

KRISTIN M. PETERSON

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ACADEMIC POSITION

Boston College, Department of Communication — Assistant Professor, August 2018-present

EDUCATION

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO — Doctor of Philosophy, Media Studies, May 2018
Graduate certificate in Women & Gender Studies
Dissertation: "Voiceless Icons No More: The Self-Representations of Muslim American Lives in Digital Media"
Advisor: Nabil Echchaibi

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO — Master of Arts, Religious Studies, August 2013
Thesis: "Post a Comment Below: Aesthetics and Authenticity in the YouTube Hijabi Community"
Advisor: Deborah Whitehead

Dominican University, River Forest, IL — Bachelor of Arts, Journalism and Photography, May 2007
Summa Cum Laude

BOOK

Unruly Souls: The Digital Activism of Muslim and Christian Feminists. Rutgers University Press, July 2022.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Smarties, you know what's up!' Curating a Community and Cultivating Pleasure as a Social Justice Influencer," *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* (forthcoming)

"Bland Christianity: The Secular Marketing Strategies of Urban Church Plants," *Journal of Media and Religion* 21, no. 3 (July 2022).

"The Bad Things are Just Too Close Right Now': Podcasts Cultivate Spaces to Sit with the Messiness of Grief," *Mortality* (February 2022).

"Aesthetic Styles and the Occupation of Space in the 'Places You'll Pray' Photo Series," *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture* 10, no. 1 (August 2021).

"Cultivating Empathy and Resonance for Muslim Lives through Affective Images of the Chapel Hill Victims." *Communication, Culture and Critique* 13, no. 4 (December 2020).

"Hybrid Styles, Interstitial Spaces, and the Digital Advocacy of the Salafi Feminist," *Critical Studies in Media Communication* 37, no. 3 (July 2020).

"The Unruly, Loud and Intersectional Muslim Woman: Interrupting the Aesthetics Styles of Islamic Fashion Images on Instagram," *International Journal of Communication* 14 (February 2020).

"Pushing Boundaries and Blurring Categories in Digital Media and Religion Research," *Sociology Compass*. Invited submission. (January 2020).

"Cultural Expressions and Criticisms in the Mipsterz Fashion Video." *Recherches Sociologiques et Anthropologiques* 49, no. 1 (2018).

"Beyond Fashion Tips and Hijab Tutorials: The Aesthetic Style of Islamic Lifestyle Videos." *Film Criticism* 40, no. 2 (June 2016).

"Performing Piety and Perfection: The Affective Labor of Hijabi Fashion Videos." *Cyber Orient* 10, no. 1 (2016).

EDITED JOURNAL ISSUE

Co-editor with Heidi A. Campbell, "Introduction Essay: Special issue of RMDC on Public Scholarship, Media and Religion," *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture*, 9, no. 2 (2020)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDITED VOLUMES

"Selling to 'Smarties': The Marketing Strategies of a Social Justice Influencer," *Selling the Sacred: Religion and Marketing from Crossfit to QAnon*, edited by Mara Einstein and Sarah McFarland Taylor, forthcoming.

"Queer Muslim Identity in the Third Space of Tumblr," *The Third Spaces of Digital Religion*, edited by Nabil Echchaibi and Stewart M. Hoover, 2023.

"Rectifying Gender Violence within Religious Communities through Hashtag Activism." In *Gender Violence, Social Media, and Online Environments: When the Virtual Becomes Real*, edited by Lisa M. Cuklanz, 2023.

"MuslimGirlWoke: A Muslim Lifestyle Website Challenges Intersectional Oppression." In *Cyber Muslims: Mapping Islamic Digital Media in the Internet Age*, edited by Robert Rozehnal. Bloomsbury, 2022.

"More than a Mask, Burkini and Tights: Fighting Misrepresentations through Ms. Marvel's Costume." In *Ms. Marvel's America: No Normal*, edited by Jessica Baldanzi and Hussein Rashid. University Press of Mississippi, 2020.

Co-authored with Nabil Echchaibi, "Mipsterz: Hip, American, and Muslim." In *Religion and Pop Culture in America*, 3rd Edition, edited by Jeffrey Mahan & Bruce Forbes. University of California Press, 2017.

"Islamic Fashion Images on Instagram and The Visuality of Muslim Women." In *Race and Gender in Electronic Media: Content, Context, Culture*, edited by Rebecca Ann Lind. Routledge, 2017.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Panel participant, "New Books in Digital Religion Studies and Asking the Hard Questions," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 18, 2023)

"Manifesting Success and Claiming Spiritual Authority on Social Media," International Society for Media, Religion and Culture Conference, Ruhr University, Germany (August 2-5, 2023).

"Podcasts Creating Space for Spiritual Seekers and Religious Misfits," 20 Years of Podcasting, ICA Pre-conference, Toronto Metropolitan University (May 24-25, 2023)

Roundtable discussion participant, "Intellectual Property, Branding, and Religion," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 2022)

"MuslimGirlWoke: A Muslim Lifestyle Website Challenges Intersectional Oppression," Cyber Muslims: Mapping Islamic Networks in the Digital Age Conference, Lehigh University, invited presenter (April 14-15, 2022).

Co-presenter with Sana Patel, "From Imams to Influencers: Claiming Religious Authority on the Internet," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 2021).

"Love. Jesus. Simple. The Secular Marketing Strategies of Emerging Urban Churches," International Society for Media, Religion and Culture Conference, invited presenter for a one-day online conference (August 2021).

"#KissShameBye: Textual Critiques of Evangelical Purity Culture," International Communication Association Annual Conference, virtual meeting (May 27-31, 2021).

"Hybrid Styles, Flexible Spaces and Unruly Bodies: The Intersectional Feminist Activism of Muslim American Women Online," Imagined Borders, Epistemic Freedoms Conference of the Center for Media, Religion and Culture, University of Colorado Boulder (January 7-11, 2020).

"Aesthetics Styles and the Occupation of Space in the Places You'll Pray Photo Series," National Communication Association (November 14-17, 2019).

"Moving Beyond Shame and Celebrating Sexuality: The Digital Activism Against Purity Culture," National Communication Association (November 14-17, 2019).

- “Hybrid Styles, Interstitial Spaces, and Digital Advocacy of The Salafi Feminist,” International Communication Association Annual Conference (May 24-28, 2019).
- “Creating Feelings of Resonance for #OurThreeWinners: The Circulation of Affects in the Creative Projects to Honor the Legacy of the Chapel Hill Victims,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 17-20, 2018).
- “#MuslimLivesMatter: Using Hyper-Mediation to Honor the Lives of Young Muslim Americans,” International Society for Media, Religion and Culture Conference in Seoul (August 1-4, 2016).
- “Feminist Theory and Criticism in the Digital Advocacy Work of the Salafi Feminist,” Console-ing Passions Conference at University of Notre Dame, IN (June 16-18, 2016).
- “More than a Mask, Burkini and Tights: Fighting Misrepresentations through Ms. Marvel’s Costume,” Media, Gender and Religion Conference at University of Colorado Boulder (January 7-10, 2016).
- “The Affective Labor and Aesthetic Style of Islamic Fashion Videos on YouTube,” Console-ing Passions Conference in Dublin (June 18-20, 2015).
- “Cultural Expression and Criticism in the Mipsterz Fashion Video,” Islamic Studies Graduate Student Conference at the University of California, Santa Barbara (May 8-10, 2015).
- “Islamic Fashion Images on Instagram and The Visuality of Muslim Women,” Broadcast Education Association Research Symposium (April 12, 2015).
- “The Affective Labor and Hybrid Style of Islamic Lifestyle Videos on YouTube,” International Society for Media, Religion and Culture Conference in Canterbury, UK (August 4, 2014).
- “Fashion Tips from the Hijabi: The Hybrid Styles of Islamic Lifestyle Videos,” Media and Religion: The Global View Conference at University of Colorado Boulder (January 10, 2014).
- “Women Choosing Islam: The Aesthetic Formation of YouTube Conversion Videos,” University of Toronto’s Graduate Symposium (April 12, 2013).
- “Crossing and Dwelling: The Leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed,” Claremont Lincoln University National Student Conference (April 19-21, 2012).

GUEST LECTURES

- “Breaking the Good Muslim/Bad Muslim Binary: The Intersectional Feminist Activism of Muslims in North America,” invited online lecture, Center for Islamic Studies, University of Frankfurt, Germany (October 26, 2023).
- “Misfit Muslims: Creatively Rearticulating Muslim Identity through Digital Spaces,” invited lecture, Cultural Deferences: A Mipsterz x MIT Event, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (*postponed to 2024*).
- “Islam, Media & Popular Culture,” guest lecture for Enduring Questions course taught by Natana DeLong-Bas and Elizabeth Shlala, Boston College (November 2021, 2022 & 2023).
- “Unruly Souls: The Digital Activism of Muslim and Christian Feminists,” The Boisi Center, Boston College (October 3, 2022).
- “Engaging *The Social Dilemma*: Social Media and the Polarization of Politics and the Pews,” participant in panel discussion, Boisi Center, Boston College (April 21, 2021).
- “Islamic Fashion and the Visual Representation of Muslim Women,” Islamic studies course, Eastern Washington University (May 14, 2018).
- “Shifting Images: Creative Projects of Muslim American Youth,” First Congregational Church, Boulder, CO (January 27, 2018).
- “Islamic Fashion and the Visual Representation of Muslim Women,” Islamic studies course, Northern Arizona University (March 7, 2017).
- “Visual Portrayal of Muslim Women in Western Contexts,” Islamic studies course, University of Wyoming (October 21, 2016).

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of *The Women's Mosque of America: Authority and Community in US Islam*, by Tazeen M. Ali. *Nova Religio* (August 2023).
- Review of *Redeem All: How Digital Life is Changing Evangelical Culture*, by Corrina Laughlin. *New Media & Society* (January 2023).
- Reviews of *Believing in South Central: Everyday Islam in the City of Angels*, by Pamela Prickett and *Wearing the Niqab: Muslim Women in the UK and the US* by Anna Piela. *Nova Religio* (May 2022).
- Review of *Muslim American City: Gender and Religion in Metro Detroit*, by Alisa Perkins. *Nova Religio* (February 2022).
- Review of *Veiled Superheroes: Islam, Feminism, and Popular Culture* by Sophia Rose Arjana. *Journal of Media, Religion and Digital Culture* 8, no. 3 (December 2019).
- Review of *The Politics of The Headscarf in the United States* by Bozema C. Welborne, et al. *Nova Religio* 23, no. 2 (November 2019).
- Review of *Spiritual news: Reporting religion around the world* by Yoel Cohen. *Electronic News* 13, no. 2 (June 2019).
- Review of *Religion in Science Fiction: The Evolution of an Idea and the Extinction of a Genre* by Steven Hrotic. *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture* 5, no. 1 (2016).
- Review of *Art, Religion, Amnesia: The Enchantments of Credulity* by Donald Preziosi. *Visual Studies* 31, no. 3 (July 2016).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

BOSTON COLLEGE — 2018-PRESENT

- COMM 3335: Honors Communication Methods
- COMM 4475: Introduction to Honors
- COMM 2250: Media Ethics in the Digital Age
- COMM 2278: Social Media
- COMM 4431: Religious Expression in the Digital Age
- COMM 4443: Seeing God, Hearing Ghosts: Media & Religion in American Life
- COMM 4468: Islam, Media & Popular Culture
- COMM 2225: Introduction to Feminisms
- COMM 1062: Spiritual, but not Religious, Meaning Making in Media and Culture

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER — 2011-2018

- Instructor for library information literacy seminars (Fall 2016- Spring 2018)
- Communication 1600: Group Interaction, teaching assistant (Spring 2016)
- Journalism 1001: Contemporary Media Analysis, graduate part-time instructor (Spring 2015)
- Journalism 2601: Principles of Journalism, teaching assistant (Spring 2014)
- Religious Studies 2500: Religions in the U.S., teaching assistant (Spring 2013 & Fall 2011)
- Religious Studies 3000: Christian Traditions, teaching assistant (Fall 2012)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Board Member for the International Society for Media, Religion, and Culture (2022-present)
- Member of Board of Representatives for the Boston Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women & Sexuality (2022-present)
- Associate Editor, *Signs: Journal of Women in Society & Culture* (2022-present)
- Committee Member, Religion and Media Interest Group, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (2022-present)
- Member of planning committee to organize pre-conferences and to establish a media and religion interest group at the International Communication Association (2019-present)
- Reviewer for grant proposals, National Endowment for the Humanities, *Dangers and Opportunities of Technology: Perspectives from the Humanities (DOT) Program*
- Member of the Church in the 21st Century Center Advisory Committee at Boston College (2019-present).

- Member of Board of Directors for Religion and Public Life minor at Boston College (2018-present).
- Mentor, McNair Exploratory Program, Boston College (2022-present)
- Mentor for Doctoral Student Pre-Conference, International Society for Media, Religion, and Culture Conference, Ruhr University, Germany (August 1, 2023)
- Panelist for Center for Teaching Excellence: Graduate Student Teaching Conference on “Supporting and Engaging BC Students” (August 20, 2021)
- Participated as a faculty support person for the Half-Time student retreat at Boston College (August 21-23, 2019).
- Student coordinator of the August 2018 conference of the International Society for Media, Religion and Culture in Boulder, CO.

PEER REVIEW SERVICE

- *New Media and Society*
- *International Journal of Communication*
- *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture*
- *Religion & Gender*
- *Social and Cultural Geography*
- *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture*
- *Cyber Orient*
- *Asian Journal of Communication*
- *Contemporary Arab Affairs*
- *International Journal of Fashion Studies*
- *Journal of Nonprofit & Public Sector Marketing*
- International Society for Media, Religion, and Culture Conference
- ICA conferences: Feminist Scholarship Division, Popular Communication Division
- NCA conferences: Critical & Cultural Studies Division; Feminist & Gender Studies Division
- Book proposal for Oxford University Press

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

- National Communication Association (2019-present)
- International Communication Association (2016-present)
- American Academy of Religion (2017-present)
- International Society for Media, Religion and Culture (2014-present)

GRANTS & AWARDS

- Beverly Sears Research Grant, CU-Boulder Graduate School (2017)
- Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, studied Arabic at the Arabic Language Institute in Fez, Morocco (Summer 2014)
- Undergraduate Fellow, Fund for Theological Education (2005)

RESEARCH FELLOW, CENTER FOR MEDIA, RELIGION AND CULTURE — 2013-2018

- Participated in weekly research seminar with students, faculty members and visiting scholars
- Contributed entries to the research center’s blog on the Third Spaces of digital religion
- Interviewed families about media use for a research project on media ambivalence (2014-15)
- Assisted with the production of the center’s radio program on KGNU (2013-14)

MEDIA RELATIONS & BLOG ARTICLES

- Participant on the *McMullen Museum of Art Podcast*, “Landscape of Memory” (October 2023)
- Interviewed on *The Religion and American Life Podcast*, “The Protests in Iran” (December 20, 2022)
- Interviewed on *Exvangelical Podcast*, “Kristin Peterson, *Unruly Souls*” (October 6, 2022)
- Interviewed on *Pray for Micah Podcast*, “The Unruly Souls of Spiritual Outcasts” (September 19, 2022)
- Interviewed on *The Media & Religion Podcast*, “Examining the Muslim Ban” (March 23, 2018)

- Interviewed on *(W)holy Media* podcast, “Amplifying the Voices of Muslim Media Activists” (June 14, 2017)
- “The Potential and Limitations of Political Icons.” *Third Spaces Blog* (April 10, 2017).
- “Stereotypes, Sidekicks and Superficial Characters: Can Muslim Americans Break into ‘Diverse TV?’” *Third Spaces Blog* (February 24, 2016).
- “Going Beyond the Veil: Niqabi Women use Digital Spaces to Reclaim their Voices and Stories,” *Third Spaces Blog* (July 23, 2015).
- “Honoring the Legacy of Chapel Hill Victims through Social Media,” *Third Spaces Blog* (February 17, 2015).
- Interviewed on the CU News Team TV program about the online recruitment of Western women to join the Islamic State (October 23, 2014)
- “Muslimah Lifestyle Videos Offer More than Just Tutorials and Fashion Tips,” *Muslimah Media Watch* (April 7, 2014).

MEDIA & COMMUNICATION WORK EXPERIENCE

- Communications assistant, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder (2012-2013)
- Public relations coordinator, Dominican University, River Forest, IL (2008-2011)
- Staff writer/editorial assistant, Catholic New World, Chicago, IL (2005-2007)

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY WORK

- Facilitate Protecting God’s Children, Virtus Training, Sacred Heart Parish, Roslindale (2023-present)
- Coordinate parish hospitality, Sacred Heart Parish, Roslindale (2021-present)
- Steering Committee member, West Rox Bikes (2023-present)
- Volunteered for the Roslindale Community Fridge (2020-2022)
- Served on a cultural mentorship team to assist a refugee family in Denver through Lutheran Family Services (2016-2017).
- Volunteered as an English tutor for a staff member at the University of Colorado through the Student Worker Alliance Program (2013-2017)
- Participated in a service year with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps NW in Bethel, Alaska (2007-2008)

LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE

- Intermediate proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic
- Proficient reading knowledge of Spanish, intermediate knowledge of spoken Spanish
- Basic reading knowledge of German