

Muslim Studies

Newsletter of the MSU Muslim Studies Program

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Fall 2018

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Save the Dates

- ◆ **Thursday, September 13, 2018, 2:30pm: Our first public event: "The Crisis in Yemen" panel, 115 International Center (see the insert for the Fall schedule).**
- ◆ **Friday, September 28, 11am-1pm: MSP Core Faculty Meeting, 302 International Center**
- ◆ **April 11-12, 2019: 12th Annual MSP Conference (theme: "Education under Siege"), MSU**

Message from the Director



This Fall, the Muslim Studies Program is organizing various events that will surely be of interest to many in the MSU community (see the insert for the Fall 2018 schedule). These events include a lecture on "Muslims and US Politics" (Oct. 1) by Dalia Mogahed (pictured below on the left), Director of Research at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU) and a former advisor to President Barack Obama; a showing and discussion of the Syrian documentary film *Little Gandhi* (Oct. 24) with director and producer Sam Kadi (pictured below on the right); a panel on the "Crisis in Yemen" featuring MSU faculty members Mohammed Ayooob, Reza Nassiri, Russell Lucas, and Summer Issawi (Sept. 13); a presen-

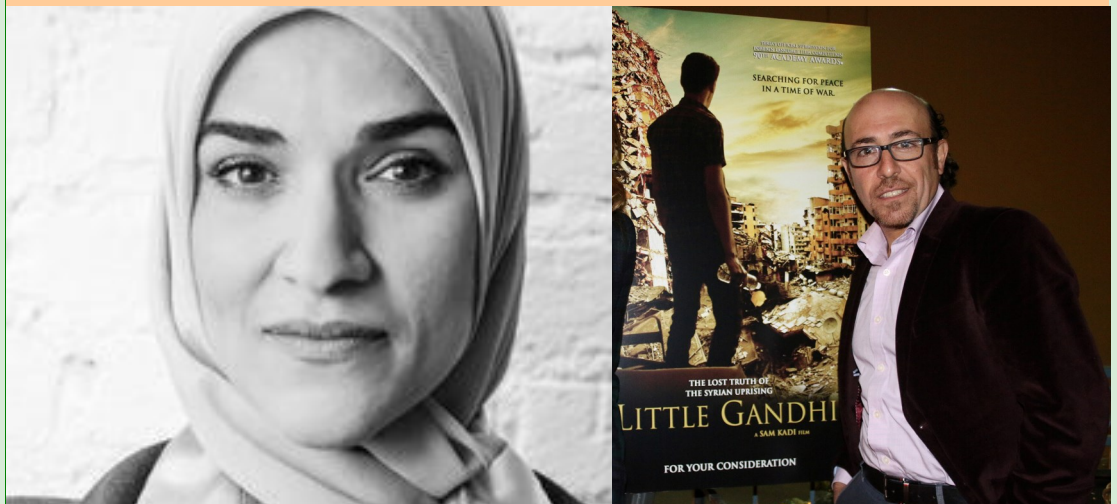
tation by MSU Artist-in-Residence Qais Assali (Oct. 17); a lecture by University of Michigan Art History Professor Christiane Gruber entitled "Idols and Figural Images in Islam: A Brief Dive into a Perennial Debate" (Sept. 19); and an introductory presentation on "Islamic Architecture" by MSU Senior Architect Amr Abdel-Azim (Nov. 1). We are also organizing our fifth *Muslim Journeys* Book Club series (see p. 2 for details).

I am happy to report that there will be a third study abroad to Dubai this coming winter (see the insert for details).

I am also delighted to report that our 2018 annual conference ("Locating Muslim Cinema[s]: The Politics of Culture and Identity") was a success, and we plan to publish the proceedings. Looking ahead, you don't want to miss our 12th annual conference (April 11-12, 2019), the theme of which is "Education under Siege: Attacks on Scholars and Scholarship in Turbulent Times."

Mohammad Hassan Khalil

LOOK WHO'S COMING TO MSU THIS FALL



Muslim Journeys Book Club (2018-19): New and Old Friends, Continents, & Stories

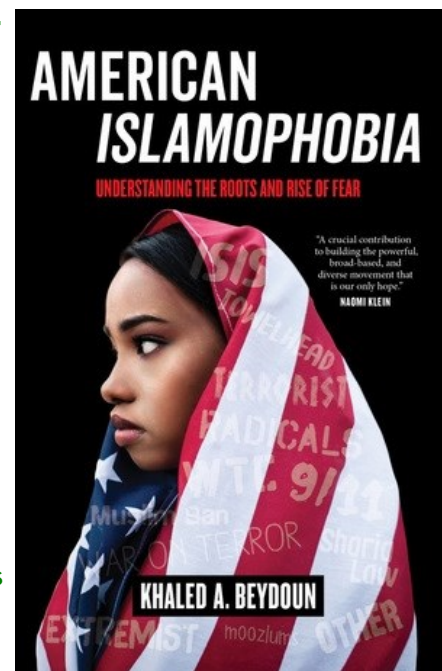
Deborah Margolis

MSU Muslim Journeys kicks off at the MSU Main Library on Tuesday, October 30th, 7pm with Dr. Nazita Lajevardi (Political Science) leading our session on the 2018 title *American Islamophobia: Understanding the Roots and Rise of Fear* by Khaled Beydoun. This is a must-read (and discuss) for our place and time. We're happy to again tie in with Truth Racial Healing and Transformation of Metro Lansing, a community-based process to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism.

In January and February we will have three *Muslim Journeys* book discussion sessions. Ms. Leila Tarakji, MSU Department of English (who, along with Dr. Mohammad Khalil, helped to plan this series) will return to be our scholar for *Does My Head Look Big in This?* by Randa Abdel-Fattah, a work of young adult fiction. We are looking forward to having teachers from LATTICE (Linking All Types of Teachers to International Cross-Cultural Education) join us again this year.

Gratefully, our long-standing partnership with the MSU Comics Forum will continue, as will the stalwart support of the Islamic Center of East Lansing. A new partnership for this year is with MSU's Year of Global Africa. Stay tuned for the announcement of our comics and African selections!

Deborah Margolis, MSU Libraries & Muslim Studies Program
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Faculty Accomplishments (2017-18) (Select)

Farha Abbasi (Psychiatry) received various honors and awards, including an American Psychiatric Association (APA) Foundation Award for Advancing Minority Mental Health. She was also inducted into the APA Division of Diversity and Health Equality.

Tamar Boyadjian (English) published a book entitled *The City Lament: Jerusalem Across the Medieval Mediterranean* (Cornell University Press, 2018).

Eric Freedman (Journalism) published two books, *Critical Perspectives on Journalistic Beliefs and Actions: Global*

Experiences (Freedman, Goodman, and Steyn) (Routledge, 2018) and *Biodiversity, Conservation and Environmental Management in the Great Lakes Basin* (Freedman and Neuzil) (Routledge, 2018).

Camelia Suleiman (Linguistics and Languages) was promoted to Associate Professor.

Chantal Tetreault (Anthropology) published a book chapter entitled "Ethnographic Perspectives on Panel Studies and Longitudinal Research" (in *Using Panel Data in the Sociolinguistic Study of Variation and Change*

[Routledge, 2017]). She also presented a paper (with Sara Tahir) at the 2017 American Anthropological Association meeting entitled "Hijabi Homeland."

Sitara Thobani (Residential College in the Arts and Humanities) published a book entitled *Indian Classical Dance and the Making of Postcolonial National Identities: Dancing on Empire's Stage* (Routledge, 2017).

Karin Zitzewitz was recently appointed interim chair of the Department of Art, Art History, and Design (AAHD).

Snapshots of the 2018 MSP Annual Conference (“Locating Muslim Cinema[s]”)



AWARDS (2017-18)

Undergraduate Student Award—Charles A. and Marjorie A. Gliozzo Scholarship

Feeha Hassan (Nutritional Sciences; Arabic)

Graduate Student Paper/Essay Prize

Lance Wheatley (Education)

Faculty Awards

Conference Travel

Kaveh Askari (English), Brahim Chakrani (Linguistics & Languages), S. Pillai Eswaran (English), Emine Evered (History), Kyle Evered (Geography), Laura Fair (History), Mara Leichtman (Anthropology), Deborah Margolis (Libraries), and Riyad Shahjahan (Education)

Research Travel

Laura Fair (History) and Najib Hourani (Anthropology)

Course Buyout

Emine Evered (History) and Monir Moniruzzaman (Anthropology)

MSP 2018-19 awards announcements will be circulated in late September, with a deadline of Dec. 21

MUSLIM STUDIES PROGRAM HISTORY AND MISSION



Established at MSU in 2006 and housed in International Studies and Programs, the Muslim Studies Program coordinates research, teaching, and outreach about Muslims and Muslim-majority societies and states. Additionally, it organizes lectures, workshops, and conferences on a wide range of topics that reflect the rich diversity of Muslims and Muslim communities around the world. The MSP is unique in the sense that instead of a regional focus, it has a global view of Muslims and Muslim-majority societies and states. It is an interdepartmental and interdisciplinary center whose faculty has appointments in various disciplines at MSU.



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Muslim Studies Minor for Undergraduate Students

The Minor in Muslim Studies, administered by James Madison College, is available as an elective to students who are enrolled in bachelor's degree programs at Michigan State University. The minor provides students with the opportunity for sustained study of Muslim societies and Islam in a range of disciplines and topics.

With the approval of the department that administers the student's degree program, courses that are

used to satisfy the requirements of the minor may also be used to satisfy the requirements for the bachelor's degree.

The student's program of study must be approved by the Muslim Studies Minor Coordinator, Professor Waseem El-Rayes (elrayes@msu.edu) prior to enrollment in any course. For more information, please visit:

muslimstudies.isp.msu.edu/students/undergrad-specialization

Sign up for the biweekly e-newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/ci08p1>

If you would like to support the MSU Muslim Studies Program through a financial contribution, please visit <http://www.giveto.msu.edu/give.html>, or send a check to: University Development, Michigan State University, 300 Spartan Way, East Lansing, MI 48824-1005. Please make checks payable to "Michigan State University," with Muslim Studies on the memo line of your check. Thank you for considering a gift.

The Muslim Studies Program Fall 2018 Calendar

Please note: This is a partial list of our fall events.

All events will be announced on our listserv.

Thu. Sept. 13, 2:30pm-4:00pm, 115 International Center: “The Crisis in Yemen” panel featuring (in alphabetical order) Mohammed Ayoub, Summer Issawi, Russell Lucas, and Reza Nassiri

Wed. Sept. 19, 3:00pm-4:30pm, 303 International Center: Christiane Gruber (University of Michigan), “Idols and Figural Images in Islam: A Brief Dive into a Perennial Debate”

Fri. Sept. 28, 11:00am-1:00pm, 302 International Center: Muslim Studies Program Core Faculty Meeting

Mon. Oct. 1, 7:00pm, 115 International Center: Dalia Mogahed (Institute for Social Policy and Understanding; former advisor to President Obama), “Muslims and US Politics.”

Wed. Oct. 17, 3:00pm, B310 Wells Hall: A Presentation by MSU Artist-in-Residence Qais Assali

Wed. Oct. 24, 7:00pm, B119 Wells Hall: Filmmaker Sam Kadi visits MSU to show and discuss his Syrian documentary film *Little Gandhi*

Tue. Oct. 30, 7:00-9:00pm, MSU Library (Green Room): *Muslim Journeys* Book Club Discussion of Khaled Beydoun’s *American Islamophobia: Understanding the Roots and Rise of Fear*, led by Nazita Lajevardi

Thu. Nov. 1, 12:00pm, 303 International Center: Amr Abdel-Azim, “Islamic Architecture: An Introduction”

Looking ahead: Our 12th annual conference (theme: “Education under Siege”) will be on **April 11-12, 2019**.

Sign up for the biweekly e-newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/ci08p1>



United Arab Emirates

Dubai in the UAE: The Globalization of Consumerism and Community

Semester(s) Available:
Winter Break 2018:
Dates abroad: 12/27/2018 - 01/05/2019 (tentative)

Minimum Credits:
Four (4) for Winter Break 2018

Program Application Deadline(s):
October 1, 2018 for Winter Break 2018

Scholarship Information:
<http://bit.ly/EAscholarships>

Courses:
ARB491
GSAH391
IAH211D
MC325

Requirements:
Minimum GPA 2.00
Standing - Status - Sophomore minimum

Cost:
Program Fee: \$2,300.00
Estimated Additional Cost: \$3,220.00
(Winter Break 2017)**

Tuition is not included for most programs. See program's webpage for details.

** IMPORTANT: This is last year's program fee and should be used as an estimate only when calculating costs for this program. The current program fee will be posted as soon as it is finalized.

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Discover Dubai and Experience the United Arab Emirates

This program explores the cultural, social, and political effects of contemporary globalization on a city that seems to represent the divergent outcomes of today's capitalism. Dubai has rapidly modernized in recent decades along with the rest of the country of the United Arab Emirates. But, the Emirati community has had to struggle to reconcile the rapid economic development with norms, traditions, and attitudes. The city has also attracted incredible wealth, but also significant population of migrants that has made Emiratis a minority in their own country. These contradictory economic, and social conditions offer the opportunity to discuss the importance of changing contexts to cultural communities. This tension is highlighted by the observation of the remembrance of traditions of the past in the midst of great plans for building a social and physical landscape for the future.

Students will explore these themes in Dubai as well as in visits to other cities in the United Arab Emirates. The program includes experiencing Dubai's world famous New Year's Eve fireworks and celebrations.

Students will be able to choose 4 credits from Arabic, Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities, IAH, and James Madison courses.

Registered participants may be eligible for scholarships from the sponsoring units.

More details about this program can be found at...
<http://osa.isp.msu.edu/Programs/uaeconsumerismwb.html>

This flyer is intended to provide an overview of this Education Abroad program. Interested students should visit the program's Web page (URL indicated above) for further details such as specific course and cost information. Program fees, dates, and arrangements are subject to change, due to unforeseen considerations.

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