

Daniel E. Watling
Religious Studies
Claremont McKenna College
Kravis Center 283
888 N. Columbia Ave.
Claremont, CA 91711
(804) 212-5325 | dwatling@cmc.edu

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Claremont McKenna College – Religious Studies
Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
Appointment in Islam
Claremont, CA
July 2022–present

EDUCATION

University of Chicago
Chicago, IL
Doctor of Philosophy: Committee on Social Thought Conferred June 2021
Master of Arts: Committee on Social Thought
Dissertation: “The Dearest Desire: Philosophy and Islam in *The Book of Ibn Tūmar*”
Committee: David Nirenberg (chair – Social Thought), James T. Robinson (Divinity), and
Yousef Casewit (Divinity)

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
Master of Arts in Religious Studies: Theology, Ethics & Culture Conferred August 2014
Thesis: “In Defense of Orthodoxy: Lessing between Maimonides and Spinoza”
Bachelor of Arts in English: Modern Studies Conferred May 2012
and Comparative Literature

PUBLICATIONS

“Ḥayy’s Two Nativities: Ismā‘īlī *ta’wīl* and Ibn Ṭufayl’s *Ḥayy ibn Yaḡzān*”
The Journal of Islamic Philosophy [accepted; to be published 2022]

Review of *Andalus and Sefarad: On Philosophy and Its History in Islamic Spain*, by Sarah
Stroumsa, *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 80, no. 1 (April 2021), 221-4.

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

“Neutralizing the Mahdī: Almohad Islam in Ibn Khaldūn’s Critique of Islamic Messianism” [to be
submitted to peer-reviewed journal December 2022]

“Becoming Substantial: the Ontological Structure of Happiness in al-Fārābī” [to be submitted to
peer-reviewed journal January 2023]

FELLOWSHIPS

Yale Law School: Research Fellowship, Abdallah S. Kamel Center for the Study of Islamic Law and Civilization, 2020-21

Universität Hamburg: Junior Fellowship (PhD) at Maimonides Centre for Advanced Studies, 2020-21 [declined]

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

University of Chicago – Social Sciences Division **Chicago, IL**

Teaching Fellow in the Social Sciences

Instructor in the Social Sciences Core Curriculum September 2021–August 2022

Yale Law Abdallah S. Kamel Center for the Study of Islamic Law and Civilization **New Haven, CT**

Research Fellow

August 2020–July

2021

Conduct and present personal research,
Participate in and help organize center events

U Chicago Committee on Social Thought **Chicago, IL**

Research Assistant to Prof. David Nirenberg

Fall 2016–Spring 2019

Gather research materials for professor,
Translations from Arabic, proofread and comment
On articles/book chapters prior to publication

U Chicago Humanities Core & Writing Center **Chicago, IL**

Writing Intern and Instructor

Fall 2017–Spring 2019

Assist professors in 1st year humanities courses,
Instruct 1st year students in college writing

U Chicago Committee on Social Thought

Chicago, IL

Research and Course Assistant to Prof. Guy Stroumsa

Fall Quarter 2016

Collect materials relevant to professor's research,
Manage course website and materials

UVA Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese

Charlottesville, VA

Graduate Student Instructor:

Accelerated Elementary Spanish

August 2012–May 2014

Instructor, assessment writer

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, GUEST LECTURES

American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting 2022 (Denver, CO): “Recovering Almohad Islam: Apocalypticism and *Takfir*,” Study of Islam Unit, 19-22 November, 2022.

University of Illinois Chicago: “The Fārābian Origins of Maimonides’ Approach to the Aims of Jewish Law,” *Jewish and Islamic Philosophy Conference*, 14-15 November 2022.

University of Chicago: Guest Lecture on Early Islamic Theology and Philosophy for “Islamic Thought and Literature I” (Instructor: Kyle Longworth), 2 November 2022.

Harvard University: “Ḥayy’s Two Nativities: Ismā‘īlī *ta’wīl* and Ibn Ṭufayl’s *Ḥayy ibn Yaqzān*,” *Journal of Islamic Philosophy Conference 2019*

University of Chicago: “Ibn Rushd’s Doctrines of Creation,” *Middle East History and Theory Conference 2017*

University of Chicago: “Averroës and the Editor of the Almohad *‘Aqīda*,” *Islamic Studies Workshop Fall 2016*

University of Chicago: “Under Plato’s Pillow: Nietzsche’s Aristophanes and the Defense of Tragic Art,” *U Chicago Literature and Philosophy Workshop Conference 2015* - “Community, Reason, Tragedy”

University of Virginia: “Like the Nations: The Political Theology of Abraham Isaac Kook,” *UVA Jewish Studies Graduate Fellows Conference 2014* - “Boundaries”

LANGUAGES & RESEARCH INTERESTS

Languages:

English (native)

Spanish (advanced; conversation and reading)

Arabic (advanced: Classical and Judeo-Arabic; conversant in Moroccan Arabic),

German (high intermediate; conversation and reading)

Hebrew (reading)

French (reading).

Research Interests:

Islamic Philosophy
Islamic Theology (*kalām*) and Law (*sharī‘a; fiqh*)
Islamic Sectarianism
History Medieval Iberia and North Africa
History of Philosophy (esp. Ancient and Medieval)
Qur’ānic Studies
Philosophical Cosmology
Political Philosophy
Middle Eastern Christianity
Middle Eastern and North African Judaism
Translation (Arabic)

COURSES TAUGHT

Claremont McKenna College**“The Religion of Islam”**

Fall Semester 2022 [2 sections]

“Islam in Motion”

Spring Semester 2022 [2 sections]

“The Qur’ān and Its Interpreters”

Spring Semester 2022

University of Chicago**Instructor - “Classics of Social and Political Thought” (sequences I, II, & III)**

Fall Quarter 2021 - I [2 sections]

Spring Quarter 2022 - III [2 sections]

Summer Session II 2022 - II

Summer Session III 2022 - III

Writing Instructor and Teaching Assistant - University of Chicago Humanities Core

“Readings in World Literature” (III) *Spring Quarter 2019*

Instructor: Sascha Ebeling

“Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities” (II) *Winter Quarter 2019*

Instructor: Jason Bridges

“Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities” (I) *Fall Quarter 2018*

Instructor: Daniel Brudney

“Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities” (III) *Spring Quarter 2018*

Instructor: David Finkelstein

“Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities” (II) *Winter Quarter 2018*

Instructor: Ben Callard

“Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities” (I) *Fall Quarter 2017*

Instructor: Mark Miller

Teaching Assistant - “Monotheism and Its Discontents”

Fall Quarter 2016

Instructor: Guy Stroumsa

University of Virginia:

Instructor - “Accelerated Elementary Spanish”

Fall 2012

Spring 2013

Fall 2013

Spring 2014