IRENE OH

George Washington University

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**George Washington University, Washington, DC**

2020-present Chair, Department of Religion & Peace Studies

2011-present Associate Professor, Department of Religion

2009-2019 Director, Peace Studies Program

2009-2011 Assistant Professor, Department of Religion

**University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL**

2004-2009 Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies

## EDUCATION

2004 PhD, Religious Studies. Program in Theology, Ethics, and Culture. Presidential Scholar.

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

1999 MA, Divinity. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

1995 BA with High Honors (External Examination Program), Religion

 Minors: German and Philosophy. Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

## PUBLICATIONS

**Books**

2023 *What is Religious Ethics?* *An Introduction* (London: Routledge)

2007 *The Rights of God: Islam, Human Rights, and Comparative Ethics*

(Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press)

Book Discussion, *Journal of Religious Ethics* 38.3 (September 2010), with commentaries from Scott Davis, Sohail Hashmi, and David Hollenbach

Nominated:

2008 American Academy of Religion Book Award for Excellence

2008 Middle East Studies Association Albert Hourani Book Award

**Invited Articles**

Forthcoming “Gender and the Comparative Method,” Syndicate Symposium: Faraz Sheikh, *Forging Ideal Muslim Subjects* (https://syndicate.network/)

2023 With Diana Fritz Cates, “Teaching Religion and Upholding Academic Freedom,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 51.2 (May): 343-44, https://doi.org/10.1111/jore.12431

2020 “Reflections on the Field: COVID-19 and Religious Ethics,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 48.3 (September): 374-75

2020 “Decolonialism and the Future of Comparative Religious Ethics,” *Contending Modernities*  (<https://contendingmodernities.nd.edu)> (May)

2019 “The Religious Situation 1968/2018: The Abortion Debate,” *Religion of Religion and American Culture* 29.2 (Summer), 2-8

2017 “The Asian American Urban Vote: Why Geography Trumped Race and Religion,” *Faith and Resistance in the Age of Trump*, ed. Miguel De La Torre(Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books), 191-99

2016 “Theoretical Constructions of Muslim Motherhood,” *Muslim Mothering: Local and Global Histories, Theories, and Practices,* eds. M. Aziza Pappano and Dana M. Olwan (Ontario: Demeter Press), 283-94

2015 “Education and Labor,” *Asian American Christian Ethics: Voices, Methods, Issues*, eds. Grace Kao and Ilsup Ahn (Waco, TX: Baylor University Press), 225-43

2015 “Marriage and the Moral Traditions of Others: Teaching Religious Ethics and World Religions,” *American Academy of Religion, Religious Studies News: Spotlight on Teaching* (<http://rsn.aarweb.org/node/318>) (October 28)

2012 “Engendering Martyrs: Muslim Mothers and Martyrdom,” *Religious Ethics in a Time of Globalism: Shaping a Third Wave of Comparative Analysis,* eds. Elizabeth Bucar and Aaron Stalnaker (New York: Palgrave Macmillan), 65-79

2010 “A Response to David Hollenbach and Sohail H. Hashmi,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 38.3 (September), 594-97

2010 “Negotiating Feminist and Gender Studies: Roundtable Response,” *Journal of the Feminist Study of Religion* 26.1 (Spring), 139-42

2007 “Response to ‘Cultivating a Liberal Islamic Ethos, Building an Islamic Civil Society’” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 27.1 (Spring/Summer), 26-29

2005 “Le Comité des philosophes de l’UNESCO (1947-1948): À la recherché des fondements des droits de l’homme,” *60 ans d’histoire de l’UNESCO: Actes du colloque international, Paris, 16-18 novembre 2005* (Paris, France: UNESCO, 2007), 139-42

**Peer-Reviewed Articles and Essays**

2013 “Muslim Governance and the Duty to Protect,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 41.1 (March), 15-19

2011“Islamic Voices and the Reconsideration of Human Rights,” *Journal of Church and State* 53.3 (Summer), 376-400

2010 “Motherhood in Christianity and Islam: Critiques, Realities, Possibilities,” *Journal of Religious Ethics* 38.4 (December), 638-53

2010 “Sexing Comparative Ethics: Bringing Forth Feminist and Gendered Perspectives,” with Elizabeth Bucar and Grace Kao, *Journal of Religious Ethics* 38.4 (December), 654-59

2009 “The Performativity of Motherhood: Embodying Theology and Political Agency,” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics* 29.2 (Fall/Winter), 3-17

2008 “Approaching Islam: Comparative Ethics Through Human Rights,”

*Journal of Religious Ethics* 36.3 (September), 405-23

**Dictionary/Encyclopedia Articles**

2022 “Peacekeeping,” *Encyclopedia of Religious Ethics* Vol. 3*,* ed. William Schweiker (Wiley-Blackwell), 1321-27, <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118499528.ch149>

2011 “Islamic Conceptions of Human Rights,” *Handbook of Human Rights*, ed. Thomas Cushman (New York: Routledge), 255-265

2009 “Justice,” *Berkshire Encyclopedia of Sustainability: The Spirit of Sustainability*, ed. Willis Jenkins (Great Barrington, MA: Berkshire), 258-61

2009 “Religious Fundamentalism,” *Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Transnational History,* ed. Akira Iriye and Pierre-Yves Saunier (London: Palgrave Macmillan), 899-901

**Book Reviews**

2023 *Medicine and Shariah: A Dialogue in Islamic Bioethics*. Edited by Aasim I. Padela (University of Notre Dame Press, 2021),” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 90.3 <https://doi.org/10.1093/jaarel/lfad016> (July 14)

2017 *The Oxford Handbook of Religion, Conflict, and Peacebuilding,* eds. Atalia Omer, Scott Appleby, and David Little (Oxford University Press, 2015) *Religious Studies Review* 43.4 (December), 337-38

2010 “On Democracy, Violence, and the Promise of Islam: Review of *Arguing the Just War in Islam*, by John Kelsay (Harvard University Press, 2007),” *Journal of Church and State* 53.1 (January), 50-58

## PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

11/2022 “Women in Publishing,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

9/2022 “Religion, Biomedical Ethics, and CRISPR,” GARNET (Global Affairs and Religion Network) University Seminar, GW

11/2021 “Sumner B. Twiss’s Contributions to the Comparative Study of Religious Ethics,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Virtual

12/2020 “Book Discussion, Robert P. Jones, *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity,*” Religion and International Affairs Faculty Working Group, GW

1/2020 Panel, “Martin Nguyen, *Modern Muslim Theology,*”Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

2/2018 Graduate Student Workshop, “Religion and Human Rights,” Claremont School of Theology (via videoconference), Claremont, CA

9/2017 Graduate Student Workshop in Religion, Politics, and Culture, “The Sacrificial Mother: Maternal Health and Religion,” Georgetown University, Department of Theology, Washington, DC

1/2017 “Asian American Voters and the 2016 Presidential Election,” What Just Happened? Making Ethical Sense of the 2016 Election, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA

11/2015 Response to Panel, “*The Ethics of Social Difference, Global Interdependence, and Forced Migration*,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

1/2015 Panel, “Grant Writing for the Study of Muslim Ethics,” Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

1/2014 Response to Bonna Devora Haberman, “Toward CEDAW without Reservations—Beyond the Wall of Jewish Orthodoxy” and Shraga Bar-On, “A Woman’s Voice: Pleasure or Sin?” Society of Jewish Ethics Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA

3/2012 Invited Lecture, “Islam and the Environment,” University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

1/2012 “An Islamic Ethic of Eating: Balancing Food Choice, Piety, and Sustainability,” Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

1/2012 Response to James Turner Johnson, “*Journal of Religious Ethics* Celebration:  Honoring Barney Twiss and John Kelsay for a Decade of Leadership,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

11/2011 Response to Panel, “The Self and the Other in Comparative Religious Ethics,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA

1/2011 “Asian American Representations in Christian Literature: The Deadly Viper Controversy: A Response,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA

11/2010 “Halal: Food, Gender, and Ethical Reflection in Modern Muslim Communities,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

3/2010 “Engendering Martyrs: Muslim Mothers and Martyrdom,” Invited Workshop Participant, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School

11/2009 “Sources of Maternal Moral Authority,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada

9/2009 “Civil Society,” Invited Seminar Participant, European University Institute, Florence, Italy

5/2009 “Moral Worlds and Religious Subjectivities,” Invited Response to Saba Mahmood, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School

1/2009 “The Politics of Motherhood: Maternal Ethics and Political Identity,”

Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

1/2009 “The Women’s Caucus in 50 Years” Women’s Caucus, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

1/2009 “Response to Panel on The Rights of God,” Comparative Religious Ethics Interest Group, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

11/2008 “A Critical Assessment of John Kelsay’s Arguing the Just War in Islam,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

11/2007 “Mothers’ Movements: Motherhood, Religion, and Activism,”

American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA

1/2007 “Sex, Gender, and the Comparative Enterprise,” Comparative Religious Ethics Interest Group, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX

1/2006 “Contamination: Do Muslim Civil Societies Need Western Philosophy?” Response to Plenary, Jewish-Christian-Islamic Ethics Working Group,

Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ

11/2005 “Universalism and Diversity in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,” UNESCO History Symposium, Paris

4/2005 “Islamic National Identities and the Creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,” American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies

1/2005 “Tariq Ramadan on Islam in the West,”

Jewish-Christian-Islamic Ethics Working Group, Society of Christian Ethics, Miami, FL

11/2003 “Individuality Amidst Universality: Islamic Views on Democracy,”

American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

4/2003 “Teaching in Teams,” Teaching Resource Center, University of Virginia

2/2003 “Mission and Violence,” Religious Studies Department,

University of Virginia

11/2002 “Sin Boldly! Visions of the Moral Life,” Swarthmore College

10/2002 “Introduction to Islam,” University of Virginia Medical School

4/2001 “Interpreting Jihad,” Student Ethics Conference, University of Chicago

4/2000 “Islam: A Foundation for Reproductive Rights?”

Student Ethics Conference, University of Chicago

4/1999 “History, Humility…Christianity?”

Student Ethics Conference, University of Chicago

3/1998 “Reinhold Niebuhr: Religion, Ethics, and Politics in a Changing World,”

American Academy of Religion Midwest Region Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL

## GRANTS AND HONORS

2021- University Seminar Grant, “GARNET: Global Affairs and Religion Network” with Rollie Lal (2021-2022: $3,625, renewed 2022-2023: $4,000), George Washington University

2015National Endowment for the Humanities, “Summer Institute for College and University Faculty: American Muslims: History, Culture, and Politics” ($188,311)

2011-2012 Online Learning Initiative Grant, George Washington University ($5,000)

2010 UFF/Dilthey Summer Grant, George Washington University ($8,412)

2008 Max Orovitz Summer Grant, University of Miami ($10,000)

2006 Max Orovitz Summer Grant, University of Miami ($10,000)

2005 “Islam and the Reconsideration of Universal Human Rights,” Irmgard Coninx Foundation-Humboldt Universität International Juried Essay Competition Winner

2005 International Travel Grant, University of Miami

2005 Max Orovitz Summer Grant, University of Miami ($10,000)

2004 Summer Scholar, Erasmus Institute: “Ethics and International Relations”

2003-2004 Doctoral Fellow, Center on Religion and Democracy, University of Virginia

2003 Robert J. Huskey Travel Fellowship for American Academy of Religion,

University of Virginia

1999-2002 President’s Fellowship, University of Virginia

2001-2002 DuPont Fellowship, University of Virginia

2001 Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship for Arabic study, Yarmouk University, Jordan

2001 Dean’s Travel Grant for travel to Jordan and Syria, University of Virginia

2001 Seven Society Teaching Award, Nomination, University of Virginia

* 1. Divinity School Fellowship, University of Chicago

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**George Washington University**

2009-present Courses Taught

Christian Ethics and Modern Society

Current Issues in Bioethics

Ethics and the World Religions

Ethics in Literature and Film

Introduction to Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution

Introduction to World Religions

Peace Studies Capstone Project

Religion Senior Capstone Project

Religions Wage Peace (online)

Islam (online)

2013 Academic Director, Fulbright Cypriot Summer High School Program

2009-2010 Senior Theses Directed

Alyssa Vincent-Hill (Columbian College), “The Persisting Primacy of the Umma: A Comparative Study of Religious Frameworks and Community Autonomy in Kenya and Oman”—*Honors*

Sana Idrees (CCAS, 7-year Medical School program), “Human Organ Donation and Transplantation: An Islamic Jurisprudential Perspective”—*Honors*

Helena Bala (Elliot School of International Affairs), “Human Trafficking in Albania”—*Honors*

**University of Miami**

2004-2009 Assistant Professor, Religious Studies

Biomedical Ethics

Introduction to Islam

Introduction to Religion

Majors and Minors Seminar

Religion and American Politics

Religion and Globalization

Religion and Moral Choices

Sex, Gender, and Ethics

## PROFESSIONIAL & SERVICE ACTIVITIES

**External**

7/2021-present Co-editor (with Diana Fritz-Cates, University of Iowa), *Journal of Religious Ethics*

9/2023-present Reviewer, American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship Program

1/2023 Convenor, “Religion and Reproductive Ethics: Envisioning a New Dialogue,”Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, 2023

4/2021 Doctoral Dissertation Examiner, Shafieka Moos, *Muslim Women’s Experiences of Motherhood: A South African Perspective*, University of Cape Town, South Africa

2/2019 Guest speaker, “Religious Studies Project: Discourse,” (podcast)

Newseum, Washington, DC

2018-2021 Steering Committing, Human Rights and Religion Group,

American Academy of Religion

2012-2020 Board of Editors, *Journal of Religious Ethics*

2011-2020 Steering Committee, Comparative Religious Ethics Group,

American Academy of Religion

5/2019 Juror, Whiting Public Engagement Foundation, American Academy of Religion

1/2019 Convener, “Maternal Experience as Resource and Challenge to Religious Ethics,” Society of Christian Ethics/Society of Jewish Ethics Annual Meetings

11/2016 Convener, “Reconciling Sovereignty and Relationality in Contemporary Moral Traditions, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting

2014-2016 Board of Directors, Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics

2012-2014 Vice President, Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics

2008-2011 Steering Committee Chair, Comparative Religious Ethics Group,

 American Academy of Religion

2012-2013 Appointed Committee Member, Lifetime Achievement Award,

Society of Christian Ethics

5/2011 Panelist, 2011 Hours Against Hate (US State Department), Washington, DC

10/2010-3/2011 Senior Project Faculty Mentor, School Without Walls

2009-2012 Founding Member, Membership Committee Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics

2008-2012 Board of Directors, Society of Christian Ethics

3/2010 Representative, Society of Christian Ethics, National Humanities Alliance

1/2010 Faculty Advisor, Student Caucus, Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting

1/2010 Convener, “Plenary: A Typology of Christian Ethics: A Brief Conversation between Chinese and American Christians,” Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting

1/2010 Convener, “Teaching Muslim Ethics in American Higher Education,” Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics Annual Meeting

2007-2009 International Speakers Fund Committee, Society of Christian Ethics

2005-2009 Board of Directors, American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies

4/2007 Advisor, Miramar High School, Miami, FL, “Forum on Islam”

1/2006 Radio Interviewee “Islamic Studies,” NPR “Day to Day” and “Weekend Edition”

10/2004 Televised Panelist, “Campaign Ethics,” WPBT/PBS Viewpoint

10/2004 Televised Interviewee, “Catholic Voters,” NBC 6 South Florida

**University**

*George Washington University*

3/2022-present Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council, CCAS Office of the Dean

11/2020-present Co-Chair (with Rollie Lal), GARNET: Global Affairs and Religion Network (Religion and International Affairs Faculty Working Group)

3/2022-8/2023 Member, Diversity Program Review Team, Office of the Provost

4/2023 Convenor, “AI and the Humanities” Symposium

3/2022 Invited Speaker, “Editorial Writing about Religion,” Editorial and Persuasive Writing Class, Prof. Michael McGough, School of Media and Public Affairs

8/2017-5/2019 Undergraduate Studies Committee, Columbian College

4/2016-6/2017 Advisory Board, Loeb Institute for Religious Freedom

3/2012-3/2013 MA Islamic Studies Exploratory Committee Member

8/2011-5/2012 Faculty Advisor, Interfaith Staff, Faculty and Community Partner Executive Board

8/2010 Panelist, “New Faculty Orientation: Surviving the First Year”

6/2010 Orientation Speaker, “Religion, Government, and Law”

2/2010-3/2010 General Curriculum Review, Humanities Committee

*University of Miami*

* 1. Faculty Advisor, Asian American Students Association

4/2005 Panelist, “Careers for Asian Americans”

2/2005 Panelist, “Samuel Huntington and the Clash of Civilizations”

10/2004 Panelist, “Religion and Politics”

**Departmental**

*George Washington University*

9/2011-5/2012 Tenure Committee Member, Religion

6/2010 Department Representative, First Year Orientation

*University of Miami*

6/2008-6/2009 Faculty Senate (Alternate), Religious Studies

* 1. Curriculum Committee, Religious Studies

2/2005 Department Representative, Majors and Minors Fair

**Peer Review for Academic Journals**

2005-present *Journal of the American Academy of Religion, Journal of Religious Ethics, Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*

## LANGUAGES

Arabic (Modern Standard, reading proficiency)

French (reading proficiency)

German (reading, speaking proficiency)