

Mourad Laabdi

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Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=bF4_2asAAAAJ

Academic Employment

- 2021 – Current: Assistant Professor**
Qatar University, College of Sharia and Islamic Studies (Qatar)
- 2018 – 2021: Instructor I**
Carleton University, College of the Humanities (Canada)
- 2017 – 2018: Professor**
Seneca College, School of English and Liberal Studies (Canada)
- 2012 – 2016: Lecturer**
University of Toronto, Department for the Study of Religion (Canada)
- 2003 – 2005: Lecturer**
Université Ibn Zohr, Department of English (Morocco)

Education

- 2017/07: Ph.D. in Religious Studies (Islamic Studies concentration)**
University of Toronto, Department for the Study of Religion (Canada)
- 2006/10: Research M.A. in Cultural Analysis**
University of Amsterdam, Graduate School of Humanities (The Netherlands)
- 2004/01: M.A. in Cultural Studies**
Université Mohammed Ben Abdallah, Department of English (Morocco)
- 2001/07: B.A. in English**
Université Ibn Zohr, Department of English (Morocco)

Research Interests

Islamic legal history, history of juristic disagreements (*ikhtilāf*), Ibn Rushd (Averroes), Islamic intellectual history, modern Muslim educational reforms, Islamic culture.

Publications

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

- 2024: Laabdi, Mourad. "Islamization of Knowledge as a 'Muslim Question': The Critique of *Islāmiyyat al-Maʿrifah* Between Universality, Cultural Locality, and the Rhetoric of the Crisis of Islam," *Islamic Studies* 63-3 (2024): 277-99. DOI: [10.52541/isiri.v63i3.3318](https://doi.org/10.52541/isiri.v63i3.3318)
- 2024: Laabdi, Mourad. "Ikhtilāf Before and After the Age of *Taqīd*: Rethinking Islamic Law Through the Lens of Juristic Disagreements." *The International Journal of Islam* 1-5 (May 2024): 1-20.
- 2024: Laabdi, Mourad and Aziz Elbittoui. "From *Aslamat al-Maʿrifa* to *al-Takāmul al-Maʿrifi*: A Study of the Shift from Islamization to Integration of Knowledge." In *Religions* 15-3, 342 (2024): 1-16. DOI: [10.3390/rel15030342](https://doi.org/10.3390/rel15030342).
- 2024: Laabdi, Mourad. "*ʿIlm al-ikhtilāf* in Modern Western and Muslim Studies of Juristic Disagreement: A Critical Analysis." *Journal of College of Sharia and Islamic Studies* 42-2 (2024): 185-210. DOI: [10.29117/jcsis.2024.0389](https://doi.org/10.29117/jcsis.2024.0389)
- 2021: Laabdi, Mourad. "Ibn Khaldūn between Legal Theory and Legal Practice." *Oxford Journal of Islamic Studies* 32:1 (2021): 27-61. DOI: [10.1093/jis/etaa046](https://doi.org/10.1093/jis/etaa046)
- 2018: Laabdi, Mourad. "Legal Controversy / *ʿIlm al-Khilāf*." *Oxford Online Bibliographies in Islamic Studies*. DOI: [10.1093/OBO/9780195390155-0257](https://doi.org/10.1093/OBO/9780195390155-0257)

BOOK REVIEWS:

- 2023: "*Modern Hadith Studies: Continuing Debates and New Approaches*, eds. Belal Abu-Alabbas, Michael Dann, and Christopher Melchert (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2020)." *Religion* 53-4 (2023): 741-43. DOI: [10.1080/0048721X.2023.2217597](https://doi.org/10.1080/0048721X.2023.2217597)
- 2017: "*The Study Qurʾān: A New Translation and Commentary*, eds. Seyyed H. Nasr et al. (New York: HarperCollins, 2015).": *Journal of Iranian Studies*, 50-3 (2017): 467-71. DOI: [10.1080/00210862.2017.1285602](https://doi.org/10.1080/00210862.2017.1285602)
- 2016: "*The Zāhiri Madhhab (3rd/9th-10th/16th Century): A Textualist Theory of Islamic Law* by Amr Osman (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2014)." *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 27-3 (2016): 345-47. DOI: [10.1080/09596410.2015.1108629](https://doi.org/10.1080/09596410.2015.1108629)
- 2015: "*The Shariʿa and Islamic Criminal Justice in Time of War and Peace* by Mohammed Bassiouni (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014)." *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*, 32-2 (2015): 107-10. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35632/ajis.v32i2.974>

- 2015: "Slavery, the State, and Islam by Mohammed Ennaji (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013)." *American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences*, 32-1 (2015): 104-06. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35632/ajis.v32i1.956>
- 2014: "The Formation of Islamic Hermeneutics: How Sunni Legal Theorists Imagined a Revealed Law by David R. Vishanoff (New Haven, CT: American Oriental Society, 2011)." *American Journal of Islam and Society*, 31-4 (2014): 146-48. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35632/ajis.v31i4.1081>
- 2010: "Derrida, an Egyptian: On the Problem of the Jewish Pyramid by Peter Sloterdijk. Trans. Wieland Hoban (Cambridge: Polity, 2009)." *Symposia: Journal of Religion*, 2 (2010): 1-3.
- 2009: "The Essential Seyyed Hossein Nasr, ed. William Chittick (Bloomington: World Wisdom, 2007)." *Transcendent Philosophy: International Journal for Comparative Philosophy and Mysticism*, 10 (2009): 307-09.

FORTHCOMING:

- Laabdi, "Ethics and the Hadith." In *Oxford Handbook of Islamic Ethics*. Ed. Mustafa Shah. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- _____. "Religious Studies, Orientalism, and the Question of Dialogue: A Conversation with Mohammed Khalifa." In *Al-Usus al-manhajiyya lil-ḥiwār bayn al-adyān: Dirāsa fī al-intāḡ al-ilmī li-Muḥammad Khalīfa Ḥasan*. Eds. Ali Euchī and Ahmad Huwaydi. Doha: Qatar University Press.
- _____. "Ibn Khaldūn." In *Biographies in Islamic Civilisation and Culture*. Ed. Mustafa Shah. London: IB Tauris Bloomsbury.
- _____. "What is the Sharia?" In *Islam in Five Minutes*. Ed. Edith Szanto. Sheffield: Equinox.
- _____. "Is the Sharia Brutal and Oppressive?" In *Islam in Five Minutes*. Ed. Edith Szanto. Sheffield: Equinox.
- _____. "Do Muslim Jurists Differ about the Content of the Sharia?" In *Islam in Five Minutes*. Ed. Edith Szanto. Sheffield: Equinox.
- Laabdi and Youssef Ban El Mahdi. "Al-Maqrīzī." In *Biographies in Islamic Civilisation and Culture*. Ed. Mustafa Shah. London: IB Tauris Bloomsbury.
- _____. "Abū al-Ḥasan al-Ashʿarī." In *Biographies in Islamic Civilisation and Culture*. Ed. Mustafa Shah. London: IB Tauris Bloomsbury.
- _____. "Ibn ʿAbdi Rabbih." In *Biographies in Islamic Civilisation and Culture*. Ed. Mustafa Shah. London: IB Tauris Bloomsbury.

UNDER REVIEW:

- Laabdi, *The Other Averroes: Law, Language, and the Craft of Juristic Disagreement*. Brill's Series of Islamic History and Civilization (book).

Conference Activity

CONFERENCE PAPERS:

- 2024: "History of Islamic Studies and Islamic Legal Studies in Western Universities: Conceptual and Methodological Challenges" (تاريخ الدراسات الإسلامية والفقهية في الجامعات) (الغربية: تحديات المنهج والمفهوم), *Modern Western Approaches to Islamic Studies: Critical Revisions Conference*, College of Sharia and Islamic Studies and Nohoudh Center for Research, Qatar University, Doha, October 5.
- 2023: "From Diversity to Pluralism: Islam's Approach to 'Getting to Know' Each Other." *Global Youth Interfaith & Intercultural Forum Qatar 2023*, Doha. February 11-14.
- 2019: "Ibn Khaldūn on Law and Society: The Germ of a Social History of Islamic Law." *BRAIS: The Annual Conference of the British Association of Islamic Studies*, Nottingham University, England, April 15-16.
- 2017: "The Religious Other in Muslim Dietary Laws: Ibn Rushd's Ethical and Legal Logic of Pluralism." *American Academy of Religion, Eastern International Regional Meeting, "Diversity and Equality: Texts, Traditions, and Trends,"* April 28-29. University of Waterloo, April 29.
- 2017: "Non-Muslims in Muslim Dietary Laws: *Halal* Meat Debates in Twelfth Century Cordoba." *Prandium Seminar Series*, Department of Historical Studies, University of Toronto Mississauga, March 22. Recipient of the 2017 Prandium Honorarium Prize.
- 2013: "Law and Morality in Islam: Remarks on Ibn Rushd's *Bidāyat al-Mujtahid*." *Graduate Colloquium Talk Series*, Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto, April 4.
- 2012: "Muhammad's Prophecy in Light of Islamic Philosophy: Avicenna (d.1037 CE)." *Canadian Society for the Study of Religion Annual Conference*, University of Waterloo and University of Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo, May 26-29.
- 2011: "Anthropology of Islam and its Colonial Heritage: Ernest Gellner's *Saints of the Atlas*." *Critical Theory and Islamic Studies Conference*, McGill Institute of Islamic Studies, Montreal, April 29-30.
- 2009: "The Ambiguous AlterNative: The Making of Moroccan Berber Identity in Franco-Berbère Schools." *International and Intercultural Relations in the Near and Middle East Graduate Conference*, Near and Middle East Civilization, University of Toronto, March 5.
- 2009: "The Golden Rule at the Limit of Faith and Reason Alone: Reflections on Kant's *Religion*." *The Golden Rule and Reciprocity: Theory in Practice Graduate Conference*, Concordia University, Montreal, February 5.

2009: "On a Universal Religion of Reason." *Ethnic and Pluralism Studies Graduate Conference*, the Munk Centre, University of Toronto, January 29.

2006: "Islam as the Undecided in Jacques Derrida's Philosophy of Religion." *Following Derrida Legacies International Conference*, University of Manitoba, October 5.

INVITED LECTURES AND PUBLIC TALKS:

2021: "Islamophobia as an Industry and Field of Research: The Case of North America" (الإسلاموفوبيا بين الصناعة و الدراسة: أمريكا الشمالية أنموذجا), paper delivered in Arabic to the College of the Sharia and Islamic Studies, Qatar University, November 3.

2020: "The Lighter Side of Islam: Humor from the Caliphate to the Islamic State." The Glebe Community Centre public lecture series, Ottawa, March 5.

2019: "Islam in the Modern World," invited lecture at the Learning in Retirement Program, Carleton University, November 29.

OTHER CONFERENCE ACTIVITY:

2024: **Book Discussant**, *Semiotics of Nature: Recharging Nature with Meaning to Revive Environmental Ethics, Practice, and Institutions* by Recep Senturk; Earthna and the College of Islamic Studies, HBKU; Hamad Ben Khalifa University, Doha, October 3.

2024: **Paper Discussant**, "Interfaith Action to Protect the Rainforest: Lessons from Indonesia" by Fachruddin Mangunjaya; *Religion and the Environment: Moving from Values to Impact Conference*, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, June 3-4.

2023: **Research Project Discussant**, "The Global Environmental Challenge: Islamic and Christian Perspectives," Georgetown University and Qatar Foundation, Georgetown University Qatar, Doha, November 27-29.

2013: **Panel Chair**, "Islamic Law and Philosophy," American Academy of Religion, 2013, Eastern International Regional Meeting, University of Toronto, May 11.

2013: **Organizer and Chair**, "Crossroads of the Material and the Imaginative: A Discussion of Amira Mittermaier's *Dreams That Matter: Egyptian Landscapes of the Imagination*," American Academy of Religion, 2013, Eastern International Regional Meeting, University of Toronto, May 10.

2010: **Panel Chair**, "Challenges to State Authority," Annual Graduate Symposium, Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto, April 16.

2010: **Paper Discussant**, "Religion and Philosophy" panel, Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations Department's 14th Annual Graduate Student Conference, University of Toronto, March 3.

Service to the Academic Community

2024 – Current: **Editor, English Section**

Journal of College of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Qatar University

2024 – Current: **Department representative**, Committee of Learning Outcomes Assessment and Course Transfers (لجنة تقويم مخرجات التعلم والمعادلات), College of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Qatar University.

2022 – Current: **Member of the editorial board**, *Journal of College of Sharia and Islamic Studies*, Qatar University. <https://journals.qu.edu.qa/index.php/sharia>

2023 – 2024: **Book Reviews Editor**

Journal of College of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Qatar University

2022 – 2024: **Member** of the Committee of Initiatives in Learning and Teaching Excellence (لجنة متابعة مبادرات التميز في التعلم والتعليم), College of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Qatar University.

2021 – 2024: **Member** of the Scientific Committee of the Unit of Studies and Research (اللجنة العلمية لوحدة الدراسات والبحوث), College of Sharia and Islamic Studies, Qatar University.

2021 – 2022: **Coordinator** of “The Human Being in Islam” open course, Qatar University. <https://www.edx.org/course/human-being-in-islam>

2019 – 2020: **Co-organizer and moderator** of the Brown Bag Lunch Seminars, College of Humanities, Carleton University.

2018 – 2020: **Founder and moderator** of the “Scholar Circle,” Centre for the Study of Islam, Carleton University.

2015 – 2017: **Founder and moderator** of “Islamic Legal Texts Reading Group,” Department for the study of Religion, University of Toronto.

2012 – 2013: **Member** of “Islamic studies Work-in-Progress Reading Group,” Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto.

2010 – 2011: **Founder and moderator** of “Medieval Arabic Literature Reading Group,” Department for the study of Religion, University of Toronto.

2010 Winter: **Member** of the organizing committee of “Fighting Religion: Expressions of Violence and Resistance Annual Graduate Symposium,” Department for the study of Religion, University of Toronto.

2009 – 2010: **Member** of Graduate Student Association and the Student Steering Committee, Department for the study of Religion, University of Toronto.

Member of the "Religion in the Public Sphere Initiative," Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto.

Member of the "Religion, Culture and Politics Work-in-Progress Reading Group," Jackman Humanities Institute, University of Toronto.

2008 – 2010: **Review Editor** at the *Graduate Journal of the Department for the Study of Religion*, Department for the study of Religion, University of Toronto.

Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards

- 2022 – 2024:** **Research Grant**
Office of Research Support (ORS), Qatar University
ID: QUCG-CSIS 23-24/249
Research project: "Reason and Revelation: Ibn Rushd in a Paradigm Shift"
- 2017:** **Prandium Honorarium Prize**
Historical Studies Talk Series, University of Toronto
- 2011, 2012, 2013:** **Ontario Graduate Scholarship Award**
University of Toronto (also received in 2010, but declined)
- 2010:** **Study Elsewhere of Less Commonly Taught Languages Fund**
University of Toronto
- 2009, 2011, 2012:** **Conference Travel Grant**
Department for the Study of Religion, University of Toronto
- 2008:** **Kathleen Coburn Graduate Admission Award**
University of Toronto
- 2006:** **Conference Travel Grant**
Faculty of Arts, University of Manitoba
- 2006:** **Graeve Francken Fonds Grant**
University of Amsterdam

Professional Memberships

- 2019 – Current:** Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education
- 2010 – Current:** American Academy of Religion (AAR)
Canadian Society for the Study of Religion (CSSR)
Spain and North Africa Project (SNAP)