CIEE Amman, Jordan

Course name: Islam in the Modern Context
Course number: MEST 3001 AMJO
Programs offering course: Amman Language and Culture
Language of instruction: English
U.S. Semester Credits: 3
Contact Hours: 45
Term: Spring 2020

Course description
This course covers a number of areas of Islamic thought in the contemporary world. It sheds light on the development of theories, philosophies and debates shaping and influencing reformist movements, cultural transformations, and the Muslim way of life. The emphasis is on primary texts where major thinkers grapple with the existential matters of change and continuity, such as liberalization, politics and democratization, human rights, women’s rights. On the practical side, some fiqh responses to challenges posed by modern applications of science and technology in the fields of ecology and biomedical ethics will be explored.

Learning Objectives
On completing this course, students are expected
1. to be able to discuss, define and compare the different trends in modern Islamic thought;
2. to recognize the contribution of major Islamic thinkers in the modern era, such as Iqbal, Qutb, Shari’ati, into their historical contexts; among others;
3. to explain the development in fiqh rulings concerning biomedical and ecological policies; and
4. to expound analytically some key concepts and paradigms in politics, relations with the West for instance, representative of the different schools of thought.

Course Prerequisites:
A basic knowledge of Islam, its sources, and a general idea about it history can be helpful.

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
- 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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation and homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research paper and assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid term exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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**Class Requirements**

**Class participation and attendance:**
Students must attend all scheduled class sessions unless they are ill (with a doctor 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. 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.

**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.

**Midterm & Final Exam**
The Midterm and Final Exam will be held in-class and 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.
**Class Presentation**
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.

**Week Schedule:**

**Week 1**
- General introduction: Islam and Muslims, historical background, internal and external influences; representative figures, Islam in the Modern World. Sunni Islam, Shi'i Islam.
  - Reading: A. Adawi, Islamic Studies, pp. 1-76

**Week 2**
- Modern Islam and the issue of Ijtihad, and objective of Islamic law and teachings.
  - Reading: A. Adawi, Islamic Studies, pp. 1-76
  - Fahd alOa dah, Who Should Perform Ijtihad?
  - Assignment:
    - A Discussion on Independent Juristic Reasoning in Islamic Law,
    - General Supervisor of the Islam

**Week 3**
- Islam and Human Rights.

**Week 4**
- Islam and Woman’s right.
  - Reading: Prof. Abdur Rahman I. Doi, WOMEN IN THE QURAN AND THE SUNNA, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaire.
  - Vivienne Stacey, Women in Islam, St Francis Magazine Nr. 4 Vol. III (March 2008).

**Week 5**
- Pluralism, democracy in Islam.
  - Reading: Dr. Abu Ameenah Bilal Philips, : Contemporary Issues, 2002.

**Week 6**
- Midterm Exam

**Week 7**
- Spring Break

**Week 8**
- Islam and Environment.
  - Reading:

Week 9
Islamophobia and Extremism
Reading:

Week 10
Islam and family,
Reading:

Week 11
punishment law in Islam
Reading:

Week 12
Students’ presentations of research papers

Week 13
Students’ presentations of research papers

Week 14
Students’ presentations of research papers

Week 15
Final Exam

References:
Interfaith:
2- Quranic Motivation for interfaith dialogue, Musharaf Hussain, Chairman Christian Muslim Forum (uk).
5- Hilman Latief, Comparative Religion in Medieval Muslim Literature, The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences.
8- Zuriati Bt Mohd Rashid, Dr. Engku Ahmad Zaki Engku Alwi , Al-Faruqi and His Views on Comparative Religion, International Journal of Business and Social Science, Vol. 1 No. 1; October 2010.


Islam and west :

1- Abdul Malik Mujahid , 14 ways you can fight Islamophobia, This is a second version of an earlier article.


4- Farrukh A. Salim, Exploring U.S. Media Reporting About “Islam” and “Muslims”: Measuring Biased or Unbalanced Coverage, McMaster University.

5- Report on Hate Crimes and Discrimination Against Arab Americans2003-2007, American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee Research Institute | ADC-RI.

6- Shahzad Ali, US Mass Media and Muslim World: Portrayal of Muslim


10- Shahzad ali Muhammad Khalid and Muhammad Idrees Lodhi, Negative Image of Islam And Usmass Media: How To Improve The Image Of Islam Nad Muslim Countries. University, Multan, Pakistan.


12- M. Amir Ali, Islamophobia in America, Ph.D, University, Indiana, July 4-6, 1997.


Contemporary Issues:

5. VIVIENNE STACEY, WOMEN in ISLAM, St Francis Magazine Nr. 4 Vol. III (March 2008).