

**University of Florida
Department of Religion**

Global Islam

RLG 5361 – Section 025G

REL 4936 – Section 3D41

Meeting & Location:

Tuesday, per. 5-6 – AND 101

Thursday, per. 6 – AND 101

Instructor: Dr. Terje Ostebo

Office: 107E Anderson Hall

Phone: 352-273-2928

e-mail: ostebo@ufl.edu

Office Hours: Thursday 8:30-10:30

Course Description:

As one of the world's largest and fastest growing religions, Islam exerts significant global influence in politics, culture, and society. This course addresses the urgent need for a deeper understanding of the diversity of Muslim cultures and societies in the contemporary global context. With a focus on lived Islam in the contemporary world, the course will provide knowledge about the diversity and complexity of Global Islam, and provide a unique opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of the richness of Muslim cultures and societies in the global context. The course will have a combined topical and geographical approach, and study Islam as it intersects with broader social, cultural, political and economic dynamics, and focus on areas such as America, Asia, Africa, Europe, and North-Africa/Middle East. The course will be of an interdisciplinary character, drawing from perspectives from the social sciences and the humanities.

Course Objectives

A student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- Analyze the current discourses and dynamics in the study of Global Islam
- Identify and analyze both the commonalities and the diversity within Global Islam
- Apply relevant theoretical perspectives and analyze the intersection of Islam with social, political, and cultural issues in different parts of the world
- Critically analyze Islam and trans-nationalism, migration, and global inter-connectivity
- Analyze the various perspectives on gender and feminism found within Global Islam
- Map out and identify the interrelations between Islam and other religions in a global context
- Understand and analyze the main currents with regard to Islam and politics in a global context

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

The final grade will be determined by the total scored for:

- Attendance (5 %). We will circulate an attendance sheet, which you should sign. Signing for others is considered Academic dishonesty.
- Participation in classroom discussions (5%)
- In-class presentations (15 %)
- 3 Response papers (25 % each: $3 \times 25\% = 75\%$)

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Tot %	94-100	88-93	82-87	76-81	71-75	66-70	61-65	56-60	51-55	46-50	40-45	<40

Additional information about UF's grading policy can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Classroom Participation: Students are expected to attend **ALL** classes and participate actively in class discussions. Active and informed participation demands that students **read the material carefully before coming to class**. The instructor will seek to engage all students in discussions by asking direct questions to the students, and by for comments to the readings. The instructor will keep a log for each week, noting the degree of engagement and level of insights demonstrated.

In-class presentations: Each student will give an in-class presentations on a topic related to the assigned readings. The presentation will be 10-15minutes, and the student presenting will lead the subsequent classroom discussion. The presentation will be evaluated based on the student's comprehension of the material, degree of independent and critical thinking, and ability to communicate the material clearly.

3 Response Papers (5-6 pp): These response papers will address key issues and methodological and theoretical questions raised in the readings, lectures and class discussions. The objective of these papers is to encourage you to read the materials closely and articulate your own informed and analytically nuanced positions. The more you engage the reading, the more likely you will receive a high mark. The format for the papers is double space / font size 12.

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria – Graduate Section

The graduate students will follow the lectures for the course, do the readings for each lecture, do in-class presentations, and submit the assigned papers. In order to get the course registered as a graduate course, there is, however, some additional work as listed below.

2 Review Papers (7-8 pp): In addition to the 3 response papers and the presentation, you will have 2 assignments which we will decide upon together. The assignment is to write a review¹ of different books. The reviews shall be 7-8 pages (for each book). The format for the papers is double space / font size 12. You will also meet with me 2 times (1/2 hour) during the semester to discuss the readings and assignments. These meetings will be during my office

¹ A review is more than a synopsis; it entails giving your (argued) opinions on the text

hours, and you should email me in advance with your questions and/or the texts which you would like me to comment on.

Make-ups and Attendance:

Make-ups will only be allowed in unavoidable circumstances or for compelling reasons that can be convincingly documented. Similarly, absence(s) means that 1 point per absence will be detracted – except unavoidable ones proven with satisfactory explanation/documentation. This is in consistence with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Class Demeanor:

Students are allowed to use laptops in class, but only for purposes related to class (i.e. taking notes). The use of cell phones is prohibited during class. Tardiness will not be accepted, and arrival 10 minutes late will count as an absence.

Student Honor Code:

As a UF student, you have agreed to follow the university's Honor Code, meaning you will not give or receive unauthorized assistance in completing assignments. Violations can result in failing an exam, paper or the course. For more information, see:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentrights.php>. On all work submitted for credit by University of Florida students, the following pledge is implied, "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." Please note that acts of plagiarism include:

- Turning in a paper or assignment that was written by someone else.
- Copying verbatim a sentence or paragraph of text from the work of another author without proper citation and quotation marks.
- Paraphrasing or restating in your own words, text or ideas written by someone else without proper citation.

For more info, see <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html>

Disabilities:

"If you are a student with a disability and would like to request disability-related accommodations, you are encouraged to contact me and the Disability Resource Center as early in the semester as possible. The Disability Resource Center is located in 001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall). Their phone number is 392-8565."

Contact info for the Counselling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>

Phone: 352-392-1575; and the University Police Department: 352-392-1111 or 911 for emergencies.

Course Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals/Default.aspx>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these evaluations are available at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

Required Reading:

See Class Calendar for details about required and supplementary readings.

Most of the readings will be available as pdf-files on Canvas, while required readings marked with an ‘*’ should be purchased – but will also be available through Course-reserve (for in-library loans)

Class Calendar and Reading Schedule:

Note: This document is subject to change, students are responsible for all changes announced in class.

Week 1 (January 7-11): Introduction and Course Preview

Week 2 (January 14-18): Islam – The Main Concepts

Readings:

Brown, Jonathan, “A Map of the Islamic Interpretive Tradition,” in *Misquoting Muhammad*, Oxford: Oneworld, 2014, pp. 15-68.

Elias, Jamal, “God,” in Jamal J. Elias, ed., *Key Themes for the Study of Islam*, Oxford: Oneworld, 2010, pp. 161-181.

Week 3 (January 21-25): Islam and the Local

Readings:

Manger, Leif (1999). “Muslim Diversity: Local Islam in Global Contexts”, Leif Manger (ed.). *Muslim diversity: Local Islam in Global contexts*, Richmond: Curzon.

Asad, Talal. 1986. *The Idea of an Anthropology of Islam*, Washington, D. C: Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University.

Supplementary readings:

Bowen, John R., *Can Islam Be French?: Pluralism and Pragmatism in a Secularist State*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011.

Leichtman, Mara, *Shi’i Cosmopolitanisms in Africa: Lebanese Migration and Religious Conversion in Senegal*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2015.

Masquelier, Adeline (2008) “Witchcraft, Blood-Sucking Spirits, and the Demonization of Islam in Dogondoutchi”, *Cahiers d’Études Africaines* 189-190 (pp. 131-160)

Week 4 January 28-February 1): Islam and the Global

Readings:

Cooke, Miriam and Bruce Lawrence (2005). *Muslim Networks from Hajj to Hip Hop*, Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1-28

Huntington, Samuel (1993). “The Clash of Civilizations?” *Foreign Affairs*, 72,3: 22-49.

Said, Edward (2001). “The Clash of Ignorance”, *The Nation*,
<http://www.thenation.com/article/clash-ignorance>

Supplementary readings:

Gusterson, Hugh, “The Seven Deadly Sins of Samuel Huntington,” in C. Besteman & H. Gusterson, eds, *Why America’s Top Pundits Are Wrong: Anthropologists Talk Back*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005, pp. 24-42.

Said, Edward, “The Clash of Definitions,” in Emran Qureshi & Michael Sells, eds, *The New*

Crusades: Constructing the Muslim Enemy, New York: Columbia University Press, 2003, pp. 67-89.

Week 5 (February 4-8): Transnationalism, Migration, and Muslim Minorities

Readings:

Bowen, John R (2004). "Beyond Migration: Islam as a Transnational Public Space", *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 30,5: 879-894.

Grillo, Ralph (2004). "Islam and Transnationalism". *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 30,5: 861-878

Supplementary readings:

Mahmood, Saba, *Religious Difference in a Secular Age: A Minority Report*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2016.

Grewal, Zareena, *Islam Is a Foreign Country: American Muslims and the Global Crisis of Authority*, New York: NYU Press, 2014.

1st response paper due: February 8 @ 5pm

Week 6 (February 11-15): Transnationalism, Migration, and Muslim Minorities

Readings:

Salih, Ruba (2004). "The Backward and the New: National, Transnational, and Post-National Islam in Europe", *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 30,5: 995-1011.

Williams, R.H. (2011): "Creating an American Islam: Thoughts on Religion, Identity, and Place", in *Sociology of Religion*, 72,2: 127-153.

Supplementary readings:

Abdullah, Zain, *Black Mecca: The African Muslims of Harlem*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Jackson, Sherman A., *Islam and the Blackamerican: Looking Toward the Third Resurrection*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Marzouki, Nadia, *Islam, an American Religion*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2017.

Week 7 (February 18-22): Purity, Piety, and Religious Reform

Readings:

*Meijer, Roel (ed) (2009). *Global Salafism: Islam's New Religious Movement*, London: Hurst, Introduction chapter, chapter 1.

Roy, Oliver (2004). *Globalised Islam: The Search for a New Ummah*, London: Hurst, chapter 6.

Mahmood, Saba (2001). "Rehearsed Spontaneity and the Conventionality of Ritual: Disciplines of 'Salat'", *American Ethnologist*, 28. 4: 827-853.

Supplementary readings:

Meijer, Roel (ed) (2009). *Global Salafism: Islam's New Religious Movement*, London: Hurst, chapter 7.

Lauzière, Henri, "The Construction of Salafiyya: Reconsidering Salafism from the Perspective

- of Conceptual History.” *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, 42, 3 (2010): 369–89.
- Meijer, Roel (ed) (2009). *Global Salafism: Islam's New Religious Movement*, London: Hurst, chapter 6, 13.
- Thurson, Alex, *Salafism in Nigeria: Islam, Preaching, and Politics*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016.

1st Graduate paper due: February 22 @ 5pm

Week 8 (February 25-March 1): Purity, Piety, and Religious Reform

Readings:

- Schielke, Samuli, “Being Good in Ramadan: Ambivalence, Fragmentation, and the Moral Self in the Lives of Young Egyptians,” *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 15 (S1): S24–S40.
- *Meijer, Roel (ed) (2009). *Global Salafism: Islam's New Religious Movement*, London: Hurst, chapter 14, 17.
- *Cormack, Margaret (ed.) (2013). *Muslims and Others in Sacred Space*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, chapter 1.

Supplementary readings:

- Deeb, Lara, *An Enchanted Modern: Gender and Public Piety in Shi'i Lebanon*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006.
- Jouili, Jeanette, *Pious Practice and Secular Constraints: Women in the Islamic Revival in Europe*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2015.
- Kloos, David, *Becoming Better Muslims: Religious Authority and Ethical Improvement in Aceh, Indonesia*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2018.
- Mahmood, Saba, *Politics of Piety: The Islamic Revival and the Feminist Subject*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005.
- Mittermaier, Amira, “Dreams from Elsewhere: Muslim Subjectivities beyond the Trope of Self-Cultivation,” *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 18, 2 (2012): 247–65.

Spring-break

Week 9 (March 11-15): Global Islam and the Religious “Other”

Readings:

- Kyaw, Nyi Nyi, “Islamophobia in Buddhist Myanmar: The 969 Movement and Anti-Muslim Violence,” in Melissa Crouch, ed., *Islam and the State in Myanmar: Muslim-Buddhist Relations and the Politics of Belonging*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016 (DOI:10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199461202.003.0008).
- Schonthal, Benjamin, “Making the Muslim Other in Myanmar and Sri Lanka,” in Melissa Crouch, ed., *Islam and the State in Myanmar: Muslim-Buddhist Relations and the Politics of Belonging*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016 (DOI:10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199461202.003.0010).

2nd response paper due: March 15 @ 5pm

Week 10 (March 18-22): Global Islam and the Religious “Other”

Readings:

- *Cormack, Margaret (ed.) (2013). *Muslims and Others in Sacred Space*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, chapter 2.
- Ostebo, T. (2008) “Christian-Muslim Relations in Ethiopia”, in Kubai, A. N. & Tarakegn Adebo (eds.): *Striving in Faith: Christians and Muslims in Africa*, Life & Peace Institute: 71-89.
- Westerlund, D. (2003): “Ahmed Deedat’s Theology of Religion: Apologetics through Polemics”, in *Journal of Religion in Africa*, 33, 3: 263-278

Supplementary readings:

- Chao, En-Chieh, *Entangled Pieties: Muslim-Christian Relations and Gendered Sociality in Java, Indonesia*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.
- Cooper, Barbara M., *Evangelical Christians in the Muslim Sahel*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006.
- Peel, J.D.Y., *Christianity, Islam, and Orisa-Religion: Three Traditions in Comparison and Interaction*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2015.

Week 11 (March 25-29): Islam, Politics, and the State

Readings:

- Mandaville, Peter (2007). *Global Political Islam*, New York: Routledge, chapter 3
- Thurston, Alex, 2015, “Muslim Politics and Shari’a in Kano State, Northern Nigeria,” *African Affairs* 114(454): 28–51.

Supplementary readings:

- Thurston, Alex, *Salafism in Nigeria: Islam, Preaching, and Politics*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016.
- Wainscott, Ann Marie, *Bureaucratizing Islam: Morocco and the War on Terror*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018.
- White, Jenny B., *Islamist Mobilization in Turkey: A Study in Vernacular Politics*, Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2003.
- Wickham, Carrie, *Mobilizing Islam: Religion, Activism, and Political Change in Egypt*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2003.

2nd Graduate paper due: March 29 @ 5pm

Week 12 (April 1-5): Islam, Politics, and the State

Readings:

- *Asef Bayat, ed., *Post-Islamism: The Changing Faces of Political Islam*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013, chapters 1, 9, 10

Supplementary readings:

- Bayat, Asef, “Islamism and Social Movement Theory,” *Third World Quarterly*, 26 (2005): 891-908.

- Boubekeur, Amel, "Post-Islamist Culture: A New Form of Mobilization?" *History of Religions*, 47, 1 (2007): 75-94.
- Einas Ahmed, "Political Islam in Sudan: Islamists and the Challenge of State Power (1989-2004)," in Benjamin Soares & René Otayek (eds), *Islam and Muslim Politics in Africa*, New York: Palgrave, 2007, pp. 189-208.
- Mandaville, Peter, "Towards Post-Islamism?," in *Islam and Politics*, 2nd edition, New York: Routledge, 2014, pp. 369-99.

3rd response paper due: April 12 @ 5pm

Week 13 (April 8-12): Violence and Global Jihad

Readings:

- *Deol, Jevaan and Zaheer Kazmi (eds.) (2011). *Contextualizing Jihadi Thought*, New York: Columbia University Press, Introduction chapter, 2, 9, 10

Supplementary readings:

- Maher, Shiraz, *Salafi-Jihadism: The History of an Idea*, Oxford University Press, 2016.
- Cook, David, *Understanding Jihad*, 2nd edition, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2015.
- Devji, Faisal, *The Terrorist in Search of Humanity: Militant Islam and Global Politics*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2008.
- Edwards, David B., *Before Taliban: Genealogies of the Afghan Jihad*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002.
- Lia, Brynjar, *Architect of Global Jihad: The Life of Al Qaeda Strategist Abu Mus'ab Al-Suri*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2008.
- Thurston, Alex, *Boko Haram: The History of an African Jihadist Movement*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2018.

Week 14 (April 15-19): Media, Old and New

Readings:

- *Hackett, Rosalind and Benjamin Soares, eds, *New Media and Religious Transformations in Africa*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2015, chapters 3, 9.
- Aishima, Hatsuki, "Are We All Amr Khaled?: Islam and the Facebook Generation of Egypt," in A. Masquelier & B. Soares, eds, *Muslim Youth and the 9/11 Generation*, Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2016, pp. 105-21.

Supplementary readings:

- Behrend, Heike, "Titanic in Kano: Video, Gender, and Islam," in M. Badran, ed., *Gender and Islam in Africa*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2011, pp. 173-89.
- Bunt, Gary, *Islam in the Digital Age: E-Jihad, Online Fatwas and Cyber Islamic Environments*, London: Pluto, 2003.
- Edwards, David B., "Print Islam: Media and Religious Revolution in Afghanistan," *Anthropological Quarterly*, 68, 3 (1995):171-84.

- Eickelman, Dale F. & John W. Anderson, eds, *New Media in the Muslim World: The Emerging Public Sphere*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999.
- Moll, Yasmin, "The Revolution Within: Islamic Televangelists and the Politics of Ethics in Egypt," *Oxford Islamic Studies Online* (http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com/arab_spring_1.html)
- Slama, Martin, "A Subtle Economy of Time: Social Media and the Transformation of Indonesia's Islamic Preacher Economy," *Economic Anthropology* 4 (2017): 94–106 (DOI:10.1002/sea2.12075)

Week 15 (April 22-24): Conclusions