kawthar and the Abundance of Fatima al-Zahra,” Study of Islam Group. *American Academy of Religion*. San Antonio, TX, November 20-23.
- 2021 Panel Respondent, “Islamic art and literature: philosophical themes,” Study of Islam Group. *American Academy of Religion*. San Antonio, TX, November 20-23.
- 2020 “The Gendered Paradigm of Fatima in Contemporary Iran,” *Middle Eastern History and Theory Conference*, University of Chicago. (rescheduled date TBA)
- 2020 “The Sermon of Fatima and Material Devotion in Mashhad, Iran,” *Shi'i Studies*

- Symposium*, University of Chicago. (rescheduled date TBA)
- 2018 “Review: *The Baluch, Sunnism, and the State in Iran: From Tribal to Global*,” Graduate Student Book Review Colloquium on Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, *The Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies*, George Mason University, October 11.
- 2018 “Fatima al-Zahra and the Visual and Material Culture of Contemporary Iran,” *Ernst Herzfeld Society Annual Meeting*, Strasbourg, France, July 5-7.
- 2017 “Remembering at Every Age: The Image of Fatima in Post-War Literatures.” Modern Iranian Literature: Struggles in Memory and Identity Seminar, *American Comparative Literature Association*, Utrecht, Netherlands, July 6-9.
- 2016 “Doing Research in Iran: Strategies and Experiences,” *Middle Eastern Studies Association*, Boston, MA, November 18.
- 2015 “In Fatima’s Footsteps: Commemorating the Daughter of the Prophet.” Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group. *American Academy of Religion*. Atlanta, GA, November 21-24.
- 2014 “Beyond Decoding: *Ahl al-Bayt* and Cultural Production in Contemporary Iran.” Material Islam Seminar. *American Academy of Religion*. San Diego, CA, November 21-25.
- 2014 “Sufis in the City: Thinking of Style and Practice in the Lives of Modern Sufi Students.” Negotiating Muslim Modernities, Workshop 3 in *Being Muslim: How Local Islam Overturns Narratives of Exceptionalism* Series, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, September 17-21.

SELECTED PUBLIC LECTURES

- 2018 “An Undefined Line between Celebration and Mourning in Post-revolutionary Iran,” *Colloquium in Religious Studies*, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, April 26.
- 2017 “Spotlight on Iran: Theocracy, Religion, and Everyday Practice,” *Religion Lecture Series and Honors Symposium*, Wake Technical Community College, Raleigh, North Carolina, April 5.
- 2016 “Museum as Shrine: Reflections from Iran,” *Religion and Modernity Lecture Series*, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland, March 16.
- 2014 “Methods in Visual Studies and Islamic Art” *Islamic Azad University of Mashhad, School of Art and Architecture*, Mashhad, Iran, June 17.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- 2020-Present Social Media Editor, *Religious Studies Project*
- 2018-Present Podcast Interviewer, *Religious Studies Project*
- Interviews/Episodes conducted: “The Devil is in the Details: Discourse! February 2022,” “Following the Objects: Seeing Religion in Egypt and Syria with Richard

McGregor.” “Politics and Conspiratoriness: Discourse! January 2021,” “Climate Change(s): New Approaches to Environmental and Agricultural Ethics with Dr. Gretel Van Wieren,” “Challenging the Normative Stance of Aniconism in the Study of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam with Birgit Meyer & Terje Stordalen,” “Discussing Pious Fashion and Muslim Dress Beyond the Headscarf with Liz Bucar.”

ACADEMIC SERVICE

American Academy of Religion

2018-Present Steering Committee Member, Contemporary Islam Unit
2016-2019 Organizer, “THATCamp: The Humanities and Technologies Camp,”
Workshop at the annual conference

Material Religion: journal of objects, art, and belief

2022-Present North American Book Review Editor, *Material Religion*

LANGUAGES

Arabic (Modern Standard, Classical); Persian; French; Spanish

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion (AAR), 2009-Present
Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA), 2015-Present
Association for Asian Studies (AAS), 2021-Present
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), 2016-2018