ISAS and Pakistan@Berkeley, a campaign to broaden and deepen Pakistan related research, teaching and programming at UC Berkeley, are delighted to welcome Prof. Ali Anooshahr, Associate Professor of History at UC Davis who specializes in Comparative Islamic Empires and Indo-Persian Cultures to UC Berkeley to deliver a lecture on his recent research work.

Ali Anooshahr received his BA from the University of Texas at Austin in 1998. He spent the next two years in “teachers’ boot camp” as a substitute teacher in the Houston Independent School District. He was subsequently admitted to UCLA’s History Department where he obtained his MA (2002) and PhD (2005) in Islamic History. He was a CLIR-Mellon post-doctoral fellow in 2005-6 and Ahmanson-Getty Fellow in 2006-7. He used that time to convert his dissertation into a book manuscript, teach courses at the Cal State system, and catalog Persian, Ottoman, and Arabic manuscripts at UCLA Library’s Special Collections. After a year of teaching at Saint Xavier University in Chicago, he moved to Davis in 2008 as a scholar of “comparative Islamic Empires”. In his book and articles, Anooshahr focuses particularly on the transmissions of texts and individuals along networks that connected India, Iran, Central Asia, and the Ottoman Empire. His current research include Indo-Persian histriography as well as revising early Safavid history.