

Amir Hussain

Professor of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University

Los Angeles, CA, US

Bellarmino College of Liberal Arts

Biography

Dr. Amir Hussain is Professor of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, where he teaches courses on world religions. His own particular speciality is the study of Islam, focusing on contemporary Muslim societies in North America. His academic degrees (BSc, MA, PhD) are all from the University of Toronto where he received a number of awards, including the university's highest award for alumni service. For 2011 to 2015, Amir is the editor of the Journal of the American Academy of Religion, the premier scholarly journal for the study of religion. He has a deep commitment to students, and holds the distinction of being the only male to serve as Dean of Women at University College, University of Toronto. Before coming to California in 1997, Amir taught courses in religious studies at several universities in Canada. He is active in academic groups such as the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion and the American Academy of Religion. He is on the editorial boards of four scholarly journals, the Journal of Religion, Conflict and Peace; Contemporary Islam: Dynamics of Muslim Life; the Ethiopian Journal of Religious Studies; and Comparative Islamic Studies. Amir is also interested in areas such as religion and music, religion and literature, religion and film and religion and popular culture. In 2008, he was appointed a fellow of the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities. Prior to his appointment at Loyola Marymount University, Amir taught at California State University, Northridge (CSUN) from 1997 to 2005. Amir won a number of awards at CSUN, both for his teaching and research. In 2001 he was selected for the outstanding faculty award by the National Center on Deafness. For the academic year 2003-04, he was selected as the Jerome Richfield Memorial Scholar. In both 2008 and 2009, Amir was chosen by vote of LMU students as the Professor of the Year. He is the co-editor for the fourth editions of World Religions: Western Traditions, and World Religions: Eastern Traditions, textbooks published in 2014 by Oxford University Press. He is also the co-editor for the third edition of A Concise Introduction to World Religions, published by OUP in 2015. Prior to those books, he wrote an introduction to Islam for North Americans entitled Oil and Water: Two Faiths, One God (Kelowna: Copper House, 2006). He has published over 50 book chapters and scholarly articles about religion.

Areas of Expertise

Interfaith Dialogue, Islam and Muslim Lives in the United States;, Muslim Communities in North America, Religion on Film and Television

Affiliations

Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities

Education

University of Toronto
Ph.D. Centre for the Study of Religion

University of Toronto
M.A. Centre for the Study of Religion

University of Toronto
B.Sc. Psychology

Accomplishments

Fellow of the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities
Appointed in 2008

Professor of the Year
Selected by vote of LMU students in 2008 and 2009

Editor, The Journal of the American Academy of Religion
From 2011-2015

Senior Editor for Oxford Handbooks Online: Religion
A new online reference from Oxford University Press, appointed in 2012

Fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies
Fall 2016, at University of Southern California

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