Latent and Manifest Islamophobia
Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley
Speakers Biographies

Panel One

Chair: Munir Jiwa, Director, GTU Center for Islamic Studies

Munir Jiwa is the Founding Director of the Center for Islamic Studies and Associate Professor of Islamic Studies at the Graduate Theological Union, and a visiting scholar at the Institutions and Governance Program at UC Berkeley. He holds a PhD in Anthropology from Columbia University and a Masters in World Religions from Harvard Divinity School. His research interests include Islam and Muslims in the West, media, aesthetics, secularism and religious formation. He is the recipient of many awards and grants from the Andrew Mellon Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Ford Foundation, Henry Luce Foundation, and the Social Science Research Council. Since 1995 he has worked with Religions for Peace on interreligious youth programs around the world. Currently, he is serving on the Islamic Studies Advisory Group for Public Education at Stanford University, and on the Steering Committee for the Contemporary Islam group at the AAR. He has a manuscript under review, titled, *Exhibiting Muslims: Art, Politics and Identity in New York City.*

1. JAIDEEP SINGH, Cal State, East Bay
*Producing Hate Violence: Interrogating the Role of the Media and the State*

Jaideep Singh holds a B.A. in History, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Comparative Ethnic Studies from UC Berkeley. He has taught Ethnic Studies courses at several universities, including UCLA, UC Davis, UC Berkeley, Oberlin College and CSU East Bay, where he held the Ranjit Singh Sabharwal Chair in Sikh and Punjabi Studies. In 1996, he co-founded the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF), the nation's first Sikh American mediawatch and civil rights advocacy organization. His first book manuscript focuses on analyzing the broader implications of three pre-9/11, grassroots, Sikh American political movements. Dr. Singh has also written extensively about the Sikh American community’s intense encounters with domestic terrorism in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001, and how religious identity has become racialized as a consequence. He is currently working on three book-length projects examining Sikh American history, and the community’s ongoing encounter with a national climate that reproduces hate violence.

2. KAMEL MEZITI, Doctor of the Sorbonne University, Paris, France
*French « Laïcité », a “modern” tool of stigmatization of Muslims*


Dr. Kamel MEZITI Author, Historian of religions, Doctor of the Sorbonne University – Paris. Dr. Meziti has been deeply involved in interfaith dialogue and building civilizational bridges. In addition, as a researcher and historian, his fields of investigation cover up Muslim minorities and the treatment of Islamic presence in secularized environment, the promotion of "working together" and "living together": more generally Kamel Meziti has been working with others to promote mutual understanding and knowledge in order to reduce ignorance, stereotypes and contribute to the edification of a more caring world.

3. KHALED A. BEYDOUN, Critical Race Studies Fellow, UCLA School of Law
Between Muslim and White: The Legal Construction of Arab-American Identity

4. MELINDA Q. BRENNAN, Indiana University Bloomington
Unintelligible White Bombers: Animus and Deadly Boundaries

Melinda Brennan is a doctoral student in the department of Gender Studies at Indiana University Bloomington, and holds a Masters in Sociology. Her research focuses on conflation of racism and Islamophobia in mainstream American media, and gendered embodiment of fashionable and modesty. She has a forthcoming publication (2014) in the anthology Unveiling Fashion: Gender, Islam, and Global Modernities entitled, “Ubiquitous Folds, Ordinary Cloth: Unsafe Bodies of Muslim Women.

Panel Two

Chair: Mahan Mirza, Dean of Faculty, Zaytuna College

Dr. Mahan Mirza is the Dean of Faculty at Zaytuna College. He earned his PhD in religious studies from Yale University (2010), and an MA in the study of Islam and Christian-Muslim relations from Hartford Seminary (2003). Having studied in traditional Muslim, interfaith, and secular academic settings, Dr. Mirza engages in the study of Islam from multiple perspectives. He has taught a range of courses over the years, including Arabic, Islamic history, western religious traditions, the life of the Prophet Muhammad, history of science in Islamic societies, Hadith, the Qur’an, logic, rhetoric, law, and ethics at Yale University (summer 2005-6), California State University, Chico (2007-2009), the University of Notre Dame (2009-2011), and Zaytuna College (2012-present). Among his publications are the recent Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought, for which he served as assistant editor, as well as an article on “al-Biruni’s thought and legacy,” which was the topic of his PhD dissertation. While in Berkeley, Dr. Mirza is also a visiting scholar at the Graduate Theological Union with the Center for Islamic Studies.

1. SAEED A. KHAN, Wayne State University, Michigan
Islamophobia, the Conservative Movement and the Creation of the Muslim Menace Through a Reassessment of Self vs. Other Discourse: More “Self” than “Other?”

Saeed A. Khan is currently in the Department of History and Lecturer in the Department of Near East & Asian Studies at Wayne State University- Detroit, Michigan, where he teaches Islamic and Middle East and History, Islamic Civilizations and History of Islamic Political Thought. He is
also Adjunct Professor in Islamic Studies at the University of Detroit-Mercy and at Rochester College, co-teaching a course on Muslim-Christian Diversity. With areas of focus including US policy, globalization, Middle East and Islamic Studies, as well as genomics and bioethics, Mr. Khan has been a contributor to several media agencies, such as C-Span, NPR, Voice of America and the National Press Club, as well as newspapers and other outlets, and is also a consultant on Islamic and Middle East affairs for the BBC. In addition, he has served as consultant to the US-Arab Economic Forum. Most recently, Mr. Khan has founded the Center for the Study of Trans-Atlantic Diasporas, a think tank and policy center examining and comparing the condition of ethnic immigrant groups in North America and Europe, consulting the US and UK governments on their respective Muslim communities.

2. FATIMA DADABHOY, Senior Civil Rights Attorney, CAIR Greater LA Chapter
Islamophobia & Mosque Construction: The role of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act and its Loopholes

Fatima Dadabhoy obtained her BA in History with an emphasis on Middle Eastern History from California State University, Long Beach. She received her J.D. degree from Santa Clara University School of Law. After graduating, Ms. Dadabhoy served as a law clerk for the Civil Rights Department at CAIR-LA, handling incident reports and immigration cases related to naturalization delays. Prior to joining CAIR-LA as the Civil Rights Attorney, she worked in private practice for a small civil litigation firm in Chino Hills. She primarily handled cases in the area of Employment Law. Ms. Dadabhoy later left the firm to open up her own practice. However, her main interest remained civil rights work and she eagerly joined the CAIR-LA staff in August of 2011 to pursue such work on behalf of the American-Muslim community. Ms. Dadabhoy is currently handling cases in the areas of employment discrimination, school bullying and mosque construction. In 2013, she successfully led the effort to bring a US citizen forcibly exiled in South Asia by US law enforcements back home to his family in Southern California. Her civil rights work has been featured in numerous media outlets including ABC, CBS, KPCC and the LA Times.

3. SANA SAEED, Senior Editor, Islawmix
Memes, Hijabs and the Shaykh: Constructing Islam and Muslims Through Humor, Headlines and Click Culture

Sana Saeed is the Senior Editor of islawmix, a project dedicated to clarifying Islamic law in US media coverage. She has an MA in Islamic Studies from McGill University. Her work has appeared and been featured in the Guardian, Huffington Post, BBC, Buzzfeed, PolicyMic, Montréal Serai, ReadWriteWeb, Racialicious and The Islamic Monthly.

4. MAHA JACOBS, California State University, East Bay
The Meme of the “Ungrateful” Muslims

Maha Jacobs is a Master of Arts degree candidate in Communication at California State University, East Bay. Ms. Jacobs’s academic interest is inter-cultural and international communication, focusing on Islamophobia, social justice, extremism, and conflict resolution.
Ms. Jacobs is also employed as a Public Speaking Teaching Associate in the Communication Department.

Panel Three

Chair: Zara Zimbardo, Interdisciplinary Studies, California Institute of Integral Studies

Zara Zimbardo holds a M.A. in Cultural Anthropology and Social Transformation and B.A. in Religious Studies, and is an Interdisciplinary Studies faculty at the California Institute of Integral Studies. She is an anti-oppression facilitator and consultant, and co-founder of anti-racist feminist resource and training group the White Noise Collective. On the National Council of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the nation’s oldest interfaith peace organization, Zara has worked in solidarity with activists resisting militarism in the United States, Palestine/Israel and Colombia. She has a background in independent media as producer, host and interviewer in current events television programs, and leads workshops in critical media literacy at schools throughout the Bay Area.

1. PAOLA BACCHETTA, University of California, Berkeley

Queer Trajectories of Latent and Manifest Islamophobia in Italy and France

Paola Bacchetta is Associate Professor of Gender and Women’s Studies at University of California, Berkeley. She is former Director of Berkeley’s Gender Consortium and of its Beatrice Bain Research Group (center for research on gender in its intersectionalities with race, class, sexualities, colonialism and religion). Her areas of research and teaching include: transnational feminist and queer of color theory; postcolonial and decolonial theory; feminist, queer of color and right-wing social political, social and culture movements. Her books include: Gender in the Hindu Nation (sole author); Right-Wing Women: From Conservatives to Extremists across the Globe (contributing co-editor with Margaret Power); Trans-Q Fem: Elementi per una critica femminista queer e transnazionale (Trans-Q Fem: Elements for a Queer Transnational Feminist Critique, contributing co-editor with Laura Fantone). She is contributing co-editor with Jules Falquet and Norma Alarcón of Théories Décoloniales Féministes et Queers: Interventions Ch/Xicanas et Latinas Etatsuniennes. (Decolonial Feminist and Queer Theories: Ch/Xicana and U.S. Latina Interventions, Cahiers du CEDREF, 2012). She has published about forty articles, many of which address Islamophobia, racism, gender and sexualities in the U.S., France and India.

2. HUMA DAR, University of California, Berkeley

Latent and Manifest Islamophobia in Indian Occupied Kashmir: Queerphilic Imperialism and Hindu-homonationalism

Huma Dar is a Lecturer in the Asian American & Asian Diasporas Studies Program of the Ethnic Studies Department at University of California, Berkeley. Dar's work is focused on the intersections and co-formations of race, religion, class, caste, gender, sexuality, and national politics of South Asia and South Asian diasporas, centered on intellectual and political activism for social justice. Dar writes and teaches about literature and cinema from South Asia and the Global South; critical theories of race, gender, and sexuality; post-colonialism and visuality;
transnational feminisms; cultural studies; Kashmir and Kashmiri Freedom Movement; Muslim femininities and masculinities; Islamophobia, racialization and war. Dar is a feature writer at *Pulse Media*, a collaborative political, activist, and academic weblog.

3. **FOUZIEYHA TOWGHI, University of California, Berkeley**

*Latent Islamophobia and the Epistemic Limits of Human Rights Discourse on “Honor Killings”*

Fouzieyha Towghi is a Visiting Scholar in the Gender and Women’s Studies Department at University of California, Berkeley. She is focused on the critical studies of medicine, health, and the body at the intersection of postcolonial feminist theories of race, gender, and sexuality. Her work traces the effects on South Asian women’s bodies and social relations of the globalization of biomedicine, biomedical technologies, and health/human rights policies. She has written on the cultural politics of reproductive health; the debates on the role of midwives and traditional medicines in women’s care; healing; impact of health-development policies on local midwifery practices and women’s access to care consequent to the Millennium Development Goals outlined for the reduction of global maternal mortality rates; the risks for poor and rural women of pharmaceuticalizing homebirths in Pakistan; and the biopolitics of localizing HPV vaccines in India. Towghi is currently writing her book, *Scales of Marginality: Re-Making Midwives, the Tribal, and Medicines in Postcolonial Balochistan*.

4. **MINDY WYNN TAUBERG, University of California, Irvine**

*Can There Be Mutual Avowal Between FEMEN and Muslim Women Against FEMEN in the Debate Over Equality for Women?*

Mindy Wynn Tauberg is a doctoral student of anthropology at UC Irvine. Her dissertation research will focus on the ways in which participation in interfaith organizations influences identity formation among Muslim American youth. Other research interests include the Muslim redefinition feminism, and LGBT advocacy in American Muslim communities.

**Panel Four**

*Chair: Ramon Grosfoguel, Professor of Ethnic Studies, UC Berkeley*

Ramón Grosfoguel is Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and a Senior Research Associate of the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme in Paris. He has published many articles and books on the political economy of the world-system and on Caribbean migrations to Western Europe and the United States.

1. **HOURIA BOUTELDJA, Parti des indigènes de la république, France**

*The European Extreme Right and Islamophobia: A Decolonial Perspective*

Houria Bouteldja

Houria Bouteldja is the founder member of a french decolonial party : the indigenous of the republic. She published numerous articles and participated to numerous international conferences around the world, particularly on questions linked to islamophobia, race and
feminism. She is the author of a political essay "We are the indigenous of the republic" with Sadri Khiari who is a Tunisian and decolonial activist.

2. ZAHRA BILOO, Executive Director, CAIR Northern California
Growing in Faith: California Muslim Youth Experiences with Bullying, Harassment and Religious Accommodation in Schools

Zahra Biloo joined CAIR-SFBA in 2009, and immediately embraced her roles as community organizer and civil rights advocate. Her work with CAIR has been highlighted in local and national media including CBS, MSNBC, the San Jose Mercury News and NPR. Most recently, she served as lead counsel in a successful lawsuit against Abercrombie & Fitch for firing a Muslim woman after she refused to remove her hijab.

A 2013 recipient of the South Asian Bar Association of Northern California's Trailblazer Award and a 2014 recipient of the National Lawyers Guild-SF Chapter's Unsung Hero Award, Zahra came to CAIR with a background in employment and labor rights advocacy. While in college, she worked with the California Faculty Association on issues including faculty salaries and the defunding of public higher education. Zahra graduated Cum Laude from CSU Long Beach and earned her J.D. from UC Hastings College of Law. She was admitted to the California Bar in 2009.

3. YAMAM SALAH, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Asian Law Caucus
Remorse without reform: the lingering logic of the Korematsu case

Yaman Salahi is a Staff Attorney in the National Security and Civil Rights Program at Advancing Justice-Asian Law Caucus, resisting post-9/11 infringement of the civil rights and liberties of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities. Yaman was previously an Arthur Liman Fellow at the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, where he worked on litigation related to government surveillance programs at the local and federal level, in addition to community education, public advocacy, and other non-litigation initiatives. Yaman has a Bachelor's Degree in Rhetoric from UC Berkeley and graduated from Yale Law School, where he worked with the Workers and Immigrants Rights Advocacy Clinic to stop racial profiling by the East Haven Police Department against Latinos through public awareness, community mobilization, and civil rights litigation.

4. IBRAHIM BECHROURI, French Institute of Geopolitics of the University Paris VIII
The Institutionalization of Islamophobia: What Narratives led to the Surveillance Program of Muslim of the NYPD?

Ibrahim Bechrouri is a 23 years old graduate student from the French Institute of Geopolitics of the University Paris VIII. After research last year about the “Issues and Representations around the United States Foreign Policy in Morocco”, he recently spent five month in New York as a visiting scholar in the Center for the Study of Democracy Toleration and Religion of Columbia University and lead a field research about the Surveillance of Muslim Communities by the New York Police Department.
Panel Five

1. HUMERA JABIR, McGill University, Canada
*Fuelling Hatred: A Critical Look at the Quebec Charter of Values Debate*

Humera Jabir is a second-year law student at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She also writes commentary for the *Toronto Star* and *Maisonneuve Magazine*. Her interest is in the intersection of law and media, and the ways in which fundamental human rights are sustained and undermined by political discourse.

2. SUMBUL ALI-KARAMILI

Sumbul Ali-Karamali grew up in Southern California in an ethnically South Asian, Muslim family. She earned her BA in English from Stanford University and her JD from the University of California at Davis. After practicing corporate law for several years, Sumbul earned her LLM in Islamic law from the University of London’s School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). She has been a teaching assistant in Islamic law at SOAS and a research associate at the Centre of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law in London. Her articles have been published in mainstream publications and legal journals, and she is a regular blogger for The Huffington Post. Her first book, an academically reliable, yet fun-to-read, anecdote-filled introduction to Islam written for the lay reader, is called *The Muslim Next Door: the Qur’an, the Media, and that Veil Thing* and is a Bronze Medal Winner of the 2009 Independent Book Awards. Her second book, written for ages 10 and up, is called *Growing Up Muslim: Understanding the Beliefs and Practices of Islam*. Sumbul is a frequent speaker on Islam-related issues. For more information, please visit www.muslimnextdoor.com.

3. METTURSUN BEYDULLA, Fatih University, Turkey
*Islamophobia in Eastern Asia: An Example from China*

Mettursun Beydulla was born in Xinjiang, China, went to Uyghur schools, studied intensive Chinese and graduated from university preparation courses at the Central Nationalities University in Beijing. He received a BA in History from Shaanxi Normal University in Xi’an and an MA in History and a PhD in Social Anthropology from Ankara University, Turkey. He researched and taught Uyghur at the American University in Cairo in 2006. He came to Harvard in 2007 as a visiting scholar and hosted by the Anthropology Department. Between 2008-2013, He conducted research and taught Uyghur language, literature, and culture at Harvard (EALC) and MIT. He has been teaching and conducting research at Fatih University since July 2013. His interests include the following: national identity, social and identity change among the Uyghurs; Chinese socio-cultural practices in Xinjiang; Uyghur Diasporas; relations between Xinjiang and Central Asia; the social, linguistic, cultural, religious, political, institutional history of the Uyghurs and Xinjiang; and pan-Turkic culture. He is author of “Rural Economy, Environmental Degradation and Economic Disparity: A Case Study in Deryabuyi, Xinjiang, China,” Central Asian Survey 31:2 (2012); “Uyghur Religious and Secular Education and its Interaction with Islam” (1878-2011) in The Turks and Islam (forthcoming); “Economic and Gender Negotiations in Uyghur Marriage: Deryabuyi Wedding Feasts in the Taklamakan Desert”, the Silk Road:

4. ANTONIA OLMOS ALCARAZ, Granada University, Spain

Muslim Immigrant Students in Spain: An Ethnographic Approach to Representation of Identities and Otherness

Antonia Olmos Alcaraz holds a PhD in Social Anthropology (Granada University, 2009). Since 2010 she has been lecturer in Anthropology in Granada University (Spain). She is a member of the Migrations Institute at the same university. Her research interests are Spanish migration policies, identity and otherness, politician discourse of migration, racism and intercultural education.

Panel Six

Chair: Victoria Robinson, Director, American Cultures Program, UC Berkeley

1. AZEEZAH KANJI, Noor Culture Center and Graduate of University of Toronto’s Faculty of Law

The Stranger at the Gate: The Niqab and Discourses of Citizenship in Canada

Azeezah Kanji is Programming Coordinator at Noor Cultural Centre, a Muslim educational and cultural institution in Toronto. A recent graduate of University of Toronto’s Faculty of Law, Azeezah led a student working group developing possible constitutional challenges to Canada’s ban on face coverings at citizenship ceremonies.

2. JEAN FRANCOIS BRAULT, Paris 8 University, France

Islamophobia Against Veiled Muslim Women in France: Should we talk about Veilophobia

After graduating with degrees in Anthropology and Political Science, Jean-François Brault is completing a MA in Religious Studies at the EHESS, the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, located in Paris. His research work focuses on Muslim sexual minorities in the French public space as well as the American organization Muslims for Progressive Values. In addition to his academic activities, he has published several articles in the French newspaper Le Nouvel Observateur regarding the defense of individual liberty and the right to wear the veil.

3. HEATHER RASTOVAC, UC Berkeley

Fraught Frames of Freedom: French Representations of Exilic Iranian Dancer Afshin Ghaffarian
Heather Rastovac, PhD candidate in Performance Studies (UC Berkeley, Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender, and Sexualities), BA in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (University of Washington 2008). Her dissertation examines diasporic Iranian dancers and performance artists, considering how diasporic subjectivities are negotiated and expressed through these artists' works.

4. JUNAID RANA, Asian American Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Decolonizing Racism and the Muslim Question

Junaid Rana is an associate professor and associate head of Asian American Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with appointments in the Department of Anthropology, the Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, and the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory. His publications have appeared in Cultural Dynamics, Souls, and the edited anthologies Pakistani Diasporas (OUP, 2009) State of White Supremacy (Stanford, 2011), Reinventing Race, Reinventing Racism (Brill, 2012), Dispatches from Pakistan (Leftword, 2012; Minnesota 2014), Between the Middle East and the Americas (Michigan, 2013), and The Sun Never Sets (NYU, 2013). He is the author of the book Terrifying Muslims: Race and Labor in the South Asian Diaspora (Duke, 2011), winner of the 2013 Association of Asian American Studies Book Award in the Social Sciences.

Panel Seven

Chair: Chair: Nalini Ghuman, Associate Professor of Music, Mills College

Nalini Ghuman is an ethno/musicologist whose research focuses on orientalism, nationalism, and identity. Her book, Resonances of the Raj: India in the English Musical Imagination, 1897-1947, is forthcoming with Oxford University Press (15 June 2014). In it, Ghuman reintegrates music into the cultural history of Empire and challenges narratives of a home-grown musical ‘Englishness’ and the post-colonial ‘discovery’ of Indian music. She has presented programs on BBC Radio and published extended essays in the volumes Western Music and Race (Cambridge University Press, 2007) and Exhibiting the Empire (Manchester University Press, forthcoming). Nalini Ghuman is Associate Professor of Music and Asian studies at Mills College (Oakland), where she is currently teaching a graduate seminar on music and conflict, and where she inaugurated a course on the music of the Indian subcontinent – the first in the College’s history. She was educated at Oxford University (BA, first-class honours), King’s College, London (Master’s, distinction), and the University of California, Berkeley (PhD).

1. ILYSE R. MORGENSTEIN FUERST, University of Vermont
Muslim Subjects and Citizens: Discursive Ties, Lingering Orientalism, and Islamophobias

Ilyse R. Morgenstein Fuerst is an Assistant Professor of Religion at the University of Vermont. She specializes in South Asian Islam, the development of categories of religion in South Asia, and late Mughal and early British colonial history in India. Her recent research attends to discourses of subjecthood, citizenship, and religious identity of Muslims during the British Raj.
2. DEEPA KUMAR, Associate Professor of Media Studies, Rutgers University

*Islamophobia in the Obama Era: Liberalism and the National Security State*

Deepta Kumar is an Associate Professor of Media Studies at Rutgers University. She is the author of *Outside the Box: Corporate Media, Globalization and the UPS Strike* and *Islamophobia and the Politics of Empire*. Kumar is currently working on a third book on the cultural politics of the War on Terror. She has published dozens of articles in scholarly journals as well as independent media. She has also shared her expertise on Islamophobia, the Arab uprisings, women and Islam as well as related topics on the BBC, NPR, USA Today, Philadelphia Inquirer, Hurriyat Daily News (Turkey), Al Jazeera and other national and international news media outlets. You can read her articles and watch her lectures at deepakumar.net.

3. VARSHA BASHEER, University of Kerala, India

*Cracks in ‘Secular Modernity’: Exploring Orientalism and its Indian Implications*

Varsha Basheer is currently a Doctoral Candidate in English Literature at the University of Kerala, India. She has been teaching English as Second Language for undergraduates and is a human rights activist working closely with organisations promoting interfaith dialogue and inclusive action. She has been engaged in academic endeavours trying to focus on how misconstrued media /literary representations propagates Islamophobia and jeopardizes religious harmony in India. Her research interests include critical Media studies, Comparative Religious Studies, Religious Pluralism and Secular Modernity. She intends to pursue Post- Doctoral research in Women Studies in Religion, focused on Muslim women in India.

4. ARUN KUNDNANI, New York University and John Jay and Queens Colleges, NY

*Racialization and radicalization: Islamophobia and the surveillance of Muslims in the US*

Dr. Arun Kundnani is an adjunct professor at New York University and at John Jay and Queens Colleges, CUNY, teaching classes at the intersections of media, race, and security studies. His latest book is *The Muslims are Coming! Islamophobia, extremism, and the domestic War on Terror* (Verso Books, 2014).

Panel Eight

Chair: Som Pourfarzaneh, Associate Director, GTU Center for Islamic Studies

Som Pourfarzaneh is the Associate Director of Public Programs and Lecturer at the Center for Islamic Studies, Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. He holds a Ph.D. in Theology from the Graduate Theological Union, as well as a Master of Arts in Religious Leadership for Social Change from Starr King School for the Ministry, and a Bachelor of Arts in Integrative Biology from the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests include Islam and Muslims in the West, media, social media, cultural production, Islamophobia, social justice, and online communities. He has a professional background in social media and online communities, having worked as a Community Management Specialist at Perfect World Entertainment in Redwood Shores, CA, and is a Staff Writer in the video games industry press.
1. AHMET TEMEL, University of California, Santa Barbara

*Shariaphobia, A Recurring Obsession: Sharia as a Means to Justify Islamophobia*

Ahmet Temel, Ph.D. Candidate at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Religious Studies, is currently at finishing stages of his dissertation on the formation of Islamic legal theory.

2. NANCY A. KHALIL, Harvard University

*Jihad: American Media and Muslim Theology*

Nancy A. Khalil is a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology at Harvard University researching the politics of American Islam. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, Bucerius Zeit-Stiftung, MSA National, and Harvard University. Prior to her doctoral studies, she worked as Muslim Chaplain at Wellesley College and Advisor to their Multi-faith Living and Learning Community.

3. ALEJANDRO BEUTEL, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding

*What Makes a Coalition Effective? Three Cases of “Success”: Implications for American Muslims and their Advocate Allies*

Alejandro Beutel is ISPU's Policy and Research Engagement Fellow. In this capacity he will be contributing to research management, spearhead outreach to policy stakeholders in Washington, D.C., and actively contribute to the growth and development of ISPU's 2050 Project. Prior to joining ISPU Mr. Beutel served as a research consultant to several think-tanks, policy advocacy non-profits, and corporate clients. From 2009 to 2012 he was the Government and Policy Analyst at the Washington, D.C. office of the Muslim Public Affairs Council where he built strategic relationships with government agencies and authored several policy and issue publications in areas such as national security, immigration reform, and religious liberty. He has a Master of Public Policy from University of Maryland, College Park.

4. SAHER SELOD, Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts

*Flying While Muslim: Muslim American Men and Women’s Racial Experiences in U.S. Airports*

Saher Selod is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Simmons College. Her research interests include racialization, religion, gender and citizenship. Her current research projects examine how Muslim Americans experience racialization in the United States through their de-Americanization or cultural exclusion from social citizenship. She specifically focuses on how Muslim men and Muslim women experience gendered forms of racialization. She is the co-editor of a special issue on the “Islamophobia and the Racialization of Muslims” in *Critical Sociology*. She has published articles on the racialization of Muslims in *Sociology Compass* and *Critical Sociology*. She is currently working on her book manuscript entitled “Collateral Damage: The Racialization of Muslim Americans after 9/11.” At Simmons College, Dr. Selod teaches courses on Gender and Islam, Islamophobia, Race and the Media, and Social Inequalities.
Panel Nine:

Chair: Munir Jiwa, GTU Center for Islamic Studies

1. COLIN McLAUGHLIN-ALCOCK, University of California, Irvine
   *Al-Jazeera and the Lara Logan Story: Power and Positionality in American News Coverage of the Arab Spring*

Colin McLaughlin-Alcock is a graduate student in the department of anthropology at UC Irvine. His research focuses on processes of cultural representation in news coverage of the Middle East.

2. KALIA ABIADE, Center for New Community, Chicago, IL
   *Following the Anti-Immigrant Roadmap: Using Fear and Security Rhetoric to Win State-Level Policy Fights*

Kalina Abiade is the Program Coordinator at the Center for New Community, a national civil rights organization that challenges organized racism and xenophobia. She works with the Center's national and local partners to challenge nativist, anti-immigrant, and anti-Muslim discrimination.

3. CHLOE DIAMOND-LENOW, University of California, Santa Barbara
   *Constructing the Human(e) and Inhuman(e): “Savings” Dogs from Iraq*

Chloe Diamond-Lenow is a PhD Candidate in Feminist Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Chloe is co-convenor and founder of UC Santa Barbara’s HumAnmality Research Focus Group. Her dissertation “Boundary Affects: Race, Gender, Sex and Species” analyzes how discourses about and affective investments in human and animal relationships circulate in the “war on terror” to (re)produce and undo the racialized, gendered and sexualized boundary between the human and animal.

4. WILLIAM BARYIO
   *Muslim Charities in Europe: redefining a positive image of Islam in the public sphere at a grassroots level. Case study of France and Poland.*

William Barylo, PhD candidate at the EHESS (School for Higher Studies in the Social Sciences) in Paris, is a filmmaker and director of "Polish Muslims : an unexpected meeting" documentary. William’s PhD research degree entitled “Islam, a motor for active citizenship?” tries to understand the process and dynamics of Muslim volunteers' commitment to charities in France and Poland. He also piloted a photographic documentary about the Bushinengue people of French Guiana (2008), awarded by a national prize. William works currently as a Research Assistant at The Cordoba Foundation in London and is head of the Light Inc. charity, setting up regular multicultural ethnographic workshops for young people in London.
Panel Ten

Chair: Elsadig Elsheikh, Haas Institute for Fair and Inclusive Society, UC Berkeley

Elsadig Elsheikh is a researcher and director of the global justice project at the Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society at the University of California-Berkeley, where his research focus on equity and inclusion; global food system; political ecology; politics of underdevelopment; and structural racialization.

He received his MA in social justice & sustainable development, and a graduate diploma in conflict transformation across cultures, both from the SIT’s Graduate Institute. Prior to that he studied political science & world economics, and political economy and international affairs at the Ohio State University and Panteion University in Athens, Greece, respectively.

Elsadig had lectured at Columbia University’s Institute for the Study of Human Rights on conflict theories and historical dialogue, and at the Autonomist University of Barcelona on global food system, and othering and misrepresentation of Muslims/Islam in Europe and the United States.

1. HALIM RANE, Griffith University, Australia

*Latent and Manifest Islamophobia in Australia: Media, Policy and Public Opinion*

Dr. Halim Rane is an Associate Professor of Islamic Studies at Griffith University, Australia, where he is the Deputy Head (Learning & Teaching) of the School of Humanities. Dr Rane has authored numerous journal articles and four books on Islamic and Muslim issues including *Reconstructing Jihad amid Competing International Norms; Islam and Contemporary Civilisation: Evolving Ideas, Transforming Relations; Islam and the Australian News Media* (co-edited with J. Ewart and M. Abdalla); and *Making Australian Foreign Policy on Israel-Palestine: Media Coverage, Public Opinion and Interest Groups* (co-authored with E. Han). Dr Rane also has a forthcoming book entitled *Media Framing of the Muslim World: Crises, Conflicts and Contexts* (co-authored with J. Ewart and J. Martinkus).

2. FARID HAFEZ, Visiting Scholar, Columbia University

*Commemorating 100 Years of Islam in Austria: A Critical Discourse Analysis of the Construction of a Tolerant Austrian ‘we’ During the ‘Islamic Commemorative Year’ in 2012.*

Farid Hafez has a Ph.D. in political science and is the editor of the Yearbook on Islamophobia Studies (www.jahrbuch-islamophobie.de). He lectures at different universities in Austria and is currently a Visiting Scholar at Columbia University. He has published eleven books and many articles in leading international Journals. Contact information: farid.hafez@univie.ac.at

3. CORINNEE TORREKENS, Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

*Rising Islamophobia in Belgium: How Muslims (Counter-)React?*

Corinne Torrekens is researcher at the Group for research on Ethnic Relations, Migration and Equality (GERME) of the Université libre de Bruxelles and Managing Director of the spin-off
program DiverCity. She holds a PhD in social and political sciences. For 10 years, she has been working on the accommodation of Islam in Belgium and the political regulation of Muslim visibility through mosques and the organization of Aid el Adha. She has recently published “The Ban of the Full Face Veil in Belgium: Between Populism and Muslim Visibility Restrictions,” “Political Opportunity and Muslim Leadership in Brussels,” and “Mosques and Municipalities in Belgium: Negotiating Urban Spaces.”

Torrekens is working on the political participation of Muslims in Belgium and to their counter-reactions to the growth of Islamophobia. She was involved in the European FP7 research program Eurislam financially supported by the European Commission. She is also the Belgian Country Coordinator for the European Website on Integration aimed at gathering information on migrant integration. She is also working for the project “Integration policies: Who benefits? The development and use of indicators in integration debates” (MIPEX 2015) led by the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB), and the Migration Policy Group (MPG).

4. HISHAM AIDI, Columbia University

FAVELA (CRESCENT) RISING: Funkeiros, Orishas and Afro-Brazilian Muslim Protest

Hisham Aidi's research interests include the politics of globalization, North-South relations, and social movements. He is currently researching immigration and youth movements in Europe. He received his PhD in political science from Columbia University, and has taught at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), and the David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the African Diaspora at the University of Maryland. He has also worked as a consultant on UNDP's Human Development Report. In 2008, Aidi was named a Carnegie Scholar. In 2010, he was a Global Fellow at the Open Society Foundation. Hisham has written over the past years on African and Afro-diasporan affairs for various magazines including Africana, The New African, ColorLines, Souls, Socialism and Democracy and MERIP.

Panel Eleven

Chair: Colleen Keyes, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, Zaytuna College

Colleen Keyes earned a BA in psychology and Spanish from Clark University, the MA in TESL/TEFL Education at Fairfiled University, the MA in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations from Hartford Seminary, and is a Ph.D. candidate in Religion/Theology at the University of Exeter. Her dissertation is on Edward Said's rhetoric of the religious and the secular in his work on the Islamic world and the problematic of Palestine. Her career as faculty of English, Spanish, and Religion at colleges and universities in the US and the UAE spans four decades. Colleen served five years as Humanities Chairperson at Tunxis Community College in CT, followed by nine years as dean of academic affairs. She currently serves as Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Zaytuna College. Colleen has long been an activist on human rights and justice issues, and an active participant in interfaith dialog. Colleen served as a member of the board of directors of CAIR-CT and was an active member of the Muslim Coalition of CT prior to her move to Berkeley.
1. FAROOQ HASSAN, Visiting Researcher at ACMCU Georgetown University

_American Muslim Minority: Victims of Islamophobia of a Pluralistic Society in the 21st Century_

Faroog Hassan is currently a Fulbright Visiting Scholar for Postdoctoral research at Georgetown University’s Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding under the supervision of Professor Dr. John L. Esposito for the academic year 2013-2014. He obtained his Ph.D degree in Historical development and analysis of principles of Islamic Jurisprudence (Usul al-fiqh) in Urdu from University of Karachi. He completed an advanced course in Arabic and Islamic Studies from the University of Al-Azhar Cairo (Egypt), sponsored by Azhar University. He did M.A in Islamic Studies, secured first position and M.A (equivalent) in Arabic from University of Karachi. Hafiz and Qari (memorized the Quran and learnt art of recitation) and did eight years Dars-e-Nizami course (Dore Hadith) from Darul Ulum Amjadia (an Islamic Seminary) Karachi and completed two years Specialization course in Tafseer (textual and contextual study of the Qur’an) from Islamic Center, Karachi.

He is an Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, Ethics and related issues in the Department of Humanities, NED University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi, Pakistan. He is an author of three books and twenty national and international research articles in English and Urdu. He was invited for lectures to Muslim community and for interfaith dialogue several times from 2009 to 2012 in the US and also presented conference papers in Italy, Malaysia, Cambodia, Indonesia and Pakistan.

2. ITRATH SYED, Simon Fraser University, Canada

_Reliquously Marked Bodies in the Multicultural Sphere_

Itrath Syed is a PhD Candidate in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University where her doctoral project involves an analysis of “moral panics” and Muslim bodies in the West.

3. JILL CLARK & BRADEN STUART, Solomon College, USA

_“I Wouldn’t Want Him in My House:” Manifesting Islamophobia on a College Campus_

4. HAWA

_Modern Techno-Primitives: Post 9/11 Representations of Suicide Bombers_

Hawa graduated with a Media Studies degree from UC Berkeley in 2010 and is the co-founder of Browntourage, an alternative media agency committed to diversity in aesthetics. She collaborates with creatives internationally to increase consciousness in the production of culture. Hawa is a photographer, designer, and writer for Browntourage.com.
Panel Twelve

Chair: Ustadh Abdullah Ali, Faculty, Zaytuna College

Abdullah bin Hamid Ali is a full-time lecturer in Islamic Law and Hadith Science at Zaytuna College in Berkeley, CA. He is a lifelong student of the Islamic tradition being born to Muslim parents having begun a serious study of Islam in his early teens. He attended Temple University for 2 years (1995-1997) prior to pursuing studies that culminated in a 4-year collegiate license (ijaza ’ulya) from the prestigious Al-Qarawiyin University of Fes, Morocco (1997-2001). He holds a BA from the Al-Karaouine/Al-Qarawiyin University’s Faculty of Islamic Law (Shari’a) and an MA in Ethics & Social Theory from The Graduate Theological Union (2009-2012) of Berkeley, CA. He is also pursuing his Phd in Cultural & Historical Studies at GTU as one of the institution’s Presidential Scholars.

A native of Philadelphia, PA, Abdullah relocated with his family by invitation from Zaytuna College’s Board of Trustees in 2007 to the Bay Area to instruct pilot seminarians in the Islamic rational sciences (theology, legal theory, hadith science) after spending 5 years as assistant full-time chaplain at the State Correctional Institution of Chester, PA (SCI Chester). Abdullah also serves as a member of Zaytuna’s Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), and plays a crucial role in curriculum development and pedagogical approaches at the college.

Abdullah is a very active member of the Bay Area community who regularly delivers the Friday service address at a number of mosques, and conducts regularly scheduled online classes via his website: www.lamppostproductions.com. He has also written more than 40 essays in a number of religious and socially relevant topics. His study interests include: critical race theory, intersections between legal trends and national identities, societal influences upon self perception and of the other, Muslim history and the rise of Islam in America, virtue ethics, liberation theology, cultural hermeneutics and standpoint theories, globalization and its effects upon traditional religious communities, restorative justice and the prison industrial complex, and anything that contributes to “humanizing” the peoples of the world.

1. BENJAMIN OPRATKO, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna
   “…two entirely different things”? Concepts of Racism in Recent Literature on Islamophobia

   Mag. Benjamin Opratko, PhD candidate, fellow of the Austrian Academy of Sciences at the Department of Political Science, University of Vienna. Member of the research group “Critical State and Governance Studies” at the Department of Political Science, University of Vienna.

2. NADIA MOHAMMAD, Editor at Altmuslimah.com
   Waiting for our turn: Beyond "hodies and hijabs"

   Nadia Mohammad is an Editor at Altmuslimah.com and a graduate student in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Massachusetts. She received her undergraduate degree in communication and political science from Cedar Crest College and a juris doctorate from Loyola University Chicago.
Dr. Hatem Bazian is the founder and director of the Islamophobia Research and Documentation Project at UC Berkeley Center for Race and Gender, an editor of the Islamophobia Studies Journal and a senior lecturer in the Departments of Near Eastern and Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Bazian is a co-founder, Member of Board of Trustees and Faculty at Zaytuna College. Bazian teaches courses on Islamic Law and Society, Islam in America De-Constructing Islamophobia and Othering of Islam, Religious Studies, and Middle Eastern Studies. Between 2002 and 2007, Bazian also served as an adjunct professor of law at Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. He currently serves as Editor-in-chief, Islamophobia Studies Journal. Bazian is a visiting Professor in Religious Studies at Saint Mary's College of California and adviser to the Religion, Politics and Globalization Center at UC Berkeley. In Spring 2009, he founded the Center for the Study and Documentation of Islamophobia at UC Berkeley, a research unit dedicated to the systematic study of Othering Islam and Muslims.

Recently he was named in the category for Social Justice as one of The Muslim 500; The World’s Most Influential Muslims by The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Center. He received his Ph.D. in Philosophy and Islamic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Bazian also serves as Chair of the Northern California Islamic Council, co-founder and Chair of American Muslims for Palestine, co-founder and Board Member, Dollar for Deen, Board Member of Islamic Scholarship Fund, and Board Member of the Muslim Legal Fund of America.