

**SeyedAmirHossein Asghari**  
**Curriculum Vitae**  
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## CURRENT POSITION

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2022 – Present  
Baylor University, Waco, TX, USA  
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Religion  
Affiliated Global Ethics Research Group, Baylor University

2023 –Present  
Indiana University Bloomington  
**Senior Fellow- Center for the Study of the Middle East (CSME)**

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. 2022  
Indiana University (Bloomington, Indiana, USA)  
Dissertation Title: “Philosophy and Şūfism in The Contemporary Shīʿī Seminary and Their Opponents”  
M.A. 2013  
Middlesex University, United Kingdom, 2013. Comparative Philosophy (Islam and the West)  
BA 2000  
Azad University (Tehran-Iran), Department of Islamic Law.2000  
Traditional education, Theoretical Sufism, Philosophy, Arabic Language, Islamic Jurisprudence. 2000 – 2007

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## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer Review Journal Articles

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#### 2023

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein. 2023. "Sufism in the Contemporary Shii Seminary?" Religions 14, no. 10: 1248. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel14101248>

Asghari, Seyed Amir Hossein. (2023). "Understanding Human Dignity in Shi'i Islam: Debates, Challenges, and Solutions for Contemporary Issues." Journal of Religions, 14(4), 505. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel14040505>

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein. (2023) Baba Rexheb and Bektashism, Notes of Bektashi-Shii Convergence”, Conference Proceedings of International Bektashism Symposium in the Balkans as Turkish-Islamic 26-27 April 2023, Turkiyye, Ankara, ISBN 978-625-99787-0-3  
**2021**

Asghari, Seyed Amir Hossein. (2021) " Replacing Sharī‘a, Ṭarīqa and Ḥaqīqa with Fiqh, Akhlāq and Tawḥīd", Journal of Sufi Studies 9, 2: 202-214, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1163/22105956-bja10010>

Seyed Amir Hossein Asghari (2021) “Presence, Manifestation, and Visitation in Abrahamic Religions: The Notion of “Presence” in Shi‘ism,” Journal of Religious & Theological Information, doi: <https://10.1080/10477845.2021.1926629>

Asghari, Seyedamirhossein. (2021) "The Bektashi Order, Sufism, and Shi‘ism in the Work of Baba Rexheb, a Bektashi Sufi of the 20th Century". Turkish Journal of Shiite Studies 1-24. <https://doi.org/10.48203/siader.799560>

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein, (2021) Sufism and philosophy of Modern Science; Notes on Nasr’s Philosophy, Journal of Turkish Culture and Haci Bektash Veli Research Quarterly (Türk Kültürü ve Hacı Bektaş Velî Araştırma Dergisi) (98) <https://doi:10.34189/hbv.98.011>  
**2020**

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein. (2020) "Shi‘a Mystical Theology: Notes on Sayyid Ḥaydar Āmulī’s *Jāmi‘ al-Asrār wa Manba‘ al-Anwār*." Kom Casopis Za Religijske Nauke 9(3): 65-80. doi:10.5937/kom2003065A

**2017**

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein, (2017). “Ontology and Cosmology of ‘*Aql* (Intellect) in Ṣadrā’s Commentary on *Uṣūl al-Kāfi‘*”, Journal of Shi‘a Islamic Studies. 10 (2): 157-182 (July 2017) doi: [10.1353/isl.2017.0011](https://doi.org/10.1353/isl.2017.0011)

**2016**

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein, “Mystical Interpretation of the Qur‘ān”, Burhan Journal of Quranic Studies, Vol 01, No.01.

Translated into Arabic: Ali al-Sa`īdī: "طواسين للتصوف والاسلاميات". التفسير الصوفي للقرآن. July 13, 2019. <http://tawaseen.com/?p=3910>.

**2012**

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein, Shkenca e Teknologjia Moderne në Këndvështrimin e Shkollës Filozofike Tradicionaliste të S. H. Nasr [Modern and Traditional Science and Technology in the philosophy of S. H. Nasr], in Metafizika dhe Morali, Vol 01, No. 01, (Summer 2011), pp. 83-96.

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### Books

*The First Persian-Albanian-English Standard Dictionary (Fjalor Persisht-Shqipe)*, Toena Publication, Albania, 2010.

- Writing a proposal, gathering team members, specifying duties, and supervising the progress.

### Forthcoming Book:

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein, *Philosophy and Sūfism in The Contemporary Shī‘ī Seminary and Their Opponents*.

### **Current Book Project:**

Asghari, SeyedAmirHossein; Martens, Paul. 2025, *Natural Law: Islamic and Christian Approaches: A Topographic Orientation of how Natural Law Continues to Function in Christianity and Islam*

### **Interviews**

Natural Law and Interreligious Dialogue: A Conversation with Seyed Amir Hossein Asghari" in Currents in Religion, Mar 10, 2023

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCES**

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2022-2023

**Guest Lecturer**, Baylor University, Department of Religion

- Developed and delivered a comprehensive lecture titled "Jesus in the Quran" as World religions seminar.
- Date of presentation: March 02, 2023.

**Guest Lecturer**, Baylor University, Department of Religion

- Crafted and presented an engaging lecture titled "Islam's Interrelations with Christianity and Judaism" in World Religion seminar.
- Date of delivery: October 10, 2022.

2021-2022

**Adjunct Faculty, Butler University, Indianapolis, USA (Fall 2021) - Future Faculty Teaching Fellow**

- Instructed diverse courses, including "First-Year Seminar: Faith, Doubt, and Reason" and "Modern Middle East and North Africa," fostering critical thinking and interdisciplinary learning among undergraduate students.
- Guided and mentored students throughout the term paper process, evaluating paper proposals, imparting knowledge about primary and secondary sources, and facilitating their grasp of academic research methodologies.

Fall 2020

**Associate Instructor, Indiana University-Bloomington**

**Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, Fall 2020**

- Facilitated "Quranic Studies" (3 Credit) undergraduate seminar, combining synchronous and asynchronous online teaching methodologies, engaging 25 students in a comprehensive exploration of the subject.
- Conducted dynamic lectures and led two weekly sections of Arabic and English discussions, fostering interactive learning and cross-cultural understanding.
- Assessed assignments, and term papers, contributing to students' language proficiency and critical thinking skills.
- Maintained regular online office hours, providing academic support and guidance to students.
- Nurtured students' scholarly growth by mentoring them through developing term papers, evaluating paper proposals, introducing effective research strategies, and guiding them in utilizing primary and secondary sources.

**Guest Lecturer, Indiana University-Bloomington**

- Conceptualized and delivered a captivating lecture titled "Shia-Sunni Division: Theological Roots" for the Safavid and Ottoman Relations Seminar at the undergraduate level.
- Presentation date: February 13, 2020.
- Received accolades through highly favorable Student Evaluations.

**Fall 2019**

**Associate Instructor, Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, Indiana University**

- Developed the curriculum and conducted in-person instruction for the course "Visions of Islam (Islam and the West)," a three-credit offering.
- Created a comprehensive syllabus that addressed the intricate relationship between Islam and the Western world, fostering a nuanced understanding among students.

**Fall 2014**

**Teaching Assistant, Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, Indiana University**

Quranic Studies, Arabic Discussion Section

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### UNDERGRADUATE MENTORING

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Undergraduate Mentoring

- Mentored Indiana University undergraduates participating as delegates in the Model Arab League held at Ohio University in Portsmouth for consecutive years, spanning 2018, 2019, and 2020.
- Provided guidance and support to the students as they prepared for and participated in workshops, enhancing their understanding of Arab regional politics and diplomacy.

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### OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCES

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**Lecturer**

Center for the Study of Contemporary Islam, Tehran, 2013

**Lecturer**

Rumi Research Foundation (Albania), 2010-2012

Delivered lectures covering diverse topics such as philosophy, Sufism, and Islamic Studies, enriching the academic curriculum of the Rumi Research Foundation.

**Teacher, Headmaster**

**Saadi High School, 2004-2008**

Employed the Socratic Method in teaching, with a focus on cultivating argumentation skills, critical thinking, and the art of questioning.

Assumed the role of headmaster, which involved overseeing administrative operations and actively contributing to the overall enhancement of the school's academic milieu.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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### 2023

1. Forthcoming: “Post Sadra Dhahabīyya Ṣūfī Order and Shī‘ī-Ṣūfī Convergence”, Middle Eastern Studies Association, November 2, 2023, Montreal, Canada.
2. Natural law in Shia Islam, Presented in “Shia-Jewish Legal Reasoning Dialogue”, Indiana University, June 27-29, 2023. Bloomington, Indiana, USA.
3. “Notes on Spiritual convergence between Shi‘i and Bektashi Traditions”, International Symposium on Bektashi in the Balkans as a Turkish Islamic Heritage, April 26-27, 2023. Ankara, Turkey.
4. Question of Natural law in the Shia Islam, Center for the Study of the Middle East, Indiana University, January 4, 2023. Bloomington, Indiana.
5. Natural Law Understanding in Islamic Resources, *Interreligious Understanding and Natural Law: Toward Justice and Human Dignity*, Villanova University, February 28-29, 2023, Philadelphia, USA.

### 2022

1. “Presence and Sacred in Abrahamic Religions with a focus on Shia Islam”, Middle Eastern Studies Association, December 2022, Denver, USA.
2. Thoughts on Human Dignity in the Shia Islam, Human Dignity and Religious Traditions, November 5, 2022, Hindu University, Bali, Indonesia.
3. Islamic Studies in North America, Tehran University, Iran, March 15, 2022, Online
4. Opposition to Philosophy and Sufism in the Contemporary Shia Seminary, Shia Studies in the Twenty-First Century, Organized by Massey University (New Zealand) and Indiana University (USA), May 30, 2022, online.
5. Diversity and Unity in Transnational Shi‘a Islam, The Second International Symposium on Intra-Shi‘a Dialogue & Confessional Diversity within Shi‘ism at Harvard University. May 9-13, 2022.

### 2021

1. Transforming Sufism in the Modern Shi‘i Seminary and Vocabularies of Authority, STIFUNG FÜR ISLAMISCHE STUDIEN, Germany, November 28, 2021, online.
2. “Replacing Sharia, Ṭarīqah, and Ḥaqīqah with Fiqh, Akhlāq, and Tawḥīd: Notes on Shaykh Muḥammad Bahārī (d.1325/1908) and His Sufi Affiliation”, Midwest American Academy of Religion (AAR) annual meeting, April 23, 2021, online.
3. Sufism in the Shia Seminary, Annual Meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA), December 1, 2021, online.

### 2020

1. Panel Organizer/Presenter, P-5993: Discussions on the Interrelation Between Philosophy and Revelation in Islamic Scholarship”, Annual Meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA) October 10-13, 2020, online.
2. “Intellect in the Shi‘i philosophical Theology”, Center for the Study of the Middle East, September 29, 2020, Indiana University, Bloomington.

### 2019

1. “Qādī Tabātabā‘ī: An Esoteric Master in an Exoteric School”, Annual Meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA). November 14-17, 2019, New Orleans,

Louisiana. Also presented in the Center for the Study of the Middle East, Indiana University Bloomington, November 5, 2019. Bloomington.

2. “Governance and Philosophy, Shia Islam and Jewish Studies”, Seminar on Jewish and Shia Legal Reasoning in Dialogue at the Association for Jewish Studies (AJS). December 15-17, 2019, San Diego, California.

### **2018**

1. “A Millennium after al-Fārābī; Utopia Among Shia Philosophers,” the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA). November 15-18, 2018, San Antonio, Texas.

2. “Political Philosophy Among the Contemporary Shia Philosophers,” Pre-MESA panel in the Center for the Study of the Middle East, November 9, 2018, Indiana University, Bloomington.

3. “Shīʿa Salafis?!” Presented at the Iranian Studies Graduate Students Workshop and Islamic Studies Program, April 5, 2018, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

4. “Mīrzā Mahdī Isfihānī and his Anti-Philosophy School in Contemporary Iran,” Presented at the Midwest American Academy of Religion (AAR) annual meeting, March 2-3, 2018, Muncie, Indiana.

### **2017**

“Continuation of Islamic Philosophy and Sufism in Shīʿa Seminary: ‘The Self-Knowledge Order’ Since Its Beginning to the Date,” Presented in the Shiʿi Studies: The State-of-the-Art Conference, December 8-9, 2017, Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton, USA.

### **2016**

1. “Maktab-i Tafkīk (School of Distinction) and Its Opponents in the Contemporary Shīʿa Seminary in Iran, presented at the Annual Meeting of the Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA) conference, November 17-20, 2016. Boston, Massachusetts.

2. “Revelation and Philosophy: From Distinction to Equality,” the United Kingdom, Presented in the 2nd International Conference on Shīʿa Studies, Islamic College for Advanced Studies, May 7-8, 2016, London, UK.

3. “Mullā Sadrā and His Interpretation of `Aql (Intellect)”, Presented at the 23rd annual ACES Conference, Indiana University, March 2016. Bloomington, IN.

### **2014**

“Islamic E-Learning and Making a ‘Real’ Virtual Space,” presented at the First International Conference on Islamic E-Learning held by The Islamic College and Middlesex University, London, May 27, 2014.

### **2009**

“Methods and Experience of Practicing Philosophy with Students,” Presented at the poster session at the 14th Biennial International Council of Philosophical Inquiry with Children (ICPIC) conference. July 2-4, 2009. Università Degli Studi Di Padova, Padova Italy.

### **2008**

“Philosophizing in Classroom,” Presented at the International Conference on The Goal of Education According to Traditional and Modern Perspectives, May 31, 2008. Albania.

### **2003**

“Philosophy for Children and the Heritage of Muslim Philosophers,” Presented at the 11th Conference of the International Council for Philosophical Inquiry with Children: Children and Adults: A Philosophical Encounter,” June 26, 2003, Varna, Bulgaria

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### Public Talks

2023 Presentation: "Religion and Faith in the Modern Era", Saba Islamic Center, Religion and faith in the modern era, San Jose, California, Sep1-7, 2023  
2023 Talk: Imam and the Revival of Intellect”, Northwestern University Shia Muslim Association (SMA), July 2023  
2022 Presentations entitled: “Reason and Revelation”, Saba Islamic Center, San Jose, California, July 28- August 9, 2022

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### TRANSLATIONS

Chittick, William C., *In search of the lost heart: explorations in Islamic thought*. Albany, N.Y.: State University of New York Press, 2012. Translated by SeyedAmirHossein Asghari, Tehran, Intishārāt-i Falāt, 2017.

Chittick, William C. *Divine Love: Islamic Literature and the Path to God*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013. Translated by SeyedAmirHossein Asghari, Tehran, Intishārāt-i ‘ilmī wa Farhangī. 1393/ 2015.

Nasr, Seyyed Hossein, Muzaffar Iqbal, and Amīr Ḥusayn Asgharī. *Islām, ‘ilm , Musalmānān va fan’āvarī*. (Islam, Science, Muslims, and Technology), Tehran, Intishārāt-i Ittilā’āt, 1390 [2011]

Chittick, William C. *Science of the Cosmos, Science of the Soul: The Pertinence of Islamic Cosmology in the Modern World*. Oxford: Oneworld, 2007. Translated by SeyedAmirHossein Asghari, Tehran, Intishārāt-i Ittilā’āt, 1388/2009 and 1394/2016

### FORTHCOMING BOOK TRANSLATIONS

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Wilfred Madelung, *Studies in Medieval Shi’ism*, Routledge; New edition, 2012. Translated by SeyedAmirHossein Asghari (In press)

Murata, Sachiko, William C. Chittick, Weiming Tu, and Jielian Liu. *The Sage Learning of Liu Zhi: Islamic Thought in Confucian Terms*, Cambridge, Mass.: Published by the Harvard University Asia Center for the Harvard-Yenching Institute, 2009. Translated by SeyedAmirHossein Asghari (In press)

### OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

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**Spring 2022**, Center for the Study of Global Change, Indiana University Bloomington  
Graduate Research Assistant  
- Developed online outreach content and assisted with grant development.

- Contributed to the "Muslim Voices" project, enhancing its impact and reach.

**2017-2021** Center for the Study of the Middle East, Indiana University Bloomington  
Graduate Research Assistant

- Engaged in various tasks, including event organization, social media management, and website updates to foster outreach and engagement and research.

**2015 – 2018** Department of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, Indiana University,  
Bloomington

Research Assistant working on philosophical and medical manuscripts in Arabic.

**Summer 2017** "Internationalizing the Academic Standards" Project

- Collaborated on the project, enhancing its Middle Eastern components.

- Project details available at: [<https://global.indiana.edu/publications-resources/teachingresources/internationalizing-academic-standards.html>]

**2015** "The Linguist List" foundation, Indiana University Bloomington, Summer Internship,  
computational linguistics, working on Baharlu Turkish dialect.

**2007-2012** Founding Director, Rumi Research Foundation, Albania

- Established an intellectual hub, attracting talented authors and researchers.

- Conducted research on Sufi heritage in the Balkans.

- Led the creation and publication of the pioneering "The First Persian-Albanian-English  
Standard Dictionary" (*Fjalor Persisht-Shqipe*).

- Managed a team of experts and oversaw the project from inception to publication in 2010

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (Peer Reviews)**

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Journal of Sufi Studies (Brill)

Journal of the Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi Society

Journal of Shia Islamic Studies (ICAS)

Journal of Religions (MDPI)

Sophia, International Journal of Philosophy and Traditions (Springer)

Journal Degli Studi Orientali (Sapienta University, Italy)

### **Editorial Board Membership**

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2021-present: Editorial Board Member, Journal *Tarbiyatuna*, Indonesia

Awards Committee Membership

2020-2021: Awards Committee Member, Graduate and Professional Student Government,  
Indiana University

- Rumi Research Foundation: Assistant journal editor. Contributed to the production of  
three consecutive volumes of the journal "*Metafizika dhe Morali*" (Metaphysics and Morals).



## LANGUAGES

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	Persian	Native
English		Advanced
Turkish		Advanced
Arabic		Advanced
Albanian		Advanced (Speaking and reading. Mapped and co-authored “ <i>The First Persian-Albanian-English Standard Dictionary (Ejalor Persisht-Shqipe)</i> ”)
French		Reading Knowledge
Azerbaijani		Intermediate level
Bulgarian		Elementary

## FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2021-22** Future Faculty Teaching Fellowship, Indiana University, 12000\$  
Wonkai Lee Fellowship, Indiana University, 12000\$
- 2020** The Linda S. Walbridge Fellowship, MELC, Indiana University, 3000\$
- 2019** The Linda S. Walbridge Fellowship, MELC, Indiana University, 3000\$
- 2017** International Student Fellowship Burnham GR, Indiana University, 2500\$

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- 2019** Indiana University, Conference funding from Jewish Studies through the Gurion Family Fund  
Knapp Foundation Travel Grant/ MESA Travel  
Travel Award, Islamic Studies Program, Indiana University
- 2018**  
Travel Award, Islamic Studies Program, Indiana University  
International Services Award GR, Indiana University
- 2016**  
NELC Department’s Travel and Expenses Award, Indiana University  
Travel Award, the College Arts & Humanities Institute, Indiana University  
Travel Award, Islamic Studies Program, Indiana University
- 2015**  
Travel Award, Graduate and Professional Student Government GPSG, Indiana University.  
Travel and Expenses Award, MELC, Indiana University.

## Affiliations

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- Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA) 2015- Present  
American Academy of Religion (AAR) 2017-Present  
Association of Jewish Studies (AJS) 2019