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[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Areas of Expertise](#) [News](#) [Events](#) [Grants](#) [People](#) [Publications](#) [Contact Us](#)

[home](#) > [events](#) > [april 2010](#) > charles butterworth

[September](#)

*National Security Speaker Series*

[October](#)

## **Charles Butterworth**

[November](#)

[December](#)

"Political Aspects of Prophecy in Islamic Philosophy"

[January](#)

Thursday, April 15, 2010

[February](#)

Noon

[March](#)

Mershon Center for International Security Studies  
1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

[April](#)

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[May](#)

[Events Archive](#)

Charles Butterworth is emeritus professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland, College Park. He specializes in medieval Arabic and Islamic political philosophy, and pursuit of this academic interest has permitted him to live and study in most of the Arabic speaking countries of the Middle East and North Africa as well as in Europe.

Butterworth's publications include critical editions of most of the Middle Commentaries written by Averroes on Aristotle's logic; translations of books and treatises by Averroes, Alfarabi, and Alrazi, as well as Maimonides; and studies of different aspects of the political teaching of these and other thinkers in the ancient, medieval, and modern tradition of philosophy. His goal in these endeavors is to help recover the deep learning within the Arabic and Islamic tradition, present it in its original terms as well as in modern Western expressions, and to analyze and interpret it as a means of assisting others to discern its great value.

Before joining the faculty of the University of Maryland, Butterworth taught at the University of Chicago and Federal City College (now the University of the District of Columbia). He has also taught at St. John's College, Georgetown University, and Harvard University, in addition to Marmara University, the University of Bordeaux, the University of Grenoble, the University of Paris I (Sorbonne), the University of Paris X



Charles Butterworth  
Emeritus Professor of  
Government and Politics  
University of Maryland -  
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(Nanterre), and the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes.

For several years Butterworth was the Principal Investigator for the Smithsonian sponsored project in Medieval Islamic Logic in Cairo, Egypt. He has also been the Principal Investigator for a project on Medieval Islamic Logic sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Butterworth received his M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Chicago as well as a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Nancy in France. He has studied at the University of Ayn Shams in Egypt as well as at the University of Bordeaux.

*This event is co-sponsored by the [Middle East Studies Center](#) and the [Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures](#).*

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