

# MEHMET KARABELA

---

E-mail: mkarabel@ur.rochester.edu • Department of Religion and Classics  
University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D.**, Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, Montreal

Dissertation: The Development of Dialectic and Argumentation Theory in  
Post-Classical Islamic Intellectual History

**M. A.**, Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, Montreal

**B. A.**, Faculty of Divinity, Dokuz Eylül University, Izmir

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Department of Religion and Classics, University of  
Rochester, USA, July 2024 – present

**Term Associate Professor**, School of Religion, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada,  
July 2023 – June 2024

**Assistant Professor**, Dept. of History, Queen's University, Jan. 2021 – June 2024

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, School of Religion, Queen's University, 2014 – 2018

**Senior Research Fellow**, Inter-University Consortium for Arab Studies and Middle  
Eastern Studies, McGill University, Canada, 2012 – 2017

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Islamic Thought Through Protestant Eyes*. New York and London: Routledge, 2022

Shortlisted for Reformation Research Consortium (REFORC) Book Award

Reviewed in:

- *Renaissance and Reformation*, 45/1 (2022): 225-227
- *Global Intellectual History* (2024): 270-272
- *The Seventeenth Century*, 37/2 (2022): 342-344
- *Int. Journal of the Asian Philosophical Association*, 15/2 (2022): 240-241
- *The New Arab*, 2022 (online)
- *Studies in Religion*, 52/1 (2023): 142-144
- *Reading Religion*, March 2023
- *Concordia Journal*, forthcoming 2024

*Mustafa Sabri*. Jakarta & Surabaya: Opsi Press, 2021

## **Book Chapters and Articles**

“Islam and Protestantism,” in *A Global Sourcebook in Protestant Political Thought, 1517–1914*, eds. Matthew Rowley and Marietta van der Tol. New York: Routledge, 2024.

“What is Political about Political Islam?” in *Political Theology on Edge: Ruptures of Justice and Belief in the Anthropocene*, eds. Catherine Keller and Clayton Crockett. New York: Fordham University Press, 2021

“Ibrahim al-Haydari and His al-Sirat al-Mustaqim” in *Christian-Muslim Relations: A Bibliographical History*, ed. David Thomas. Leiden: Brill, 2021

“Lovers in the Age of the Beloveds: The Classical Ottoman Divan Literature and the Dialectical Tradition” in *Beloved: Love and Languishing in Middle Eastern Literatures and Cultures*, eds. Michael Beard & Alireza Korangy. London: I.B. Tauris, 2018

“Ibn al-Rawandi” in *Oxford Encyclopaedia of Islam, Philosophy, Science and Technology*, ed. Ibrahim Kalin. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014

“Between Jadal and Burhan: Reading Post-Classical Islamic Intellectual History through Ibn Tufayl’s Novel, Hayy b. Yaqzan.” *Journal of the Faculty of Divinity of Ankara University* 54/2 (2013): 77-93

“Beşir Fuad and His Opponents: The Form of a Debate over Literature and Truth in Nineteenth-Century Istanbul”, *The Journal of Turkish Literature* 8 (2011): 96-106

## **Reviews and Short Articles**

“Wittgenstein’s Ladder – Political Theology Pedagogy”, *Political Theology Journal Network Initiative* 2019

“Islamist Thinkers in the Late Ottoman Empire and Early Turkish Republic”, *Insight Turkey* 19/1 (2017): 225-227

“Martyrdom in Modern Islam: Piety, Power and Politics”, *Journal of Religion and Violence* 4/2 (2016): 244-247

“Confronting Political Islam: Six Lessons from the West’s Past”, *Political Studies Review* 14/3 (2016): 438

“Tocqueville in Arabia: Dilemmas in a Democratic Age”, *Political Studies Review* 13/4 (2015): 629

“Rule of Law, Islam, and Constitutional Politics in Egypt and Iran”, *Political Studies Review* 13/3 (2015): 464-65

“Before and After Muhammad: The First Millennium Refocused”, *Studies in Religion* 44/2 (2015): 288-290

“Islamism and Post-Islamism: A Distinctive Form of Muslim Politics,” *Turkish Review* 5/4 (2015): 349-352

“To Carl Schmitt: Letters and Reflections by Jacob Taubes”, *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* 54/2 (2015): 380-382

“The Art of Dialectic between Dialogue and Rhetoric: The Aristotelian Tradition”, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 52/4 (2014): 841-842

“Archives and the Event of God: The Impact of Michel Foucault on Philosophical Theology”, *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review* 51/1 (2012): 173-176

“The Legend of the Middle Ages: Philosophical Explorations of Medieval Christianity, Judaism, and Islam”, *Philosophy East and West* 62/4 (2012): 605-608

“Working Out Egypt: Effendi Masculinity and Subject Formation in Colonial Modernity, 1870-1940”, *Canadian Journal of History* 47/3 (2012): 696-698

“An Introduction to Africana Philosophy”, *Canadian Journal of African Studies* 45/3 (2011): 605-608

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Undergraduate Courses at Queen’s Uni. (Religion):

- Islam in the Modern World (RELS 396)
- Islam (RELS 226)
- Religion and Politics in Muslim Societies (RELS 326)
- Religion and Democracy (RELS 340)
- Political Theology (under “Religion and Democracy”)
- Research Methods in Religious Studies (RELS 355)
- World Religions (RELS 131-B)
- Leonard Cohen and Religion (RELS 201), Winter 2024

Undergraduate Courses at Queen’s Uni. (History):

- Jews and Arabs in History until 1492 (HIST 221)
- Jews and Muslims in Modern Europe: The Enlightenment Origins of Islamophobia and Antisemitism (HIST 400)
- A Multi-Religious Empire: Jews, Christians, and Muslims in the Ottoman Empire (HIST 337)
- Muslim and Jewish Cultures in the Medieval Mediterranean (HIST 330-A)

#### Graduate Courses:

- Religion and Politics in Muslim Societies (RELS 826)
- Islam in the Modern World (RELS 896)
- Religion and Democracy (RELS 840)

#### **GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION (M.A.)**

“Post-Reformation Protestant Perception of Islam and Muslim Sects: A Study of *Oratio Persica* in Context”, Hasan Doagoo, M.A. thesis

“Political Theology and the Question of the Caliphate in Medieval Islam: An Analysis of Four Treatises on Caliphate/Imamate Theories during the Era of Three Caliphs (10th-11th Centuries),” Rahim Samnani, M.A. thesis

“Gender, Power and the Visible in Iranian Transnational Literature: A Study on Azar Nafisi’s *Reading Lolita in Tehran*,” Robin Houlihan, M.A. thesis

“Archives and the Event of Islamophobia: The English Defence League as a Case Study,” Queen’s University, Emma Sturgeon, M.A. thesis

#### **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION (Inquiry Research Paper Supervision)**

“Reading Arabic Love Poetry as a Source of Social History: A Study of Ibn Hazm’s Ring of the Dove”, Mariana Garic

“Remembering al-Andalus: The Legacy of Islamic Spain in the Cultural Products and Traditions of the Spanish Caribbean”, Thinugi Wickramasinghe

“Plague and Historical Memory: The Impact of the Black Death on Jewish Communities in Europe during the 14th century with a focus on the Poison Theory”, Emily Scott

“The El Libro Verde de Aragón and the El Tizón de la Nobleza: The Catholic Church’s Political Leverage Against the Spanish Monarchy”, Molly McGill

“An Empire Built Behind Closed Doors: An Examination of Spanish Diplomacy in the Sixteenth Century and the Making of Catholic European Hegemony”, Joshua Kautto

#### **PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND INVITED LECTURES**

“Leonard Cohen’s Spiritual Journey”, A Global History of Music Guest Speaker Series, Queen’s University, Kingston, Canada, 29 February 2024 (invited)

“Leonard Cohen in India”, Canadian Institute for Multicultural Diplomacy, Ottawa, ON, Canada, 19 November 2023

“Yunus Emre and the Reformation”, The Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, Maryland, Baltimore, USA, 26-29 October 2023

“Islam and the Reformation: Origins and the Modern Quest for Reform in Muslim Societies”, Muslim Societies and Global Perspectives at Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, 19 October 2023 (invited)

“Self-Othering in Yunus Emre’s Thought”, American Academy of Religion (AAR) – Eastern International Region Annual Meeting, Kingston, ON, 5-7 May 2023

“The Search for an Islamic Enlightenment: A Critical Analysis of the Debates in German Academia”, 2e Congrès Biennal Société Québécoise pour l’étude de la religion, Université du Québec a Montréal, Québec, 27-28 April 2023

“Reflections on Sufism and Lutheran Pietism”, Department of Religion, Philosophy, and Classics, Augustana University, Sioux Falls, SD, USA, 13 Dec. 2021 (invited)

“What is Political about Political Islam?”, TTC 2019 Political Theology at the Edge Conference, Drew University, Madison, NJ, USA, 29-31 March 2019 (invited)

“A Global Enlightenment?: The Eighteenth-Century Transformation of Islamic Theology,” Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, USA, 23 May 2017 (invited)

“The Dialectics of Philosophy and Faith in Islam,” Emmanuel College, University of Toronto, Canada, 29 November 2016 (invited)

“Knowns and Unknowns in Argumentation Theory in Islamic Intellectual History,” presented to the Conference on Argumentation and Theology, University of Tubingen, Germany, 21-23 February 2016 (invited)

“The Emergence of Modern Dialectic: A Comparison between Islamic and European Intellectual History,” XXIII World Congress of Philosophy, Athens, Greece, 4-10 August 2013

“The Uses of Dialectic in the Mihna: Contexts of the Abbasid Controversy,” American University of Beirut, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of History and Archaeology, Beirut, Lebanon, 22 February 2011

“The Linguistic Turn in Argumentation Theory in Post-Classical Islamic Intellectual History,” Zukunftphilologie: International Winter School for Doctoral and Postdoctoral Researchers, Department of Arab and Islamic Civilizations, American University in Cairo, Egypt, 5-16 December 2010

“Between Truth and Victory: Trans/Formation of Argumentation Theory in Post-Classical Islamic Intellectual History,” 25th Annual New England Medieval Studies Conference on Form and Transformation in the Middle Ages, Brown University, Rhodes Island, USA, 1 March 2008

“The Logic of Disputation in the Early Modern European and Islamic Intellectual Histories: A Comparison between the Genres of Post-Medieval Latin *Ars Disputandi* and Arabic *Adab al-Bahth*,” International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, University of New Brunswick, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 26-28 June 2008

“From *Adab al-Jadal* to *Adab al-Bahth*: New Sources and Different Approaches to Islamic Intellectual History” presented to the Friends of Princeton University Libraries, Princeton University, NJ, USA, 10 November 2006

#### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIA**

**Event - Artistic Director**, “The Secret Chord: Celebrating the Legacy of Leonard Cohen”, Isabel Centre, Queen’s University, Canada, 13 March 2024

**Moderator**, “Golden Boy, Our Leonard: A Conversation with Anna Pottier”, School of Religion, Donald Mathers Memorial Lectureship, Queen’s University, 15 Feb. 2024

**Moderator**, “‘Je me Souviens’, An Evening with the Artist: Aquil Virani”, Muslim Societies and Global Perspectives (MSGP), Queen’s University, 31 January 2024

**Panel Organizer** (with Prof. Nicholas Terpstra), “Islamic and Christian Exchanges in the Long Reformation”, Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, USA, 26-29 October 2023

**Editorial Board Member**, *Reading Religion*, A Publication of the American Academy of Religion (AAR), Islam & Reformation Studies, 2022 – present

**External Reviewer**, Wiley-Blackwell, I. B. Tauris, Bloomsbury, *Journal of Religious History, Philosophies, Religions, and Dialogue: C. Philosophical Review*, 2014 – 2023

**Journal Area Editor** “Islam”, *Open Theology*, De Gruyter, 2017 – present

**International Conference Event Organizer**, “Islamism and Post-Islamism: Religious and Political Transformations in Muslim Societies,” Queen’s University, 13-14 March 2015

**Committee Member**, Queen’s University, Graduate Admission Committee Member, School of Religion, Canada, 2014 – 2015

**Associate Editor**, Book Series / Theology & Religious Studies, De Gruyter & Springer, 2015

#### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

Canada Council for the Arts, Public Lending Rights Program for Canadian Authors, 2024 - present

Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development, Queen's University, Kingston, 2023 (\$5,000)

American Academy of Religion's Eastern International Regional Meeting Travel Grant, 2023

Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development, Queen's University, Kingston, 2021 (\$2,250)

Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development, Queen's University, Kingston, 2018 (\$1,900)

Research Grant, International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT), Virginia, USA, 2017, (\$2,500)

Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development, Queen's University, Kingston, 2017 (\$2,500)

Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development, Queen's University, Kingston, 2016 (\$2,500)

Bernice Nugent Fund, Organizing Islamism and Post-Islamism Conference, Department of History, Queen's University, Kingston, 2015 (\$3,500)

School of Religion Conference Fund, Organizing Islamism and Post-Islamism Conference, School of Religion, Queen's University, Kingston, 2015 (\$6,500)

Research Initiation Grant, Faculty of Arts and Science, Queen's University, 2014 (\$2,000)

Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development, Queen's University, Kingston, 2013 (\$2,500)

Grant for the Winter School, Forum Transregionale Studien, Germany, 2010 (\$1,500)

Dissertation Fellowship, Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, 2008 (\$7,500)

Princeton University Library Research Grant, Princeton University, USA, 2006 (\$2,500)

SSHRC, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship, Canada, 2004 (\$40,000, 2 years)

## **RESEARCH LANGUAGES**

Arabic, Ottoman Turkish, French, German, and Latin