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Education:

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Department of History and Program in Near Eastern Studies, M.A. (1986),
Ph.D. (1989)
Fields of concentration: Medieval Islamic History; Ottoman and Modern Arab History; Medieval
European History

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, no degree (1982-83)

WILLIAMS COLLEGE, B.A., Phi Beta Kappa, with Highest Honors in History (1981)
Thesis: "John Muir and the American Environmental Movement, 1890-1913"

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON, Department of History and Medieval Archaeology (1979-80)

Fellowships and awards:

Albert Hourani Book Prize of the Middle East Studies Association (2003), for *The Formation of Islam: Religion and Society in the Near East, 600-1800* (Cambridge University Press)

National Endowment for the Humanities Focus Grant, to develop an inter-disciplinary course on "Cultures and Civilizations," Davidson College (2001-2)

Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, Member in the School of Historical Studies (1994-95)

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Assistant Professorship, Davidson College (1993-95)

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (1992-93)

American Research Center in Egypt dissertation research fellowship (summer, 1987)

Fulbright-I.I.E. dissertation research fellowship (1986-87)

Center for Arabic Study Abroad (American University in Cairo) fellowship (1985-86)

Fellowship and Rollins Prize, Department of History, Princeton University (1983-88)

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Professional experience:

DAVIDSON COLLEGE, Professor of History and Humanities (2004-present), Associate Professor (1996-2004), Assistant Professor (1993-1996); Director, semester-in-India program (2004)

DAVIDSON COLLEGE, E. Craig Wall Jr. Distinguished Professor of the Humanities (2001-2003)

DAVIDSON COLLEGE, Director, "Cultures and Civilizations": a project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a team-taught, inter-disciplinary course on human civilizations (2001-2002)

ÉCOLE DES HAUTES ÉTUDES EN SCIENCES SOCIALES, Centre d'Histoire Sociale de l'Islam Méditerranéen, Visiting Professor (April-May, 2000)

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE, Assistant Professor of Religion (1990-1993)

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Lecturer, Department of History (1988-90)

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY/N.E.H., Preceptor, "Summer Seminar in Islamic History" (1986, 1988)

SCHUTZ AMERICAN SCHOOL, Alexandria, Egypt, high school English and social studies teacher (1981-82)

Publications:

A. Books

Shattered Mosaic: The Middle East Since the Rise of Islam (W. W. Norton, forthcoming)

The Formation of Islam: Religion and Society in the Near East, 600-1800 (Cambridge University Press, 2003)

Awarded the Albert Hourani Book Prize of the Middle East Studies Association (2003), recognizing the outstanding work in Middle East studies published in the preceding twelve months

Popular Preaching and Religious Authority in the Medieval Islamic Near East (University of Washington Press, 2001)

The Transmission of Knowledge in Medieval Cairo: A Social History of Islamic Education (Princeton University Press, 1992)

B. Articles and chapters

"The Transmission of Knowledge and Muslim Identity: Medieval Institutions and Modern Problems," *Annals of the Japan Association for Middle East Studies* 21 (2005), 9-24

"Popular Culture Under the Mamluks: A Historiographical Survey," *Mamluk Studies Review* 9 (2005), 133-46

"Education," in *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*, ed. Richard Martin, (Macmillan, 2004).

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- “The Muhtasibs of Cairo Under the Mamluks: Towards an Understanding of an Islamic Institution,” in *The Mamluk in Egyptian and Syrian Politics and Society*, ed. Amalia Levanoni and Michael Winter (E. J. Brill, 2003), 243-76
- “Elite Authority and Popular Power: Storytellers and Religious Knowledge in Medieval Egypt,” *Israel Oriental Studies* (forthcoming)
- “Al-Zarnudji,” *Encyclopaedia of Islam* (E. J. Brill, forthcoming)
- “Egypt,” in *Medieval Trade, Travel, and Exploration: An Encyclopedia*, ed. John Friedman and Kristen Figg (Garland Publishing Co., 2000)
- “Storytelling, Preaching, and Power in Mamluk Cairo,” *Mamluk Studies Review* 4 (1999), 53-73
- “Women in Medieval Islamic Society,” in *Women and Medieval Culture*, ed. Linda E. Mitchell (Garland Publishing Co., 1999), 95-111
- “Culture and Society in the Late Middle Ages,” *Cambridge History of Egypt*, vol. 1: *Islamic Egypt, 640-1517*, ed. Carl Petry (Cambridge University Press, 1998), 375-411
- “Tadris,” *Encyclopaedia of Islam* (E. J. Brill, 1998) vol. IX, 80-2
- “The Mamluks as Muslims: The Military Elite and the Construction of Islam in Medieval Egypt,” in *The Mamluks in Egyptian Politics and Society*, ed. Ulrich Haarmann and Thomas Philipp (Cambridge University Press, 1998), 161-73
- “Circumcision Circumscribed: Female Excision and Cultural Accommodation in the Medieval Near East,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 28 (1996), 19-38
- “Tradition, Innovation and the Social Construction of Knowledge in the Medieval Islamic Near East,” *Past and Present* 146 (1995), 38-65
- “Mamluks and the World of Higher Education in Medieval Cairo, 1250-1517,” in *Modes de transmission de la culture religieuse en Islam* (Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale au Caire, 1993), 93-116
- “Women and Education in the Mamluk Period,” in *Women in Middle Eastern History: Shifting Boundaries in Sex and Gender*, ed. Nikki Keddie and Beth Baron (Yale University Press, 1992), 143-57
- “‘Silver Threads Among the Coal’: A Well-Educated Mamluk of the Ninth/Fifteenth Century,” *Studia Islamica* 73 (1991), 109-25

C. Book Reviews:

- Stanton, Charles M., *Higher Learning in Islam: The Classical Period, 700 A.D. to 1300 A.D.* (Rowman and Littlefield, 1990), in *The Journal of Higher Education* 63 (1992)
- Hillenbrand, Carole, *A Muslim Principality in Crusader Times: The Early Artuqid State* (Nederlands Historisch-Archaeologisch Instituut te Istanbul, 1990), *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 24 (1992)
- Thorau, Peter, *The Lion of Egypt: Sultan Baybars I and the Near East in the Thirteenth Century* (Longmans, 1992),

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- in *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* 30 (1993)
- Giladi, Avner, *Children of Islam: Concepts of Childhood in Medieval Muslim Society* (St. Martin's Press, 1992), *Speculum* 69 (1994)
- Peirce, Leslie, *The Imperial Harem: Women and Sovereignty in the Ottoman Empire* (Oxford University Press, 1993), *American Historical Review* 100 (1995)
- Hodgson, Marshall G. S., *Rethinking World History: Essays on Europe, Islam, and World History*, edited by Edmund Burke, III (Cambridge University Press, 1993), *Iranian Studies* 28 (1995)
- Shoshan, Boaz, *Popular Culture in Medieval Cairo* (Cambridge University Press, 1993), *American Historical Review* 100 (1995)
- Chamberlain, Michael, *Knowledge and Social Practice in Damascus, 1190-1350* (Cambridge, 1994), *American Historical Review* 100 (1996)
- Petry, Carl, *Protectors or Praetorians? The Last Mamluk Sultans and Egypt's Waning as a Great Power* (SUNY Press, 1995), *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin* 31 (1997)
- Guthrie, Shirley, *Arab Social Life in the Middle Ages: An Illustrated Study* (Saqi Books, 1995), *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 29 (1997)
- Makdisi, George, *Religion, Law and Learning in Classical Islam* (Variorum, 1991), *Islamic Law and Society* 4 (1997)
- Jackson, Sherman A., *Islamic Law and the State: The Constitutional Jurisprudence of Shihab al-Din al-Qarafi* (E. J. Brill, 1995), *Mamluk Studies Review* 2 (1998)
- Shatzmiller, Maya, *Labour in the Medieval Islamic World* (E. J. Brill, 1995), *International History Review* 20 (1998)
- Peters, F. E., *A Reader on Classical Islam* (Princeton University Press, 1994), *Journal of Developing Societies* 14 (1998)
- Grandin, Nicole and Marc Gaborieau, eds., *Madrasa: La transmission du savoir dans le monde musulman* (Editions Arguments, 1997), *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 43 (2000)
- Northrup, Linda, *From Slave to Sultan: The Career of al-Mansur Qalawun and the Consolidation of Mamluk Rule in Egypt and Syria (678-689 A.H./1279-1290 A.D.)* (Franz Steiner Verlag, 1998), *MESA Bulletin* 34 (2000)
- Frankfurter, David, *Religion in Roman Egypt: Assimilation and Resistance* (Princeton University Press, 1998), in *American Historical Review* 105 (2001)
- Hillenbrand, Carole, *The Crusades: Islamic Perspectives* (Fitzroy Dearborn, 1999), in the *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 34 (2002)
- Cooperson, Michael, *Classical Arabic Biography: The Heirs of the Prophet in the Age of al-Ma'mun* (Cambridge University Press, 2000), in *Islamic Law and Society* 9 (2002), 417-20
- Berg, Herbert, ed., *Method and Theory in the Study of Islamic Origins* (E. J. Brill, 2003), in the *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 68 (2005), 118-20

Papers and lectures (principal):

“The Transmission of Knowledge and Muslim Identity: Medieval Institutions and Modern Problems,” at a symposium on “Madrasas: Higher Education and the Challenge of Modernity in the Contemporary Muslim world,” at the Institute on Culture, Religion, and World Affairs (CURA) at Boston University (May, 2005)

“The Transmission of Knowledge and Religious Authority: Medieval Institutions and Modern Problems,” at a conference at the University of Tokyo, on “Changing Knowledge and Authority in Islam” (March, 2004)

“Audience and Authority in Medieval Islam: The Case of Popular Preachers,” at a conference on “The Word, Audience, and Charisma: Preaching and Sermons in Europe, 1200-1600,” at Queens College, University of London (July, 2004)

“The Transmission of Knowledge and Muslim Identity: Medieval Institutions and Modern Problems,” at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, October, 2003

“Education as a Force for Change: A Medievalist’s Reflections on a Modern Problem,” plenary address at the 2003 meetings of the British Society for Middle East Studies, University of Exeter, July 14, 2003

“Popular Culture under the Mamluks: A Review,” at the International Conference on Mamluks, University of Chicago, May 6-8, 2003

“Cosmos, History, and a Medieval Muslim Preacher,” University of Chicago, January 2003, and at Mount Holyoke College, February 17, 2000

“The Clash of Civilizations: Has Culture Become a Security Issue?” Institute for World Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, November, 2002

“Jihad, Crusade, and the Politics of Religion,” Davidson College and other locations, various dates

“Popular Preaching, Storytelling, and Religious Authority in Medieval Islam,” at the Carolina Seminar for Comparative Islamic Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, January 29, 2001

“The *Muhtasibs* of Cairo Under the Mamluks: Toward an Understanding of an Islamic Institution,” at a conference on “The Mamluks in Egyptian and Syrian Politics and Society” at the Universities of Haifa and Tel Aviv, May, 2000

A series of lectures on the topic of “The Book, Reading, and Religious Authority in Medieval Islam” at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, in April-May, 2000

“Elite Authority and Popular Power: Storytellers and Religious Knowledge in Medieval Egypt,” conference on “Elites in the World of Classical and Medieval Islam,” Tel Aviv University, December, 1998

“Storytelling, Preaching, and Power in the Medieval Islamic Near East,” 1997 meetings of the Middle East Studies Association, San Francisco, November, 1997

Participant in a round-table discussion on “Transitions: From Mamluk to Ottoman, Ottoman to Modern Egypt,”

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Washington University in St Louis/American Research Center in Egypt Annual Meeting, April 12 and 13, 1996

“Circumcision Circumscribed: Female Excision and Cultural Accommodation in the Medieval Near East,” in the Mellon Seminar on “Gender and Alterity in Near Eastern Societies,” Princeton University, April 20, 1995

“Remembering Islam: Tradition and Innovation in the Medieval Middle East,” 1995 meetings of the Medieval Academy of America, Boston, March 30, 1995

“Tradition, Innovation, and the Social Construction of Knowledge in Medieval Islam,” University of Pennsylvania, February 28, 1995

“The Mamluks as Muslims: The Military Elite and the Construction of Islam in Medieval Egypt,” at conference on Mamluks and Ottomans, Bad Homburg, Germany, December 12, 1994

“Arabic Culture,” Institute of World Affairs, Salisbury, Connecticut (December, 1992)

Discussant for a panel on “The Construction of Political Legitimacy in the Islamic Middle Period,” 1991 meetings of the Middle East Studies Association, Washington, D.C. (November, 1991)

“The Gulf War: A Middle Eastern Perspective,” presented at various locations (January-March, 1991)

“Endowment Deeds as a Source for the Social and Institutional History of Medieval Cairo: Problems and Prospects,” 1990 meetings of the Middle East Studies Association, San Antonio, Texas (November, 1990)

“Mamluks and the World of Higher Education in Medieval Cairo,” a paper presented at the Princeton University/École des Hautes Études Conference on the Transmission of Religious Knowledge in Islam, Princeton University (April, 1989)

“Educated Mamluks and the Transmission of Knowledge in Medieval Cairo,” a paper presented at the annual meetings of the American Research Center in Egypt, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (March, 1989)

“Early and Medieval Islamic History, 600-1500” and “The Development of the Legal and Religious Sciences in Early Islam,” lectures delivered at the American University in Cairo (June/July, 1987)

“Market Inspectors and Morals in Medieval Cairo,” a paper presented at the Netherlands Institute for Archaeological and Arabic Studies, Cairo, Egypt (December, 1986)

Professional activities:

Associate Editor (Islamic section), *Dictionary of the History of Ideas* (Charles Scribner's & Sons)

Sectional Editor (History, 1100-1500), *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, 3rd edition (E. J. Brill)

Member of the editorial board of *Studia Islamica* (2001–present)

Book Review Editor (Islamic and Modern Egypt), *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt* (1991-2000)

Reviewed grant proposals for: National Endowment for the Humanities (1989-90 and 2003-04); American Council

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of Learned Societies (1992-93, 1996-97); American Research Center in Egypt (1994-95)

Reviewed articles submitted to: *Islamic Law and Society*; *International Journal of Middle East Studies*; *Comparative Studies in Society and History*; *Canadian Journal of History*; *Mamluk Studies Review*, and manuscripts submitted to various university and academic presses

Served on the dissertation committee for Robert Crews, PhD candidate in History, Princeton University, September, 1999; Megan Reid, PhD candidate in Religion, Princeton University, April, 2005

Served on the nominating committee for the American Research Center in Egypt (1996)

Served on the Hourani Book Prize committee of the Middle East Studies Association, 2005

Member of the Board of Governors of the American Research Center in Egypt (1999-2002)

Brief book reviews for: *Choice*; *al-^cUsur al-Wusta* (the newsletter of Middle East Medievalists)