##### **Linda Darwish**

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#### Antigonish, NS mailto:lmdmail56@google.com

#### B2G 0C4 ldarwish@stfx.ca

**Education**

**Doctor of Philosophy – Religion** June 2009

Concordia University; Montreal, Quebec

THESIS:Texts of Tension, Spaces of Empowerment: Migrant Muslims and the Limits of Shi'ite Legal Discourse

Awarded Best Doctoral Dissertation, Department of Religion

**Certificate in University Teaching**, Concordia University 2004

**Master of Arts – Religious Studies** 1999

McGill University, Montreal

THESIS: Revolutionary Images of Abraham in Islam and Christianity: ‘Ali Shari‘ati and Liberation Theology.

**Bachelor of Arts – Honours Middle East Studies** 1996McGill University, Montreal

Specialization: Islamic Studies, concentration on Shi’ism

* Awarded First Class Honours, Dean’s List

**Montreal Museum of Fine Arts School of Art and Design** June 1977

Diploma in Drawing and Animated Film

**Teaching**

**St. Francis Xavier University Antigonish, N.S.** 2010-present

Department of Religious Studies

Assistant Professor

Currently supervising of Major Paper for Advanced Major: Cory Wensley 2012-2013

TOPIC: Tariq Ramadan’s Islamic ethics, with particular focus on his theology of pluralism

Second Reader for Honours Student: Laura Jurgens

THESIS: Purchasing Salvation: A Discussion of Martin Luther’s Criticisms on the Sale of Indulgences 2011-2012

Guest lectures in Department 2010-present

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Introducing new courses 2010-present

**College of the Holy Cross Worcester, MA** 2009-2010

Department of Religious Studies, 1-year Sabbatical Replacement

Islamic Studies

**Mount Allison University Sackville, NB** 2007-2008

Department of Religious Studies, 1-year Sabbatical Replacement

Western Religious Traditions, Islamic Studies, Sacred Space

**Concordia University Montreal, QC** 2001-2005

Department of Religion, 4-year Part-time Graduate Student Teaching Contract

Introduction to Islam, Shi’ite Islam

**Providence College and Seminary** Otterburne, MB 1999-2000

Department of Intercultural Studies, 1-year contract

Elementary Modern Standard Arabic, Cultural Anthropology

Also advised students on intercultural affairs and career opportunities

**Research and Publications**

"The Shi'ite Law of Migration (*hijrah*): What does Mississauga have in Common with Medina?" *Studies in Religion*. Wilfred Laurier University Press. Date of publication not known.

Accepted. “Globalizing Islam One *fatwa* at a Time: Shi'ite Legal Discourse on Migration” in Patrice Brodeur, ed., Islam, Pluralism and Globalization: Reproductions and Paradigm Shifts. De Gruyter Press. Date of publication not known.

“The Concept of the Mediator in Augustine’s Understanding of the Trinity,” *Didaskalia: The Journal of Providence Theological Seminary*, Vol. 13 No. 1 (Fall 2001): 61-86.

“Images of Muslim Women: ‘A’isha, Fatima, and Zaynab bint ‘Ali in Contemporary Gender Discourse,” *McGill Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 4 (1996): 93-132.

**Book Reviews**

 2

Shayne Lee & Phillip Luke Sinitiere. *Holy Mavericks: Evangelical Innovators and the Spiritual Marketplace.* New York and London: New York University Press, 2009.

*Journal of Religion and Culture, Concordia University* (2009): 113.

Kate Zebiri, *Muslims and Christians Face to Face.* Oxford: Oneworld, 1997. *Evangelical Missions Quarterly*, Vol. 35, No. 1 (January 1999).

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**Articles Reviewed for Publication**

“Exegetical Methods of the Qur’an in the Historical School of Islam: A Shi’ite Perspective”

Evaluated article considered for publication in the Journal *Sciences religieuses/Studies in Religion*. 2012

“Dialogues islamo-chretiens au Proche-Orient: Jalons pour un avenir convivial”

Evaluated article for publication in the Journal *Sciences religieuses/Studies in Religion* (2003) 32: 243-59 2003

## Conferences and Seminars

“Hijrah and Cross in Comparative Perspective: Towards a Dialogue”

Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Victoria, BC June 2013

One of three or four main teachers at Summer Institute on Islam at Philidelphia (SIIP)

 May/June 2010

“Tradition and Change: Some Reflections on Shi'ite Theories of Minority Jurisprudence”

*American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting*, Montreal Nov. 2009

Summary of Beirut Conference to Church community in Hasbaya, South Lebanon July 2009

Report on Evangelical Christian-Muslim Dialogue Conference

Chair, Islam and Globalism, University of Montreal May 2009

One of three keynote speakers at a weeklong conference entitled

*Empowering Middle Eastern Women: Models of Female Leadership*

Arab Baptist Theological Seminary, Beirut, Lebanon

Delivered five lectures June 2009

“Summary of Dissertation, Texts of Tension, Spaces of Empowerment:

Migrant Muslims and the Limits of Shi'ite Legal Discourse”

*Canadian Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences* May 2009

“Christian Minorities under Muslim Rule/Muslim Minorities under Christian Rule,” Response to paper from Dr. Muhammad Sammak

*Evangelical Christian-Muslim Dialogue Conference*

Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA April, 2009

“At Home in the *hijra*?”: Shi‘ite Legal Discourse and the Sacralization of Secular Space”

*Sacred and Secular in a Global Canada Conference, Huron University College*  May 2008

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**“**For the sake of Islam”: Islamic Legal Interpretation and Shi'ite Identity in the West”

*Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Saskatoon* May 2007

 “Shi’ite Legal Discourse on Migration: To and From the Lands of Islam”

*American Academy of Religion (AAR) Regional Meeting, Quebec City* May 2006

# “Controversial Cleanliness: Changing Perspectives of Contemporary Shi‘i Jurists

# on non-Muslims”

# *Department of Religion, Concordia University, Graduate Students Conference* May 2003

“Revolutionary Images of Abraham: Ali Shari‘ati and Liberation Theology”

*Middle East Studies Association Conference* (paper read in my absence) Nov. 1999

# **Professional Memberships**

Canadian Theological Society current

Canadian Society for the Study of Religion current

American Academy of Religion since 2005

Middle East Studies Association 1999-2000

**Service**

**To the University**

Committee Memberships

Advisory Committee to Service Learning 2012-present

Students with Disabilities 2011-present

Editor and Founder: Online Journal for students taking courses in Religious Studies, *Papers in Religious Studies* 2011-present

Coady Partner 2010-present

**To the Wider Academic Community**

Academic editing in Religious Studies; and Gender and Economics1999-present

* Recent Examples
	+ Entry to *Encyclopedia of Islam*, 3rd edition (*IE*3) online 2010
	+ Abstract and proposal for special session to AAR 2010
	+ MESA proposal 2010
	+ Grant proposal to Association of Theological Studies 2009

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**To the Community**

Beyond the Welcome, The Pictou County Welcoming & Inclusive Community Strategy, in collaboration with World Vision Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada October 2011

# St. Paul’s Anglican Church, Antigonish

Lecture on the Qur'an April 2011

Refugee Advocacy 1990-present

Most recently, advocated to bring young Afghan couple to Canada, arrived in Ontario 2012

**Earlier Work in Teaching and Editing**

**Teaching Assistance**

**Concordia University Montreal, Quebec** (Post 4-year teaching contract) 2005 - 2007

*Department of Religion*:

Received a grant to work with the Office of Development in putting together a

Minor in Iranian Studies 2006

Teaching Assistant for undergraduate Islamic Studies, Shi’ism, World Religions online course

Graduate Seminar: Islam and the Other

* Designed course with supervisor
* Gave occasional lecture/presentation

*Department of Classics and Modern Languages*:

Modern Standard Arabic (2 years)

* held twice weekly class/lab; tutored students individually; corrected exercises and tests

**McGill University Montreal, Quebec** 1998

*Faculty of Religious Studies*

Women in Judaism and Islam, Sexual Ethics

* In addition to normal responsibilities, designed and directed a bi-weekly study group on women in Islam for a group of students at their request

**Teaching and Editing**

Editor**,** Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University; Montreal, Quebec 1997 – 2000

Edited the work of Indonesian graduate students

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English Supply Teacher1990 - 1993

International Language Institute, Sharjah and Dubai, UAE

* Taught curriculum to class of 18 year old boys

Hospital Administration & Chaplaincy work1987 - 1993

Sarah Hosmon Hospital, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

**Earlier Service**

Teaching: Seminars and courses on Islam for church groups

Example: Introduction to Islam and History of Christian-Muslim Relations 2006

Coordinated and hosted Muslim-Christian student dialogue group 2004-2005

Editing: *Journal of Middle East Studies* McGill University and other academic writing for non-Anglophone graduate students 1996 – 1999

Private English Teaching to Iranians in Canada 1993 – 1995

**Awards**

Best Doctoral Dissertation, Concordia University, Department of Religion 2009

School of Graduate Studies Graduate Studies Doctoral Teaching Assistantship Fall 2006

Power Corporation of Canada Award 2005-2006

Power Corporation of Canada Award 2004-2005

SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council 2003-2004

Fonds pour la Formation de Chercheurs et l’Aide à la Recherche (FCAR) 2001-2003

# Concordia University External Grant Holder Doctoral Scholarship 2001-2004

# Quebec Ministry of Education (MEQ) Student Mobility Bursary Program 2003

# **Language Skills in Addition to English**

Professional knowledge (reading and speaking): French, Spanish, Arabic, Persian

Persian study: Iran (3 months) on Mobility scholarship 2003

Persian/Farsi study: BA, McGill; PhD, Concordia

Advanced Arabic reading comprehension courses, BA, McGill University - 1996

Colloquial Arabic study: full time program, Amman, Jordan 1986-1987

Modern Standard Arabic study: full time program, Montpellier, France 1985-1986