

**Richard McGregor**  
Vanderbilt University  
Associate Professor  
Department of Religious Studies

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**Education:**

PhD 2001 *McGill University* (Islamic Studies)  
1995-96 *American University in Cairo* (Intensive Arabic language study)  
MA 1993 *McGill University* (Islamic Studies)  
BA 1990 *University of Toronto* (Religious Studies & Middle East Studies)

**Monographs:**

*Islam and the Devotional Object: Seeing Religion in Egypt and Syria* (Cambridge University Press, 2020)  
*Sanctity and Mysticism in Medieval Egypt: the Wafa' Sufi Order and the Legacy of Ibn 'Arabi* (State University of New York Press, 2004)

**Editions/translations:**

*Selections from Ibn Ishaq's Biography of Muhammad* (under contract with Hackett Publishing)  
*Epistle of the Brethren of Purity: The Case of the Animals versus Man before the King of the Jinn*  
Arabic edition and English translation, with Lenn E. Goodman (Oxford University Press, 2009). Pb. English-only edition in 2012

**Collected volumes:**

*Sufism in the Ottoman Era (16th-18th C.) / Le soufisme à l'époque ottmane (XVIe-XVIIIe siècle)*  
editors R. Chih, C. Mayeur-Jaouen, D. Gril, and R. McGregor (Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale Press, 2010)  
*The Development of Sufism in Mamluk Egypt* editor with A. Sabra and M. Loubet (Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale Press, 2006)

### **Professional Experience:**

2010-

Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University (2016-17 Acting Dept. Chair)

2003-2010

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University

2001-2003

National Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (Cairo, Egypt)

July 2002 & 2003

Lecturer in Religious Studies, Summer Sessions, McMaster University (Hamilton, ON)

July 2001

Lecturer in Religious Studies, Summer Session, McGill University (Montreal, QC)

### **Awards and scholarships:**

2019-20 Fulbright U.S. Scholar to Egypt; American University in Cairo

2012-13 Research fellowship at Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Annemarie-Schimmel-Kolleg: "History and Society during the Mamluk Era, 1250-1517" (DFG funded) Project title: The Performance & Display of Religion in the Mamluk Sultanate

2006 Summer Fellowship from Getty Foundation and University of Washington "Constructing the Past in the Middle East" program, Istanbul, Turkey

2003 Collaborative Research Assistance Grant from the American Academy of Religion

2002 American Research Center in Egypt grants in support of conference: Le développement du soufisme en Égypte à l'époque mamlouke, May 2003

2001-03 National Postdoctoral Fellowship from Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada

1999 Dissertation Research Grant from Ministère de l'éducation nationale, de la recherche et de la technologie (France)

- 1998 Graduate Student Travel Grant from Canadian Committee of Middle East Studies Association
- 1997-98 Dissertation Research Grant from Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (Sponsored Graduate Student)
- 1995-97 McGill Major Fellowship – McConnell Memorial Fellowship
- 1993 & 2001 MA and PhD graduations with distinction, Dean's List
- 1992-94 Institute of Islamic Studies Departmental Fellowship – Rockefeller Foundation awards

**Awards at Vanderbilt:**

- 2015-16 Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, co-director for *Material Cultures* seminar
- 2015-16 Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, faculty fellowship for *Vernacular Islam Beyond the Arab World*
- 2006-07 Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, faculty fellowship for *Between Word and Image*
- 2004 Venture Fund Grant from *Dean's Office, Arts and Science*, to develop course "Religious Architecture, Art and the Experience of Beauty"

**Articles and chapters:**

- 28. "A Tireless Hero of the Hajj" in *The Hajj and the Arts of Pilgrimage* Qaisra Khan ed.
- 27. "The *Mahmal* as Event and Actor" in *The Hajj and the Arts of Pilgrimage* Qaisra Khan ed.
- 26. "Sufi Altruism" in *The Handbook of Sufi Studies* A. Knysh ed. (2020)
- 25. "The Cosmopolitan Figure as Ethical Exemplar: Notes from a Tenth-Century Gulf Encyclopedia" in *The Gulf in World History: Arabia at the Global Crossroads* A. Fromherz ed. (Edinburgh University Press, 2018) pp. 27-34
- 24. "Religions and the Religion of Animals; Ethics, Self, and Language in Tenth-Century Iraq" in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* (2015) 35(2) pp. 222-231

23. "Networks, Processions, and the Disruptive Display of Religion" in *Everything is on the Move: 'Mamluk Empire' as Node in (trans-)regional networks* S. Conermann ed. (Bonn University Press, 2014) pp. 311-324
22. "Intertext and Artworks – Reading Islamic Hagiography" *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* 43.3 (2014) pp. 425-438
21. "Notes on the Literature of Sufi Prayer Commentaries" *Mamluk Studies Review* 17 (2013) pp. 199-211
20. "Sufi Iconoclasm and the Problem of Comparative Religion" in *Les mystiques juives, chrétiennes et musulmanes dans l'Égypte médiévale* G. Cecere, M. Loubet, S. Pagani eds. (IFAO, 2013) pp. 173-187
19. "Sufis and Soldiers in Mamluk Cairo; Parading the Aesthetics of Agency" *Annales islamologiques* 46 (2012) pp. 215-226
18. "Is this the End of Medieval Sufism? Strategies of *Transversal Affiliation* in Ottoman Egypt" in *Sufism in the Ottoman Era (16th-18th C.) / Le soufisme à l'époque ottmane* R. Chih, D. Gril, C. Mayeur-Jaouen, R. McGregor eds., (IFAO, 2010) pp. 83-100
17. "The Problem of Sufism" *Mamluk Studies Review* 13.2 (2009) pp. 69-84
16. "Dressing the Ka'ba from Cairo: the aesthetics of pilgrimage to Mecca" in *Religion and Material Culture: The Matter of Belief* D. Morgan ed. (Routledge, 2009) pp. 247-261
15. "The Wafa'iyya of Cairo" in *Tales of God's Friends: Islamic Hagiography in Translation* J. Renard ed. (University of California Press, 2009) pp. 63-75
14. "Ikhwan al-Safa" with Lenn E. Goodman, Chapter 5 of *An Anthology of Ismaili Literature – literary traditions in Islam* K. Kassam, H. Landolt, S. Sheikh eds. (I.B. Tauris, 2008) pp. 113-119
13. "A Fourteenth Century Inheritance of Ibn 'Arabi's Hermeneutics -- the *Nafa'is al-'Irfan* of Muhammad Wafa'" in *Symbolisme et herméneutique dans la pensée d'Ibn 'Arabi* B. Aladdin ed. (Damascus: IFPO, 2007) pp. 163-174
12. "Conceptions of the Ultimate Saint in Mamluk Egypt" in *The Development of Sufism in Egypt of the Mamluk Period -- Le développement du soufisme en Égypte à l'époque mamelouke* (IFAO, 2006) pp. 178-188
11. "Akbarian Thought in a Branch of the Egyptian Shadhiliyya" in *Une voie soufi dans le monde: la Shâdhiliyya* E. Geoffroy ed. (Maisonneuve & Larose, 2005) pp. 107-116
10. "Notes on the Transmission of Mystical Philosophy: Ibn 'Arabî according to 'Abd al-Wahhâb al-Sha'rânî" in *Reason and Inspiration in Islam; Theology, Philosophy and Mysticism in Muslim Thought*, B.T. Lawson ed. (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005) pp. 380-392
9. "The Existential Dimension of the Spiritual Guide in the Thought of 'Alî Wafâ' (d.807/1404)" *Annales islamologiques* 37 (2003) pp. 315-327
8. "A Medieval Saint on Sainthood" *Studia Islamica* 95 (2002) pp. 95-108

7. "Being and Knowing According to a 14th century Cairene Mystic" *Annales islamologiques* 36 (2002) pp. 177-196
6. "New Sources for the Study of Sufism in Mamluk Egypt" *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 65.2 (2002) pp. 300-322
5. "From Virtue to Apocalypse: the understanding of sainthood in a medieval sufi order" *Studies in Religion / Sciences Religieuses* 30.2 (2001) pp. 167-178
4. "The Development of the Islamic Understanding of Sanctity" *Religious Studies and Theology* (Fall, 2001) pp. 51-80
3. "The Concept of Sainthood According to Ibn Bâkhila; a Shâdhili Shaykh of the 8th/14th Century" in *Le saint et son milieu ou comment lire les sources hagiographiques?* R. Chih and D. Gril eds. (IFAO, 2000) pp. 33-49
2. "The Experience of Miracle and Metaphor in the Qur'an" in *The Qur'an and Philosophical Reflections* Indonesian Academic Society XXI (Yogyakarta: Titian Ilahi, 1998) pp. 29-39
1. "A Sufi Legacy in Tunis: Prayer and the Shâdhiliyya" *The International Journal of Middle East Studies* 29: 2 (May, 1997) pp. 255-277

**Conference papers, talks, & workshops:**

64. "Relics and the Religious Topography of Cairo" *Institut dominicain d'études orientales*, Cairo, Nov. 2019
63. "Playing at the Sacred/Secular Boundary: the Hajj Mahmal of Cairo" *Al-Azhar University*, Cairo, Nov. 2019
62. "Recent Approaches to Islamic Studies in the American Academy" *Binational Fulbright Commission in Egypt Roundtable*, Cairo, Nov. 2019
61. "Animal Accusers and the Critique of Violence" at *Qahwa wa Kalam*, The American University in Cairo, Nov. 2019
60. "Religious Reform and the 'Secular' Museum" at *The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Alumni Conference*, Cairo, Oct. 2019
59. "Troubling the Sacred and the Secular Binary: the Destabilizing *mahmals* of Cairo" and "The Relics and Religious Topography of Mamluk Cairo" at *Pacific University*, Department of Philosophy class lectures, Sept. 2019
58. "The Relics and Religious Topography of Mamluk Cairo" at the *Sixth Conference of the School of Mamluk Studies*, Waseda University, Tokyo, June 2019

57. "Beauty, Vision, and the Discipline of Bodies in Sufi Aesthetics" *Mysticism and Ethics in Islam*, American University of Beirut, May 2019
56. "The Case of the Animals versus Humans: An Islamic Ethics from Medieval Iraq" *Medieval Animals – Institute for Medieval Studies*, University of New Mexico , April 2017
55. "Animal Accusers and the Rhetoric of Suffering: Troubling the Human/Animal Divide" *Workshop On Animals, Law, and Religion*, Harvard Law School, May 2016
54. "The Cosmopolitan Figure as Ethical Exemplar in Tenth-Century Basra" at *The Global Gulf Studies Workshop – New York University*, Abu Dhabi UAE, May 2016
53. "Relics as Icon and Image in Medieval Egypt and Syria" at *University of Richmond*, Richmond VA, Feb. 2016
52. "Viewing Practices and Pharaonic Objects in Medieval Egyptian Culture" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, Atlanta GA, Nov. 2015
51. "Saints, Sultans, and Animals: Religious Disruptions of Political Theology" at *Political Theologies of Medieval and Early Modern Islam: a workshop*, University of California, Santa Barbara, Oct. 2015
50. "The Relic and Its Witness: Religious Objects in Islamic Syria and Egypt" at *Reed College*, Portland OR, Feb. 2015
49. "Thinking About Looking: Relics and the Rhetoric of the Body" at the *First Conference of the School of Mamluk Studies*, Venice, Italy, June 2014
48. "The Question of Religious Diversity in Tenth-Century Iraq" at *The University of Colorado, Denver (Department of Philosophy)* Denver CO, Feb. 2014
47. "The Relic and Its Witness: Religious Objects in Islamic Syria and Egypt" at *University of Utah*, Salt Lake City, Sept. 2013
46. "The Question of Religious Diversity in Tenth-Century Iraq" at *The Society for Philosophy in the Contemporary World* Estes Park CO, July 2013
45. "The Gaze of Salvation: Relics as Icon and Image in Medieval Egypt and Syria" at *University of North Carolina (Department of Religious Studies)*, Chapel Hill, Mar. 2013
44. "Islamic Reform and the Transformation of Objects – 'mahmals' and museums in Egypt" at *Aesthetics as a Connective Concept for the Study of Religion* (University of Groningen) Groningen, The Netherlands, Mar. 2013
43. "A Quick Look at the 'Gaze' in Premodern Islamic Visual Culture" at *Aesthetics of the Sublime: religious texts and rhetorical theory* (The Oriental-Institute Beirut & Heidelberg University) Cairo, Egypt, Dec. 2012
42. "The Periphery Becomes the Center: rethinking the Hajj in the Mamluk Sultanate" at *Everything is on the Move: the "Mamluk Empire" as Node in (Trans-)Regional Networks* (Annemarie-Schimmel-Kolleg & Department of Islamic Studies, University of Bonn) Bonn, Germany, Dec. 2012

41. "The Performance and Display of Religion in the Mamluk Sultanate" at *MMS Gent – Annemarie Schimmel Kolleg, Bonn workshop* Ghent, Belgium, Nov. 2012
40. "The Evolution of the Display of Religious Banners in Mamluk and Ottoman Egypt" at *Turning Points in the Early Modern Eastern Mediterranean, 1517-1798* (Johann-Wilhelm-Fück-Kolloquium zur Arabistik und Islamkunde, Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg) Halle, Germany, Nov. 2012
39. "Imagetext as Religious Practice: Banners, Processions, and Topography" at *International Conference on Mamluk Literature* (University of Chicago, MEDOC) Chicago IL, Apr. 2012
38. "Images and Others: Sufi Iconoclasm and the Problem of Comparative Religion" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, San Francisco CA, Nov. 2011
37. "Sufis and Soldiers in Mamluk Cairo" at *Annual Meeting of The American Research Center in Egypt*, Chicago IL, Apr. 2011
36. "Wahhabism and the 'secular' Museum of what Egypt shall not be" at *Provincializing Secularism: Minorities and the Regulation of Religion*, Vanderbilt University, Feb. 2011
35. "Images and Others: Sufi Iconoclasm and the Problem of Comparative Religion" at *Les mystiques juives, chrétiennes et musulmanes dans le Proche Orient médiéval*, Cairo, Egypt, Nov. 2010
34. "The Implications of 'Comparative Religion' in *Essay Twenty-Two* of the Ikhwan al-Safa (10<sup>th</sup> Cent. Iraq)" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting* (national) Chicago IL, Nov. 2008
33. "Sufism and Censure in Medieval Egypt – a methodological challenge" at *Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion* (AAR regional) Atlanta GA, Mar. 2008
32. "Visual Culture and the Problem of Shi'ism in Sunni Sufism" at *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Montreal QC, Nov. 2007
31. "Sufism and the State: Aesthetics and the Ritual Assertion of Power" at *Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion* (AAR regional) Nashville TN, Mar. 2007
30. "Is this the end of Medieval Sufism? " at *Sufism in Egypt and the Islamic World in the Ottoman Era (16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> C.)* Cairo, Egypt, Jan. 2007
29. "Sufi Elites and the Discourses of Power: problems of definition and category" at *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Boston MA, Nov. 2006
28. "The Shaykhs of the Wafa'iyya in Mamluk Cairo: Aesthetics of a Rival Power" at *The Exercise of Power in the Age of the Sultanates / L'exercice du pouvoir à l'âge des sultanats. Production, manifestation, réception*, Cairo, Egypt, Mar. 2006
27. "Sufism as a Problem in Social History" at *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Washington DC, Nov. 2005
26. "A 14th Century Inheritance of Ibn 'Arabi's Hermeneutics -- the *Nafa'is al-'irfan* of Muhammad Wafa" at *Symbolisme et herméneutique dans la pensée d'Ibn 'Arabi*, Damascus, Syria, July 2005

25. "The Ontology of the Master-Disciple Relationship: the shaykhs of the Wafa'iyya" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, San Antonio TX, Nov. 2004
24. "The Cairo of Maimonides" at *Maimonides and His Milieu*, Vanderbilt University, Nov. 2004
23. "Spiritual Discipline and Union according to Muhammad Wafa' (d. 1363)" at *Muhyiddin ibn 'Arabi Society 17th annual USA symposium*, Bellevue WA, Oct. 2004
22. "Alî Wafâ (d.807/1404) on the Ultimate Saint" at *Le développement du soufisme en Égypte à l'époque mamelouke*, Cairo, Egypt, May 2003
21. "Strategies for Sanctification: the building activities of the Sadat al-Wafa'iyya in their Medieval Context" at *Spaces and Places of Virtue: The Dynamics of Sanctification* (UCLA) Los Angeles CA, May 2003
20. "La présence Akbarienne dans une branche égyptienne de la Shâdhiliyya" at *Une école spirituelle soufi dans le monde: la Shadhiliyya*, Alexandria, Egypt, April 2003
19. "The Sufi Intellectual Tradition of Medieval Cairo" at Canadian Embassy, Cairo, Egypt, Jan. 2003
18. "The Mystical Tradition of Islam" (Brock University) St.Catharines ON, Nov. 2002
17. "The Appropriation of Apocalyptic Themes in the Medieval Shadhiliyya Order" at *World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies*, (J.A.M.E.S.) Mainz, Germany, Sept. 2002
16. "Social Criticism and Sufi Ritual in 14th and 15th Century Cairo" at *Les pratiques culturelles dans la société égyptienne*, Cairo, Egypt, June 2002
15. "New Sources for the Study of Sufism in Mamluk Egypt" at the American Research Centre in Egypt, Cairo, Egypt, Jan. 2002.
14. "Le concept de "sainteté" au Caire à l'époque médiévale" *Séminaire de l'Institut français d'archéologie orientale*, Cairo, Egypt, Nov. 2001
13. "Islamic Sainthood: from Virtue to Apocalypse" at *Canadian Society for the Study of Religion* (C.S.S.H.), Quebec City QC, May 2001
12. "Islamic Prayer Recitations: Text, Performance and Sanctity" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting* (Eastern regional) Ithaca NY, March 2001
11. "An Egyptian Inheritor of the Akbarian Tradition: Muhammad Wafa" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting* (national), Nashville TN, Nov. 2000
10. "A Renovator of Religion at the Turn of Each Century -- A Sufi Theory of Cyclical Time" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting* (Eastern regional) Syracuse NY, April 2000
9. "The Islamic Understanding of Sainthood" at *Saints and the Sacred* St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, Toronto ON, Feb. 2000
8. "La sainteté dans la pensée d'Ibn Bâkhlî: un grand maître shâdhilî du 8<sup>e</sup>/14<sup>e</sup> siècle" at round-table: *Le saint et son milieu: ou comment lire les sources hagiographiques?* Cairo, Egypt, April 1999



7. "Spiritual Authority in Medieval Egypt: the Seal of Sainthood and the Wafa'iyya" at *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Chicago IL, Dec. 1998
6. "Sha'rani as Popularizer of Ibn 'Arabi: a second look at a medieval editor" at *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting* (Eastern regional), Toronto ON, April 1998
5. "Function and Authority in Islamic Prayer Compositions" at *Avoda and Ibada: Liturgy and Ritual in Islamic and Judaic Traditions*, University of Denver; Center for Judaic Studies, Denver CO, March 1998
4. "The Presence of "Neo-Sufism" in Traditional Sufi Theory" at Society of Islamic Philosophy and Science / I.G.C.S., Binghamton NY, Oct. 1996
3. "Commentary on a Sufi Prayer: the structure of Shah Wali Allah's Hawami' (Sharh Hizb al-Bahr)" at the *American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting* (national), Chicago IL, Nov. 1994
2. "The Experience of Miracle and Metaphor in the Qur'an" at Society of Islamic Philosophy and Science / I.G.C.S., Binghamton NY, Oct. 1994
1. "Intertextuality and the Prayers of the Shadhiliyya" at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting*, Research Park Triangle NC, Oct. 1993

#### **Entries:**

*Encyclopaedia of Islam* (3rd ed.)

"Ali ibn Muhammad Wafa" (1233 words)

"Al-Ansari, Zakariyya" (1361 words)

"Dardir, Ahmad" (981 words)

"Demirdashiyya" (547 words)

"Friend of God (*wali Allah*)" (1169 words)

"Grave Visitation/Grave Worship (*ziyara*)" (2013 words)

"Mysticism in Islam" in *Encyclopedia of Sciences and Religions* (503 words)

"Myth" in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity* (362 words)

"Gabriel" "Israfil" "Preserved Tablet" "Angels" "Remembrance" "Tawakkul" and "Dhakara" in *The Qur'an: an Encyclopedia* (5218 words)

"Wafa'iyya" in *Chicago On-Line Encyclopedia of Mamluk Studies* (1168 words)

"Mysticism, Islamic" in *New Dictionary of the History of Ideas* (1021 words)

"Ibn al-Arabi" in *Reference Guide to World Literature* (1433 words)

#### **Book reviews and notes:**

27. "Alef is for Allah: Childhood, Emotion, and Visual Culture in Islamic Societies, by Jamal Elias" in *Religious Studies Review* ?? (2020) (340 words)
26. "Sufism in Ottoman Egypt: Circulation, Renewal, and Authority in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries, by Rachida Chih" in *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 83/1 (2020) (960 words)
25. "Un 'manuel' ifrîqiyyen d'adab soufi : Paroles de sagesse de 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Mzughî (m. 675/1276) compagnon de Shâdhilî. Étude, notes et traduction, N. Amri ed. and trans." in *Journal of Sufi Studies* 5 (2016) 99-114 (2268 words)
24. "Sufism and Society: arrangements of the mystical in the Muslim world, Curry and Ohlander eds." in *Journal of Sufi Studies* 2, 2013 (1130 words)
23. "How to Read the Qur'an: a new guide, by Carl Ernst" in *Review of Middle East Studies* 46.2, 2012 (1145 words)
22. "Emanations of Grace; Mystical Poems by Aisha al-Ba'uniyya (d. 923/1517), E. Homerin trans." in *Mamluk Studies Review* vol. 16, 20?? (1108 words)
21. "The Prophet's Ascension: cross-cultural encounters with the Islamic *mi'raj* tales, Gruber and Colby eds." in *Review of Middle East Studies* 44.2, 2010 (727 words)
20. "Objects in Translation: material culture and Medieval 'Hindu-Muslim' Encounter, by F.B. Flood" in *Material Religion: the Journal of Objects, Art, and Belief* 6.3, 2009 (877 words)
19. "Spiritual Wayfarers, Leaders in Piety: Sufis and the Dissemination of Islam in Medieval Palestine, by Dahphna Ephrat" in *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 36, 2009 (1481 words)
18. "Defining Islam: a Reader, A. Rippin ed." in *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 2008 (1443 words)
17. "Islamisches Biderverbot vom Mittel- bis ins Digitalzeitalter, A. Ibric" in *Philosophy East and West* 58.2 April, 2008 (875 words)
16. "In the Footsteps of the Prophet: Lessons from the life of Muhammad, T. Ramadan" in *The Christian Century* May, 2007 (943 words)
15. "Ahmad Subhi Mansur's *al-'Aqa'id al-diniyya fi Misr al-Mamlukiyya; bayn al-Islam wa al-Tasawwuf*" in *Mamluk Studies Review* vol. 11, no.1, January 2007 (924 words)
14. "Islam and Global Dialogue: Religious Pluralism and the Pursuit of Peace" Book note in *Religious Studies Review*. 2007 (165 words)
13. "A Prayer for Spiritual Elevation and Protection; *al-Dawr al-a'la*, S. Taji-Farouki" *Journal of the Muhy al-Din Ibn Arabi Society* 42, 2007 (584 words)
12. "Struggle for the Soul of Islam: Anxious Muslims" Review essay in *The Christian Century* Nov. 2006 (3100 words)
11. "Helena Hallenberg's *Ibrahim Dasuqi (1255-1296); a saint invented*" in *Mamluk Studies Review* vol. 10, 2006 (1004 words)
10. "Love is all you need... al-Qaysari on Ibn al-Farid's Wine Ode" (review of Th. Emil Homerin ed. and trans. *The Wine of Love and Life: Ibn al-Farid's al-Khamriyah and al-Qaysari's Quest for Meaning*) in *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* 41, 2004 (412 words)

9. "A pillar of fire is over his grave -- Saints and Shrines in Medieval Syria" (review of J. Meri's *The Cult of Saints among Muslims and Jews in Medieval Syria*) on *H-Net, Humanities and Social Sciences OnLine*, May 2004 (1337 words)
8. "Representations of the Divine in Arabic Poetry, G. Borg ed." in *Religious Studies Review*, 2004 (430 words)
7. "A Rumi for All Seasons" (review of F. Lewis's *Rumi; Past and Present, East and West*) on *H-Net, Humanities and Social Sciences OnLine*, Aug. 2003 (1191 words)
6. "The Ulama in Contemporary Islam: custodians of change, M. Zaman" *Islamic Studies*, 42.2, 2003 (1225 words)
5. "Zwei Mystische Schriften des 'Ammar al-Bidlisi, E. Badeen ed." *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin* 36.1, 2002 (512 words)
4. "Consciousness and Reality: studies in memory of Toshihiko Izutsu, J. Ashtiyani et al eds." *MESA Bulletin* 36.1, 2002 (808 words)
3. "The Medium and the Light: reflections on religion, Marshall McLuhan" *Religious Studies Review* 28.1, 2002 (221 words)
2. "The Way of Abu Madyan, V. Cornell" and "Ibn 'Ata Allah, The Key to Salvation, M. Danner trans." *JUSUR, the U.C.L.A. Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* 1997 (1529 words)
1. "The Seal of the Saints, M. Chodkiewicz" *JUSUR* 1996 (2671 words)

**Professional activities & service:**

Series editor *Sanctity in Global Perspectives* (Hagiography Society) Routledge/Taylor & Francis (2017 to present)

External evaluator for US Department of Education Title VI UISFL grant to Wofford College for development of *Middle East and North Africa Program* (2016-18)

American Council of Learned Societies, *Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellowship*, reviewer (2015)

Steering committee for *Theology and Continental Philosophy* group at the American Academy of Religion (2016-21)

Steering committee for *Material Islam* seminar at the American Academy of Religion (2014-19)

Middle East Studies Association, *Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Award Committee* (2012)

US Department of State, *Critical Language Scholarship Program*, reviewer for Arabic language (2011-12)

Collegium Phaenomenologicum participant (*Philosophy, Truth, and the Claims of Art*) Città di Castello, Umbria, Italy (July, 2011)

**Service at Vanderbilt:**

Vanderbilt University; *Acting Chair, Religious Studies Department* (2016-17)

Vanderbilt University; *Director of Undergraduate Studies for Minor in Islam* (2005 to present)

Vanderbilt University; *Director of Undergraduate Studies for Minor in Arabic Language* (2017 to present)

Vanderbilt University; *Area Director for History and Critical Theory of Religion, Graduate Department of Religion* (2005-07, 2008-12, 2014-16)

Vanderbilt University; *Director of Undergraduate Studies, Religious Studies* (2014-16)

Vanderbilt University; *Steering committee for Women's and Gender Studies Program* (2008-10)

**Conference organizing:**

*Being Muslim: how local Islam overturns narratives of exceptionalism* (with T. Stewart)

Nashville, TN. Four workshop meetings 2013-15

*Le soufisme en Égypte et dans le monde musulman à l'époque ottomane (16e-18e siècles)* (with

R. Chih, C. Mayeur-Jaouen, D. Gril) Cairo, Egypt. Final Colloquium January 2007

*Exercising Power in the Age of the Sultanates / L'exercice du pouvoir à l'âge des sultanats* (with I.

Bierman, S. Denoix) Cairo, Egypt. Final Colloquium March 2006

*Le développement du soufisme en Égypte à l'époque mamelouke: colloque international* (with A.

Sabra)

Cairo, Egypt. Final Colloquium May 2003

*Les pratiques culturelles dans la société égyptienne (13e-18e s.)* (with G. Schallenberg)

Cairo, Egypt. Series from 2001-2002