

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Continuing Education
Springfield, Missouri
June 30-July 3, 2003

MCSE 631 INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM
(3 Credits)

Harry Morin

Summer 2003

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide an overview of Islam from its early inception to the present time, with a broad treatment of the diversity of beliefs and practices within the Muslim world community in order to help the Christian worker recognize both difficulties and possibilities for evangelism.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Trace the historical development of the early Muslim community and understand its influence upon contemporary Islam
2. Describe the belief system of Islam and recognize its hidden elements of mysticism and folk religion
3. Identify present trends within the Islamic community worldwide and understand their impact on Christian witness

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Ali, A. Yusuf. *The Qur'an: Translation*. Elmhurst, NY: Tahrike Tarsile Qur'an, Inc., 2000.

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

Fernea, Elizabeth Warnock. *Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village*. New York: Anchor Books, 1965.

Love, Rick. *Muslims, Magic, and the Kingdom of God: Church Planting Among Folk Muslims*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2000.

Rashid, Ahmed. *Taliban*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2000.

Watt, W. Montgomery. *Muhammad: Prophet and Statesman*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1961.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. In the beginning—*Al Hijra*
2. The Articles and the Pillars
3. The Islamic Point of View
4. Muslim Objections to Christians
5. Christian Responses to Muslims
6. The Sufi and the Beloved
7. The Race of the Jinn

METHODOLOGY

Lecture, discussion, practicum sessions, and writing assignments

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Pre-Session

1. Read the five textbooks in their entirety and write a two-page report for any three of them that summarizes the material and expresses your evaluation.
2. Read the first nineteen chapters of *The Qur'an* by Yusuf Ali and write a two-page review, expressing your impressions, both positive and negative.

DUE DATE: Thursday, July 3, 2003

B. Session

1. Punctual attendance at all sessions is expected.
2. A one-page typewritten summary for each of the afternoon practicum sessions.

C. Post-Session

Take-home exam postmarked no later than July 21, 2003.

Write a 15-20 page typewritten paper on a topic dealing with some historical aspect of Islam, which is relevant for today with regard to Muslim-Christian relations. The bibliography should include three Muslim authors. The topic for the paper must be approved by the instructor.

This paper should be forwarded to the professor for grading and postmarked no later than **December 31, 2003**. Send to:

**Harry Morin
c/o CMM
2032 E. Kearney, Suite 205
Springfield, MO 65803**

NOTE: Work received after the post-session 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

Pre-Session reading reviews	15%
Practicum summary reports	10%
Take-home exam	40%
Post-session paper	35%

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Abdul Haqq, Abdiyah Akbar. *Sharing Your Faith with a Muslim*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House Publishers, 1980.
- Bravmann, M.M. *The Spiritual Background of Early Islam: Studies in Ancient Era Concept*. Leiden, Netherlands: E.J. Brill, 1972.
- Bucaille, Maurice. *The Bible, the Qur'an, and Science*. Indianapolis: American Trust Publications, 1978.
- Campbell, William. *The Qur'an and the Bible in the Light of History and Science*. Upper Darby, PA: Arab World Ministry, n.d.
- Chacour, Elias. *Blood Brothers*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1984.
- Cooper, Anne. *Ishmael My Brother: A Christian Introduction to Islam*. Crowborough, England: MARC, second edition, 1997.
- Esposito, John L. *The Islamic Threat: Myth or Reality*. New York: Oxford University Press, second edition, 1995.
- Fernea, Elizabeth, W., ed. *Women and the Family in the Middle East: New Voices of Change*. Texas: University of Texas Press, 1985.
- Gibb, H.A.R. and J.H. Kramers, eds. *Shorter Encyclopaedia of Islam*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1973.
- Gilchrist, John. *Muhammad and the Religion of Islam*. Benoni, Republic of South Africa: Jesus to the Muslims, 1988.
- _____. *The Christian Witness to the Muslims*. Benoni, Republic of South Africa: Jesus to the Muslims, 1986.
- Haykal, M.H., trans. By A. Wessels. *Life of Muhammad*. Indianapolis: North American Trust Publications, 1976.
- Hitti, Philip K. *The Arabs: A Short History*. Washington, DC: Regnery Gateway, second edition, 1970.
- Love, Fran and Jaleta Eckheart, eds. *Ministry to Muslim Women: Longing to Call Them Sisters*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2000.
- Malek, Sobhi. *Islam: Introduction and Approach*. Irving, TX: International Correspondence Institute, 1992.

Mallouhi, Christine. *Mini-skirts, Mothers, and Muslims: Modeling Spiritual Values in Muslim Culture*. Kent, England: Spears Publication, n.d.

McCurry, Don M. *The Gospel and Islam: A Compendium*. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1979.

Musk, Bill A. *Passionate Believing: The 'Fundamentalist' Face of Islam*. Tunbridge Wells, England: Monarch Publications, 1992.

_____. *The Unseen Face of Islam: Sharing the Gospel with Ordinary Muslims*. London: MARC, 1990.

Parshall, Phil. *Inside the Community: Understanding Muslims Through their Traditions*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1994.

_____. *The Fortress and the Fire: Jesus Christ and the Challenge of Islam*. Bombay: Gospel Literature Service, 1979.

Stacey, Vivienne. *Women in Islam*. London: Interserve, 1995.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Harry Morin, April 24, 2003