

CURRICULUM VITAE

(abridged, August 2023)

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Department of Theology
Marquette Hall, 115
P.O. Box 1881
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Special Fields

History of Religions, Peace Studies, Islam & Interfaith Relations

Education

- 2021 Certificate of Completion, “‘Forbidden Knowledge’ Fights Back: Unleashing the Transformative Power of Critical Race Theory,” The African American Policy Forum, CRT Summer School
- 2011 Certificate of Completion, “Women in South Asian Muslim Societies,” American Institute of Indian Studies, *University of Chicago*, Chicago, IL
- 2001 Ph.D., Religion, *Temple University*, Philadelphia, PA
- 1996 M.A., Religion, *Temple University*, Philadelphia, PA
- 1994 M.A., Religious Studies, *Hartford Seminary*, Hartford, CT
- 1986 B.A., Liberal Arts, *St. Stephen’s College, University of Delhi*, Delhi, India

Academic Positions

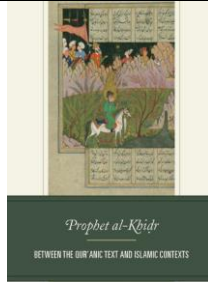
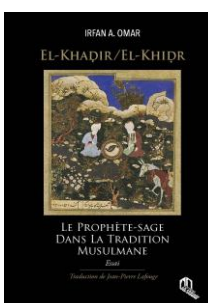
- 2023-- --Professor, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*
- 2014-- --Affiliated Faculty, Center for South Asia, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- 2010-2023 --Associate Professor, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*
- 2007 (Sum) --Visiting Lecturer, Fachbereich Ev. Theologie, *J. W. Goethe-Universität*, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2006 (Spr) --Fulbright Lecturer, Faculty of Theology, *Muhammadiyah University*, Malang, Indonesia
- 2005 (Sum) --Visiting Lecturer, Institute on Culture, Religion & World Affairs, *Boston University*

Administrative Experience

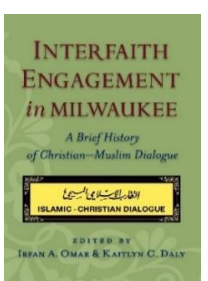
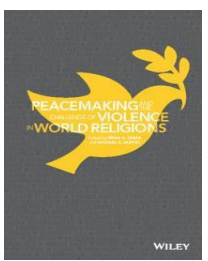
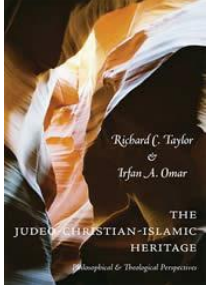
- 2023 (Spr) --Director of Undergraduate Studies (interim), Theology, *Marquette University*
- 2014-2015 --Director of Assessment, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*
- 2013-2014 --Assistant Chair, Department of Theology, *Marquette University*

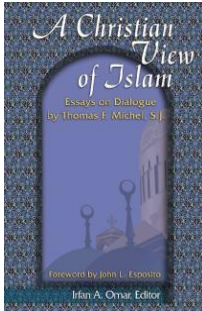
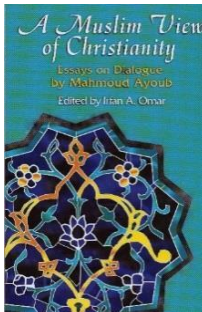


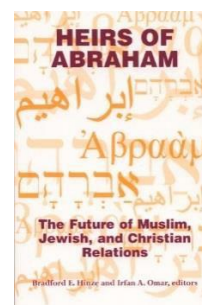
SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Authored Books

	<p>Omar, Irfan A. <u><i>Prophet al-Khidr: Between the Qur'anic Text and Islamic Contexts</i></u>. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2022, 155 pages.</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A. <u><i>El-Khadir/El-Khidr: Le Prophète-Sage dans la tradition Musulmane</i></u>. Casablanca, Morocco: La Croisée des Chemins, 2021, 202 pages.</p>

Edited Books

	<p>Omar, Irfan A. & Kaitlyn C. Daly, eds., <u><i>Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee: A Brief History of Christian—Muslim Dialogue</i></u>. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2020, 374 pages.</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A. & Michael K. Duffey, eds., <u><i>Peacemaking and the Challenge of Violence in World Religions</i></u>. Oxford, UK: Wiley Blackwell, 2015, 256 pages.</p>
	<p>Taylor, Richard C. & Irfan A. Omar, eds., <u><i>The Judeo-Christian-Islamic Heritage: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives</i></u>. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2012, 324 pages.</p>

	<p>Omar, Irfan A., ed., <u><i>A Christian View of Islam: Essays on Dialogue by Thomas F. Michel, S.J.</i></u> Edited with an Introduction. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2010, 214+ pages.</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A., ed., <u><i>A Muslim View of Christianity: Essays on Dialogue by Mahmoud Ayoub.</i></u> Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2007, 264+ pages.</p>
	<p>Hinze, Bradford E. & Irfan A. Omar, eds., <u><i>Herdeiros de Abraão: O futuro das relações entre muçulmanos, judeus e cristãos.</i></u> São Paulo, Brasil: PAULUS, 2007, 192+ pages (Portuguese translation of <i>Heirs of Abraham</i>).</p>
	<p>Omar, Irfan A., ed., <u><i>Islam and Other Religions: Pathways to Dialogue. Essays in Honour of Mahmoud Ayoub.</i></u> Edited with an Introduction. London and New York: Routledge, 2006, 210+ pages.</p>
	<p>Hinze, Bradford E. & Irfan A. Omar, eds., <u><i>Heirs of Abraham: The Future of Muslim, Jewish, and Christian Relations.</i></u> Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2005, 158+ pages.</p>

Journal Articles

- (REF) Othman, Enaya H., Lee Za Ong, Irfan A. Omar, Abir K. Bekhet, & Janan Najeeb, "Experiences of Muslim Mothers of Children with Disabilities: A Qualitative Study." *Journal of Disability and Religion*. 26, 1 (2022): 1-25 (published online: April 2021) DOI: 10.1080/23312521.2021.1911734.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., "Ijtihād as Intellectual Jihād: Renewal of the 'Spirit of Islam' in Maulana Wahiduddin Khan's Thought." *Journal of the Henry Martyn Institute (India)* 37, 1 (January-June 2018): pp. 1-16.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., "Sayyidina 'Īsā: Jesus in the Eyes of a Muslim." *Bulletin of Ecumenical Theology (Nigeria)* 27 (2015): pp. 8-47.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Keeping Shari'ah and Reclaiming Jihad," *Political Theology (USA)* 12, 5 (October 2011): pp. 706-712.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., "Where the Two Oceans Meet: An Attempt at Hindu-Muslim Rapprochement in the Works of Dara Shikuh." *Journal of Ecumenical Studies (USA)* 44, 2 (Spring 2009): pp. 303-314.

Book Chapters

- Omar, Irfan A. & Kaitlyn C. Daly, "An Overview of Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee." In *Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee: A Brief History of Christian—Muslim Dialogue*. Ed. Irfan A. Omar & Kaitlyn C. Daly. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2020, pp. 251-337.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Islam and Inter-Religious Dialogue: A Muslim Perspective." In *St. Francis and the Sultan, 1219-2019: A Commemorative Booklet*. Ed. Michael Calabria, OFM. Cincinnati, OH: Franciscan Media, 2019, pp. 50-71.
- Spanish trans: "Islam y diálogo interreligioso: Una perspectiva desde el Islam." *San Francisco y el Sultán, 1219-2019: Libro conmemorativo*, pp. 55-76.
- Italian trans: "L'Islam e il dialogo interreligioso: una visione musulmana." *San Francesco e il Sultano, 1219-2019: Un libretto commemorativo*, pp. 53-76.

- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Qur'an Upholds Plurality as the Will of God." In *Seeking Communion: A Collection of Conversations*. Ed. Joseph Victor Edwin, SJ. Delhi: ISPCK/Hyderabad: Henry Martyn Institute, 2018, pp. 1-11.
- Omar, Irfan A., "Jihad and Nonviolence in the Islamic Tradition." In *Peacemaking and the Challenge of Violence in World Religions*. Ed. Irfan A. Omar and Michael K. Duffey. Oxford, UK: Wiley Blackwell, 2015, pp. 9-40.
- Omar, Irfan A., "Delhi's Debates on *Ahl-i Kitāb*: Dara Shikuh's Islamization of the Upanishads." In *The Judeo-Christian-Islamic Heritage: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives*. Ed. Richard C. Taylor and Irfan A. Omar. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2012, pp. 89-109.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Teologia interconfessional mundial do pluralismo religioso: uma perspectiva musulmana." In *POR UMA TEOLOGIA PLANETARIA*. Ed. Jose Maria Vigil. Sao Paulo: Paulinas/ASETT EATWOT, 2011, pp. 163-171.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Reflecting Divine Light: al-Khidr as an Embodiment of God's Mercy (*rahma*)." In *Gotteserlebnis und Gotteslehre: Christliche und islamische Mystik im Orient*. Ed. Martin Tamcke. Wiesbaden, Germany: Harrassowitz-Verlag, 2010, pp. 167-180.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "World Interfaith Theology of Religious Pluralism: A Muslim Perspective." In *Toward a Planetary Theology, Along the Many Paths of God*. Montreal: Dunamis, 2010, pp. 106-111.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Teologia mundial inter-creyente del pluralismo religioso: Una perspectiva musulmana." In *Por los muchos caminos de Dios*. Vol. 5 of *Hacia una teología planetaria*. Ed. José María Vigil. Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians. Quito, Ecuador, Abya Yala, 2010, pp. 108-113.
- (INV) Omar, Irfan A., "Dschihad und Gewalt im Koran: Zum Friedenspotenzial des Koran und in der Islamischen Tradition." Tr. Markus Wriedt. In *Das Friedenspotenzial von Religion*. Ed. Irene Dingel and Christiane Tietz. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2009, pp. 71-99.

Book Reviews

- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Freedom in the Arab World: Concepts and Ideologies in Arabic Thought in the Nineteenth Century* by Wael Abu-'Uksa, in *International Journal of Middle East Studies* (IJMES), 50, 3 (2018): pp. 604-606.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Religion as Critique: Islamic Critical Thinking from Mecca to the Marketplace* by Irfan Ahmad, in *Maydan*, an online journal of the Center for Global Islamic Studies at George Mason University, published online: May 30, 2018. <https://www.themaydan.com/2018/05/book-review-religion-critique-islamic-critical-thinking-mecca-marketplace-irfan-ahmad-reviewed-irfan-omar/>
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Unsettling Sikh and Muslim Conflict* by Katy Sian, in *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 26, 4 (2015): pp. 527-529 (online publication date: July 17, 2015).
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Mawlana Mawdudi and Political Islam: Authority and the Islamic State*, by Roy Jackson, in *Contemporary Islam*, 9, 2 (2015): pp. 223-225. (published online: September 2013).
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Islam's Jesus* by Zeki Saritoprak, in *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, 49, 4 (2014): pp. 673-674.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Becoming American? The Forging of Arab and Muslim Identity in Pluralist America* by Yvonne Yazbeck Haddad, in *Journal of Islamic Studies*, 25, 3 (2014): pp. 389-391.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *The Book of Ascension to the Essential Truths of Sufism. Mi'rāj al-tashawwuf ilā ḥaqā'iq al-taṣawwuf* by Aḥmad ibn 'Ajība. Tr. and annotated by Mohamed Fouad Aresmouk and Michael Abdurrahman Fitzgerald, in *Journal of Sufi Studies*, 2, 2 (2013): pp. 217-220.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *Arguing the Just War in Islam* by John Kelsay, in *Modern Theology*, 26, 1 (2010): pp. 173-176.
- (REF) Omar, Irfan A., Review of *A Shared World: Christians and Muslims in the Early Modern Mediterranean* by Molly Greene, in *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, 20, 4 (2009): pp. 482-483.

MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS

- Interviewed by WUWM discussing the book *Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee: A Brief History of Christian Muslim Dialogue* with Kaitlyn C. Daly, co-editor, May 24, 2023. <https://www.wuwm.com/2023-05-24/this-book-chronicles-milwaukees-islamic-christian-dialogues-from-the-1980s>
- Interviewed by TMJ4 News, “New Marquette Course for Undergrads Spotlights Muslim and Christian Faiths,” March 9, 2020. <https://www.tmj4.com/news/local-news/new-marquette-course-for-undergrads-spotlights-muslim-and-christian-faiths>

SELECT PAPER/PANEL PRESENTATIONS

- (REF) “Shifting Attitudes Towards the Other: The Challenges Facing Interreligious Marriages in India.” Paper presented at the panel on *Transformations of Intimacy in Contemporary East and South Asia* at the [AAS-in-Asia 2023](#), Kyungpook University, Daegu, South Korea, June 24-27, 2023.
- (REF) “Contested Visions of Holiness: Sufism from the Inside.” Paper presented at the panel on *Islamic Knowledge from the Inside* at the [Sixth Annual Conference of the European Academy of Religion \(EuARe\)](#), University of St. Andrews, Scotland, June 19-23, 2023.
- (INV) “Wang Daiyu and the Confucian-Islamic Dialogue.” Commentary and Response to the Aristotle Prize Lecture by Qiu Lin at the *72nd Annual Meeting of the Metaphysical Society of America*. [Marquette University](#), Milwaukee, WI, March 25-27, 2022.
- (REF) “Multiple Belongings in Firāq Gorakhpūrī’s Poetry.” Paper presented at the *53rd Annual Convention of the Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA)*. Baltimore, MD, March 10-11, 2022. Virtual presentation.
- (INV) “Embodied Peace: An Appraisal of Muslim Peacemaking in the 21st Century.” Paper presented at the *6th Annual Wee Kim Wee Soka International Seminar*, [Singapore Management University \(SMU\)](#), Singapore, January 20, 2022. Virtual presentation.

- (REF) “Christian—Muslim Engagement Amidst the Pandemic: Lessons from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.” Paper presented at the [Luce-Hartford Conference in Christian—Muslim Relations](#). Virtual conference. June 7-8, 2021.
- (REF) “Francis and the Sultan: Receptions of their Encounter Through Time.” Paper presentation at the [56th international Congress on Medieval Studies](#). Virtual conference. May 10-15, 2021.
- (REF) “Religion as Critique: Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī’s *Risālat al-Ghufrān* on Life and the Hereafter.” Paper presented at the [International Congress on Medieval Studies](#), Kalamazoo, MI, May 9-10, 2019.
- (REF) “Muslim Views of Moses and Khidr in the Context of Q. 18:60-82.” Paper presented at a panel on *The Biblical Figures Outside the Bible in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam* at the [Annual Conference of the European Academy of Religion](#) (EUARE), Bologna, Italy, March 4-7, 2019.
- (INV) “Dara Shikoh’s Legacy: The Promise and perils of Interfaith Dialogue.” [Pratidhwani workshop](#), University of Delhi, New Delhi, India, April 23, 2018.
- (REF) “Al-Ghazālī’s Views of Knowledge as Analogous to the Khidrīan Trope.” Paper presented at the conference on [Human Knowing in the Medieval Arabic and Latin Traditions](#). Faculté des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines, Université Cadi Ayyad, Marrakech, Morocco, March 15-16, 2018.
- (REF) “Creating a Culture of Dialogue on Marquette Campus: Challenges and Future Prospects.” Panel presentation at a panel on *Islam, Interfaith Dialogue and Jesuit Universities* at the AJCU Conference on [Commitment to Justice in Jesuit Higher Education](#). Seattle University, Seattle, WA, August 10-14, 2017.
- (INV) “Dara Shikoh’s Passion for Hindu-Muslim Dialogue.” Paper presented at the [International Conference on Dara Shikoh: Reclaiming Spiritual Legacy of India](#). Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, India, April 27-28, 2017.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- “Interfaith as Interdisciplinary: The Value of Learning about the Religious Other.” Panel presentation at the Center for the Advancement of the Humanities (CfAH), Marquette University. February 21, 2022.
- “Hagar as an embodiment of Humility, Piety, Faith, & Critique.” Panel presentation at the Community Dialogue. Center for the Advancement of the Humanities (CfAH), Marquette University. September 23, 2021.
- “The Role of Interfaith Dialogue in Strengthening Social Justice Movements.” Panel presentation at the Community Dialogue. Center for the Advancement of the Humanities (CfAH), Marquette University. August 5, 2021.
- “Interfaith Engagement in Milwaukee.” Panel Presentation at the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. Virtual presentation. April 8, 2021.
- “Pope Francis and Imam al-Tayyeb on Human Fraternity: Advancing a Culture of Dialogue.” Presentation at the Sacred Heart Cathedral, New Delhi, India, February 24, 2020.
- “Reframing Peace: Muslim Stories of Peacemaking for the 21st Century.” Keynote delivered at the conference on *The Abode of Peace: Spirituality and Harmony in Islam*. Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies (CMENAS), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, March 21, 2019.
- “Understanding Jihad and Practicing Peace: A Muslim Theology of Nonviolence.” Public presentation at the *International Seminar on Peace Education*. State University of North Sumatera (UIN) Medan, Indonesia, November 29, 2018.
- “Al-Khidr: Between the (Qur’anic) Text and the (Mystical) Tradition.” *Middle Eastern Studies Program (MESP) Lecture Series*. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, November 19, 2018.
- “One God, One Humanity: A Muslim Response to Religious Prejudice.” Plenary presentation at the Annual Meeting of the *National Catholic-Muslim Dialogue*. Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL, March 7-8, 2018.

- “The Oneness of God and the Diversity of Religions.” Lecture Presentations organized by the *Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning* at the Islamic Center of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, and St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN, October 2-3, 2017.
- “Christian-Muslim Relations in Historical Perspective.” Lecture presentation at the ‘Faith Forum’ organized by the Church of the Gesu, Milwaukee, WI, September 25, 2016.
- “Gandhi’s View of Jihad and Its Implications for Hindu-Muslim Relations.” Lecture presentation at the Department of Gandhian Thought and Ramalingam Philosophy, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India, March 15, 2016.

SELECT COURSES

2002-present Marquette University

- CORE 4929 “Service of Faith & Promotion of Justice”
- THEOI 2500 “Faith & the Role of Nonviolence: Religious Peace-building in India”
(India - study abroad, team-taught)
- THEO 1001 “Introduction to Theology” (*inter-religious component, team-taught*)
- THEO 4951 “Islam and the West: Islamic Culture” (Morocco - study abroad)
- THEO 3350 “Christian—Muslim Dialogue”
- THEO 2500 “Theologies of Nonviolence”
- THEO 4390 “Introduction to Islamic Studies” (*inter-disciplinary, team-taught*)
- THEO 4540 “Hinduism, Yoga, and Buddhism”
- THEO 4530 “Islam, Faith and Practice”
- THEO 8550 “Christians and Muslims in Dialogue” (*graduate*)
- THEO 4510 “Survey of World Religions”
- THEO 164 “Islamic Theological and Philosophical Thought” (*team taught*)

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- 2022-2023 *Metaphysical Society of America (MSA)*
2019-2023 *European Academy of Religion (EuARe)*
2012- *Society of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion (SRER)*
2012-2014 *Society of Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP)*
2010-2012 *American Institute for Maghreb Studies (AIMS)*
2006-2012 *European Association for South Asian Studies (EASAS)*
2002- *South Asian Muslim Studies Association (SAMSA)*
--2003- Member of Executive Board; --2009-2012 President
1996-2000 *American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies (ACSIS)*
1995-2014 *American Academy of Religion (AAR) (w/lapses)*
--2010-2014 Member, Steering Committee, Ethics Section

EDITORIAL BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- 2019- Member, Advisory Board, [İslami Araştırmalar](#)
2010- Member, Editorial Board, [Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion](#)
2004- Associate Editor, [Journal of Ecumenical Studies](#)

ACADEMIC PEER REVIEW AFFILIATIONS

Peer reviewed manuscripts for (select list):

- *Comparative Islamic Studies*
- *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* (every year since 2002)
- *The Journal of Moral Education*
- *Journal of Muslim Philanthropy & Civil Society*
- *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion* (every year since 2011)
- *The Journal of Religion*
- *Theological Studies*
- Pluto Press
- Routledge
- State University of New York (SUNY) Press
- Oxford University Press
- Syracuse University Press