# Curriculum Vitae Tabassum Fahim Ruby

# Women's and Gender Studies, Main Hall 113 720 S. High Street, West Chester, PA 19382 484-887-8006; 610-436-2355

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## **Academic Degrees**

PhD York University, Toronto, Canada

Doctor of Philosophy, Women's Studies (now Gender, Feminist and

Women's Studies), 2010

Dissertation Title: Muslim Women and Shari'ah Tribunals:

Examining Liberal-Secular Hegemonies

MA University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada

Master of Arts, Women's and Gender Studies, 2003

Title of Thesis: Immigrant Muslim Women and the Hijab: Sites of Struggle

in Crafting and Negotiating Identities in Canada

Funded by CUISR (Community-University Institute for Social Research

2000–2002)

BA University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada

Bachelor of Arts, Advanced Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies,

Specialized in Philosophy, 2000

MA University of Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan

Master of Arts, Philosophy, 1991

Title of Thesis: Wittgenstein's Philosophy of Language

**Language Skills** Proficient in written and spoken English, Urdu, and Punjabi; intermediate

Arabic

Research Interests Postcolonial Theory, Critical Race Theory, Transnational/Global

Feminisms, Islam, Gender, Modernity, and Diaspora Studies

**Academic Positions** 

Assistant Professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

August 2016-Present

Postdoctoral faculty in the Department of Gender and Women's Studies,

Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo Michigan.

August 2013-July 2016

Full-time faculty in the Departments of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies & American Culture Studies, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.

August 2011–July 2013

Part-time faculty in the Department of Sociology, Edmonds Community College, Edmonds, Washington. Spring 2011

Full-time teaching assistant in the Departments of Women's Studies, Social Science, and Sociology, York University, Toronto, Canada. 2003–2010

#### **Publications**

#### **Books**

Under Contract: Routledge

Muslim Women's Rights: Contesting Liberal-Secular Sensibilities in Canada.

#### **Refereed Articles**

- Tabassum F. Ruby., "Discourses of *Shari'a* Law and Muslim Women: A Critical Reflection on *Sharia in Canada*" (documentary) *Feminist Formations*, 28, no 3 (2016): (Scheduled)
- Tabassum F. Ruby., "The Question of Muslim Women's Rights and the Ontario *Shari'ah* Tribunals: Examining Liberal Claims" *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, 34, no. 2 (2013): 134–154
- Tabassum F. Ruby., "Muslim Women and the Ontario *Shari'ah* Tribunals: Discourses of Race and Imperial Hegemony in the Name of Gender Equality" *Women's Studies International Forum*, 38, May–June (2013): 32–42
- Tabassum F. Ruby., "Spirituality of Religion, Secularism, and the Academy: Reflections on the 'Muslim Woman's Question'" *Canadian Woman Studies*, 29, no. 1, 2 (2011): 171–175
- Tabassum F. Ruby., "Listening to the Voices of *Hijab*" Women's Studies International Forum, 29, no. 1 (2006): 54–66

#### **Chapters in Edited Volumes**

Tabassum F. Ruby., "Discourses of Veiling and the Precarity of Choice: Representations in the Post-9/11 US" *The Routledge International Handbook of Veils and Veiling Practices*, eds. Anna-Mari Almila and David Inglis, (Routledge, Forthcoming)

- Tabassum F. Ruby., "Listening to the Voices of *Hijab*" (Reprinted) *The Gendered Society Reader*, eds. Michael Kimmel and Amy Aronson (Oxford University Press, 2008), 34–45
- Tabassum F. Ruby., "Who Am I and Where Do I Belong? Immigrant Muslim Women and Sites of Struggle in Crafting and Negotiating identities in Canada" *Home/Bodies: Geographies of self, Place, and Space*, ed. Wendy Schissel (University of Calgary Press, 2006), 27–45.

#### **Book Reviews**

- Tabassum F. Ruby., Fernandes, Leela (2013). "Transnational Feminism in the United States: Knowledge, Ethics, Power" Hypatia, (Forthcoming), 2017.
- Tabassum F. Ruby., Hidayatullah, A. Aysha. (2014). "Feminist Edges of the Qur'an" *Comparative Islamic Studies*, (Forthcoming), 2017.
- Tabassum F. Ruby., Andrea, Bernadette. (2007). "Women and Islam in Early Modern English Literature" *Canadian Woman Studies*, 28 no. 1(Fall 2009/Winter 2010): 160–161.
- Tabassum F. Ruby., Thobani, Sunera. (2007). "Exalted Subjects: Studies in the Making of Race and Nation in Canada" *Canadian Woman Studies*, 26 no. 3, 4 (Winter/Spring 2008): 233–234

## **Awards and Scholarships**

- College of Arts and Sciences Gender Scholar Award, Western Michigan University, 2016
- Haenicke Institute International Education Faculty Development Grant, Western Michigan University, 2015
- College of Arts and Sciences Discovery and Dissemination Award, Western Michigan University, 2014
- International Tuition Fee Scholarship, York University, 2003–2010
- Doris Anderson Canadian Bursary, York University, 2004; 2007
- Community-University Institute for Social Research Scholarship, University of Saskatchewan, 2000–2002

#### **Invited Presentations**

- Islam and Gender: Contesting Liberal-Secular Discourses, *Gender Scholar Award*, Western Michigan University, March 29, 2016
- The Power of Images and Muslim Women: A Critical Reflection on *Sharia in Canada* (documentary). *Islam in Global Perspective*, Western Michigan University, April 3, 2014

- Ontology and Epistemology: Negotiating an Islamic Female Identity. *The Identity Narratives of Muslim-American Women*, University of Michigan, March 30, 2012
- Saving Muslim Women or Sustaining Liberal Hegemonies? The Liberal Empire and Its Others. Women's Center, *Women's History Month*, Bowling Green State University, March 14, 2012

# **Invited Workshops, Facilitation**

- Critical Thinking on Transnational Feminism. *Gender and Women's Studies Teaching Workshops*, Western Michigan University, February 22, 2014
- Racism and the Politics of the Classroom: Some Reflections on Teaching Moments, Teaching Development Workshop Series in Women's Studies, *Negotiating Structural and Positional Relations of Power in Women's Studies Classrooms*, York University, September 22, 2008

#### **Invited Guest Lectures**

- Immigrant Women and the Law. Course: *Women and the Law*, York University. (Designed and delivered two-hour lecture to class of 200 first-year students), November 18, 2009; March 12, 2008
- Orientalism/(Neo)Orientalisms. Course: *Racism and Colonialism*, York University. (Designed and delivered 90-minute lecture to class of 75 third-year students), May 22, 2008

## **Invited Media Speaking**

Covering up with the *Hijab* May Aid Women's Body Image. *National Public Radio (NPR)*, Kalamazoo, Michigan, September 9, 2014

#### **Conference and Seminar Presentations**

- Forces of Colonialism and Loyalty: Perspectives on Teaching Cross-Cultural Courses. Annual Conference of National Women's Studies Association, *Decoloniality*, Montréal, Québec, Canada, November 11, 2016.
- Is the "American Dream" a Form of Imperialism? Some Reflections from the Women's Studies Classroom. Annual Conference of National Women's Studies Association, *Feminist Transgressions*, San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 15, 2014
- The Ontario *Shari'ah* Tribunal Debates and Discourses of the Sacred and the Profane. Annual Conference of National Women's Studies Association, *Negotiating Points of Encounter*, Cincinnati, November 8, 2013

- The Media and the Orientalist Discourses: Deconstructing the Popular Narratives of the Muslim Woman. The 54th Annual Convention of the Midwest Modern Language Association, *Imaging Middle Eastern/Oriental Women in the West: An Orientalist Legacy Borrowed from the Past?* Cincinnati, November 10, 2012
- Liberal Hegemonies and the Question of Muslim Women's Rights: Reimagining Feminist Theory and Praxis. The 3rd Annual Conference, *Women of Color Collective, Dialoguing Difference: First I Dream*, University of Washington, May 27, 2011
- When Saving Muslim women Marks Canada as Civilized, Would their Rights Be Protected? 10th Annual Critical Race & Anticolonial Studies Conference, *Race-Making and the State: Between Postracial Neoliberalism and Racialized Terrorism*, University of Alberta, October 9, 2010
- Liberal Hegemonies and Feminist Activists: Replicating the Colonial Gaze in the Name of Serving a Feminist Agenda. The Graduate Women's Studies Student Association York University, *Activism and the Academy: Struggles Against Hegemony*, York University, April 17, 2010
- The Legacy of the Enlightenment Thought: Some Reflections on Knowledge Production in Academia, Sociology, and Equity Studies in Education. Graduate Student Conference, *Contested Spaces: The Reorganization of Schooling under Neo-Liberalism*, Toronto University, April 3, 2010
- Public Secular(ism)/Private Religious: "Feminization" of Religion. The Graduate Women's Studies Student Association York University, *Explorations, Interrogations, and Collaborations: A Feminist Supposium.* York University, July 17, 2009
- From Orientalism to Neo-Orientalism: Examining the Emerging Images of Muslim Women in Debates of the Ontario *Arbitration Act.* Dalhousie Graduate History Conference, *Centuries of Change: Activism, Protest, and Revolution,* Dalhousie University, March 8, 2009
- The Ontario Arbitration Act S.O 1991 and the Shari'ah Laws: Competing Ideologies and Contested Debates. Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Thinking Beyond Borders—Global Ideas: Global Values. The Canadian Women's Studies Association, University of British Columbia, June 3, 2008
- Searching for the "Islamic Feminists": Religious Arbitration in Ontario, with Kseniya Zaika, visiting scholar from State University Higher School of Economics-School of International Affairs, Moscow, Centre for Feminist Research & School of Women Studies. York University, November 26, 2007
- Unveiling the Secular: Revisiting Epistemic Assumptions of Western Approaches to Muslim Women. Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, *Bridging Communities: Making Public Knowledge—Making Knowledge Public*. The Canadian Women's Studies Association, University of Saskatchewan, May 29, 2007

- The Project of Modernity and Muslim Women: A Critical Analysis of the Modern West. *Broken Typewriters: Upheavals: Disrupting Circuits of Identity, Nation, Global Capital.* The Graduate Women's Studies Seminar Series, 2006–2007, York University, November 14, 2006
- Tensions Between the Sacred and Secular: A Critical Analysis of Secular Views. *Islam: Traditional and Modernity*. The Association of Muslim Social Scientists, Canadian Regional Conference, cosponsored by the Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations Department, University of Toronto, November 4, 2006
- Religion versus Secularism: In Search of "Wholesome" Research Framework. *Graduate Student Sharing Research and Process: A Learning Community exercise.* 3rd Annual Graduate Women's Studies Association Symposium, York University, May 4, 2004
- Where Is Home? Immigrant Muslim Women and the Question of Belonging. *Belonging*, The 7th Annual York Sociology Graduate Conference, York University, March 18, 2005
- Who Am I and Where Do I Belong? Immigrant Muslim Women Confronting a Question of Plural Identities. *Inscriptions: Decoding Politics, Gender and Culture in Epistemologies and Praxis,* The Association of Muslim Social Scientists, Canadian Regional Conference, cosponsored by the Department of Political Science, University of Toronto, November 27, 2004
- Terror through Terrorism in Canadian Immigrant Muslim Women's lives. *Race, Racism, and Empire: The Global and the Local,* Center for Feminist Research, York University, May 1, 2004
- Islam and Feminisms: Oxymoron or Analogous. Roundtable panel with Asma Kabbara, Nicole Woodman-Harvey, Janet E. Gunn, and Darlene Brewer, *13th Multidisciplinary Graduate Feminist Colloquium*, Center for Feminist Research, York University, April 22, 2004
- Voices of the *Hijab*: Within and Beyond the Headscarves. English Department Graduate Colloquium, *Lies: Fictions, Deceptions and Misrepresentations*, York University, March 31, 2004
- Islam and Feminisms: Barriers or Bridges? From Bra Burners to Buffy: Conversations among Generations of Feminists, University of Saskatchewan, May 11, 2002.
- The Media and the Representation of Muslim Women. *Changing the Climate Exploring Diversity*, The Women's Studies Research Unit, University of Saskatchewan, March 16, 2002
- Girls' Education and Policy Makers in Pakistan. *Asian Connections*, University of British Columbia, November 4, 2000

# **Research Experience**

Research Assistant: Diaspora, Islam, and Gender (MCRI), Researcher: Dr. Haideh Moghissi, York University, 2003–2004

# **Professional Development**

- Faculty Women of Color Conference in the Academy National Conference, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, Attended, 2015; 2016
- Women in Higher Education Everyone Counts Faculty and Staff Learning Community, the Office of Diversity & Inclusion and the Office of Faculty Development, Western Michigan University, 2015-2016
- Internationalizing the Curriculum Workshops, the International Education Council and the Haenicke Institute, Western Michigan University, 2014
- Effective Online Discussions, Office of Faculty Development, Cool Tools for Teaching Workshop, Western Michigan University, 2014
- Effective In-Class Discussions, Office of Faculty Development, Cool Tools for Teaching Workshop, Western Michigan University, 2014
- Effective Board Work, Office of Faculty Development, Cool Tools for Teaching Workshop, Western Michigan University, 2014

Honors Faculty Workshop and Certificate Program, Bowling Green State University, 2012

Online Pedagogy Training Course, Bowling Green State University, 2012

University Teaching Practicum, York University, 2007

University Teaching and Learning Course, York University, 2005–2006

#### **Courses Taught**

West Chester University of Pennsylvania, West Chester, Pennsylvania Department of Women's and Gender Studies

Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies (225). Spring 2017; Fall 2016

Women of the Global South (WOS 315) Spring 2017

Special Topics: Feminist Research Methodologies (410). Fall 2016

Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan

## Department of Gender and Women's Studies

*Women, Globalization, and Social Change* (3200). Spring 2016 semester; Fall, Summer, & Spring semesters 2015; Fall semester 2014

Islam, Gender, and the Media (4100). Spring semester 2016

Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies (2000). Summer semester I 2016, online; Fall semester 2015; Fall & Spring semesters 2014; Summer semester I 2014, hybrid; Fall semester 2013

Interdisciplinary Theories and Methods (5970). Spring semester 2015

Representations of Muslim Women in Western Discourses (4100). Spring semester 2014

Foundations of Feminist Theory (4010). Fall semester 2013

Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Introduction to Women's Studies: Perspectives on Gender, Class, and Ethnicity (2000). Fall & Spring semesters 2012–2013; 2011–2012

Contemporary Global Feminisms (3130). Spring semester 2013 *Islam, Gender, and Culture* (3000). Summer semester 2012, Online

History of Feminist Thought and Action (2730). Fall semester 2011

Department of American Culture Studies

Cultural Pluralism in the United States (2500). Spring semesters 2012 & 2013; Summer semester 2013. Online; Fall & Spring semesters 2011–2012

Departments of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies & American Culture Studies,

Representations of Muslim Women in Western Discourses (3000). Spring semester 2012

Edmonds Community College, Edmonds, Washington Department of Sociology/Diversity Studies

Race/Ethnic Relations (125.5). Spring Quarter 2011, hybrid

Courses Taught as a Teaching Assistant at York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Department of Social Science

Women and the Law (1350. 9). Fall & Winter terms 2009–2010; 2008–2009; 2007–2008; 2006–2007; 2005–2006

# Department of Sociology

Racism and Colonialism (3620. 6). Summer term 2008

Social Interaction and Community (2060. 6). Fall & Winter terms 2004–2005; 2003–2004

#### Department of Women's Studies

Mothering and Motherhood (3508. 6). Summer term 2007

Women's Lives Today: Issues and Experiences (1500. 6). Summer term 2006, Online

Female Bodies in the 20th Century (3525. 6). Summer term 2005, Online

Women, Health & Healing (3529. 6). Summer term 2004, Online

#### **Service**

West Chester University of Pennsylvania, West Chester, Pennsylvania Department of Women's and Gender Studies

*Member*, Curriculum Committee, Women's and Gender Studies: West Chester University of Pennsylvania, 2016–Present

*Member*, Assessment Committee, Women's and Gender Studies: West Chester University of Pennsylvania, 2016–Present

Member, Feminist Advisory Committee, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, 2016–Present

Member, Diversity Committee, West Chester University of Pennsylvania, 2016–Present

Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan Department of Gender and Women's Studies

*Member*, Gender and Women's Studies: Curriculum Committee, Western Michigan University, 2013–2016

*Member*, the Program Review Committee, Gender and Women's Studies: Western Michigan University, 2014-2015

*Member*, Gender and Women's Studies: Assessment Committee, Western Michigan University, 2013–2014

Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio Departments of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and American Culture Studies

*Member*, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Steering Committee, Bowling Green State University, 2011–2013

*Member*, American Culture Studies: Joint Appointment Committee, Bowling Green State University, Ohio, 2011–2013

*Member*, American Culture Studies: Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Bowling Green State University, 2011–2012

York University, Toronto, Ontario (Canada) Department of Women's Studies (now Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies)

Member, School of Women's Studies: Executive Committee, York University, 2008–2009

Member, Graduate Program in Women's Studies: Curriculum Committee, York University, 2006–2008

*Member*, Graduate Program in Women's Studies: Admission Committee, York University, 2006–2008

*Member*, Graduate Program in Women's Studies: Executive Committee, York University, 2005–2007

Cochair, International Graduate Students Committee (IGSC), York University, 2006–2007

Member, Program Seminars, Events, and Workshops Committee, York University, 2004–2005

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (Canada) Department of Women's and Gender Studies

Graduate Students Representative, Committee on Selection and Review Procedures for Associate Deans, University of Saskatchewan, October 2001–April 2002