

# **HISTORY 313/513 HISTORY OF ISLAM**

Mondays, Wednesdays 2:00-3:15 PM, CCC 207

## **PROFESSOR E. FRANCIS**

Office : CCC 474 E-mail: [efrancis@uwsp.edu](mailto:efrancis@uwsp.edu).

Office Hours (Spring 2023):

Mondays 3:30-4:30 in CCC 474, Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 in CCC 474,

Fridays 12:30-1:30 in Hansen Hall Lobby

## **OVERVIEW**

This course aims to introduce students to the development of Islamic religious beliefs and the practice of Islam from the time of the Prophet Muhammad (ca. 7<sup>th</sup> century CE) to the present. One of the main goals is to illustrate the diversity of these beliefs and practices over time and across the world. Another is to demonstrate the development of Islam in its historical context.

**NOTE: This syllabus, like all learning, is a work in progress and subject to change. I will notify students of all changes in class, by email, and/or through Canvas.**

This syllabus was last updated 5/8/2023 9:37:00 AM.

## **INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

This course carries credit for the "Global Awareness" (GA) category in UWSP's General Education Program. Therefore, at the end of this class, students will be better able to:

1. Identify the key components found within one or more cultures that are distinct from those found in predominantly English-speaking cultures.
2. Analyze key forces or processes that contribute to global interconnectedness, and their implications.
3. Demonstrate curiosity and empathetic insight about diverse cultural perspectives

This course fulfills upper-level course requirements in the following majors: History and Social Science Education (HSSE), History, International Studies, and Religious Studies. Therefore, at the end of this class, students will be better able to:

1. formulate reflective, informed, and sympathetic evaluations of Islamic beliefs and practices.
2. use primary sources to answer questions about historical change in Islam
3. describe differences among interpretations of the Islamic past.
4. analyze institutional and cultural changes in Islam and in Muslim communities over time.

## BOOKS AND READINGS

### Required Books

Aslan, Reza. *No god but God: The Origins, Evolution and Future of Islam*. Updated paperback edition. New York: Random House, 2011. Rental text. Required.

Ernst, Carl. *Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World*.

\$24.00. Required. E-book available through the UWSP Library.

<https://login.ezproxy.uwsp.edu/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,uid&db=nlebk&AN=137943&site=ehost-live&scope=site>

Turabian, Kate L. et al. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Chicago Style for Students and Researchers. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.

Williams, John, editor. *The Word of Islam*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1994.

\$24.95. Required. E-book available through the UWSP Library.

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/uwsp/detail.action?docID=3571851>

**NOTE:** Additional required readings and media will be distributed through Canvas. I will collect these in a module entitled “E-Reserves”

## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS, READINGS, AND ASSIGNMENTS

“Say, ‘Only what God has decreed will happen to us.

He is our Master: let the believers put their trust in God.”

Qur’an 9:63

This is a preliminary schedule, and **this schedule may well change through the course of this semester**. I expect that you will take responsibility for keeping informed of these changes by attending class and checking Canvas. I will make every effort to ensure that exam dates and other deadlines remain unchanged.

This schedule was last updated **5/8/2023 9:37:00 AM**

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, and Deadlines
01	Mon., 1/23/23	<b>Introduction to Class</b>
01	Wed., 1/25/23	<b>Islamophobia</b> Readings: Ernst, Preface Ernst, Ch. 1, “Islam in the Eyes of the West,” 1-36
02	Mon., 1/30/23	<b>Approaching Islam in Terms of History: A Brief Survey of Islam in World History</b> Ernst, Ch. 1, “Islam in the Eyes of the West,” 1-36 (Review)
02	Wed., 2/02/23	<b>Islam in Religious Studies</b> Ernst, Ch. 2, “Approaching Islam in Terms of Religion,” 37-70 <b>E-Reserve Readings regarding Hamline TBA</b>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, and Deadlines</b>
03	Mon., 2/06/23	<b>Sacred Sources of Islam: Muhammad (Film)</b> Film: <i>Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet</i> Part I) Aslan, Ch. 1, "The Sanctuary in the Desert: Pre-Islamic Arabia" Aslan, Ch. 2, "The Keeper of the Keys: Muhammad in Mecca" Aslan, Ch. 3: "The City of the Prophet: The First Muslims" Ernst, Ch. 3, "The Sacred Sources of Islam," 71-92
03	Wed., 2/08/23	<b>Sacred Sources: Muhammad (Film and Discussion)</b> Film: <i>Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet</i> (Virtual Watch Party, Part II) Aslan, Ch. 4: "Fight in the Way of God" Williams, 38-40, 43-46, 56, 59-60, 63-65 <i>Optional:</i> <i>Remainder of Williams, Ch. 2</i> Rampolla, Ch. 2, "Working with Sources".
04	Mon., 2/13/23	<b>Research Session. Guest Speaker: Librarian Nerissa Nelson</b> Class meets in CCC 207 Please bring a laptop computer if you can.
04	Wed., 2/15/23	<b>DEADLINE: Prospectus Due 11:59 PM <del>2/18/2021</del> February 15, 2023</b> <b>Sacred Sources: Muhammad (Discussion)</b> Aslan, chapter 1, "The Sanctuary in the Desert: Pre-Islamic Arabia" chapter Aslan, Ch. 2, "The Keeper of the Keys: Muhammad in Mecca" chapter 3, "The City of the Prophet: The First Muslims" chapter 4, "Fight in the Way of God" Ernst, chapter 3, "The Sacred Sources of Islam," 71-92 Williams, 38-40, 43-46, 56, 59-60, 63-65 <i>Optional Readings</i> Williams, remainder of chapter 2 (pp. 36-65)
05	Mon., 2/20/23	<b>Catch-Up and Review</b>
05	Wed., 2/22/23	<b>Exam 1 in Class.</b>
06	Mon., 02/27/23	<b>Sacred Sources: The Quran</b> Ernst, Ch. 3, "The Sacred Sources of Islam," 93-105 Williams, 8-14, 23-26
06	Wed., 3/01/23	<b>Sacred Sources: The Quran</b> Williams, 14-23, 26-31, 3-35
07	Mon., 3/06/23	<b>Sharia: Scope and the Question of Forbidden Beverages</b> Read Williams, 102-104. Read Quran 2:219, 4:43, 5:90-91 (E-Reserve) Skim Williams, remainder of chapter 3 (pp. 66-108)
07	Wed., 3/08/23	<b>Sharia: Method</b> Aslan, 60-66 (review), 164-173 <sup>1</sup> Ernst, 107-119 (from) Ch. 4, "Ethics and Life in the World," Williams, 56-65, 163-167, 102-104

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, and Deadlines</b>
08	Mon., 3/13/23	<b>Sharia: Women’s Issues, Then and Now</b> Ernst, 142-151 Williams, 87-92, 99-101 <b>Additional Readings To Be Determined</b>
08	Wed., 3/15/23	<b>Sharia: Women’s Issues, Then and Now (Continued)</b> Ernst, 142-151 Williams, 87-92, 99-101
		SPRING BREAK March 18-26, 2023
09	Mon., 3/27/23	Class Does Not Meet in Lieu of Joining the UWSP Iftar (7:30 PM in the DUC Laird Room)  <b>Sharia: The Five Pillars of Islam</b>
09	Wed., 3/29/23	Annotated Bibliography Due 11:59 PM, March 30, 2023 Sharia: The Five Pillars of Islam <i>See Canvas for study questions</i> <i>Assigned Readings</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aslan (paperback), 146-152<sup>1</sup></li> <li>Williams, 71-75 (salat), 79-83 (zakat), 83-85 (sawm), 85-87 (Hajj)</li> </ul> <i>Optional Readings/Media</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Inside Mecca</i> (E-Reserve)</li> <li>Kesvani, Hussein. “7 Things I learned about Myself While Fasting This Ramadan.” <i>Buzzfeed</i>. 16 July, 2015. (E-Reserve)</li> </ul>
10	Mon., 4/03/23	Sectarian Differences: The Historical Background <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aslan, chapter 5: “The Rightly Guided Ones”</li> <li>Aslan, 174-182 (from Ch. 7, “In the Footsteps of Martyrs”)<sup>1</sup></li> <li>Williams, 51-56 , 170-172</li> </ul>
10	Wed., 4/05/23	Sectarianism (Cont’d) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aslan, chapter 5: “The Rightly Guided Ones” (Review)</li> <li>Aslan, chapter 7, “In the Footsteps of Martyrs” (The entire chapter)</li> <li>Ernst, 168-174</li> <li>Williams, 92-96, 192-196, 198-199</li> </ul> <i>Optional Readings:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Williams, 172-178</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Page numbers are given from the paperback edition. The exact pages will be slightly different for the hardback edition.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, and Deadlines
11	Mon., 4/10/23	Theology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aslan, 152-157<sup>1</sup></li> <li>Williams, 140-142, 151-154,156-157, 161-163<sup>2</sup>, 163-164<sup>3</sup>, 168-169</li> </ul>
11	Wed., 4/12/23	Exam 2 In Class
12	Mon., 4/17/23	Sufism: Origins and Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aslan, Ch. 8: "Stain Your Prayer Rug with Wine"</li> <li>Ernst, 164-168 (from Ch. 5, "Spirituality in Practice")</li> <li>Williams, 43-46, 110-115</li> <li>Quran 2:153, 7:205-206, 24:36-37, 33:41-44, 76:25-26 (E-Reserves)</li> </ul>
12	Wed., 4/19/23	Sufism: Controversy and Institutions <i>Guest Lecturer: Najib Azad (Revision 3/28/2023)</i> <i>Assigned Readings</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ernst, 174-182 (from CH. 5, "Spirituality in Practice")</li> <li>Williams, 116-121, 123-127, 133-136, 137-139, 163-164, 167-168</li> <li>Suhrawardi, "A Sufi Rule for Novices (Selections)" (E-Reserves)</li> </ul>
13	Mon., 4/24/23	Sufism: Controversy and Institutions (Pantheism/Monism) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Williams, 123-127, 133-136. 163-164,167-168 (Review)</li> </ul>
13	Wed., 4/26/23	Deadline for Final Paper: 4/27/2023 Class Topic TBA
14	Mon., 5/01/23	Islam and Modern Politics, Part I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aslan,225-233, 233-240</li> <li>"Imperialism, Science and Religion: Two Essays by Jamal al-Din al-Afghani, 1883 and 1884," tr. Nikki R. Keddie (E-Reserves)</li> </ul>
14	Wed., 5/03/23	Islam and Modern Politics, Part II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aslan, 191-198; 240-245; 245-254 (Review)</li> <li>Ernst, 136-139</li> <li>Qutb, Sayyid, "Jihad in the Cause of God" (E-Reserves)</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Only read the selection "Eschatology" and the introduction.

<sup>3</sup> Ibn Taymiyya--Introduction

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, and Deadlines</b>
15	Mon., 5/08/23	<b>Review Session</b> <b>Last Classroom Meeting</b>
15	Wed., 5/10/23	<b>Study Day. Class will not meet.</b>
16/ Finals	Tues., 5/16/23	Exam Period: Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 12:30-2:30 PM, CCC 207

## GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

Final course grades will be assigned on a percentage basis:

	A	93.0%+	A-	90.0%+	Exceptional or exemplary work.	
B+	87.0%+	B	83.0%+	B-	80.0%+	Very good work. Above average.
C+	77.0%+	C	73.0%+	C-	70.0%+	Acceptable work. Meets minimum requirements.
D+	67.0%+	D	63.0%+	F	0-62.9%	Does not meet minimum requirements.

The university does not recognize a grade of D-, so any grade of less than 63.0% will result in a grade of F for the course.

Grades will be based on completion of the following assignments:

<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>POINTS</b>	<b>GRADE%</b>
<b>EXAMS</b>		
Exam 1	100	19%
Exam 2	100	19%
Exam 3	100	19%
<b>WRITING</b>		
<u>Proposal Prospectus</u>	25	5%
Annotated Bibliography	50	10%
Final Draft	100	19%
Professionalism	50	10%
Short Assignments	12 each	*No more than 10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Research Paper

Over the course of this semester, you will write a research paper on some historical question related to the history of Islam. In preparation for this work, you will be responsible for a number of shorter assignments:

Prospectus (500-750 words)

You will start work on your research paper with a prospectus, including:

- An explanation of your topic and its significance.
- A preliminary bibliography with five items.

- A research narrative describing how you wrote the topic explanation and found the items in your bibliography.

### **Annotated Bibliography**

In the annotated bibliography, you will summarize your sources and explain their value for your research.

### **Final Paper (ca. 2500-3500 words)**

The final paper will be the culmination of your efforts.

### **Written Exams**

You will be responsible for three in class exams. These will combine “short answer” questions with longer essays. The second and third exams will not be cumulative as such. However, your work in the early part of the semester will form the foundation of your learning in this class.

### **Professionalism**

College is your gateway into the working world, so I will follow practices of common courtesy and professionalism expected in the workplace and will hold you to those standards. This will be reflected in your professionalism grade. Aspects of your professionalism grade will include **attendance, preparation, courtesy, participation, and academic honesty**. I will post a detailed rubric on Canvas.

### **Short Assignments**

I reserve the right to create short assignments to be completed in class or before coming to class. These may include brief quizzes, short writing assignments, or Canvas discussions. These assignments may be graded or pass/fail. The total value of these assignments will not exceed 10% of your final grade.

## Grading Policies

### Academic Honesty.

I expect all students to uphold principles of academic honesty in this classroom. Maintaining academic honesty is a fundamental part of establishing your professional identity as a college student and it is essential to your education. Violations of these principles include (but are not limited to):

- cheating on exams
- providing false information on official documentation (e.g., making false claims on assignments about research materials used, 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
- plagiarism

NOTE: If any student submits any work composed by an artificial intelligence [AI] tool such as ChatGPT, I will consider that a form of plagiarism and I will respond accordingly.

Regardless of the student's intent, acts of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of 0 points on the relevant assignment and a penalty to the student's professionalism grade—up to and possibly including a 0 in that category. In extreme cases, further penalties can range from a lowered grade in the class overall (up to and including failing the class) to suspension or expulsion from the University.

Review your rights and responsibilities as outlined on the following web page:

"Student Conduct Process." UWSP Office of the Dean of Students. 2020.

<https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>. Accessed June 17, 2020.

### Attendance

I will record attendance using the Canvas "Attendance" tool and this will be a factor in your professionalism grade. More importantly, you are responsible for all material presented or discussed during these classroom sessions, regardless of whether or not you were present.

In accordance with university policies and professional good practice, I will grant excused absences to students who are unable to attend specific sessions due to circumstances beyond their control such as university-approved travel, personal emergency, religious holidays, or mandatory service as a member of the armed services or emergency personnel such as police, fire, or rescue squad.

If you believe you will be absent for a class session, contact me by email as soon as possible. When possible (e.g., upcoming religious holidays or scheduled military deployment), contact me before the deadline. The earlier you contact me, the easier it is for me to arrange for some kind of accommodation.

### Electronic Devices

*"They ask you [Prophet] about intoxicants and gambling; say, 'There is great sin in both and some benefit for people: The sin is greater than the benefit.'" (Quran 2: 219)*

I prohibit the use or wearing of any headphones, earbuds, or similar device in my class (except, obviously, in the case of documented disabilities).

I discourage the use of other electronic devices (e.g., laptops, phones, etc.) in my class. However, I do permit the use of such devices when they are used solely for class-related purposes. If I think that any



devices are being misused or that they are distracting to you or others, I will insist that you cease such behavior. Such behavior can also have a negative impact on your professionalism grade.

### 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.

### Late Work, Missed Assignments, and Extensions

I will accept late submissions of most assignments. All work submitted after the deadline is subject to a **penalty of -5% per day late** (or portion thereof).

### *Contact Me to Request Accommodations for Late or Missed Work*

I am willing to waive or reduce late penalties if you are unable to complete work due to circumstances beyond your control. See “Absences” above for a list of appropriate circumstances.

If you believe you will need an extension on an assignment, contact me by email as soon as possible. When possible (e.g., upcoming religious holidays or scheduled military deployment), contact me before the deadline. The earlier you contact me, the easier it is for me to arrange for some kind of accommodation.

### Written Assignments: Submission

Unless noted otherwise, all written assignments and discussions are due at 11:59 PM. All written assignments submitted through Canvas must be in a format which Canvas can read. I recommend .pdf files if possible. If I cannot read an assignment, you will need to re-submit it in a different format.

## COMMUNICATION

Please reach out to me to ask questions and to help me know you better as an individual. The best ways to contact me are to ask questions in Canvas Discussions, meet me during my office hours, or sent me an email.

### Canvas Discussions

If you have general questions about the course or about course content, or you just want to chat, please contact me through the “Professor’s Office” discussion forum on Canvas. 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.

### Office Hours

At the times listed on the first page of the syllabus, I will be available for office hours in Hansen Hall or in my office (CCC 474). I have set aside those times to meet with students, and I welcome your visits—whether virtual or face-to-face. If you need to meet at another time or you prefer to meet by Zoom, please contact me so we can schedule an appointment.

## **Email and Canvas Inbox.**

Check your UWSP email account regularly (e.g., [spointer@uwsp.edu](mailto:spointer@uwsp.edu)). I check my campus email account ([efrancis@uwsp.edu](mailto:efrancis@uwsp.edu)) at least once a day, Monday through Friday. I may also communicate with you using the Canvas Inbox.

Follow these tips to get the best response to your email:

- Identify yourself with your full name and specifying which class you have with me.
- Use appropriate terms of address. I prefer to be addressed as “Dr. Francis” or “Professor Francis.”
- Include a relevant subject heading.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

These policies cover any issues not addressed above. Course policies are listed in alphabetical order.

### **Copyright on Course Materials**

Lecture materials, recordings, and original materials produced for this class (The History of Islam) are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Other material used in this course, such as textbooks, articles, audiovisual recordings, or applications may also be protected by copyright.

Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor’s express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university’s policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

### **Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC)**

As a professor at UWSP, I am 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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).

### **Registrar Policies**

All UWSP students are responsible for understanding the policies which govern their education. See the web page for the Office of the Registrar (<https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/AtoZPolicySearch.aspx>) for information on the following policies (and many more):

- Add/Drop Procedure, Forms, Schedule
- Attendance Information

- Incompletes