Manuela Ceballos

Department of Religious Studies

504 McClung Tower   
University of Tennessee   
Knoxville, TN 37996   
Tel: 865-974-2466 [mceball1@utk.edu](mailto:mceball1@utk.edu)

**EDUCATION**

PhD, 2016, Religion, Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

Dissertation title: *Violence and Communal Boundaries in the Western Mediterranean*

Advisor: Vincent Cornell

MA, 2006, French, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

BA, 2005, French (Honors) and Comparative Literature, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

August 2016­– Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Knoxville, TN

2014, 2015 Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Knoxville, TN

2010 Adjunct Professor, Department of Religious Studies and Philosophy, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

2010 Instructor, Department of Middle East and South Asian Studies, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Peer Reviewed Articles**

“Sufi fighters as Sufi lovers: Militant piety in Muḥammad ibn Yaggabsh al-Tāzī’s *Book of Jihād,*” *Journal of Religion and Violence,* Edited by Margo Kitts and Michael Jerryson, Academic Publishing, 2014, pp 333–351.

“Theology from the Margins: Sīdī Riḍwān al-Januwī and His Community of Outsiders,” *Medieval Encounters (Special Edition: Dialogue and Disputation in the Medieval Mediterranean),* Edited by Brian Catlos and Alex Novikoff, Brill, (forthcoming).

“Life and death by the book: reading Marguerite Porete’s *Le Mirouer des Simples Âmes*,” *English Language Notes (Special Issue: Mysticisms),* Edited by Nan Goodman, Duke University Press, Winter 2018 (accepted, under revision).

**Encyclopedia Entries**

“Moors.” *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World, 2nd Edition*. Edited by Richard Martin, Macmillan Reference USA, 2016.

“Refugees.” *Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam and Women*, Edited by Natana DeLong-Bas. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

**Submitted**

“Questions of Taste: Critical Pedagogy and Islamic Studies,” in *Teaching Islam in the age of ISIS.* Edited by Courtney Dorroll (under review with Indiana University Press)

**In languages other than English**

**Peer Reviewed**

“Palabras caninas,” literary translation of “Les mots canins” by Abdelfattah Kilito, with short introduction, (forthcoming in *Estudios de Asia y África*).

“Economías de la convivencia: musulmanes, cristianos, judíos y el fantasma de la España medieval” *Revista Vida y Pensamiento,* Edited by Jonathan Pimentel Chacón, Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana, Editorial Sebila, 2015, pp 113–142.

**Other**

Portrait of Benaissa Bouhmala (translated by Benaïssa and Zakariae Bouhmala), in *Ṭā’ir al-Fīnīq: manāra istikshāfiyya ḥawla tajriba Benaïssa Bouhmala al-naqdiyya (The Phoenix: Beacons of light on the literary criticism of Benaïssa Bouhmala)* ed. ʿAbd-al-Razzāq Haydrānī(Rabat: Dar al Amane, 2017).

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

2017–2018 Short-Term Fellowship, Newberry Library (forthcoming, Spring 2018)

2013 Hispanic Theological Initiative Consortium/Luce Dissertation Fellowship, Princeton Theological Seminary

2012 American Association of University Women (AAUW) American Dissertation Fellowship

2012 Mellon Graduate Teaching Fellowship at Spelman College (declined for AAUW), Emory University

2006–2011 Arts and Sciences Fellowship, Laney Graduate School, Emory University

2008 Graduate School Competitive Research Funding, Laney Graduate School Emory University

2007 Department of Religion Competitive Research Funding, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University,

2006 Bryn Mawr College Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Bryn Mawr College

2006 Institute d’Études Françaises d’Avignon Competitive Funding, Bryn Mawr College

2005 Richmond Lattimore Prize for Poetic Translation, Bryn Mawr College

**INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS**

**Papers presented**

2015 “Speaking to, for, and about Others: Sufism and the Politics of Representation in Early Modern Morocco,” Political Theologies of Medieval and Early Modern Islam Conference, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA, October 30–31

2015 “Espejo y metáfora: hacia una lectura comparada de San Juan de la Cruz e Ibn ‘Arabi,” Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi Society (MIAS) Latina, V Symposium, University of Murcia, Spain, May 15–17

2014 “A Home Elsewhere: Imagining Egypt in a Sixteenth-Century Moroccan Hagiography,” Al-Andalus in Alexandria Conference, University of Alexandria, Alexandria, Egypt, December 14–17, 2014

2012 “Rethinking Violence and *Convivencia,*”Spring History Colloquium, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, May 4, 2012

**CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION**

**Papers presented**

2017 “Words that Burn: Text and Performance in Marguerite Porete’s *Le Mirouer des Simples Âmes,*” Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, University of the South, Sewanee, TN, March 10–11

2016 “Juan Goytisolo’s Hermeneutics of Longing: Reading the Lost Pages of John of the Cross' Corpus,” ACLA Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA, March 17–21

2015 “*Convivencia*, *mestizaje*, and the ‘melting pot:’ on nostalgia for al-Andalus and multicultural imaginaries,” LASA Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 27–30

2014 “Power and vulnerability in the biography of a sixteenth-century Moroccan saint,” Power Relations and Religious Communities in the Western Mediterranean Conference, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, May 2

2014 “The trouble with origins: Christians, Jews, and converts in the hagiography of a sixteenth-century Moroccan saint,” AHA Annual Meeting, Washington DC, January 2–5

2013 “Sufi fighters as Sufi lovers: Militant piety in Muhammad ibn Yaggabsh al-Tazi’s *Book of Jihad,*” AAR Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 23–26

2013 “Marginal theology or theology from the margins? Converts, Jews, Christians, and

refugees in the biography of a sixteenth-century Muslim saint” for Workshop I of

“Being Muslim: How Local Islam Overturns Narratives of Exceptionalism,”

Vanderbilt University Department of Religious Studies, Nashville, September 26–29

2013 “Reshaping desire: boundary-crossing and boundary-making in Teresa de Jesús’ *The Book of Her Life,*” ACLA Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada, April 4–7

2011 “Rethinking the narrative of *convivencia*” SERMEISS (Southeast Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Seminar), Valle Crucis, NC, October 7–9

**Panels Organized and/or Chaired**

2017 “Mystical Demarcations,” (Panel Organizer), Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, University of the South, Sewanee, TN, March 10–11

“Early Islam,” (Chair), Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, University of the South, Sewanee, TN, March 10–11

2016 “Legal Challenges to Post-Gender Inequities in the Middle East and North Africa,” (Chair), Law and Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, June 2–5

**University of Tennessee Research Lectures**

2017 “Theorizing Boundaries: Genealogies of *Convivencia*,” Middle East Studies Research Group, Humanities Center, University of Tennessee, March 7

2016 “Reconstructing the Legacy of the Saints,” Manuscript Cultures Research Seminar, Humanities Center, University of Tennessee, November 16

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**University of Tennessee-Knoxville**

Independent study (master’s level): Sufi Literature

Introduction to the Study of Islam

Method and Theory in Religious Studies

Islam in the Modern World

Introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Classical Islam

Seminar in Western Religions: Sufism in the Western Mediterranean

Literatures of Islam

**Emory University**

Summer 2009 Graduate Teaching Associate, “Introduction to Islam,” (Instructor of record: Richard Martin), Department of Religion

Spring 2008 Graduate Teaching Assistant, “Beyond Borders: Imagining the Middle East and South Asia,” (Instructor of record: Vincent Cornell), Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies

Fall 2007 Graduate Teaching Assistant, “The Qur’an,” (Instructor of record: Devin Stewart), Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies

**Bryn Mawr College**

2005–2006 Graduate Teaching Assistant, “Intermediate French,” Department of French

**RESEARCH GROUPS AND SEMINARS**

2016–2017 University of Tennessee Manuscript Cultures Research Seminar

2015– University of Tennessee Middle East Studies Research Group

**STUDY ABROAD AND LANGUAGE TRAINING**

2017 Arabic Codicology Course, sponsored by Complutense University of Madrid, San Lorenzo del Escorial, Spain

2008–2009 Qalam wa Lawh Arabic School, Rabat, Morocco

Intensive Modern Standard Arabic training at an advanced level.

2007, 2008 Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco

Intensive summer coursework in Arabic language and literature.

2005 Institut d’Études Françaises d’Avignon, Avignon, France

Graduate coursework in French literature.

2004 American Programs Abroad, Paris, France

French literature (license and maîtrise coursework at Paris X Nanterre.)

2003 Institut d’Études Françaises d’Avignon, Avignon, France French Studies

**LINGUISTIC COMPETENCY**

Spanish (Native); English and French (Fluent); Modern Standard Arabic (ACTFL- Superior Level), Moroccan dialect (Superior Level), some Syrian dialect

**INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE (DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE LEVEL)**

2016–2017 Representative for Interdisciplinary Collaborations/Programs, Search Committee for Arabic Assistant Professor in Arabic, Department of Modern Foreign Languages

Steering Committee, Tennessee Initiative for Middle East Studies (TIMES)

Advisor

Advisory Committee, Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Fulbright Interviewing Committee

Curriculum Committee, Department of Religious Studies

Siddiqi Lecture Organizing Committee, Department of Religious Studies

Faculty Advisor, Religious Studies Association

Schools Outreach Project, Department of Religious Studies

College Diversity Representative for the Department of Religious Studies

Teaching Evaluation Committee for Drew Paul, Modern Foreign Languages (Spring Semester)

Ad Hoc Committee, Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (Revising Latin/Arabic instruction)

Fall 2015 Advisory Board, Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Steering Committee, Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (temporary replacement for Gregor Kalas)

Steering Committee, Tennessee Initiative for Middle East Studies (TIMES)

Fulbright Interviewing Committee

Curriculum Committee, Department of Religious Studies

Siddiqi Lecture Organizing Committee, Department of Religious Studies

Co-advisor, Religious Studies Association

Library Representative for the Department of Religious Studies

2014–2015 Advisory Board, Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Steering Committee, Tennessee Initiative for Middle East Studies (TIMES)

Curriculum Committee, Department of Religious Studies

Siddiqi Lecture Organizing Committee, Department of Religious Studies

Co-advisor, Religious Studies Association

**EXTRACURRICULAR INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE (UNIVERSITY LEVEL)**

2014–2017 Faculty Advisor, Muslim Student Association

**DOCTORAL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION**

2017– PhD Committee for Nuray Karaman, Sociology, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

2016– PhD Committee for Tamara Centis, Modern Foreign Languages, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Evaluating Committee for the Doctoral Dissertation of Luis Fernando Bustamante Zapata, EAFIT University, Medellín, Colombia (defended on March 13, 2017).

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

Journal submission reviewed for *Open Theology,* De Gruyter, Warsaw, Poland.

Journal submission reviewed for *Journal of Religion and Violence,* Academic Publishing, Chandler, AZ.

Colloquium Advisory Committee, Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, The University of the South, Sewanee, TN.

**OUTREACH**

2016–2017 “Introduction to Islam,” First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, TN, January 27

2015–2016 Lecture on “People of the Book: Muslims, Jews, and Christians in Morocco,” Haslam Scholars Global Awareness Series, Knoxville, TN, September 21

Volunteer Translation Services, University of Tennessee Immigration Clinic

2014–2015 Q&A Session on Islam for Knox County’s 6th District Democrats, Karns Branch Public Library, Karns, TN, November 25

Volunteer Translation Services, University of Tennessee Immigration Clinic

**OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2011–2012 ESL Instructor for Refugees, Catholic Charities, Albuquerque Office.

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Academy of Religion

Middle East Studies Association

American Comparative Literature Association

Latin American Studies Association

Mediterranean Seminar

Spain/North Africa Project

**References available upon request.**