

World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

Teacher Name: Jeffrey Dodge

Humanities Discipline: Philosophy

Date: April 22, 2016

World Religion: Christianity

Teaching Module Title: General Philosophy (PHIL 101)

The Philosophy of Religion: Islam (PHIL 220)

Introduction to the Ethics of Islam (PHIL 102)

Teaching Module Goals:

1. (PHIL 220) Introduce students to Islamic thoughts on the Religious Ideas and Experiences, and how their world experience has affected them.
2. (PHIL 102) Introduce students to Islamic moral thinking including those given in Sharia.
3. (PHIL 101) Introduce students to Islamic Philosophy, especially on Science and Religion.

Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

Bowker, *World Religions, Islam*, pp. 176-195 (PHIL 101, 102, & 220)

Ahamed, *English Translation of the Message of THE QURAN*, 2007

GBH, *A Historical Introduction to Islam*, 2004 (copies provided)

Read Surah 1 (Opening Chapter), Surah 18 (The Cave), Surah 22 (The Pilgrimage), Surah 23 (The Believers), Surah 32 (Adoration), Surah 97 (Night of Power).

This is a sample of Surah 1 showing the original Arabic language of the Qur'an, a transliteration into English letters <http://quran.com/1>.

Study Questions and/or Discussions Prompts for Students:

1. What is the basis for Islamic beliefs/philosophy? What shaped Islamic thoughts and practices and give brief explanation of each.
2. What are the major sections of the Qur'an? Explain two major Islamic beliefs from each of those sections.
3. What other major Islamic religious works, other than the Qur'an (the *Hadith*, *Sunnah*, *Sharia*), have influenced the development of Islam? List and explain the importance of each text.
4. Explain the origin of Muslim peoples. What events, beliefs, & practices shaped their identity? How have those beliefs and practices continued to develop?
5. Explain the importance of *Ijma* (consensus), *Kiyas* (analogy), *Ra'y* (personal judgement, opinion), and *Istihsan* (general good of the community) in Islamic thought (PHIL 220) and Sharia/ethics (PHIL 102).
6. Explain the importance of the Five Pillars of Islamic practice, and the Last Judgment in Islamic thought. (PHIL 220).
7. How did Wahhabism shape Islamic thought and practice (PHIL 101, PHIL 220)?
8. List some of the major moral values of Islam (name the source), and explain their importance (PHIL 102).
9. Explain the meaning of Jihad.
10. Explain the Sects (Groups) of Islam, The Twelvers, and Sufiism.

Written Assignments and/or other Assessment Instruments:

(PHIL 220) Black Board Journal entries (essay minimum 500 words each).

(PHIL 102) Black Board Discussion Board (minimum 500 words).

(PHIL 101) Black Board Discussion Board (minimum 500 words).

Additional Resource information:

'Ali, 'Abdullah Yusef, *The Meaning of the Holy Qu'ran*, Amana Pub, Beltsville, MD, 2004.

Against Terrorism and Religious Extremism: Muslim Position and Responsibility, ISNA, Plainfield, IN, 2005

Islamic Horizons, www.ISNA.net (magazine of Islamic Society of North America), bimonthly publication.

Kadi, Wadad, & Roraud Wielandt, *Islamic History and Civilizations Studies and Texts*, Vol. 49, Method and Theory in the Study of Islamic Origins, editor Herbert Berg, Leiden, 2003, ISBN 90 04 12602 3

Reynolds, Gabriel Said, *Remembering Muhammad*, University of Notre Dame, 2011.