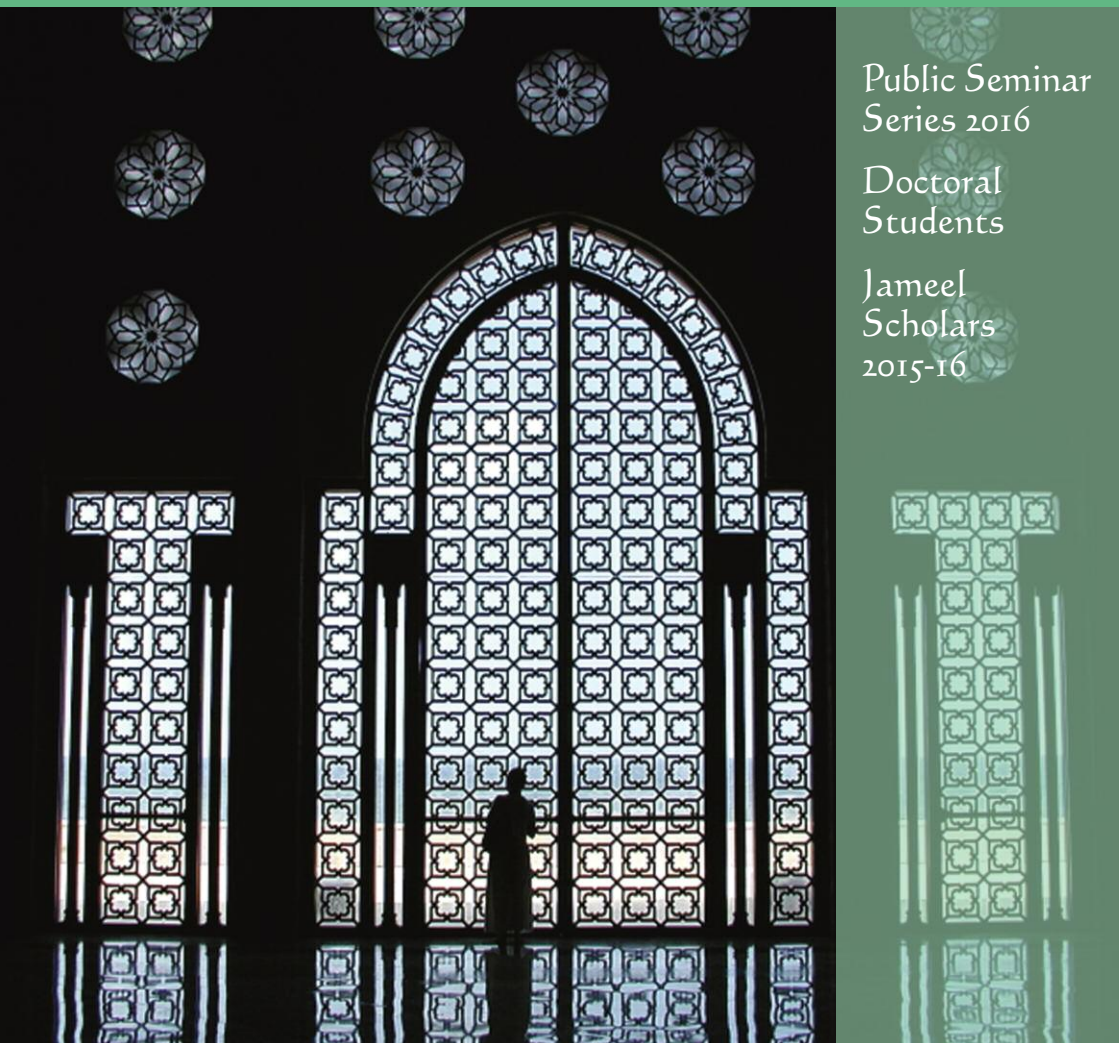


Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK

Public Seminar
Series 2016

Doctoral
Students

Jameel
Scholars
2015-16



The Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK

The Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK was opened in September 2005 by Yusuf Islam, formerly musician Cat Stevens in front of 400 guests. Islam is the second largest religion in Britain and, indeed, the world. There are 46,000 Muslims in Wales, about half of whom live in Cardiff itself (Census 2011).



Cardiff University is now a leading institution for scholarly teaching about Islam and Muslims in contemporary Britain. The Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK (Islam-UK Centre) is based within the School of History, Archaeology and Religion, which has a wealth of teaching expertise and a lively programme of research activity. Within the school's degree programmes there are a range of possibilities for studying Islam and classical Arabic.

The Centre has a strong and positive relationship with the local Muslim community. Local Muslims form part of the Centre's advisory committee, and we are proud of this partnership. We envisage the Centre as an accessible, vibrant, and inclusive hub of learning about Islam in Cardiff, South Wales and the UK for Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

Public Seminar Series 2016

Wednesday 3rd February 5pm

Dr Shamim Miah

John Percival Building
room 4.45

"Trojan Horse and 'Prevent'ing of Schooling: Muslims, Securitisation and Racialised Politics"

Shamim Miah is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Huddersfield.

His current research interests draw upon both empirical and theoretical approaches to the study of Muslims and education policy. Shamim is the author of *Muslims, Schooling and the Question of Self-Segregation* (Palgrave, 2015). He is also a 'special interest group' convenor (Race and Ethnicity) for BERA (British Educational Research Association).

Email address:
S.Miah@hud.ac.uk

Chair: Dr Mansur Ali, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, Cardiff University

To book go online now:
BOOK HERE



Wednesday 17th February 5pm

Dr Abdullah Sahin

John Percival Building
room 4.45

"Islam, Education and Construction of Religious Authority among British Muslim Communities: A Critical Reflection"

Abdullah Sahin is Head of Research and Senior Lecturer in Islamic Studies and Education at Markfield Institute of Higher

Education (MIHE). Dr. Sahin comes from an Islamic Studies, Theology and Educational Studies background. His work aims to establish Islamic education as an interdisciplinary field of scholarly study, empirical inquiry and professional development. Dr. Sahin is the course leader for the MEd in Islamic Education programme at MIHE and has numerous scholarly publications on Islam and education. His most recent book publication is entitled: *New Directions in Islamic Education: Pedagogy and Identity Formation* (Kube Academic, Leicestershire, Rev US Imprint 2014).

Email address:
asahin@mihe.org.uk

*Chair: Matthew Vince, PhD
Jameel Scholar, Cardiff University*

To book go online now:
BOOK HERE



Wednesday 2nd March 5pm

Dr Stephen Jones

John Percival Building
room 4.45

“Reclaiming the idea of British Islam: institutional change and the failures of the ‘Muslim integration’ debate”

Stephen H. Jones

is a sociologist with research interests in religion and social change, faith-based political participation, religion and education and the impact of policymaking on religious organisations. Subjects on which he has published recently include religion and higher education, the political representation of British Muslims, the sociology of Islamic knowledge, multiculturalism and Muslim political participation, and the UK government’s preventing extremism strategy. He is presently a Research Fellow at Newman University, Birmingham, and working on a project looking at perceptions of religion and evolution among a range of religious and secular groups.



Email address:

stephen.jones@newman.ac.uk

Chair: Dr Michael Munnik,

Lecturer in Social Science

Theories and Methods, Islam-UK Centre

To book go online now:

BOOK HERE

Wednesday 16th March 5pm

Fiyaz Mughal

John Percival Building
room 4.45

“The shifting sands of anti-Muslim hatred: from the far right and the margins, to the mainstream”

Fiyaz Mughal is

currently the Founder and Director of a not for profit organization called Faith Matters (www.faith-matters.org) which works on reducing extremism and developing platforms for discourse and interaction between Muslim, Sikh, Christian and Jewish communities right across the UK. Faith Matters also works extensively on community cohesion, interfaith, conflict resolution and prevent programmes at a local, national and international level.



Fiyaz is also the founder and Director of the national anti-Muslim hate crime monitoring project called TELL MAMA. TELL MAMA ensures the mapping monitoring and measuring of anti-Muslim hatred across England and Wales and is the only national project that works in this area.

Email address:

fiyaz@faith-matters.co.uk

Chair: Abdul-Azim Ahmed,

Jameel PhD student

To book go online now:

BOOK HERE

Wednesday 13th April 7pm

Professor Grace Davie

Temple of Peace and Health,
Cathays Park, CF10 3AP

“Contextualising Islam in 21st Century Britain”

This lecture is organised in partnership with the Cardiff Centre for Law and Religion, Cardiff University, the Cardiff and District branch of the United Nations Association, and the Welsh Centre for International Affairs (WCIA). The WCIA inspires people to think and act on global issues. Their vision is a Wales where everyone contributes to creating a fairer and more peaceful world.

Grace Davie is

professor emeritus in the Sociology of Religion at the University of Exeter UK and a senior adviser to the Impact of Religion Research Programme at Uppsala University. She is a past-president of the American Association for the Sociology of Religion (2003) and of the Research Committee 22 (Sociology of Religion) of the International Sociological Association (2002-06).



In addition to numerous chapters and articles, she is the author of *Religion in Britain since 1945* (Blackwell 1994), *Religion in Modern Europe* (OUP 2000), *Europe: the Exceptional Case* (DLT 2002), *The Sociology of Religion* (Sage 2007/2013) and *Religion in Britain: A Persistent Paradox* (Wiley-Blackwell 2015).

Email address:

G.R.C.Davie@exeter.ac.uk

*Chair: Professor Norman Doe,
Centre for Law and Religion,
Cardiff University*

To book go online now:

BOOK HERE

Islam-UK Centre Doctoral Students

Abdul-Aziz Ahmed

PhD topic:
*"God's House":
The mosque and
sacred space in
Islam.*



Generously funded by the
Jameel Scholarship Programme

Project summary:

There are an estimated 1600 mosques in Britain today. Researchers have explored their histories, establishment and the controversies that often surround their establishment. But very few studies have examined what role the mosque plays in the life of a Muslim, what meanings it holds and how it is invested with that meaning. My thesis, currently being written up, presents ethnographic research and hopes to contribute to public understanding of mosques as well broader academic debates in Religious Studies about the concept of 'sacred space'. Over the last 12 months, I have presented my work at a number of academic conferences, including the BSA Sociology of Religion Study Group, and the British Association for the Study of Religion (BASR).

E-mail address:
AhmedMA1@cardiff.ac.uk



Carwen Jones, First Minister of the Welsh Assembly Government and Chief Guest, made a speech at the Centre's 10th anniversary celebration

Jo Bryant

PhD topic:
*Negotiated,
Asserted or
Assumed: The
Status and
Integration of
Minority Faith Groups in Acute
Healthcare Chaplaincy.*



Generously funded by the AHRC

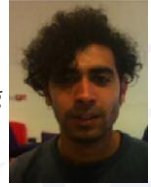
Project summary:

I am currently in the second year of my PhD, during which I am conducting a series of case studies in NHS Trusts across England and potentially Wales. My interest in chaplaincy started during a BA degree in Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Leeds (2012) and developed further during an MRes degree from the University of Birmingham (2014). Drawing on theories and methods from theology, sociology and the study of religion, this project is a qualitative study of the integration of minority faith groups into healthcare chaplaincy teams. My research aims to examine the ways in which the NHS provides spiritual care for minority faith groups, how minority faith chaplaincy representatives negotiate working in a secular medical context, and how far chaplains negotiate difference within their teams. It is hoped that this project will introduce a greater diversity of voices to academic research into healthcare chaplaincy, and offer new insights into how the NHS is providing spiritual care for those of all faiths and none.

E-mail address:
BryantJR@cardiff.ac.uk

Mustafa Hameed

PhD topic:
*(Re)-constructing
Multiculturalism,
British Muslims
and developing
notions of citizenship.*



Generously funded by the
President's Scholarships
(Cardiff University)

Project summary:

Mustafa's research aims to explore developing notions of citizenship within British Muslim communities in the context of the recent critique of British/European multiculturalism. Using qualitative research his thesis seeks to look at how the discourse of citizenship is impacting on the identity and theological commitments of Muslim leaders, scholars and activists in Britain. He is interested in the way Muslims living in Britain align themselves pragmatically and symbolically as political actors in response to such challenging discourses. In this respect, he is more broadly interested in the themes of identity and belonging, contemporary Islamic theological thought - particularly the sociology of theology - within a British and European context.

E-mail address:
HameedM@cardiff.ac.uk

Asma Khan

PhD topic:

Understanding and Explaining the Economic Inactivity of Muslim Women.



Generously funded by the Jameel Scholarship Programme

Project summary:

I am currently in the third year of my PhD. I was a social sciences researcher at Cardiff University between 2007 and 2011. I worked on two Islam-UK Centre projects during this time and I have co-authored a number of publications resulting from these projects.

High rates of economic inactivity amongst British Muslim women are often-cited social statistics in Britain. This topic is particularly relevant in the contemporary context as it is likely that the economic inactivity of Muslim women might contribute to the high levels of relative deprivation currently experienced by Muslim households in England and Wales.

I am conducting a mixed methods study in order to develop a more sensitive and nuanced understanding of economic inactivity. I have conducted a statistical analysis

of the results of a large-scale social survey and I have undertaken qualitative fieldwork with both first and second generation British Muslim women. My analysis of project data will focus on a close examination of the extent to which both cultural frameworks and structural inequalities in the labour market impact on the decisions that British Muslim women make about work and employment. I anticipate that the results and insights gained from this research project will make a timely and relevant contribution to existing literature and policy in the specific area of the economic inactivity of British Muslim women. But also, more generally, the lived experiences of women in British Muslim communities.

E-mail address:

AsmaKhan@cardiff.ac.uk

Haroon Sidat

PhD topic:

Training of Imams and Religious Leaders in Britain.



Generously funded by the Jameel Scholarship Programme

Project summary:

Having completed my Darsi

Nizami studies, I gained a First Class degree in Economics and Social Studies at Manchester University before taking up employment at Ernst and Young LLP whilst studying to become a Chartered Accountant. I also have a PGCE in Mathematics and lecture at Jamiatul ilm Wal-Huda (Blackburn) on their BA Islamic Studies programme in association with Middlesex University. I am in the first year of my PhD at the Islam-UK Centre and I am really enjoying the opportunity to be immersed in the rich offerings at the Centre.

My research aims to offer a detailed ethnographic account of the religious training that takes place in a dar al-uloom. I am hoping to utilise the classical ethnographic techniques of participant observation and semi-structured interviews, and conduct extensive fieldwork. The potential for this research is that it can reach a constituency of influential opinion formers, help address Islamophobia and, most importantly, play a crucial role in becoming a catalyst for change in the training of imams in Britain to help them engage more effectively with contemporary challenges. My hope is that this will have far reaching consequences for social policy, community cohesion and the wellbeing of British society as a whole.

E-mail address:

SidatHE@cardiff.ac.uk



Mr Jameel with Cardiff University staff and the Jameel Scholars 2015-16, 1st October 2015

Islam-UK Centre Doctoral Students continued

Riyaz Timol

PhD topic:

Islamic Revival in Secular Britain.

Generously funded by the Jameel Scholarship Programme

Project summary:

I am in the final stages of my PhD at the Islam-UK Centre and have thoroughly enjoyed my time here; since joining in 2012 I have particularly benefited from the Centre's emphasis on sociological and anthropological methodology. My research focusses on a ubiquitous yet under-researched aspect of British Muslim life: the Tablighi Jama'at (TJ). Utilising ethnographic techniques I have conducted extensive fieldwork with British TJ over the past year. My work builds upon extant academic scholarship to examine the ways in which second and third generation British-born Muslims, raised in predominantly secular cultural milieu, appropriate and indigenise the movement in modern contexts. In particular, I am interested in how contemporary accounts of Islamic revival intersect with secularisation theory in



European contexts. My disciplinary approach is broadly in the sociology of religion with particular reference to the theoretical contributions of Peter L. Berger. I hold a first class degree in BA (Hons) English Literary Studies, am a co-founder of *thinkBRITE* Services and work also as a consultant to the 1st Ethical Charitable Trust.

E-mail address:

timolr@cardiff.ac.uk

Matt Vince

PhD topic:

Negotiating dominant discourses, professional practice and personal identity: British Muslim RE teachers and Islam in UK state-schools.

Generously funded by the Jameel Scholarship Programme

Project summary:

Having completed the MA Islam in Contemporary Britain with Distinction (2012) and then training to teach Religious Education in schools, I am now returning to Cardiff.

My doctoral research project stems from these experiences, focussing on how British Muslim



RE teachers construct their professional identities and in turn teach Islam. Recent anti-radicalisation discourses within education have put RE teachers at the forefront of fighting extremism in schools, but little research has been conducted as to how this policy has impacted on the lives and identities of these educators. Using qualitative research methods, I aim to highlight the pressures and opportunities faced by Muslim RE teachers in this context, and tease open the underlying processes in adapting to this institutional framework. I hope that this research will indicate a new, contemporary form of Islam that is being formed within public-sector institutions; one that has successfully integrated with a British framework. Pedagogical insights for the teaching of Islam in RE can also be revealed to improve its representation. Funded by the Jameel Scholarship means that making a real, professional impact is a fundamental and exciting part of this research!

E-mail address:

vincem@cardiff.ac.uk



Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Islam-UK Centre, held in conjunction with the Muslim Council of Wales 'Interfaith Week', 1st October 2015. Left to right: David Chillingworth, Primate of the Scottish Episcopal Church; Saleem Kidwai OBE, Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Wales; Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray, Director of the Islam-UK Centre; Barry Morgan, Archbishop of Wales; Richard Clarke, Primate of All Ireland

Cardiff University Jameel Scholarships

The Islam-UK Centre at Cardiff University is pleased to invite applications for the Cardiff University Jameel Scholarships.

With the help of a very generous gift to the University, the Cardiff University Jameel Scholarships have been established to enable the very best students to come to Cardiff - those who have the intellect and determination to apply their knowledge for the benefit of Muslim communities in the UK, and to promote better understanding of Islam in the wider society.

The following fully funded scholarships are available from September 2016

Cardiff University Jameel MA Scholarships

3 MA scholarships for the MA Islam in Contemporary Britain

We are seeking exceptional UK resident applicants with a first or upper second class honours degree.

Each successful Cardiff University Jameel Scholar has full UK/EU tuition fees paid and receives a generous stipend equivalent to an AHRC stipend plus access to a travel and conference allowance. Full-time MA awards will provide funding for one year.

How to Apply

Full application instructions are available online at www.cardiff.ac.uk/jameelscholarships

Closing date for MA Scholarship applications: Friday 29th January 2016.

For all enquiries, please contact us by email to jameelscholarships@cardiff.ac.uk

Cardiff University PhD scholarships

2 PhD scholarships (to start during the 2016/17 academic year).

Those applying for a PhD scholarship should have, or be studying for, a Master's degree or similar postgraduate qualification in a relevant subject (Religious Studies, Islamic Studies, Social Sciences, Philosophy or History) from a UK university. In exceptional circumstances, applicants with only a BA degree will be considered. Full awards are open only to UK and EU nationals who satisfy UK residency requirements. Applicants should provide evidence of a clear ambition to develop a career in the area of Islam and Muslims in Britain, and demonstrate familiarity with, and/or proven competence in, the use of qualitative research methods and associated data analysis techniques.

Research proposals must demonstrate very high academic standards and at least one of the following: potential social policy significance; potential creation of an evidence-base that might inform changes and developments within or for British Muslim communities; potential to promote better understanding of Islam and Muslim communities in Britain and in wider society; scope for capacity-building amongst those who work with, or for, Muslims in Britain.

How to Apply

Full application instructions are available online at www.cardiff.ac.uk/jameelscholarships

Closing date for MA and PhD applications: Friday 29th January 2016

For all enquiries, please contact us by email: jameelscholarships@cardiff.ac.uk

Jameel Scholars 2015-16 Masters Students

Faisal Ali

Being admitted onto the MA 'Islam in Contemporary Britain' has been a tremendous privilege. I completed my undergraduate studies in Cardiff University, graduating in 2014/2015 in BSc Economics and Politics. My aim is to develop my knowledge with the guidance of Centre staff, and to develop new research fields in the coming years. I was born and educated in Cardiff, and am the 4th generation of my family, originally from Somalia, to have lived, studied and worked in the city. I enjoy volunteering for a number of local Muslim organisations.



investigating issues such as religious nurture and cultural/ethnic identity.

Grace Phelps

After completing a BA in Religious and Theological Studies at Cardiff University last year for which I was awarded a First Class, I realised that the majority of my knowledge of Islam had been gained through a classroom environment. I joined the Islam-UK Centre in order to gain a more in-depth understanding of the Muslim community in Cardiff through the first-hand experience offered by the community engagement programme of the MA in Islam in Contemporary Britain. I aspire to eventually begin a career that aids inter-faith relations, and the prestigious Jameel scholarship I have been fortunate enough to receive will certainly help my future career path.



Amanda Morris

I am very excited for the opportunity that the Jameel Scholarship has afforded me. I am originally from Canada, but I have lived in Cardiff since 2004, except for a brief time in Swansea. I am an active member of the local Muslim community, volunteering with various organisations and campaigns, in addition to helping run study circles for New Muslim women at my local mosque. My MA research proposal stems in part from this work: I am planning to look into issues surrounding the grown children of converts to Islam,



Sheikh Ibrahim Mogra, Assistant Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain addresses guests at the Centre's 10th anniversary celebration

MA in 'Islam in Contemporary Britain'

Research and teaching about Islam and Muslims in Britain is now an established and rapidly growing field.

There is an urgent need to continue to develop new scholars from a range of backgrounds and experiences who can critically evaluate emerging debates, and appreciate the rich diversity within British Muslim communities. This interdisciplinary programme, drawing upon the fields of history, sociology, and religious studies, examines the history and settlement of Muslims in Britain and the dynamics that shape contemporary Muslim communities. We look at how Muslims have engaged with local and national government in relation to matters such as education, social policy, and chaplaincy, as well as the growth of Muslim community infrastructures such as mosques and charities. During the course of the MA, students receive a thorough grounding in social science research methods and theories, and acquire a set of transferrable and employability skills that will equip them for a range of future careers. We encourage and support our students to undertake volunteering and community engagement, in order to develop a sympathetic first hand understanding of Muslim communities in Britain today. For more information, please contact:

Postgraduate Administrator

Email:
jameelscholarships@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2987 0903

<http://courses.cardiff.ac.uk/postgraduate/934.html>

Centre Contacts

Islam-UK Centre,

School of History, Archaeology and Religion, John Percival Building, Colum Drive, Cardiff, CF10 3EU, UK

Tel: (0)29 2087 6125

Email: islam-uk@cardiff.ac.uk

Director

Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray

Gilliat-RayS@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 0121

Professor Gilliat-Ray is Director of the Centre and was awarded the Sankore University award for Excellence in Education at the Muslim News Awards in 2006. She was also presented with an Achievement Award in 2012 by the Muslim Council of Wales during National Interfaith Week.

Development Officer

Mark Bryant

BryantMW@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)7738 932376

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 0121



Mark provides essential administrative and technical support for the Centre. This includes

managing the database and website, and promoting the Centre's work via social media. He is a member of the Centre's Advisory Board, and is working closely with the Director in supporting the re-running of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Muslims in Britain. Mark completed the MA 'Islam in Britain' in 2009, and was employed as a research assistant for the 'Islamic Gardens' project funded by BGCI in 2010.

Maulana Dr Mansur Ali

alimm1@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 6297



Dr Mansur Ali studied classical Islamic studies and Arabic at Darul Uloom

Bury, UK and Al-Azhar University Cairo, Egypt. He then completed an MA and a PhD in Middle Eastern Studies (Hadith Studies) at the University of Manchester where he also lectured as a graduate teaching fellow. During this time he also worked as a Muslim chaplain at Ashworth High Security hospital in Liverpool. Shortly after completing his PhD, he worked on an AHRC/ESRC funded project on Muslim Chaplaincy in Britain alongside Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray at Cardiff University. He is interested in Hadith Studies as well as applied Islamic theology. He is a Lecturer in Islamic Studies at Cardiff University and Khatib of Darul Isra Mosque, Cardiff, UK.

Dr Mustafa Baig

BaigM3@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)29 2087 5634



Dr Mustafa Baig is Jameel Lecturer in Islamic Studies. He has joined

Cardiff University from the University of Exeter where he was Research Fellow and then Lecturer in Islamic Studies. Prior to this he was Lecturer in Islamic Studies at the University of Manchester where he also completed his MA in Islamic

Studies and PhD thesis. His research interests principally lie in the study of Islamic jurisprudence in non-Muslim contexts, investigating how Islamic jurists – who predominantly addressed Muslims living under Muslim rule – discussed the 'more exceptional' cases of Muslims living in non-Muslim lands, and the legal and theological implications involved. As well as examining the classical literature on Muslims in non-Muslim jurisdictions, he is also interested in following new modern/ist discourses on Muslims in minority contexts.

Dr Baig also spent a number of years studying classical Islamic texts (in a variety of disciplines) with traditional Muslim scholars in a *madrasa* setting. He has taught courses (at the University of Manchester and Exeter) on subjects covering Islamic jurisprudence; Islamic theology; Islamic philosophy; Sufism; women in Islam; Islamic in practice; Islam/the Arab world and the West; and Islamic history.

He is Co-Chair of the International Abrahamic Forum and participates in conferences and meetings regarding Muslim-Christian-Jewish relations.



The Centre's Development Officer, Mark Bryant, attended the International Islamic Climate Change Symposium in Istanbul, in August 2015. The hashtag #Muslims4Climate had over 5.5 million Twitter impressions with over 3 million reach!

Centre Contacts Continued

Dr Michael Munnik

MunnikM@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)2087 5646



Dr Michael Munnik is Lecturer in Social Science Theories and Methods. He

completed his doctorate at the University of Edinburgh, supported by the Alwaleed Centre for the Study of Islam in the Contemporary World. For his thesis, he examined relationships between mainstream journalists and

Muslim sources in Glasgow, Scotland. His work concerns the production of news about Muslims in Britain rather than the product itself, and he draws on personal experience to inform his research: Dr Munnik worked for eight years as a journalist in Canada before coming to the UK to take up postgraduate studies in 2010. He received his MA in 'Religion in Contemporary Society' with Distinction at King's College London before securing the Alwaleed scholarship to study in Edinburgh.



We were delighted to welcome Mr Jameel and his wife to Cardiff University on 1st October 2015. From left to right: Professor Nora de Leeuw, Pro Vice-Chancellor International and Europe; Ms Eleanor Hewett, Senior Development Manager; Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray, Director of the Islam-UK Centre; Manuela König; Mr Yusuf Jameel; Saleem Kidwai OBE, Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Wales; Mrs TJ Rawlinson, Director of Development and Alumni Relations



@IslamUKCentre



facebook.com/IslamUKCentre

Members of the Islam-UK Centre Management Board

Prof Chris Williams, *Chair of the Management Board and Head of the School of History, Archaeology and Religion*

Dr Mansur Ali, *Lecturer in Islamic Studies, Department of Religious & Theological Studies*

Kate Bennett, *National Director, Equality and Human Rights Commission for Wales*

Mark Bryant, *Development Officer, Islam-UK Centre*

Dr Mustafa Baig, *Lecturer in Islamic Studies*

Dr Michael Munnik, *Lecturer in Social Science Research Methods and Theories*

Laura Davies, *Head of Communications, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Cardiff University*

Prof Sophie Gilliat-Ray, *Director, Islam-UK Centre*

Dr Meraj Hasan, *Association of Muslim Professionals, Cardiff*

Eleanor Hewett, *Senior Development Manager, Development and Alumni Relations, Cardiff University*

Gillian James, *Head of Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service, Cardiff Council*

Samina Khan, *Community Liaison and Development Manager, Cardiff and Vale College*

Saleem Kidwai OBE, *Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Wales*

Revd Canon Dr Andrew Todd, *Cardiff Centre for Chaplaincy Studies, Cardiff University*

Amanda Morris, *Jameel Scholar, Cardiff University*

Dr David Wyatt, *Community Engagement, School of History, Archaeology and Religion*

Cardiff University's first MOOC

"Muslims in Britain: changes and challenges" will be offered again in 2016!

Develop your understanding of Muslims and their faith through an exploration of communities in Britain.

Starts: 22nd February 2016
Duration: 4 weeks
Study Time: 4 hours pw

About the course

Islam is the second largest religion in the world today and dominates much of the current geopolitical discourse. People are increasingly bombarded by dramatic and at times disturbing headlines. Yet general knowledge of Muslims and their faith can be poor. There is consequently a need for a balanced and well-informed understanding of the current debates around this internationally significant topic.

This course uses Britain as a case study to shed light on wider issues relating to the growth of Islamic communities across the culturally Christian and increasingly secularised Western World.

Topics include:

- Islamic Practice: An outline of Islamic practices and beliefs plus an introduction to the different viewpoints within Islam.
- History of Islam in Britain: An exploration of the longstanding associations between Islam and Britain, including Islamic influences on British society and the well-established connections

between Britain and the countries from which many British Muslims originally hailed.

- Settlement Patterns: The origins and makeup of today's British Muslim communities.
- Cultural Diversity: Confronting the 'myth' of a homogenous Muslim community through an exploration of the various religious and cultural influences that characterise and inform Muslim communities in Britain today.
- Contemporary Debates: An examination of how the above topics feed into the contemporary debates and what the future might hold.
- Given current debates about multiculturalism, integration, and the spectre of fundamentalism, this course will appeal to a wide audience not only in Britain but far beyond.

Educators

Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray, Maulana Dr Mansur Ali and Mark Bryant.

Requirements

The course is free-of-charge, and open to anyone with an interest in religion, culture and history, whether you are a beginner, experienced learner or returning to study.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/muslims-in-britain>

What are MOOCs?

Massive Open Online Courses or MOOCs are short courses (4-8 weeks) presented online, free and open to all through the internet.

MOOC's through Cardiff University:

- If you have access to the internet you can take a MOOC as there is no entry requirement.
- Your commitment is typically 3-5 hrs of study per week.
- The courses are led by internationally recognised leading academics.
- Accessible on all mobile platforms - you can fit your learning around your own schedule. You can benefit from a collaborative learning experience with the support of your fellow learners.
- The MOOC will feature a variety of innovative learning platforms appealing to a range of learning styles.
- Having been through rigorous quality control processes, the course content will comply with the same high standards found in other Cardiff University courses.

CARDIFF
UNIVERSITY

PRIFYSGOL
CAERDYDD

All seminars will be held in the John Percival Building, room 4.45, Colum Drive, Cardiff, CF10 3EU, except the seminar on Wednesday 13th April (Grace Davie) which will be held in Temple of Peace and Health, Cathays Park, CF10 3AP

Please note that photographs and a video will be taken of the lectures. Cardiff University will assume the consent of all those in attendance and those that appear in the media footage taken. Photographs and videos are taken with the view to use in University and link organisations' websites, marketing materials and related media coverage. If you DO NOT agree to this please inform a staff member on the evening. If you do wish to withdraw permission at a later date you must inform Mark Bryant in writing (BryantMW@cardiff.ac.uk).

Diary of Public Seminars 2016

3rd February 5pm

Dr Shamim Miah

Trojan Horse and 'Prevent'ing of Schooling: Muslims, Securitisation and Racialised Politics

Chair: Dr Mansur Ali, Lecturer in Islamic Studies, Cardiff University

BOOK HERE

17th February 5pm

Dr Abdullah Sahin

Islam, Education and Construction of Religious Authority among British Muslim Communities: A Critical Reflection

Chair: Matthew Vince, PhD Jameel Scholar, Cardiff University

BOOK HERE

2nd March 5pm

Dr Stephen Jones

Reclaiming the idea of British Islam: institutional change and the failures of the 'Muslim integration' debate

Chair: Dr Michael Munnik, Lecturer in Social Science Theories and Methods, Islam-UK Centre

BOOK HERE

16th March 5pm

Fiyaz Mughal

The shifting sands of anti-Muslim hatred: from the far right and the margins, to the mainstream

Chair: Abdul-Azim Ahmed, Jameel PhD student

BOOK HERE

13th April 7pm

Professor Grace Davie

Contextualising Islam in 21st Century Britain

Chair: Professor Norman Doe, Centre for Law and Religion, Cardiff University

BOOK HERE

#IslamUKCentrePublicLectures2016

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