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Education

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| 1991-1998 | Yale University: Department of Religious Studies
M. A. (1993), M. Phil. (1994), Ph.D. (1998) |
| 1994 | Boğaziçi University, Istanbul: Summer Program in Turkish Language and Culture |
| 1991 | Middlebury College: Summer Program in Intensive Arabic |
| 1987-1991 | Amherst College: A. B. <i>summa cum laude</i> |

Fellowships and Awards

Major Awards

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| 2004-2006 | Charles A. Ryskamp Research Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies |
| 2004-2005 | National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for Faculty |
| Spring 1999 | National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, American Research Institute in Turkey |
| Fall 1998 | Mellon/Sawyer Postdoctoral Fellow for Seminar <i>The Apocalypse in Modern Societies: Millennial Motifs and Movements</i> , Yale Center for International and Area Studies |
| 1998 | Annual Award for the Best Dissertation in Iranian Studies, The Foundation for Iranian Studies |

Small Grants and Pre-Doctoral Fellowships

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| 2005 | Faculty Career Enhancement Grant, Associated Colleges of the Midwest |
| 2003 | Grant for Individual Research, American Academy of Religion |
| 1995-96 | Yale University Dissertation Fellowship |
| 1995 | John F. Enders Fellowship, Yale Graduate School |
| 1991-1995 | Yale University Fellowship |
| 1994 | Yale Center for International and Area Studies Dissertation Fellowship |

Graduate Fellowships for Alumni granted by Amherst College
1992-1994 George Stebbins Moses Memorial Fellowship
1991-1992 Benjamin Goodall Symon, Jr., Memorial Fellowship
1991 Five College Summer Scholarship for Arabic Language Training

Collaborative Award

2008 Seed Grant for Project "The Assemblies of Lovers: Art, Poetry, and Religion in Persianate Islam," Stanford Humanities Center (with Jamal Elias, Kishwar Rizvi, and Devin DeWeese)

Publications

Books

Bodies of God's Friends: Sufis in Persianate Islamic Societies. New York: Columbia University Press (forthcoming, 2010).

Baha' ad-Din Naqshband: Hagiographic Portraits of a Sufi Saint from Bukhara. Classics of Western Spirituality. Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press (in preparation).

Fazlallah Astarabadi and the Hurufis. Makers of the Muslim World Series. Oxford: OneWorld Publications, 2005.

Messianic Hopes and Mystical Visions: The Nūrbakhshīya Between Medieval and Modern Islam. Studies in Comparative Religion. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2003.

PhD Dissertation

"Between Mysticism and Messianism: The Life and Thought of Muḥammad Nūrbakṣ̄ (d. 1464)," Yale University, 1998.

Articles

"A Compiler's Choices: Apocalyptic Hermeneutics in a Manuscript of Ḥurūfī Literature." In *Islamicate Apocalypsis: Textual, Historical and Methodological Explorations*, edited by Todd Lawson. Albany: SUNY Press (in preparation).

"Paradise and Hell Materialized: Hurufi Interpretations of the Qur'an's Description of Eternal Life." In *Roads to Paradise: Eschatology and Concepts of the Hereafter in Islam*, edited by Todd Lawson and Sebastian Guenther. Leiden: Brill (in preparation).

"Narrating Sight: Dreaming as Visual Training in Persianate Sufi Hagiography." In *Dreams in Islamic Societies: Exploring the Muslim Subconsciousness*, edited by Alexander Knysh and Ozgen Felek (in preparation).

"Muḥammad in Ṣūfī Eyes: Prophetic Legitimacy in Medieval Iran and Central Asia." In *Cambridge Companion to Muhammad*, edited by Jonathan Brockopp. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2009.

"Resisting Assimilation: Encounters with a Small Islamic Sect in Contemporary Pakistan." In *Engaging South Asian Religions: Boundaries, Appropriations and Resistances*, edited by Peter Gottschalk and Mathew Schmalz. Albany: SUNY Press, forthcoming 2009.

- "Body." In *Key Themes for the Study of Islam*, edited by Jamal Elias. Oxford: OneWorld Publications, forthcoming 2009: 72-92, 388-390.
- "Muslims in the History of Kashmir, Ladakh, and Baltistan: A Critical View on Persian and Urdu Sources," *Rivista degli Studi Orientali*, Supplemento 2 (2009), 133-144.
- "Islamic Tradition and Celibacy." In *Celibacy and Religious Traditions*, edited by Carl Olson. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007: 133-150.
- "The Alphabetical Body: Ḥurūfī Reflections on Language, Script, and the Human Form." In *Proceedings of the Symposium Religious Texts in Iranian Languages*, edited by Fereydoun Vahman and Claus Pederson. Copenhagen: Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab, 2007: 279-292.
- "Shah Isma'īl and the Qizilbash: Cannibalism in the Religious History of Early Safavid Iran," *History of Religions* 45, no. 3 (February 2006): 234-56.
- "After the Messiah: The Nurbakhshīyya in Late Timurid and Early Safavid Times." In *Society and Culture in the Early Modern Middle East: Studies on Iran in the Safavid Period*, edited by Andrew Newman. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2003: 295-313.
- "Deciphering the Cosmos from Creation to Apocalypse: The Hurufiyya Movement and Medieval Islamic Esotericism." In *Imagining the End: Visions of Apocalypse from the Ancient Middle East to Contemporary America*, edited by Abbas Amanat and Magnus Bernhardsson. London: I. B. Tauris, 2002: 168-184.
- "The Imam's Return: Messianic Leadership in Late Medieval Shi'ism." In *The Most Learned of the Shi'a*, edited by Linda Walbridge. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001: 21-33.
- "The *Risālat al-hudā* of Muḥammad Nūrbaḳṣ: Critical Edition with Introduction," *Rivista degli Studi Orientali* 75, nos. 1-4 (2001): 87-137.
- "Enshrining Divinity: The Death and Memorialization of Faḏlallāh Astarābādī in Ḥurūfī Thought," *Muslim World* 90, nos. 3 & 4 (Fall 2000): 289-308.

Encyclopedia Entries

- "Anarkali," "Bakhsh, Data Ganj," "Multan," "Nurbakhshīya," and "Muslim Saints" in *Encyclopedia of Modern Asia* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2002).
- "Anger," "Consolation," and "Eternity" in *Encyclopaedia of the Qur'ān* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2001-2).

Book Reviews

Journal of the American Academy of Religion, The Sixteenth Century Journal: The Journal of Early Modern Studies, International Journal of Middle East Studies, Speculum, The Journal of Asian Studies, Religion and the Arts, Middle East Studies Association Bulletin, Digest of Middle East Studies, Religious Studies Review

Invited Presentations

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| May 2009 | "Paradise and Hell Materialized: Hurufi Interpretations of the Qur'an's Description of Eternal Life," University of Göttingen, Germany |
| May 2009 | "Remembering the Ṣūfī Past During the Reign of Shāh 'Abbās," The Age of Shāh 'Abbās Conference, British Museum, London |

- April 2009 "Sufi Dream Narratives as Historical Sources," Dreams and Visions in Islamic Societies Conference, The University of Michigan
- May 2008 "Roads to Sufi Masters: The Theme of Travel in Central Asian Hagiographic Narratives," Silk Road Lecture Series, Stanford University
- May 2008 "Between God's Image and Devil's Workshop: The Body in Islamic Thought and Practice," Carleton College
- April 2008 Keynote Address, Duke-UNC Graduate Conference in Islamic Studies entitled *Embodying Islam: Religious Practice and Muslim Constructions of Self*
- Feb. 2008 Four talks for a weekend public seminar entitled *The End of Time: Apocalyptic Visions in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*, Fresno, California
- Nov. 2007 "Corpses in Morticians' Hands: The Social Logic of Master-Disciple Relationships in Persian Hagiographical Narratives," Institute for Medieval Studies, University of Minnesota
- October 2007 "Corpses in Morticians' Hands: The Social Logic of Sufi Hagiographical Narratives," University of Michigan
- Sept. 2007 "The Nurbakhshis of Baltistan and Ladakh: Observations on Historical Sources," *The International Association for Ladakh Studies Colloquium*, University of Rome «La Sapienza»
- January 2007 "Bodies of God's Friends: Sufism and Society in Medieval Iran and Central Asia," Stanford University
- October 2006 "Reconsidering the Orders: Sufism and Society in Late Medieval Iran and Central Asia," Institute for Islamic Studies, McGill University
- July 2006 "Hurufi Interpretations of the Qur'an's Description of Paradise and Eternal Life," Conference *The Esoteric Interpretation of the Qur'an*, Cambridge University
- June 2006 "The Childhood of Muslim Saints: Patterns in Sufi Hagiographical Literature," Conference *Medieval Children 1200-1500*, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK
- March 2006 "Love and Gender in the Age of Sufi Orders," Five College Near Eastern Studies Colloquium, Amherst, Massachusetts
- February 2006 "Bodies of God's Friends: Pursuing Corporeality in Sufi Thought and Practice," University of Pennsylvania
- February 2006 "Bodies of God's Friends: Corporeal Themes in Sufi Hagiographical Literature," Harvard University
- April 2005 "Religion and Bodily Boundaries: Explorations in the Art and Literature of Medieval Islamic Societies," Goodspeed Lecture on Religion and Society, Denison University
- October 2004 "Admonishing Words and Exemplary Bodies: Toward a 'Fair and Balanced' Approach to the History of Sufism," Conference *Majalis ul-ushaq: Portrait, Poetry and Biography in the Iranian World*, Amherst College
- July 2003 "Views of the Body in Early Safavid Hagiographic Literature," Fourth International Round Table on Safavid Studies, University of Bamberg, Germany

- April 2003 "The Devil, Women, and Oneness of Being: Sufi Saints in Nineteenth-Century Southern Punjab," Conference *Sufism and Socioreligious Transformation in the Punjab*, Amherst College
- April 2002 "Religious Tolerance in Islamic Thought: A Survey," in *Our Faith in/and/or Pluralism*, Jay Phillips Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota
- October 2001 "The Antecedents of Hurufi Cosmology," Mellon/Sawyer Seminar *From Medieval to Modern in the Islamic World*, Franke Institute for the Humanities, The University of Chicago
- February 2001 "Religion, Politics, and (Wet) Dreams: Unraveling the Exoteric/Esoteric Divide in Hurufi Cosmology," Symposium *Esoteric Knowledge and the Social Imaginary in Medieval Islamicate Culture*, New York University
- Sept. 1998 "Messianism and Survival: The Nurbakhshiyya Between Medieval Iran and Modern Pakistan," Seminar *The Apocalypse in Modern Societies: Millennial Motifs and Movements*, Yale Center for International and Area Studies
- August 1998 "After the Messiah: The Nurbakhshiyya in Safavid Times," Third International Round Table on Safavid Studies, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Presentations at Association Conferences

- 2009 "Eyes on Disciples' Hearts: Masterful Vision as Rhetorical Tool in a Naqshbandī Hagiography," Association for the Study of Persianate Societies, Biannual Convention, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2007 "Hagiographical Representations of Death as a Source for Religious and Social History of the Later Medieval Period," Middle East Studies Association
- 2004 "On Kings Real and Spiritual: The Overlap Between Religious and Political Authority in the Timurid Period," Middle East Studies Association
- 2003 "Teaching Against the Grain: Students' Perceptions of 'Religion' and 'Gender' in a Small Liberal Arts College," American Academy of Religion
- 2003 "The Human Body in Processes of Religious and Social Legitimation during the Fifteenth Century," Middle East Studies Association
- 2002 "Burdens of a Messianic History: Negotiating the Politics of Identity and Representation among the Nurbakhshis of Baltistan," Association for Asian Studies
- 1999 "Letters and Their Attributes: An Analysis of Hurufi Hermeneutics," American Academy of Religion
- 1998 "The Death and Enshrinement of Fazlallah Astarabadi," Middle East Studies Association
- 1997 "Revelation and Interpretation: The Image of Fazlallah Astarabadi in Early Hurufi Thought," American Academy of Religion
- 1995 "Messianic Guidance in a Turbulent Age: Muhammad Nurbakhsh's Mahdist Vision in the *Risalat al-huda*," American Academy of Religion
- 1995 "Discourses of a Sufi Mahdi: Muhammad Nurbakhsh (d. 1464) on Shi'ism, Sufism, and the Imamate," Middle East Studies Association