

# Timothy Gutmann

University of Chicago Divinity School | Swift Hall | 1025 East 58th Street Chicago, IL  
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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. The University of Chicago** (Chicago, IL): Divinity (religion), expected 2018  
Dissertation: “Conscripting Tradition: Islam, Confucianism, Modernity”

Committee: Hussein Ali Agrama (Chair); Ahmed El Shamsy; Brook Ziporyn

**M.A. The University of Chicago** (Chicago, IL): Divinity (religion), 2011

**B.A. Boston University** (Boston, MA): History, Philosophy, and Religion, *magna cum laude*, History, philosophy and religion, 2007

## PUBLICATIONS

““Destroy Temples and Build Schools”: Confucianism and Modern Education in China” abstract accepted. *Confucian Asia*. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 2017.

“Rethinking Blasphemy in Indonesia and Fiqh Tradition”, *Sightings*, submission accepted.

“The Politics of Muslim Visibility in *Master of None*”, *Religion Dispatches*, submission accepted.

Review of James D. Frankel, *Rectifying God’s Name: Liu Zhi’s Confucian Translation of Monotheism and Islamic Law*, in *Journal of Religion*, October 2014.

## QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS

“Modernity and Chinese Traditions” with Guy Alitto and Brook Ziporyn

“Islam and Modern Power” with Hussein Ali Agrama

“Islamic Law” with Ahmed El Shamsy

“Anthropology of Religion” with Alireza Doostdar

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor

**Religion in East Asia** | Center for Life and Learning | Winter 2017

Developed and taught course on Confucianism, Buddhism, and other religions in China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam. Focuses include social and intellectual history, devotional practice, and modernity.

**Introduction to Islam** | Admiral Community | Winter 2017

Developed and taught course on religious thought and practice in global and historical variety. Topics include the Qur'an and Prophetic tradition, theology and philosophy, mysticism and jurisprudence, and globalization and modernity.

**Gender, Sexuality, and Islamic Traditions** | College of the University of Chicago | Spring 2016

Co-developed and co-taught course on religious thought, social history, and contemporary theory. Topics include Islamic law, mysticism and other, colonialism and postcolonialism, human and non-human genders, and sexuality and governance.

**Islam and the West** | University of Chicago Graham School | Spring 2016

Developed and taught course on history of Muslim-Christian relations, colonialism and postcolonialism, reform and revival, and secularism and the security state.

**Introduction to Islam** | University of Illinois at Chicago | Fall 2015

Developed and taught course on religious thought and practice in global and historical variety. Topics include the Qur'an and Prophetic tradition, theology and philosophy, mysticism and jurisprudence, and globalization and modernity.

**Introduction to Islam** | University of Chicago Graham School | Fall 2015

Developed and taught course on religious thought and practice in global and historical variety. Topics include the Qur'an and Prophetic tradition, theology and philosophy, mysticism and jurisprudence, and globalization and modernity.

**Writing Intern**

**Reading Cultures** | College of the University of Chicago | Spring 2017

Prepared and taught supplemental and review lessons for students of core curriculum class. Lectured on argumentative writing, rhetorical structure, academic convention, style, and grammar.

**Reading Cultures** | College of the University of Chicago | Winter 2017

Prepared and taught supplemental and review lessons for students of core curriculum class. Lectured on argumentative writing, rhetorical structure, academic convention, style, and grammar.

## **Human Being and Citizen** | College of the University of Chicago | Fall 2016

Prepared and taught supplemental and review lessons for students of core curriculum class. Lectured on argumentative writing, rhetorical structure, academic convention, style, and grammar.

## **Teaching Assistant**

### **History of Modern China 1** | Teaching Assistant | Spring 2013

Lectured on intellectual history, advised student writing, graded exams and compositions.

### **Introduction to Chinese Civilization** | Teaching Assistant | Fall 2012, Fall 2014

Lectured on intellectual history, advised student writing, graded exams and compositions.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Presented papers**

“Questioning Chinese Tradition” Midwest Chinese Thought conference, University of Indiana, April, 2017.

“Spirits of Civilization: Religion and Difference in Modern China” Asian Studies Development Program conference, Portland, March 2017.

“Learning and Difference: Mixed-Confession Education and Islamic Thought” Midwest American Academy of Religion annual conference, Ball State University, March 2017.

“Learning for All: Education and Minority Questions in Egypt” Middle East History and Theory conference, University of Chicago, May 2016.

“Conscripting Tradition: Knowledge, Sovereignty, and Education Reform in Modern Egypt”. Buffett Institute Islam and the Modern State Conference, Northwestern University, April, 2016.

“Modernizing Islamic Education in Egypt”. Middle East History and Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, April 2016.

“Politics of Intimacy: Islam, Personal Status Law and the Minority Question.” Islamic Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, December 2015.

“State, Subject, and Tradition: Education and Personal Status in Modern China”. Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, Chicago, March 2015.

“Demands of Progress: Tradition, Modernity and Education in Egypt and China” Islamic Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2014.

“Demands of Progress: Postcolonial Theory and the Idea of Tradition in Modern Egypt”. American Academy of Religion annual meeting, Baltimore, November 2013.

“Knowledge and Duty in Decolonization: Public Law and Religious Education in Reformist Egypt”. Middle East History and Theory conference, University of Chicago, May 2013.

“Reasoning Distinctions: The Boundaries of Discourses and the Critique of Secularism”. Middle East History and Theory conference, University of Chicago, May 2012.

“‘Orthodoxy’ and its Discontents: Understanding Ibn Taymiyya’s Claims to Privileged Discourse”. McGill University Institute of Islamic Studies Graduate Student Symposium, April 2012.

### **Invited talks, moderating, and responses**

“Will We Talk About ISIS?: Teaching Middle East History Today” panelist, May 2016.

“Religion(?) in East Asia”, University of Chicago 101 series, May 2016.

Discussant of Katherine Rhone, “Financing Freedoms?: Legacies of Socioeconomic Reform in Islam”. Islamic Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2015.

Moderator and discussant of “State-Building and National Fragments in the 20th Century” Panel. Middle East History and Theory Conference, University of Chicago, May 2015.

“Islamic Law 101” Invited presentation in University of Chicago 101 series, January 2015.

Discussant of Eduardo Manzano, “The Role of the *Umma* in the Institutional Configuration of Early Islam”. Middle East History and Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, November 2014.

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Certification in the Craft of Teaching, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2017

NEH Confucian Asia: Traditions and Transformations seminar, University of Hawai'i, 2016

Martin Marty Fellowship, University of Chicago 2015-2016

Connaught Summer Institute for Islamic Studies, University of Toronto 2013

Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Taiwan Ministry of Education (for the 2011 study of traditional Mandarin Chinese Tunghai University Taichung, Taiwan)

Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) US Dept. of Education (for the study of modern standard Arabic and Islamic texts in classical Arabic, Arabic Language Institute, Fez, Morocco), 2010

Scholastic Residence, University of Chicago Divinity School, 2011-present

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**Student Parent Writing Group Co-chair** | University of Chicago Council for Advanced Studies | Fall 2016-Spring 2016

Mediated university and student organizations childcare support needs  
Advocated for student parents accommodations and support

Coordinated with academic and student organizations to develop and publicize programs

Managed annual budget to fund events

**Islamic Studies Workshop Coordinator** | University of Chicago Council for Advanced Studies | Fall 2013-Spring 2014

Organized bi-weekly meetings focusing on faculty student presentations and responses  
on religious life in the Islamic world

Arranged schedules of presentations and responses, inviting and hosting outside faculty

Supported conferences, seminars and student mentoring

Coordinated with academic and student organizations to develop and publicize programs

Managed \$4,000 annual budget to fund all events

**Islamic Studies Club Chair** | University of Chicago Divinity School Students Association | Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Founded Islamic studies club

Organized schedule of paper presentations, film screenings and social events

## **LANGUAGES**

**Arabic:** fluent in modern standard, translation proficiency in classical

**Chinese:** fluent in Mandarin, translation proficiency in literary

**French:** fluent in modern

**German:** research proficiency

## **FIELD RESEARCH**

Research associate assisting Tao Ran, Renmin University of China Department of Economics, 2010 Interviewed parents of Xinxin Elementary School for migrant workers' children, Beijing, China Assisted quantitative surveys of migrant workers' children and families, Anhui province, China.

## **ADDITIONAL TEACHING**

**English Teacher** | Real Life English | Beijing, China | 2008 – 09

Prepared and taught classes for adult professional students' needs and from set curriculum

Designed curricula for corporate clients including Capital Medical University and Baker and McKenzie

Tutored individual students in writing, reading, speaking and listening

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Association for Asian Studies. Member since 2014.

American Institute for Maghrib Studies. Member since 2013.

American Academy of Religion. Member since 2012.

## **REFERENCES**

Professor Hussein Ali Agrama  
University of Chicago Department of Anthropology  
1126 E 59th St #205  
Chicago, IL 60637  
hagrama@uchicago.edu

Professor Ahmed El Shamsy  
University of Chicago Department of Near East Languages and Civilizations  
5828 S University Ave #226 Chicago, IL 60637  
elshamsy@uchicago.edu

Dean Ralph Keen  
University of Illinois at Chicago Honors College  
828 South Halsted Street M/C 204  
Chicago, IL 60607  
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Professor Brook Ziporyn  
University of Chicago Divinity School  
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