

## **Michael H. Dann**

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### **Education**

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**Princeton University**, Ph.D. Department of Religion, 2015.

Dissertation: "Contested Boundaries: The Reception of Shī'ite Narrators in the Sunnī Hadith Tradition"

**Princeton University**, M.A. Department of Religion, 2012.

**University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**, B.A. Department of Near Eastern Studies, 2006.

### **Professional Experience**

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**University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**, Assistant Professor in Department of Religion, 2015-present.

**The College of New Jersey**, Adjunct Professor in Department of Philosophy, Religion and Classical Studies, 2012-13.

**Princeton University**, Assistant Instructor in Departments of Religion and Near Eastern Studies, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Fall 2014.

### **Awards and Fellowships**

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Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship (2014-15).

Merit Prize, granted and renewed annually by the Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University (2009-14).

William J. Fulbright Grant for research in Morocco (2007-8).

Critical Language Enhancement Award for language study in Morocco (2007).

Recognized for highest GPA among fellows at Center for Arabic Study Abroad at American University in Cairo, Egypt (2005).

Center for Arabic Study Abroad Fellow at American University in Cairo, Egypt (2004-5).

## Publications

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### *Peer Reviewed*

“Between History and Hagiography: The Mothers of the Imāms in Imāmī Historical Memory” in *Songs and Sons: Women, Slavery and Social Mobility in the Medieval Islamic World*, eds. Matthew Gordon and Kathryn Hain (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

### *Book Reviews*

Review of *Islamic Law in Theory: Studies on Jurisprudence in Honor of Bernard Weiss*, Kevin Reinhart and Robert Gleave, eds. (Boston: Brill, 2014) in *Journal of Islamic Studies* (forthcoming).

### *In Progress*

“A Survey of Shī‘ite Narrators in the Sunnī Hadith Tradition.”

“From Historical Criticism to Religious Freedom: The Intellectual Trajectory of Ḥasan Farḥān al-Mālikī.”

“The Morphology of Hadith: A Case Study.”

### *Other*

English translation of the Qur’anic Commentary of Muhammad Mutawalli al-Sha’rawī, Ch. 39, verses 1-33. Pgs 13013-13129 in Arabic edition (Cairo: al-Tayyiba lil-Nashr, 2014).

## Academic Presentations

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“Modern Islamic Scholarship Between Sectarian History and Histories of Sectarianism.” Paper at the annual meeting of the North American Association of Islamic and Muslim Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI, September 19, 2015.

“Contested Boundaries: The Reception of Shi’ite Narrators in the Sunni Hadith Tradition.” Paper at the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, December 11, 2014.

“Shi’ite Hadith Narrators, the Sunni Canon and the Problem of Orthodoxy in Islamic Studies.” Lecture at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL, December 8, 2014.

“A Muslim at Proudfoot’s Table: al-Ghazali on Experience.” Paper at annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic chapter of the American Academy of Religion at Mt. St. Mary’s College, Newburgh, NY, March 8, 2014.

"A Survey of Shi'ite Hadith Narrators in Sunni Collections." Paper at the annual meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association in New Orleans, LA, October 12, 2013.

"Through a Sectarian Lens: Mamlūk Era Hadith Scholars on Early Shī'ite Narrators." Paper at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society in Portland, OR, March 18, 2013.

"Hagiography of Slave-Women: The Mothers of the Imams in Imami Historical Memory." Paper at the annual meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association in Denver, CO, November 18, 2012.

"Hybrid Historiography in Saudi Arabia." Paper at the Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium, Princeton University, April 4, 2012.

"Hasan Farhan al-Maliki and Saving Islamic History: A Case Study in Contemporary Saudi Arabian Historiography." Paper at "Authenticity, Origins and Authority in the Practice and Study of Religion" conference at Brown University, March 17, 2012.

"A Middle Ground: Between Sunni and Shi'ite Perspectives in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Morocco." Paper at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Maghrebi Area Studies Symposium in Rabat, Morocco, April 18, 2008.

### **Other Lectures**

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Discussant for "Enmity for 'Alī and His Family: The Discourse between Anti-'Alid and Anti-Shī'ī Sentiment." Paper presented at the Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium, Princeton University, October 16, 2014.

Discussant for "Methodology in the Study of Contemporary Islamist Thought." Paper presented at the Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium, Princeton University, May 8, 2014.

"Negotiating Authority in Higher Islamic Education: Between Tradition and Research-Based Paradigms." Lecture at Zaytuna College, Berkeley, CA, April 5, 2014.

"What is Sufism?" Presentation for the annual "What Is?" Series of the Religion Department, Princeton University, February 6, 2014.

"Muhammad in Mecca." Lecture for Summer Intensive Seminar, Muslim Life Program, July 16, 2013.

"What are Sunnism and Shi'ism?" Presentation for the annual "What Is?" Series of the Religion Department, Princeton University, April 11, 2013.

“The People of the Book in the Qur’an.” Lecture for Qur’an Summer Intensive Seminar, Muslim Life Program, Princeton University, August 14, 2012.

“Dissimulation (*taqiyya*) and Abrogation.” Lecture for the Islamic Literacy Series at the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, April 12, 2011.

Discussant for “Follow the Religion of Abraham: The Place of Laws Revealed Before Islam (*shar’ man qablana*) in Qur’anic Exegesis and Islamic Legal Theory.” Paper presented at the Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium, Princeton University, October 7, 2010.

### Professional Service

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Panel on “Diversity and Debate in Hadith Scholarship” at annual meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association in New Orleans, LA (co-organizer, October 12, 2013).

Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium (co-organizer, 2011-12)

### Courses Taught

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#### *University of Illinois*

Introduction to Islam (RLST 214)

The Qur’an (RLST 223)

#### *The College of New Jersey*

Islam and Islamic Thought (REL 113)

#### *Princeton University*

Christian Ethics and Modern Society (REL 261) – Fall 2014

Muslims and the Qur’an (NES 240) – Fall 2012

Jihad: Just War and Holy War (REL 209) – Spring 2012

### Research Interests

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Sectarianism and Orthodoxy; Hadith; Shī‘ism; Sufism; Islamic Law; Islamic Theology; Historiography; Historical Memory; Religious Pluralism; Social and Political History of Medieval Islamic Societies; Modern Islamic Thought

### Professional Affiliations

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American Academy of Religion (AAR)

Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

American Oriental Society (AOS)

American Historical Association (AHA)

### **Languages**

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Arabic – Fluent in Modern Standard and Classical (Egyptian and Moroccan dialects)

Persian – Good reading, moderate spoken

Urdu – Reading with dictionary, some spoken

Spanish – Good reading, moderate spoken

German – Reading with dictionary

French – Reading with dictionary