

Islam Specialist Raymond Ibrahim to Speak at SWOSU on September 8

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Islam specialist and widely published author Raymond Ibrahim will speak at Southwestern Oklahoma State University on Thursday, September 8, on the Weatherford campus.

Ibrahim's appearance at SWOSU is sponsored by the Political Science Association.

He will talk at 6 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom. Admission is free, and the public is invited. The focus of his presentation will be Middle East issues and how they affect the United States.

A Shillman Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center, Ibrahim maintains his own section on FrontPage Magazine, "[Raymond's Intersection](#)," where he explores the pivotal but ignored point where Islam and Christianity intersect, including by examining the latest on Christian persecution, translating pertinent Arabic news that never reaches the West, and more. He also contributes regularly to Jihad Watch.

Born in the United States to Egyptian parents, Ibrahim was raised in a bilingual environment and is fluent in Arabic, including colloquial dialects. After a brief athletic career—including winning the 1993 Mr. LA bodybuilding championship as a teenager—Ibrahim went on to receive his B.A. and M.A. (both in history, focusing on the ancient and medieval Near East, with dual-minors in philosophy and literature) from California State University, Fresno.

He also took graduate courses at the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies of Georgetown University—including on the history, culture, politics, and economics of the Arab world—and studied Medieval Islamic history and Semitic languages at the Catholic University of America.

Ibrahim's writings, translations and observations have appeared in a variety of publications, including newspapers such as the *Financial Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *New York Times* Syndicate, *United Press International*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, and *Washington Times*; scholarly journals, including the *Almanac of Islamism*, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Jane's Islamic Affairs Analyst*, *Middle East Quarterly*, and *Middle East Review of International Affairs*; and popular websites and magazines, such as *American Thinker*, *Bloomberg*, *FrontPage Magazine*, *Hudson NY*, *National Review Online*, *Pajamas Media*, and *Weekly Standard*.