

**Phil6307/Miss6245/Miss6345 - World Religions: Islam  
Online Fall 2015**

**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**

*Course Builder: Page Brooks, PH.D*

*Assistant Professor of Theology and Culture*

**SEMINARY MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandment through the local church and its ministries.

**COURSE PURPOSE, CORE VALUE FOCUS, AND CURRICULUM  
COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED:**

The purpose of this course is to carry out the mission of NOBTS as is reflected through the core values and the core competencies in the following ways:

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with “doctrinal integrity” and “mission focus” especially highlighted in this course. The core value focus for the 2015-16 academic year is **Mission Focus**.

Core Competencies addressed:

1. *Biblical Exposition*—the course will show how God’s Word addresses the religions in the world.
2. *Christian Theological Heritage*—the history of interaction between Islam and Christianity will be explored to provide a proper foundation for current engagement.
3. *Disciple Making*—a biblically-based, Christ-centered approach will be applied to understand how to disciple Muslim background believers

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is an introduction to the religion of Islam, including history, core tenants, Islamic sects, the Koran (Qur’an), the life of Mohammed, and key doctrines. The class will have special emphasis on understanding the Islamic world in relation to the West and missions strategies to Islamic people groups.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (COURSE OBJECTIVES):**

The student who successfully completes this course should be able to:

- have a basic understanding of Islamic beliefs
- understand the history of the religion
- appreciate the rich contributions of Islamic life and culture to the West

- be equipped to critically engage current issues relating to the Islamic world and culture
- be equipped to apologetically and evangelistically engage Muslims

### **COURSE TEACHING METHODOLOGY (or Methods)**

The course will be taught by weekly reading, video and listening assignments, weekly quizzes, weekly posts and interaction on the Discussion Board, two required book reports, a research paper on an appropriate subject approved by the teacher, and two exams, a mid-term and a final.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

- 1) Swartley, Keith. *Encountering the World of Islam*. Colorado Springs: Authentic, 2005.
- 2) Greeson, Kevin. *Camel Method of Evangelism*. Available online at [http://www.churchplantingmovements.com/camel\\_training\\_manual.htm](http://www.churchplantingmovements.com/camel_training_manual.htm).
- 3). Farah, Cesear. *Islam*. Hauppauge, NY: Barron's, 2003.
- 4) Any copy of the Koran, but suggestions are listed in the bibliography.
- 5) Film: "Inside Islam," available at <http://video.barnesandnoble.com/DVD/Inside-Islam/e/733961706529/?itm=1>.
- 6) Film: "Inside Mecca," available at <http://video.barnesandnoble.com/DVD/National-Geographic-Inside-Mecca/Anisa-Mehdi/e/727994750420/?itm=1>.

### **COURSE NOTES AND OTHER MATERIALS:**

This class takes place in an online learning environment through Blackboard. It is required that you have sufficient internet access to complete the course. You can access the online resources for the class by logging on to Blackboard through the NOBTS website beginning on the opening day of the semester in which you are registered for World Religions: Islam. The correct section for this class is "Intro to Islam." Look for the course name and the instructor's last name. You will have been enrolled in the course by the ITC/Blackboard support staff following approval from the business office of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

NOTE: ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE **BY THURSDAY NIGHT AT MIDNIGHT** (U. S. - CENTRAL STANDARD TIME) OF EACH WEEK LISTED IN THE COURSE SCHEDULE.

1. ***Reading***  
Students are expected to read all the assigned texts. Weekly quizzes are posted to test the student over the week's assigned reading. Weekly readings in the Qur'an will be posted with each week's assignments.
2. ***Quizzes***  
Quizzes will cover the material assigned for that particular week (see schedule below). Quizzes are 15 minutes in length. Quizzes must be taken by Thursday midnight of each week.
3. ***Examinations***  
Two exams will be given, a midterm and a final. Both the mid-term and the final will be taken online, with both objective and essay questions. Exams will be taken online and will be timed.
4. ***Research Paper***  
Every student will write a paper to engage in in-depth research. The paper should be at least **20 pages**, with at least **15 sources**. Each student must submit a research paper proposal sheet to have his or her topic approved by **the week after mid-term**. The topic approval sheet must contain the student's name, paper title, thesis, and 15 sources. The same sources used in the research proposal should be used for the research paper. Research papers may be submitted via e-mail to the professor.  
  
Each student will write a research paper review due during the last week of class. This paper will be a review of every other student's research paper, including a one-paragraph summary of each paper, excluding the student's own paper.
5. ***Book Review***  
Students should complete 2 books reviews. Each book review should be approximately **10 pages**, double spaced. Students can select a book from the list that is attached to the syllabus. If a student wishes to review a book that is not listed on the syllabus, the student must seek the approval of the instructor before the mid-term test. Reviews are to be done in Turabian style. The first half of the report should be summary of the contents and the last half should be a critical review of the book including examination of the author's biases, strengths, weaknesses, audience, and personal insights or extrapolations. Book reviews may be submitted via email on Blackboard or as an email attachment directly to the professor.
6. ***Power-point Presentations and Audio Recordings***  
Students must download Powerpoint presentations and listen to the attached audio file during the week assigned. Material covered in the presentations and audio file will be tested in the weekly quizzes and mid-term exam and final exam.

7. **Discussion Boards**

Students will participate in weekly discussion boards topics posted under the “Groups” section of Blackboard. The topics for the board will relate to the reading topics and material presented in the audio recordings.

Participation on the discussion board is **vital** to this course. You will be graded on the following rubric:

Threaded post major points clearly presented /40

Threaded answers & responses are clearly supported /20

Grammar is coherent, concise, and clear /20

Threads and Replies have timely submission on separate days /20

Total points possible / 100

8. **Grading**

Summary

Participation	10%	Final	20%
Book Reviews	20%	Mid-term	20%
Quizzes	10%	Research Component	20%

In addition to the above, if you are able to visit a mosque during the grading period and write a one page report of your visit, we will add 25 points to your total.

Scale

A: 93 – 100 B: 85 – 92 C: 77 – 84 D: 70 – 76 F: Below 70

**SUMMARY OF WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS:**

Each week, a student may have the following assignments:

- 1) Readings
- 2) Audio or video recordings
- 3) Weekly quiz
- 4) Weekly recorded update from the professor
- 5) Discussion board
- 6) Special assignments, book reviews, etc.

**SUPPORT FROM THE PROFESSOR:**

The professor of the course provides the following support for students in their studies:

- 1) Contact through phone or email.
- 2) Weekly recorded update from the professor. Each week the professor will upload an audio recording. In this recording will be a reminder of the weekly assignments, suggestions for further studies, prayer requests, and other items of business for the class. Also, the professor will answer questions submitted by email from the class.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

Any kind of cheating on a quiz or exam is prohibited, along with plagiarism in research. As a violation of the Academic Integrity code to which you have agreed, cheating will be

taken seriously. Each incident is handled in a case by case manner. However, penalties may include a zero on the assignment or failure of the course, and could lead to suspension or dismissal from the seminary.

**COURSE SCHEDULE:** (Week 1 begins August 24)

Week 1:

Listen to “Overview of Definitions”

Read: Swartley Lesson 1

Read Farah Ch. 1

Read Qur’an: 1; 2:1-150

Take quiz 1

Listen to professor’s weekly audio update

Discussion board weekly topic

Week 2:

Read Swartley Lesson 2 (Aug 31)

Read Farah Ch. 2

Read Qur’an: 1; 2:151-286

Listen to audio recording 2

Listen to audio Interview with Mike Edens on Muslim evangelism, available at [http://www.4truth.net/site/c.hiKXLbPNLrF/b.2904171/k.14BA/Audio\\_Interview\\_with\\_Mike\\_Edens\\_on\\_Islam.htm](http://www.4truth.net/site/c.hiKXLbPNLrF/b.2904171/k.14BA/Audio_Interview_with_Mike_Edens_on_Islam.htm))

Take Quiz 2

Listen to professor’s weekly audio update

Discussion board weekly topic

Week 3: (Sept 7)

Read Swartley Lesson 3

Read Farah Ch. 3

Read Qur’an 1; 3:1-100

Take Quiz 3

Listen to professor’s weekly audio update

Discussion board weekly topic

Watch Film: “Inside Islam”

Week 4: (Sept 14)

Read Swartley Lesson 4

Read Farah Ch. 4

Read Qur’an 1; 3:101-200

Listen to audio recording 3

Take quiz 4

Listen to professor’s weekly audio update

Discussion board weekly topic

1<sup>st</sup> Book Review due

Week 5: (Sept 21)  
Listen to audio recording 4  
Swartley Lesson 5  
Read Farah Ch. 5, 6  
Read Qur'an 1; 4:1-176  
Take quiz 5  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 6: (Sept 28)  
Read Swartley Lesson 6  
Read Farah Ch. 7  
Read Qur'an 1; 5:1-100  
Listen to audio recording 5  
Take quiz 6  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 7: (Oct 5)  
Read Swartley Lesson 7  
Read Farah Ch. 8 and 9  
Read Qur'an 1; 14:1-52  
Listen to audio recording 6  
Take quiz 7  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 8: (Oct 12)  
Midterm  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic  
2<sup>nd</sup> Book Review due

Week 9: (Oct 26)  
Read Swartley Lesson 8  
Read Farah Ch. 10-11  
Read Qur'an 1; 19:1-98  
Listen to audio recording 7  
Take quiz 8  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 10: (Nov 2)  
Watch film: "Inside Mecca"  
Read Farah Ch. 12-13  
Read Qur'an 1; 43:1-89

Take quiz 9  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 11: (Nov. 9)  
Read Swartley Lesson 9  
Read Farah Ch. 14  
Read Qur'an 1; 72 (all)  
Listen to audio recording 8  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 12: (Nov 16)  
**Research papers due**  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 13: (Nov 23)  
Read Swartley Lesson 10  
Read Farah Ch. 15-16  
Read Qur'an 1; 76 (all)  
Listen to audio recording 9  
Take quiz 10  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic

Week 14: (Nov. 30)  
Listen to audio recording 9  
Read Swartley Lesson 11 and 12  
Read Qur'an 1; 99-114 (all)  
Read Greenson, *The Camel*, all chapters.  
Listen to interview with Mrs. Madelyn Edens  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Discussion board weekly topic  
Review study guide for final exam

Week 15: (Dec. 7)  
Final  
Listen to professor's weekly audio update  
Research paper reviews due

### Selected Bibliography

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