

BERGE J. TRABOULSI

CURRICULUM VITAE

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Born in Beirut, Lebanon (1969)
- Citizenship: Lebanese
- Married

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- The European Society for the Study of Science and Theology [www.esssat.net]
- The European Society for Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies [www.esitis.org]
- The International Orthodox Theological Association (IOTA) [<http://iota-web.org/>]
- The European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment [www.hf.ntnu.no]

PRESENT EMPLOYMENT

- Faculty Member at Haigazian University [www.haigazian.edu.lb] (1998 – till present): Lecturer (1998 – 2003); Assistant Professor of History, Religion, and Intercultural Studies (2003 – 2007); Associate Professor of History, Religion, and Intercultural Studies (2007 – till present)
- Director of the Orientation Program at Haigazian University (2003 – till present)

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS & RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- 23 years of valuable experience in Higher Education (teaching, training, and research)
- Strong Leadership and Strategic Management Capabilities
- Advanced Managerial and Problem Solving Skills
- Intercultural Management
- Human Rights Coaching
- Languages: Arabic (very good), English (very good), Greek (good), French (passable), German (basic)

HIGHER EDUCATION

- **Arab Open University [AOU] (Lebanon) / The Open University [OU] (UK),** **2015-2017**
MBA
- **American University of Beirut [AUB] (Lebanon), Graduate courses in Business Administration (14 credits)** **2001-2002**
{Courses: Management Cost Accounting, Managerial Economics, Entrepreneurship and Capital Venture, Total Quality Management, Behavior in Organizations, Organization Theory, Future Trends in Management, Organization Design Workshop}
- **Notre Dame University [NDU] (Lebanon), Prerequisite undergraduate courses for MBA (30 credits)** **1997-1998**
{Courses: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Accounting, Statistics, Principles of Marketing, Principles of Management, Finance, Math for Business and Economics}
- **National University of Athens (Greece), Doctorate in Theology [Church History]** **1991-1997**
- **University of Balamand (Lebanon), License in Theology** **1987-1991**

RESEARCH INTEREST

- History and World Religions
- Philosophy and Applied Ethics
- Intercultural & Interreligious Relationships
- Human Rights
- Theology, Religion, and Science in the 21st Century
- Higher Education in the 21st Century
- Nonprofit Administration: Leadership, Change Management, Organizational Culture & Climate, Organization Development
- Church Issues: Modern Church Challenges, Church Reform and Church Administration

ACADEMIC LECTURES & PAPERS PRESENTED AT COLLOQUIA, CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, SEMINARS AND MEETINGS

- *"Orthodox Traditionalism and Creative Pluralism: Praying with Icons and the Communication with Saints in the Digital Era"* (presented at the Eighteenth ESSSAT Conference on Science and Theology, Madrid, Spain, 2021)
- *"The Orthodox Bishop as a Change Leader in Multi-cultural and Multi-religious Societies: A Stakeholder Analysis"* (presented at ESITIS Conference on *"The Hope and Despair of Religions: Exploring the Nexus of Theory and Practice"*, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2019)
- *"Curriculum Reform in Higher Education: Redesigning the Intercultural Studies Programs"* (presented at Haigazian University Symposium on *"The Relevance of Intercultural Studies in the 21st Century"*, Beirut, Lebanon, 2019)
- *"Toward Reforming the Office of the Bishop in the Orthodox Church: The Importance of Modern Leadership Development"* (presented at the International Orthodox Theological Association [IOTA] Inaugural Conference on *"Pan-Orthodox Unity and Conciliarity"*, Iași, Romania, January 2019), available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2CiklbTEcCA&t=27s>
- *"Eastern Orthodox Theology and Naturalism: A Critical Analysis of a Controversial Relationship"* (presented at the Seventeenth European Conference on Science and Theology [ESSSAT 2018], Lyon, France, 2018)
- *"Toward a 'Continuous Reform' in the Orthodox Church"* (presented at the International Colloquium on RE:FORMATIONS↔MODERNITIES↔ORTHODOXIES, ICED-ISCC, Rome, Italy, 2017), available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oqJmiAQy-P0&t=1s>
- *"Breaking Down the Current Complex Refugee & Migrant Crisis in Europe: Analysis of Paradoxical Integration Values, Challenges, Strategies and Solutions"* (presented at The European Society for Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies [ESITIS] Conference, University of Münster, Germany, 2017)
- *"The Role of the Middle East Council of Churches vis-à-vis the Migrant and Refugee Crisis in Europe"* (presented at the Middle East Council of Churches Partners Meeting, Adma, Lebanon, 2016)
- *"A Clash of Value Systems: Acculturation of Migrants & Refugees from the Middle East in Europe"* (presented at the International Seminar on *"Interreligious and Intercultural Relations in a Time of Conflict and Migration in the MENA Region: Comparative Perspectives"* - Haigazian University/Lebanon & College of St. Benedict/St. John's University/USA, Beirut, Lebanon, 2016)
- *"Human Uniqueness and God's Image and Likeness: Analysis of Problematic and paradoxical Ideals in a Corrupt and Changing World"* (presented at the Sixteenth European Conference on Science and Theology [ESSSAT 2016], Łódź, Poland, 2016)
- *"Emotions and Orthodox Spirituality during Turbulent Times: Analysis of FB Expressions over the Abduction of Metropolitan Paul (Yazigi) of Aleppo"* (presented at the Fifteenth European Conference on Science and Theology [ESSSAT 2014], Assisi, Italy, 2014)
- *"Citizenship and Participation in Public Life – Middle East"* (presented at the Fourth Colloquium Syriacum on *"Towards a Culture of Co-Existence in Pluralistic Societies in the Middle East and in India"* – PRO ORIENTE, Austria, 2013)
- *"The Paradox of Christian Minorities: Contribution vs. Persecution"* (presented at the European–Arab Conference on *"The Contribution of Religious Minorities to Society"* - University of Vienna, Austria, 2013)
- *"Peace in a Turbulent Middle East: Cost of Change"* (presented at an International Colloquium on *"Solidarité et Paix"* - University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], Lebanon, 2012)

- *"Being Fruitful and Filling the Earth: A Theological and Bioethical Dilemma about Technology and Surrogacy"* (presented at the Fourteenth European Conference on Science and Theology [ESSAT 2012], Tartu, Estonia, 2012)
- *"Islam in the European Union: A Question of Acculturation or Incompatibility?"* (presented at *The European Society for Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies [ESITIS] Conference, Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey, 2011*)
- *"Bishop Euthymius El Saïfi and Uniatism: A Critical Reading"* (presented at a Symposium about Bishop Euthymius El Saïfi and the 300-year-old monastery of St. Savior –Joun, 2011).
- *"Freedom of Thought, Opinion and Expression' within an Eastern Mediterranean Context: Critical Reflections"* (presented at the International Conference on "L'Espace Méditerranéen: Profils et Défis" - University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], Lebanon, 2011)
- *"The 'People of God' between Temptation and Damnation: Challenges and Prospective Solutions"* (presented at the international conference on "The People of God in Bible and Tradition: Semantic Implications and Modern Relevance", University of Balamand, St. John of Damascus Institute of Theology, Lebanon, 2010)
- *"Ethical Challenges in Today's Higher Education Institutions in Lebanon: A Stakeholder Analysis"* (presented at the inter-disciplinary.net 2nd Global Conference - Ethics in Public Life, Salzburg, Austria, 2010)
- *"The Decline of the Christian Presence in a Multiconfessional Lebanon: Missions vs. Visions"* (presented at the international conference on "Church and Mission in a Multiconfessional Third Millennium", Aarhus University, Denmark, 2010)
- *"Secularism in a Multi-Confessional Lebanon: Religious Obstacles and Prospective Solutions"* (presented at the International Conference on "Vers une Laïcité Revisitée" - University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], Lebanon, 2009)
- *"E-dialogue, e-discussion, or e-conflict about religions, human rights, and politics? A problematic use of 'sacred' texts in the Christian-Muslim Cyber-relationship"* (presented at The European Society for Intercultural Theology and Interreligious Studies [ESITIS] Conference, University of Salzburg, Austria, 2009)
- *"The Challenges of Teaching about Religions in a Multi-confessional Lebanon: Case Study Haigazian University (1998-2008)"* (presented at the international conference on "Trois Religions, Un Seul Homme" - University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], Lebanon, 2008)
- *"From Pedagogy to Webagogy in Higher Education: Perspectives and Prospectives"* (presented at the I-TCE conference, Gulf University for Science and Technology, Kuwait, 2008)
- *"Citizenship in Multicultural Lebanon: A Critical Approach"* (presented at the international conference on "La Citoyenneté, Projet d'Etat pour une Nouvelle Société", University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], Lebanon, 2007)
- *"Introduction to Election Monitoring"* (Haigazian University / Foundation for Human & Humanitarian Rights-Lebanon, 2006)
- *"Lebanon in the Wind: Some Remarks on the Lebanese Politics since February 14, 2005"* (The Middle East Regional Workshop of the World Conference on Religion and Peace – Lebanon, 2006)
- *"Ethical Leadership in a Turbulent Lebanon"* (presented at the International Conference on "God and the Right to be Different" - University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], Lebanon, 2005)
- *"Some Aspects of the Protestant Influence on Greek Orthodoxy in Modern Times"* (Near East School of Theology [NEST], Lebanon, 2000)

UNPUBLISHED PROJECTS & DISSERTATIONS

- *"Nurturing Reform Culture and Developing Change Leadership in a Traditional Religious Context: The Case of the Orthodox Church of Antioch"* (Unpublished MBA final project, Arab Open University, Lebanon Branch, 2017)
- *"The Uniatism in the Patriarchate of Antioch and the Relations between the Orthodox and the Uniates in Lebanon (1722-1848)"* (Unpublished doctorate dissertation, National University of Athens, Greece, 1997) [<http://phdtheses.ekt.gr/eadd/handle/10442/12249>]
- *"The Sacrament of Marriage in the Orthodox Church"* (Unpublished License thesis, University of Balamand, Lebanon, 1991)

PUBLISHED PAPERS

- “*Eastern Orthodox Theology and Naturalism: A Critical Analysis of a Controversial Relationship*” in Michael Fuller, Dirk Evers, Anne Runehov, Knut-Willy Sæther, and Bernard Michollet (Eds.), *Studies in Science and Theology*, vol. 17, *Are We Special?*, Bamberg: ESSSAT, 2020 (ISBN 978-3-00-058578-4), pp. 149-165.
- “*Human Uniqueness and God’s Image and Likeness: Analysis of Problematic and paradoxical Ideals in a Corrupt and Changing World*”, in Dirk Evers, Michael Fuller, Anne Runehov and Knut-Willy Sæther (Eds.), *Studies in Science and Theology*, vol. 16, *Are We Special?*, Bamberg: ESSSAT, 2018 (ISBN 978-3-00-058578-4), pp. 171-191.
- “*Emotions and Orthodox Spirituality during Turbulent Times: Analysis of FB Expressions over the Abduction of Metropolitan Paul (Yazigi) of Aleppo*”, in Dirk Evers, Michael Fuller, Anne Runehov and Knut-Willy Sæther (Eds.), *Studies in Science and Theology*, vol. 15, *Do Emotions Shape the World?*, Bamberg: ESSSAT, 2016 (ISBN 978-3-00-051976-5), pp. 167-181.
- “*Being Fruitful and Filling the Earth: A Theological and Bioethical Dilemma about Technology and Surrogacy*”, in Dirk Evers, Michael Fuller, Antje Jackelén and Knut-Willy Sæther (Eds.), *Studies in Science and Theology*, vol. 14, *What is Life?*, Halle: ESSSAT, 2014 (ISBN 978-3-00-045565-0), pp. 243-259.
- “The Cries of the Little Ones...: A Reading in the Vatican Summit (February 21-24, 2019) on the Protection of Minors in the Church” [In Arabic] (Al Nour 2019, 75[3], 129-135)
- “Towards Restoring “Unity and Conciliarity”: “IOTA” as the Event in the Orthodox World” [In Arabic] (Al Nour 2019, 75[1], 17-20)
- “The Dialectic Relationship between Theology and Science in the Contemporary Orthodox Context” [In Arabic] (Al Nour 2018, 74[6], 364-386)
- “A Sower Went out to Seed, “Now and Here”: A Reading in the Articles of Fr. George Massouh [In Arabic] (Al Nour 2018, 74[4], 235-238)
- “A Reading in the Book of George N. Nahas “*The Orthos-Doxa and the Status of the Orthodox Church: Likeness and Image*” (In Arabic), in *Majallat al Nour*, 69(5), September 2013, pp. 264-268.
- “Freedom of Thought, Opinion and Expression’ within an Eastern Mediterranean Context: Critical Reflections”, in *Annales de Philosophie & des Sciences Humaines*, University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], (no 28), 2012, pp. 465-474.
- “*Bishop Euthymius El Saïfi and Uniatism: A Critical Reading*”, in *Nafhat al Moukhaliss*, (vol 50), Saida, 2012, pp. 20-35.
- “*The Ethical Challenges of Executive Leadership: A Stakeholder Analysis*”, in *Pertinence*, The Antonine University [UPA], (no 4), 2011, pp. 237-253.
- “*Ethical Challenges in Today’s Higher Education Institutions in Lebanon: A Stakeholder Analysis*”, in Louis Colombo and Aaran Vlasak (Eds), *The Public Life of Ethics*, Oxford: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2010 (ISBN: 978-1-84888-029-0), pp. 29-36.
- “*Secularism in a Multi-Confessional Lebanon: Religious Obstacles and Prospective Solutions*”, in *Annales de Philosophie & des Sciences Humaines*, University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], (no 25), 2009, pp. 269-180.
- “*Religiousness and Extremism: A Dialectic Perspective*” (In Arabic), in *Adyan*, (The Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue, (no 0), 2009, pp. 44-55.
- “*The Challenges of Teaching about Religions in a Multi-confessional Lebanon: Case Study Haigazian University (1998-2008)*”, in *Annales de Philosophie & des Sciences Humaines*, University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], (no 24, vol 2), 2008, pp. 268-282.
- “*From Pedagogy to Webagogy in Higher Education: Perspectives and Prospectives*” in *I-TCE Proceedings*, Gulf University for Science and Technology, Kuwait, 2008, pp. 223-229.
- “*Citizenship in Multicultural Lebanon: A Critical Approach*”, in *Annales de Philosophie & des Sciences Humaines*, University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], (no 23, vol 2), 2007, pp. 97-113.
- “*Some Aspects of Protestant-Orthodox Relations in Modern Times: A Historical Analysis*”, in *Chronos*, University of Balamand, (no 16), 2007, pp. 69-94.
- “*The Synodical Letter of the Council of Antioch (324/325) and the Nicene Creed (325): A Study in the History of Doctrine*” (In Arabic), in *Chronos*, University of Balamand, (no 13), 2006, pp. 37-61.
- “*Ethical Leadership in a Turbulent Lebanon*”, in *Annales de Philosophie & des Sciences Humaines*, University of the Holy Spirit-Kaslik [USEK], (no 21, vol 2), 2005, pp. 21-32.

- “Cyril Lucaris, the Calvinist Patriarch” (In Arabic), in *Al-Nashra* (The Evangelical Synod in Syria and Lebanon) (119)4-5, April- May, 2005, pp. 288-293, 336-342.
- “The Church and Civil Marriage” (In Arabic), in *Al-Nashra* (The Evangelical Synod in Syria and Lebanon), (117)6, June 2003, pp. 378-382.
- “The Theological Conflict between the Greek Orthodox and the Greek Catholics at the Antiochian Patriarchate, 1722-1848” (In Arabic), in *Chronos* (University of Balamand), (no 7), 2003, pp. 53-99.
- “The Greek Catholics at the Antiochian Patriarchate, from an Ecclesiastical Community to Church-Millet, 1722-1848” (In Arabic), in *Chronos* (University of Balamand), (no 4), 2001, pp. 91-128.
- “The Monastery and the University of Balamand” (In Greek) [Co-authored with Assaad Kattan] (Aristotelian University of Thessalonica, in *Kath’ Odhon*, 1994.
- Several Theological Papers concerning Marriage and Priesthood Presented to the Holy Synod of the Antiochian Orthodox Church, 1993-1994 (In Arabic)

UNPUBLISHED PAPERS

- “A Critical Reading of the Code of Ethics of the Lebanese Association of Businessmen”, a study submitted to the Dean of Business and Economics at the Notre Dame University, Lebanon, 2004
- “Man & Religious Freedom: A Theological Approach”, 2001
- “The Byzantine Icon: A Theological Perspective”, 1997

BOOKS IN PROGRESS

- *Not Despots but Bishops: An Introduction to Church Leadership*
- *The Christians in Lebanon at Globalized Crossroads: the Dramatic Decline*
- *Church Reform: Threats and Opportunities*
- *Citizenship in a Globalized World: A Crosscultural Analysis*
- *Churches and Contemporary World Challenges: Traditionalism vs. Modernism*

COMMUNITY AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Human and humanitarian rights activist and coach
- Social Media activist
- Participating in various webinars on Online Religions, Online Education, and Science and Religion.
- Giving a 90-minute session on “The Christians in the Middle East and their Critical Concerns” to two diplomats from the Artsakh Foreign Ministry (May 9, 2019)
- Leading and administering The ‘Orthodox Reform Group’ on Facebook (2013 – till present) which deals with the challenges that the Church is facing in our modern time. Moreover, it discusses the issue of ecclesiastical reform. Several proposals and suggestions are already published at the Group’s Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Orthodox-Reform/495612697167072>
- Writing and publishing short studies on Church Reform [Uploaded on [Academia.edu](https://www.academia.edu) and [Orthodox Reform Facebook Page](#)]
- Public lectures on various themes such, “Change in the Lebanese Politics” (2013), “The Decline of the Christian Presence in Lebanon” (2010); “Secularism in a Multiconfessional Lebanon” (2010); “Challenges and Encounters in the 21st c. Middle East” (2009); “Jehovah Witnesses’ Challenges” (2006); “Jesus Christ the Leader” (2005); “Religious Freedom and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights” (2005); “The teachings of Christ in Islam” (2005); “The Christ Son of Mary in Islam” (2005); “Civil marriage – A Dilemma in a Multi-confessional Lebanon” (2004); “The Christian-Muslim Dialogue” (2003); “Introduction to Islam” (2003); “What a civilization is” (2002); “Some aspects of Protestant-Orthodox Relationships” (2000); “Mary, the Mother of the Lord: A Critical Analysis” (1998).
- Media appearances on issues related to ‘Human Rights’, ‘Politics’, ‘Religious Tolerance’, ‘Citizenship’: a) on OTV at [Hiwar al Yawm](#) حوار اليوم [Dec. 28, 2011] and at [Nouqta Fasila](#) نقطة فاصلة [Oct. 17, 2020]; b) on the National Public Radio in Peter Kenyon’s reportage about “Christian Maronites Tensions Rise Ahead of Elections” [Nov. 8, 2007]; c) on Egypt Sat News (3 times) [2006-2007], d) on Télé Liban in a documentary on “Religious Tolerance” [2006]; e) on Télé Lumière in a talk show about “Harriri’s Assassination and Human Rights in Lebanon” [2005].
- Participating in conferences/seminars in Lebanon, Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Italy, Poland, Germany, France, Romania, Turkey, Kuwait, and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

- Examining cultural sites in Lebanon, Syria, Cyprus, Greece, Austria, Italy, Turkey, France, Denmark, Romania, Estonia, Poland, and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

- Teaching World Religions, Philosophy, Ethics, Intercultural Studies, and History of Civilizations at Haigazian University [1998 – till present]
- Directing the Orientation Program at Haigazian University (2003 - till present):
 - Leading a qualified team (Faculty, staff and students/volunteers) to orient undergraduate students about issues related to academic, social, and intercultural affairs.
 - Publishing the “OR Dialog Letter” which enables university students to develop their abilities to think, research, study, and learn. Moreover, it encourages them to understand, respect, and tolerate diversity, and it guides them in managing their life and time.
- Advising senior administrators and Faculty members on issues pertaining to ‘leadership and change in higher education’, ‘quality in higher education’, ‘marketing higher education’, ‘ethics in higher education’, ‘online learning in higher education’, ‘student recruitment’, and ‘alumni issues’
- Conducting a professional workshop organized by Haigazian University Student Life Office and Center for Continuing Education on “Leadership Development” attended by HU Staff & Students and Bank Al-Barakah Staff (February 10, 2018)
- Serving on many committees at Haigazian University [HU]:
 - *International Seminar ad hoc Committee* (2016)
 - *60th Anniverssary Committee* (2013-2015)
 - *Recruitment Committee* (2004-2007, 3 times chairperson) [Major contribution and achievement: *Recruitment Committee Proposal [2006-2007]* proposing the establishment of quality assurance and human resources units, the updating of both faculty and staff handbooks, the revision of policies pertaining to faculty development, evaluations, and benefits, and the re-engineering of standing committees at HU]
 - *Faculty Personnel Committee* (2005-2007, Chairperson, 2006-2007) [Major contribution and achievement: *Faculty Personnel Committee Proposal [2006-2007]* pertaining to the development of a strong marketing strategy at HU]
 - *Student Life Committee* (2005-2006)
 - *50th Anniverssary On Campus Committee* (2005)
 - *Faculty Handbook ad hoc Committee* (2003-2004)
 - *Spiritual Life Committee* (1998-2003)
- Being an external examiner for a Doctoral Dissertation at the Faculty of Theology – University of Pretoria, South Africa (2014 – 2016)
- Teaching undergraduate courses on “Cultural Studies” at the Lebanese American University (Spring 2012 – Spring 2013)
- Teaching a graduate course on ‘Human Resources Administration’ at the Middle East University (Summer 2011)
- Teaching ‘Greek New Testament’ at the Middle East University (Summer 2011)
- Teaching an online course entitled “the Church and Contemporary Challenges” at Al-Kalima Program of St. John of Damascus Institute of Theology-University of Balamand (Spring 2010)
- Lecturing in Business Ethics at the Notre Dame University-Lebanon (2003 – 2005)
- Conducting a half-day workshop on “Business Ethics, Business Etiquette, and Organizational Culture” at Group7-Lebanon (2004)
- Being the first reader to a doctoral final project entitled “Policies and Regulations of Lebanon Baptist Seminary” (185 pages, single line spacing) in Educational Management for Rev. Dr. Edgard Traboulsi presented to Luther Rice Seminary [www.lrs.edu], May 2002
- Teaching Biblical Languages at the Middle East University (2001)
- Being a Part time lecturer in Humanities at Haigazian University and two other institutions of higher education (1998 – 2003)
- Translating from Greek into Arabic, in 1997, several official documents for the election of the Greek Orthodox Alexandrian Patriarch (Petros I).
- Co-Writing theological articles about the Sacraments presented to the Holy Synod of the Greek Orthodox Church of Antioch, in 1994.
- Writing the constitution and by-laws of the School of Religious Education at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut (Lebanon), in 1993.