

Forman Christian College

(A Chartered University)

Department of History

Spring 2023

**COURSE : Islamic History (Hist-306)**

**TUTOR : Umber Bin Ibad**

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**OFFICE HOURS : MWF 10-12:00 pm, and by appointment**

**OFFICE : E-335**

**Prepared : September, 2017**

**Reviewed : Jan, 2023**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

History is more than the study of the past. It is the process of recording, reconstructing and interpreting the past through the investigation of a variety of sources. It is a discipline that gives people an understanding of themselves and others in relation to the world, both past, present and future.

The course History of Islam briefly examines the call for Islam by Prophet (PBUH), conversion to Islam, battles in his period, the issue of succession and conquests during the Guided Caliphs’ times. The course looks at the disagreements which had emerged and their consequences.

This course highlights a number of topics including the establishment of the Umayyad dynasty, the development of caliphate system during the Umayyad period, the Umayyads’ policy in fostering their authority, the Umayyads’ position towards the Islamic sects, (namely, al-Khawarij and the Shiites), the Mawali movements, Islamic conquests during the Umayyad caliphs’ times, government and administrative systems and characteristics of civilizations during the rule of Umayyad period.

This course investigates the organization of da’wa (call) for House of the Prophet, establishment of the Abbasid caliphate. In addition, the course is a brief study of caliphs in the first Abbasid age, Abbasid caliphs’ home policy towards the Alawis, Mawalis, Shu’biyyah, Baramika, the Arabs, etc. the course also looks at Abbasids’ foreign policy towards the Byzantine and Holy Roman empires, the Maghreb and Andalus. It will shed light on the emergence of semi-independent Muslim states, age of Turks’ dominance, systems of government, and aspects of civilization during the Abbasid caliphs.

**COURSE GOALS:**

* Students of history of Islam will learn how the discipline works.
* It is an exploratory course that will pose questions and will provide answers through research.
* In order to understand the history of Islam, students will be engaged with it both through exposure to primary historical sources and through the work of historians.
* Historical study of this course will involve both selection and interpretation of data and critical evaluation of it.
* Students of this course will be able to appreciate the relative nature of historical knowledge and understanding, as each generation reflects its own world and preoccupations and as more evidence emerges.
* A study of history of Islam will both require and develop an individual’s understanding of and empathy for, people living in other periods and contexts.

**Evaluation:** The evaluation breakdown of the course is as follows:

Class Participation/ Attendance: 10 %

Weekly Oral Speech: After 2nd week there will be a 02-04 marks oral responses/ speech for the five weeks amounting to total 10 %

Mid Term 30 %

Presentation 20 %

Final Term 30%

Total 100

**COURSE POLICIES**

* Medium of instruction is English.
* **70%** attendance is must to sit in the final examination.
* Participation in class discussion is mandatory.
* Exams or assignments would be notified and if a student misses them, there will be no concession except in case of illness or unavoidable circumstances.
* Cheating and plagiarism will be resulted in the failure in the subject. (strict action)

**SECHEDULE AND CLASS READINGS:**

**Part-I**

**Week-1. Introduction and Pre-Islamic Era:**

**Week-2 &3. Holy Prophet (PBUH) and Emergence of Islam (571-632 AD) Problems of the Study of Religious History, Quranic Hypothesis of History.**

Hayat Amamou, The Nature of Early Islamic Sources and the Debate Over their Historical Significance AlMuntaqa , Vol. 1, No. 2 (August 2018), pp. 68-79.

**Syed Ameer Ali, *The Spirit of Islam* (Lahore:One Publisher), 33-111.**

* Mohammed, the Prophet; The Hegira; The Prophet at Medina; Hostility of the Quraish and the Jews; The Invasion of Medina; The Prophet’s Clemency; The Diffusion of the Faith; The Year of Deputation; Fulfillment of the Prophet’s Work; The Apostolical Succession.

**Part-II**

**Week-3 &4. Beginning and Progress of Pious Caliphate (632-661 AD):**

**Syed Ameer Ali, *A Short History of the Saraceens* (London (Reprint), 1951), 20-69.**

* The Republic; Abu Bakr-insurrections; War with Persia and Romans; Abu Bakar’s Death.
* Omar-conquest of Chaldea and Mesopotamia-Pesia; Deafeat of the Romans-conquest of Syria, Pelastine and Egypt; Death of Umar.
* Osman-His favouritism-Osman’s death.
* Ali-Rebellion of Muawiyah; Battle of Siffin; The Kharijis; Assassination of Ali- end of the Republic.
* Retrospect-Government-Policy-Administration; The Army; Social Life.

**Mahmoud M. Ayoub, *The Crisis of Muslim History: Religion and Politics in Early Islam* (Oxford: Oneworld, 2006, 1-167.**

**Part-III**

**Week-5 & 6. Ummayad Caliphate (661-750 AD):**

**M.A. Shaban. *Islamic History A New Interpretation,* Vol. I (London, 1971), 79-190.**

* Amir Muawiya and the Second Civil War; The Age of Hajjaj; Moderate reform, Radical Reform and Reaction: the Reigns of Sulayman, Umar II and Yazid II; Hisham: Survival of the Empire; The Collapse of Marwanids; The End of an Era.

**Part-IV**

**Week-7, 8 & 9. Abbasid Caliphate (750-1258 AD):**

**P.K. Hitti, *History of the Arabs,* 10th (London: Macmillan Education Ltd, 1970), 288-484.**

* Al-Mansur-the real founder of Abbasid Dynasty-Madinat al Salim-A Persian Vizirial Family; The Golden Prime of Abbasids; The Abbasid State; Abbasid Society; Scientific and Literary Progress; Education; The development of Fine Arts; Moslem Sects; The Caliphate Dismembered Petty Dynasties in the West. Sundry Dynasties in the East; The Collapse of the Abbasid Empire.

**Part-V**

**Week-10. The Articulation of Islam:**

**Albert Hourani, *A History of the Arab Peoples* (London: Faber and Faber, 1991), 59-75.**

* The Question of Authority; The Power and Justice of God; the Sharia; The Traditions of the Prophet; The Path of the Mystics; The Path of Reason.

**Week-10 & 11. Divergent Paths of Thought:**

**Albert Hourani, *A History of the Arab Peoples* (London: Faber and Faber, 1991), 172-186.**

* Islam of the Philosophers; Ibn e Arabi and Theosophy; Ibn e Taymiyah and the Hanbali Tradition; The Development of Shiism; Jewish and Christian Learning.

**Week-12. The Status of Women in Islam:**

**Syed Ameer Ali, *The Spirit of Islam* (Lahore:One Publisher), 181-210.**

**Week-13. Review:**

**Suggested Reading Lists for research and more reading:**

Ali, Syed Ameer. *A Short History of the Saraceens,* London (Reprint), 1951

Guillaume, A. *Life of Muhammad,* (English tr. of Muhammad Ishaq’s Ibn Sirat), London, 1955

Hitti, P.K. *History of the Arabs,* 7th edition, New York, 1961

Imamuddin, S.M. A Political History of the Muslims, Part-I (Prophet & Caliphate), Dhaka, 1970

.................. Umayyads & Abbasids, Dhaka, 1970

Martin, L. Muhammad: His life Based On the Earliest Sources, New Delhi, 1983

Muir, W. *Life of Mohamed,* 4 volumes, London, 1977

................... *The Caliphate, its Rise, Decline and Fall,* London (Reprint), 1998

Numani, S. *Sirat-al-Nabi,* Volume I (tr. into English by Tayyib Eaksh Badauni), Lahore, 1993

Shaban, M.A. *Islamic History A New Interpretation, Vol. I*, London, 1971

Watt, W.M. *Muhammad, Prophet and Statesman*, London, 1961

...................... *Muhammad At Mecca,* Oxford, 1953

...................... Muhammad At Medina, Oxford, 1956

Wellhausen, J. *The Arab Kingdom and its Fall* (Tr. by Margaret Graham Weir), Beirut, 1963

Zaidan, Jurji. *Umayyads and Abbasids*, (English tr. by D.S. Margoliouth), Gibb Memorial series, IV,

New Delhi, 1981