

World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

Teacher Name: Patrick Meegan

Humanities Discipline: World History

Date: May 10, 2016

World Religion: Islam

Teaching Module Title: Muslim Immigrants in the United States

Teaching Module Goals:

1. Introduce students to basic information regarding Muslim immigration to the Americas.
2. Examine the background of forced Muslim immigration from West Africa.
3. Familiarize students with the basic historical events related to Islam in the modern United States.

Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

Duiker and Spielvogel, *The Essential World History, Volume II: Since 1500*, Chapter 14, pp369-374.

Curtis, Edward E. IV, *Muslims in America*, Chapters 1, 3, and 5

Study Questions and/or Discussions Prompts for Students:

1. What was the cultural background of the first American Muslims?
2. What was the historical situation in West Africa and North America at the height of the importation of slaves to America?
3. How have American Muslims responded to the increasing diversity among American Muslims, e.g., African-Americans and immigrants from Arab, South Asian, and Southeast Asian cultures?

Written Assignments and/or other Assessment Instruments:

Come to class with written responses to these questions. We will discuss the answers together and have a brief lecture in preparation for a quiz, which I will give the students after this class session.

Important points to stress in classroom discussion:

What cultural factors were obstacles to the early spread of Islam in America? What were the results of these obstacles?

What were the sources of anti-Muslim sentiment following the 9/11 attacks?

How have American Muslims responded both to the 9/11 attacks and to the anti-Muslim words and actions of many Americans?