History 314, Islam in the Modern World

Mondays, 4:00-6:30, CCC231

# Professor E. Francis

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30 PM, Fridays 10:30 AM-12:00 PM, **And by appointment**

What does it mean to be “modern”? In this class, students will learn how Muslim leaders and groups have answered to this question, responding to the political, economic, and social changes of the last 250 years through their various interpretations of their religion and its history. Students will study these efforts by reading the works of these Muslims themselves, and will have the opportunity to conduct their own original research.

Even though this is an upper-level course in History, no previous knowledge of Islam or the study of history is required or assumed. Students who want permission to take the course for general education credit should contact the instructor to make special arrangements. Graduate students may take this course for graduate credit.

The assignments, deadlines, and policies described in this syllabus are subject to change. Any such changes will be clearly announced. It is your responsibility as a student to regularly check Canvas and your UWSP email account for corrections or updates to the syllabus.

I do not allow anybody to photograph, film, or otherwise record lectures without my express permission. I do not allow anybody to distribute course materials to people not currently enrolled in this class without my express permission. Posting course material I have created onto course-sharing websites directly violates my copyright on my academic materials.

**Rental Textbook:**

Donohue, John D. and John L. Esposito, editors. *Islam in Transition: Muslim Perspectives*, second edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.

**Supplemental Texts (REQUIRED!):**

Esposito, John. *The Future of Islam*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Rampolla, Mary Lynn.  *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. 9th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2018.

Voll, John. *Islam: Continuity and Change*. 2nd ed. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1994.

Additional readings—mostly primary sources in translation—will be made available through Canvas

# Assessment and Grading

Final course grades will be assigned on a percentage basis: Grades in this course reflect achievement of different levels of mastery. Final course grades will be assigned on a percentage of possible points earned:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A Range | Exceptional or exemplary work | 90.0% to 92.99% | A- | 93.0%+ | A |  |  |
| B Range | Very good work. Exceeds minimum standards | 80.0% to 82.99% | B- | 83.0% to 86.99% | B | 87.0% to 89.99% | B+ |
| C Range | Acceptable work. Meets minimum standards. | 70.0% to 72.99% | C- | 73.0% to 76.99% | C | 77.0% to 79.99% | C+ |
| D Range | Barely meets minimum standards |  |  | 63.0% to 66.99% | D | 67.0% to 69.99% | D+ |
| F | Does not meet minimum standards | 0-62.99%.  UWSP does not recognize a grade of D-. Any grade of less than 63.0% will result in a grade of F for the course. | | | | | |

These grades will be based on students' performance on the assignments described below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Assignment | Points Per | %per | Number | Points Total | % Total |
| Attendance/Participation/Professionalism | 50 | 11% | 1 | 50 | 10.9% |
| Reading Responses | 10 | 2% | 6 | 60 | 19.4% |
| Take-Home Exams | 100 | 22% | 2 | 200 | 43.5% |
| Historiography Paper |  |  |  |  |  |
| Prospectus (Proposal & Bibliography) | 25 | 5% | 1 | 25 | 5.4% |
| Final Paper | 150 | 33% | 1 | 150 | 32.6% |
| Presentation | 25 | 5% | 1 | 25 | 5.4% |
| TOTAL |  |  |  | 460 |  |

Detailed prompts for all assignments will be provided in advance.

## Schedule of Topics and Assignments

NOTE: This is a broad schedule of our classes. Lists of specific readings will be distributed in advance.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Week 1  1/21/20 | Class Does Not Meet |
| Week 2  1/27/20 | Introduction to the Course |
| Week 3  2/3/20 | Studying Islam |
| Week 4  2/10/20 | Eighteenth-Century Themes, Challenges, Responses |
| Week 5  2/17/20 | Early Responses: The 19th Century |
| Week 6  2/24/20 | The 20th Century: Nationalism, Secularism, Radicalism |
| Week 7  3/2/20 | Take-Home Exam #1/ Library Visit (Scheduling TBD) |
| Week 8  3/9/20 | Prospectus Due. In-Class Peer Review |
| 3/14/20-3/22/20 | Spring Break, March 14-March 22, 2020.  Class does not meet March 17, 2020 |
| Week 9  3/23/20 | Visions of Islamic States |
| Week 10  3/30/20 | The Islamic Resurgence or “Islamic Threat” |
| Week 11  4/6/20 | Perspectives on a “Clash of Civilizations” and Political Violence |
| Week 12  4/13/20 | Voices of Reform and Gender Issues |
| Week 13  4/20/20 | Final Paper Due. In-Class Peer Review |
| Week 14  4/27/20 | Student Presentations |
| Week 15  5/4/20 | Student Presentations |
| Week 16/ Finals Week | Take-Home Exam #2 Due  Final Paper Revisions Due |

Communication

### Office Hours

Please visit me in my office (463 CCC), especially if you have questions about the class. I hold regular office hours every week at times listed on the first page of the syllabus. At those times I am always available to students.

I am always happy to schedule an appointment outside my office hours, either in person, or through “virtual office hours” by phone or by electronic conferencing software.

### Discussion Boards.

I also encourage you to contact me on the Canvas Discussion Boards for any question that is not strictly personal. If you have a question, there’s a good chance several other students have it too! I check the Discussion Boards at least once a day, Monday through Friday. I will usually respond to any question within “one business day,” even if I do not have a definitive answer.

### Email.

Regularly check your university provided email account (e.g., [spointer@uwsp.edu](mailto:spointer@uwsp.edu)). This is the account I will use for any formal communication related to this class. As with the Discussion Boards, I will check my campus email account ([efrancis@uwsp.edu](mailto:efrancis@uwsp.edu)) at least once a day, Monday through Friday. While the Discussion Boards are the best place for most questions, email is a better medium for questions that apply only to you (e.g., requests for extensions). To preserve student privacy, I will not discuss grades over email, as a rule.

#### Email “Netiquette”

In addition to common courtesy, I ask that all students follow some basic principles of “netiquette” in email exchanges. I recommend these principles in all your academic emails.

* Briefly identify yourself. Give your name and mention the class you have with the professor. We professors receive numerous emails every day and may have hundreds of students. This makes it difficult to identify emails simply signed “Dave” or “Sally.”
* Always use appropriate terms of address. I prefer to be addressed as “Dr. Francis” or “Professor Francis.” I recommend you follow this pattern with your other professors, unless they tell you otherwise.
* Always include a relevant subject heading, such as a brief summary of your concern or even the course number or course name.

# Course Policies

Attend all class sessions. Do all assigned work yourself and do it on time. Give others credit for their work. Treat your classmates and me with the respect that you would like to receive. For further details, see the following policies (listed in alphabetical order):

### Academic Honesty.

I expect all students to uphold principles of academic honesty in this classroom. Students who commit any form of academic dishonesty in this class will be given a **"0" (zero)** gradefor the relevant assignment. Further penalties can range from a lowered grade in the class (up to and including failing the class) to suspension or expulsion from the University.

* Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):
  + plagiarism “irrespective of intent to deceive” [[1]](#footnote-1)
  + cheating on exams
  + providing false information on official documentation (e.g., signing others in for attendance, or giving false excuses to make up work)
  + presenting the same piece of work for credit in two different classes without prior permission
* Review your rights and responsibilities as outlined on the web page for the Office of the Dean of Students: (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/>):
  + “Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students.” *UWSP Dean of Students*. <<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/AcademicIntegrityBrochure.pdf>>
  + “Academic Misconduct” *UWSP Dean of Students*.  
    < <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx>>
  + “Chapter UWSP 14: Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures.” *UWSP Dean of Students*.   
    < [https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/UWS%2014-1.pdf](https://www3.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/UWS%2014-1.pdf)>

### Add/Drop Period

It is you responsibility to understand when you need to consider disenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](http://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/calendars.aspx) for dates and deadlines for registration. Please note that these are the deadlines for all paperwork to be turned in. You may need signatures from different faculty or staff, and they may not all be waiting around for you on the very last day. Plan ahead!

By the same token, if you enroll in the course after the first day of classes, contact me to inform me that you have added the course. Even when you add a course late, you are responsible for all the material presented before you enrolled--just like the rest of the class.

### Attendance

As noted above, participation and professionalism will be a part of your grade. You cannot participate if you are not present. In accordance with university policy, I will grant excused absences when you must miss class due to illness, approved university activities (e.g., sports), military duty, duty as a first responder, religious obligation, or personal emergency.

I consider a “personal emergency” an immediate problem beyond your control, such as a death in the family or unsafe driving conditions. Please note that I will not consider a work conflict or a planned celebration (e.g., a family wedding) to be a personal emergency.

If you must miss class for any reason, please notify me as soon as possible.

See Also: **Late Work, Religious Beliefs, Equity of Educational Access**

### Equity of Educational Access

UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments.  If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC) on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (the University Library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or [DATC@uwsp.edu](mailto:DATC@uwsp.edu). See also: **Religious Beliefs**

### Extensions

I am willing to discuss extending deadlines for individual students if the student approaches me beforehand. Such extensions will only be granted in cases where unusual circumstances prevent the student from completing the work on time. As a rule, I will only grant extensions after the fact under truly exceptional circumstances, such as a personal or family emergency. I may also assign an alternate makeup assignment for an assignment you missed. In all such cases, I may assess a penalty for completing the assignment after the rest of the class. See also: **Late Work, Religious Beliefs, Equity of Educational Access**

### Extra Credit

As a rule, I do not grant extra credit in my classes. I definitely do not create special extra credit assignments for individual students. Any extra credit assignment will be publicly offered to the entire class with plenty of time for students to participate.

### Incomplete Policy

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned if the student has completed two-thirds of all coursework. All incomplete course assignments must be completed within one semester.

### Late Work.

* Any work submitted after the deadline will be subject to a -5% penalty for each 24 hours (or portion thereof) it is late.
* No assignment may be submitted more than one week after the deadline.

See also: **Extensions**

### Missed Assignments.

Failure to complete an exam, writing assignment, or reading response will result in zero credit for that assignment. If you must miss an assignment for any reason, please notify me as soon as possible. I am much more likely to grant accommodations if I receive early notice. In accordance with University policies I will give you a reasonable amount of help in making up an exam you have missed under certain circumstances:

* Off-campus travel with an approved University group (e.g., athletic team, musical or dramatic organization, class activity).
* NOTE: If you are ill, do **not** come to class.  Get well, keep from infecting anybody else, and make up the work later.
* Religious holidays
* Personal or family emergency (e.g., family funeral, unsafe driving conditions, taking a relative to the hospital, called to duty for the military or for emergency services as police, firefighters, or rescue squad personnel).

See also: See: **Equity of Educational Access, Extensions, Late Work, Religious Beliefs**

### Religious Beliefs.

If you think you may need academic accommodations in this class due to your religious beliefs (for instance, if you cannot complete an assignment due to a religious holiday), please let me know **within the first three weeks of class**. I will work with all such students to provide reasonable accommodations for religious beliefs, in accordance with UWS 22.03.

1. University of Cambridge., "University-Wide Statement on Plagiarism," <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/plagiarism/students/statement.html> (published June 2011, accessed January 19, 2014.) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)