# JOSEPH LEONARDO VIGNONE, PHD (he/him/his)

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#### **EDUCATION**

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Histories and Cultures of Muslim Societies

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences | NELC; Cambridge, MA; 2021

Committee: Khaled El-Rouayheb, Ahmed Ragab, Kathryn Kueny, Justin K. Stearns

Dissertation: Bodies of Knowledge: Medicine, Memory, and Enhancement in Medieval Islam

Master of Arts (AM) in Histories and Cultures of Muslim Societies

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences | NELC; 2015

Master of Theological Studies (MTS) in Islamic Studies

Harvard Divinity School; Cambridge, MA; 2013

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Theology and in History; Minor in Middle East Studies

Fordham University Lincoln Center | Honors College; New York, NY; 2011

**Professional Certification** in Translating and Interpreting Modern Standard Arabic

New York University School of Continuing and Professional Studies; New York, NY; 2010

#### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

"Fear and Learning in Medieval Islam: Dread as Affective Marker for the Scholarly Class" *Body and Religion*, Vol. 3.1, 2019, pp. 27–51.

"There Are Two Kinds of Knowledge': Food as Medicine in the Islamic World"

Exhibition catalogue entry for *Dining with the Sultan: the Fine Art of Feasting at the Islamic Courts*; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, forthcoming 2022

#### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

"An Islamicist at I Tatti"

I Tatti Center for Italian Renaissance Studies Newsletter, Vol. 4, 2020, pp. 6–7

#### CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PAPERS

"Contagion, Causality, Critique: A Late-Mamluk Digest of Natural Science" *Middle East Studies Association*, 2021

"The Scholar's *Rasāyana*: Ayurvedic Enhancement in Medieval Islamic Ethics" The American Academy of Religion, 2021

"Gender and the Efficacy of Intrinsic Natures in Eleventh-Century Khorasan" Workshop on Arabic & Islamic Studies, Harvard, 2019

"Contagion and the Limits of Medicine in Late-Medieval Islam"

CREOR Graduate Student Conference, McGill University, 2019

Science, Religion and Culture Annual Symposium, Harvard Divinity School, 2019

"To Have Knowledge is to Dread God"

The American Academy of Religion, 2018

"Diet in Medieval Islamic Education: An Eleventh-Century Culinary Syllabus" Ways of Knowing Conference, Harvard, 2015
Workshop on Arabic & Islamic Studies, Harvard, 2015

"Diet in Medieval Islamic Education: A Fourteenth-Century Culinary Syllabus" *Middle East History and Theory (MEHAT)*, University of Chicago, 2015

#### "Esotericism in the Formative Period of Ismailism: A Methodological Intervention"

Ways of Knowing, chair and presenter for "Decentering Western Epistemologies," Harvard, 2014

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Lecturer; Dartmouth College; Department of Religion; Hanover, NH; 2019–2021

Serving as primary instructor (remotely for AY2020-21 due to the COVID-19 pandemic):

An Introduction to Islam (Fall Quarter 2021; REL8)

Magic, Miracles, and the Prophet Muhammad (Fall Quarter 2022; REL19.2)

An Introduction to Islam (Spring Quarter 2021; REL8)

Islam and Medicine from the Medieval to Modern Eras (Spring Quarter 2021; REL19.30)

Disease and Desire in Medieval Islam (Fall Quarter 2020; REL19.1)

Magic, Miracles, and the Prophet Muhammad (Fall Quarter 2020; REL19.2)

An Introduction to Islam (Winter Quarter 2020; REL8)

Islam and Medicine from the Medieval to Modern Eras (Winter Quarter 2020; REL19.30)

**Teaching Fellow**; Harvard; 2015–2017; 2018–2019

Serving as secondary, student instructor under Harvard professors:

Medicine, Gender, and Sexuality in the Modern Middle East (Spring 2019; Bayoumi),

The Empire Strikes Back: Science Fiction, Religion, and Society (Fall 2018; Ragab and Roosth)

Medicine, Piety, and Patienthood in Medieval and Modern Islam (Fall 2018; Ragab)

Medicine and Religion in the Medieval Islamic World (Spring 2017; Ragab)

Bodies and Sexualities in the Medieval Middle East (Fall 2016; Ragab)

*Elementary Arabic A/B* (AY2015; Granara)

#### INVITED LECTURES, ROUNDTABLES, AND SEMINARS

#### "Does God Speak? The Christian Trinity and Islam's First Doctrinal Crisis"

Invited guest lecture, for Prof. Gregory Given's *Deviance and the Divine* course, Stonehill College, 2021

#### "Islam and Science in Afro-Eurasia: New Directions Workshop"

Invited research presentations on Islam and Africa, UC Berkley & University of Chicago, 2020

#### "Post-Prospectus: Writing Your Dissertation"

Invited talk for junior doctoral students, Workshop on Arabic & Islamic Studies, Harvard, 2020

#### "Designing and Teaching Your Own Courses in Islamic Studies"

Invited talk for junior doctoral students, Workshop on Arabic & Islamic Studies, Harvard, 2020

### "Representing Marginal Voices in Undergraduate Syllabi"

Invited talk for Middle East Science, Religion & Culture Work Circle, the Center for Black, Brown & Queer Studies; Cambridge, MA, 2019

## "Inclusion of the Marginalized and Underrepresented in Graduate Education"

Invited roundtable, the Center for Public Service & Engaged Scholarship, the Office of Diversity, Education & Support; Harvard, 2019

# "Translation and the Making of a Medical Archive: the Case of the Islamic 'Translation Movement'" by Ahmed Ragab

Invited paper discussant, Middle East Beyond Borders Workshop, Harvard, 2018

"Serving as a Harvard Teaching Fellow: What I Wish I Knew and What I've Learned" Invited talk, Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations Doctoral Colloquium, Harvard, 2018

"Seeking Out the Lost Philosophy of Abu Bakr al-Razi" by Julia Hintlian; "Philosophies of Mysticism in Early Twentieth Century India" by Faraz Alidina; "Akhundzadah & Sabzavari on the Masnavi" by Rob Ames

Invited paper discussant and moderator, Islam and Modernity Panel, the *Science, Religion and Culture Doctoral Fellows Symposium*, Harvard Divinity School, 2017

"Yazīd b. Abī Ḥabīb's Speech on the Fitna of Scholars and its Plagiarized Imitation as a Ḥadīth" by Arafat A. Razzaque

Invited paper discussant, Workshop on Arabic & Islamic Studies, Harvard, 2017

- "Science and Technology in the Islamic Middle Periods"; Annemarie Schimmel Kolleg, Universität Bonn; Bonn, Germany, 2017
- "Aphrodisiacs in 10th-Century Medicine and Cuisine" by Shireen Hamza Invited paper discussant, *Workshop on Arabic & Islamic Studies*, Harvard, 2016
- "Applying to Doctoral Programs in Religious Studies"
  Invited talk, Harvard Divinity School's Ways of Knowing Conference, 2016

"Diet in Medieval Islamic Education"

Invited guest lecture, for Prof. Justine Landau's Sweet and Sour course, Harvard, 2016

"Can Pain Be Good? Muslim Theologians and Legal Theorists on the Question of Animal Pain" by Nuri Friedlander

Invited paper discussant, Middle East Beyond Borders Workshop, Harvard, 2016

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND OTHER EXPERIENCE

**Managing Editor**; *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*; Duke University Press; 2019-2022 Evaluating submissions for peer review and publication; corresponding with DUP, manuscript authors, peer reviewers; overseeing website design and consolidation projects with partners at the *Association of Middle East Women's Studies*; preparing and presenting reports on the Journal's pipeline for presentation at the Middle East Studies Association annual meeting **Thesis Reader**; Dartmouth College; 2021

Serving as thesis adviser and reader for a student studying international affairs in the Islamic world **Research Assistant**; Harvard; 2014–2015; 2018–2020

Conducting research and assembling bibliographies for Ahmed Ragab and Katharine Park's *A New History of Medieval Science: Knowledge and Its Objects in Latin Europe and the Islamicate World, 750–1650* 

Copyediting and creating indices for the manuscript of *Medicine and Religion in the Life of an Ottoman Sheikh: al-Damanhūrī's "Clear Statement" on Anatomy* (2019) by Ahmed Ragab Copyediting the manuscript of *The Medieval Islamic Hospital* (2015) by Ahmed Ragab as well as managing its English, French and Arabic formatting

Conducting research and assembling bibliographies for Ahmed Ragab on medical, bioethical, anthropological and religious issues facing modern Muslim communities, the genres of *asbāb alnuzūl*, prophetic medicine, prophetic biography and medieval science

**Berenson Collection Docent**; I Tatti Center for Italian Renaissance Studies; Florence, Italy; 2019 Providing garden, landscape and art historical tours to the public on behalf of Villa I Tatti, including its holdings in European portraiture, Middle Eastern textiles and East Asian statuary

Course Assistant; Harvard; 2019

Managing the course sites for *Critical Approaches to the Study of Science and Religion* under Ahmed Ragab and *Communities of Knowledge: Science, Religion and Culture in Medieval Europe and Islam* under Ahmed Ragab and Katharine Park

Coordinator; Harvard; 2016–2017; 2018–2019

Serving as coordinator for the interdisciplinary, peer-led *Workshop on Arabic & Islamic Studies*; vetting research submissions and grant proposals from Harvard graduate students concerning the precolonial Middle East and Africa; providing a space for communal mentorship of graduate underclassmen at Harvard; inviting and organizing travel for guest speakers; apportioning institutional funding; organizing catering services

Peer Reviewer; Harvard; 2016–2018

Serving on several peer review boards for Harvard's 2018 *Ways of Knowing* Conference Serving on the Religion and Migration, Bodily Ways of Sharing Knowledge, and Materiality and Spatiality in the Study of Religion review boards for the 2017 *Ways of Knowing* Conference Serving on the Medieval, Islam and Intellectual History peer review boards for the 2016 *Ways of Knowing* Conference

Freelance Translator; Harvard Law School; Cambridge, MA; 2017

Providing *pro bono* translation services for documents written in Arabic dialects on behalf of the Harvard Immigration & Refugee Clinical Program

Coordinator/Cofounder; Harvard; 2016

Serving as coordinator for the interdisciplinary, peer-led *Workshop on Humanity & the Humanities*, an initiative to discuss how we define the analytical category "human" in our work **Arabic Editor**; University of Michigan; Ann Arbor, MI; 2014–2015

Providing transliteration and translation consultation for the Egyptian and Standard Arabic content of Yasmin Moll's dissertation in cultural anthropology, entitled *Producing Islam:* Da'wa and Television in the "New Egypt"

Community Organizer; Park51 Islamic Community Center; New York, NY; 2011 Managing exposure in New York and national media outlets; developing vetting and hiring processes for imam candidates; drafting bylaws for the Boards of Directors and Advisers; petitioning local/federal politicians and religious leaders for support; managing fundraisers and interfaith initiatives, including a capital campaign totaling over \$70,000 in contributions for the onsite NYChildren Art Exhibit

Editorial Intern; Commonweal Magazine; New York, NY; 2010–2011

Proofreading manuscripts under strict deadlines; negotiating terms with magazine benefactors; managing magazine website; proposing content changes at regular editorial meetings

#### AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2021–2022; Visiting Fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

2020–2021; Research Grant, Dartmouth College Department of Religion

2020–2021; Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

2020; Summer Assistance Award, Harvard GSAS

2019–2020; Research & Pedagogy Fellowship, Center for Black, Brown & Queer Studies

2019; I Tatti Center for Italian Renaissance Studies Graduate Fellowship, Florence, Italy

2018–2019; Science, Religion & Culture Doctoral Fellowship, Harvard Divinity School

2018–2019; Teaching Fellowship, Harvard GSAS

2017–2018; Visiting Fellowship in History of Science, Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris

2015-2017; Teaching Fellowship, Harvard GSAS

2014; FLAS Fellowship for the study of hadīths, Qasid Institute, Amman, Jordan

2013; Critical Language Scholarship, Noor Majan Institute, Ibri, Oman

2012; Arabic FLAS Fellowship, Qasid Institute, Amman

2011–2014; Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship

2011–2013; Dean's Fellowship, Harvard Divinity School

2010; The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics

# GENERAL AND SPECIAL FIELDS OF EXPERTISE

Islamic Theology & Philosophy

Political & Economic History of the Near East

Medieval & Early-Modern Islamic Historiography

The Hadith Sciences 900-1600 AD

#### RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Classical Arabic	Modern Standard Arabic	Levantine Arabic	German	Italian
Persian	French	Modern Turkish	Spanish	