

# “Visiting Scholars on Islam”

Three Evenings this Spring

5:30 in Lane’s Center for Meeting and Learning

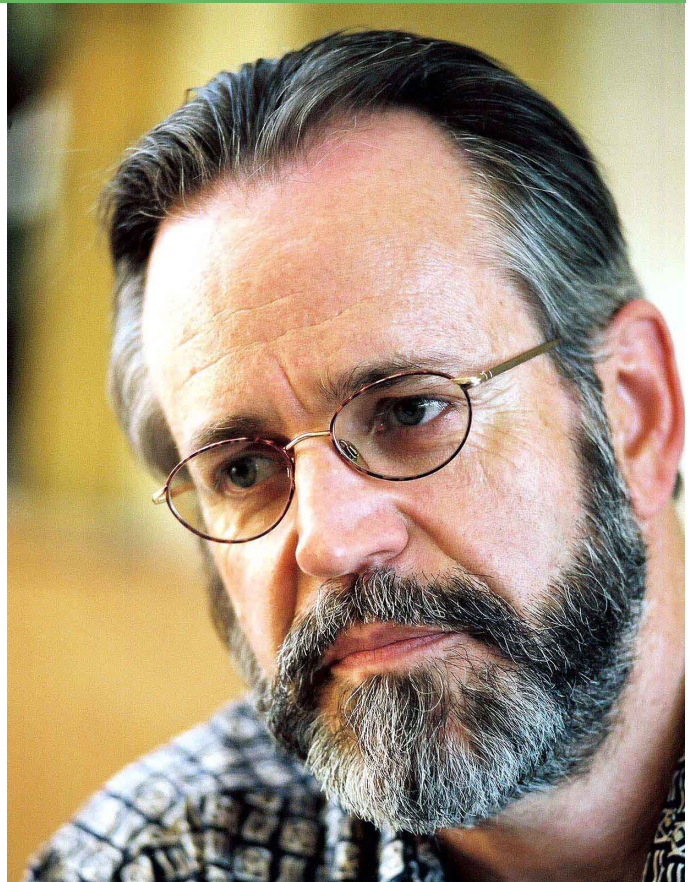
**Carl Ernst** Date: March 8, 2011

**Title:**

*“Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary Era”*

**Abstract:**

This will provide an overall introduction to the subject of Islam using an historical approach that will also address certain key contemporary issues, including the historic presence of Muslims in Europe and America, and the significance of anti-Muslim prejudice today. Other topics will include basic features of Islamic law and ethics (shari`a), theologies, and relations with other religious traditions. The lecture will be followed by a moderated discussion. This and other lectures in the series will be free and open to the entire community.



**Bio:**

Carl W. Ernst is William R. Kenan, Jr., Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and director of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations. Ernst is a specialist on Islam in West and South Asia, and author of more than eight scholarly books, including the prizewinning work *Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World* (UNC Press, 2003; also translated into six other languages) and co-editor of a recent collection of essays entitled *Rethinking Islamic Studies: From Orientalism to Cosmopolitanism* (USC Press, 2010).