

ILMA QURESHI

iq5sb@virginia.edu

www.ilmaqureshi.com

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** 2024 **University of Virginia** GPA:3.9
Religious Studies
Dissertation: “The Texture, Poetics, and Taste of Love and Knowledge in Amīr Khusraw and Fakhr al-Dīn ‘Irāqī’s works”
Comprehensive Exams: Islam in South Asia, Sufism, Persian Literature
- M.A.** 2017 **University of Virginia** GPA: 3.9
Religious Studies
- B.S.C.** 2014 **Lahore University of Management Sciences**
Economics and Political Science
- 2018 Persian, American Councils, Tajikistan
2019 Persian, Khana-i Farhang, Pakistan
2020 Classical Arabic, Qasid Institute
2022 Modern Standard Arabic, University of Wisconsin-Madison

TEACHING

Teaching Areas

Introduction to Islam, Persian Literature, Islam in South Asia, Islamic Art and Architecture, South Asian Literature(s), Sufism, Spiritual Writing, Love in the Islamic Tradition, Creative Writing

Teaching Competencies

Hinduism, Introduction to Western Religious Traditions, Introduction to World Religions, Indo-Persian Literary Theory, Urdu Literary Culture and Literature

Teaching Experience

- 2020 **University of Virginia**
Classical Islam, Teaching Assistant
- 2019 **University of Virginia**
Hinduism, Teaching Assistant
- 2018 **University of Virginia**
Introduction to Western Religious Traditions, Teaching Assistant

- 2017 **University of Virginia**
Global Islam, Teaching Assistant
- 2014 **Lahore University of Management Sciences**
Comparative World Religions, Teaching Assistant
- 2014 **Lahore University of Management Sciences**
Philosophy and Politics of Global Ecology, Teaching Assistant
- 2013 **Lahore University of Management Sciences**
Islamic Studies, Teaching Assistant

EMPLOYMENT

- 2022-present **University of Virginia**
Research Assistant
Templeton Religion (TRT) project ‘The Logic of the Birds:
Exploring Sufi Poetry and Poetics’
- 2022 **Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service**
Communications Intern for Digital Media Marketing
- 2020-2021 **University of Virginia**
Research Assistant
Gratitude: A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Study of Gratitude
- 2020 **University of Virginia**
Research Assistant
Sirens of Modernity: World Cinema Via Bombay
Department of Middle Eastern & South Asian Languages and Cultures
- 2019 **The Academy for International Cultures and Professional Education**
Program Manager
Educational Summer Program (Turkey)
- 2016-2019 **University of Virginia**
Research Assistant
Henry Luce Foundation Grant in Religion and Foreign Affairs
Hearth-to-Hearth Interreligious Conflict Transformation

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

English Native

Urdu	Native
Persian	Near-Native Fluency (Reading); Professional Working Proficiency (Speaking)
Arabic	Proficient reading knowledge
Hindi	Native (Speaking)
Punjabi	Professional Working Proficiency
Siraiki	Professional Working Proficiency

PUBLICATIONS

Academic Writing

- 2024 “Madness and a Rose.” In *Indo Persian Volume: Delos Journal*
Co-Authored with Prashant Keshavmurthy and Jane Mikkelson (forthcoming)
- 2023 “Love, Longing, and Desire: Reconceptualizing Fanā’ as Ecstasy in Fakhr al-Dīn ‘Irāqī’s Poetry.” *Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa Journal* (submitted)
- 2019 Review of Omid Safi, *Radical Love*. *Reading Religion: American Academy of Religion*.
- 2018 Translator and Field Consultant for “Value Predicate Analysis: A Language-Based Tool for Diagnosing Behavioral Tendencies of Religious or Value-Based Groups in Regions of Conflict.” *Journal of Scientific Study of Religion*.

Creative Writing

- 2024 *The Lumina Journal*, “sunkissed.”
- 2023 *Months to Years*, “wintering”
- 2023 *The Black Fork Review*, “sun-blue dreams.”
- 2023 *Ignatian Literary Magazine*, “fireflies.”
- 2023 *Poetry South*, “woven in silken sky.”
- 2023 *The Elevation Review*, “gravelly point”.
- 2023 *Quillkeepers Press*, “solace.”
- 2023 *Streetlight Magazine*, “a cricket’s delight.”
- 2023 *Wingless Dreamer*, “fireflies,” and “joy.”
- 2023 *Tiger Moth Review*, “abyad.”
- 2021 *The Roadrunner Review*, “woven in silken sky.”
- 2021 *Last Leaves*, “a woodpecker’s delight”.
- 2020 *Rigorous Magazine*, “twilight.”
- 2020 *The Ice Colony* and *Active Muse*, “wild skies.”
- 2019 *Tareekh-i Adab-i Urdu*, “Ye Un Dino Ki Baat Hai.”
- 2019 *Tafheem*, “Ay Saqī-i Khūb rū.”
- 2019 *Audio Times*, “Barf jo kayi sadiyon se.”

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

- 2023 **William and Mary**
“Scriptural Reasoning”
- 2023 **University of Virginia** | Jefferson Society
“Indo-Persian Poetics”
- 2023 **Hast-o-Neest Institute** | “In the Garden of Khusraw’s Words.”
- 2021 **Hast-o-Neest Institute** | “Diving into the Ocean of Speech: Amir Khusraw’s Dībāchāh-i Divān-i Ghurrat al-Kamāl.”
- 2019 **Colgate** | “Exploring the trope of Yusuf and Zulaikha through Sufi hermeneutics.”
- 2019 **University of Virginia** | “Through the music of Rumi’s reed: Authority and self-transformation in Rumi’s mathnavi.”

Conferences

- 2024 **American Academy of Religion.**
Roundtable Discussion of Mohammed Rustom’s Inrushes of the Heart: The Sufi Philosophy of ‘Ayn al-Quḍāt
- 2024 **American Academy of Religion.**
South Asian Islamicate Futures and Pasts: Sources and Possibilities for Emic Literary Theory and Criticism
- 2023 **American Academy of Religion.**
“The Logic of the Birds: Sufi Poetry and Poetics.”
- 2022 **American Academy of Religion.**
“How lyric moves: Exploring the texture of ‘Irāqī’s Neoplatonic thought.”
- 2022 **Annual Conference on South Asia.**
“Whose image is it?: Exploring the metaphor of mirror in the Lama’āt.”
- 2021 **American Academy of Religion.**
“Transcending Categories: Love, the Qur’ān, and Nature in ‘Irāqī’s Lama’āt.”
- 2021 **Annual Conference on South Asia.**
“Subverting Binaries and Stylistic Conventions: A Study of Fakhruddin ‘Irāqī’s Poetry.”
- 2021 **Annual Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa**
"Love, Longing, and Self-annihilation in God: Reconceptualizing Fanā’ as Ecstasy in the ‘Ushshāq-nāmāh."

Invited Workshops and Roundtables

- 2022 **University of Virginia** | Logic of the Birds
- 2021 **The Creative Room** | Poetry Writing Workshop

- 2020 **University of Virginia** | Graduate Instructor Seminar on the Teaching of Writing
- 2020 **Murphy Creative Writing Workshop** | Getaway to Write
- 2019 **Colgate University** | Scriptural Reasoning
- 2015-2021 **University of Virginia** | Scriptural Reasoning
- 2014 **Lahore University of Management Sciences** | Scriptural Reasoning

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022 **Finalist University-Wide Graduate Teaching Award**
University of Virginia
- 2022 **American Institute of Indian Studies**
Junior Research Fellowship Award
- 2022 **Dean Dissertation Completion Fellowship**
University of Virginia
- 2021 **Religion, Race, and Democracy Lab Grant**
Documentary: How Lyric Moves and Morphs: Qawwali Music in Pakistan
- 2021 **American Institute of Pakistan Studies**
Short-Term Research Grant
- 2021 **Center for Global Innovation and Inquiry**
Graduate Global Research Grant, UVA
- 2020 **IHGC Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures**
Asian Cosmopolitanisms Grant
- 2020 **Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa**
Research Grant
- 2020 **Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (AHSS)**
Summer Research Grant, UVA
- 2020 **American Institute of Pakistani Studies (AIPS)**
Travel Grant
- 2019 **Peter Murphy Scholarship**
Getaway to Write
- 2018 **American Council Award**
Eurasian Regional Language Program
- 2015-2017 **Fulbright**
Masters, University of Virginia

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2022 **University of Virginia** | Logic of the Birds
- 2021 **University of Virginia** | Gratitude to God Lecture Series
- 2021 Tareekh-i Adab-i Urdu Journal | Editor
- 2019 **Colgate University** | Scriptural Reasoning
- 2019 **University of Virginia** | Scriptural Reasoning
- 2018 **Fulbright** | Reviewer for Masters and Ph.D. in the United States
- 2016 Fulbright | Fulbright Central Virginia Chapter
- 2014 **Lahore University of Management Sciences** | The Triumphal Word:

- LUMS Literary Celebrations
- 2014 **Lahore University of Management Sciences** | Scriptural Reasoning
- 2014 Lahore University of Management Sciences |
- 2014 **Bahauddin Zakariya University** | Three-Day Lecture Series on Islamic History
- 2013 **Lahore University of Management Sciences** | All Pakistan Aspiring Writers Convention (APAWC)
- 2013 **Lahore University of Management Sciences** | ‘A Withered Spring’

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Fulbright Association

American Academy of Religion

Association for the Middle East and Africa

Tarikh-i Adab-i Urdu