**Raiya (Taha) Thomure**, raiya.thomure@mail.utoronto.ca

# **PUBLICATIONS:**

**Taha, R.** & Sailofsky, D. (2025). ‘But she’s not even trans!’: A rhetorical analysis of ‘liberal feminist’ defenses of Imane Khelif amid Olympic transvestigations. **Submitted** to *International Review for the Sociology of Sport* — **awaiting review**

**Taha-Thomure, R.**, Milne, A., Kavanagh, E., & Stirling, A. (2022). Gender-Based Violence against Trans\* Individuals: A Netnography of Mary Gregory’s Experience in Powerlifting. Frontiers in Psychology, 13, 854452-854452. DOI: 10.3389/fpsyg.2022.854452.

De Lisio, E. E. A., Fusco, C., Woodworth, S., & **Taha-Thomure, R.** (2023). Shelter in Place: Pandemic Prudentialism and Park Space in Toronto/Tkaronto. ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies, 22(6), 1418–1441.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

**Taha, R.** (2025). “Interrogating Colonial Fantasies in Hijabi Fetish Porn.” Sexual Diversity Studies Colloquium, University of Toronto.

**Taha, R.,** Hamdonah, Z., & Joseph, J. (2024). “The Decolonial Use of Parkour in Gaza as Embodied Freedom Under Zionist Fascism.” North American Society for the Sociology of Sport Conference (NASSS), Chicago, (October 2024)

**Taha-Thomure, R.** & Hamdonah, Z. (2024). “Palestinian Parkour in Gaza as Decolonial Praxis.” Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP); Montreal, QC

**Taha-Thomure, R**. (2023) “Trans\* Athletes and the State of Gender-Based Violence in North American Sport”. Presented at the World Congress of Sociology of Sport, Ottawa, ON (Aug. 2023) and the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport Conference, New Orleans, (Nov. 2023)

**Taha-Thomure, R**. (2021). “Gender-Based Violence against Trans\* Individuals: A Media Analysis of Mary Gregory’s Experience in Powerlifting.” **Bertha Rosenstadt National Undergraduate Conference**, March 2021, UofT.

# **GUEST LECTURES/PANELS:**

* “Parkour in Palestine: Defying Necropolitics and Enacting Decolonial Praxis”. ***Guest lecture*** for KPE405: Race and Indigeneity in Sport, Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education, University of Toronto, 2025
* “Two-Spirit, Trans, and Non-Binary in Academia”. ***Panel guest*** for McGill University’s Queer History Month programming, 2024
* “Trans\* Athletes in Sport and Recreation”. ***Guest lecture*** for KPE403: Gender(s) and Sexualities in Sport, Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education, University of Toronto, 2024
* “Gender-Based Violence and Trans\* Athletes”. ***Guest lecture*** for KPE403: Gender(s) and Sexualities in Sport, Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education, University of Toronto, 2022
* “Anti-Racist Feminist Reflections on Sport, Play, and Embodiment”. ***Panel Moderator***, York University Congress, 2023, Women's and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes
* “Transgender Women Athletes and Elite Sport: A Scientific Review” ***Expert Researcher*** on transgender sport participation and policy by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and Athlete Ally to present to the National Collegiate Athletics Association (**NCAA**), 2023

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:**

**University of Toronto:** (Feb. 2022 – Present)

**Research Assistant** for SSHRC Insight Development Grant: “Sports Should Not Cost The Earth: Towards an interspecies equity ­based sustainability.” (Principal Investigator, Dr. Caroline Fusco).

* **Duties Include:** Conducting literature reviews, document analysis, survey writing/building, and presenting knowledge to relevant organizations.

**Research Assistant** for Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport Grant (Principal Investigators, Drs. Gretchen Kerr and Dr. Caroline Fusco)

* **Duties Include:** Conducting literature reviews, document analysis, survey writing/building, and presenting knowledge to relevant organizations on transgender sport policy

**Research Assistant** for Dr. Tricia McGuire-Adams on topics of Indigeneity as they relate to women in trauma-informed martial arts, and their body image conceptualizations.

* **Duties Include**: Scoping the field, conducting literature reviews, conducting interviews, data analysis

**Research Fellow** for the Athlete Ally x Adidas Athletic Equality Index (AEI). (Feb. 2023 – Jan. 2024)

* **Duties Include:** auditing US universities on eight metrics relating to policy and practice around equity issues, as well as meeting with athletic departments to work on their scores and being involved in the evolution of the AEI.

**Research Assistant** for Athlete Ally. (Aug. 2023 – Dec. 2023)

* **Duties** **Include**: working on the 2022 Media Project, coding data from news articles, and finding demographic information about 500+ LGBTQ+ athletes.

## OTHER RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE:

## Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education, UofT

(Fall, 2024) **KPE403H1** F: Gender(s) and Sexualities in Sport, Dr. Caroline Fusco

(Winter 2025, Winter 2024) **KPE240H1** S: Indigenous & Black Histories: Health Healing and Physical Activity, Dr. Tricia McGuire-Adams

* + **Duties Include**: Tutorial leadership, lesson planning, TA meetings, marking assignments and exams

(Fall, 2023) **KPE200H1** F: Physical Cultural Studies: Theories, Bodies, Politics, and Praxis, Dr. Caroline Fusco

* + **Duties Include**: Tutorials Leader, Preparing for weekly tutorials, Teaching Assistant Meeting, Marking/Grading Assignments and Exams, Inputting grades

**Part-Time Coach**, Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education’s Fitness and Performance division, UofT (September 2024-Present)

* **Duties Include**: 1-on-1 personal training, group fitness instruction, program and coaching lead for IMPACT Proud (fitness course specifically designed for 2SLGBTQIA+ members), program design and evaluation

**Community Engagement Assistant** (Hart House, UofT, SEPTEMBER 2021 - APRIL 2022)

* **Duties Included:** the coordination and facilitation of sport programming for LGBTQ+ refugees/newcomers, as well as assisting in partnerships with community youth organizations

## AWARDS

**Hallam Award of Excellence (June 2025),** Award for outstanding achievement to the student achieving the highest grade at the doctoral level in the SDS1000 course. $1000 total value.

**Weinbaum Family Foundation Scholarship (September 2023),** Entrance scholarship for the PhD in KPE program. $8,335.43 total value.

**Audrey Hozack Leadership Award (May 2022)**, Hart House award for leadership. $1257.90 total value.

**Athlete Ally x Adidas Research Fellowship (2022-2023)**, $8,000USD total value.

**Alumni Shield (June 2022)**, Graduation scholarship from the B.Kin program.

**R. Tait McKenzie Society (inducted June 2022),** Kinesiology undergraduate honors society.

**Dean’s Leadership Award (June 2022)**, KPE leadership award in fourth year undergrad.

**Valedictorian (2018),** Dubai American Academy high school valedictorian.

## EDUCATION

**Direct-Entry PhD Kinesiology, Collaborative Specialization in Sexual Diversity Studies (completed),** Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, UofT (2023-present)

* Physical Cultural Studies stream with a focus on social justice, decoloniality studies, and gender/sexuality in movement cultures
* cGPA: 4.0

**B.Kin**, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, UofT (2018-2022)

* Graduated with high honors (GPA 3.91)

## SERVICE WORK & COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS:

* Muslim, Arab, and Palestinian Discrimination Working Group (MAP DWG), Arab Sub-Committee member (January 2025-present)
* Founding member of SSJP: Sport Sociologists for Justice in Palestine
* Member (graduate student, voting), Council of Athletics and Recreation (CAR), UofT KPE
* Brian Pronger Memorial Lectureship Committee (2022-2023)
* Undergraduate Equity Sub-Committee, Chair, (2021-2022)
* Equity Committee Member, KPE, UofT, (2021-2022)
* Equity Census Roundtable Member, UofT, (2020-2021)

# **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

Queer Poetics: Annual Queer Directions Experimental Classroom, Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, UofT (2025)

Brian Pronger Graduate Theory Master Class, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education (2023)

Pleasure as Method Master Class, Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies, UofT (2024)

Modern Standard Arabic Level IV, School of Continuing Studies Certificate, UofT (2023-2024)