

HINE 115  
Provence  
10:00-10:50 M,W, F  
PCYNH 122  
Spring 2005

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Office Hours: M 1:30-3:30

## **SURVEY OF ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION**

### **Course Description**

This course is an introduction to Islamic civilization. It surveys Islamic history between the time of the Prophet Muhammad, and the modern era. As we consider Islamic civilization, we will consider its presumed opposite, Western civilization, and ask what purpose such oppositions and categories of analysis serve. In short, we will examine not only the topic of Islam within the category of world civilizations, but the meaning of the category of civilization itself.

The class will incorporate lectures, readings, audio-visual materials, and discussions on Islamic history and society, law, science and philosophy, arts and letters, and architecture, to present a broad picture of the dynamics and achievements of Islamic societies. Throughout the course we will explore themes such as the historical place(s) of women in the Islamic tradition, recent Islamic revival movements, and the growth of Islam in the United States.

### **Required Books** (Available at the bookstore and on reserve at the library)

Norman Itzkowitz, *Ottoman Empire and Islamic Tradition*  
Marshall Hodgson, *The Venture of Islam*, 1  
McNeill and Waldman, *The Islamic World*  
Leila Ahmed, *Women and Gender in Islam*  
John L. Esposito, *Islam: The Straight Path*

### **Recommended Books** (Widely available, also on reserve)

Robert Dannin, *Black Pilgrimage to Islam*  
Edward Said, *Orientalism*  
Gilles Kepel, *Muslim Extremism in Egypt: The Prophet and the Pharaoh*  
Gershon Shafir, *Land, Labor and the Origins of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, 1882-1914*  
Aziz Al-Azmeh, *Islams and Modernities*  
Kamal Salibi, *A House of Many Mansions: The History of Lebanon Reconsidered*  
Selim Deringil, *The Well Protected Domains: Ideology and the Legitimation of Power in the Ottoman Empire, 1876-1909*  
Naguib Mahfouz, *Arabian Nights and Days*  
Tayeb Salih, *Season of Migration to the North*

## **Course Structure and Requirements**

The class will meet three days a week and regular attendance is required.

### **Assignments**

The course requires a midterm examination, a final examination, and a short paper (4-5 pages) based on a review of one of the recommended readings.

Grades are as follows:

Midterm examination	25%
Short paper	25%
Final examination	50%

### **Important Dates**

March 28	First Class
April 29	Mid-Term Exam
May 27	Paper Due
May 30	Memorial Day Holiday
June 6-10	Final Exam

## **CLASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS**

### **Week 1: Foundations**

March 28	Introduction to the Course
March 30	The Peoples and Geography of the Islamic World
April 1	Discussion Readings: Esposito, ix-xviii; Ahmed, vii-7, Hodgson, viii-99; Waldman, v-xvii.

### **Week 2**

April 4	The Study of Islamic Civilization
April 6	The Pre-Islamic Middle East
April 8	Discussion Readings: Ahmed, 1-37; Hodgson, 103-145; Waldman, 3-9.

### **Week 3: The Coming of Islam**

April 11	The life of the Prophet and Meccan society
April 13	God's Revelation and the Qur'ân
April 15	Discussion Readings: Esposito, 1-31; Ahmed, 41-63; Hodgson, 146-186; Waldman, 9-

74.

#### **Week 4**

- April 18 Conquests and Consolidation: The Rashîdûn Caliphs and the First Civil War, (Fitna)  
April 20 The Second Fitna: the *Ahl al-Sunna* and the *Shî'at 'Alî*.  
April 21 *Mawlid al-Nabî*  
April 22 **Midterm handout.** Discussion  
Readings: Esposito, 32-50; Ahmed, 64-78; Hodgson, 187-230; Waldman, 75-82.

#### **Week 5**

- April 25 The Islamic Empires of the Umayyads, the 'Abbâsids and the Fââimids  
April 27 Law and Scholarship  
April 29 **Midterm Exam**  
Readings: Esposito, 51-60; Ahmed 79-101; Hodgson, 231-358; Waldman 134-142.

#### **Week 6**

- May 2 Islamic Faith and Practice  
May 4 'ûffîs and 'Ulamâ'  
May 6 Discussion  
Readings: Esposito, 68-114; Hodgson, 359-443; Waldman, 151-171.  
Start reading for paper project.

#### **Week 7**

- May 9 Islamic Art and Architecture  
May 11 Arabic and Islamic Literature  
May 13 Discussion. Video: Islamic Art (30 min)  
Readings: Hodgson, 444-472; Waldman 171-177.

#### **Week 8: The Worldwide Diffusion of Islam**

- May 16 Diffusion and Decline?  
May 18 Empires of the Mamluks, Ottomans, and Safavids  
May 20 Discussion  
Readings: Itzkowitz, ix-116; Waldman, 273, 311-312, 337-352.

#### **Week 9**

- May 23 Colonialism in the Islamic World  
May 25 Islam, Nationalism, and Independence  
May 27 Discussion. **Papers due.**

Reading: Esposito, 125-157; Ahmed, 168-188; Waldman, 423-431.

**Week 10**

May 30     **Memorial Day Holiday**

June 1     Engaging the Islamic Past

June 3     Conclusions

Readings: Esposito, 158-186; Ahmed, 235-248; Waldman, 431-462.