

Centre for Contemporary Islam (CCI)

The CCI is located in the Department for the Study of Religions, Leslie Social Science Building, Upper Campus, room LS 5.48.

Website: www.cci.uct.ac.za

Director and Co-Director: Professor S Shaikh (Study of Religions) and Associate Professor Fatima Seedat (African Feminist Studies).

The CCI was founded in 1995 to bring attention to the scholarly study of Islam and Muslim societies and communities. From Oct 2021, under the new leadership of Prof Shaikh and A/Prof Seedat, the CCI functions as feminist, decolonial research and teaching hub for the study of Islam, gender and sexuality in Africa and globally. The CCI has housed numerous research projects over the last 26 years including Muslim Scholars in the History of the Lake Chad Area (Dr Andrea Brigaglia); Islam and Public Life in Africa and Biographies of Religious Engagement (Prof Abdulkader Tayob); South African Muslim Women: Sexuality, Marriage and Reproductive Choices and Theorizing Experience Subjectivity and Narrative in Studies of Gender and Islam (Prof Shaikh). The CCI provides a place for established and emerging researchers, as well as the general public to share ideas and develop insights about Islam and Muslim societies. Over the next five years CCI will develop research, teaching and advocacy on contemporary Muslim feminist approaches to ethics and law, to expand the epistemological foundations for gender justice and social transformation in Muslim communities.

