Khaled Furani, Tel-Aviv University, “Redeeming Anthropology: A Theological Critique of a Modern Science (Oxford University Press, 2019)”

Khaled Furani is an associate professor of Anthropology at Tel-Aviv University and a Senior Research Fellow at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute. His research interests include social theory, modernity, language and literature, secularism, Palestine, and the history of anthropology. His ethnography Silencing the Sea: Secular Rhythms in Palestinian Poetry appeared in 2012 (Stanford University Press), and his last book examining relations between anthropology and theology appeared in 2019 (Oxford University Press). His most recent research imagines a Palestinian critique of modern sovereignty.

Sibylle Lustenberger, University of Fribourg, Switzerland, “Judaism in Motion: The Making of Same-Sex Parenthood in Israel (Palgrave 2020)”

Sibylle Lustenberger specializes in the ongoing significance of kinship for the (re)production of collective identities and societal structures in (post)modern states. She is particularly interested in the dynamic interplay between kinship, politics, religion, and capitalism. For her work on Judaism in Motion: The Making of Same-Sex Parenthood in Israel (Palgrave 2020), Sibylle has conducted long-term ethnographic research in Israel and fieldwork in Mumbai, where she studied gay men’s experiences with transnational surrogacy. Findings of this research have been published in venues including Sexualities, Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies, and Israel Studies Review. Sibylle serves as a board-member of the Journal of the Swiss Anthropological Association. She is a faculty member at the Department of Social Sciences at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland, where she is developing a new project on the social organization of renewable electricity production in the Swiss Alps and the role that kinship therein plays.