

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Continuing Education
Springfield, Missouri
September 2-18, 2003

MCSE 545 INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM
(3 Credits)

Dale Fagerland

Fall 2003

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide an overview of Islam, including its historical background, development, spread, its diversity and why it has such worldwide appeal. We will examine the main beliefs and practices of Muslims, noting similarities and crucial differences with Christians. Special attention will be given to develop Christ-like attitudes and approaches for effective ministry to Muslims.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Understand the historical development and the expansion of Islam, its power and its appeal to the masses.
2. Describe the major beliefs and practices of Muslims.
3. Grasp the powerful system within which the Muslim is bound, and ascertain how this WorldView affects the conversion and discipleship process.
4. Learn from Scripture and from the instructor's personal experiences appropriate practical guidelines for Christian approach and witness to Muslims.
5. Develop a philosophy of approach for ministry to Muslims.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Braswell, George W. Jr. *Islam: Its Prophet, Peoples, Politics, and Power*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1996.

CMM. *Through Muslim Eyes*. Springfield, Missouri: CMM, 1997. (*Available through CMM*)

Fagerland, Dale. *Course Workbook*. Springfield, Missouri: CMM, 2003. **(Provided in class)**

Gilchrist, John. *Muhammad: The Prophet of Islam*. Benoni, S. Africa: MERCESA, 1999.

Watt, W. Montgomery Watt. *Muhammad: Prophet and Statesman*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1974.

Love, Fran and Eckheart, Jelata, Eds. *Ministry to Muslim Women: Longing to Call Them Sisters*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2000.

Love, Rick. *Muslims, Magic, and the Kingdom of God: Church Planting Among Folk Muslims*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2002.

Morin, Harry. *Al-Masih: The Anointed One*. Springfield, MO: CMM 1998. **(Available through CMM)**

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. The Challenge of Islam—Possible Approaches
- II. Historical Background—Early Developments
- III. What Muslims Should Believe—Articles of Faith
- IV. Mallam the Mediator—Folk Islam
- V. What Muslims Should Practice—Pillars of Islam
- VI. The “Wall of Islam”—Locked Into a System
- VII. Through Muslim Eyes—Islamic Perspective
- VIII. Practical Guidelines—Cultural Do’s and Don’ts

METHODOLOGY

A combination of lecture and discussion will be utilized with the aid of numerous overheads, PowerPoint presentations and other visual aids. Articles and handouts assembled in workbook form will enhance note-taking and assist the learning process.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Pre-Session

1. Read the required textbooks listed above. Prepare a 2-3 page typewritten analysis of each of the books by Braswell, Gilchrist and Rick Love. Women students may report on Fran Love's book on ministry to Muslim women instead of Rick Love's text on Folk Islam. These reports, which should summarize the material and express your evaluation, are **due the beginning of class Thursday, September 11, 2003.**
2. Read the other listed texts with a 1-page summary of *Al-Masih: The Anointed One*. The instructor's "Muslim Reader" will be given out in class and referenced daily.

B. Session

1. Punctual attendance at all sessions is expected.
2. Prepare a one-page typewritten evaluation of each day's lessons to be submitted the following class period.
3. Mid-term quiz: the last hour of class Wednesday, September 10, 2003.
4. Final Exam will be Thursday, September 18, 2003

C. Post-Session

Prepare a 15-20 page research paper (following accepted AGTS standards) in which you identify and describe a segment of Muslim society of particular interest to you. This may deal with Islamic theology, Muslim practices (Folk, mystic, orthodox), the application of contextualized worship forms, or a proposed strategy to reach a Muslim people group. The topic, practical to your ministry, must be approved by the instructor by the end of the course. This project must be forwarded to the instructor for grading and **postmarked no later than December 18, 2003.** Send to:

**Dale Fagerland / CMM
2032 E. Kearney #205
Springfield, MO 65803**

(NOTE) Assignments received after the due date specified in the syllabus will result in a change of grade fee (\$15.00) being charged, even when an extension has been granted by the instructor.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Daily Class Evaluations.....	10%
Mid-term Quiz	15%
Book Reports	15%
Final Exam	30%
Research Paper.....	30%

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Arberry, Arthur J. *The Koran Interpreted*. OUP, 1983.
- Accad, Fouad Elias. *Building Bridges*. Navpress, Colorado Springs, 1997.
- Chapman, Colin. *Cross and Crescent*. Intervarsity Press, Leicester, England, 1995.
- Esposito, John L. *Islam: The Straight Path*.
- Gilchrist, John. *Muhammad and the Religion of Islam*. Jesus to the Muslims Press, Benoni, ROSA, 1986.
- . *Christian Witness to the Muslim*. Jesus to the Muslim Press, Benoni ROSA, 1988.
- Goldsmith, Martin. *Islam and Christian Witness*. Hodder and Stoughton, London, and STL Books, Bromley, 1982.
- Kateregga, Badru, and Shenk, David. *Islam and Christianity: A Dialogue*. Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, 1980.
- Malek, Sobhi. *Islam: Introduction and Approach*. ICI, Irving, 1992.
- Marsh, Charles R. *Share Your Faith with a Muslim*. Moody Press, Chicago, 1975.
- Martinson, Paul Varo, Ed. *Islam: An Introduction for Christians*. Augsburg Press, Minneapolis, 1994.
- Mawdudi, Abul A'la. *Towards Understanding Islam*. Islamic Foundation, Leicester, 1981.
- Musk, Bill. *The Unseen Face of Islam*. MARC, U.K., 1989.
- Parshall, Phil. *Beyond the Mosque*. Baker Books, Grand Rapids, 1983.
- . *Bridges to Islam*. Baker Books, Grand Rapids, 1983.
- . *Inside the Community*. Baker Books, Grand Rapids, 1994
- . *New Paths in Muslim Evangelism*. Baker, Grand Rapids, 1980.
- . *The Cross and the Crescent*. Tyndale House, Wheaton, 1989.
- Woodberry, Dudley J. *Muslims and Christians on the Emmaus Road*. MARC, U.S.A. 1989.
- Wooton, R. W. F. *Understanding Muslim Sects*. FFM, 1983.

SPECIFIC DATA: Syllabus prepared by Dale Fagerland July 15, 2003.