

Fall 2015

Introduction to Islam – REL 2362 /Sections 2560, 4227, 4231

COURSE OUTLINE

Matherly 0018 Mondays & Wednesdays 6th Period (12:50-1:40 PM)

& Fridays (discussion) group locations:

Section (2560) 3rd period (9:35-10:25) in AND 101

Section (4227) 4th period (10:40 -11:30) in MAT 114

Section (4231) 6th period (12:50 – 1:40) in MAT 103

Texts and Information for our Course:

REQUIRED TEXT & OTHER MATERIALS

1). Frederick M. Denny, *An Introduction to Islam*, **4th edition** Upper Saddle River, NJ, Prentice Hall, 2011, ISBN: 978-0-13-814477-7 – pbk. (It is important to get the 4th edition and not an earlier edition.

2). Norman Calder, Jawid Mojaddedi & Andrew Rippin, eds., *CLASSICAL ISLAM: A Sourcebook of Religious Literature*, 2nd edition, New York: Routledge, 2013, ISBN: 978-0-415-50508 - 6 pbk.

3). There will be Additional Readings from other texts listed on this Course Outline that will be sent as a pdf via our Class e-mail List and/or on our Sakai Course Site, when set up. I will let the class know when the SAKAI Site is up & running

4). On and off campus events related to Islam will be announced in class, posted on the SAKAI site and sent via our e-mail list site.

5). Study Question to help with your reading of the Course material will be sent by e-mail and posted on our SAKAI Course Site when it is ready.

6). **The code for the final exam is: 16 B** – the day & time will be posted as soon as we have it.

Missed quizzes and the Mid-Term can be made up only with a doctor's note, a UF approved activity such as a sports team event in which you are a participant, or the

band or the choir, or a court appearance, job interview, etc., or a genuine emergency to be determined by the instructor and teaching assistant. If you know of a conflict before hand, please inform us so that arrangements can be made for you to take the Quiz before hand or if necessary take a make-up Quiz. A Make-Up for the Final Exam is much more difficult. I also hate to schedule it early but will consider only if there is a real emergency

7). Those interested in purchasing a Qur'an should select: Abdullah Yusuf 'Ali's *The Meaning of THE HOLY QUR'AN*, (New Edition with Revised Translation, Commentary and Newly Compiled Comprehensive Index), Beltsville, Md.; Amana Publications, 2001. I however recommend using one of the numerous Qur'an sites on the internet instead of buying a hard copy. At those sites you can not only read the English translations and transliteration, you also see (read) the Arabic and hear it recited in both Arabic & English. There are also teaching tools on line for those who want to learn *surahs* (chapters) of the Qur'an. Plus these sites enable you to download the Qur'an to your IPAD, IPHONE, KINDLE or similar devices. You can begin your on-line explorations of the Qur'an at: <http://www.quranexplorer.com/>.

Date / Topic and Readings:

- 1) 8/24. Introduction to the Study of Islam, Introductions Review of Syllabus, Course Outline, Discussion of Perspectives, Problems, Bibliography for the Course, Goals, Class Requirements, Expectations –1/12. Continued viewing of *Inside Islam* with discussion
- 2) 8/26. Video: Beginning of viewing of *Inside Islam* w/ Q & A
- 3) 8/28. Discussion Groups Cont'd viewing of *Inside Islam* w/discussion

Part One - Religion and Common Life in the Pre-Islamic Near East

- 4) 8/31. Early Civilizations and the Origins of Judaism and Christianity, Denny, Chpt. 1, pp. 5- 27 (pp. 3-28)
- 5). 9/2. Pre-Islamic Arabia: Beliefs, Values, Way of Life, Denny, Chpt. 2, pp. 32-36 (pp. 29-43)
- 6). 9/4. Discussion of Readings & Film
- 7). 9/7. **LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**

Part Two - The Coming of Islam: The Prophet, His People, and God's Religion

- 8.) 9/9. Muhammad and the Early Muslim Community, Denny, Chpt. 3, pp. 49 -73 (pp. 47-71)

- 9.) 9/11. View a Documentary on Islam w/discussion (Title TBA)
- 10.) 9/14. Esposito, Chpt. 1, “*Muhammad and the Qur’an: Messenger and Message*” (pp.1-31) from *Islam The Straight Path*, by John L. Esposito, 3rd ed. (This chapter will be sent via our Class List & posted on SAKAI)
- 11.) 9/16. *Classical Islam*: Notes for the reader and map, pp. xiii-xv & Part I, pp 1-22
- 12.) 9/18 Discussion of Denny Chapters 1, 2, & 3 & Esposito, Chapter 1
- 13.) 9/21 The Arab Conquests & Islamic Rule: The Struggle for a Unified Umma
Denny, Chpt. 4, pp. 74-96 (pp.72-94)
- 14.) 9/23 Esposito Chapter 2 “*The Muslim Community In History*”, (pp. 32-67) from Esposito: Islam The Straight Path. (This chapter will be sent at a pdf file via our Course List & will be posted on SAKAI)
- 15.) 9/25 **QUIZ NUMBER ONE – Denny, Chpts 1, 2, 3, 4 & Esposito, Chpts 1 & 2.**

Part Three – The Islamic Religious System

- 16.) 9/28. Basic Beliefs and Worship Practices of Islam,
Denny, Chpt 5, pp. 97- 129 (pp.97-127) _
- 17.) 9/30. *Classical Islam*, Chapter 2, pp. 23-54
- 18.) 10/02 Discussion of Denny Chpt. 5 & *Classical Islam*, Chpt 2
- 19.) 10/05 The Nature and Function of the Qur’an
Denny, Chpt. 6, pp. 130-149 (pp. 128-148)
- 20.) 10/07. W. Montgomery Watt and Richard Bell, “*The History of the Text*” (pp.40-56) from *Introduction to the Qur’an* will be sent via the Class List as pdf & posted on SAKAI.
- 21.) 10/09. **View Video on Salat**
- 22.) 10/12. *Classical Islam*, Chapter 5, pp. 145-168

- 23.) 10/14. *Classical Islam*, Chapter 5, cont'd, pp. 169-188
- 24.) 10/16. Discussion of Denny Chpts. 5 & 6, Watt/Bell's *The History of the Text & Classical Islam*, Chpt 5.
- 25.) 10/19. The Prophet's Sunnah as Preserved in the Hadith,
Denny, Chpt. 7, pp. 150-163 (pp.149-163)
"The Islamic Tradition", (pp.17-35) from *Introduction To The Hadith* by John
Burton. (This chapter will be sent as a pdf via the Course List & posted on
SAKAI).
- 26.) 10/21 *Classical Islam*, Chapter 3, pp. 55-94
- 27.) 10/23. QUIZ NUMBER TWO - Denny Chpts. 5, 6, & 7**
- 28.) 10/26. Muslim Creeds and Theologies: Their Purposes and Varieties,
Denny Chpt. 8, pp. 164-186 (pp. 164-186)
- 29.) 10/28 *Classical Islam*, Chapter 6, pp. 189 - 246
- 30.) 10/30 Discussion of Muslim Creeds & Theologies
- 31.) 11/2. Law and the State in Classical Islamic Formulations
Denny, Chpt. 9, pp. 187-208 (pp.187-210)
- 32.) 11/4 *Classical Islam*, Chapter 7, pp. 247-293
- 33.) 11/6 – 7. Home Coming Holiday**
- 34.) 11/9. In Class Mid-Term Exam**
- 35.) 11/11. Holiday – Veterans Day**
- 36.) 11/13. Islamic Mysticism and the Disciplines of Esoteric Piety
Denny, Chpt. 10, pp. 211-237 (pp.211-237)
- 37.) 11/16. Masters and Disciples: The Forms and Functions of Sufi Orders
Denny Chpt. 11, pp. 238-260 (pp. 238-262)
- 38.) 11/18. *Classical Islam*, Chapter 8, pp. 299-352

39.) 11/20. QUIZ THREE - Questions on Readings from the Mid-Term to this date

Part Five Patterns of Islamic Personal & Communal Life

- 40.) 11/23. The Islamic Life Cycle and the Family
Denny Chpt. 12 pp. 263-288 (pp.)

11/25-28 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Part Six – Islam in the Modern World

- 41.) 11/30. Major Movements and Trends in Renewal and Reform
Denny Chpt. 14, pp. 315-340 (pp. 315-339)
- 42.) 12/02. Three Forms of Islamic Revival: Fundamentalism, Feminism, Establishing The Umma in North America, Denny Chpt. 15 pp. 341-364 (pp. 340-362)
- 43.) 12/04. Juma' Trip to Mosque
- 44.) 12/07. Whither Islam and the Muslims? Progressive Muslims with a Vision of an Islam without Borders, Denny Chpt. 16 pp. 363-380)
- 45.) 12/09. **QUIZ FOUR - Questions on Readings from Quiz three to this date**
Last Day of Class

In Class Final Exam: DATE TBA

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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