BRITTANY LANDORF, PhD

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion
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Education

2025 Ph.D., Asian, African, and Middle Eastern Religions, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Dissertation: *Maddening Saints: The Ambiguity of Orthodoxy in North African Sufism*
Certificate in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

2018 MTS, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA

2014 BA (*cum laude*), International Studies (Middle Eastern Studies and Islamic Civilizations) with Minors in Religious Studies and Arabic Language, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

Refereed Scholarship

Academic Monograph

Maddening Saints: Debating Orthodoxy in North African Islam. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. (in preparation).

Edited Volumes

Waiting for Water: Negotiating Water, Land, and Life in Morocco. Leiden: Brill. (under review)

Articles & Chapters

"Men before God: Masculinity and Devotion in Islamic Mysticism." *Routledge Handbook of Islamic Mysticism*. London: Routledge Press. (in preparation).

"Orthodoxy by Trial: The Case of a Mad Saint in Sixteenth-Century Fez." *History of Religions*. (accepted).

"'And then the rains came': Water and Saintly Authority in Morocco." *Waiting for Water: Negotiating Water, Land, and Life in Morocco*. Edited by Brittany Landorf. Leiden: Brill. (under review).

2023 "Gendering Madness: Figuring the *Majdhūba* in Modern Moroccan Hagiography." *Journal of Body and Religion* 6, no. 1: 47-73.

2020 "Embodying Asceticism: Masculinity, Manliness, and the Male Body in Muḥammad al-ʿArabī al-Darqāwī's *Majmūʿ Rasāʾil*." *Journal of Islamic Ethics* 4, no. 1-2: 128-154.

Translations

"Sufi Women in Muḥammad ibn Jaʿar al-Kattānī's *Ṣalwat al-Anfās*." Translated with

Meriem al-Haitami. (in preparation).

"Sex and Sexuality in Islam between an Ideal and its Manifestations," by Zahia Jouirou, translated from Arabic by Brittany Landorf, in *Sex and Sexuality in Islamic Culture*, ed. by Omid Safi and Scott Kugle. Durham: Duke University Press. (under review).

Grants, Fellowships, & Awards

2024	Macalester College, Racial Justice Project Grant
2024	Emory University Women's Club, Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2021	Women Historians of the Middle East Prize, Best Graduate Student Article
2021	American Institute of Maghrib Studies, Annual Grant (*awarded but declined*)
2021	Fulbright-IIE Research Fellowship, Morocco
2020	Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry, HASTAC Digital Humanities Scholar
2020	Halle Institute for Global Studies, Global Fellow
2018	Luce Foundation, Global Communities of Practice Fellow
2019	Al-Akhawayn University, Arabic Language and North African Studies Scholarship
2018	Emory University, Laney Graduate School Fellowship
2017	Harvard University, Science, Religion, and Culture Program Junior Fellow
2017	Foreign Language Area Scholarship, Academic Year Fellowship for Arabic
2017	Foreign Language Area Scholarship, Summer Fellowship for Arabic
2017	Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies-Tunis Fellowship for Arabic
2015	Fulbright Program, English Teaching Assistant in Bursa, Turkey

Non-Refereed Scholarship

Digital Humanities

2024 *Mapping the Female Saints of Fez* (www.mappingfemalesainthood.org), interactive digital map featuring the biographies of female saints I translated in collaboration with Meriem El Haitami from Muḥammad ibn Jaʿfar al-Kattānī's 19th-century hagiographic compendium *Salwat al-Anfas*.

2021 "'Gramming Religion': Instagram as a Pedagogical Tool," *Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC) Blog*.

Book Reviews

2024 Review of *Sufi Civilities: Religious Authority and Political Change in Afghanistan* by Annika Schmeding for *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion*.

2020 Review of *Gendered Morality: Classical Islamic Ethics of the Self, Family, and Society* by Zahra Ayubi for *Practical Matters Journal*.

2019 Review of *Egypt in the Future Tense: Hope, Frustration, and Ambivalence Before and After 2011* by Samuli Schielke. *Practical Matters Journal*.

Film Reviews

2024 "Film Review: Asmae El Moudir's *Kadib Abyad*," *The Markaz Review*.

Conference Participation

Presentations

2024 "Debating Divine Madness: Sanctity, Sanity, and the State in North African Sufism," American Academy of Religion-San Diego, Contemporary Islam Unit, November 23-26.

2024 "Embodying Abasement and Debating Divine Madness in Early Moroccan Sufism," Middle East Studies Association-Virtual, November 11-16.

2024 "'I am pulled to God—not mad!': The Ambiguity of Divine Madness in early modern North African Islamic Mysticism," American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Conference, Kansas City, May 9-12.

2024 "Maddening Saints: The Majdhūb and State Power," University of Chicago Middle East History and Theory Conference, Chicago, May 3-4.

2024 "Managing Madness: Articulating Moroccan Sufi Orthodoxies in the "Majdhūb Century," 1578-1690," Princeton Islamic Studies Graduate Student Conference, Princeton, April 19-20.

2023 "*Majdhūb, Māshī Majnūn*": Deviant Saints and the Formation of Sufi Orthodoxy," American Academy of Religion-Austin, The Study of Islam Unit, November 17-21

2023 "Deviance & Discomfort: The Uneasy Place of the *Majdhub* Saint in Maghribi Sufi Hagiography," American Academy of Religion-Austin, Hagiology Seminar, November 17-21

2023 "And then the rains came": Water and Saintly Authority in Morocco, Middle Eastern Studies Association, Montreal, November 2-5

2023 "'And they ate from it': The Ethics of the Walnut in Akbari Sufi Philosophy," Engaging Particularities Graduate Student Conference, Boston College, Boston, March 12-13

2021 "The Wayfaring Madwoman (*al-Majdhuba al-Salika*): Articulations of Gender in Moroccan Hagiography," Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Symposium on Sufism and Gender in Contemporary Societies, Venice, December 3-4

2021 "Articulations of Islamic Feminism in post-2003 Morocco: Narratives of Social Justice and the Prospect for Movement Building," Workshop: Gender, Politics and Critique in the MENA: Towards a Critical History of Feminism, 1970s until Today, virtual, April 16

2019 "Magic, Miracles, and the Marabout: North African Sufism in French Colonial Imagination," Duke-UNC Middle East and Islamic Studies Graduate Conference, Chapel Hill, March 1-2

2018 "Sitting Between the Hands of a Shaykh": Adab al-Ziyāra and the Constitution of Pious Masculinities in Moroccan Sufism in the 19th Century," American Academy of Religion-Denver, Islamic Mysticism Unit, November 17-20

Conferences and Panels Organized

2024 "Texts in Practice: Theorizing Lived Intertextuality," American Academy of Religion-San Diego, Contemporary Islam Unit, November 23-26, Co-organized with Erin Atwell.

2024 "Feeling as Knowing: Affect, Intellect, and Embodiment in Islam," Middle East Studies Association, November 11-15, Co-organized with Joseph Vignone.

2023 "Waiting for Water: Negotiating Water, Land, and Life in Morocco," Middle East Studies Association, Montreal, November 2-5

2020 "The Importance of Engaged Feminist Scholarship: A Cross-Disciplinary Discussion of Juliane Hammer's Recent Book, *Peaceful Families: American Muslim Efforts against Domestic Violence* (2019)," American Academy of Religion, Women and Religion Unit-Virtual, November 29-December 10

2019 "Popular Da'ee, Gendered Authority and Norms, and Digital Islam Panel," American Academy of Religion-San Diego, Contemporary Islam Unit, November 23-26

2017 Beyond Bans, Beyond Walls: Women, Gender, & Islam Symposium, Harvard Divinity School

Public Presentations

2025 "Divine Madness as Postsecular Epistemology," Flash Talk, Science, Technology, and Society Seminar, Vanderbilt University, November 6.

2025 Categorizing Gender and Madness: Defining the Sainthood of Āmina bint Aḥmad ibn al-Qāḍī (d. 1556), invited lecture, Emory University Women's Club, Emory University, April 22

2024 "What Comes First? Selecting the First Text for Any Course," invited workshop speaker, Jan Serie Center for Teaching and Scholarship, Macalester College, January 26

2023 "And then the rains came": Water Miracles, Qur'anic Narratives, and Muslim Environmentalisms in Morocco," invited lecture, Macalester College, November 21

2023 "Islam and Feminism," invited lecture, Kenitra University, Kenitra, Morocco, May 26

2022 "Sufism and Environmentalism: The Role of Sufi Zawiyas in Irrigation Systems and Sufi Narratives of Water," Fulbright Morocco 40th Anniversary Webinar, July 21

2022 "Women in Sufism in Morocco," invited lecture, Rabat, Morocco, June 22

2022 "Sufism, a Shared History Between al-Andalus and the Maghreb," Crossing the Straits Seminar, Córdoba, Spain, April 21-23

2021 "Do Muslim Women Need Saving?" invited speaker for Emory University's introductory course "Studying Religion at Emory," October 27

2021 "Lalla Essaydi's *Harem 1*," invited speaker for the Carlos Museum's "In This Moment" lecture series and as a part of the exhibit *Wondrous Worlds: Art and Islam Through Time and Place*, Atlanta, Georgia, April 30

Teaching

2026 *Lecturer*, Department of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN)
- Spring 2026: RLST 1500: Introduction to Islam

2025 *Visiting Instructor*, Religious Studies Program, University of Minnesota (Minneapolis, MN)
- Spring 2025: RELS 3704: Exploring the Qur'an

2024 *Visiting Assistant Professor*, Departments of Religious Studies, Anthropology, and International Studies, Macalester College (St. Paul, MN)
- Spring 2025: RELI 294: Religion and Masculinity
- Fall 2024: RELI 101: Islam in America
- Fall 2024: ANTH/INTL 253: Comparative Muslim Cultures
- Fall 2024: ANTH/INTL 258: The Middle East through Film
- Spring 2024: RELI 200: The Qur'an and the Prophet

2024 *Visiting Instructor*, Department of Religion and Philosophy, Augsburg College (Minneapolis, MN)
- Fall 2024: RLN 100: Religion, Vocation, and the Search for Meaning I

2021 *Teaching Associate*, Department of Religion, Emory University (Atlanta, GA)
- Fall 2021: REL 170R: Studying Religion at Emory
- Spring 2021: REL 100R: Introduction to Religion: Religion in an Age of Global Pandemic

2019 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Religion, Emory University (Atlanta, GA)
- Spring 2020: REL 361/MESAS 311: The Sufi Way in South Asia
- Fall 2019: REL 315W/MESAS 315W: The Qur'an

2017 *Teaching Fellow*, Harvard Extension School, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
- Fall 2017: HSCI E-205: Science, Religion, & Sex: Bodies & Sexualities in the Medieval Middle East

2015 *English Language Instructor*, Uludağ University, (Bursa, Turkey)

2014 *Eighth Grade ELA Instructor*, City Year Boston (Boston, MA)

Professional Experience

2025 Collaborative Humanities Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Vanderbilt University

2020 *Research Assistant*, Spirit Grant-International University of Rabat, Morocco, "Gender, Politics, and Critique in the MENA: Toward a Critical History of Feminism, 1970s until Today."

2020 *Editor*, Scott Kugle's monograph *Hajj to the Heart* (University of North Carolina Press 2022)

2017 *Program Assistant and Newsletter Coordinator*, Science, Religion, and Culture Program, Harvard Divinity School

2017 *Editor*, Ahmed Ragab's monographs *Piety and Patienthood in Medieval Islam* (Routledge Press 2018) and *Medicine and Religion in the Life of an Ottoman Sheikh: al-Damanhuri's "Clear Statement on Anatomy"* (Routledge Press 2019)

Institutional Service & Activities

2026 *Organizer*, Science, Technology, and Society Studies Workshop, Research and Peer Feedback groups.

2025 *Steering Committee Member*, American Academy of Religion's *Reading Religion*.

2024 *Organizer*, Oct. 24 lecture on "Approaches to Islam and Race," with Kambiz GhaneaBassiri and Yasmine Flodin-Ali, sponsored by Macalester College and the University of Minnesota Religious Studies Program

2024 *Research Advisor*, Undergraduate Research Project, "Gender and Cultural Diversity in Twin Cities Mosques"

2024 *Research Advisor*, Undergraduate Macalester College Roetzel Family Fellowship, "Cartographies of Race and Islam in the Twin Cities"

2024 *Participant*, Religio-Racial Reading Group, Macalester College

2023 *Co-Organizer*, Faculty Writing Group, Macalester College

2021 *Program Mentor*, Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE), Emory University

2020 *Student Advisory Council Member*, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University

2020 *Ambassador*, Laney EDGE Fellowship in Diversity, Inclusion, and Recruitment

2020 *Co-Organizer*, Gender and Sexuality Theory Reading Group, Emory University

2019 *Steering Committee Member*, American Academy of Religion-Men, Masculinities, and Religion Unit, 5 year term.

2018 *Founder and organizer*, Islamicate Graduate Student Colloquium, Emory University

Training

2023 Emory Foundations for Online Training, Emory University, Remote
2022 Critical Language Enhancement Award for Arabic Language Study, Dar Loughat, Tetouan, Morocco
2021 Princeton–UCLA Arabic Manuscripts Workshop, Remote
2021 Moroccan Arabic Studies, American Language Institute in Fez, Remote
2020 Moroccan Arabic Studies, American Language Institute in Fez, Remote
2019 Intensive Arabic Language Summer Program, Al-Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco

2017 Intensive Arabic Reading Program, Harvard University, Tunis, Tunisia

Language

Classical Arabic (Reading/Writing/Speaking Advanced Proficiency)
Modern Standard Arabic (Reading/Writing/Speaking Advanced Proficiency)
Moroccan Arabic (Reading/Writing/Speaking Advanced Proficiency)
Persian (Reading/Writing/Speaking Beginner Proficiency)
French (Academic Reading Proficiency)
Spanish (Academic Reading Proficiency)

Professional Membership

American Academy of Religion
International Qur'anic Studies Association
Middle East Studies Association
Spain-North Africa Project
The American Institute for Maghrib Studies
The Mediterranean Seminar