

Islamic Texts II: Islamic Jurisprudence and Hadiths

COURSE DESIGNATOR MRCO 3012/MSA 460B

Language of Instruction Arabic

NUMBER OF CREDITS 5 credits

Contact Hours 90 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the study of hadiths (sayings of Prophet Mohammed), including a description and discussion of the different compilations of hadiths. The six-week course also offers an overview of Islamic jurisprudence (الفقه) focusing on the 4 main schools of Sunni law (الأربعة المذاهب).

The content of this course includes:

- A typology of hadiths
- A classification of the main books dealing with hadiths
- An introduction to Islamic jurisprudence
- A description and discussion of the four main schools of Sunni jurisprudence

INSTRUCTOR

ALIF faculty

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Read and understand for themselves various texts dealing with the topics covered
- Develop an appreciation for the differences in Islamic practice throughout the Islamic world
- Develop an understanding of the ways rulings and fatwas are reached

METHODOLOGY

- Presentation and discussion of the topics included in the course
- Reading of excerpts from relevant books and articles

COURSE PREREQUISITES

MRCO 3002: Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II (MSA 400), placement test, or Program/Language Coordinator approval

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS

Excerpts from relevant books and articles.

GRADING

Students will be evaluated by one or two of the following methods:

- Oral reports to discuss in class one of the topics suggested by the student or the teacher
- Written reports designed to show students' mastery of the course and of the Arabic language
- Weekly quizzes to assess students' ability to recall and critically analyze the concepts studied
- A final examination designed to assess students' understanding of the essential concepts and issues raised in class

CRITERIA FOR GRADING AND GRADING STANDARDS

Grading Rubric

A	93+	Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
A-	90-92	Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
B+	87-89	
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
C+	77-79	
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
D+	67-69	
D	60-66	
F	0-59	Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

Summary of how grades are weighted:

Quizzes	40%
Final Exam	30%
Homework	10%
Oral Presentation & Research Projects	10%
Attendance & Class Participation	10%
Overall grade	100%

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance and punctuality are mandatory in order to earn full marks. The final grade will take into consideration preparation required for class (i.e. readings) and participation in class discussions. If you miss any meetings without an excused absence from the on-site director, your final grade will be dropped accordingly. In the case of absences, it is the student's responsibility to find out what information was given in class including any announcements made.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own, can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct and student needs. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.