Centre Mission Statement

The Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures (CCSMSC) was established at Simon Fraser University in 2006 to encourage the academic discussion and public understanding of cultures and societies within Muslim contexts, majorities, and traditions. The Centre works through a variety of programmes to broaden the discussion of this important subject and to introduce more complexity and comparison in the analysis.

In pursuit of this objective, the Centre has brought numerous academic specialists to campus for lectures and consultations; convened interdisciplinary conferences and workshops; established a highly-regarded summer school alternating between Vancouver and London (UK); organized film festivals, art exhibits, and concerts; created residencies, scholarships and visiting professorships; and solicited contributions of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish language material for the SFU research library.

The Centre is located in the Department of History in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Simon Fraser University.

Cover Photo: Esfahan Sheikh Lotfollah Mosque by Maryam Mahvash (CCSMSC Visiting Scholar)
“Expressions of Diversity: An Introduction to Muslim Cultures,” the sixth annual International Summer Programme, was held on July 1-7 at the London campus of our co-sponsors, the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations (Aga Khan University in the United Kingdom).

The International Summer Programme was established in 2008 to provide non-specialists with a critical framework for understanding the cultures of Muslim peoples over the range of their diversity in time and space. The Summer Programme becomes more important in the context of the increased polarity of the media and the circulation of non-academic information on Muslims in society more generally.

The 2013 Programme focused on the Muslim contexts of art, architecture, and music. Simon Fraser University professors Derryl MacLean and Laura Marks joined Aga Khan University professors Abdou Filali-Ansary, Farouk Topan, David Taylor, Stephane Pradines, and Jamal Elias in providing the foundational modules on the subject. Also presenting modules were Emma Clark (Senior Tutor of Visual Islamic and Traditional Arts Programme at the Prince’s School of Traditional Arts in London), Trevor H. J. Marchand (SOAS, University of London), Yannis Kanakis (Exeter Centre for Ethno-Political Studies), Francesca Leoni (the current Yousef Jameel Curator of Islamic Art at the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology at University of Oxford) and John O’Connell (Cardiff University School of Music). Participants also made site visits to the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Prince’s School of Traditional Art.

Participants in the Programme came from numerous countries, including the United Kingdom, Canada, the USA, India, Pakistan, France, and Jordan. Thoughtful and animated discussion among the participants and faculty ranged from issues of the cultural heritage of Muslims in all their diversity to questions of the contemporary profile and challenge of Muslim artists and musicians.

The 2014 International Summer Programme will be held at the Vancouver Campus of Simon Fraser University from June 16 to June 27. The second week will focus its modules on the theme of multiple mysticisms within Muslim contexts. For more information, visit our website www.sfu.ca/ccsmsc.

Participant quote from 2013

“I enjoyed every minute, I learned so much about music, art and architecture in a short period. The tutors are extremely knowledgeable and the programme is rich and varied. I would recommend the course to those interested in studying Muslim culture.”


(Co-hosted with the Vancouver Muslim Community Centre on the occasion of Islamic History Month)

Dr. Marcus Milwright is Professor in the Department of History in Art, University of Victoria. An internationally renowned expert on the art and archaeology of the Islamic Middle East, he has published two books: *The Fortress of the Raven: Karak in the Middle Islamic Period* (1100-1650) (Brill, 2008) and *An Introduction to Islamic Archaeology* (Edinburgh University Press, 2010).

Dr. Asef Bayat is the Catherine and Bruce Bastian Professor of Global and Transnational Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Between 2003 and 2010, he served as the director of the International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World (ISIM), and before joining Illinois, held the Chair of Society and Culture of the Modern Middle East, Leiden University. His latest books include Making Islam Democratic: Social Movements and the Post-Islamist Turn (Stanford University Press, 2007); (with Linda Herrera) Being Young and Muslim (Oxford University Press, 2010); and Life as Politics: How Ordinary People Change the Middle East (Stanford University Press, 2010).

Dr. Geert Jan van Gelder, “Translating a Flawed Masterpiece of Arabic Literature: The Epistle of Forgiveness (Risalat al-Ghufran) by al-Ma’arri (d. 1057),” March 14, 2013.

(To-hosted with the World Literature Program at SFU as the Annual Lecture on Literature in the Muslim World)

Dr. Geert Jan van Gelder is Laudian Professor of Arabic Emeritus in the University of Oxford and Fellow of St John's College. His research interests include classical Arabic literature, especially belles-lettres, poetry, poetics, rhetoric, and stylistics, literary criticism, and the history of literary genres. His publications include Of Dishes and Discourse: Classic Arabic Literary Representations of Food (Routledge, 1999) and Close Relationships: Incest and Inbreeding in Classical Arabic Literature (I.B. Tauris, 2005). His latest book is Classical Arabic Literature: A Library of Arabic Literature Anthology (New York University Press, 2013).
Mirhady Endowed Lecture

The Mirhady Endowed Lecture celebrated its tenth year with an elegant catered reception after a wide-ranging lecture by Dr. Touraj Daryaee. The Mirhady Endowed Lectureship was established at Simon Fraser University in 2002 through the generosity of Dr. Fereidoun Mirhady and Dr. Katharine Mirhady with the goal to widen the public understanding of the culture, history and literature of Iran.

**Dr. Touraj Daryaee, “Iranshahr among the Sasanians: The Construction and Representation of an Idea and Culture.”**

November 1, 2012.

Dr. Touraj Daryaee is the Howard C. Baskerville Professor in the History of Iran and the Persianate World and the Acting Director of the Dr. Samuel M. Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture at the University of California, Irvine. His books are *Sasanian Persian: The Rise and Fall of an Empire* (I.B. Tauris, 2013), and *The Oxford Handbook of Iranian History* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

*Top: Dr. Touraj Daryaee, Mirhady Lecture, November 2012, SFU Woodwards, Vancouver*

*Bottom: Ellen Vaillancourt, Katharine Mirhady, Derryl Maclean*
CCSMSC Colloquia Series


Dr. Amir Mirfakhraie teaches sociology at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. His lecture discussed the ways through which Iranian students are discursively positioned in hierarchical relations to other dominant and oppressed groups around the world, resulting in the production of various forms of fractured-selves. He explored how present/non-present discursive/textual phobias about women, ethnic “minorities”, non-Muslims, and non-Iranians are configured in Iranian school textbooks.


Dr. Brandon Marriott is a long-time student at SFU with a PhD from the University of Oxford. His lecture examined the Christian theologian, Peter Serrarius, who became an avid follower of Sabbatai Sevi in 1666 CE, the most popular Jewish messiah since Jesus. Using Serrarius’ beliefs, Marriott points to a paradox central to his presentation: In an era of heightened confessionalization, why was a Christian in the Dutch Republic exhibiting such loyalty to a Jewish convert to Islam in the Ottoman Empire? Following two streams of information that flowed westward across the Mediterranean world, this lecture traced the transnational and cross-religious influence on the development of Serrarius’ ideas.

Dr. Hossein Houshmand, “Can Political Liberalism Be Exported to Muslim Societies?” February 14, 2013.

Dr. Hossein Houshmand is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at CCSMSC. He studied Islamic theology and philosophy of religion at Tehran and Concordia Universities, where he completed his PhD in comparative religion and ethics. His lecture explored two different types of liberalism: comprehensive and political. Addressing John Rawls’s critique of the former, Dr. Houshmand argued that the latter is superior as a basis for political consensus in the emerging morally pluralistic societies in the Islamic world. By rejecting the alleged incompatibility between Islam and liberalism, Houshmand suggested that Muslims might draw attention to neglected values such as basic equality and fairness dormant in their religious doctrine if they build a serious engagement with Rawls’s political liberalism.

Dr. Sedi Minachi, “The Conflict between Clericalism and Secularism in Iran since the 19th Century from the Perspective of Gender Relations,” February 28, 2013.

Dr. Sedi Minachi is a Research Associate at CCSMSC with a PhD from University of British Columbia. She discussed the foundations and development of the clash between the secular and clerical views of the state and society in Iran. The conflicts were particularly salient between the proponents of civil laws versus religious laws (the Shari’a), and had a particular impact on the perception, practice, and regulation of gender relationships in Iran. Dr. Minachi discussed the implications of the conflict on gender relationships from 1925 to today.


Dr. Amyn Sajoo is a Scholar-in-Residence at CCSMSC and the editor of the Muslim Heritage Series. In his lecture Sajoo discussed how the Islamist ascendancy in the unfolding “Arab Spring” lends fresh saliency to the status of ethno-religious minorities. He suggested that challenging the orthodoxies — secular and religious — which enable resistance to pluralist citizenship is imperative, to counter weak legacies of civil society and constitutionalism.


Eva Sajoo taught at the University of Science and Technology in Beijing as well as the University of British Columbia, and currently lectures at Simon Fraser University in the Continuing Studies Program. In her
Other Events


The Centre co-sponsored with the School for International Studies a book launch and panel discussion of the book Islam in the Hinterlands: Muslim Cultural Politics in Canada (University of British Columbia Press, 2012). The book launch featured some of Canada’s top Muslim Studies scholars who contributed to the book edited by Jasim Zine. Scholars, including Itrath Syed, Yasmin Jiwani, Meena Sharify-Funk and Aliaa Dakrouy, reflected on the most hotly contested issues in recent Canadian history such as the shar’ia controversy, veiling in public schools, and media portrayals of Muslims. They examined how public policy, media, and education have shaped the Muslim experience in Canada. A reception and book signing followed the panel discussion.


(In conjunction with UBC’s Museum of Anthropology exhibition, “Safar/Voyage: Contemporary Works by Arab, Iranian, and Turkish Artists.”)

Dr. Venetia Porter is a curator at the British Museum in London where she is responsible for the collection of Islamic art, in particular of the Arab World and Turkey as well as developing the collection of the mod-
wetern and contemporary art of the Middle East. In her lecture, she spoke about the problem of exhibiting Islamic art in a series of museums in North America and Europe. Using her previous project, *Hajj: Journey to the Heart of Islam*, an exhibition at the British Museum that ran in 2012, Porter reflected on the need to provide context for a better understanding of Islam and to give a sense of place of the art to create a neutral engaging space.

The student conference was prefaced with a day-long faculty symposium on “Canadian Contributions to Middle East and Islamic Studies,” which featured eighteen papers organized into four panels. The faculty symposium was cosponsored by the CCSMSC (SFU) and the University of Victoria’s Middle East and Islamic Studies group and facilitated by a grant from SSHRC.

The Middle East and Islamic Consortium of British Columbia (MEICON-BC) was established in 2008 to provide an organizational basis for communication and cooperation among BC academics. MEICON-BC sponsors the annual Student Conference and a weekly e-digest of information on matters of interest to academics. The next MEICON-BC Student Conference will be held at Kwantlen Polytechnic University on March 15, 2014.

For further information, see www.sfu.ca/ccsmsc/meicon-bc.
Exchange Opportunities

American University of Sharjah
Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

The American University in Cairo
Cairo, Egypt

Al Akhawayn University
Ifrane, Morocco

Jawaharlal Nehru University
Delhi, India

Koç University
Istanbul, Turkey

Panjab University
Chandigarh, India

For more information visit SFU International or email them at: sfu_international@sfu.ca
Faculty and Student Profiles

Tamir Moustafa is Associate Professor of International Studies and Stephen Jarislowsky Chair at Simon Fraser University. His research stands at the intersection of comparative law and society, religion and politics, and state-society relations, all with a regional focus on the Middle East and, more recently, Southeast Asia. Moustafa’s books include *The Struggle for Constitutional Power: Law, Politics, and Economic Development in Egypt* (Cambridge University Press, 2007) and *Rule by Law: The Politics of Courts in Authoritarian Regimes* (Cambridge University Press, 2008, edited with Tom Ginsburg). His current research explores the public debates that are generated as a result of dual constitutional commitments to Islamic law and liberal rights in Egypt and Malaysia. He investigates how litigation provokes and shapes competing conceptions of national and religious identity, resolves or exacerbates contending visions of Islamic law, and ultimately bolsters or undermines public perceptions of government legitimacy. Moustafa has held visiting fellowships at UC Berkeley, Princeton University, and Harvard Law School and was named a Carnegie Scholar in 2007 for his work on Islamic law and liberal rights.

Razieh (Rose) Golzadeh was born in Iran but grew up in Hungary, Turkey and England, which has exposed her to different cultures and languages from an early age. After graduating from high school in England, she traveled back to her homeland to learn more about the culture while studying English Literature at the University of Tehran. As a B.A. student she was given the opportunity to work for an international TV channel presenting historical documentaries on Iran. The job allowed her to travel to major historical sites in Iran and learn more about the cultural influences of the former Persian Empire. Golzadeh began research with the British Museum of London in September 2010 on translation of Indo-Persian texts which resulted in the published article “On Becoming Muslim in the City of Swords: Bhoja and Shaykh Changal at Dhar” in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. In September 2011 she entered the History Department at SFU as a graduate student. For her M.A. thesis she is working with Dr. Derryl MacLean on the translation bureau of Emperor Akbar in 16th Century Mughal India. She is actively involved in the research group, “Urbanism in the Archaeological and Literary Landscapes of South Asia.”
Shiva Manavipour is an MA student in the Faculty of Education at SFU. Her research is in the field of critical media literacy and representations of Islam. Having no previous film making experience, she produced a short documentary as part of her studies as a means to explore and make sense of her own experiences growing up as a previously veiled Muslim girl in Canada. With the support and encouragement of her Supervisor, Dr. Ozlem Sensoy, she has since shared her film and experiences with educators and students at various conferences in advocating for the development of critical media literacy and social justice education in schools in order to combat the reproduction of the perpetuating and damaging tropes of race in media and popular culture. Shiva is currently the Program Assistant with the Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures at SFU and also runs the SFU Philosophers’ Café.

Affiliations and Positions

Amyn Sajoo, Scholar in Residence
As a specialist in civic culture and law, Dr. Amyn Sajoo has degrees from King’s College London and McGill University, Montreal. His current research is at the interface of human rights, public ethics and religion (notably Islam), including issues of minority citizenship and bioethics. He has served as the editor since 2009 of the Muslim Heritage Series, in which A Companion to Muslim Cultures is the most recent volume. He has taught several courses over the past year on the history and politics of the Muslim world, including the ongoing events of the “Arab Spring,” on which he also contributes to the news media.

Hossein Houshmand, Post-Doctoral Fellow
Dr. Hossein Houshmand completed his PhD in Comparative Religion and Ethics (“Islam and Human Rights: The Search for an Overlapping Consensus”) at Concordia University. His dissertation explores the implications of John Rawls’ distinctive theory of global normative order in formulating a reasonable conception of human rights in Islamic doctrine. His research interests include Islamic thought, Iranian studies, and contemporary political philosophy. His current research investigates the idea of the priority of democracy to secularism as a proper explanation of the relationship between religion and politics in Muslim societies.
Hatice Bayraktar, Post-Doctoral Fellow
Dr. Hatice Bayraktar holds a doctoral degree in Turkology and History from the Free University of Berlin with a dissertation titled “The Anti-Semitic Incidents in Thrace, 1934 and Their Underlying Causes.” During her stay at the Centre, she will be researching non-Muslim minorities in the late Ottoman and Turkish Republic, with a focus on the Armenian community.

Amir Koushkani, Post-Doctoral Fellow
Dr. Amir Koushkani is an ethnomusicologist, composer, and performer, with a particular expertise in the theory of Iranian classical music and the performance of tar and setar instruments. He received a PhD in Ethnomusicology at York University in 2013, with a dissertation on the history and theory of the radif. He is the co-author of two wide-ranging books on the vocalist Shajarian, a leader of several musical groups, a composer of music (including the “First Concerto for Tar and Orchestra” performed by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in 2004), and a performer on tar and setar with seven CDs in his discography. During his fellowship at the Centre, Koushkani will work on his ongoing research project “Oral Transmission and Written Transcription of Iranian ‘Classical’ Music: The Evolution of Practice and Theory in Iran.”

Maryam Mahvash, Research Associate
Dr. Maryam Mahvash holds a PhD in Architecture from the University of Tehran where she also received her Master’s degree in Urban Design. She also has a Master of Architecture from Tehran Azad University. She has taught at several universities, including the University of Tehran College of Fine Arts and served as scientific adviser for several conferences, festivals, publications and periodicals. Dr. Mahvash’s interests span the broader context of Persian studies as well as the history and theory of architecture. Her research at the Centre will compare the technique of “daylighting” in the Safavid and Seljuq mosques of historical Persia.
Student Awards

**Edward W. Said Memorial Scholarship:** The 2013 award was given to Veronika Tzantova for a doctoral research project requiring travel to Turkey. Through the collection of empirical data, the project aims to investigate the politics of Turkish sexual expression within the domain of online digital media as a reaction to Islamist ideologies promoted by the current government of Turkey.

**Dossa Muslim Studies Graduate Travel Award:** This year the award went to Razieh (Rose) Golzadeh, an MA student in History. As a part of her thesis Rose will focus on the role of translation and translated texts in the court of Akbar in 16th century India. She will travel to London and Cambridge, where she will examine original manuscripts of the Razmnama and Ramayana.

**William Cleveland Prize in Middle Eastern Asian History:** This year’s award went to fourth year undergraduate student, Jenny Shutek, for a paper entitled “Romanticizing the Land: Agriculturally Imagined Communities in Palestine-Israel.” The paper was written for Professor Paul Sedra’s Spring 2012 course History 465: The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict.

Recent Books of Members

**Aude-Claire Fourot**


L’intégration des immigrants (Les Presses de l’Université de Montréal) shows the capacity of municipalities to adopt their own policies and sheds light on why two cities like Montreal and Laval, facing the same institutional constraints, have adopted different sets of immigration policy. Beyond integration within cities, this study explores how integration happens through cities.

**Graham E. Fuller**


“Poignant and dramatic...impossible to read this book without being swept up in the emotional turmoil that battered the Fuller family for so many years...Fuller fights through the grief to present a story of love, remembrance, and family courage...true power.” - Clarion Foreword Review

“In his affecting memoir, Fuller...brings a new, engaging dimension to the familiar story of addiction...Fuller’s frank self-awareness sets this book apart from similar memoirs; he never succumbs to moralizing or easy answers.” - Kirkus Review
Amir Koushkani and Robert Simms

A detailed analysis of the art of avaz, classical Persian vocal music, in the twentieth century, through the work of Shahjarian, its greatest practitioner. The book contextualizes Shahjarian through the interaction of culture and politics in the Pahlavi period.

“This is a significant work not only for those interested in Persian music, but for those wishing to understand the culture of Iran in the last hundred years.” Bruno Nettl (University of Illinois).

Amir Koushkani and Robert Simms
Mohammad Reza Shahjarian’s Avaz in Iran and Beyond, 1979-2010 (Rowland and Littlefield, 2012).

A comprehensive study of the legacy of Shahjarian, the greatest living exponent of avaz, classical Persian vocal music, with an emphasis on the political and cultural implications of the music in the context of the Islamic Revolution and the Green Movement.

“The most detailed social history of Iranian music since 1979 written in English,” Laudon Nooshin (City University, London).


This book of eight essays focuses attention on instances in world history where cosmopolitan ideas and practices pervaded Muslim societies and cultures.

“Exceeds all previous efforts to address the intersection of Islam and cosmopolitan norms, values, and options. At last one can, and does, grasp the critical cosmopolitan element of the Muslim world throughout the Afro-Eurasian ecumene.” Bruce B. Lawrence, Professor of Islamic Studies Emeritus (Duke University).
SFU students now have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the languages of the Middle East. The Language Training Institute at Simon Fraser University offers a series of Persian and Arabic courses.

**PERS 118-3: Introduction to Persian I**
Introduction to Persian I teaches you the Persian alphabet along with its phonology, morphology, and basic syntax. You will learn basic reading and writing skills and how to translate simple sentences. References to Persian history and culture will accentuate understanding of the language. Students with any prior knowledge or experience in Persian beyond the level of this course may not register.

**PERS 200-3: Intermediate Persian I**
Persian 200 is a practical language course that supports Persian language learners at pre-intermediate and high elementary levels to upgrade their knowledge of Persian language to lower intermediate and intermediate levels. The focus of the course will be on standard and academic Persian, though colloquial Persian will be introduced. Students at this level are expected to know grammatical aspects and language structure introduced in PERS 118 and PERS 168. Though the primary focus of the course is on reading and writing skills, there is some emphasis on speaking and listening skills. An additional focus is on cultural learning. By the end of this course, students will be able to read and write in Farsi at an intermediate level.

**ARAB 134-3: Introduction to Classical Arabic**
ARAB 134 includes the study of Arabic language, its grammar, vocabulary, and history. It will provide students with basic written skills in Classical Arabic. Note: this is an introductory Arabic language course; students with a competence in the language beyond the level of this course will be required to withdraw.

**Language Offerings**

**News of Members, Staff, Students, and Alumni**

**Yildiz Atasoy** (Sociology) has published an article, “Supermarket Expansion in Turkey: Shifting Relations of Food Provisioning,” in *Journal of Agrarian Change* 13 (2013): 547-70. She also delivered a lecture on “Neoliberalism and the Politics of Protest in Turkey: Postmodern Voices of Dissent” in July 2013, in an event organized by the Institute for Humanities at Simon Fraser University.


**Laura Marks** (School for the Contemporary Arts) has organized an event, “Experiments in Arab Cinema: Glitch; Unbearable Beauty; The Body in the Archive,” in November 15-16, 2013 at SFU Woodwards. She also delivered lectures at Rikkyo University, Tokyo, Duke University, the State University of Campinas, Brazil, Princeton University and Townhouse Gallery, Cairo.


**Justin Rawlins** (Sociology), the recipient of Dossa Muslim Studies Graduate Travel Award, successfully defended his MA thesis in June 2013. His research explores a shift from wheat fields to TOKI mass housing in Ankara, Turkey and is based on a comparative world-historical perspective.
Amyn Sajoo (Scholar in Residence) delivered a guest public lecture at the University of Calgary on November 18 entitled, “Beyond Beards and Burqas: Minority Citizenship in a Post-Secular Age.” This was part of the university’s campaign to establish a program in Islamic Studies.


Razieh (Rose) Golzadeh (History, MA student) became part of a research group in December called “Urbanism in the Archaeological and Literary Landscapes of South Asia.” It is an international consortium of scholars that aims to initiate a cross-disciplinary interaction between literature, art and archaeology in medieval Asia. As part of the activities of this group Razieh has begun working as a research assistant for Dr. Michael Willis at the British Museum. Her first contribution to this international project involves the digitization and translation of a very challenging 15th century Farsi text from Malwa.

Ellen Vaillancourt (CCSMSC) realized the birth of fledgling organization Steps to Peace in Spring 2013, with its vision and focus on beauty as a means to heal, connect and transform people – through creative works, dialogue and engagement. In June 2013, she presented a lecture and guided meditation on “The Labyrinth: An Interfaith Pilgrimage”, at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver. In July, her research for a proposed SFU community engagement initiative brought her from England to Morocco during the month of Ramadan. While fasting throughout the 30 days, she consulted with scholars and visited sacred sites including the Duomo in Florence, Italy, the holy city of Moulay Idris, Morocco, and the famous labyrinth at the Chartres Cathedral, France.
**Associated Faculty**

**Robert Anderson**  
Professor, Communication.  
*International development and communication; South Asia, Indonesia.*

**Yildiz Atasoy**  
Professor, Sociology.  
*Political economy and sociology; gender relations; Islamic politics; Turkey, Middle East.*

**Len Berggren**  
Professor Emeritus, Mathematics.  
*History of mathematical sciences in ancient Greece and medieval Islam.*

**Luke Clossey**  
Associate Professor, History.  
*Comparative world history of religions; early modern; Mughals; China, Mexico.*

**Parin Dossa**  
Professor, Anthropology.  
*Migration, gender and health; Muslim women; Iranians in the diaspora.*

**Aude-Claire Fourot**  
Assistant Professor, Political Science.  
*Public policies; ethno-religious diversity; Islam in Canada.*

**Graham Fuller**  
Adjunct Professor, History.  
*Islamism and North American foreign policy as it relates to the Muslim World.*

**Andre Gerolymatos**  
Chair, Hellenic Studies.  
Professor, History.  
*Hellenism; Greek-Turkish military history; international relations and Muslim politics.*

**Thomas Kuehn**  
Associate Professor, History.

**Social and cultural history of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.**

**Derryl MacLean**  
Director, CCSMSC.  
Associate Professor, History.  
*History of religion; Islamics; early modern South and Central Asia; Islam in the West.*

**Laura Marks**  
Dena Wosk Professor of Art and Culture Studies.  
School for the Contemporary Arts.  
*Cinema in the Arab world; Islamic genealogy of new media art.*

**Mark McPherran**  
Professor, Philosophy.  
*Ancient Greek philosophy and religion; ethics; Islamic philosophy.*

**Tamir Moustafa**  
Jarislowsky Chair in Religion and Cultural Change.  
School for International Studies.  
*Comparative law; religion and politics; Middle East; Egypt.*

**Paul Sedra**  
Associate Professor, History.  
*Modern Middle East; education and the rise of the modern state; Egyptian cinema.*

**Ken Seigneurie**  
Director, World Literature.  
Associate Professor, World Literature.  
*Modern Arabic, French, and British fiction; literary theory and the history of humanist thought.*

**Ozlem Sensoy**  
Associate Professor, Education.  
*Constructions of Muslims in North America through education and media.*

**John Spagnolo**  
Associate Professor (retired), History.
Upcoming Events:

Annual Lecture Series 2014


Angelika Neuwirth (Freie Universitat Berlin), March 27. 250-13450 102nd Avenue, SFU Surrey. “An Epistemic Revolution in Arab Late Antiquity: The Qur’anic Discover of Writing.”

Other Activities:

MEICON-BC Student Conference: Middle Eastern and Islamic Communities across Disciplines
March 15, 2014, Kwantlen Polytechnic University (Surrey).
For more information please visit http://www.ccsmsc.sfu.ca/meicon_bc

International Summer Programme: Expressions of Diversity: An Introduction to Muslim Cultures
June 16-27, 2014, SFU, Vancouver BC, Canada
For more information, please visit http://www.ccsmsc.sfu.ca/summer

International history of Arab Middle East; Lebanon.

Azadeh Yamini-Hamedani
Assistant Professor, World Literature.
Interconnections of literature and philosophy; semiotics of translations; Persian literature.

Habiba Zaman
Professor, Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies
Women and development; globalization and women’s work; Bangladesh.

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