Recognizing Religion(s):
The Cultural Dynamics of Religious Encounters and Interactions in Historical Perspective

Fall 2020 Webinars:

October 5
“Situating World Religions in Modern Islam”
Presenters: Dr Zvi Ben-Dor Benite (NYU) & Dr Esmat Elhalaby (UC Davis)
Moderator: Dr Taneli Kukkonen (NYUAD)
>> Register here

November 30
“Forms of Religious Recognition in Early Modern Iberia and the Ottoman Empire”
Presenters: Dr Tijana Krstić (CEU, Vienna) & Dr Mercedes García-Arenal (CSIC, Madrid)
Moderator: Dr Jan Loop (University of Copenhagen)
>> Register here

These are the first of a series of online seminars that will explore the historical, cultural, and geographical boundaries and contact points between the peoples of Europe, the Middle East, and other parts of the world, from the beginning of Islam to the near present. The series highlights recent and ongoing research in the interactions, habits, and concepts that facilitated ‘recognition’ of religion(s) and how these changed over time.

‘Recognition’ describes not merely the act of attentive observation and differentiation, but also implicit adaptation and appropriation, facilitated by real and imaginary encounters. We hope to contribute to knowledge of basic taxonomies and topographies of the contexts, forms, arenas, axes, and dimensions of recognition between cultural groups.

The series launches a joint initiative between NYU Abu Dhabi Humanities Research Fellowship for the Study of the Arab World program, the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry at Australian Catholic University, and the European Qur’an: Islamic Scripture in European Culture and Religion project at the University of Copenhagen (EuQu). The initiative seeks to develop a series of international workshops and publications re-examining the dynamics of cultural change and exchange in Islam, Judaism and Christianity, over the course of their entire shared history, to the present day.

Open to the NYUAD community and by invitation.