

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2016**

**Course** RELS 357 L 01: Islam  
**Time** TR 14:00-15:15  
**Instructor** Mushegh Asatryan  
**Office Hours** T 15:30-16:30  
**Office** CHD 511  
**E-mail** [Mushegh.asatryan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:Mushegh.asatryan@ucalgary.ca)  
**Telephone** 587-220-3241

**Required Text(s):** Carole Hillenbrand, *Islam: Beliefs and Practices in Historical Perspective* (London, 2015)

**Optional Text(s):** Additional reading materials will be uploaded to D2L

**Course Description:**

The course is a comprehensive overview of the religion of Islam. It surveys the main historical stages of Islam's development, its main trends of thought, its sectarian divisions, and its schools of law. We will study the beliefs and practices of Muslims in the historically Muslim territories as well as in Europe and North America. We will read excerpts from Islam's holy scripture, medieval and contemporary reports by Muslims about their religion, and will watch films illustrating the challenges Muslims face today in a globalized world.

**Course Requirements:**

| Date    | Assessment            | Weight (%) |
|---------|-----------------------|------------|
| Jan. 28 | First test            | 20%        |
| Feb. 23 | First mini-paper due  | 35%        |
| Mar. 29 | Second mini-paper due | 35%        |
| Apr. 12 | Second test           | 10%        |

**Grading**

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, standardized within the Department of Classics and Religion:

|    |          |   |         |    |          |
|----|----------|---|---------|----|----------|
| A+ | 100 - 96 | A | 95 - 90 | A- | 89 - 85  |
| B+ | 84 - 80  | B | 79 - 75 | B- | 74 - 70  |
| C+ | 69 - 65  | C | 64 - 60 | C- | 59 - 55  |
| D+ | 54 - 53  | D | 52-50   | F  | Under 50 |

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

**Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:** Missed tests may not be retaken unless you have a serious excuse. If you do not submit your papers on the due date, for each additional day you will lose half of a letter grade (e.g., if it's A, you will get A-). You can have five extra days to submit your paper, after which you cannot submit it anymore and will receive 0 (F).

**Electronic Device Policy:** No electronic devices, such as cellphones, are allowed in class. You may only use laptops and iPads to take notes: if you use them for any other purpose, such as surfing the internet, checking email, etc., you will be asked to turn them off.

### **Syllabus:**

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

### **References and Bibliography:**

The Department of Classics and Religion uses the most recent edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and requires references and bibliographies to adhere to the Chicago citation system. You can find a quick guide here: [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html). Alternatively please consult with the library staff for help and advice using the Chicago citation style.

### **Academic Honesty**

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>). If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, or librarian staff.

### **Student Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

### **Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help**

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students' Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See [www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds) for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca).

### **Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints). Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Safewalk**

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.