

Professor-Approved Books about Islam

Ilyse R. Morgenstein Fuerst, PhD

(Most available in Vermont local libraries)

General Islam

- Kecia Ali, *The Lives of Muhammad* (2016)
- Kecia Ali and Oliver Leaman, *Islam: the Key Concepts* (2007)
- Sahar Amer, *What is Veiling?* (2014)
- Carl W. Ernst, *Following Muhammad* (2003)
- Bruce B. Lawrence, *Who is Allah?* (2015)
- Omid Safi, *Memories of Muhammad* (2009)

Global Issues/Contexts

- Lila Abu-Lughod, *Do Muslim Women Need Saving?* (2013)
- Rumeel Ahmad, *Sharia Compliant: A User's Guide to Hacking Islamic Law* (2018)
- Hisham D. Aidi, *Rebel Music: Race, Empire, and the New Muslim Youth Culture* (2014)
- Sophia Rose Arjana, *Pilgrimage in Islam: Traditional and Modern Practices* (2017)
- Carl Ernst, *Sufism: An Introduction to the Mystical Tradition of Islam* (1997)
- Shelina Zahra Janmohamed, *Generation M: Young Muslims Changing the World* (2016)
- Ibrahim Abdul-Matin, *Green Deen: What Islam Teaches about Protecting the Planet* (2010)

Islam in America

- Muna Ali, *Young Muslim America* (2018)
- Margari Aziza, "The Relevance of Black American Muslim Thought" (2013)
<http://margariaziza.com/2013/03/04/the-relevance-of-bam-thought/>
- Edward Curtis, *The Practice of Islam in America* (2017)
- Edward Curtis, *Muslims in America: A Short History* (2009)
- Kambiz GhaneaBassiri, *A History of Islam in America* (2010)
- Juliane Hammer, *American Muslim Women, Religious Authority, and Activism: More than a Prayer* (2012)
- Amir Hussein, *Muslims and the Making of America* (2016)
- Deepa Iyer, *We Too Sing America* (2015)
- Sherman Jackson, *Islam and the Black American: Looking Toward the Third Resurrection* (2011).
- Jamillah Karim, *American Muslim Women* (2009)
- Shabana Mir, *Muslim American Women on Campus: Undergraduate Social Life and Identity* (2014)
- Sapelo Square: A Online Resource on Black Muslims in the US <https://sapelosquare.com>
(run by scholar Su'ad Abdul Khabeer)
- Anas White, "A Black Muslim on #MuslimLivesMatter"
<http://www.altmuslimah.com/2015/02/a-black-muslim-on-muslimlivesmatter/>
- Muslim Girls Making Change - Burlington locals!
<https://muslimgirlsmakingchange.weebly.com>

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Jihad, Terrorism, Extremism

- Charles Kurzman, *The Missing Martyrs* (2011; updated 2019)
- Charles Kurzman and David Schnazer, NYT Op-Ed (2015):
http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/16/opinion/the-other-terror-threat.html?_r=0
- Ayesha Jalal, *Partisans of Allah* (2008)
- David Cook, *Understanding Jihad, 2nd ed.* (2015)

Autobiographies/First-Person Accounts

- Leila Ahmed, *A Border Passage* (1999)
- Shirin Ebadi, *Iran Awakening* (2007)
- Marjan Satrapi, *Persepolis* (2000) (graphic novel & also a movie!)
- G. Willow Wilson, *Butterfly Mosque* (2010)
- Malcolm X, Alex Haley, M. S. Handler, and Ossie Davis. *The autobiography of Malcolm X* (2015)
- *1001 Roads to Mecca: Ten Centuries of Travelers Writing* (1998)
- *I Speak for Myself: American Women on Being Muslim* (2011)
- Nura Maznavi and Ayesha Mattu, eds., *Love, InshAllah* (2012)
- *Salaam, Love: American Muslim Men on Love, Sex, and Intimacy* (2013)
- Samra Habib, *We Have Always Been Here: A Queer Muslim Memoir* (2019)
- Amrou Al Khadi, *Life as a Unicorn* (2019)

On Gender & Women

- Kecia Ali, *Marriage and Slavery in Early Islam* (2010)
- Elizabeth Bucar, *Pious Fashion* (2017)
- Elizabeth Bucar, *The Islamic Veil* (2012)
- Amina Wadud, *Qur'an and Woman* (1992)

Recent Fiction

- Leila Aboulela, *Minaret* (2005)
- Mohsen Hamid, *Exit West* (2017)
- Mohja Kahf, *The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf* (2006)
- Orhan Pamuk, *My Name is Red* (2001) or *Snow* (2002)
- G. Willow Wilson, *Alif the Unseen* (2012), *The Bird King* (2019), *Ms. Marvel* (2014 - present) (comic book series)
- Laury Silvers, *The Lover: A Sufi Mystery* (2019)
- S. A. Chakraborty, *The Daevabad Trilogy*

Classics (in new translations)

- Nizami, *Layla and Majnun*

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- *The Arabian Nights: Tales of 1,001 Nights* (volumes 1-3), edited by Robert Erwin (2010)
- *Radical Love: Teachings from the Islamic Mystical Tradition*, edited & translated by Omid Safi (2018)
- *The Sublime Qur'an*, translated by Laleh Bakhtiar

Children's & YA Books

Picture Books

- Hena Khan, *Golden Lanterns and Silver Domes* (2012)
- Hena Khan, *Night of the Moon: A Muslim Holiday Story* (2008)
- *It's Ramadan, Curious George!* (2016)
- *Malala's Magic Pencil* (2017)

Books for Older Kids

- Omar Saif Ghobash, *Letters to a Young Muslim* (2017)
- Na'ima B. Robert, *She Wore Red Trainers: A Muslim Love Story* (2014)
- G. Willow Wilson, *Alif the Unseen* (2012)
- Craig Thompson, *Habibi* (2011)
- Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis* (2000)
- Sherine Hamdy and Coleman Nye, *Lissa: A Story about Medical Promise, Friendship, and Revolution*
- Ahmad Philips, *The Muslims*
- Samira Ahmed. [Internment](#). 2019.
- S.K. Ali [Love from A to Z](#). 2019.
- Nafiza Azad. [The Candle and the Flame](#). 2019.
- Uzma Jalaluddin. [Ayesha at Last](#). 2019
- Mafi Tahereh. [A Very Large Expanse of Sea](#). 2018

Documentaries

- *Koran by Heart* (2011)
- *Touba* (2013) [about Sufis]
- *Taqwacores: the Birth of Punk Islam* (2009) [Michael Muhammad Knight]
- *New Muslim Cool* (2009) [about American Islam, converts, surveillance]
- *The Feeling of Being Watched* (2017) [about surveillance in Chicago]

Islamophobia Resources

- Todd H. Green, *The Fear of Islam* (2015) and *Presumed Guilty: Why We Shouldn't Ask Muslims to Condemn Terrorism* (2018)
- "Islamophobia is Racism" syllabus. Lots of great resources, including publicly accessible articles, chapters, etc.: <https://islamophobiaistracism.wordpress.com>

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- Ilyse R. Morgenstein Fuerst, “Tracking Hate: Islam & Race after the Presidential Election,” *Religion and Politics*. December 6, 2016.
<http://religionandpolitics.org/2016/12/06/tracking-hate-islam-and-race-after-the-presidential-election/>
- Open-access Islamophobia Studies Journal:
<http://crg.berkeley.edu/content/islamophobia/islamophobia-studies-journal> (Based out of UC-Berkeley)
- The Bridge Initiative at Georgetown University: <https://bridge.georgetown.edu>
- Mapping Islamophobia, a digital humanities project from Grinnell College,
<http://mappingislamophobia.org/>

Podcasts Worth Your Time

- Keeping It 101: A Killjoy’s Introduction to Religion podcast: keepingit101.com
- Head on History with Ali Olomi:
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/head-on-history/id1244299309>
- ACMCU’s Building Bridges Podcast: <https://acmcu.georgetown.edu/news/podcasts/>
- New Books in Islamic Studies Podcast:
<https://newbooksnetwork.com/category/religion-faith/islamic-studies/> (part of the New Books network, a series of interviews with academics about their new books)
- Good Muslim, Bad Muslim: <http://www.goodmuslimbadmuslim.com>
- Identity Politics Pod: <http://identitypoliticspod.com>