

Spring 2015 Events Archive

Monday, February 2, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–2015

Nader Sohrabi

Institute for Advanced Study

“Reluctant Nationalists: Albanians and Ottomans on the Brink”

Monday, February 9, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Amy Singer

IAS and Tel Aviv University

“Enter, Riding on an Elephant”

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

202 Jones Hall

4:30 PM

Hugh Kennedy

SOAS, University of London

“Archaeological evidence and the study of the economy of the early Islamic Middle East”

Sponsored by the Department of Near Eastern Studies, Committee for the Study of Late Antiquity, and The Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies

Thursday, February 12, 2015

4:30 p.m.

202 Jones Hall

The Near East and the World Seminar Series

Christianity in the Near East: Past, Present...Future?

Mary Mikhael

Near East School of Theology

“The Christians of Syria and Lebanon and Their Arab Spring”

Monday, February 16, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Ervand Abrahamian

Baruch College and the Graduate Center, CUNY

“Reading Diplomatic Documents (on Iran in 1951-54)”

Monday, February 16, 2015

7:00 pm

010 East Pyne

The Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa, and
Central Asia

presents

The Abounaddara Collective

A screening of

Syria: Snapshots of History in the Making

(Syria, 2014, 53")

**A discussion and Q&A with the co-founder of the Abounaddara Collective, Charif Kiwan,
will follow the screening.**

Monday, February 23, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

David S. Katz

*Director, Lessing Institute of European History & Civilization, Tel Aviv University, and Visiting
Fellow, Princeton University Department of History*

***“Saving Lives, Collapsing Civilizations: Arnold Toynbee in the Turkish War of
Independence”***

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

7:30 p.m.

Frist Multi-Purpose Room C

The Near Eastern Studies Film Series

The Other Town

A Documentary by NEFİN DİNÇ (2011)

(45 min.)

***“The Other Town is a documentary about the natives of a Greek and Turkish town. The
two nations have been enemies many decades ago, but why do they insist in keeping myths
built on enmity still alive?”***

A Short Talk – Q&A will follow the screening.

Thursday, February 26, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

The Near East and the World Seminar Series:

Christianity in the Near East: Past, Present...Future?

Geoffrey Khan

Regius Professor of Hebrew, Cambridge University

“The Modern Aramaic Dialects of the Christians and Jews of Iraq and Iran”

Thursday, February 26, 2015

4:30 p.m.

202 Jones Hall

Etty Terem

Rhodes College

“Old Texts, New Practices: Islamic Reform in Modern Morocco”

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

12:00 noon

102 Jones Hall

The Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa, and
Central Asia

Sadik J. Al-Azm

Visiting Fellow, TRI

“ISIS – Daesh Now: Notes from the Underground”

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

12:00 noon

012 Bendheim Hall

Kavus Abushov

Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy

**"The Right for Self-Determination and the Recent Events in Eastern Europe: Is There a
Norm Erosion?"**

Co-sponsored by Program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Liechtenstein
Institute on Self-Determination, and the Department of Near Eastern Studies

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

4:30 p.m.

211 Dickinson Hall

History Department Public Lecture

Cyrus Schayegh

Near Eastern Studies

“The Making of the Modern World: A Middle Eastern Perspective”

Thursday, March 5, 2015

4:30 p.m.

202 Jones Hall

The Near East and the World Seminar Series:

Christianity in the Near East: Past, Present...Future?

Columba Stewart, OSB

St. John's University, School of Theology and Seminary

**“Outracing Ignorance: Rescuing the Christian Manuscripts and Cultures of Syria and
Iraq”**

Monday, March 9, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Angelos Dalachanis

Princeton University

“Who is Greek? Rethinking Citizenship and Identity in Mid-20th Century Egypt”

Monday, March 9, 2015

12:00 noon

Aaron Burr Hall Room 216

Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication

Erika Gilson

Near Eastern Studies

"The Quest for a Common *Alphabet* and Common Language for Turkic"

Monday, March 9, 2015

4:30 p.m.

202 Jones Hall

Nahyan Fancy

DePauw University and Rutgers University

“Did Renaissance Physicians Know the Work of Ibn al-Nafis?”

Re-examining an Old Debate in Light of New Work on the Arabic Medical Commentaries”

Co-sponsored with the Program in the History of Science and the Program in Medieval Studies

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

4:30 p.m.

202 Jones Hall

Shaul Shaked

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

“The Jews of Bamiyan: A community of traders and scholars in eleventh-century Khorasan”

Co-sponsored by the Department of Near Eastern Studies, The Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, and the Program in Judaic Studies

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

5:00 p.m.

010 Esat Pyne

A documentary film screening of the award-winning

Tinghir-Jerusalem (2013)

followed by a Q&A with director

Kamal Hachkar

Sponsored by The Department of Comparative Literature with support from the Program in Judaic Studies, the Ronald O. Perelman Institute for Judaic Studies, the University Center for Human Values, the Program and the Department of Near Eastern Studies, and Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

Thursday, March 12, 2015

12: 00 noon–1:20 p.m.

102 Jones Hall

Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium

Presenter: Matthew Schumann (NES)

Paper Title: “The Transmission of Knowledge in Early Modern Morocco”

Discussant: Michael Cook (NES)

Thursday, March 12, 2015

4:30 p.m.

Robertson Hall, Bowl 001

Workshop on Arab Political Development

Sadik al-Azm

Visiting Fellow, Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia

“The Syria Revolt from the Inside”

Co-sponsored by the [Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice](#) ; the [Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia](#) ; and the [Department and Program in Near Eastern Studies](#).

Monday, March 23, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Nate Hodson

Princeton University

“A Pillar of the Saudi Treasury: The Hajj in Interwar Arabia”

Tuesday, March 24, 2015

12:00 noon

102 Jones Hall

The Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia

Emmanuel J. Szurek

TRI Postdoctoral Research Fellow

“Politics of Identity or Language Policies? From Erdogan to Atatürk”

Thursday, March 26, 2015

12:00 noon–1:20pm

102 Jones Hall

Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium

Presenter: Peter Kitlas (NES)

Paper Title: “Early Modern Infra-Islamic Diplomacy”

Discussant: William Smiley (NES)

Thursday, March 26, 2015

4:30 p.m.

102 Jones Hall

The Near East and the World Seminar Series:
Christianity in the Near East: Past, Present...Future?

Peter Starr

Ph.D. University of Cambridge

“The Mediators: Christians in the Service of Islamic Culture”

Monday, March 30, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Michael Cohen

Bar-Ilan University

“The British Mandate in Palestine, 1917- 48: Imperial Asset or Burden?”

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

12:00 noon

102 Jones Hall

The Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa, and
Central Asia

Max Rodenbeck

Middle East Bureau Chief, The Economist, Cairo, Egypt

“The Arab Exception?”

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

102 Jones Hall

Roy P. Mottahedeh

Gurney Professor of History, Harvard University

“Ghaznavid Panegyrics as Historical Source”

Co-sponsored by Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies and the
Department of Near Eastern Studies

Friday, April 3, 2015

9:00 a.m.–6:15 p.m.

Bowl 01, Robertson Hall

Workshop on

Iranian Electoral Politics: 1905–Present

Continuity Despite Revolutions

Co-sponsored by the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance, the Mossavar-Rahmani
Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, and the Workshop on Arab Political Development

Friday, April 3, 2015

1:30 p.m.

Scheide Caldwell House, Room 103

Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies Workshop

William Smiley

Near Eastern Studies

“The Islamic Law of Rebellion and the Greek War of Independence”

Monday, April 6, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Kevan Harris

Princeton University

“Rethorizing Iranian Civil Society from Top to Bottom”

SOPHOMORE OPEN HOUSE

The Department & Program in Near Eastern Studies

Will hold its Sophomore Open House for Prospective Concentrators on

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

12:00 noon–1:00 p.m.

102 Jones Hall

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

12:00 noon

Aaron Burr Hall, Room 216

Project on Democracy and Development

Yeşim Arat

Professor, Political Science and International Relations, Boğaziçi University

“The Decline of Democracy in Turkey: Popular Support, Institutional Decay”

Co-sponsored by the Department of Near Eastern Studies

Monday, April 13, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Sara Pursley

Princeton University

“‘Lines Drawn on an Empty Map’: Iraq’s Borders, the Magical Europeans, and the Making of a Myth”

Thursday, April 16, 2015

12: noon–1:20 p.m.

102 Jones Hall

Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium

Presenter: Maria Magdalena-Fuchs (REL)

Paper Title: "Between mosque, school, and printing house: Muslim associations in colonial Punjab"

Discussant: Daniel Sheffield (Society of Fellows)

Tuesday–Thursday, April 14–16, 2015

4:30 p.m.

Lewis Library 120

The Leon B. Poullada Memorial Lecture Series, 2014–15

Marc David Baer

London School of Economics

"Ottomans and Jews in the Literary Imagination of the Other, from the Fifteenth through the Twentieth Century"

Monday, April 20, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014–15

Elektra Kostopoulou

Rutgers University

"The Island that Never Was: Ottoman Crete and Experiments of Federalization"

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

4:30 p.m.

102 Jones Hall

Nicolas Sims-Williams

SOAS, London

"The Rediscovery of Sogdian "

Friday, April 24, 2015

1:30 p.m.

Scheide Caldwell House, Room 103

Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies Workshop

Enis Dinç

Near Eastern Studies

**"From the Ottoman Empire to the Greek-Turkish War:
A Brief History of Cinema from Mustafa Kemal's Perspective"**

Monday, April 27, 2015

12:00 noon

202 Jones Hall

Brown Bag Lunch Series 2014-15

Marion H. Katz

New York University

"The Law and Ethics of Cooking and Cleaning: Domestic Labor in Medieval Islamic *Fiqh*"

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

4:30 p.m.

McCormick Hall, Room 101

The 37th Annual Carolyn L. Drucker Memorial Lecture

Shimon Shamir

Professor Emeritus of Modern Middle Eastern History, Tel Aviv University, and Former Israeli
Ambassador to Egypt and Jordan

“Should Israel Regard Itself As Middle Eastern: The Internal Debate”

Sponsored by the Department and Program in Near Eastern Studies and the Program in Judaic
Studies

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

12:00 noon

102 Jones Hall

The Near East and the World Seminar Series

Christianity in the Near East: Past, Present...Future?

Samir Khalil Samir, S.J.

Saint-Joseph University (Beirut), the Pontifical Oriental Institute (Rome) and the Centre Sèvres
(Paris)

“The Role of Christians—in the Past—within the Arab-Islamic Society of the Middle East”

Thursday, April 30, 2015

12:00 noon–1:20 p.m.

102 Jones Hall

Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium

Presenter: Joel Rozen (ANT)

Paper Title: "Notes from Sfax: Entrepreneurs and the Suspension of Alterity"

Discussant: M'hamed Oualdi (NES)

Thursday, April 30, 2015

4:30 p.m.

McCormick Hall, Room 101

Michael Barry

Near Eastern Studies

“Carver of Light: Matisse and the Art of Persia and Islam”

Friday, May 1, 2015

12:00 noon

102 Jones Hall

The Near East and the World Seminar Series

Christianity in the Near East: Past, Present...Future?

Samir Khalil Samir, S.J.

Saint-Joseph University (Beirut), the Pontifical Oriental Institute (Rome) and the Centre Sèvres
(Paris)

**“The Role of Christians—Today and Tomorrow—within the Arab-Islamic Society of the
Middle East”**

Tuesday, May 12, 2015
3:00 p.m.
102 Jones Hall
Ph.D. Final Public Oral Examination
Jacob Olidort
Dissertation Title
“In Defense of Tradition: Muḥammad Nāṣir Al-Dīn Al-Albānī and the Salafī Method”

Wednesday, May 13, 2015
8:00 p.m.
Rocky/Mathey Theater
Screening of movie
“Life is Waiting”
Question and answer following the screening with
Mason Herson-Hord ’15 (NES)

Thursday, May 14, 2015
11:00 a.m.
205 Frist Campus Center
M.A. Final Public Oral
Chad M. Mowbray
Thesis Title
“Four Approaches to Aḥlām an-Naṣr, Poetess of the Islamic State ”

Friday, May 15, 2015
9:30 a.m.
102 Jones Hall
M.A. Final Public Oral
Autumn Kelly Patterson
Thesis Title
“Rethinking Laiklik in Turkey: The Bureaucratization of Islamic Education”

Monday, May 18, 2015
1:00 p.m.
102 Jones Hall
Ph.D. Final Public Oral Examination
Samuel R. Helfont
Dissertation Title
“Compulsion in Religion: The Authoritarian Roots of Saddam Hussein’s Islam”

Wednesday, May 20, 2015
12:00 noon–1:20 p.m.
102 Jones Hall
Princeton Islamic Studies Colloquium
Presenter: Wasim Shiliwala (NES)

Paper Title: Salafi Commentaries on *al-`Aqida al-Tahawiyya*
Discussant: Jacob Olidort (NES)

Class Day Reception 2015

Department and Program of Near Eastern Studies

Monday, June 1, 2015

3:00–4:00 p.m.

1915 Hall

Butler College

Friday, June 12, 2015

10:00 a.m.

102 Jones Hall

Ph.D. Final Public Oral Examination of

Mona Abdel Hamid Zaki

Dissertation title:

“Jahannam in Medieval Islamic Thought”