

SHERINE F. HAMDY

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Anthropology, New York University May 2006
New York, NY

M.A., Anthropology, Stanford University January 1998, coterminal M.A./B.A.
Stanford, CA

B.A., Human Biology, Stanford University, Honors June 1997
Stanford, CA

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

July 2009-present Kutayba Alghanim Assistant Professor of the Social Sciences, Brown University

July 2008-present Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Brown University

July 2006-June 2008 Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship in Anthropology and Science and Technology Studies, Cogut Humanities Center, Brown University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Medical anthropology, comparative bioethics, contemporary Islamic thought, science studies, global biotechnologies, international health, Egyptian society, genetic determinism, reproduction

RESEARCH GRANTS

Intramural:

Pembroke Center for the Research on Women and Gender Seed Grant, for research project “Does it Help or Hurt Women to Marry ‘Within’ the Family?: Consanguineous (Cousin) Marriage and Genetic Risk in Egypt,” 2012-2013

Brown in Translation Award, Office of International Affairs, for Arabic translation of book: *inna ajsadna lillab: mawdu` naql al-`ada' min khilal kafabat al-karama al-insaniyya fi misr* to be published in Cairo, 2012-2013

Salomon Faculty Research Grant, Office for the Vice President of Research, for “Recalibrating Life: the social lives around prenatal genetic testing in the Arab Muslim World,” 2011-2012

Faculty Development Grant, Dean of the Faculty, Fall 2010

Global Health Curriculum Grant (with Professor Melani Cammett) for “Problem-Solving Global Health Problems: The Middle East in Focus,” funded by Brown University, Framework for Global Health and Office of International Affairs, (2010-2011)

Curriculum Development Grant, for “Science and Society: Theories and Controversies” and “Ethnographies of the Muslim Middle East,” funded by Dean of the College, Brown University, (2009-2010).

Faculty Development Grant for Bioethics Training, Georgetown, Summer 2007

Extramural:

Greenwall Foundation Faculty Scholarship in Bioethics, research funds and teaching-relief for bioethics and Islam in Egypt, 2012- 2015

National Science Foundation Grant, Societal Dimensions of Ethics, Science, and Technology, awarded for dissertation research in Egypt (9/2002-9/2003. *Extended* until 9/2004).

National Institutes of Health, National Research Service Award, 3-year Training Fellowship, awarded for graduate study support and dissertation research (6/2002-5/2005, *Extended* until 5/2006)

Social Science Research Council (SSRC) International Dissertation Research Fellowship, 9/2002-9/2003. *Extended* until 9/2004.

Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Fellowship, 9/2002-9/2003. *Extended* 5/2004-10/2004. *Declined.*

Fulbright Islamic Civilization Initiative Fellowship, for dissertation research in Egypt, 9/2002-5/2003. *Declined.*

Fulbright IIE Fellowship for dissertation research in Egypt, 9/2002-5/2003. *Declined.*

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Institute for Advanced Study, Member of School of Social Sciences, Einstein Drive, Princeton, NJ 2011 to 2012

Rudolph S. Virchow Award for best professional paper, for the article “When the State and Your Kidneys Fail,” awarded by the Society for Medical Anthropology December 2009

Named Kutayba Alghanim Assistant Professor of Social Science, July 1, 2009 to present

Named J. Bernstein Assistant Professor of the Social Sciences and International Affairs, Brown University, July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

Pembroke Center Faculty Fellowship, Brown University, Seminar Theme: “Markets and Bodies in Transnational Perspective,” 2009-2010

Social Science Research Council Book Fellowship, for the support of book manuscript *Our Bodies Belong to God*, December 2007-June 2008

Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Award, Honorable Mention for best dissertation in the category of the Social Sciences, awarded by the Middle East Studies Association, November 2006

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, awarded for scholarly contributions to the fields of ethics and religion, 2005-2006.

Starr Foundation Fellowship, awarded for most outstanding applicant to the Center for Arabic Studies Abroad. 6/2000-6/2001.

Center for Arabic Studies Abroad (CASA) Fellowship, American University in Cairo, Egypt, 6/2000-6/2001.

Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship (FLAS), Awarded for full-tuition and stipend for academic years 1998-1999, 1999-2000, Summer 1999, Summer 2000, New York University, Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies.

Michele Z. Rosaldo Award for best undergraduate honors thesis, Stanford University,
Awarded by the Feminist Studies Center, June 1997.

LANGUAGES

Advanced writing, reading, speaking in:

- Modern Standard Arabic
- Egyptian colloquial
- Spanish
- French

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed book publication:

Our Bodies Belong to God: Organ Transplants, Islam, and the Struggle for Human Dignity in Egypt. University of California Press, 2012.

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

“Political Challenges to Biomedical Universalism: Kidney Failure Among Egypt’s Poor”
Medical Anthropology: Cross Cultural Studies in Health and Illness, Volume 32(4): 374-392.
2013.

“Not Quite Dead: Why Egyptian Doctors Refuse the Diagnosis of Death by
Neurological Criteria” *Journal of Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*, Volume 35(2): 147-
160.

“Strength and Vulnerability After Egypt’s Arab Spring Uprisings,” in *American Ethnologist*,
Volume 39 (1), 2012.

"The Organ Transplant Debate in Egypt: A Social Anthropological Analysis" "Le débat
sur les greffes d'organe en Égypte: analyse anthropologique" *Droit et Cultures* numéro
59, 2010/1, pp. 357-365

“When the state and your kidneys fail: political etiologies in an Egyptian dialysis ward,”
November 2008 *American Ethnologist* Volume 35(4), pp.1-17.

“Islam, Fatalism, and Medical Intervention: Lessons from Egypt on the cultivation of
forbearance (*Sabr*) and reliance on God (*Tawakkul*)” *Anthropological Quarterly* Winter
2009 Volume 82(1), pp.173-196

“Blinding Ignorance: Medical Science, Diseased Eyes, and Religious Practice in Egypt”
Invited article, *Arab Studies Journal*, Fall 2004/Spring 2005 Volume XII, No.
2/Volume XIII, No.1, pp. 26-45.

Chapters in Edited Volumes:

“Kidneys, Kinship, and Muslim Ethics in Egypt” in *Everyday Life in the Muslim
Middle East, 3rd edition*, edited by Becky Schulthies and Donna Lee Bowen, University
of Texas Press, Forthcoming, 2013.

“Introduction to Qutb and al-Sha‘rawi” in *Science and Religion: Christian and Muslim
Perspectives*, edited by David Marshall with Preface and Afterword by Archbishop
Rowan Williams, Washington DC: Georgetown University Press, 2012.

“Does submission to God’s will preclude biotechnological intervention? Lessons from
Muslim dialysis patients in contemporary Egypt” in *Deus In Machina: Exploring Religion
and Technology in Historical and Cross-Cultural Perspective*, ed. Jeremy Stolow, Fordham
University Press, 2012

“Re-thinking Islamic Jurisprudence in Egypt’s Organ Transplant Debate” in *Muslim
Medical Ethics: From Theory to Practice*, edited by Jonathan E. Brockopp and Thomas
Eich, Columbia: University of South Carolina Press 2008, pp. 78-93

Co-authored with Nasir, Laeth. “Culture and Medicine in the Arab World.” In: *Care of the
Arab Patient: A Biopsychosocial Approach*. Eds: Nasir, L. Abdel-Haq, A Radcliffe. Oxford
2007

“Science and Modern Islamic Discourses: Overview,” *Encyclopedia of
Women and Islamic Cultures*, general editor Suad Joseph, vol. 3, Leiden: E.J. Brill
2005.

Book reviews:

Book Review for “Politics of Piety” by Saba Mahmood, *American Ethnologist*, Volume 33
Fall 2008 *American Ethnologist*

“North American Muslim Women Voice their Concerns” (Review of *Windows of Faith
and Muslim Women*) *Feminist Collections* Vol. 22, nos. 3-4 2001

Scientific Abstracts:

“Self reported reproductive history in women with epilepsy: puberty onset and effects of
menarche and menstrual cycle on seizures” (with Morrell, M.J., Seale, C., Springer E.)
American Academy of Neurology Scientific Program, 1998.

“Polycystic ovaries in women with epilepsy on inducing and non-inducing antiepileptic
drugs” (with Seale, C., Springer, E., Giudice, L., Morrell, M.J.), *American Psychiatric
Association*, 1998.

IN PREPARATION

“Good Muslim, Bad Muslim in Health Care? The formulation of Islamic bioethical positions” In preparation for *American Anthropologist*

“The Gender of the Gifted Organ,” with Megan Crowley-Matoka, In preparation for *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*

“A Stolen Vision: shots to the eye in Tahrir Square and thefts of eyes in Egypt’s morgues” in preparation for *Social Science and Medicine*

“Biotechnology and the Human Life course,” with Julie Livingston, In preparation for *Annual Review of Anthropology*

Doctors of the Revolution Book Project with Soha Bayoumi, on the role of medics in Egypt’s Arab Spring

TEACHING, Brown University

- Culture and Health, (over 100-student lecture course) Fall 2010, Fall 2012
- Social Theories in Anthropology, (core requirement for PhD students), Spring 2011, Spring 2013
- Health, Ethics, and Society (course for MBA students of Instituto Empresa/Brown exchange program) Spring and Summer 2011
- Anthropology of the Middle East: Global Health Focus, Spring 2011
- Anthropological Perspectives on the Body, graduate seminar, Spring 2010
- Culture and Health, (135 students, lecture course) Fall 2010
- Theories and Controversies in Science and Society, Fall 2010, 2009, 2008
- Ethnographies of the Muslim Middle East, upper-division anthropology, Fall 2009
- Bioethics and Culture, upper-division anthropology course, Spring 2008, Fall 2008
- Cogut Center for the Humanities, Medical Humanities program, co-facilitator in seminar on Pain, Spring 2008
- Science and Culture, upper-division anthropology course, Spring 2007
- Introduction to Science and Society, Fall 2006, Fall 2007
- **Advising:** freshman advising programs (CAP program), UTRA sponsor, Science and Society concentration advising, undergraduate honors thesis advising (Anthropology,

Science and Society, Middle East Studies, Human Biology, Development Studies, Religious Studies), PhD thesis advising (Anthropology, American Studies, Performance Studies).

INVITED LECTURES

“Organ Transplants, Islam, and Human Dignity in Egypt,” École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, April 2013, NYU-Abu Dhabi, February 2013, NYU September 2012, Bard College April 2012, Wesleyan April 2012, Cornell University November 2011, also presented to the School of Social Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, October 2011.

“How the Case of Egypt’s Organ Transplant Debate Complicates Bioethics,” New York University, Colloquium on Medical Ethics, September 2011.

“Reconceptualizing Bioethics: The Case of Organ Transplantation in Egypt,” Northwestern University, Global Health Studies and Program in African Studies, January 2011.

“The Case of Organ Transplantation in Egypt: Reassessing Bioethics and Contemporary Islamic Thought,” George Washington University, January 2011.

“We’ve Been Robbed Down to Our Flesh! Egypt’s Organ Transplant Debate and the Scale of Global Health,” Duke University Department of Cultural Anthropology, January 2011.

“Transplanting God’s Property? Contesting Organ Transplantation as a Medical Breakthrough in Egypt” Center for Study of Religion and Society, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, February 2011.

“Not Quite Dead: Why Egyptian Doctors Contest the ‘Universal’ Criteria of ‘Brain-Death,’” Islam and Bioethics program, University of Michigan, April 2011.

“Defining Death: When the Experts Disagree” for Rutgers University Center for Historical Analysis, Workshop on “Bodies and Souls,” April 2010

“Shaykh of the People: Sha’rawi and the Body Belonging to God” for New York University, Kevorkian Center for Near East Studies, Theory and Research Workshop, March 2010

“Modern Islamic Texts on Religion and Science,” Presentation for “Building Bridges” Seminar, hosted by Lambeth Palace and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Istanbul, June 2009

“Why is Egypt the only Muslim and Arab country with no organ transplant law?”
American University in Cairo, Oriental Hall, sponsored by the Department of
History and Brown Alumni Association of Cairo, Cairo, Egypt, June 2009

“Debating Knowledge and Ethics in Egypt Through the Organ Transplant Debate,”
Columbia University, Middle East Institute, New York, NY April 2009

“Islam and Health” Conference, Lecture on steadfastness and pain in Muslim Ethics,
New York University School of Medicine, NY November 2007

Islam and Bioethics Working Group, Aga Khan Institute, London, UK September 2007

Departmental Colloquium, “Re-thinking Islamic Jurisprudence with Egypt’s organ
transplant debate” Brown University, Department of Religious Studies, February
2007

Departmental Colloquium, “Doctors of Confidence: Ambivalent Pioneers in Egyptian
biomedicine” Brown University Department of Anthropology, March 2006

Departmental Colloquium, “Bodies Belonging to God: Muslim Ethics and Organ
Transplantation in Egyptian Life,” History and Sociology of Science, University of
Pennsylvania, February 2006

Departmental Colloquium, “Muslim Ethics and the Science of Organ Transplantation in
Egypt” Science, Technology, and Society, M.I.T., February 2006

Invited Guest Lecturer, “What Contributions Can Anthropology Bring to Islamic
Bioethics?” *International Bioethics and Islam Conference*, King Faisal Specialized Hospital
and Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. March 11-12, 2003.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

Discussant for Lewis Henry Morgan Lecture, University of Rochester, Department of
Anthropology, November 2012

“Contending Modernities and Bioethics: Catholic and Muslim Perspectives,” Working
Group, Georgetown Berkeley Center, November 2012

Discussant for Panel, “Science, Inequality, and Place” Annual American Anthropological
Association Meetings, San Francisco, November 2012

Conference Paper, “Heartbreak and Revolution,” for panel on Life, Death, and Afterlife
in the Egyptian Revolution, AAA Meetings, San Francisco, November 2012

Research Presentation on bioethics and consanguineous marriage, Fall Workshop, for
Greenwall Foundation Faculty Fellows, New York, NY, November 2012

“Rethinking cousin marriage in the Middle East” for the Reproductive Health Working Group, Tunis, Tunisia July 2012.

“Does it make sense to speak of an ‘Islamic Bioethics’? Some lessons from the organ transplant controversy in Egypt” for Georgetown in Qatar conference on Islamic Bioethics, Doha, Qatar June 2012.

Conference Paper, “Opening the Black Box of Culture” for Panel in Honor of the scholarship of Margaret Lock American Anthropological Association, Montréal, Canada, November 2011.

Roundtable presentation/discussion, “Challenges to Health in the Aftermath of Egypt’s January 25 revolution” American Ethnology Society Meetings, San Juan, Puerto Rico, April 2011.

Conference Paper, “The Humanitarian Logic of Biomedicine, or ‘Where’s the Ketchup, You Infidels?!’” American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, LA, November 2010

“Discussant and Moderator for Panel on the Ethics of Reproductive Health in the Middle East and North African Region, Reproductive Health Working Group for the Arab Countries and Turkey, Held in Ain Sokhna, Egypt July 5-7, 2010

Conference Paper, “Social Justice as Science-Denial?: the politics of scale in the legacies of Shaykh al-Sha‘rawi and Thabo Mbeki” for “Bodies and Bodiliness in Africa,” Organized by the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Program in Law, Organization, Science, and Society, Held in Moshi, Tanzania June 7-10, 2010

Invited Participant in “Building Bridges Seminar,” hosted annually by Lambeth Palace and Dr. Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, 2009 (Istanbul), 2010 (Georgetown)

Conference Paper, “Transplanting God’s Property? Contesting Organ Transplantation as a Medical Breakthrough in Egypt” American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings, Philadelphia, PA, December 2009.

Conference Paper, “Redefining Doctors, Redefining Death” Middle East Studies Association, Washington, D.C., November 2008.

Conference Paper, “Getting Past ‘Patriarchal Arabs’ and the search for ‘Feminists Like Us’” Conference in Honor of Louise Lamphere, Brown University, October 2008

Conference Paper, “The sacralization of the body in organ transplantation,” for Panel on “Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics” Society for Cultural Anthropology, Long Beach, CA May 2008

Participant and Fellow, Social Science Research Council Book Fellowship Workshop, for the support of fellows' first book projects, presentation on "Our Bodies Belong to God," New York, NY, December 2007.

Panel Organizer, "Knowledge, Power, Ethics" Paper: "The government ruined my kidney," American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C. November 2007.

Conference Paper, "Islam and Bioethics Debates in Egypt: Specificities of Practice in Moral Discourse" *History of Science Society*, November 2007, Washington, D.C.

Conference Paper, "Islam and Bioethics Debates in Egypt: Specificities of Practice in Moral Discourse" American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, November 2006.

Steering Committee Member, "Islam and Bioethics" Conference/Book Project, Penn State University, March 2006.

Paper Presentation, "Stealing Sight: the market of eye tissue in Egypt" For Workshop on "Money, Markets and Consumption," University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology, February 1, 2006.

Panel Organizer, "Marketing the Body: Economies of Suffering and Ambiguities of Biomedicine in transnational transplantation" Paper: "Bodies that Belong to God: Organ Transplants and Muslim Ethics in Egypt," American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C., December 2005.

Invited Research Presentation, Working Group on Anthropology and Population, Brown University, September 9, 2005

Conference Paper, "The Place of Islam and Social Inequality in Egypt's Organ Transplant Debate" "Rethinking Inequalities and Difference in Medicine," Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN April 29-30, 2005.

Conference Paper, "Modern Science and Islamic legal-ethics in Egypt's organ transplant debate" History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science, Technology, and Medicine, Brown University, March 5-6, 2005.

Conference Paper, "Rethinking Islamic legal-ethics in Egypt's organ transplant debate" for Mapping Muslim Ethics, Duke University and University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, February 4-5, 2005.

Conference Paper, "Global Science and the Organ Transplant Debate in Egypt" Science and Technology in Global Context, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington, D.C. April 23-25, 2004.

Conference Paper, "Progress and Backwardness in Egypt's Organ Transplant Debate" Future Tense, Johns Hopkins University, Department of Anthropology, February 28, 2004.

Seminar Organizer, “Rethinking the Anthropology of Islam: Traditions, canons, practice” (Invited session) Paper: “Knowledge: Modern Science and Islamic jurisprudence in the debate on organ transplants in Egypt,” presented at New York University Near Eastern Studies Center, March 31, 2005.

Workshop paper, “Blinding Ignorance: Eye Disease in Egyptian Nationalist Narratives” Science, Technology, Society, University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology, December 2004.

Conference Paper, “Living in the ‘age of Sally’: biomedicine, Islam, and modernity in contemporary Egypt” American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA November 2000, also presented at Middle East Theory and History Conference, the University of Chicago, May 1999.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Anthropological Association (Society for Medical Anthropology, Society for Cultural Anthropology, American Ethnological Society, Middle East Section); 4S: Society for the Social Studies of Science; American Academy of Religion (Islam Section); Middle East Studies Association, Reproductive Health Working Group Member for Middle East North Africa region

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer for: *Global Public Health*, *POLAR*, *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, *American Ethnologist*, *Perspectives in Biology and Medicine*, *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies*, *Anthropological Quarterly*, *Body and Society*, *Medical Anthropology*, *Journal of Consumer Culture*, *American Anthropologist*, *Journal of Religious Ethics*, *Ethnos*, *University of California Press*, *Cambridge University Press*

Board Member, Encyclopedia of Islamic Bioethics Project, Georgetown University, Qatar, Doha

Workshop Co-Leader (with Stefan Helmreich), for American Ethnological Society’s graduate workshop on Science, Technology, Society, for American Anthropology Association Meetings, 2012

Honors Examiner, Swarthmore College, for the “Anthropology of the Body” seminar, spring 2012

Speaker to Social Science Research Council Book Fellows on the preparation of a

dissertation-based book manuscript, December 2011.

Rudolph Virchow Prize Selection Committee, Society for Medical Anthropology,
American Anthropological Association, 2010-2011

Grant Reviewer for the Social Science Research Council, International Dissertation
Research Fellowships, December 2009-January 2010

Section reviewer, Middle East Section, American Anthropological Association, 2007-
2008

REFERENCES

David Kertzer, Professor and Former Provost of the University, Department of
Anthropology, Brown University, Providence, RI 02906 david_kertzer@brown.edu

Kay Warren, Director, Pembroke Center for Research on Women and Gender, Brown
University, Providence, RI 02906 kay_warren@brown.edu

Lila Abu-Lughod, Professor, Columbia University, Department of Anthropology, 1200
Amsterdam Ave, New York, NY 10027, 212-854-3693, la310@columbia.edu

Rayna Rapp, Professor, Department of Anthropology, New York University
25 Waverly Place, New York, NY 10003, 212-995-8585, rr77@nyu.edu

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