Islamic Modernities: Time and Space

Midwest Association for Middle East and Islamic Studies
- and -
Middle East & Islamic Studies, University of Louisville

University of Louisville
Louisville, KY
April 16-17, 2015

Keynote Speaker: Asma Afsaruddin, Chair and Professor, NELC, Indiana University

The Midwest Association for Middle East and Islamic Studies and University of Louisville’s Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies program are pleased to present this joint conference on Islamic Modernities: Time and Space at the University of Louisville, April 16-17, 2015.

Modernity serves as a dynamic lens for viewing a wide range of transformations in Middle Eastern and Islamic societies, even as no generally accepted definition of modernity has yet emerged. The scholarly discussion on modernity has broadened to view this as not only a global, structural transformation centered on Europe, but a process that has created “many modernities,” each with its own local vernacular form. Moreover, modernity has been recognized as not only a temporal period, but also a process manifested in spatial relationships that shape, and are shaped by, historical agents. This conference will highlight current research related to theorizing and applying the concept of “modernity” to Middle East and Islamic studies in a broad, interdisciplinary manner.

For more information, contact: James.Gustafson@indstate.edu or Julie.Peteet@louisville.edu

http://www.mameis.org
http://www.louisville.edu/meis
THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH

1:00-1:15 Welcome Address
Ekstrom, W104

Dean's Office
Dr. Julie Peteet, Director, Middle East & Islamic Studies

1:15-4:30 Session I: Modernity in Time and Space
Ekstrom W104
Chair: Greg Hutcheson, University of Louisville

James M. Gustafson, Assistant Professor, Indiana State University.
Modernity and the Spatial Imagination of Iranian Elites, 1870-1900

H. Lyman Stebbins, Assistant Professor, LaSalle University
Modernity, Imperialism, and Spheres of Influence in Late Qajar Iran

Todd Reisz, Visiting Assistant Professor, Yale University
"A Deep Reverence to the Region's History"

Kevin W. Martin, Assistant Professor, Indiana University
The Public Security Speak with 'the Voice of Syria': Syria's First Experiment with Authoritarian Culture

Break 4:30-5:00

5:00-6:30 Keynote Lecture
Chao Auditorium
Chair: Maryam Moazzen, Assistant Professor, University of Louisville

Asma Afsaruddin, Chair and Professor, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Indiana University
Islam and the Challenge of Modernity

7:30 Conference Dinner
Saffron’s Mediterranean
131 Market St.
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 584-7800
FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH

9:00-11:45 Session II: Intellectual History
Ekstrom W104
Chair: Gray Henry, Fons Vitae

Coeli Fitzpatrick, Associate Professor, Grand Valley State University.
Averroes in the Image of the Modern: How a Thinker is Shaped (and Misshaped) for the Legacy of Medieval Islam

Maryam Moazzen, Assistant Professor, University of Louisville.

Khadija E. Fouad, School of Education, Indiana University, Bloomington.
Compatibility of Science and Religion in the Modern World in the Context of Biological Evolution

Mohamed Wajdi Ben Hammed, Ph.D. Student, University of Notre Dame
On Societal Disintegration and the Rise of Antisocial Utopias in Mohammed Achaar’s The Arch and the Butterfly

11:45:12:45 Conference Lunch, University Club

1:00-3:15 Session III: Modernism in Ottoman Studies
Humanities RM 300
Chair: James M. Gustafson, Indiana State University

Zackery M. Heern, Assistant Professor, Murray State University.
Eighteenth-Century Islamic Reform: Modern Movements or Traditional Relics

Malissa Taylor, Assistant Professor, University of Louisville.
Islam, Reform, and the State in Ottoman Damascus

James N. Tallon, Assistant Professor, Lewis University.
The Islamic Modernisms of the Young Turk Period 1908-1913

3:30-5:45 Session IV: The Politics of Modernization in Turkey
Humanities RM 300
Chair: Pamela Beattie, University of Louisville

Nathan Young, Ph.D. Student, Ohio State University.
Loss and Reclamation: Economic Re-Purposing of Village Traditions in Western Turkey

Gul Aldikacti-Marshall, Associate Professor, University of Louisville
Gender Equality Policies and the Current Islamist Government in Turkey

Esma Erdogan Kilic, Ph.D. Student, Indiana University-Bloomington.
Power Relations, Asabiyya and Islamic Tesettur Styles in Turkey

5:45-6:00 Concluding remarks: James M. Gustafson, Indiana State University; President, MAMEIS