

## Inaash Islam

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Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Beaven Hall  
College of the Holy Cross  
Worcester, MA 01610

Pronouns: She/her

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2024            Assistant Professor of Sociology, College of the Holy Cross  
                  Affiliate: Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
- 2021 – 24      Assistant Professor of Sociology, Saint Michael's College.  
                  Affiliate: Gender Studies  
                  Affiliate: Equity Studies  
                  Affiliate: Criminology

### EDUCATION

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- 2021            Ph.D. Sociology, Virginia Tech.  
2017            M.S. Sociology, Virginia Tech.  
2015            B.A. Sociology, University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

### ACADEMIC CERTIFICATES

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- 2019            Women's & Gender Studies Certificate, conferred by the Women's & Gender  
                  Studies Department at Virginia Tech.

### RESEARCH AREAS

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Muslims, Islamophobia, Islamic and Muslim Feminisms, Cultural Sociology, Critical Race  
Studies, Religion, Racial Identity.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books

- 2023 Saher Selod, **Inaash Islam** and Steve Garner. *A Global Racial Enemy: Muslims and 21st-Century Racism*. Polity Press.

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2026 (Forthcoming) **Islam, Inaash** and David L. Brunσμα. "Interdisciplinary Approaches to Humanism" 50th Anniversary Special Issue, *Humanity & Society*, 50.1.
- 2025 Islam, Inaash. "Policing (Im)Modesty in Modest Fashion: Islamic Feminist Renegotiations of Modesty in Influencer Culture" *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.
- 2023 Islam, Inaash. "When Modesty Meets Aesthetic Labor: Islamic Modesty as Antithetical to Muslimah Influencers' Aesthetic Labor," *Feminist Formations*, 35(2): 173-196.
- 2020 Islam, Inaash. "Muslim American Double Consciousness." *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 17(2): 429-448, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1742058X20000235>
- 2019 Islam, Inaash. 'Redefining #YourAverageMuslim woman: Muslim female digital activism on social media', *Journal of Arab & Muslim Media Research*, 12(2), pp. 213–233, doi: 10.1386/jammr\_00004\_1

### Book Chapters

- 2022 David L. Brunσμα, Letisha Engracia Cardoso Brown, Joong Won Kim, Steve McGlamery and **Inaash Islam**. "COVID-19 as White Space: The Collective Perils of Whiteness During the Pandemic." Book Chapter for *Race, Ethnicity and the Covid-19 Global Pandemic*. Thomas, Henderson, and Horton (eds), University of Cincinnati Press.
- 2019 Islam, Inaash. "Mired in Paradox: Black Feminist Approaches to Black Female (Re)presentations On-Screen" in *Standpoints: Black Feminist Knowledges* edited by Andrea N. Baldwin, Ashley Reichelmann and Kwame Harrison. Virginia Tech Publishing.

### Book Reviews

- 2024 Islam, Inaash. "Rebuilding Community: Displaced Women and the Making of a Shia Ismaili Muslim Sociality." By Shenila Khoja-Moolji. 2023. *Antipode Online*.
- 2024 Islam, Inaash. "Broken: The Failed Promise of Muslim Inclusion." By Evelyn Alsultany. 2022. *Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle East and North African Migration Studies*, 11(1).
- 2023 Islam, Inaash. "Women's Mosque of America: Authority and Community in US Islam." By Tazeen M. Ali. 2022. *The Maydan: AbuSulayman Center for Global Islamic Studies*, Online.
- 2023 Islam, Inaash. "The Monstrous and the Vulnerable: Framing British Jihadi Brides." By Leonie B. Jackson. 2022. *Gender & Society*, 37(4): 642-644 doi: 10.1177/08912432231160133
- 2018 **Islam, Inaash** and Brunnsma, David L. "The Color Complex (Revised): The Politics of Skin Color in a New Millennium." By Kathy Russell-Cole, Midge Wilson and Ronald E. Hall. 2013. Submitted to the *Journal of Family Theory and Review*. SPECIAL ISSUE: Revisioning Family Theories: Centering Race and Ethnicity. June 2018. (10:2) Pp. 484-506.

### Invited Encyclopedia Entries and Biographies

- 2025/26 Inaash Islam. "Edward Said." *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*. Edited by John Solomos, Routledge.
- 2023 **Islam, Inaash** and Ternikar, Farha. "Muslim American Women" in the *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures (EWIC)*, Brill Publishing.

### Public Facing Scholarship

- 2022 Inaash Islam. "South Asians Rising Up: Responding to Individual and Institutional Post-9/11 Racism." for *ABC-Clio Editorial: Asian American Database*.
- 2018 Islam, Inaash. "Redefining What It Means to Be #YourAverageMuslim." Blog Post on *Sociological Images*. 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

### AWARDS AND GRANTS

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- 2025 Center for Islam in the Contemporary World, Research Grant for *(Un)Veiling Expectations: Navigating Muslim American Womanhood*, \$2500
- 2023 Sacred Writes: Public Scholarship on Religion, Fall '23 Cohort Fellow
- 2022 Faculty Enrichment Grant, Saint Michael's College, \$150
- 2021 Outstanding Doctoral Student Award in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Virginia Tech. \$500
- 2021 Carol A. Bailey Graduate Student Paper Award for paper titled "(Un)Veiling Expectations: The Racialized and Gendered Politics of the Muslimah Influencer Dejabi Controversy" by Virginia Tech's Department of Sociology. \$100.
- 2021 Honorable Mention for SSSP 2021 Student Paper Award in the Gender Division. Paper entitled: "(Un)Veiled Expectations: Muslimah Influencers and the Politics of Dejabbing on Social Media."
- 2020 Sociology Graduate Student Research and Software Grants, for Dissertation Project entitled "Visible Muslims, Political Beings: Muslimah Influencers in an Era of Islamophobia," \$1500 (Canceled due to COVID)
- 2020 Outstanding Doctoral Student Award, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech, \$500
- 2019 Barbara Ellen Smith Outstanding Essay Award for paper titled "Pious Critical Agents: Hijabi Social Media Influencers as Authorities on Femininity, Modesty and Embodiment" by Virginia Tech's Department of Sociology, \$350.
- 2019 Carol A. Bailey Graduate Student Paper Award for paper titled "Pious Critical Agents: Hijabi Social Media Influencers as Authorities on Femininity, Modesty and Embodiment" by Virginia Tech's Department of Sociology. \$100.
- 2018 Barbara Ellen Smith Outstanding Essay Award for paper titled "Redefining What It Means to Be #YourAverageMuslim: A Theoretical Approach to Muslim Feminist Digital Activism." \$350.
- 2017 SEWSA Travel Grant, awarded by Southeastern Women's Studies Association, \$100.
- 2014 International Friendship Non-Endowed Scholarship, UL Lafayette.
- 2012 Cayenne International Scholarship, UL Lafayette.

## PROFESSIONAL MEETING PARTICIPATION

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### Conference Sessions Organized

- 2025 “Moving in Crisis as Muslim+ Feminists in the Academy and Beyond” National Women’s Studies Association, Puerto Rico
- 2025 “This Battlefield Called My Body: Muslim Responses to Gendered Racialization During the War on Terror” National Women’s Studies Association, Puerto Rico
- 2023 “Spatialities of Gendered Muslim Resistance: (Dis)Engagements with Community” National Women’s Studies Association, Baltimore MD
- 2023 “Dissident Identities: Gendered Cartographies of Resistance in Communities of Color” National Women’s Studies Association, Baltimore MD

### Invited Sessions

- 2025 Invited Speaker, Presidential Panel “On Interpretive Possibilities and the Labor and Legacy of Dr. amina wadud” National Women’s Studies Association, Puerto Rico
- 2023 Invited Panelist, Special Session: “Muslim Americans and Racialization Across Generations” American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2022 Invited Panelist, “Beyond Halal and Hijab: A Discussion on Gender, Consumption and TikTok.” Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, MA.
- 2021 Invited Panelist for the Critical Muslim Studies Digital Dialogues at the Association for Asian Studies.
- 2021 Invited Panelist, Thematic Session for “Islamophobia and Anti-Muslim Racism.” Society for the Study of Social Problems, Virtual.

### Selected Presentations

- 2025 “Navigating the Double Bind in the Global War On Terror” National Women’s Studies Association, Puerto Rico

- 2023 "(Un)Veiled Expectations: On Being Formerly Hijabi" National Women's Studies Association, Baltimore, MD.
- 2022 "When Modesty Meets Aesthetic Labor: Policing Muslimah Modesty and Aesthetic Labor in the Digitally Mediated Modest Fashion Industry." National Women's Studies Association, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2022 "When Modesty Meets Aesthetic Labor: Policing Muslimah Modesty and Aesthetic Labor in the Digitally Mediated Modest Fashion Industry." Eastern Sociological Society, Boston, MA.
- 2021 "(Un)Veiling Expectations: The Racialized and Gendered Politics of the Muslimah Influencer Dejabi Controversy." American Sociological Association, Virtual.
- 2021 "Experimenting with Expressions of Faith: The Political and Gendered Dynamics of Unveiling on Social Media." Southern Sociological Society, Virtual.
- 2021 "(Un)Veiling Expectations: The Racialized and Gendered Politics of the Muslimah Influencer Dejabi Controversy" Graduate and Undergraduate Sociology Symposium at Virginia Tech.
- 2021 "Experimenting with Expressions of Faith: The Political and Gendered Dynamics of Unveiling on Social Media." South Eastern Women's Studies Association, Virtual.
- 2020 "Rearticulating Representations as a Muslimah Influencer in the Digital Age." Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2019 "Pious Critical Agents: Hijabi Social Media Influencers as Authorities on Femininity and Embodiment." Women and Gender Studies Conference at Virginia Tech.
- 2019 "Redefining #YourAverageMuslim: Muslim Feminist Digital Activism." Gender, Bodies and Technology Conference, Roanoke VA.
- 2019 "Redefining What It Means To Be #YourAverageMuslim: Muslim Feminist Digital Activism." Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta GA.
- 2019 "The Formation of the Muslim-American Racialized Identity, and Strategies of Negotiation" Southern Sociological Society, Atlanta GA.
- 2018 "Choosing MENA: Complications and Implications of Adopting the New Racial Classification for Arab Americans." Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

- 2018           Redefining What It Means To Be #YourAverageMuslim: A Theoretical Approach to Muslim Feminist Digital Activism.” Graduate Research Symposium, Virginia Tech.
- 2017           “Racialization in Public and Private Spaces, and the Development of a Racialized Identity of Muslim-American Women.” Southern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Greenville, SC.
- 2017           “Resisting the Stereotype of the Oppressed Muslim Woman: Narratives of YouTubers and Bloggers/Vloggers.” SEWSA Conference, Atlanta, GA.

### **TEACHING INTERESTS**

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Race and Ethnicity, Women’s and Gender Studies, Digital Media and Popular Culture, Islamophobia and the Global War on Terror, Identity and Citizenship, Qualitative Research Methods.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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#### **College of the Holy Cross**

SOCL 241 Development of Social Theory

SOCL 251 Womxn of Color Feminisms

#### **Saint Michael's College**

SO 101 Introductory Sociology

SO 101 Honors - Introductory Sociology

SO 107 Social Problems

SO 221 Race and Ethnic Relations

SO 218 Deviance, Norms and Social Control

SO 310 Women of Color Feminisms

#### **Summer Sessions - 6 Weeks Online, Asynchronous**

SO 101 Introductory Sociology

SO 107 Social Problems

SO 221 Race and Ethnic Relations

#### **Virginia Tech**

SOC 1004 Introduction to Sociology

SOC 2024 Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

#### **Guest Teaching**

- 2025           Islamophobia in the Media. Prepared for the Muslim Youth Leadership Program at CAIR-MA.

- 2023 “The Social Construction of Race” for the undergraduate course, ‘Introduction to Sociology’ with Dr. Farha Ternikar, Le Moyne College, Syracuse NY.
- 2021 “The Racialization and Gendering of Space, Place and Muslim women in Fashion” for the undergraduate course ‘Introduction to Gender and Women’s Studies’ with Dr. Megan Nanney, Hollins University, Salem VA.
- 2020 “Race and Racism in the Media” for the undergraduate course ‘Introduction to Gender & Sexuality Studies’ with Dr. Myriam Huet, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.
- 2020 “Globalization, Orientalism, and the War on Terror” for the undergraduate course ‘Gender Relations’ with Dr. Pallavi Raonka, Virginia Tech.
- 2020 “Get Out: Theories of Race and Racism in Popular Film” for the undergraduate course ‘Popular Culture’ with Dr. Pallavi Raonka, Roanoke College, Roanoke VA.
- 2018 “Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism”, for the undergraduate course ‘Deviant Behavior’ with Mr. Joong Won Kim, Virginia Tech.
- 2018 “Muslim women and the Hijab”, for an Introduction to Women and Gender Studies course with Dr. Suchitra Samanta, Virginia Tech.
- 2017 “Racialization of Muslims”, for Introduction to Women and Gender Studies, with Dr. Suchitra Samanta, Virginia Tech.
- 2014 “The Muslim American College Experience” for Honors Seminar with Dr. Julia Frederick, UL Lafayette.

## **SERVICE**

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### **Professional**

#### ***Journal Editorial Positions***

- 2024– Editorial Board Member, *Gatherings: an interdisciplinary, intersectional feminist journal*.
- 2024– Co-Chair, Social Media Subcommittee, *Gatherings: an interdisciplinary, intersectional feminist journal*.

- 2024– International Editorial Advisory Board Member, Sociology of Diversity Book Series, Bristol University Press
- 2024– Editorial Board Member, Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
- 2023– Editorial Board Member, The Journal of Law and Development
- 2021-22 Social Media Coordinator, Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

***Journal Peer Reviewer***

*Social Forces, Sociological Forum, Sociology of Race and Ethnicity, Sociological Perspectives, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race, Contemporary Islam, Humanity and Society.*

**University/College**

***Committee Service***

*College of the Holy Cross*

- 2025 Imse Award Committee, Member
- 2025 Research Associates Program Faculty Supervisor

*Saint Michael's College*

- 2023–24 EDIJ Ad Hoc Committee, created by Faculty Welfare Committee in April 2023 under motion of the Faculty Assembly. Appointed by Faculty Welfare Committee.
- 2022–24 Faculty Development Committee, Saint Michael's College
- 2022–24 Equity Studies Steering Committee, Saint Michael's College
- 2022–24 Committee Member for the Center for Equity Studies, Saint Michael's College
- 2022–24 Gender Studies Steering Committee, Saint Michael's College

***Campus Service***

- 2024 Organizer, Sociology and Anthropology Departmental Academic Symposium, Saint Michael's College
- 2023 Faculty Panelist, "DEI in Student Life at Saint Michael's College"

- 2023 Faculty Advisor for DEI Initiative, Student Athlete Advisory Committee.
- 2022 Faculty Member, Anti-Racist Coalition (ARC)
- 2022 Faculty Panelist for Academic Success, as part of the Summer Orientation Academic Retention (SOAR) Program, Saint Michael's College
- 2022 Faculty Essayist and Contributing Panelist Discussant for Saint Michael's College's First Year Seminar Common Text: Danielle Evans' *The Office of Historical Corrections*
- 2022 Discussion Panelist for the film "Dreamgirls" [2006]. Hosted for MLK Week by the Center for Multicultural Affairs & Services, Saint Michael's College
- 2020 Panelist for "Researching Pop Culture: Methods and Analysis", Virginia Tech's Department of Sociology's Community Conversations.
- 2020–2021 Sociology Graduate Student Representative for Virginia Tech's Graduate Student Organization.
- 2019–2020 Graduate Representative for the Graduate Committee of the Department of Sociology.
- 2018–2019 President of the Sociology Graduate Student Organization, Virginia Tech.
- 2016–2020 Graduate Representative, Curriculum Committee, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech.
- 2015– 2021 Member of Sociology Graduate Student Organization at Virginia Tech.
- 2015–2021 Member of Muslim Student Association at Virginia Tech.
- 2015-2016 Organizer, Community Conversations, Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech.
- 2014-2015 Council member, International Student Association, University of Louisiana at Lafayette.
- 2013-2015 President, Muslim Student Association, University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

**Community**

- 2025– Executive Board Member, Council of American Islamic Relations – Massachusetts
- 2022 Consultant for The Collective Liberation Lab
- 2015– 2017 Member of United Muslim Relief.
- 2014-2015 Participant, The Big Event, United Way of Acadiana, Lafayette, Louisiana.
- 2013-2014 Youth Mentor, Islamic Center of Lafayette, Louisiana.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT**

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### **Organizational Leadership**

- 2024-2026 Co-Chair of Muslim+ Feminist Caucus at NWSA (National Women’s Studies Association)
- 2023-24 Co-Founder and Interim Co-Chair (with Dr. Mahruq Khan) of Muslim+ Feminist Caucus at NWSA (National Women’s Studies Association)

### **Professional Development**

- 2025 Convivencia: A Symposium on Mentoring, funded by the Mellon Foundation, the New England Humanities Council and the Suzy Newhouse Center for the Humanities at Wellesley College.
- 2023 Sacred Writes: Public Scholarship on Religion, Fall ’23 Cohort Training Fellow.
- 2023 Virtual Symposium, ‘The Corporate University and Shrinking BIPOC Supports: Where Do We Go From Here?’ hosted by the Faculty of Color Working Group. Funded by Mellon Foundation and New England Humanities Consortium.
- 2022 Mentee, 2022 Faculty of Color Working Group and Mellon Mentee for the New England Humanities Consortium and Mellon Foundation Mentors Program.
- 2022 Virtual Symposium, ‘Renewal’, hosted by the Faculty of Color Working Group. Funded by Mellon Foundation and New England Humanities Consortium.

### **Organizational Membership**

- 2025– Member, American Academy of Religion (AAR)
- 2025– Member, Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST)
- 2023– Member, Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR)
- 2022– Member, National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)
- 2020– Member, American Sociological Association (ASA)
- 2020–22 Member, The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP).
- 2019–22 Member, Eastern Sociological Society (ESS).
- 2017–21 Member, Southeastern Women’s Studies Association (SEWSA)
- 2016–22 Member, Southern Sociological Society (SSS).