Ryan Joseph Lynch
Associate Dean of Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies
Associate Professor of the History of the Islamic World
Columbus State University
Lynch@ColumbusState.edu

EDUCATION:

Doctor of Philosophy in Oriental Studies, July 2016
Pembroke College, University of Oxford; Oxfordshire, United Kingdom
Focus of Study: Early Islamic History; Arabic Historiography, Digital Humanities
Dissertation Title: Between the Conquests and the Court: A Critical Analysis of the "Kitāb Futūḥ al-Buldān" of al-Balādhurī
Supervisor: Professor Robert G. Hoyland
Examiners: Professor Christopher Melchert (Oxford) and Dr. Andrew Marsham (Cambridge)

Master of Philosophy in Islamic Studies and History, July 2012
Pembroke College, University of Oxford; Oxfordshire, United Kingdom
Thesis title: "The Lion of Quraysh:" Khālid b. al-Walīd and the Depiction of the Ṣaḥāba in Early Islamic Conquest Narrative
Supervisor: Professor Robert G. Hoyland

Master of Letters in Middle Eastern History and Culture, October 2010
University of St Andrews, St Andrews, United Kingdom
Thesis title: An Excellent Country for the Enemy: A Case Study of Damascus and the Urban Settlement of Islamic Syria

Master of Arts in Intelligence and Security Studies, expected August 2025
Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia, United States

Bachelor of Arts in History, May 2009
Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, May 2009
Stetson University, DeLand, Florida, United States

Classical Arabic Language Student, Summer 2011
Qasid Arabic Institute, Amman, Jordan

ACADEMIC POSTS:

Associate Dean of Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies/ Honors College Faculty-in-Residence
Columbus State University, Columbus, Georgia – August 2020 – Present

- Work closely with the Dean of the college to enhance Honors College curriculum and further develop the academic prestige of the College and its relationship with the faculty, the community, and donors.
- Advise honors students at all stages of their undergraduate career on aspects of their enrollment at Columbus State, internship opportunities, and graduate/professional school applications.
- Develop and assess Honors College curriculum, manage the Honors Faculty Fellows Program, and train faculty in Honors pedagogy and best practices.
- Coordinate national scholarship (Phi Kappa Phi, Goldwater, Truman, Marshall, Fulbright, Boren, etc) applicants and applications and identify opportunities for exceptional CSU students.
- Appointed Associate Dean of the Honors College from 1 January 2023, where I additionally assist in design and coordination of the university's Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies program.

Associate Professor of the History of the Islamic World / Director of Graduate Studies, History M.A.
Columbus State University, Columbus, Georgia - August 2016 – Present

- Serve as a member of the History and Geography Department, teaching courses on the history of the Middle East, Islam, late antiquity, the digital humanities, and religious history more generally.
- Advise students on their academic progress and their professional/career development and goals.
- Serve as the Director of Graduate Studies for our Masters program, including membership on the ten-member University Graduate Council.
- Supervise and support advanced student research projects at the undergraduate and graduate level.
- Created and coordinate the Digital Humanities program, which began in Fall 2021. Focusing on three skill-based tracks: Natural Language Processing with Python Programming; Geospatial Analysis with Geographic Information Systems; and "Big Data" Analysis with SPSS/R.

- Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor in 2021.

Content Lead, OpenStax *World History* Textbook
OpenStax / Rice University – October 2020 – April 2023
- Work as one of two content leads on the development of a new 100% free and open university/high-school textbook for world history classes, specifically for the pre-1500 CE material.
- Develop the table of contents, direction, and themes for the book; provide outlines for additional chapter writers; edit material as it is written; and engage expert and core peer reviewers in the process.
- Serve an important project management role for the entirety of the textbook in order to ensure currency, accuracy, and consistency across all chapters and sections.
- Additionally writing the sections for the textbook on late antiquity and the Middle East.

University Policy Fellow
Office of the President / Office of General Counsel, Columbus State University – January 2019 – June 2020
- Identify university-wide policy needs on behalf of the office of Columbus State University's President, Dr. Chris Markwood, and work with the relevant university stakeholders in the collaborative development of policy.
- Research and draft policy affecting all aspects of the faculty, staff, administration, and facilities of the university, both proactive policy and compliance matters from the University System of Georgia's Board of Regents.
- Developed or helped develop the university's Conflict of Interest/Commitment Policy, the Infectious Disease Policy, the Staff Grievance Policy, the Merit Pay Policy, the Externally Funded Positions Policy, the Events with Alcohol Policy, the Advisory Board Policy, and the Policy on Policies.

Tutor in Early Islamic History and Arabic Literature
Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK - September 2014 – July 2016
- Provide one-on-one and two-on-one tutorial meetings in early Islamic history for first-year and third-year undergraduate students, and for third year Arabic literature students.
- Tutorial meetings consist of weekly essay submissions by the students that were commented on and critiqued by me, along with a discussion on assigned reading in both English and Arabic.
- History students are reading for degrees in Arabic and Persian language; there is a substantial emphasis on training in historical methodology and the use of classical sources.
- Reports on student progress are written individually and submitted to the faculty and the student's college for review at the end of each trimester.
- Created, organized, and delivered a new series of lectures on early Islamic history (600-900 CE) during the research leave of Professor Robert Hoyland in Fall 2015, for a mix of first year, third year, and masters (M.Phil.) students.

Instructor
Middlebury College, Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Oxford, UK - September 2014 – December 2015
- Hired to design and teach a new seminar course for undergraduate students, "The Making of the Islamic World," which discussed major themes in the history of the Middle East from the seventh century to the 14th century.
- Course instruction is a hybrid of an American and Oxford seminar, with emphasis on in-depth discussion of issues raised by set reading each week.
- At the end of the course, students write an extended research essay (4000 words+) on a topic of their choosing that was planned and outlined during one-one-one meetings.

Adjunct Professor of History
Stetson University, DeLand, Florida - January 2014 – May 2014
- Created completely new course schedule and material for two survey-level lecture courses in the history department, "Early World History" and "Western Civilization from the Medieval to the Age of Exploration."
- Was the "instructor of record" for both courses, solely responsible for the organization, planning, lecturing, and assessing/marking of classes that ranged in size from 21-24 students.
- "Early World History" was designed as a "writing intensive" course, which required students to prepare several short essays during the term before writing a longer research paper submitted at the end of the course.
- Ambitiously sought out lecturing opportunities outside of Oxford when they were otherwise limited, in order to gain valuable experience and bolster employability.

Research Intern
United States Army Center of Military History, Fort McNair, Washington, DC – June 2007 – August 2007
- Selected as an intern by Chief Historian Dr. Richard W. Stewart to work during the summer of 2007.
- Performed archival work, responded to questions by the general public regarding military history, and researched specific military issues.
- Created an electronic database of nineteenth and twentieth century records of the US Army's Adjutant General to be utilized by the division.

- Substantial experience working in the US National Archives as a researcher.

PEER REVIEWED MONOGRAPHS:

- *The Premodern Middle East in Video Games* (York, UK: Arc Humanities, *Under Contract*).
- *Arab Conquests and Early Islamic Historiography: The* Futuh al-Buldan *of al-Baladhuri* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2020).
    - Winner of 2021 SERMEISS "Book of the Year."

TEACHING MONOGRAPHS:

- OpenStax *World History*, eds. Ann Kordas, Ryan J. Lynch, Brooke Nelson, and Julie Tatlock. 2 Volumes (Rice University, 2022-2023).

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES:

- "'The People of Ransom:' Tribute and Tributary Regions in Early Islamic History," in *Inclusion and Exclusion in the Late Antique and Early Medieval Mediterranean*, eds. Peter Schadler and Erica Buchberger (under review).
- "Self-Revision and the Arabic Historical Tradition: Identifying Textual Reuse and Reorganization in the Works of al-Balādhurī," *The Medieval Globe,* Vol. 6, No. 1 (2020): 9-30.
- "'The Wall of Rock and Lead:' Abbāsid Reflections on Sasanian Caucasian Policy in Arrān," In *Caucasian Albania in Late Antiquity and Medieval History*, ed. Robert G. Hoyland (Piscataway: Gorgias Press, 2020): 85-100.
- "Cyprus and its Legal and Historiographical Significance in Late Antique and Early Islamic History," *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, Vol. 136, No. 3 (2016): 535-550.
- "Sons of the Muhājirūn: Some Comments on Ibn al-Zubayr and Legitimizing Power in Seventh-Century Islamic History," in *The Long Seventh Century: Continuity and Discontinuity in an Age of Transition*, eds. Thomas J. MacMaster et al (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2014).
- "Linking Information, Creating a Legend: The Desert March of Khālid b. al-Walīd," *Lights: The MESSA Journal of the University of Chicago*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (2013): 28-41.

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

- "al-Balādhurī, Aḥmad b. Yaḥyā" and "'Alī b. Mahan," in the *Encyclopaedia of Islam, Third Edition* (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming).
- Four entries on "Companions of the Prophet," "Emigration, or Hijra," "'Abd al-Malik b. Marwān," and "Khālid ibn al-Walīd" in the digital version of *Routledge Medieval Islamic Civilization: An Encyclopedia* (2022).
- Nineteen entries including those on "Caliph 'Uthman," "Shi'ism," "Husayn b. 'Ali," "warfare, Arab and Islamic," "armies, Arab and Islamic," and the "Ridda Wars." In *The Oxford Dictionary of Late Antiquity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).
- "The Muslim World" region editor for the digital and updated edition of *Chronicon: Medieval Narrative Sources, a Chronological Guide with Introductory Essays*.

BOOK REVIEWS:

- Review of Tobias Andersson, *Early Sunni Historiography: The* Tārīkh *of Khalīfa b. Khayyāṭ*, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (forthcoming, 2023).
- Review of Scott Savran, *Arabs and Iranians in the Islamic Conquest Narrative: Memory and Identity Construction in Islamic Historiography, 750-1050*, in *al-'Usur al-Wusta*, Vol. 27 (2019): 305-308.

CONFERENCE PAPERS:

- The Early Islamic Conquest of *al-Sind* and al-Balādhurī's *Kitāb Futuḥ al-Buldān* (Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, 2-5 November 2023).
- "One of Many Thousands:" The Fall of Constantinople and *Assassin's Creed: Revelations* (The Middle Ages in Modern Games Annual Conference, June 2023).
- The Middle East in Modern Games: Islam, Arabs, and the Representation of Medieval History (International Conference for the Study of Medievalism, Appalachian State University, 20-22 October 2022).
- al-Balādhurī's (d. ca. 279 AH/892 CE) Book of the Conquest of Lands and New Approaches in the Digital Humanities (SERMEISS Annual Conference, Valle Crucis, NC, 15-16 October 2022).
- Defining a Worthy Text: The Career of M.J. de Goeje (d. 1909 CE) and the Popular Medieval Arabic Book (SERMEISS Annual Conference, Virtual, 12-13 October 2021).
- "Only Iron Will Strike Iron:" The Caliphate of Marwān b. al-Ḥakam and the Battle of Marj Rāhit (New College of Florida Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 12-14 March 2020).

- "A Lion in a Thicket:" Ibn al-Zubayr and the Legacy of the Prophet Muhammad (Southeastern Medieval Association Annual Meeting – University of the Bahamas, 8-10 November 2018).
- Tracing the Memory of the Battle of al-Qādisiyya (Panel: "After Qādisiyya" – Fifth World Congress of Middle Eastern Studies, Sevilla, Spain, 16-20 July 2018).
- "The People of Ransom:" Classifying Cyprus in Late Antique and Early Islamic History (Inclusion and Exclusion in the Late Antique and Early Medieval Mediterranean – Dickinson College, 23-24 April 2018).
- Writing With Purpose: Reuse, Reorganization, and Reshaping of Historical Material in the Works of al-Balādhurī (Recycling, Revision, and Relocation in the Middle Ages – Harvard University, 9 February 2018)
- Compilation, Transmission, and the Contours of Textual Reuse in Classical Arabic Historiography (Termly Meeting of Georgia Medievalists – Atlanta International School, 22 October 2016)
- A Different Kind of Control: The Frontiers of the Caliphate in the Early Islamic Period (Southeastern Medieval Association Annual Meeting – University of Tennessee, 7 October 2016).
- The Reception and Reuse of al-Balādhurī's "Kitāb Futūḥ al-Buldān" in Medieval Islamic History (Al-Balādhurī: A Guide for the Perplexed Workshop – University of Oxford, 29-30 April 2016).
- Compilation, Transmission, and the Contours of Textual Reuse in Classical Arabic Historiography: The Case of the "Wall of Derbent" (KITAB Program Arabic Textual Reuse "Hackathon" – Agha Khan University, 21-24 September 2015).
- 'Abbāsid Reflections on Sasanian Policy in Arrān and Its Hinterlands (The Eastern Caucasus from Late Antiquity to Early Islam – First Workshop of the Nizami Ganjavi Program, University of Oxford, 6 June 2015).
- Genre and al-Balādhurī's "Kitāb Futūḥ al-Buldān" in Early Islamic Historiography (Panel: "Representing Otherness, Negotiating Difference" (Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, November 2014).
- The Sources of al-Balādhurī's "Kitāb Futūḥ al-Buldān" (The Authors, Editors and Audiences of Medieval Middle Eastern Texts – Joint Conference Between the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford, 1 September 2014).
- Administering Conquest: The Role of Commanders and Governors in al-Balādhurī's "Kitāb Futūḥ al-Buldān" (Panel: "Empire Between Empires: Understanding Empire in the Long 7th Century" – University of Leeds International Medieval Congress, 9 July 2014).
- Between the Conquests and the Court: Re-evaluating al-Balādhurī's *Book of the Conquest of Lands* (Plymouth State University 35th Annual Medieval and Renaissance Forum, 25 April 2014).
- An Administrator's History? Al-Balādhurī's *Book of the Conquest of Lands* and the Early Islamic State (Phi Alpha Theta Regional Meeting, 15 March 2014).
- Sons of the Muhājirūn: Some Comments on 'Abd Allāh b. al-Zubayr and Legitimizing Power in Early Islamic History (University of Edinburgh Seventh Century Colloquium, 29 May 2013).
- All Good Soldiers: Khālid b. al-Walīd and the Heroic Depiction of the Ṣaḥāba in Early Islamic Conquest Narrative (Islamic World Seminar, University of Oxford, January 2012).

CHAIRED SESSIONS

- Respondent, "A New Translation of and Commentary on al-Balādhurī's *Futūḥ al-Buldān*," Department of Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge, 11 March 2022.
- Chair and Respondent, "Interpreting Islamic Texts and Religious Authority," SERMEISS Annual Meeting, Online, 12-13 October 2021.
- Chair and Respondent, "Navigating Language in the Early Islamic World," Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Annual Symposium, University of Tennessee, 6-7 April 2018.

PEDAGOGIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- Designing, Editing, and Implementing a New OER Textbook: OpenStax *World History* (American Historical Association Annual Meeting, 4-7 January 2024).
- Co-Teaching the Digital Humanities: Natural Language Processing (NLP) and the September 11th Terrorist Attacks (National Collegiate Honors Conference, 27-31 October 2021).
- The Honors Faculty Fellows Program: Strengths and Challenges (National Collegiate Honors Conference, 27-31 October 2021).

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS:

- History and Video Games Public Lecture Series (Event organizer of four lectures/discussions funded by the Columbus State University Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning on a variety of topics related to history in video games and historic video game preservations, Spring 2023)

- The History in Video Games: How Modern Media Reinvigorates and Reframes the Past (Presentation to Columbus State University and community, 21 April 2023)
- 9/11 and the Future of Jihadism (Presentation to "First at First" Lecture Series, First Presbyterian Church and Columbus Community, 11 September 2022)
- The Color of Law: A Book Discussion on Race, Redlining, and Public Policy (Event Organizer and book discussion with Columbus State University and Muscogee County School District teachers, 31 March 2022)
- The 9/11 Museum and Memorial: Tragedy, Recency, and the Modern Museum (Presentation to Columbus State University and community, 22 November 2021)
- The Post-9/11 Army: A Conversation with Major General Patrick Donahoe (Presentation to Columbus State University and Community, 4 October 2021)
- The Legacy of 9/11 and the Future of the War on Terror (Presentation to Columbus State University and community, 9 September 2021)
- Red Clay, White Water, and Blues: The History – and Future – of Columbus, Georgia (Event Organizer for Columbus State University and community, 18 November 2019)
- Abū Bakr al-Baghdadī and the Islamic State – What Next? (Presentation to Columbus State University and community, 31 October 2019)
- The Origins of the Islamic State: Remembering the Islamic Past from the Umayyads to ISIS (Keynote Address, Columbus State University Tower Day, 18 April 2019)
- Black Flags: The Rise of ISIS and the Modern Middle East (Event Organizer and Public Presentation to Columbus State University and community, 2 November 2017)
- The Prophet Abraham and His Kin (Presentation to Midland United Methodist Church, 1 May 2017)
- The Righteous Ruler: Lessons from the Medieval Islamic Literary Tradition on Good Governance (Public presentation on behalf of the Columbus State Medieval and Renaissance Studies Program, 23 February 2017)
- The Islamization of the Middle East: Conquest, Conversion, and Caliphate (Presentation to the Columbus Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 4 December 2016).
- Creating (and Remembering) the First Islamic State (Presentation to the Columbus State History Department Research-in-Progress Seminar Series, 13 October 2016).

COURSES OFFERED:

For Columbus State University:

- World History to 1500 CE
- Understanding Non-Western Cultures (ITDS 1156, interdisciplinary course)
- Scholarship Across the Disciplines (ITDS 1779H, interdisciplinary introductory Honors course)
- Historical Methods
- Introduction to Digital Humanities
- 9/11: A Digital Analysis (interdisciplinary Honors course, co-taught with a computer scientist in Spring 2020)
- The History of Science (interdisciplinary study abroad course, co-taught with a chemist in Summer 2018)
- Historical Problem Solving (interdisciplinary Honors course, co-taught with a mathematician in Spring 2019)
- The History in Video Games
- The Making of the Islamic World, ca. 600-1100 CE
- The Fall of Rome and the End of Antiquity
- September 11th, 2001
- The Written Traditions of the Middle East (Senior capstone course)
- Jerusalem: A City as Text (Senior capstone course)
- Honors Senior Capstone Proposal
- The Crusades (mix of undergraduate/graduate students)
- The Arab-Islamic Conquests (mix of undergraduate/graduate students)
- The Caliphate: The Islamic State, Medieval to Modern (mix of undergraduate/graduate students)
- Historiography (mix of undergraduate/graduate students)

For Middlebury College:

- The Making of the Islamic World, ca. 600-1300 CE
- Classical Islam

For Stetson University:

- Early World Civilization ("Writing Intensive" course)
- Western Civilization from the Medieval to the Age of Exploration

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

- Chair, University System of Georgia (USG) Middle East Council (Fall 2022-Present)
- Board Member, Southeastern Regional Middle East and Islamic Studies Society (January 2021-Present)
- Member, *KITAB* Project's Digital Humanities User Group (2015-Present)
- Member, Islamicate Digital Humanities Network, (2019-Present)
- Peer Reviewer, *al-'Usur al-Wusta* (2021)
- Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* (2021)
- Peer Reviewer, Oxford University Press (2018, 2019, 2020)
- Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Arabic Literature* (2019)
- Peer Reviewer, *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* (2016)

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP:

- Faculty Advisor, Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity – Columbus State University
  - August 2022 - Present
- Chair of Faculty Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate – Columbus State University
  - August 2019 – August 2022
- Chair of Faculty Senate Budget Committee – Columbus State University
  - May 2020 – August 2021
- Executive Council Member, Faculty Senate – Columbus State University
  - May 2019 – May 2020; January 2021 – August 2022
- Chair of Graduate Faculty Membership Task Force, Graduate School – Columbus State University
  - January 2019 – August 2019
- Chair of Events and Awards Committee – History and Geography Department, Columbus State University
  - August 2018 – July 2019
- Director of Graduate Studies, History MA Program – Columbus State University
  - April 2018 – Present
- Faculty Advisor, History and Geography Club – Columbus State University
  - August 2016 – August 2018
- Chair, Faculty Research-in-Progress Seminar – Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford
  - September 2012 – January 2016
- Chair, Middle Common Room (MCR) "Access Scheme," supporting and promoting students from underprivileged backgrounds to apply to Russell Group universities
  - September 2012 – November 2014

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

- Member, University Assessment and Accreditation Council – Columbus State University
  - May 2023 - Present
- Member, College of Letters and Sciences Post-Tenure Review Committee – Columbus State University
  - August 2022 - Present
- Ex-Officio Member, National Scholarship Committee – Columbus State University
  - August 2020 – Present
- Member, Faculty Senate Budget Committee – Columbus State University
  - May 2020 – Present
- Member, Academic Center for Tutoring Advisory Board – Columbus State University
  - August 2020 – Present
- Faculty Advisor, Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation
  - August 2020 – Present
- Member, College of Letters and Sciences Recruitment, Retention, Progression, and Graduation Committee – Columbus State University
  - March 2021 – August 2022
- Member, College of Letters and Sciences Operations Manual Task Force – Columbus State University
  - August 2020 – December 2020
- Member, College of Letters and Sciences Dean Search Committee – Columbus State University
  - October 2019 – March 2020
- Member, Honors Education Committee, Honors College – Columbus State University
  - August 2019 – Present
- Member, "Tower Day" Undergraduate Research Day Organizing Committee – Columbus State University
  - August 2019 – Present

- Member, Archives and Special Collections Advisory Board – Columbus State University
  - January 2019 – Present
- Member of the Dean of the Libraries Search Committee – Columbus State University
  - October 2018 – March 2019
- Member, Faculty Senate, Representing College of Letters and Sciences – Columbus State University
  - April 2018 – 2021
- Member, Faculty Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate – Columbus State University
  - August 2018 – August 2022
- Member, Events and Awards Committee – History and Geography Department, Columbus State University
  - August 2018 – August 2021
- Member, Library Renovation Committee – Columbus State University
  - July 2018 – December 2018
- Member of University Graduate Council – Columbus State University
  - May 2018 – August 2022
- Member, History MA Graduate Committee – Columbus State University
  - April 2017 – Present
- Member, History Department Recruitment Committee – Columbus State University
  - April 2017 – Present
- Member, International Learning Community Committee – Columbus State University
  - August 2016 – Present
- Student Representative, Oriental Institute Faculty IT/AV Committee – University of Oxford
  - October 2010 – January 2016
- Member and Interviewer, Oriental Institute Undergraduate Admissions Committee – University of Oxford
  - November 2014 – November 2015

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP:

- Board Member, Friends of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's "Little White House" Historic Site – Warm Springs, GA
  - September 2018 – Present

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED:

- Regional Conference, Georgia Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society Undergraduate Conference
  - Columbus State University, 14-15 April, 2023
- International Conference, "The Authors, Editors, and Audiences of Medieval Middle Eastern Texts"
  - University of Cambridge, 1-2 September, 2014

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

- Recipient, Columbus State University Public Scholars and Artists Grant
  - Calendar Year 2023
- Recipient, Research Reassignment Sabbatical
  - Fall 2022
- Finalist, Columbus State University Educator of the Year
  - Academic Year 2019-2020; 2021-2022; 2022-2023
- SERMEISS Book of the Year Award, *Arab Conquests and Early Islamic Historiography*
  - Calendar Year 2021
- Recipient, Columbus State University Honors College Faculty Mentorship Award
  - Academic Year 2020-2021
- Recipient, Columbus State University Honors College Teacher of the Year
  - Academic Year 2019-2020
- Nominee, Columbus State University Faculty Mentor of the Year
  - Academic Year 2019-2020
- Honors College Faculty Fellowship – Columbus State University
  - Fall 2018 – Spring 2020
- Interdisciplinary Initiative Grant Recipient – Columbus State University
  - Spring 2017; Fall 2019
- Membership of Senior Common Room – Pembroke College, University of Oxford
  - September 2014 – July 2016
- Senior Studentship – Pembroke College, University of Oxford

- September 2014 – September 2015
- Graduate Scholarship – Pembroke College, University of Oxford
  - September 2012 – December 2015
- Membership of Common Room – Wolfson College, University of Oxford
  - May 2012 – November 2015
- Membership of Phi Beta Kappa Society
  - April 2009 – Present

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE:

IT Support Assistant

Wolfson College, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom – May 2012 – November 2015

- Provide IT related support for faculty, staff, and students of the college, responding to individual queries while ensuring uninterrupted access to internal and external services.
- Permanent member of a three-person team responsible for access management and the digital facilities for Oxford's largest postgraduate college: 600+ members, visitors, and their devices.
- Responsible for the procurement and maintenance of new equipment purchased by the college, which includes everything from VMware servers and laptop computers, to digital mixing desks, projectors, and microphones.
- Particular focus placed on end-user troubleshooting and my experience repairing hardware issues.

IT Assistant

Pembroke College and Campion Hall, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom - November 2011 – June 2012

- Provide IT related support for both Pembroke College and Campion Hall, concerning both the daily running of digital infrastructure and the preparation and support of IT/AV issues for special events.
- Was responsible for the smooth operation and maintenance of the entire digital infrastructure of Campion Hall, home of the Society of Jesus in Oxford.
- Support fellows, staff, students, and visiting scholars with digital concerns involving college facilities.
- Remain "on-call" at weekends to handle any issues arising within college requiring immediate assistance.

MEMBERSHIP:

- University System of Georgia Middle East Council – 2020-Present
- Southeastern Regional Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies Society – 2018-Present
- Middle East Studies Association – 2017-2018
- Southeastern Medieval Association – 2016-Present
- Georgia Medievalists – 2016-Present
- Middle East Medievalists – 2014-Present
- Phi Beta Kappa Society – 2009-Present
- Theta Alpha Kappa Religious Studies Honors Society – 2007-Present
- Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honors Society – 2007-Present
- Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society – 2006-Present

LANGUAGE:

Arabic, French, German (reading), Middle Persian (Pahlavi, basic - with dictionary), Coptic (basic – with dictionary)