



ENGAGE. EXPERIENCE. EMBRACE. EDUCATE.

CIEE Study Center in Amman, Jordan

Course name:	Introduction to Islam
Course number:	RELI 3001 JORD
Programs offering course:	Language and Culture
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	3 hrs
Contact Hours:	45 hrs
Term:	Fall 2017

Course Description

This course provides students with a general introduction to the religion of Islam. It starts with a brief introduction talks about the emergence of Islam. The course discusses the origin and the meaning of the word Islam both linguistically and technically, the divisions of its sources into divine and reason. The course also gives an introduction to the Qur'an, *Sunnah* and Islamic sciences, in addition to the philosophy of *ijtihad* in Islam, the objectives of Islamic law, pillars of Islam, pillars of faith, characteristics of Islamic culture and law.



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This course, therefore, will introduce students to the Islamic history and religious expressions. Topics will include the life of Muhammad, teachings of the Qur'an, *Hadith (Sunnah)*, sources of Islamic law, *Ijtihad* (reasoning), *Fiqh* (Islamic Jurisprudence), ethics, ritual practices and the presence of Islam in the contemporary world.

Learning Objectives:

Students are expected to achieve the following:

1. To attain knowledge about the history, thought and culture of the religion of Islam, and their basic elements, beliefs and practices of the Muslims, the foundations of Islam, the spread of Islam with denominations and sects, and contemporary concerns of the Muslim Community.
2. Getting acquainted with Islamic primary sources.
3. Identifying the major articles of faith and authoritative religious text of Islam.
4. Analyzing and comparing some intellectual approaches adopted by both classical and contemporary writers and thinkers.
5. Develop skills in critical thinking and analysis of scholarly articles.



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6. Researching and writing informatively on a related topic.

Course Prerequisites

N/A

Methods of Instruction:

- Instructor-led and Lectures
- Lecture- discussions
- Demonstrating whether by instructor or where students are involved or asked to demonstrate the material
- Collaborating
- Simulation
- Cooperative learning
- Role play
- Teaching by learning
- Problem based and inquiry learning



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- The basic method followed in this course is discussion centered on original texts by contemporary Muslim thinkers, plus the instructor's and students' presentations.
- Group work is required.
- Individual students are expected to write a research paper

Assessment and Final Grade:

- 1- Class participation, homework, and attendance: 10%
- 2- Research paper and assignments (written form) 10%
- 3- Class presentation 10%
- 3- In-Class Midterm exam: 30%
- 4- In- Class Final exam: 40%

Course Requirements:

- 1- Class participation and attendance: 10%
- *Students must attend all scheduled class sessions unless they are ill (with Dr.s note), or have a pre-approved absence from the CIEE Student Services Manager.
 - *Students should take part and participate in the discussions of the class material in every meeting.



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*Student should submit a summary/ note/ brief introduction to the subject of every lecture/
Homework.

* Individual student and groups need to give a short presentation about the subject discussed in certain lectures.

2- Research papers or assignments and exams will include problems that require investigation, discussion, critique and solution suggestions. They will be evaluated based on the correctness of your analysis and coherence of your argumentation.

As grades for assignments, you will receive full credit for the efforts you put into the completion of the assignments. Points will be deducted for incomplete assignments or late assignments. I encourage you to work on the assignments in groups of FOUR or FIVE students, and hand in a single typed report of your answers. In this case, everyone in the group will receive the same mark.

You are required to give a class presentation of your analysis on one problem from the assignments. The presentations will be evaluated based on the correctness of your analysis and the clarity of your presentation. Weekly Schedule



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*****This class follows the CIEE attendance policies:**

Attendance is required. That means you are required to attend all classes, arrive on-time, and stay for the entire class period each and every time it meets. **Any Unexcused absences will be noted by your instructor and will count against your attendance/participation grade.**

More than ONE (for classes that meet once a week) or TWO (for classes that meet twice a week) unexcused absence will automatically result in a failing grade.

What is excused?

1. Illness documented by a physician's report
2. Family emergencies
3. Host Family Events
4. Rare and Vital Learning Experiences

What is not excused?

1. Personal rest days
2. Absences due to poor choices or poor planning
3. Travel

What should you do if you are absent?

1. Regardless of why you are late or absent you must inform resident staff and your instructors. If you simply don't show up to class, we assume something serious has happened to you.
2. Submit an Absence Notification Form at least three days prior to a planned absence or three days after an unplanned absence. If your absence is excused, resident staff will place an Excused Absence Confirmation in your mailbox (usually by the next business day). You must show this Excused Absence Confirmation to the instructors of the classes that you missed.



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- Contact the instructors of all classes that you miss to notify them of the reason for your absence and to find out what you missed and what you can do to make up missed work. Note that instructors are not obligated to allow a student to make up missed assignments or exams if the student's absence is not excused.

Please refer to your handbook for more details.

3- Course Plan:

Week/ Dates (to be confirmed)	Topic	References: See Reader (selections about Islam)	Home work
1	Review course syllabus, general introduction to the course		=
2	what is: Islam, Islamic Studies, Transliteration system), Islam : the early days	<u>Arabic Transliteration (1-10)</u> An Introduction to Islam Chapter:1 Understanding Islam pp. 1-41 An Introduction to Islam Chapter:2 The principles of Islam: pp. 19-32	<u>N/A</u>
3	Basic Beliefs - Pillars of Faith (<i>Iman</i>)	An Introduction to Islam Chapter:5 <u>Islam in Focus ((27-43)</u> The principles of Islam: pp.127-196	<u>Summary 1</u>
4	Pillars of Islam	<u>Islam in Focus (107-110)</u> The principles of Islam: pp. 33-126	<u>Summary2</u>



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5	The Nature of the Qur'an.	<u>An Introduction to the Sciences of the Qur'an (18-29) (75-87)</u>	<u>Summary 3</u>
6	The <i>Hadith</i> of the prophet.1		=
7	Fall Break		
8	Midterm exam	Studies in Hadith literature: pp. 7-21, 53-63	<u>Summary 4</u>
9	The <i>Hadith</i> of the prophet.2	<i>Hadith</i> Literature: 1-13, 76-90, 107-116	<u>Summary 5</u>
10	<i>Ijtihad</i> in Islam, and the objectives of Islamic law.	<u>Shari'ah Law:15-38,162-174</u> The principles of Islam: pp. 197-216	<u>Summary 6</u>
11	Islamic sectarianism, schools of law and theology.	<u>Shari'ah Law:68-70, 99-111</u>	<u>Summary7</u>
12	Student' presentations of their research papers		
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15	Final Exam		

Suggested Readings

- 1- Islamic Culture and Thought /by Muhammad Khazir Al-Majali.
- 2- Islam in Focus / by Hammudah Abd Alati.



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- 3- General Introduction to Islam /by Ali al-Tantawi
- 4- The principles of Islam, Mohammad Sa'id Hawwa.
- 5- Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence / by Mohammad Hashim Kamali.
- 6- Shari'ah Law / by Mohammad Hashim Kamali.
- 7- Towards Understanding Islam / by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawududi.
- 8- Teach Yourself Islam, Nabil Haroun.
- 9- Understanding Islam, the first ten steps C.T.R Hewer.
- 10- An Introduction to Islam, F. Denny.
- 11- Studies in Hadith Literature and methodology, O. Kasir.

Please check with Dr. Alladein for:

Course Reader + Electronic files and sources