

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**and**  
**Global Initiative: Reaching Muslim Peoples**

**Springfield, Missouri**

**MCSM 639 Engaging Islam**  
**(3 Credits)**

**Instructor: Mark Hausfeld, D. Min**

**Summer 2010**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

*Engaging Islam* 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 Christianity in order to help Christian workers recognize both difficulties in evangelizing Muslims as well as the great opportunities. Special attention will be given to develop Christ-like attitudes, spiritual preparation and warfare unique to Islamic contexts.

**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 knowledge and discernment of spiritual preparedness to effectively minister to Muslim peoples.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Hausfeld, Mark and Lynda Hausfeld, Eds. *Silk Road Stories: Amazing Tales of God's Work in an Ancient Land*. Onward Books: Springfield, MO, 2005.

Lodahl, Michael. *Claiming Abraham: Reading the Bible and the Qur'an Side by Side*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2010.

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

McCurry, Don. *Healing the Broken Family of Abraham: New Life for Muslims*. Colorado Springs, CO: Ministries to Muslims 4164 Austin Bluffs Parkway, #357 (80918)

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. Spiritual Dynamics and Practical Guidelines—Do's and Don'ts in Witness

## **METHODOLOGY**

A combination of lecture and discussion will be utilized with the aid of numerous overheads, PowerPoint presentations and guest lecturers. 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 McCurry's book. Women students may write a report on Love and Eckheart's book on ministry to Muslim women in place of McCurry's. This report, which should summarize the material and express your evaluation, is due the beginning of class Tuesday July 7th.

## B. Session

1. Punctual attendance at all sessions is expected.
2. Submit Thursday July 8th, a two-page reflection of *Claiming Abraham*.
3. Submit on Friday July 9th, a two-page reflection on *The Unseen Face of Islam*
4. Submit on Saturday July 10th a two page reflection on *Silk Road Stories*.

## C. Post-Session

Prepare a 15-18 page research paper (following Turabian 7<sup>th</sup> edition) 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 7/10/10. This project should be submitted electronically to the instructor no later than 8/31/10 to:

**Mark Hausfeld**  
**Phone: 417-773-0002**

**Email address: mh1focus@gmail.com**

(NOTE) Assignments received after the due date specified in the syllabus will result in a loss of a letter grade for the assignment.

## GRADING PROCEDURE

Attendance, participation.....	20%
Book Reflections.....	30%
Research Paper.....	50%

## 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 edited by Dr. Mark Hausfeld April 9, 2010.

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