

**ALESSANDRA L. GONZÁLEZ**  
**Princeton University**  
**Department of Politics**  
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**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

2013-2014 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY Postdoctoral Research Associate, James Madison Program, Department of Politics  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Program on Religion, Diplomacy and International Relations, Liechtenstein Institute on Self Determination  
Lecturer, Department of Comparative Literature  
2012-2013 JOHN JAY COLLEGE, CUNY Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Extremist Crime Database Study

**EDUCATION**

2011 Ph.D. Baylor University, Sociology, Dissertation: *Variations in the Sociology of Islam and Gender: A Multi-Level Analysis of Islam and Gender in Majority Muslim Contexts*  
2008 M.A. Baylor University, Sociology  
2005 B.A. Rice University, Sociology and Policy Studies

**MAJOR FIELDS**

Gender, Religion, Politics, Crime and Deviance

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

2013 González, Alessandra L. *Islamic Feminism in Kuwait: The Politics and Paradoxes*. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan

**Articles and Book Chapters (\*Peer-Reviewed)**

- 2014 \*González, Alessandra L., Joshua D. Freilich, and Steve Chermak. "How Women Engage Homegrown Terrorism." *Feminist Criminology*, 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Issue. (Forthcoming).
- 2014 González, Alessandra L. "Working with Patriarchy: Strategies for Women's Empowerment in Comparative Perspective." For edited volume by Mohammed Aman, PSO/Westphalia Press. (Forthcoming).
- 2013 González, Alessandra L. "Who is an Islamic Feminist and What Does He Look Like?" Pp. 39-49 in *Islam and International Relations: Mutual Perceptions*, edited by Nassef Adiong. Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- 2012 González, Alessandra L. "Choosing through the Iron Veil: Gender and Power Among Elite Women in Kuwait," Chapter in *Women's Encounter with Globalization*, edited by Samir DasGupta, Robyn Driskell, Nicola Yeates and Yvonne Braun. UK: Frontpage Publications.
- 2011 \*González, Alessandra L. "Measuring Religiosity in a Majority Muslim Context: Gender, Religious Salience, and Religious Experience Among Kuwaiti College Students - A Research Note." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 50(2):339-350.
- 2011 González, Alessandra L and Lubna Al-Kazi. "Complicating the 'Clash of Civilizations': Gender and Politics in Contemporary Kuwait." Pp. 64-84 in the *Annual Review of the Sociology of Religion*, Vol. 2 edited by Patrick Michel and Enzo Pace. Boston: Brill.
- 2004 González, Alessandra L., Contributing Editor. *The ISI Guide 2005: Choosing the Right College: The Whole Truth about America's Top Schools, 4th edition*. ISI Books. ISBN: 1-932236-34-1, ISSN: 1548-4068.

### **Book Reviews and Other Commentary**

- 2014 González, Alessandra L. *Review of Mobilizing Piety: Islam and Feminism in Indonesia* by Rachel Rinaldo. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. (Forthcoming).
- 2013 González, Alessandra L. "A Feminist by Any Other Name Smells Just as Sweet," *Peace x Peace Connection Point Blog*.
- 2009 González, Alessandra L. Review of *African Immigrant Religions in America*, edited by Jacob Olupona and Regina Gemignani. *Sociology of Religion* 2009 70(2):198-200.
- 2007 González, Alessandra L. "A New Look at Islamic Feminism." *The Dallas Morning News*, Op-ed. November 28, 2007.

### **PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS**

#### **Books:**

- González, Alessandra L. *Judging Women: Women Judges in the Gulf*.
- González, Alessandra L. *Christian and Islamic Feminism – Historical and Theological Roots, Divergences, and Commonalities*. (with Abjar Bahkou)
- González, Alessandra L. ed. *Transnationalism, Globalization and Immigration: New Immigrants in Houston*. (with Mohsen Mobasher)

#### **Articles:**

- González, Alessandra L. "What Islamic Feminists Want – Lessons from the Kuwaiti Experience."
- González, Alessandra L. "Islamic Feminism in the Arab Spring."
- González, Alessandra L. "Religious Elites and Islamic Faith-Based Alleviation of Global Poverty: Examples from the Arab Gulf Region."
- González, Alessandra L. "Evaluating Kuwaiti Women's Participation 2007-2014." (with Lubna Al-Kazi)
- González, Alessandra L. "Factors of Well-being among Divorced Kuwaitis." (with Hadi Ridha)
- González, Alessandra L. "Women and the Media – US and Gulf Comparisons."
- González, Alessandra L. "Women in Financial Extremist Crimes," (with Joshua Freilich, Steven Chermak, and Brandon Sullivan).
- González, Alessandra L. "Not At All Religious?: Irreligiosity as Deviance in a Majority Muslim Context."

### **FUNDING AND GRANTS**

- 2010 Baylor University Dissertation Research Grant (\$500). Matching Sociology Department Grant (\$500)
- 2008 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Travel Grant (\$450)
- 2008 Baylor Institute for the Studies of Religion Seed Grant for data collection in Qatar, the UAE, and Yemen. (\$4,300)
- 2007 Baylor Institute for the Studies of Religion Seed Grant for data collection in Kuwait. (\$5,000)

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- 2014 April: Baker Institute for Public Policy Conference on "Gender and Human Rights in the Middle East" and the Boniuk Institute for Religious Tolerance, Rice University
- 2013 Book Presentations:
- Author-Meets-Critics Panel, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Annual Conference, Boston, MA (nominated for SSSR Book of the Year Award).
  - Presentation on Gulf Women in Media, Creative Group at Getty Images, NY.
  - Association for the Study of Religion Annual Conference, NY.
  - Women's Foreign Policy Group, Washington, DC.

- Brazos Bookstore, Houston, TX.
- Arabic Studies Seminar, Columbia University.
- Journal of Middle Eastern Women's Studies Conference, Yale University.
- Middle Eastern and Middle Eastern American Center, Graduate Center, CUNY.
- Kuwait University Social Science Faculty, Kuwait City, Kuwait.
- Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy and the Committee for the Study of Religion, Princeton University.

2013 September: Panelist, "Religion, Rights, and Reform: A Panel Discussion on Women's Political Participation in the Middle East and North Africa," Sigma Iota Rho Honors Society special event, Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University.

2013 November: Princeton University, "Complicating the Clash of Civilizations: Gender and Politics in Contemporary Kuwait" one-time Seminar, Undergraduate Fellows Forum, James Madison Program.

2012 November: John Jay College, CUNY, "Women and Terrorism," for the Sociology of Violence Course taught by Kevin Barnes-Ceeney, Guest Lecture.

2011 November: The University of Houston, "Islamic Feminism: A View from the Arab Gulf Region," for the Sociology of World Religions class by Dr. Helen Rose Ebaugh, Guest Lecture.

2010 January: "Public Roles of Women Worldwide" for the Institute for Interfaith Dialogue, Houston, TX (with Helen Rose Ebaugh, Marie Cornwall, Nancy Nason-Clark, and Elaine Howard Ecklund).

2009 November: "Conducting Sociological Research on Feminism in an Islamic Context" for the Baylor Living and Learning Center Global Community Class.

2009 March: Baylor University Honors College "Faithful Feminism" one-time Seminar.

2008 September: The University of Texas at Austin, "The Veil and Contemporary Islamic Feminism in the Arabian Gulf," for the SOC336L Class on Global Gender Inequality by Mounira Maya Charrad, Guest Lecture.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2013 March: "In the News: A Comparative Study of Women Politicians in Latin America and the Gulf," for the Kuwait University Women's Research Unit Third Annual Forum, Kuwait City, Kuwait.

2013 February: "Working with Patriarchy: Strategies for Women's Empowerment in Comparative Perspective," for the Middle East Dialogue Conference, Washington, DC.

2012 November: Convener, Religion and Development II: Migration and Technology Panel, SSSR, Phoenix, AZ.

2012 April: "Referencing the Host Countries: Comparative Research on Immigrants from Majority Muslim Countries," for the University of Houston Immigration Symposium, Houston, TX.

2011 April: "Faith-Based Initiatives in Majority-Muslim Countries: Examples from the Gulf," for the Association for the Study of Religion and Economics Conference; Washington, D.C.

2010 August: "Gender and Mosque Networks in a Majority Muslim Context: The Case of Kuwait," for the Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting; Atlanta, GA.

2010 July: "Aisha and the King: Practically Assessing the Value of Islamic Feminism in Yemen and Other Developing Contexts," for the University of Exeter 2010 Gulf Studies Conference; Exeter, England.

2009 October: "Not At All Religious: A Look at Social Deviance in the Majority Muslim Context," for the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Conference, Denver, CO.

2008 April: "Exploring Measures of Islamic Religious Tradition in Majority-Muslim Countries," for the American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies Annual Conference; Washington, DC.

2007 April: "Spiritual Capital of Politically Engaged Women in Kuwait" for the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy Conference on "The Rights of Women in Islam." Washington, D.C.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2014 Spring: Princeton University, Department of Comparative Literature, Islamic Feminism Seminar.

2013 Princeton University, Senior Thesis Advisor to Sheeba Arif, student in Comparative Literature, on her thesis, "The New Language of Cultural Conquest: Eurocentric Moralism and the Unconquered Muslim Woman."

2012 Spring: Lone Star Community College, Cypress, TX: Introduction to Sociology.

2010 Spring: Baylor University, Senior Colloquium (co-taught with Paul Froese).

2009 Fall: Baylor University, Statistics for Social Science, Teaching Assistant.

## **LANGUAGES**

English and Spanish (Fluent); Portuguese, French and Italian (Working Knowledge); Arabic (Intermediate MSA, Egyptian and Kuwaiti dialects); Mandarin Chinese (Elementary).

## **MEDIA**

2013 August 2013: Interview for "Insights" Section, Front page (color) and full page inside feature on "Islamic Feminism in Kuwait," *Arab Times* Kuwaiti English-language daily newspaper.

2013 May: "Paradox and Progress: Islamic Feminism in Kuwait" Interview for the *CrimCast* Blog, Center for Crime & Popular Culture.

2013 March: Podcast Interview, "Islamic Feminism," on the Research On Religion Podcast.

2013 March: TV Interview for Local Kuwaiti News Channel (English).

2013 March: TV Interview for Local Kuwaiti News Channel (Arabic).

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2012-2013 National Center for Institutional Diversity (NCID) at the University of Michigan, Emerging Diversity Scholar.

2006-2011 Project Director and Principal Investigator, Islamic Social Attitudes Survey Project (ISAS), Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion.

2006-2011 Presidential Scholar, Baylor University.

2005 Benjamin Franklin Service Award, US Department of State.

2001-2005 Hispanic Merit Scholarship, Rice University.

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association; Association for the Sociology of Religion; Society for the Scientific Study of Religion; Religious Research Association; Council for the Study of Islamic Societies; Middle Eastern Studies Association; Group for Arabic-Christian Research (ITALY).

## **PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

2012 Volunteer, Arabic Summer School Program, Arab-American Cultural Center of Houston.

2011-2012 Volunteer ESL Instructor, Refugee Resettlement Program, YMCA International Services.

2007-2010 Departmental Representative, Vice-President, President, Baylor Graduate Student Association.

2008-2010 Graduate Fellow to the Undergraduate Honors Program, Baylor University.

Reviewer for *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Journal of Church and State*, *The International Journal of Psychology and Religion*, *Journal of Family Issues*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Feminist Criminology*, *Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*.

Proposal Reviewer for Social Science Projects, Italian Interuniversity Research Consortium (CINECA).

### **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

- 2013 Columbia University School of Public Health, Lifecourse Epidemiology Course, EPIC Epidemiology and Population Health Summer Institute, funded by the John Jay College National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities grant, “Institutional Development Program for Correctional Health & Healthcare Research,” coordinated by Dr. Jeff Mellow.
- 2012-2013 CUNY Graduate Center, Committee for the Study of Religion Working Group led by Dr. Bryan Turner, Participant.
- 2010 Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C., CANADA, “Expressions of Diversity” Summer Graduate Program, Selected Participant.
- 2010 Cambridge University, ENGLAND, First-Ever Gulf Research Meeting, Selected Listening Participant.
- 2010 Danish Institute in Damascus, First-Ever Graduate Research School on Pluralism, Workshop led by Dr. Jorgen Nielsen, University of Copenhagen, Damascus, SYRIA, Selected Participant.
- 2009 University of Notre Dame, Young Scholars in the Sociology of Religion (YSSR) Workshop hosted by Dr. Christian Smith, Invited Participant.
- 2007 Islamic Studies Academy, Doha, QATAR, Comparative Religion I & II.

### **REFERENCES**

- Dr. Wolfgang Danspeckgruber**, Princeton University, Founding Director, Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination, 609-258-5685, [wfd@princeton.edu](mailto:wfd@princeton.edu)
- Dr. Amaney A. Jamal**, Princeton University, Associate Professor, Department of Politics, 609-258-7340, [ajamal@princeton.edu](mailto:ajamal@princeton.edu)
- Dr. Bryan Turner**, Graduate Center at the City University of New York (CUNY), Presidential Professor, Ph.D. Program in Sociology, [bryanturner@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:bryanturner@yahoo.com.sg)