

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Springfield, Missouri
August 29-September 14, 2006 (Tues., Wed., Thurs. on EU campus)

MCSM 639 THE GOSPEL AND ISLAM
(3 Credits)

Instructor: Dale Fagerland

Fall 2006

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Gospel and Islam will explore similarities and crucial differences between Islam and Christianity in order to help the Christian worker recognize both difficulties in evangelizing Muslims as well as identify great opportunities. 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, giving special attention to develop Christ-like attitudes and approaches for effective ministry among them.

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, noting similarities and divergences.
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: What You Need to Know About Islam & Muslims*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2000.

Fagerland, Dale. *Course Workbook*. Springfield, MO: CMM, 2006.

Gilchrist, John. *Muhammad: The Prophet of Islam*. Life Challenge Africa, Claremont, South Africa, 2003.

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

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

Morin, Harry. *Responding to Muslims*. Springfield, MO: CMM 2000.

Musk, Bill. *The Unseen Face of Islam*. London & Grand Rapids: Monarch Books, 1989.

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. The Challenge of Islam—Possible Approaches
- II. Historical Background—Early Developments
- III. What Muslims Should Believe—Articles of Faith
- IV. Mullah 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. Class notes, articles and handouts assembled in workbook form will enhance note-taking and assist the learning process.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Pre-Session

Read the required textbooks listed above. Prepare a 4-5 page typewritten analysis of Braswell's book. Women students may write a report on Love and Eckheart's book on ministry to Muslim women in place of Braswell's. This report, which should summarize the material and express your evaluation, is due the beginning of class Thursday, 8/29/06.

A. Session

1. Punctual attendance at all sessions is expected.
2. Submit Tuesday, Sept. 5, a two-page evaluation of *Responding to Muslims*, and submit on Tuesday Sept. 12, a two-page report on *Al-Masih: The Anointed One*.
3. The instructor's *Course Workbook* will be given out in class and referenced daily.
4. A mid-term exam will be given the last hour of class Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2006.
5. Final Exam will be given the last hour of class Thursday, Sept. 14, 2006.

B. Post-Session

Prepare a 15-18 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 particular Muslim people group. The topic, *practical to your ministry*, must be approved by the instructor by 9/14/06. This project should be submitted in hard copy to the instructor. It may be sent postage-free by AGTS route-mail to CMM or postmarked no later than 11/30/06 to:

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

Contact information: DaleJFagerland@cs.com

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

GRADING PROCEDURE

Attendance and participation.....	10%
Mid-term Exam.....	15%
Book Report.....	15%
Final Exam.....	30%
Research Paper.....	30%

AGTS Grading Scale

Publishable = A+	86% - 84% = B	73% - 70% = C-
100% - 94% = A	83% - 80% = B-	69% - 67% = D+
93% - 90% = A-	79% - 77% = C+	66% - 64% = D
89% - 87% = B+	76% - 74% = C	63% - 60% = D-

SPECIFIC DATA: Syllabus prepared by Dale Fagerland July 14, 2006.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

MCSM 545 Introduction to Islam

Dale Fagerland

Abdul-Haqq, Abdiyah Akbar. *Sharing Your Faith with a Muslim*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House Publishers, 1980.

Adeney, Miriam. *Daughters of Islam: Building Bridges With Muslim Women*. USA: Inter Varsity Press, 2002.

Ali, Abdullah Yusuf. *The Meaning of the Holy Qur'an*. Beltsville, MD: Amana Publications, 1996.

Arberry, Arthur J. *The Koran Interpreted*. OUP, 1983.

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Chacour, Elias with David Hazard. *Blood Brothers*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Chosen Books, 2003.

Cooper, Anne & Maxwell, Elsie, Eds. *Ishmael, My Brother: A Christian Introduction to Islam*. Carlisle, Cumbria: STL (updated & revised) 2003.

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Esposito, John L. *Islam: The Straight Path*. n.d.

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- Gaudeul, Jean-Marie. *Called from Islam to Christ*. Crowborough, East Sussex: Monarch, 1999.
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