

Christ PreJean
Curriculum vitae
Fellow at the Haifa Center for Mediterranean History
chrisprejean@ucla.edu

PRIMARY EDUCATION

- 2021 Ph.D., Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (Arabic), University of California, Los Angeles, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
Title: *The Hermeneutical Christian in Hanbalī Thought*
Dissertation Committee: Michael Cooperson (Chair), Jeffrey Guhin, Michael Morony, Alexandre Roberts, Luke Yarbrough
- 2016 M.A., Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (Arabic), University of California, Los Angeles
- 2013 B.A., The King's University, Theological Studies

OTHER EDUCATION

- 2022 The Study of Religions Across Civilizations (SORAC), Morocco (2019, 2022)
- 2018 JewsEast, Presenter and Participant, 10-day program, Ruhr-University, Bochum, Germany
- 2016 Christian Arabic, Beth Mardutho
- 2015 Syriac II, Syriac Summer Institute, Beth Mardutho
- 2014 Arabic Intensive, Middlebury College

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2021 **Fellow**, Haifa Center for Mediterranean History, University of Haifa
- 2019 Award for Participation, African International Institute for Peace, Morocco
- 2014 Mellon Award, University of California, Los Angeles (four-year)
- 2013 Summa cum laude, B.A. degree, The King's University
Outstanding Baccalaureate Scholar Graduate, The King's University

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2021 **Fulbright Scholar** (2021-23)

Wallace Johnson First Book Program

2020 UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship

2019 Study of Religions Across Cultures, Georgetown University, Morocco, June 8-28

Islamic Archaeology Course, Princeton, August 2019 (accepted but could not attend)

2018 Foreign Language and Area Studies Program (FLAS), 22k

JewsEast Center for Religious Studies Summer Grant (10-day), Bochum, Germany

Sara and Chaskel Research Grant, Alan D. Leve Center for Jewish Studies

Digital Humanities Fellowship – Encoding Manna’s Syriac-Arabic lexicon for 2018 the Syriac Electronic Data Research Archive (SEDRA) (declined offer)

Mellon-EPIC Fellow - Excellence in Pedagogy and Innovative Classrooms (declined offer)

2017 Bluma Appel Research Innovation Grant, Alan D. Leve Center for Jewish Studies

2016 Graduate Student Research Mentorship with Michael Morony, UCLA

2015 Graduate Student Research Mentorship with Michael Cooperson, UCLA

2014 Andrew Mellon Award, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, UCLA (four-year fellowship)

2013 Greg O. Brantley Memorial Fellowship, Near Eastern Languages, The King’s University

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

2024 “Non-Muslim Religious Communities,” translation (in progress), for submission to Liverpool University Press.

- 2021 PreJean, Chris. 'Aḥmad Ibn Muḥammad Ibn Hārūn Abū Bakr Al-Khallāl Al-Ḥanbalī Al-Baghdādī'. In *Christian-Muslim Relations 600 - 1500*, edited by David Thomas, Alex Mallett, Juan Pedro Monferrer-Sala, Johannes Pahlitzsch, Barbara Roggema, Mark Swanson, Herman Teule and, and John Tolan. doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1163/1877-8054_cmri_COM_25935

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 "Is Covenantal Pluralism Applicable in Morocco?" *International Review of Faith & International Affairs* (under review).
- 2022 "The Stories of Cain, Abel, and the Israelites: The Love and Loyalty of God" (English and Arabic), Boujaad, Morocco.

Book and Article Reviews

- 2019 "*Between Christ and Caliph: Law Marriage and Christian Community in Early Islam* by Lev Weitz (review)." *Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies* 50 (2019), pp. 243-248.
<https://doi.org/10.1353/cjm.2019.0009>

Encyclopedia, Sourcebook, Open-Source, Manuscript Research

- 2022 "Hanbalism". Database of Religious History, Vancouver, BC: University of British Columbia. <https://religiondatabase.org/browse/1250/>
- "Baghdad in the Mediterranean World" in *Windows into the Medieval Mediterranean 470-1350*. Ed. Hannele Klemettilä-McHale. Abingdon: Taylor and Francis, 2022.
- 2021 "Abū Bakr al-Khallāl." *Jewish-Christian Relations: From the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean. A Source History (600-1800)*. Eds. Barbara Roggema and Alexandra Cuffel. ARC-Humanities in Cross-cultural Engagements, 2019.
- 2018 "Abū Bakr al-Khallāl" in *Medieval Islamic Civilization: An Encyclopedia (Online)*. Ed. Josef Meri. Abingdon: Routledge (2019).

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2022 “Religious integrity and a world without religious minorities: non-Muslim women and the Muslim household,” *Minoritization in Middle Eastern Geopolitics: Histories and Theoretical Approaches*, January 5-6, 2022.
- 2020 “Christians and Forswearing in Islamic Law,” *Law and Communal Identity in the Early Medieval World*, UCLA, January 23-25.
- Discussant of “The Fatimid State and the Jewish Community: Five Geniza Documents,” (Marina Rustow, Princeton) at *UCLA Law and Communal Identity*.
- 2019 “Enslaved to Freedom,” *Middle East Studies Association (MESA) 2019*, November 14-17.
- “Enslaved to Childhood,” Designated Presenter, Thematic Discussion, *Semantics of Slavery*, Middle East Studies Association (MESA) 2019, November 14-17.
- 2019 “Characterizing the Social World of the 9th century: Aḥmad b. Ḥanbal’s Responsa,” *American Oriental Society*, March 14-17.
- 2018 “Everyday Patterns of Behavior Between Jews, Christians and Muslims in Ninth-Century Baghdad,” *JewsEast*, July 23-August 3.
- “Christians under Islamic Rule: The Benefits of Collaboration and Inclusion,” *Inclusion and Exclusion in the Middle Ages*, International Medieval Conference, Kalamazoo, May 10-13.
- “Praying Together: The Institution of *Istisqā’* in Iraq (Christians and Muslims praying together),” *The Society for Muslim Ethics*, January 18.
- 2017 “The Power of Praying Together: Christians and Muslims Overcoming Religious Boundaries in Crises,” *The Oxford Symposium on Religious Studies*, December 3-6.
- “Economic Parity between Christians and Muslims in Ninth Century Baghdad,” *Christianity in the Islamic World*, International Medieval Congress, July 3-6.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of Record

- 2017 Jerusalem: Holy City, at the University of California, Los Angeles.
- 2015 The Emergence of Islam (F15) at The King’s University (TKU).

University of California, Los Angeles, Teaching Fellow

- 2019-20 Women and Power in the Ancient World
- 2018-19 Jerusalem: Holy City
- 2017-18 Arabic 1A
History of the Middle East 500-1200 CE
Jerusalem: Holy City
- 2016-17 Jerusalem: Holy City
International Intervention in Ethnic and Civil Conflicts of the Middle East
Origins of Judaism, Christianity and Islam
- 2015-16 Introduction to Islam
History of the Middle East 500-1200 CE (Reader)
Origins of Judaism, Christianity and Islam
Making and Studying the Modern Middle East

Invited Courses, Lectures, and Talks

- 2022 “Beyond Tolerance: Muslims and Christians in a Global World. Bob Roberts as a Case Study,” in *Abi Ja’d, Sharqawi Sufi Order, Morocco*. (Arabic)
- “The Purpose of the Word of God for Evangelicals,” *Ecole Normale Superieure, Rabat, Morocco*. (Arabic)
- “Islamic Law and the Interpretive Non-Muslim,” *The Haifa Center for Mediterranean History, University of Haifa, March 15*.
- 2019 *Qiṣaṣ Qābīl wa Hābīl wa banī Isrā’īl: Mahabbah Allāh wa wilā’ Allāh* at Jam‘iyyat al-Aṣīl lil-Turbīyya wa-l-Thaqāfa wa-l-Tanmiyya bi-Abī al-Ja’d, in conjunction with the African International Institute for Peace, Boujaad, Morocco. (English: “The Stories of Cain, Abel, and the Israelites: The Love and Loyalty of God”).
- “Iḥsān min rawāyat Matā lil-bishāra” and “Al-Ṣuhba al-‘Ilmiyya,” at Mu’assasat al-Qādī ‘Ayād li-Khidmat al-Ḥadīth al-Sharīf wa-l-Sīra al-Nabawiyya, Asfi (Safi), Morocco. (English: “Ihsan in the Gospel of Matthew” and “Scholarly Companionship”).
- 2017 “The Fragmentation of the Islamic Empire in the 3rd/9th Century” in *Middle Eastern History 500-1200, UCLA*.

“Intellectual and Religious Currents of the Early Abbasid Period (c. 750-830 C.E.)” in Middle Eastern History 500-1200, UCLA.

“The Islamic Empire in the late 2nd/8th century” in Middle Eastern History 500-1200, UCLA.

“Conflicts among Muslims” in Middle Eastern History 500-1200, UCLA.

“The Development of the Arabic Script” in Visible Language: Study of Writing, UCLA.

“Muhammad and the Early Believers” in The Origins of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, UCLA.

“Abbasids” in Middle Eastern History 500-1200, UCLA.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2023 Fulbright Association Board Member, Dallas Chapter

Moderator, “Professional Adjustment and Networking,” Fulbright Israel Orientation

Researcher of Christian Arabic Manuscripts, **St. Catherine’s Sinai Manuscript Portal**, UCLA (2022-23)

2022 **Executive Director**, Study of Religions Across Civilizations (SORAC)

Scholarship Evaluator, UCLA Alumni Scholarship Volunteer

Application Evaluator, Fulbright Israel MA Fellowship Applications

2021 **Translator**, “A Narrative Among Many,” Museum Exhibition at the King Faisal Center for Islamic Studies, KSA [A Narrative Among Many](#).

Translator, “The Procession of Mummies, A Symbolic Reading” by Hamza Kashgari, KFCRIS

Translator, Museum documents related to the *Asfar* Exhibition titled “Treasures of King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies” [Asfār Exhibition](#)

Translator of Muthanna Al-Abidi’s Calligraphic gift to the Prince of Wales

Project manager, translator, and reviewer for the Arabic-to-English translation of the official 2019 and 2020 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia State of Culture reports
[KSA Ministry of Culture - Publications](#)

Web designer, content developer, and admin (English and Arabic) for the UCLA Subtitle Project <https://subtitles.ucla.edu> (Since 2018)

2020 Translator of “An Iranian Jurisprudential Campaign: To Silence Grand Ayatolla al-Haydari” by Rasheed al-Khayoun,
<https://www.kfcris.com/en/view/post/314>

2019 Center for Instructional Education, 46th Annual Teaching Assistant Conference, Instructor, “Cheating, Grade Complaints, & Disruptive Behavior” September 22

TRAINING, CERTIFICATIONS, WORKSHOPS

2018 Arabic Subtitling and Translation

2018 English as a Second Language Pedagogy

2018 Bi-Lingual Arabic and English WordPress Development

2017 Panelist: Experienced Teaching Assistant

2017 Arabic Language Pedagogy

LANGUAGES

English: Native

Arabic: Reading (advanced), Writing (intermediate), Speaking (high-Intermediate MSA)

Biblical Hebrew/Aramaic: Reading (intermediate)

Aramaic/Syriac: Reading (intermediate)

German: Reading (with dictionary)

French: Reading (with dictionary)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

North American Society for Christian Arabic Studies

American Oriental Society

Middle Eastern Studies Association

REFERENCES

Michael Cooperson, Professor of Arabic
UCLA Near Eastern Languages and Cultures (NELC)
376A Kaplan Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1511
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Michael Morony, Professor of History
UCLA Department of History
6265 Bunche Hall
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376A Kaplan Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1511
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Paul Heck, Professor of Islamic Studies
University of Georgetown
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