



THEO6335/PHIL6307/MISS6345
World Religions: Islam
Theological and Historical Studies Division
Summer 2021 Internet
May 31 - July 30, 2021

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This course begins on **May 31, 2021**, and, by that date, students should have access to Blackboard, where they will find information and instructions about the course. Prior to that time, students should purchase the texts and be ready to participate in the course. The reading schedule is included in this syllabus so that, once students have secured the textbooks, they can begin reading their assignments.

Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission

Course Description

This introduction to Islam provides students the opportunity to gain understanding of the worldview, history, traditions, sacred literature, doctrines and practices of this rapidly spreading faith. Emphasis is given to equipping students for effective Christian witness among Muslims through examination of barriers and bridges to the gospel within Islam.

Purpose of The Course

This course is designed to equip students with a general understating of Islam. The students will learn about Muhammad along with the faith, expansion, scripture, and theology of Islam. The course will include the culture of Islamic societies. In addition to learning about Islam, students will be introduced to mission work among Muslims in the past and present, including church planting and discipleship. The intended outcome of this course is to prepare students with theological, missiological, and practical training to love, evangelize and do ministry among Muslims.

Student Learning Outcomes (Course Objectives)

The student who successfully completes this course should be able to:

- have a basic understanding of Islamic beliefs

- understand the history of the religion
- appreciate the rich contributions of Islamic life and culture to the West
- be equipped to critically engage current issues relating to the Islamic world and culture
- be equipped to apologetically and evangelistically engage Muslims

Course Teaching Methodology (or Methods)

The course will be taught through the following methods: weekly readings, video lectures, quizzes, interaction on the discussion board, one required book report, a mission's strategy paper, and a final exam.

Required Textbooks

- 1) Swartley, Keith. *Encountering the World of Islam*. 2nd Ed. Colorado Springs: Authentic, 2014.
- 2) Esposito, John L. *What Everyone Needs to Know About Islam*, 2d ed. Oxford, 2011.
- 3) Farah, Cesear. *Islam*. Hauppauge, NY: Barron's, 2003.
- 4) Geisler, Norman L. and Abdul Saleeb, *Answering Islam: The Crescent in Light of the Cross*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.
- 5) Love, Rick, *Muslims, Magic and the Kingdom of God: Church Planting among Folk Muslims*. William Carey Library, 2000.
- 6) Any copy of the Qur'an, but suggestions are listed in the bibliography.

Course Schedule

WEEK	CLASS TOPICS	READINGS
1 05/31-06/05	Introduction to Islam Muhammad: The Founder of the Faith	Swartley - Lessons 1-2 Farah - Chapters 1-4 Qur'an – Surah 1
2 06/07-06/12	Islamic Faith and Believes Islamic Texts	Swartley - Lesson 3 Farah - Chapters 5-7 Qur'an – Surah 2
3 06/14-06/19	Sects of Islam Islamic Theology	Swartley - Lessons 4-5 Farah - Chapters 8-10 Qur'an – Surah 3
4 06/21-06/26	Spread of Islam Islamic Society	Swartley - Lesson 6 Farah - Chapters 11-16 Qur'an – Surah 36
5 06/28-07/03	The Bible and the Quran Christianity and Islam	Swartley - Lesson 7 Geisler - Chapter 1 Qur'an – Surah 67
6 07/05-07/10	History of Missions among Muslims Challenges in the Outreach to Muslims	Swartley - Lessons 8-9 Geisler - Chapter 2 Qur'an – Surah 112

7 07/12-07/17	Discipling Muslim Converts Church Planting in Muslim Context	Swartley - Lessons 10-12 Geisler - Chapter 3 Qur'an – Surah 113-114
8 07/19-07/24	Strategy Paper Presentations	
9 07/26-07/31	Final Exam	

Course Notes and Other Materials

This class takes place in an online learning environment through Blackboard. It is required that you have sufficient internet access to complete the course. You can access the online resources for the class by logging on to Blackboard through the NOBTS website beginning on the opening day of the semester in which you are registered for World Religions: Islam. The correct section for this class is “Intro to Islam.” Look for the course name and the instructor’s last name. You will have been enrolled in the course by the ITC/Blackboard support staff following approval from the business office of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Course Requirements

NOTE: ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY SATURDAY NIGHT AT 11:59PM (U. S. - CENTRAL STANDARD TIME) OF EACH WEEK LISTED IN THE COURSE SCHEDULE.

1. Reading

Students are expected to read all the assigned texts. Quizzes are posted to test the student over the week’s assigned reading.

2. Quizzes

There will be two quizzes. Quiz-1 will be over the Week 1-3 class notes and readings. Quiz-2 will be over Week 4-5 class notes and readings. Quizzes will be taken online and will be timed.

3. Final Exam

The questions for the final exam come from the class and readings of the course. Exam will be taken online and will be timed. Students will have one hour and thirty minutes to complete the exam.

4. Bible Passages: Students are required to select ten passages from the Bible which they can use for Muslim evangelism. Please write one paragraph about each passage regarding why and how the passage is helpful in evangelism to Muslims.

5. Mission’s Strategy Paper

Each student is required to develop a mission’s strategy for evangelizing Muslims. Students can refer to books, articles, and missionary approaches to write this paper. The minimum length of this paper is ten pages with at least **15 sources**. Each student must submit a strategy paper proposal/outline to have approved by **June 12th at 11:59pm**.

The outline must contain a title page, thesis paragraph, outline, and 15 sources. The same sources used in the proposal should be used for the strategy paper. Strategy papers are to be submitted through Blackboard.

6. Book Review

Students should complete one book review. Each book review should be approximately **10 pages**, double spaced. Students can select a book from the list that is attached to the syllabus. If a student wishes to review a book that is not listed on the syllabus, the student must seek the approval of the instructor. Reviews are to be done in Turabian style, including title page. The first half of the report should be summary of the contents and the last half should be a critical review of the book including examination of the author’s biases, strengths, weaknesses, audience, and personal insights or extrapolations. Book reviews are to be submitted on Blackboard.

7. Power-point Presentations and Audio/Video Recordings

Students must listen to the attached audio/video files during the week assigned. Material covered in the presentations and audio/video file will be tested in the quizzes and final exam.

8. Discussion Boards

Students will participate in weekly discussion board topics posted under the “Groups” section of Blackboard. The topics for the board will relate to the reading and material presented in the audio/video recordings. Participation in the discussion board is **vital** to this course. You will be graded on the following rubric:

- Threaded post major points clearly presented /40
- Threaded answers & responses are clearly supported /20
- Grammar is coherent, concise, and clear /20
- Threads and Replies have timely submission on separate days /20
- Total points possible / 100

9. Grading

Summary

Discussion Board	10%	Final Exam	30%
Book Review	15%	Bible Passages	10%
Quiz-1	5%	Strategy Paper Outline	5%
Quiz-2	5%	Strategy Paper	20%

In addition to the above, A visit to local mosque or visit with a Muslim will give students 10% extra credit. There should a one-page (single space) report submitted about the visit.

Grading Scale

A: 93 – 100 B: 85 – 92 C: 77 – 84 D: 70 – 76 F: Below 70

Summary of Assignments

ASSIGNMENTS	Due	Percentages
Bible Passages	June 5 th 1:59pm	10%
Strategy Paper Outline	June 12 th 11:59pm	5%
Quiz – 1	June 19 th 11:59pm	5%
Book Review	July 3 rd 11:59pm	10%
Quiz – 2	July 10 th 11:59pm	5%
Strategy Papers	July 21 st 11:59pm	25%
Final Exam	July 30 th 11:59pm	30%
Discussion Board Participation	Saturdays 11:59pm	5%
Weekly Readings (Refer to Course Schedule)	Saturdays 11:59pm	5%

Support from the Professor

The professor of the course provides the following support for students in their studies:

- 1) Contact through email or phone.
- 2) Recorded updates from the professor. Each week the professor will upload an audio recording. In this recording will be a reminder of the weekly assignments, suggestions for further studies, prayer requests, and other items of business for the class. Also, the professor will answer questions submitted by email from the class.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style (revised August 2019). To access this manual on the seminary website, please use the following link: https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Emergency Plan

In case of hurricane or any other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: www.nobts.edu. The administration will communicate information that relates to the seminary: the nature of the emergency, instructions for responses, evacuation, contingency plans, duration of the emergency, and plans to return to campus and/or resume the schedule.

In addition, check Blackboard for instructions related to this class. Because this class is available on Blackboard, there should be minimal disruption unless the emergency affects electrical power and connection to the Internet.

In any emergency, communication is important, and our best means of staying connected is through the seminary’s web site and Blackboard.

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