



Estd 1864

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, LAHORE
(A Chartered University)

Semester: Spring 2022

COURSE: Islamic History (Early Period) (Hist-306)

TUTOR: Dr. Umber Bin Ibad

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OFFICE HOURS: MWF 11:00-12:00 pm, and by appointment

OFFICE: E-335, Elahi Building

Outline Prepared: September 2017

Reviewed: January 2022

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.

COURSE POLICIES

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- Attendance in all classes is required. Any absences must be approved by the tutor. Failure in reading the assigned texts will result in an absence being marked.
- Any sort of plagiarism, which not only includes copying someone else's work without a citation but also covers the presentation of another's idea as one's own, will not be tolerated. All cases of scholastic dishonesty will be immediately reported to the Vice Rector.
- The topics for the response papers will be announced a week in advance and are due on the day assigned below. Any delay in submission of assignments, without prior approval of the tutor, will result in the lowering of the grade by one letter grade each day.

COURSE EVALUATION

Break up of Grading:	Attendance/ Participation:	10%
	Mid-term exam:	30%
	Assignments:	10%
	Presentation/ Viva:	20%

Final:	30%
Examination	
Total	100%

- A student is required to submit two assignments during the course. The assignment topics and its assigned time will be given during the classes. The special emphasis will be given on presenting a topic related to the history of Western Civilization in the class. The student will be marked according to the content, mode of presentation and the devised argument for the presentation. The presentation can be given in groups but each individual would be marked separately. The mid-term exam is comprised of two analytical sections given as reading material. The final exam will include, other than an analytical section, a reflective section from the given presentations during the class.

- **The Grading Criteria**

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Quality Pts</u>	<u>Numerical Value</u>	<u>Meanings</u>
A	4.00	93-100	Superior
A ⁻	3.70	90-92	
B ⁺	3.30	87-89	
B	3.00	83-86	Good
B ⁻	2.70	80-82	
C ⁺	2.30	77-79	
C	2.00	73-76	Satisfactory
C ⁻	1.70	70-72	
D ⁺	1.30	67-69	
D	1.00	60-66	Passing
F	0.00	≤ 59	Failing

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.
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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. Early Mystical Experiences or Tasawwuf

Ascetics and Early Sufis; Rise of Sufism and fall of Baghdad; Ibn e Arabi and Theosophy

Anne Marrie Shimmel, *Mystical Dimensions of Islam*. North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1975.

Week- 14. Presentations