A symposium exploring Arab and Middle Eastern communities in Latin America—whether Muslim (Sunni, Shia, Druze), Jewish, Christian, or secular—in Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, and Argentina. We chart flows of migration and immigration across time and space, driven by commerce and politics, bringing languages, dialects, religions, and ethnicities into contact and new combinations. We bring together anthropologists, historians, political scientists, literary theorists, art critics, poets, converts, and filmmakers. The symposium looks at the convergences and divergences between two seemingly remote regions and cultures, with attention to allegiances forged across the Global South. We particularly examine the articulation of a radical politics across different political, cultural, and historical contexts: liberation theologies, feminism, decolonization, Marxism, and socialism. We pay special attention to the expression of these ideologies through not just political movements, but also art, music, media, film, literature, and poetry.

SPONSORS: Humanities Futures at the Franklin Humanities Institute, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Duke Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Duke Center for International Studies, Kenan Institute for Ethics-Religions and Public Life, Duke Islamic Studies Center, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, The Global Brazil Lab
LATINO ISLAM

9:30 a.m. Coffee

INTRODUCTION 10 a.m.
Kiah Glenn, Center for Muslim Life, Duke University

10:00 a.m. to 10:30
We Are All Moors
Anouar Majid, Vice President for Global Affairs and Communications, University of New England
Author of: We Are All Moors: Ending Centuries of Crusades Against Muslims and Other Minorities

10:30 a.m. to 11:00
Latinx Muslims
Harold Morales, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Morgan State University

11:00 a.m. to 11:30
Islamic Liberation Theology
Antonio de Jesús López, Masters of Fine Arts in Poetry, Rutgers University

11:30 a.m. to Noon
Q&A and DISCUSSION
Respondent:
Rodrigo Adem, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in Islamic Studies, Religious Studies, UNC

Noon to 1 p.m.
LUNCH

MIDDLE EAST & LATIN AMERICA

INTRODUCTION
Patrick Duddy, Director, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

1 p.m. to 1:30
KEYNOTE
Paul Amar, Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara
Author of: Security Archipelago: Human-Security States, Sexuality Politics, and the End of Neoliberalism
Editor of: The Middle East and Brazil: Perspectives on the New Global South

1:30 p.m. to 2
John Tofik Karam, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Author of: Another Arabesque: Syrian-Lebanese Ethnicity in Neoliberal Brazil
Editor of: Crescent over Another Horizon: Islam in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latino USA
2 p.m. to 2:30
Camila Pastor de María y Campos
Profesora Investigadora, División de Historia, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, Mexico
Author of: The Mashreq in Mexico: Patronage, Property, and Class in the Postcolonial Global

2:30 p.m. to 3
Q&A and DISCUSSION
Respondent:
Christine Folch, Cultural Anthropology, co-director of the Global Brazil Lab, Duke University

3 p.m. to 3:30
COFFEE

3:30 p.m. to 4
Christina Civantos, Modern Languages and Literatures, University of Miami
Author of: Between Argentines and Arabs: Argentine Orientalism, Arab Immigrants, & Writing of Identity

4 p.m. to 4:30
PANEL
Lily Balloffet, History, Western Carolina University, Mahjar Maps: Argentina in the Global Arab Diaspora
Steven Hyland, History, Wingate University, The Syrian Lebanese in Argentina

4:30 p.m. to 5
Q&A and DISCUSSION
Respondent:
miriam cooke, Braxton Craven Professor of Arab Cultures, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Duke
Author of: Tribal Modern: Branding New Cultures in the Arab Gulf
Dissident Syria: Making Oppositional Arts Official
Women Claim Islam: Creating Islamic Feminism Through Literature
War’s Other Voices: Women Writers on the Lebanese Civil War

5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
CLOSING COMMENTS
Walter Mignolo, Professor, Center for Global Studies and the Humanities, Duke University
Author of: Local Histories/Global Designs: Coloniality, Subaltern Knowledges, and Border Thinking
The Darker Side of the Renaissance: Literacy, Territoriality, and Colonization
The Darker Side of Western Modernity: Global Futures, Decolonial Options
The Idea of Latin America

CLOSING PERFORMANCE
The Ethnopoetic Imagination
Antonio de Jesús López, Masters of Fine Arts in Poetry, Rutgers University