

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

**Continuing Education
Springfield, Missouri
July 12-16, 2010**

Approaches to Islam

Harry Morin

Summer 2010

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on the culture of religious Muslim people and the need for implementing culture-sensitive approaches with regard to evangelism and church planting within an Islamic context.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Explain the importance Muslim people place on the external dimension of religion.
2. Recognize various aspects of local Christian culture which present stumbling blocks for Muslims in an Islamic context.
3. Identify scriptural principles which relate to cross-cultural ministry.
4. Implement changes of approach in order to enhance the relevance of the message, the messenger, and the community of believers.
5. Discern the dangers of syncretism in a contextualized approach for church-planting.

REQUIRED READING

Abdullah Bhai. *I Seek Refuge in Allah*. Minneapolis: Noor ul Haq, 1995.

Fernea, Elizabeth Warnock. *Guests of the Sheik: An Ethnography of an Iraqi Village*. New York: Anchor Books, 1965. **ISBN: 0385014856**

Livingstone, Greg. *Planting Churches in Muslim Cities: A Team Approach*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1993. **ISBN: 0801056829**

Morin, Harry. *Christian Ministry in a Muslim Context*. Springfield, MO: Global University, 2006.

Woodberry, Dudley, J. Ed. *From Seed to Fruit: Global Trends, Fruitful Practices, and Emerging Issues among Muslims*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2008. **ISBN: 97808780038**

COURSE OUTLINE

1. The gift
2. The wrappings of the gift
3. The bearer of the gift
4. The messenger of the gift
5. The custodian of the gift
6. Case studies

METHODOLOGY

Lecture, discussion, case studies, and group activity

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Pre-session

1. Fulfill the required reading in its entirety and write a two-page report for each of the four textbooks (do not include the booklet, *I Seek Refuge in Allah*), summarizing the material and expressing your impressions.
2. Carefully read and examine the booklet, *I Seek Refuge in Allah*. Write a two-page report that reflects your impressions and your ideas about how this type of material could or should not be used for evangelism among Muslim people. .

DUE DATE for all pre-session work: **Tuesday, July 13, 2010**

B. Session

Attend all class sessions and be prepared to participate in discussion and group activity.

C. Post-Session

1. Take-home Exam

Complete and submit a take-home exam postmarked no later than **July 30, 2010**.

2. Course Paper

Write a 15-20 page paper that 1) details how you would plant a church and conduct worship services in the context of orthodox Islam and 2) explains the reasons for the particular aspects of your approach.

OR

Write and design a 15-20 page contextualized tract for a practicing Muslim.

This course paper should be forwarded to the instructor for grading and postmarked no later than **October 15, 2010**. Send to:

**Harry Morin
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580 W Central St, Bldg C
Springfield, MO 65802**

or e-mail to <harrymorin@yahoo.com>

GRADING PROCEDURE

Pre-session reading reports	20%
Class participation	10%
Take-home exam	30%
Post-session paper	40%

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dretke, James. *A Christian Approach to Muslims: Reflection from West Africa*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1979.

Eickelman, Dale F. Ed. *Russia's Muslim Frontiers: New Directions in Cross-Cultural Analysis*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1993.

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.

Gowing, Peter. *Understanding Islam and Muslims in the Philippines*. Quezon City: New Day Publishers, 1988.

Humble, Arnold Leon. *Power as a Cultural Theme in Java: Its Interaction with Harmony*. Pasadena, CA: Fuller Theological Seminary, 1993.

Lewis, Bernard. *Islam and the West*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Love, Fran and Jaleta Eckheart, 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, 2000.

Martin, Richard C. *Islam: A Cultural Perspective*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1982.

Mujeeb, M. *The Indian Muslims*. Montreal, Canada: McGill University Press, 1967.

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.

Mutalib, Hussein. *Islam in Malaysia*. Singapore: Singapore University Press, 1993.

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

_____. *Beyond the Mosque: Christians Within Muslim Community*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1985.

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

Woodberry, Dudley. Ed. *Muslims and Christians on the Emmaus Road: A Crucial Issue in Witness Among Muslims*. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1989.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Harry Morin, December 8, 2010