TTh 11:30-12:45  DU-118
This is a Writing Intensive Section
This course fulfills the following components of the Loyola Core (only 1 per course)
Knowledge Area: Theology and Religious Studies Knowledge
Values: Understanding Diversity in the United States/the World, or Understanding Spirituality, or Faith and Action in the World

Instructor: Dr. Marcia Hermansen
Office: Crown Center 441  Phone: 508-2345
Office Hours: Tuesday 2:30-3:30 or by appointment
E-mail mherman@luc.edu

Course Outline and Requirements:

Textbooks: Available at Campus Barnes and Noble and Becks

Fred Denny  Introduction to Islam
Michael Sells  Approaching the Qur’an
Fadiman and Frager  Essential Sufism

Website

This class will be supported by images, sounds, and texts available through the class Website. You must log on in order to be part of the course. Consult the Website in order to prepare for every class. Assignments and materials are available there, e-mail instructor if you cannot locate an item.

Course Content: This course constitutes an introduction to the religion of Islam through the study of major religious ideas, movements, and figures prominent in the development of the tradition. The course will move through three major phases: basic teachings of Islam, the articulation of the classical tradition, and contemporary developments. Discussion of major issues such as unity and diversity within Islam, Islamic government, the role of women, Muslims in America, and Islamic movements in the contemporary world will also be featured.

Course Objectives:
* To familiarize students with basic beliefs and practices of Muslims.
* To acquaint students with the diversity of Muslims in regional, sectarian, and interpretive contexts.
* To give a basic understanding of the history and geography of the Muslim World.
* To enable students to comprehend and evaluate contemporary political and intellectual developments in Islam.
* As a writing intensive course, a further objective in to increase student’s level of writing skills in terms of style, content, and argumentation through varied and frequent writing exercises. Students are allowed to resubmit improved and corrected versions of their written work for potentially higher grades after receiving critical input from the instructor.
**Course Requirements and Grading Policy**

Specific guidelines will be provided for each assignment as well as study guides and term lists for the exams.

- **Mid-term Exam**
- **Final Exam** (semi-comprehensive)

- **2 paper assignments** 10% @ = 20 (These are relatively short, about 4 pages each).
- **3 Brief writing assignments** based on the class readings and guidelines set out by the instructor. These will be evaluated out of 10 points each and will each count for 6% of the final class grade.
- **4 one page summary papers/quizzes** graded out of 10 @ 3 points each

**Attendance and participation** will also be assessed here. More than three unexcused absences will significantly lower your grade.

**100 TOTAL**

**Grading Scale**

I compute grades based on a point system. Each paper and exam is assigned a certain number of points. For each exercise you will receive a number out of the total points possible based on your performance. These will be totaled up at the end of the semester and a number grade out of 100 points will be the result. This will be converted to the final letter grade according to the scale below. Assignments will lose a point for every day they are late.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89-92.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86-88.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81-84.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>78-80.5</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>72-74.5</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>66-68.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>58-65.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 58</td>
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</tbody>
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**Readings and Assignment Schedule**

*Note* This schedule is tentative. The pace of a class is affected by the quality of student preparation and involvement with the material. Classes that ask more questions and discuss more will proceed through the material more slowly, but gather depth along the way.

**Part 1 of the Course: The Basics of Islam**

- **Tues. Jan 15**
  - Introduction to Course/Syllabus
  - Introduction to the Academic Study of Islam

- **Th. Jan. 17**
  - Film: Smithsonian World: Islam
  - Ali Asani article on Discuss Issues Facing Muslims Today
  - Class web site
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Jan. 22</td>
<td>Pre-Islamic Arabia</td>
<td>Denny 29-43, Sells 1-10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Turn in 1 page summary of issues facing Muslims</strong></td>
<td>Readings: &quot;Ode of Labid&quot; on web site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th. Jan. 24</td>
<td>The Life of Muhammad Companions of the Prophet</td>
<td>Denny 47-71</td>
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<td><strong>Discuss Assignment 1</strong> Ode of Labid</td>
<td>Reading from Ibn Ishaq on Web site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Jan. 29</td>
<td>Life of Muhammad (con't) Role of the Prophet in Muslim Piety</td>
<td>Start Reading Sells 11-31, 145-155 Denny 61-71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Feb. 5</td>
<td>Themes of the Qur'an: Allah The Human Condition</td>
<td>Sells 42, 94-141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. Feb. 7</td>
<td>Themes of the Qur'an: Prophecy Other Religions and Pluralism &quot;Tawhid&quot;</td>
<td>Qur'an (on Jews and Christians) see website</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Writing Assignment #2 Discussion</strong></td>
<td><strong>Handout</strong> (Chittick)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Feb. 12</td>
<td>Five Pillars (Slides/film)</td>
<td>Denny 97-127</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs. Feb. 14</td>
<td>Introduction to Hadith Due</td>
<td>Denny 149-163</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Writing Assignment #2</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Feb. 19</td>
<td>Hadith Discussion and exercise</td>
<td>Hadiths on web site</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Writing Assignment #3 Discussion</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thurs. Feb. 21  
Assignment #3 Due  
Early Community/Expansion  
Beginnings of Shi’ism  
Denny 72-88, 205  
207, 307-311  
Chart on Shi’i Imams (Web)

Tues. Feb. 26  
Film on Shi’ism

Thurs. Feb 28  
Emergence of the Shari’a  
Applied Law/the Legal Schools  
Denny 187-207  
Web diagram on Shari’a

Tues. March 4 and March 6  
SPRING BREAK  
No classes

Tues. March 11  
MID-Term Exam  
Study Guide and term list  
On website

PART II of the Course  
Classical Islamic Civilization

Thurs. March 13  
Islamic Theology-- Kalam  
Denny 164-186

Tues. March 18  
Paper #1 on Sufism  
Sufism-Ulema and Sufis  
Forms of Islamic  
Knowledge and Authority  
Denny 211-235  
Fadiman and Frager 1-31  
35-56

Thurs. March 20  
The Sufi Orders  
Film-The Inner Life  
Denny 238-259  
Fadiman and Frager 113-193

Tues. March 25  
Islamic Art  
Illustrated lecture

Part 3 of the Course  
Contemporary Developments

Thurs. March 27  
Paper #1 Due  
Islam and The West: The Crusades/  
Islamic Influence on Europe  
Pre-Modern Reform Movements  
Denny 315-323

Tues. April 1  
The West and Islam : Colonialism  
Film: Struggling with Modernity
T. April 3
**Discuss Paper #2**
**Contemporary Islam**

Types of Modern Islamic Thought
Pan-Islamism vs. Nationalism

Paper#2 Guidelines on website
Denny 323-339

Th. April 8
**Map Quiz**

Modernism vs. "Fundamentalism"
Contemporary Islamic Thought
And Movements

Denny 340-346, 363-375

Tues. April 15

Issues Facing Muslims Today
Muslim Societies in the Contemporary World: An Overview

Film: Muslims

Th. April 17

Women and Gender Issues
Film: A Veiled Revolution

Denny 346-350, 375-378

T. April 22

Women and Gender Issues

"Women, Men, and Gender in Islam" (on website)
M. K. Hermansen

Th. April 25

Muslims in America
New Trends in Muslim America:
Sufis and Progressives

Denny 350-362
Denny 363-380

**Paper #2 (Contemporary Muslim Thought) Due**

**Tues. April 29**

Final Exam Date 9:00-11:00 AM
Study Guide on Web

**Note:**
All assignments must be completed on time. Late papers will be accepted but points may be deducted. Plagiarized or missing assignments receive a “0”.

**Essays:** Each essay assignment is to be typed, double-spaced, and is to include paginated citations of texts used in support of each of your arguments and a bibliography of sources used. I am willing to review rough drafts with you, since criticism and revision will improve the quality of work submitted for a grade.

**Writing assignments and academic honesty.** It is your responsibility to ensure that work you submit as your own is in fact your own, and that you properly acknowledge any sources from which you have taken ideas or phrasing. I will comply with Loyola University policies regarding plagiarism as outlined in the statement on the University website.


This semester we will be using the Turnitin system to vet your assignments before you submit them.
Student Instructions are at:
This class is #2135800 Password is bismillah
Suggestions for Reading Assignments:

Read the selections assigned for each class session before the actual class. At first you may wish to quickly review the material so as to isolate the main issues.
When you do your own preparatory reading, take notes, highlighting the ideas that you find most important. Note ideas with which you disagree. If you have any questions, if there are concepts or terms that you don't understand, note them down and bring your questions to class.
Bring these materials to class so that they will be available to you during the lectures and discussion.
Consult the class Website regularly for more information and updates.

I encourage any student needing to request accommodations for a disability to meet with me and contact Services for Students With Disabilities (Sullivan Center Suite 260) at your earliest convenience to ensure timely and appropriate accommodations.