

RELIGIOUS STUDIES COLLOQUIUM



FEAR IN YOUR HEART: WHAT ISLAMOPHOBIA CAN TELL US ABOUT PUBLIC LIFE IN TODAY'S AMERICA

Caleb Iyer Elfenbein, Grinnell College

Thursday, September 19, 2019

6:00 p.m., MTSU State Farm Room (BAS S102)

Over the past decade, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, has been a microcosm of national trends—good and bad—relating to Muslims and Muslim communities in the United States. Dr. Elfenbein presents an interdisciplinary study of religion, race, fear, and the conditions of public life in the contemporary United States. His work explores anti-Muslim hostility—and how Muslim communities have responded—with an eye toward bigger questions about public life, including the nature and everyday practices of citizenship. He argues that anti-Muslim sentiment and hostility, more present in public life than ever before, was not an inevitable outcome of September 11, and that American Muslim communities offer a model of engagement in public life for all Americans to consider.

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