

Noor Hashem
Boston University

100 Bay State Road, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02215

(818) 800-0180
nhashem@bu.edu

EDUCATION

January 2015	Ph.D., English, Cornell University
August 2011	M.A., English, Cornell University
January 2011	M.F.A, English (Fiction), Cornell University
June 2006	B.A., English and Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018 – Present	Lecturer, College of Arts and Sciences Writing Program Boston University
Fall 2018	Instructor of Continuing Education, Boston Islamic Seminary
2014 – 2016	Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Department of English Johns Hopkins University

DISSERTATION

Creative Ritual: Embodied Faith and Secular Reason in Contemporary Muslim Fiction
Committee: Elizabeth Anker (Chair), Natalie Melas, and Shawkat Toorawa

M.F.A. THESIS

Fugitive Spaces of Enchantment (Short story collection)
Committee: J. Robert Lennon (Chair) and Stephanie Vaughn

PUBLICATIONS

Academic Articles

“‘The Feast of Ants’: The bodily agency of Quranic storytelling in Hisham Matar’s *In the Country of Men*,” *Journal of Qur’anic Studies*, special issue on ‘The Qur’an and modern world literature’ 16.3 (October 2014): 39-61

Creative Work

“Recounting Syria: Part III, Survival Stories,” *Consequence Magazine*, Special Issue: 10th Anniversary “Women Writing War” (Spring 2018)

“All I Need to Know about Protest I Learned from Syrians: A Love Letter,” *Mizna*, Special Issue: “Surviving,” 18.1 (Summer 2017)

“Fugitive Spaces,” *New Letters*, 79.3-4 (Spring/Summer 2013)

Reviews

Review of Geoffrey Nash's *Writing Muslim Identity in Twentieth-Century Literature*, 59.1 (Spring 2013): 189-195.

Review of Adrienne Davis' lecture "Irregular Intimacies: Polygamy, Race, and the Sexual Politics of Democracy" in *Cornell Institute for Comparative Modernities Newsletter* 4 (Fall 2012): 8-9.

CONFERENCES AND TALKS

Panels

"The pre-secular novel, the post-secular graphic novel: sensibilities of fact and faith in classical and contemporary Muslim fiction," Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States Conference, Las Vegas, NV, May 2018

"Migrating Muslim Fiction in the Age of World Literature," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Cambridge, Massachusetts, March 2016

Invited panelist. "Embodied Qur'anic Narratives in Muslim Fiction," The Program in Islamic Studies, Johns Hopkins University, April 2015

"The endless repetition of an ordinary miracle': Radical porousness in Pamuk's *Snow*," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada, April 2013

"The Feast of Ants': Agency, the body, and Qur'anic narrative in Matar's *In the Country of Men*," Near Eastern Studies Colloquium, Cornell University, March 2013

"In prayer God is "closer than her jugular vein": Teaching the secular body sense in Robin Yassin-Kassab's *The Road from Damascus*," Telos Conference, New York City, February 2013

Invited panelist. "Women in Islam," Department of Government and the Program in Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Cornell University, April 2010

Panels Convened

Organizer/Chair. "Reading the Radical: American Muslim Immigrants, Surveillance, and Narrative Resistance," Modern Language Association Convention, New York City, January 2018

Co-organizer/Co-chair. "Dead Signals: Textual Authority and the Negation of Meaning," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada, April 2013

Public Talks and Interviews

Invited interview. "Muslim Fictions" *PhDivas* Podcast on iTunes and Soundcloud, Season 03 Episode 16, February 2017

Invited speaker. Post-show discussion of Ayad Akhtar's Pulitzer Prize winning *Disgraced* with Boston Globe columnist Yvonne Abraham at the Huntington Theatre Company, Boston, Massachusetts, January 2016

Invited speaker. "Covering Muslims: On Representations of Gendered Bodies." Introduced and commented upon the theatrical performance *S/HE*, a collaboration between the Kitchen Theatre Company, International Culture Lab, and Cornell University, May 2011

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Mass Cultural Council's Artist Fellowships, 2018

Truman Capote Literary Trust, Cornell University, Summer 2013

Brett de Bary Interdisciplinary Mellon Writing Group Grant, Subject: "Material Culture," Cornell University, 2011-2012

The Institute for Comparative Modernities Reading Group Grant, Subject: "Secularism and the Islamic Political Subject," Cornell University, 2011-2012

The Institute for Comparative Modernities Reading Group Grant, Subject: "Dislocating the Postcolonial: Re-encountering Others," Cornell University, 2011-2012

Cornell Council for the Arts Interdisciplinary Projects Grant, 2010

Sage Fellowship, Cornell University, 2008-2009 and 2011-2012

Graduate School Summer Fellowship, Cornell University, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Boston University, Boston, MA

Writing Program Lecturer

"Art of the Arab Spring," First-year writing seminar. Spring 2019

"Imagining American Islam," First-year writing seminar. Fall 2018

Boston Islamic Seminary, Boston, MA

Instructor

“The Deen Imagined: Exploring Islam’s History in America through Literature,”
Continuing Education Course, Fall 2019

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Instructor

“‘The People Want’: Art of the Arab Spring,” Fall 2015
“Muslim Science Fiction,” Fall 2015
“Aesthetic Play in the Contemporary Global Novel,” Spring 2015
“Reading Muslims: Global Fiction and Film from the Muslim Diaspora,” Fall 2014

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Instructor

“Introduction to Creative Writing,” Fall 2012 and Spring 2013
“Imagined Cities: The City of Angels, The Big Apple, and other Dystopias,” Fall 2010
and Spring 2011
“The Mystery in the Story,” Fall 2009 and Spring 2010

Teaching Assistant

“Natives and Strangers” with Professor Shelley Wong, Summer 2009

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- American ethnic literature
- Critical theory
- Feminist and gender studies
- Late twentieth-century and contemporary literature
- Creative writing
- Muslim and Islamic studies
- Postcolonial theory
- World Anglophone literature

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Instructor of Creative Writing and Pedagogy, Al-Salam School, Reyhanli, Turkey,
August 2015

“Writing 7100: Teaching Writing,” Pedagogy workshops, John S. Knight Institute for
Writing in the Disciplines, Summer 2009

Assistant Editor, *Epoch Magazine*, Ithaca, NY, Fall 2008 - Spring 2009

Intern, *Tin House* Books, Portland, OR, Spring 2008

Intern, *Tin House* Magazine, Portland, OR, Fall 2007

LANGUAGES

Arabic, native

Spanish, some reading, writing, and speaking

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Modern Language Association

American Comparative Literature Association

American Studies Association

REFERENCES

Elizabeth S. Anker
Department of English
Cornell University
anker@cornell.edu

Stuart A. Davis (Teaching Letter)
Department of English
Cornell University
sad4@cornell.edu

Natalie Melas
Departments of Comparative Literature
and English
Cornell University
nam5@cornell.edu

Drew Daniel (Teaching Letter)
Department of English
Johns Hopkins University
drewdaniel@jhu.edu

Shawkat M. Toorawa
Department of Near Eastern Languages
and Civilizations, Yale University
shawkat.toorawa@yale.edu

John Robert Lennon (Creative Writing
Letter)
Department of English
Cornell University
jrl24@cornell.edu

Gabrielle M. Spiegel
Department of History and Special
Assistant to the Dean for the Mellon
Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
Johns Hopkins University
spiegel@jhu.edu

Stephanie Vaughn (Creative Writing
Letter)
Department of English
Cornell University
sv19@cornell.edu