

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### **Ahmed El-Sayed Abdel Meguid**

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### **Education**

*Ph.D., Philosophy Department, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA, December 2011*

Dissertation: "The Hermeneutics of Religious Imagination and the Meaning of Human Nature in Kant and Ibn al-‘Arabī."

*MA, Department of Philosophy, Emory University, Atlanta GA, USA, January 2007*

Course Work: Phenomenology, Philosophy of History, 18th German Philosophy, German Idealism, Existentialism, Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism, Platonism and Neo-Platonism, Analytical Philosophy, Logic and Philosophy of Language.

*Bachelor of Arts, Summa Cum Laude, The American University in Cairo (AUC), Egypt, June 2002*

Major: Philosophy and Economics

Minor: Business Administration and Mathematical Logic

### **Academic Position**

*Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, USA, 13244, August 2011-Present*

*Adjunct Faculty, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, USA, 2010-2011*

*Adjunct Faculty, Department of Philosophy and Religion, Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA, USA 2009-2010*

*Part-time Instructor, Department of Philosophy, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, USA, Spring 2008.*

### **Awards & Honors**

- Fund for Innovative Teaching Award, The Council for Faculty Development at Emory University for proposing MESAS/Philosophy/Religion 570/790/510 (Sources of the Self: Philosophical and Religious Perspectives), Spring 2011.
- Emory University Professional Development Award for conducting archival research in Egypt Summer 2009 and 2010 consecutively.
- Freie Universität in Berlin Distinguished Graduate Exchange Fellowship for the academic year 2008/2009.
- Emory University Philosophy Department Beck International Research Fellowship, Fall 2008 (to conduct dissertation research under Pr. Dr. Günter Zöllner, Lehrstuhl Professor, Fakultät für Philosophie, Wissenschaftstheorie und Religionswissenschaft, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany, Fall 2007).
- Emory Graduate Fellowship from Fall 2003 through Spring 2007.
- Business, Economics and Mass Communication School Excellence Cup, The American University in Cairo, Spring 2002.
- Summa Cum Laude Presidential Accolade, The American University in Cairo, Spring 2002.
- Academic Achievement Prize, Economics Department, The American University in Cairo, Spring 2002.
- Honor Scholarship for outstanding academic performance, The American University in Cairo, 1997-2002.

### **Areas of Specialization**

- History of Philosophy and Philosophy of Religion with a special focus on Late 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & early 20<sup>th</sup> Century German Philosophy, specifically the transcendental tradition (especially Kant & German Idealism) and the phenomenological and hermeneutical tradition (especially Dilthey, Husserl, Heidegger).

- Islamic Philosophy, Theology and Mysticism (particularly Avicenna, al-Ghazālī, Ibn al-‘Arabī, and Averroës).

### **Areas of Competence**

- Classical philosophy, particularly Platonic Ethics and Metaphysics, Aristotle and early and late antiquity Aristotelian commentators (especially Alexander of Aphrodisias, Themistius, Simplicius and Philoponus) and Neo-Platonism (especially Plotinus, Porphyry and Iamblichus).

### **Academic & Teaching Experience**

#### *Advanced Classes in Philosophy, Religion and Middle East Studies*

- REL 300: “Religion and the Political,” Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, Spring 2012
- REL 262: “Faith and Reason in Islam,” Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, Fall 2011
- REL 300: “Religion and Human Nature,” Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, Fall 2011
- MESAS/Philosophy/Religion 570/790/510, Graduate Seminar: “Sources of the Self: Philosophical & Religious Perspectives,” Emory University, Atlanta, GA, Spring 20011
- Philosophy 4900 (cross listed as MESAS 4590 and Religion 4570): “Faith and Reason in the tradition and development of Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism,” Philosophy Department, Department of Religious Studies & Middle East Studies Institute, Georgia State University, Spring 2008

#### *Introductory Philosophy Courses*

- Phil 210: “Introduction to Philosophy,” Philosophy and Religion Department, Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA, Spring 2010 (two sections).
- Phil 110: “Introduction to Logic,” Philosophy Department, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, Spring 2010.
- Phil 115: “Introduction to Ethics” and Phil 100: “Introduction to Philosophy,” Philosophy Department, Emory University, Spring 2008.
- Philosophy 1101: “Introduction to Logic” (two sections) and Philosophy 2201: “Introduction to Philosophy” at Clayton State University, Morrow, GA, Spring 2007.
- Co-taught Philosophy 251: “History of Western Philosophy II,” Philosophy Department, Emory University, Spring 2006.
- Teaching Assistant in: “Philosophy of Religion, History of Western Philosophy I, Introduction of Ethics”, Philosophy Department, Emory University from, Fall 2004 through Fall 2005.

#### *Introductory Courses on Islam in both Religion and Middle East Studies*

- REL 165: “Introduction to Islam,” Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, Spring 2012
- Religion 220: “Introduction to Islam” & Religion 224: “Women in Islam”, Philosophy and Religion Department, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, Spring 2011.
- Religion 220: “Introduction to Islam” & Rel 221: “Introduction to the Qur’ān”, Philosophy and Religion Department, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, Fall 2010.
- World Religion 605: “Introduction to Islam”, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, Fall 2010.
- Co-taught MESAS 415: “Traditions of Qur’ān Commentaries”, Middle Eastern & South Asian Studies Department, Emory University, Fall 2006.

### **Book Chapters and Review Articles**

- Review of *Revolutionary Womanhood: Feminism, Modernity and the State in Nasser’s Egypt*. Forthcoming in the American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences.
- "al-Messiri wa Ishkalyat al-Hadatha" [al-Messiri and the Problematic of Modernity] in *A Tribute to Abdel Wahab al-Messiri* (Ta’amulatāt fī Alam Abdel Wahab al-Messiri) (In Arabic), volume I, pages (42-64). Cairo: Dar El-Shourouk Publishing Company, September 2004.

### **Encyclopedia Articles**

- ‘Human Nature in Islam’. Forthcoming in Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- ‘Abū al-Hasan al-Ash‘arī’. Forthcoming in Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.
- ‘Prophecy’. Forthcoming in Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

- ‘Free Will’. Forthcoming in Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought. New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

### Selected Articles in Peer Reviewed

- ‘Political realism in the Naturalistic-Psychological roots of Averroës’ Critique of Plato’s theory of political constitutions in the *Republic*’. *Matter and Form from Natural Science to Political Philosophy*, ed. Ann Ward. Lanham: Lexington Press, 2009. pp. 71-84.

### Articles in Non-Refereed Journals

- "Nahw Tasawūr Jadīd li al-Insānya fī al-Islām: bayn al-Hatmyat wa al-Sababyah al-Mādyah wa Houryat al-Tagāwūz al-Dhatī" [Towards a new conception of humanity in Islam: between material determinism and the freedom of subjective transcendence] (In Arabic), *Wighat Nazar Monthly Intellectual Periodical*. Cairo/Beirut, February 2008. pp. 16-26.
- “The Death of Heidegger” (In English). Cairo: *Aorak Phalsaphia (Philosophical Papers) (the journal of the Egyptian Philosophical Association) issue no. 9 (pages: 53-68), January 2004, Ed. Dr. Ahmed Abdel Halim Attia.*

### Academic Translations

- Carr, David. *Time, Narrative and History* (in Arabic: *Az-Zaman wa as-Sard wa at-Tārīkh*). Cairo: al-Majlis al-‘la li-ath-Thaqāfa (Egyptian Supreme Council for Culture), October 2011.
- Makkreel, Rudolf. “The Idea of a Critique of Historical Judgment” (in Arabic: “Fikra le-mafhūm Naqd al-Hukm at-Tārīkhī”). *Awraq Fasafiyya (Philosophical Papers)*, (Cairo) issue no. 12 (January 2005) 67-95.

### Academic Lectures & Conference Presentations

- “The Hermeneutical Understanding of the Human Being in Avicenna’s and Ibn Tufayl’s Versions of the Recital of Hayy Ibn Yaqzals,” *Medieval Jewish and Muslim Philosophical Narratives Panel*, Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 2011.
- “The Platonic Origin of al-Junayd’s Conception of Islamic Monotheism as the Separation of the Transcendent and the Immanent”, *Platonism and Neo-Platonism Panel*, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2010.
- “The Aesthetic Subject and the Place of the Human in Kant: Re-visiting the *Critique of Judgment* in light of Heidegger’s *Nietzsche Lectures*”, *Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy*, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, October 2010.
- “Anthropomorphism and Subjectivity in Avicenna’s Definition of the Subject Matter of Metaphysics”, *Islamic Philosophy Panel*, American Oriental Society, Saint Louis, Missouri, March 2010.
- “Reason, Teleology and the Constitution of Meaning in the Life-World between the later Husserl and Ibn al-‘Arabī’s Metaphysics”, *Panel on Phenomenology and Islamic Philosophy*, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, Philadelphia, December 2008.
- “Language and the Immediacy of Being: The Significance of Adam’s Repentance in Qur’an 2:37 and Ibn al-‘Arabī’s *Bezels of Wisdom*”, *Qur’ān Hermeneutics Panel*, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago, November 2008.
- “Political Realism in the Naturalistic-Psychological Roots of Averroës Critique of Plato’s Republic”, *Panel on Matter and Form: From Natural Science to Political Philosophy*, 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference for the Study of European Ideas, Helsinki, Finland, July 28<sup>th</sup>-August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.
- “Husserl and the Critique of Objectivity between the *Crisis of the European Sciences and Experience and Judgment*: Teleological Judgment and the Re-casting of the Problem of Objectivity”, *Panel on Myth of Objectivity*, 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference for the Study of European Ideas, Helsinki, Finland, July 28<sup>th</sup>-August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.
- “God between Rational Transcendence and Immanent Representation: Using Kant’s Theory of Aesthetic Imagination to Interpret Ornamentation in Islamic Architecture”, *International Association For Philosophy and Literature*, Melbourne, Australia, 30<sup>th</sup> June-6<sup>th</sup> July, 2008.
- “Metaphysics of the Rational Soul and the Separation between Physics and Metaphysics in Avicenna’s critique of Aristotle’s Metaphysics”, *Symposium on Ancient Philosophy and Religion*, Center for the History of Philosophy, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, June 10-17, 2008

- “The Hermeneutical and Subjective Dimensions of Ibn al-‘Arabī’s Theory of Imagination in the *Bezels of Wisdom*”, Islamic Studies Colloquium Series, Center for Humanistic Inquiry, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, March 2007.
- “Historicity and Subjectivity in Ibn al-‘Arabī’s Theory of al-Insān al-Kāmil”, International Conference on Ancient and Medieval Philosophy, Fordham University, New York, October 2005.
- “The Death of Heidegger”, Philosophy Club, The American University in Cairo, May 2002.

### **Invited Lectures**

- “The Middle Intellect and the Role of Imagination in al-Farābī’s *ĀRā’ Ahl al-Madīnah al-Fāḍilah* (On the Perfect State)”, International Conference on Islamic Philosophy in honour of Muhsin Mahdi, The American University in Cairo & Cairo University, November 2008.
- “Imagination and the Problem of Transcendence in Ibn al-‘Arabi’s Mystical Philosophy”, Middle East Studies Institute Colloquium Series, Co-Sponsored by the Philosophy and Religious Studies Departments, Georgia State University, February 15<sup>th</sup> 2008.
- “Remarks on the evolution and major themes of Islamic Philosophical Thought”, Department of Communicative and Integrative Studies Colloquium Series, Clayton State University, Morrow, GA, April 4<sup>th</sup> 2007.

### **Research Languages**

English, Arabic, German and Attic Greek

### **References**

Dr. David Carr, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Philosophy, Emory University  
 Dr. Vincent Cornell, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Middle East and Islamic studies, Emory University  
 Dr. Rudolph Makkreel, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Philosophy, Emory University  
 Dr. Devin Stewart, Associate Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Emory University  
 Dr. Bruce Lawrence, Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Humanities Professor of Religion & Director of Duke University Islamic Studies Center, Duke University