

Christopher J. Wright

Associate Professor of
Middle East History and Islamic Studies
The Citadel: Military College of South Carolina

Office:

Department of History
308 Mims Ave.
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Charleston, SC 29409
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171 Moultrie St.
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Charleston, SC. 29409
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EDUCATION:

Ph.D. History

University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 1996-2006
Dissertation: *Ibn 'Abd al-Hakam's Futuh Misr: An Analysis of the Text and New Insights into the Islamic Conquest of Egypt.*
Advisor: Professor R. Stephen Humphreys
Degree Date: June 2006

Coursework and Language Study

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. 1995-1996
Department Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

FIELDS OF STUDY:

Specialization: Early Islamic History.
General Field: Middle East History (Pre-Modern and Modern Periods)
Secondary Field: Roman Late Antiquity
Third Field: Early Christianity

M.A. History

1995
Emphasis in Middle East and East Asian History
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.
Masters Thesis: *Abu al-Khattab, the Kattabiyya, and the Kufan Ghulat.*
Advisor: Professor William Tucker

B.A. History

1992
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

<i>Associate Professor</i> Department of History, The Citadel	2012-Present
<i>Assistant Professor</i> Department of History, The Citadel	2006-2012
<i>Lead Teaching Assistant</i> Department of History, UC Santa Barbara	2004-2005
Teaching Assistant Department of History, UC Santa Barbara	2002-2006
<i>Editorial Assistant</i> <i>International Journal of Middle East Studies</i> Department of History, UC Santa Barbara	1996-1997
<i>Assistant Instructor</i> Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.	1995-1996

FIELD WORK:

July 2004	Cairo, Egypt: Archival work and research in the <i>Dar al-Kutub</i> Library, Danish/Flemish Institute of Cairo, American University of Cairo, and French Institute. Field work in old Cairo, Fortress of Babylon, and al-Fustat. Examined sites and excavation work. Egyptian Delta: Field work in a number of sites related to the Islamic conquest of Egypt. Examined excavation work while working to piece together the location of lost sites and tracing the route of the Arab invasion.
August 2004	London, United Kingdom: Archival / Manuscript work in British Library and British Museum. Leiden, Netherlands: Archival / Manuscript work in Leiden University Library
Sept. 2004	Istanbul, Turkey: Archival /Manuscript work in Suleymaniyya Library

PUBLICATIONS:

“Islamic and Syriac Christian Apocalypses of the 7th and 8th Centuries”
Medieval Perspectives Vol. 27 (2012) pp. 193-209.

“A Rare Find: The Suleymaniye’s *Futuh Misr*.”
Journal of Islamic Manuscripts V. 4, Issue 1, (2013)

‘Amr ibn al’As: General, Statesman, and Rebel.
In Process

The Islamic Conquest of Egypt
In Process: Book Contract for Review and Publication from Brill Publishing.

CONFERENCE PAPERS:

Decoding the Fall of the Fortress of Babylon and its Significance in the Islamic Conquest of Egypt

Paper delivered in Gulfport, MS
Southeastern Medieval Association Conference, October 2012

The Shu’ubiyah Movement and the Return of the Pious Arab Warrior

Paper delivered in Atlanta, GA
Southeastern Medieval Association Conference, October 2011

Islamic and Syriac Apocalypses of the 7th and 8th Centuries.

Paper delivered in Roanoke, VA
Southeastern Medieval Association Conference, October 2010

Roots of Revolution: Motivations Behind Middle East Terrorism.

South Carolina Bar Association Conference. Kiawah SC. January 2010
Guest Lecture

The Spread of Islam into India.

Conference of the East-West Center of Hawaii. Charleston, SC. November 2008.
Guest Lecture

Loyalty in Transition: Bedouin Tribes and the Early Islamic Conquests

Paper delivered in Spartanburg, SC. At a conference of the Southeastern Medieval Association (SEMA). October 2007

Christian and Islamic Apocalypses of the Conquest Period

Paper delivered in Washington D.C. at a conference of the Middle East Studies Association.

November 2002.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS:

Early Islamic History and Historiography; Islamic Conquests; Military History of the Middle East; Christian/Muslim interaction; Religious Fundamentalism, Extremism, and Militancy in the Middle East; The History of Revolution in the Islamic World; Tradition and Modernity in the Islamic World; Palestinian – Israeli Conflict

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Graduate Level Courses:

Early Islamic History
 Modern Middle East History
 Arab-Israeli Conflict
 Historiography
 Non-Western History for MAT Social Studies Teachers
 Various Independent Studies

Graduate Online Courses for The Citadel Online Masters in Military History:

The Arab-Israeli Conflict
 Modern Middle East History

Undergraduate Courses:

Early Islamic History
 Modern Middle East History
 Arab-Israeli Conflict
 The Islamic Conquests
 The Golden Age of Islam
 History of the Middle East
 The Middle East: History, Religion, Culture and Policy
 Senior Capstone
 World Civilizations I
 World Civilizations II
 Western Civilization I Honors
 Western Civilization I
 Non-Western History
 Independent Studies
 War and Diplomacy in the Middle East-West
 Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Fundamentalism
 Man's Search for Happiness

Online Undergraduate Courses:

Early Islamic History
 World Civilizations II

HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS:

- 2016 Citadel 10 Year Service Award
- 2016 Citadel Football Faculty Recognition
- 2014 Citadel Football Faculty Recognition
- 2013 Outstanding Service Recognition: NROTC, The Citadel
- 2013 Citadel Football Faculty Recognition
- 2012 Citadel Research Presentation Grant
- 2012 Citadel Football Faculty Recognition
- 2011 Citadel Football Faculty Recognition
- 2011 Citadel Research Presentation Grant
- 2010 Citadel Research Presentation Grant
- 2008 Citadel Foundation Research Grant
- 2007 Citadel Research Presentation Grant
- 2006 Citadel Foundation New Faculty Research Grant
University of California Academic Senate's
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.
Research Grant, UC Santa Barbara Middle East Center.
Travel Grant, Department of History, UC Santa Barbara.
Travel Grant, UC Santa Barbara Middle East Center.
Lead Teaching Assistant. Department of History, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2004 University of California, Santa Barbara *Middle East Center Fellow.*
History Associates Fellow.
Hourigan Fellowship.
Travel Grant, Department of History, UC Santa Barbara.
- 2002 *Travel Grant*, Department of History, UC Santa Barbara.
Travel Grant, UC Santa Barbara Middle East Center.
- 2001 Foreign Language Study Grant, UC Santa Barbara.
- 1996 *Grant*, UC Santa Barbara Middle East Endowment.
Outstanding Teaching Award Nominee for Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Indiana University.
- 1993 The James J. Hudson Award for the Significant Contribution to the Study of Military History. University of Arkansas.
- 1992-1995 Phi Alpha Theta, University of Arkansas.

PUBLIC LECTURES / RADIO / TV APPEARANCES:

Available upon request

ACADEMIC SERVICE:

Curriculum & Assessment Committee	2022-2023
Committee for Online MA in Applied History	2022-2023

Citadel Sabbatical Committee	2020-2022
Henry and Jenny Johnson Endowment Department of History, The Citadel	2021-2022
Curriculum & Assessment Committee Department of History, The Citadel	2015-2022
Athletic Advisory Committee (at-large rep) The Citadel	2012-2020
School of Education MAT Liaison Department of History, The Citadel	2014-2016
Henry and Jenny Johnson Endowment Department of History, The Citadel	2014-2015
Faculty Development Committee The Citadel	2013-2014
The Citadel Middle East Studies Student Association The Citadel	2013-2014
Faculty Affairs Committee Department of History, The Citadel	2012-2013
Henry and Jenny Johnson Endowment Committee Department of History, The Citadel	2012-2013
<i>The Citadel Middle East Studies Student Association</i> The Citadel	<i>2012-2013</i>
<i>Undergraduate Admissions Committee</i> The Citadel	<i>2011-2012</i>
<i>Curriculum and Assessment Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	<i>2011-2012</i>
<i>The Citadel Middle East Studies Student Association</i> The Citadel	<i>2011-2012</i>
<i>Undergraduate Admissions Committee</i> The Citadel	<i>2010-2011</i>
<i>The Citadel Middle East Studies Student Association</i>	<i>2010-2011</i>

The Citadel	
<i>Graduate Studies Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	<i>Spring 2010</i>
<i>Curriculum and Assessment Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	<i>Fall 2010</i>
<i>The Citadel Middle East Studies Student Association</i> The Citadel	<i>2009-2010</i>
<i>Undergraduate Admissions Committee</i> The Citadel	<i>2009-2010</i>
<i>Graduate Studies Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	<i>2009-2010</i>
<i>Task Force for International Education</i> The Citadel	<i>2008-2009</i>
<i>The Citadel Middle East Studies Student Association</i> The Citadel	<i>2008-2009</i>
<i>Human Dignity Council</i> The Citadel	<i>2008-2009</i>
<i>Undergraduate Admissions Committee</i> The Citadel	<i>2008-2009</i>
<i>Graduate School Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	<i>2008-2009</i>
<i>Study Abroad Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	<i>2008-2009</i>
<i>Task Force for International Education</i> The Citadel	<i>2007-2008</i>
<i>The Citadel Middle East Studies Student Association</i> The Citadel	<i>2007-2008</i>
<i>Human Dignity Council</i> The Citadel	<i>2007-2008</i>
<i>Undergraduate Admissions Committee</i> The Citadel	<i>2007-2008</i>

<i>Curriculum and Assessment Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	2007-2008
<i>Study Abroad Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	2007-2008
<i>Human Affairs Council</i> The Citadel	2006-2007
<i>Curriculum and Assessment Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	2006-2007
<i>Promotion and Tenure Committee</i> Department of History, The Citadel	2006-2007
<i>Faculty Advisor: Phi Alpha Theta</i> Department of History, The Citadel	2006-2007

LANGUAGES:

Primary Research Languages: Arabic and French.
 Secondary Research Languages: Syriac and Biblical Hebrew.
 Basic Proficiency: Persian (Farsi), Coptic, and Ancient Egyptian.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
 American Historical Association (AHA)
 South Eastern Medieval Association (SEMA)