

# MUHAMMAD U. FARUQUE

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University of Cincinnati  
Philosophy, Religion, and Environmental Studies  
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<https://muhammadfaruque.com/>

## EDUCATION

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- Aug 2018 PhD, Islamic and Global Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley  
Conferred with distinction.  
*Winner, 2019 Best Dissertation of the Year, Foundation for Iranian Studies.*
- Jun 2014 MA, Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism, University of Tehran, Iran  
Conferred with high distinction (also received the “Best Student Award” from the University of Tehran).
- 2011-2013 Arabic Language Program, University of Tehran, Iran
- 2011 Dekhoda Institute and International Centre for Persian Studies, Iran
- Jun 2011 BSc, Economics, University of London, Royal Holloway College, UK (with a First Class in the Final Year).

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

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- 2024- Inayat Malik Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati
- 2024 Visiting Scholar, CSWR, Harvard University
- 2022- Faculty, Islamic Psychology, The Alkaram Institute
- 2022- 24 Inayat Malik Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati
- 2023-24 Taft Center Fellow, University of Cincinnati
- 2020-22 Inayat Malik Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati
- 2018-20 George Ames Post-doctoral Fellow, Fordham University
- 2017-18 Exchange Scholar, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University
- 2015-17 Graduate Instructor, University of California, Berkeley
- 2017 Visiting Scholar, Comparative Literature, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran
- 2011-2014 Research Associate, The Iranian Institute of Philosophy, Iran

## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

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2024	Professional Development Funds Award, University of Cincinnati (\$3,450).
2024	<i>Sculpting the Self</i> , Winner of Iran's 31 <sup>st</sup> World Book of the Year Award (\$10,000).
2023-2025	Society and Culture Research Advancement Award, University of Cincinnati (\$25,000).
2023-2024	Taft Center Award, University of Cincinnati (\$25,000).
2024	Book Publication Grant, Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati (\$4,000).
2023	Taft Faculty Summer Research Fellowship, University of Cincinnati (\$8,000).
2022-26	Title IV Grant, U.S. Dept. of Education [with K. Moranski et al.] (\$715,000).
2023	Taft Publication Award, University of Cincinnati (\$1,000).
2022	Professional Development Funds Award, University of Cincinnati (\$4,900).
2022	Taft Domestic Conference Travel Grant Award (\$1,500).
2021	Templeton Foundation Global Philosophy of Religion Project Grant (\$27,000).
2021-2022	Professional Development Funds Award, University of Cincinnati (\$5,000).
2020	Special Commendation, Ibn 'Arabi Society Young Writers Award.
2020	Ames Foundation Grant, Fordham University (\$18,000).
2020	Postdoctoral Fellow, Orient-Institut Beirut of the Max Weber Foundation (declined).
2019	Postdoctoral Scholar, Institut supérieur de philosophie, UCLouvain (declined).
2019	Winner, Best Dissertation of the Year, Foundation for Iranian Studies
2014-2018	The Berkeley Fellowship for Graduate Study (\$137,500).
2017-2018	Berkeley Dissertation Completion Fellowship Award (DCF) (27,500).
2018	Graduate Student Summer Grant in Religion, BCSR, UC Berkeley (\$5000).
2018	Yusuf Hamza Abduljawad Student Fellowship, UC Berkeley (\$3,500).
2018	American Comparative Literature Association Conference Grants (\$1,000).
2018	Travel Grant, Center for Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley (\$400).
2018	Mellon Foundation Conference Grants, CMES, UC Berkeley (\$500).
2017	Andrew Mellon Research Grants, CMES, UC Berkeley (\$2,000).
2017	The Graduate Division Travel Grant, University of California, Berkeley (\$1,000).
2016	Alfalah Program Student Fellowship, CMES, University of California, Berkeley (\$4,000).
2015	Townsend Lecture Grant, Townsend Center for Humanities, UC Berkeley (\$1,500).
2015	CMES Lecture Grant, CMES, UC Berkeley (\$1,000).
2015-16	Mellon Foundation Research Grants, CMES, UC Berkeley (\$2,000).
2012-2014	Full Scholarship for the MA degree, Ministry of Education, Iran (\$20,000).
2010-2011	The Gillian Foundation Charitable Fund, UK (\$1,500).
2010	Sydney-Perry Foundation Scholarship, UK (\$1,500).
2009	Bestway Foundation Scholarship, UK (\$6,000).
2008	International Excellence Scholarship Award, Royal Holloway University of London, UK (\$15,000).
2008	The Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahayan Foundation Award: Office of Prime Minister, U.A.E (\$5,000).

## PRIMARY TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Cross-cultural Philosophy, Environmental Humanities, Self and Subjectivity.
- Religion and Climate Change, Islamic Philosophy and Ethics.
- Consciousness Studies, Sufism, Contemplative Ecology.

## RESEARCH LANGUAGES

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- **Arabic** (fluent in Classical and Modern Arabic)
- **Persian** (fluent in Classical and Modern Persian)
- **Urdu** (advanced reading knowledge)
- **Bengali** (fluent reading knowledge and speaking)
- **German** (advanced reading knowledge; limited speaking)
- **French** (advanced reading knowledge)
- **Sanskrit** (elementary reading knowledge)
- **Greek** (elementary reading knowledge)

## PUBLICATIONS

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### **Books: Monographs (peer-reviewed)**

*Sculpting the Self: Islam, Selfhood, and Human Flourishing*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2021, xiii + 311 pp.

- Winner of *Iran's 31<sup>st</sup> World Book Award*.
- Reviewed in *The Humanistic Psychologist, Asian Studies, Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations, Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies, Nazariyat, Comparative Philosophy, The Journal of Religion*, and five other journals (forthcoming).
- Book Panel: "A Panel on Muhammad Faruque's *Sculpting the Self: Islam, Selfhood, and Human Flourishing*." *The Annual Meeting of The American Academy of Religion*, Denver, CO, November 19, 2022.
- Finalist, Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion, Constructive-Reflective Studies
- Seven interviews on different media including *New Books Network* and *Renovatio*.

*Why Read Mullā Ṣadrā Today?* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, under review.

*The Interconnected Universe: Sufism, Climate Change, and Ecological Living*, in progress.

*Islam, AI, and the Existential Threats of Technology*, in progress.

### **Books: Edited Volumes (peer-reviewed)**

*I of the Heart: Texts and Studies in Honor of Seyyed Hossein Nasr*. Islamic History and Civilization Series. Co-edited with Atif Khalil and M. Rustom. Leiden: Brill, 2025.

*A Cultural History of South Asian Literature, Volume 3: The Early Modern Age (1400-1700)*. The Cultural Histories Series. Co-edited with Shankar Nair. London: Bloomsbury, 2024.

*From the Divine to the Human: Contemporary Islamic Thinkers on Evil, Suffering, and the Global Pandemic*. Co-edited with Mohammed Rustom. London and New York: Routledge, 2023, xii, 232 pp.

- Reviews forthcoming in *Journal of Islamic Ethics*, *Majallat al-dirāsāt al-falsafiyya*, *Reading Religion*, and several other journals.

*The Pen and the Tablet: Works by and about Seyyed Hossein Nasr through His 85th Birthday*. Louisville: Fons Vitae, 2019, 258 pp.

### **Articles in Peer-reviewed Venues**

“Immortality through AI?: Transhumanism, Human Nature, and the Quest for Spiritual Machines.” In *Transhumanism, Immortality, and Religion*. Edited by Timothy Knepper. New York: Springer, forthcoming [2025].

“The Literature of Ideas.” In *A Cultural History of South Asian Literature, Volume 3: The Early Modern Age (1400-1700)*. The Cultural Histories Series. Co-edited with Shankar Nair. London: Bloomsbury, 2025 [co-authored with S. Nair].

“The Self.” In *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, edited by Edward Zalta and Uri Nodelman, forthcoming. <http://plato.stanford.edu>. (14,000 words).

“Elective Brain Chip Implants for Non-Medical Applications: Developing a Comprehensive International Regulatory Framework by Integrating Islamic Principles with Secular Bioethics,” *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*, under review [co-authored with others].

“Beyond Technical Fixes: Sufism, Contemplation, and Climate Change as Human Predicament,” *Journal of Contemplative Studies*, accepted, forthcoming.

“Sufism and the Anthropocosmic Self.” In *I of the Heart: Texts and Studies in Honor of Seyyed Hossein Nasr*. Islamic History and Civilization Series. Edited by M. Faruque, A. Khalil, and M. Rustom. Leiden: Brill, 2025, completed and forthcoming.

“Ethics of Selfhood and Human Flourishing in Islamic Thought.” In the *Oxford Handbook of Islamic Ethics*, edited by Mustafa Shah. New York: Oxford University Press, accepted and forthcoming [2026].

“The Concept of Intuition in Sufism.” In *The Handbook of Intuitions*. Logic, Epistemology, and the Unity of Science series, edited by Asad Ahmed et al. New York: Springer, completed and forthcoming [2026].

“Mullā Ṣadrā and Javādī Āmulī: *The Book of Metaphysical Penetrations, The Four Intellectual Journeys, and The Sealed Wine*.” In *Global Philosophy: A Sourcebook*, edited by M. Rustom. Sheffield: Equinox, completed and forthcoming [2025].

“The Concept of Life in Islam.” In *The Concept of Life in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*, edited by Georges Tamer. Berlin: De Gruyter, in press [2025]. (25,000 words).

“Transcending the Ordinary Self: Mullā Ṣadrā on the Ethics of Human Flourishing.” In *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Islamic Ethics*, edited by Jafar Mahallati. London: Bloomsbury, in press [2025].

“Sufi Metaphysical Literature.” In *Brill Handbook of Sufi Studies*, edited by Alexander Knysh and Bilal Orfali. Leiden: Brill, in press [2025].

- “The Existence of God in Islam.” In *The Existence of God? Contemporary Positions and Approaches*, edited by Evgeny Loginov. Saint-Petersburg: Umozrenie, 2025.
- “Decolonizing the Muslim Mind: A Philosophical Critique,” *Philosophical Forum* (2024): 1–23. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/phil.12378>
- “‘Ayn al-Qudāt.” *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Winter 2024 Edition), Edward N. Zalta & Uri Nodelman (eds.), URL = <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/al-qudat/> (11,000 words) [Co-authored with M. Rustom].
- “The Self (*nafs*),” *St Andrews Encyclopaedia of Theology*. Edited by Brendan N. Wolfe et al., 2024, <https://www.saet.ac.uk/Islam/Self>.
- “Toward a Neuro-ethics in Islamic Philosophy: Trauma, Memory, and Personal Identity,” *Sophia* (2024): 1–20. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11841-023-00997-6>. (Co-authored with Mona Jahangiri).
- “Life after Life: Mullā Ṣadrā on Death and Immortality.” *Religious Studies* (2024), 60, 104–116. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0034412523000422>
- “Attention, Consciousness, and Self-Cultivation in Sufi-Philosophical Thought.” *Journal of the Institute for Sufi Studies* 2, 2 (2023): 300–316.
- “Seyyed Hossein Nasr.” In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*. Oxford University Press, 2014—. Article published May 24, 2023. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199340378.013.868>. (12,000 words).
- “Hume on Trial: Can Evil and Suffering be Justified?” In *From the Divine to the Human: New Perspectives on Evil, Suffering, and the Global Pandemic*, edited by M. Faruque and M. Rustom. London and New York: Routledge, 2023.
- “An Anthropocentric Approach to Evil.” In *From the Divine to the Human: New Perspectives on Evil, Suffering, and the Global Pandemic*, edited by M. Faruque and M. Rustom. London and New York: Routledge, 2023.
- “Sufism and Philosophy in the Mughal-Safavid Era: Shāh Walī Allāh and the End of Selfhood.” In *Islamic Thought and the Art of Translation: Texts and Studies in Honor of William C. Chittick and Sachiko Murata*, edited by Mohammed Rustom. Leiden: Brill, 2023, pp. 323–370.
- “Charles Taylor and the Invention of Modern Inwardness: A Sufi, Constructive Response,” *Religions* 13 (2022): 22–44 [Special Issue edited by Saeed Zarrabi-Zadeh].
- “The Crisis of Modern Subjectivity: Rethinking Muhammad Iqbal and the Islamic Tradition,” *Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies* 6.2 (2022): 43–81.
- “A Nietzschean Mystic? Muhammad Iqbal on the Ethics of Selfhood.” In *Mysticism and Ethics in Islam*, edited by Bilal Orfali et al. Beirut: The American University of Beirut Press, 2022.
- “Eternity Made Temporal: Ashraf ‘Alī Thānavī, a Twentieth-Century Indian Thinker and the Revival of Classical Sufi Thought.” *Brill Journal of Sufi Studies* 9.2 (2020): 215–246.

“Untying the Knots of Love: The Qur’an, Love Poetry, and Akkad’s *The Message*.” *Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies* 5.2 (2020): 112-128.

“Seyyed Hossein Nasr: A Contemporary Islamic Philosopher.” In *The Pen and the Tablet: Works by and about Seyyed Hossein Nasr through His 85th Birthday*. Louisville: Fons Vitae, 2019.

“Ma<sup>°</sup>nā wa manzūr az metāfizik dar andīshah-yi Haydīgar wa Mullā Ṣadrā.” *Hikmat-i Ṣadrā’ī* 7.1 (1397/2018): 117–128.

“Does God Create Evil? A Study of Fakhr al-Dīn Rāzī’s Exegesis of *Sūrat al-falaq*.” *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 28.3 (2017): 271–291.

“Heidegger and Mullā Ṣadrā on the Meaning of Metaphysics.” *Philosophy East and West* 67.3 (2017): 629–650.

“Mullā Ṣadrā on the Problem of Natural Universals.” *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy* 27.2 (2017): 269–302.

“Rajab °Alī Tabrīzī’s Refutation of Ṣadrian Metaphysics.” In *Philosophy and the Intellectual Life in Shī°ah Islam*, edited by Sajjad Rizvi and S. N. Ahmad. Bloomsbury: The Shī°ah Institute Press, 2017. (Co-authored with Mohammed Rustom).

“Sufism *contra* Shariah? Shāh Walī Allāh’s Metaphysics of *Waḥdat al-Wujūd*.” *Brill Journal of Sufi Studies* 5.1 (2016): 27–57.

“The Internal Senses in Galen, Plotinus and Nemesius: The Beginning of an Idea.” *Ancient Philosophy* 10.2 (2016): 119–139.

“Mullā Ṣadrā and the Project of Transcendent Philosophy.” *Religion Compass* 10.1 (2016): 3–14.

“The Current Situation of Sufism in Iran with Particular Reference to Philosophical Sufism.” In *Sufism and Social Integration: Some Observations*, edited by M. Faghfoory and G. Dastagir et al. Chicago: Kazi, 2015.

“Gender Inequality and Economic Growth: A Cross-country Analysis of the Muslim Countries.” *European Journal of Social Sciences* 36.1 (2012): 90–98.

“An Empirical Investigation of the Arbitrage Pricing Theory in a Frontier Stock Market: Evidence from Bangladesh.” *Indian Journal of Economics and Business* 4.10 (2011): 443–465.

“The Contribution of Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) on the Economic Development of Bangladesh.” *The Chittagong University Journal of Business Administration* 22 (2009): 191–220. (Co-authored with T. M.H. Arif and M.N. Uddin).

## **Translation**

Shahrām Pāzūkī, “Knowledge and its Status in Sufism: Revivification of Knowledge in the Spiritual *Mathnawī*.” In *°Aql dar Qur°ān wa-tamaddun-i Islāmī*, edited by Seyyed Asghari and Amir Salehi. Qum: Jāmi°at al-Muṣṭafā al-°Ālamiyya (Tih-rān), 2014.

## **Book Reviews**

Sayeh Meisami, *Naṣīr al-Dīn Ṭūsī: A Philosopher for All Seasons*. *The Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies*, forthcoming.

Mohammad Azadpur, *Avicenna and Analytic Philosophy: Knowing the Unknown*. *The Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies*, 6.1 (2021): 102–107.

Virtue Ethics in Sufism? A Review of Atif Khalil, *Repentance and the Return to God: Tawba in Early Sufism*. *Brill Journal of Islamic Ethics* 4 (2020): 259–63.

Seyyed Hossein Nasr and Mehdi Aminrazavi (eds.), *An Anthology of Philosophy in Persia, Vol. V: From the School of Shiraz to the Twentieth Century*. *Journal of Shia Islamic Studies* 9.1 (2016): 95–99.

Eiyad S. Al-Kutubi, *Mulla Sadra and Eschatology: Evolution of Being*. *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 27.3 (2016): 347–349.

Tarif Khalidi, *Abū Ḥātim al-Rāzī: The Proofs of Prophecy*. *Ilahiyat Studies* 6.1 (2015): 126–129.

Mohammed Rustom, *The Triumph of Mercy: Philosophy and Scripture in Mullā Ṣadrā*. *Journal of Sufi Studies* 3.2 (2014): 228–230.

## **Public Scholarship**

“We are Not Our Brains: How Poets and Philosophers Saw the Immaterial Life of the Self.” [Renovatio](#) Spring (2024).

“Opening Pandora’s Box: AI and Its Ethical Dilemmas.” [Maydan](#), April (2023), an online publication of AbuSulayman Center for Global Islamic Studies at George Mason University.

“AI versus Human Consciousness: A Future with Machines as Our Masters?” [Renovatio](#), Spring (2023).

“Islam, Nature, and Climate Change.” *Origins CNS* 50.1 (April 2020): 13–15.

“Doğayla Birlikte Yaşamak? İslam, İklim Değişikliği Ve Eko-Felsefe.” [Coexistence with Nature?: Islam, Climate Change, and Eco-philosophy] *Sabah Ülkesi* (Cologne), 64 (Jul 2020): 66–71.

“Dil, Varlık ve Öznellik: Gerçekliğin İnşası.” [Language, Being and Subjectivity: The Construction of Reality] *Sabah Ülkesi* (Cologne), 61 (Oct 2019): 29–33.

## **INVITED LECTURES, PANELS, AND TALKS**

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“Islam and the Anthropocosmic Self.” *The Institute of Ismaili Studies*, London, UK, October 08, 2025.

“Psychology, Selfhood, and Human Flourishing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Plenary Speech. *16th International Congress on Psychopharmacology & Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology/Psychotherapy*, Antalya, Turkey, April 23, 2025.

“The Ultimate Vision of Life: Ibn ‘Arabi and the Anthropocosmic Self.” *Ibn ‘Arabi Society*, MIAS Online Seminar Series, April 12, 2025.

“Finding the Way: Religion, Ecology, and the Future of the Applied Humanities.” Panel Speaker. *Stanford University*, Stanford, March 01, 2025.

“Suhrawardī, Mullā Ṣadrā, and Whether AI Could be Conscious.” *The American Philosophical Association*, Central Division, February 20, 2025.

“Beyond Technical Fixes: Climate Change and Reimagining Modern Life.” *Xavier University*, Cincinnati, February 19, 2025.

“Unity in Diversity: Pluralism in Islamic Philosophical Thought.” *Hikmat International Institute*, January 15, 2025 (online lecture).

“Mullā Ṣadrā’s Ontology of Consciousness.” *Hamad Bin Khalifa University*, Doha, Qatar, November 24, 2024 (online lecture).

“The Self in Islam: A Global Philosophy Approach.” *Princeton University*, Princeton, November 04, 2024.

“What It Means to be Human in a Post-Enlightenment World: A View from Islamic Philosophy.” The *Institute for Philosophical Studies - Europe (IPSE)* in partnership with *Bursa Uludağ University*, ISAM, Istanbul, Turkey, October 31, 2024.

“An Ecological Vision of Life through the Prophetic Model.” Keynote Speech: Annual Milad al-Nabi Lecture. *The Aga Khan Council*, Toronto, Canada, October 19, 2024.

“Rumi, Ethical Education, and the Sufi Theories of Personality.” *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*, Berlin, Germany, October 13, 2024.

“Does AI Enhance or Impede Spirituality?” Panel: Tough Talk, South Asia Center, the *London School of Economics and Political Science*, London, June 05, 2024 [Zoom].

“Opening Pandora’s Box: AI, ChatGPT, and the Quest for Superintelligence.” *University of Colorado Boulder*, Boulder, April 16, 2024.

“Climate Change, Anthropocentrism, and the Fate of Human Civilization.” *Special Lecture, A&F Office of Sustainability, University of Cincinnati*, Cincinnati, April 03, 2024.

“The Burnout Society: Healing Fragmentation through Islamic Spirituality.” *Habib University*, Karachi, Pakistan, November 25, 2023.

“Immortality through AI?: Transhumanism, Human Nature, and the Quest for Spiritual Machines.” The Comparison Project Lecture Series. *Department of Philosophy & Religion, Drake University*, Des Moines, November 15, 2023.



“The Decline of Philosophy and the Rise of Shallow Thinking: The Challenges of the Islamic World.” *Tradisi: The Centre for Advanced Irfan Studies*, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 06, 2023 [Online Lecture].

“Islamic Psychology and Theories of Personality.” Humanity, Sufi Thought and Healing Lecture Series. *Institute of Sufi Studies, Üsküdar University*, Istanbul, Türkiye, October 03, 2023.

“Finding Our Place on a Changing Planet: An Introduction to the Theories and Methods of the Environmental Humanities.” *Department of Environmental Studies, University of Cincinnati*, Cincinnati, September 18, 2023.

“The Idea of ‘Thinking’ in a Techno-Scientific World: A Cross-cultural Perspective.” The Geophilosophies Project. *The University of Michigan*, Michigan, Sept. 8, 2023.

“A Response to the *Upaniṣadic* Self.” Hinduism for Muslim Audiences by Ankur Barua. *University of Cambridge and Project Noon*, Zoom Lecture, August 12, 2023.

“Opening Pandora’s Box: AI, ChatGPT, and the Mystery of Consciousness.” *Department of Philosophy, University of Central Florida*, Florida, April 03, 2023.

“Religious Diversity: A Philosophical Approach.” Khan Endowment Lecture. *Department of Religious Studies, University of Lethbridge*, Alberta, March 15, 2023.

“All Minds, All the Time: The Universality of Minds in the Philosophy of Shāh Walī Allāh.” Karl H. Potter Memorial Lecture Series in Philosophy. *Indian Institute of Technology Bombay*, Mumbai, March 01, 2023.

“Charles Taylor and the Invention of Modern Inwardness: A Non-Western Response.” *College of Humanities, Carleton University*, Ottawa, January 26, 2023.

“What is Nature? Orphic, Promethean, and Native American Views.” *Department of Environmental Studies, University of Cincinnati*, Cincinnati, November 30, 2022.

“Modes of Selfhood in Islam: A Panel on Muhammad Faruque’s *Sculpting the Self: Islam, Selfhood, and Human Flourishing*.” Book Panel Respondent, the Annual Meeting of *The American Academy of Religion*, Denver, November 20, 2022.

“Interventions and Intersections.” Panel: Constructive Muslim Thought and Engaged Scholarship, the Annual Meeting of *The American Academy of Religion*, Denver, November 20, 2022.

“Islamic Moral Theology and the Future.” *George Mason University*, Virginia, October 21, 2022.

Inaugural Bangabandhu Memorial Lecture: “Decolonizing the Muslim Mind: Islam and the Path to Intellectual Emancipation.” *Bangabandhu Research Centre for Islam and Interreligious Dialogue*, Chittagong, May 11, 2022.

“Islam, Psychology, and Selfhood.” *A Conference on Islamic Psychology*, Islamic Dawah Center, Texas, Feb. 27, 2022.

“The Self and Human Ontology.” *The George Washington University and Alkaram Institute*, Washington DC, Dec. 11, 2021.

“Islamic Philosophy: An Introduction.” *The George Washington University and Alkaram Institute*, Washington DC, Nov. 13, 2021.

“Decolonizing the Muslim Mind: Islam, Spirituality, and Human Flourishing.” Exeter-Habib Seminars on Islam after Colonialism. *University of Exeter*, Exeter, Nov. 12, 2021.

“Qur’anic Studies in the Euro-American Academy.” Panel Discussant. 50th Annual Conference on “Approaches to Qur’anic Studies in the Western Academy.” The North American Association of Islamic and Muslim Studies, University of Oregon, Nov. 12, 2021.

“Shared ideas and Worlds: Mystical Philosophy in the Middle Ages as a Case Study for Coexistence.” Panelist. *Festival of Faiths, Cincinnati*. Aug. 26, 2021.

“Sufism: Islam’s Mystical Tradition.” *Department of Philosophy, UC Clermont College*, Batavia, April 08, 2021.

“Who am I? The Labyrinth of Selfhood in the Islamic Tradition.” *The College of Letters, Wesleyan University*, Connecticut, February 24, 2021.

“Transcending the Ordinary Self: Mullā Ṣadrā on the Ethics of Human Flourishing.” *Islamic Philosophy Conversation Group Workshop*. Bard College, December 18, 2020.

“Islam and the Care of the Earth: A Response to Pope Francis’ *Laudato Si’*.” *Interreligious Perspectives on Laudato Si’: A Fifth Anniversary Celebration of Pope Francis’ Encyclical on the Care of the Earth*. Georgetown University, Georgetown, October 30, 2020.

“What is Life in the Islamic Tradition?” *The Concept of Life in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*. University Erlangen–Nürnberg, Nuremberg, Germany, September 25, 2020.

“Selfhood and Being Human in Islamic Mystical Literature.” *Department of Romance and Arabic Languages and Literatures, University of Cincinnati*, Cincinnati, August 13, 2020.

“Care for Our Common Home: Jews, Christians, and Muslims Confront Climate Change.” *Annual Spring McGinley Lecture* by Patrick J. Ryan. Panel Respondent. Fordham University, New York, March 31, 2020.

“The Crisis of Modern Subjectivity: Rethinking Iqbal, Selfhood, and the Islamic Tradition.” *Religious Studies, Syracuse University*, Syracuse, USA, Jan. 24, 2020.

“Transcending the Ordinary Self: Self-Cultivation and Human Flourishing in Islamic Philosophy.” *The American Philosophical Association*. San Francisco, April 9, 2020.

“Sufism, Science, and Philosophy in Islamic History: Challenging the Myth of Islamic Decline in the Early Modern Persianate World.” *Historical and Cultural Studies, University of Toronto*, Toronto, Canada, Dec. 12, 2019.

“Attending to Oneself: Muhammad Iqbal and Indian Philosophy.” *Mind, World and Attention: Themes from Indian and Buddhist Philosophical Theory*. New York University, New York, April 26, 2019.

“Gollum and I: The Lord of the Rings, Islamic Mystical Literature, and the Practice of Being an Authentic Self.” *Center for the Middle East Studies, Fordham University*, New York, Mar. 11, 2019.

“Conversations in Islamic Ethics: A Discussion with Cyrus Ali Zargar about His New Book ‘The Polished Mirror: Storytelling and the Pursuit of Virtue in Islamic Philosophy and Sufism.’” *The Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics*, Louisville, Jan. 5, 2019.

“The Problem of Selfhood in Islamic Mystical Thought.” *Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University*, Cambridge, November 01, 2017.

“Finding One’s True Self: Self-Cultivation and Human Flourishing in Islamic and Neoplatonic Thought.” Comparative Studies Doctoral Colloquium 2017-2018. *Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University*, Cambridge, October 23, 2017.

“A Phenomenological Overview of Islamic Art.” Lecture Delivered in a Workshop Organized for K-12 Teachers. *Stanford Live, Stanford University*, Palo Alto, US. Sept. 26, 2016.

“Sufism versus Shariah? Shāh Walī Allāh on God, Existence, and the Nature of Reality.” *Junior Scholars Lunch Papers*. The Center for Middle Eastern Studies. University of California, Berkeley. Feb. 16, 2016.

“Islamic Identity in the West.” Panel Speaker. *Delta Phi Epsilon, University of California, Berkeley Chapter*. University of California, Berkeley, April 27, 2015.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

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“*Tawhīd*, Modern Thinking, and the Fragmented Self: Some Reflections” *Islamic Conference on Uniting Diverse Voices*. ISTAC-IIUM, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Jan 17-18, 2024.

“Ibn ‘Arabī and the Problem of Selfhood.” *Muhyiddin Ibn ‘Arabi: His Legacy and its Pertinence in the Contemporary World*. The Iranian Institute of Philosophy, Tehran, Iran, December 11-12, 2023.

“Hume on Trial: Can Evil and Suffering be Justified?” *From the Divine to the Human: New Perspectives on Evil, Suffering, and the Global Pandemic*. University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, June 28-30, 2022.

“Co-existence with Nature?: The Eco-philosophy of Mullā Ṣadrā.” Panel: Sufism, the Qur’an, and the Natural Environment, the Annual Meeting of *The American Academy of Religion*, San Antonio, TX, November 20-23, 2021.

“Is the Self a Modern Invention?” *The American Philosophical Association*. New York, January 9, 2021.

“A Philosophy of Self in Islam, or an Islamic Philosophy of Self? What is the Difference and Who Cares?” The Annual Meeting of *The American Academy of Religion*, San Diego, California, November 23–26, 2019.

“Sufism and Philosophy in the Mughal-Safavid Era: Consciousness and First-Person Subjectivity in Mullā Ṣadrā and Shāh Walī Allāh.” *Sufism and Philosophy: Historical Interactions and Crosspollinations*. University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK, April 26-27, 2019.

“Finding one’s Authentic Self in a Secular Age: Ethics, Self-Knowledge, and Human Flourishing.” Philosophy of Religion Panel 1: Self-Deception, Authentic Selfhood, and Communal Recognition, *The American Academy of Religion*, Arizona State University, Arizona, March 2-3, 2019.

“The View from the ‘I:’ Self-Knowledge and First-Person Subjectivity in Suhrawardī and Mullā Ṣadrā.” *The American Philosophical Association* (Pacific Division), Vancouver, April 17-20, 2019.

“What is it like to be a Self? Subjectivity and Selfhood from Mullā Ṣadrā to Muḥammad Iqbāl.” *Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität-UC Berkeley Konferenz 2018*, Munich, Germany, Dec 13-15, 2018.

“Sculpting the Self: Being Human through ‘Virtues’ and ‘Self-Cultivation’ in Islamic Philosophical Literature.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, Los Angeles, March 29-Apr 01, 2018.

“The Deconstruction of Self: Attention and Subjectivity in Islamic and Global Philosophy.” *Virtues of Attention: Global Philosophical Perspectives*.” New York University Shanghai, Shanghai, China, March 23-24, 2018.

“Between Mind and Reality: Mullā Ṣadrā on the Problem of Natural Universals.” *The Annual Meeting, MESA (Middle East Studies Association)*, Washington, DC, Nov 18-21, 2017.

“Between the Centre and Periphery: Ashraf °Alī Thanvī, Modernity and the Problem of Selfhood.” *The 32nd Annual Middle East History and Theory Conference*, University of Chicago, Illinois, May 6-7, 2017.

“Beyond the Essence-Existence Distinction: Mullā Ṣadrā on the Problem of Natural Universals.” *The American Philosophical Association* (Pacific Division), Seattle, April 12-15, 2017.

“Sufism and Philosophical Discourse: Shāh Walī Allāh on the Problem of *Waḥdat al-Wujūd*.” *Scientific and Rationalist Traditions in Muslim India*. University of California, Berkeley, October 22, 2016.

“The Islamic Intellectual Heritage in the Contemporary World.” Moderator. *Al-Mustafa International University (Tehran Branch)*. Tehran, January 1-14, 2014.

## **MEDIA APPEARANCES AND INTERVIEWS**

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Interview, “*Philosophy in the Postcolonial World*.” *GeoPhilosophies*, University of Michigan (hosted by Arvind-Pal Mandair). Oct. 04, 2024.

Interview, “*Sufism in South Asia*.” [Om-gnosis](#), CSWR, Harvard University (hosted by Keith E. Cantu). Sept. 20, 2024.

Interview, “*Selfhood and What it Means to be Human*.” [IKIMfm](#), A National Broadcaster in Malaysia (hosted by Batrisyia Afrina). June 28, 2024.

Interview, “*We are Not Our Brain.*” [Renovatio/Zaytuna](#) (hosted by Esmé Partridge). May 20, 2024.

Interview, “*An Exploration of the Self in Islamic Thought.*” [The Shia Institute](#) (hosted by Vinay Khetia). April 23, 2024.

Interview, “*Sculpting the Self.*” [Project Noon](#) (hosted by Saad Ismail). Jan. 28, 2024.

Interview, “*What is Contemplation?*” [Journal of Contemplative Studies](#) (hosted by Erin Burke). Dec. 01 2023.

Interview, “*Selfhood, Identity, and Islamic Metaphysics.*” [Dhawq](#) (hosted by Abdullah Sattar). Aug. 04, 2022.

Interview, “*Sculpting the Self.*” [Renovatio/Zaytuna](#) (hosted by Esmé Partridge). Mar. 30, 2022.

Interview, “*Sculpting the Self.*” [Alkaram Institute](#) (hosted by Carrie York). Oct. 15, 2021.

Interview, “*Sculpting the Self.*” [New Books in Religious Studies](#) (hosted by SherAli Tareen). September 17, 2021.

Interview, “*Sculpting the Self.*” *Path & Present Podcast* (hosted by Baraka Blue). August 30, 2021.

Interview, “*Love, Selfhood, and Spirituality.*” *Hira Podcast* (hosted by Hadi al-Lawati). July 30, 2021.

“UC Appoints Scholar to Islamic Studies Visiting Assistant Professorship: Endowed Chair Intended to Help Build College, Community Collaboration.” [UC News](#), Oct. 26, 2020.

“Care for Our Common Home: Jews, Christians and Muslims Confront Climate Change.” *Catholic News Service*, April 30, 2020, at <https://www.catholicnews.com/index.cfm>

“FIS PhD Dissertation Awards Announced.” *The Foundation for Iranian Studies*, Nov. 15, 2019, at <https://fis-iran.org/en/content/fis-phd-dissertation-awards-announced>

“New Fellowship Brings Scholar of Islam to Theology Department.” [Fordham News](#), Jan. 29, 2019.

## **SERVICE TO AFFILIATED DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS**

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Project Director, Being Arab-American through Virtual Reality (VR): The Role of Language and Culture, 2022-26.

Member 2022-, MENA Region Strategy Group, University of Cincinnati.

Member 2022-, Religious Studies Advisory Board, University of Cincinnati.

Reviewer, URC Graduate Student Stipend Award 2024, University of Cincinnati.

Search Committee, Head Search Committee 2022-23, RALL, University of Cincinnati.

Search Committee, Grants Administrator Search 2022, Dean’s Office, University of Cincinnati.

Search Committee, Jewish Foundation Chair in Modern Jewish Culture and Religion 2021-22, Department of Judaic Studies, University of Cincinnati.

PhD Dissertation Committee: Christine Rezk, Department of English, University of Cincinnati.

PhD Exam Committee: Dior Stephens, Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of Cincinnati.

Independent Studies (graduate students): Dior J. Stephens (English and Comparative Literature/2023), David Schwartz (English/2021), Rea Jalloul (Franco-Arabic/2022), Saleh Azizeh (Franco-Arabic Track/2022), Taraneh Wilkinson (Philosophy/2022).

Event Organizer, “The Roots of Our Present Crisis: Coloniality, Race, Religion, and Climate.” A Public Lecture by Oludamini Ogunnaike, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Oct. 29, 2021.

Event Co-organizer, “What Dr. King Still Has to Say to America: From Birmingham Jail, to Riverside, to Today.” A Public Lecture by Omid Safi, Fordham University, New York, October 23, 2019.

Panel Organizer, “Conversations in Islamic Ethics: A Discussion with Cyrus Ali Zargar about His New Book ‘The Polished Mirror: Storytelling and the Pursuit of Virtue in Islamic Philosophy and Sufism.’” *The Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics*, Louisville, Jan 3-6, 2019.

Conference Coordinator, “Scientific and Rationalist Traditions in Muslim India.” University of California, Berkeley, October 22, 2016.

Event Organizer, “Yogis in Full Color: An Illustrated Persian Field Guide to Indian Religions.” A Public Lecture by Carl W. Ernst, University of California, Berkeley, Sept. 02, 2016.

Workshop Co-organizer, “A Phenomenological Overview of Islamic Art.” *Stanford Live, Stanford University*, Palo Alto, US. Sept. 26, 2016.

## **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ORGANIZED**

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*From the Divine to the Human: New Perspectives on Evil, Suffering, and the Global Pandemic.* University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, June 28-30, 2022.

## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

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### Editorial and Advisory Roles

2023- Chair, Ecology and Science, AAR, Midwest Region  
2023- Steering Committee Member, Contemplative Studies, AAR  
2023- Advisory Board Member, Intersectionality: Religion and Social Justice (NURFC)  
2024- Editorial Board Member, The Legal Transformation in Muslim Societies  
2023- Editorial Board Member, Journal of Islamic Philosophy and Theology  
2022- Editorial Board Member, Journal of Contemplative Studies  
2022- Advisory Board Member, Carleton Centre for the Study of Islam

2021- The Alkaram Institute (Islamic Psychology Graduate Program)

Peer-reviewed Manuscripts

2025 Journal of Consciousness Studies (1)  
2024 MIND: A Quarterly Review of Philosophy (1)  
2024 Philosophical Psychology (1)  
2024 Open Theology (1)  
2024 Journal of Contemplative Studies (1)  
2024 Oxford University Press (1)  
2023 Brill (1)  
2023 SUNY Press (1)  
2023 Routledge (1)  
2023 Journal of the Institute for Sufi Studies (2)  
2023 Sophia: International Journal of Philosophy and Traditions (2)  
2023 *Res Philosophica* (1)  
2022 Journal of Consciousness Studies (1)  
2022 Sophia: International Journal of Philosophy and Traditions (1)  
2022 Journal of Sufi Studies (1)  
2021 Religious Studies (Cambridge) (1)  
2021 History and Philosophy of Logic (1)  
2021 *Oriens: Journal of Philosophy, Theology and Science in Islamic Societies* (1)  
2021 Sophia: International Journal of Philosophy and Traditions (1)  
2021 Journal of the Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi Society (1)  
2021 Turkish Culture and Research Quarterly (1)  
2020 Oxford Journal of Islamic Studies (1)  
2020 Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies (1)  
2020 *Oriens: Journal of Philosophy, Theology and Science in Islamic Societies* (1)  
2020 Journal of Sufi Studies (1)  
2020 Theory of Science (1)  
2020 Gorgias Press (1)  
2020 Journal of Islamic Ethics (1)  
2020 *Epoché: A Journal for the History of Philosophy* (1)  
2020 Sophia: International Journal of Philosophy and Traditions (1)  
2019 Journal of Qur'anic Studies (1)  
2019 Journal of Consciousness Studies (1)  
2019 *Oriens: Journal of Philosophy, Theology and Science in Islamic Societies* (1)  
2018 De Gruyter Open Theology (2)

**SERVICE TO COMMUNITY**

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“Islam and Climate Change: A Community Conversation.” *The Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati*. January 31, 2025.

“Islam in the West.” *Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church*. Jan. 10, 2024.

“AI, ChatGPT, and the Ethical Challenges Facing Muslims.” *Islamic Center Mason*. May 05, 2023.

- “Islam and the Challenge of New Technology.” *Islamic Center Mason*. May 05, 2023.
- “Islam and Climate Change.” *University of Lethbridge MSA*. March 17, 2023.
- “Science and American Muslims.” *Islamic Center Mason*. Sept. 30, 2022.
- “Islam in the West: An Alternative Account of a Civilization.” *Twin Lakes Senior Living Community*. Jan. 12, 2022.
- “The Vision and Promise of Islamic Spirituality.” *Dayton Mercy Society*. Oct. 31, 2021.
- “Islam and Climate Change.” *University of Cincinnati MSA*. Oct. 19, 2021.
- “Sculpting the Muslim Self.” *Dayton Mercy Society*. Sept. 24, 2021.
- “Islam and Judaism.” Panelist. *Hebrew Union College and the Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati*. July 14, 2021.
- “What it Means to be Muslim in a Secular, Multi-religious Society.” *Dayton Mercy Society*. May 06, 2021.
- “Mental and Spiritual Wellbeing in an Age of Anxiety: An Islamic Perspective.” *Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati*. March 12, 2021.
- “Islam and the Ethics of Technology: Is the Internet Dehumanizing Us?” *Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati*. December 04, 2020.
- “Meditation, Mental Health, and Spirituality in Today’s Society.” *Green Society*. October 02, 2020.
- “Meditation during Ramadan.” *Fordham University MSA*. May 18, 2020.
- “Islam and Selfhood.” *Fordham University MSA*. Feb 07, 2020.
- “Islam in Three Dimensions.” *Fordham University MSA*. Nov 29, 2019.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *University of Cincinnati*

2024 Spring	Climate Change and Your Future (Hons Course)
2025 Spring	Climate Change, Literature, and the Humanities (graduate course)
2024 Fall	Identity and the Self: The Vision for a New Human
2024 Fall	Contemporary Arab Society (featuring films)
2023 Spring	Religion and Climate Change
2022 Fall	Contemporary Arab Society (featuring films)
2022 Fall	Foundations of Islam
2022 Spring	Sufism: Mysticism from Arabia to California
2022 Spring	Religion and Climate Change
2021 Fall	Foundations of Islam
2021 Fall	Contemporary Arab Society (featuring films)



2021 Spring Religion and Climate Change  
2021 Spring Introduction to the Study of Religion  
2021 Spring Sufi-Jewish Mystical Literature

*Fordham University*

2020 Summer Religions of the Middle East  
2020 Spring Sufism: Islam's Mystical Tradition  
2020 Spring The Making of the Self: East and West (honors seminar)  
2019 Fall Classic Islamic Texts: Introduction to the Islamic Humanities  
2019 Spring Classic Islamic Texts: From the Qur'an to the Islamic Humanities  
2018 Fall Faith and Critical Reason

*University of California, Berkeley*

2017 Spring Introduction to Islamic Civilization  
2016 Fall Imagination without Limits: Mystical Thought in Islam  
2015 Summer Introduction to Islam

**RESEARCH AND EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

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2019 Curriculum Reviewer, International Baccalaureate Organization.  
2018 Ancillary Contributor, Oxford University Press.  
2015-2016 Research Assistant to Prof. Asad Q. Ahmed, Associate Professor, University of California, Near Eastern Studies.  
2013-2018 Research Assistant to Prof. Mohammed Rustom, Associate Professor, Carleton University, College of the Humanities.  
2013 Research Assistant to Prof. Golam Dastagir, Senior Fellow, University of Malaya, the Centre for Civilizational Dialogue.  
2012-2013 Editor (English Section) of the Journal *Islamic Philosophy and Theology*, University of Tehran.

**DEPARTMENTAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Philosophy  
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies  
Environmental Studies  
Religious Studies

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Academy of Religion (AAR)  
American Philosophical Association (APA)  
Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics (SSME)  
Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

## REFERENCES

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**Prof. James Porter**

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**Prof. Charles Stang**

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