**RELS 222 Islam Spring 2022**

**Final Paper**

55 points

6-8 pages, double-spaced, Times Roman 12-point font

**Choice of topic is due Fri 4/15 (don’t lose 3 points!)**

**Paper due Mon May 9 by 10:30 AM, drop off hard copy at my office**

Choose one of the following questions. Cite 5 academic sources, 2 of which must be books. **Primary sources (Qur’an and hadith) and media articles should not be used**. This paper is about showing me that you understand the question and the academic debate.

Your paper should have a precise thesis and argument and directly addresses the question. Critically evaluate the validity of the academic source materials. Show how each source has its own position and is limited. Arrive at your own conclusions, rather than just siding with one particular author. **Ignoring the question, writing around it, or writing on something else will get you zero points!**

Questions:

1. **Jurisprudence**

To what extent do rationalist approaches and the influence of contemporary social mores, rather than scriptural sources (Qur'an and Hadith literature), play a formative role in pre-modern Islamic jurisprudence?

Kecia Ali, *Marriage* *and Slavery in Early Islam* (Harvard UP, 2001) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Milka Levy-Rubin, *Non-Muslims in the Early Islamic Empire: From Surrender to Coexistence* (Cambridge UP, 2011) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Christopher Melchert, "Whether to Keep the Women out of the Mosque: a survey of pre-modern Islamic Law" In *Authority, Privacy, and Public Order in Islam* (Peeters Publishers and Department of Oriental Studies, 2006): 59-119.

Behnam Sadeghi, *The Logic of Law-Making in Islam: Women and Prayer in Legal Tradition* (Cambridge UP, 2013) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Susan Spectorsky, *Women* *in Classical Islamic Law: A Survey of the Sources* (Brill, 2010) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

1. **Qur'anic Origins**

Evaluate the different types of literary evidence used by Qur'an scholars to argue for Christian and Persian religious influences on the Qur'an, and describe what this evidence tells us about the cultural and religious context of the composition of the Qur'an.

Emran El-Badawi, *The Qur'an and the Aramaic Gospel Traditions* (Routledge, 2013)

Berg, Herbert. *Method and Theory in the Study of Islamic Origins*. (Leiden: Brill, 2003) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Günther Lüling, *A challenge to Islam for reformation: the rediscovery and reliable reconstruction of a comprehensive pre-Islamic Christian hymnal hidden in the Koran under earliest Islamic reinterpretations* (Motilal Banarsidass, 2003) (hard copy available in COW library)

Gabriel Reynolds, *The Qur'an and its Biblical Subtext* (Routledge, 2010) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Wansbrough, John E. *The Sectarian Milieu: Content and Composition of Islamic Salvation History.* (Oxford University Press, 1978)

Kevin van Bladel, "Heavenly cords and prophetic authority in the Qur'an and its Late Antique context," Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies Vol 70 Issue 2 (June 2007) 223-246.

1. **Terrorism**

To what extent are the strategies and methods employed by Al-Qaida in the late 1990s and early 2000s and those applied in the last few years by the ISIS/IS terrorist organization pragmatic rather than ideological, and to what extent do they differ from each other in that regard?

Abdel Bari Atwan, *The Secret History of al-Qaeda,* updated edition (Univ. of California Press, 2008) (hard copy available at COW library)

Faisal Devji, *Landscapes of the Jihad* (Cornell UP, 2005)

Michael Doran, "The Pragmatic Fanaticism of Al Qaeda: An Anatomy of Extremism in Middle Eastern Politics" *Political Science Quarterly* Vol. 117, No. 2 (Summer 2002): 177-190.

Harleen K. Gambhir, "Dabiq: The Strategic Messaging of the Islamic State" Institute for the Study of War, *Backgrounder*, Aug. 15, 2014.

J. Peter Pham, "The Dangerous 'Pragmatism" of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb," *Journal of the Middle East and Africa*, Vol 2 Issue 1 (2011): 15-29.

Peter J. Phillips, "Terrorist Group Brutality and the Emergence of the Islamic State (ISIS)" working paper, Social Sciences Research Network, Aug. 12, 2014

Caroline Picart, “’Jihad Cool/Jihad Chic’: The Roles of the Internet and Imagined Relations in the Self-Radicalization of Collen LaRose (Jihad Jane),” *Societies* 5 (2015): 354-383

Michael W. S. Ryan, *Decoding Al-Qaeda's Strategy: The Deep Battle Against America* (Columbia UP, 2013) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Jacob N. Shapiro, *The Terrorist's Dilemma: Managing Violent Covert Organizations* (Princeton UP, 2013) chapters 3 and 4 (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Manuel R. Torres Soriano, "The Road to Media Jihad: The Propaganda Actions of Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb" *Terrorism and Political Violence*, Vol. 23 Issue 1 (2010): 72-88.

Aaron Y. Zelin, "The War between ISIS and al-Qaeda for Supremacy of the Global Jihadist Movement," The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, *Research Notes* 20 (June 2014)

1. **Sexual minorities**

To what extent has the Iranian state determined the construction of sexuality and gender in the last fifty years?

Janet Afary, *Sexual Politics in Modern Iran* (Cambridge UP, 2009).

Elizabeth M. Bucar and Faegheh Shirazi, "The 'Invention' of Lesbian Acts in Iran: Interpretive Moves, Hidden Assumptions, and Emerging Categories of Sexuality" *Journal of Lesbian Studies* Vol 16 Issue 4 (Oct 2012): 416-34.

Maryam Dezhamkhooy and Leila Papoli Yazdi, "Breaking the Borders/Violating the Norms: An Archaeological Survey of an Intersex in a Traditional Society, Bam (South Eastern Iran" *Sexuality & Culture* (July 2012)

Katarzyna Korycki and Abouzar Nasirzadeh, "Homophobia as a Tool of Statecraft: Iran and its Queers," paper presented at Western Political Science Association, Portland, Oregon, March 22-24, 2012

http://wpsa.research.pdx.edu/meet/2012/nasirzadeh.pdf

K. Koshnood "Social stigma, homosexuality and transsexuality in Iran" *Sexologies*, Vol 17 Supp. 1 (April 2008)

Pardis Mahdavi, "'The personal is political and the political is personal: sexuality, politics and social movements in modern Iran" In *Understanding Global Sexualities: New Frontiers*. Peter Aggleton and Paul Boyce et. al., eds. (Routledge, 2012)

Minoo Moallem, *Between Warrior Brother and Veiled Sister: Islamic Fundamentalism and the Politics of Patriarchy in Iran* (Univ. of California Press, 2005) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Afsaneh Najmabadi, *Professing Selves: Transsexuality and Same-Sex Desire in Contemporary Iran* (Duke UP, 2013)

---. "Transing and Transpassing Across Sex Gender Lines in Contemporary Iran" *Women Studies' Quarterly* 36/3-4 (2008): 23-42.

---. *Women with Mustaches and Men without Beards: Gender and Sexualities in Iranian Modernity* (Univ. of California Press, 2005) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

Leila Papoli Yazdi, "Public and Private Lives in Iran: An Introduction to the Archaeology of the 2003 Bam Earthquake," *Archaeologies: Journal of the World Archaeological Congress* (2010)

1. **Women**

Did the *hujum* campaign of unveiling women in central Asia liberate them or was it a device for colonialism, ethnic humiliation, and totalitarianism?

Zouhal Avzalchoeva "'Nobody Beats An Obedient Woman': State and Non-State Responses to Violence Against Women in Tajikistan" PhD Diss, Sussex Law School, 2012. (pp. 58-67)

Adrienne Lynn Edgar "Emancipation of the Unveiled: Turkmen Women under Soviet Rule, 1924-29" *Russian Review* Vol 62 No 1 (Jan 2003): 132-49

Marianne Kamp *The* *New Women in Uzbekistan: Islam, Modernity, and Unveiling Under Communism* (Seattle: Univ. of Washington Press, 2006)

---. "Femicide as Terrorism: The Case of Uzbekistan's Unveiling Murders" In James K. Wellman Jr., ed. *Belief and Bloodshed: Religion and Violence across Time and Tradition* (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2007)

---. "Pilgrimage and Performance: Uzbek Women and the Imagining of Uzbekistan in the 1920s" *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* 34 (2002): 263-78.

Zeev Levin "The *Khujum* Campaign in Uzbekistan and the Jewish Women of Bukhara" In *Gender Politics in Central Asia: Historical Perspectives and Current Living Conditions of Women* (Koln: Bohlau, 2008)

Douglas Northrop *Veiled Empire: Gender and Power in Stalinist Central Asia* (Cornell UP, 2004) (available as e-book in CONSORT)

---. "Hujum: Unveiling Campaigns and Local Responses in Uzbekistan, 1927" In Donald J. Raleigh, ed. *Provincial Landscapes: Local Dimensions of Soviet Power, 1917-1953*. (Univ. of Pittsburgh Press, 2001)

Chiara De Santi *Strategies of Sovietization in Central Asia: the Red Cross and Red Crescent, the Hujum, and the Purges, 1924-1930* (Lambert Academic Publishing, 2009)

Marfua Tokhtakhodjaeva *The re-Islamization of society and the position of women in post-Soviet Uzbekistan* (Global Oriental, 2008) (available as e-book in CONSORT)