In this talk, I will discuss a Qur’anic text (Q. 4:34) that has historically been used to justify domestic violence and continues to be used today to prevent the criminalization of domestic violence in several Muslim majority countries. Teaching such a text is a politically fraught endeavour, especially in a geopolitical context in which Islamophobia is a persistent problem. Nevertheless, avoiding such a topic is also out of the question. Given this, how does one navigate the insider/outside divide in exploring such texts responsibly.

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Chaudhry earned her PhD in Middle East and Islamic studies from New York University and a collaborative MA in Near Eastern civilizations and women’s studies from the University of Toronto. She is a contributor to the Globe and Mail. Chaudhry has been an Early Career Scholar at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies at UBC.