



Christian Responses to Islamic Cultural Differences
PHIL6306/THEO6334
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Theological and Historical Studies Division
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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is *Spiritual Vitality* – “We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.” Our confessional commitments are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith & Message 2000.

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership

Course Description

This course provides an overview of the mosaic of Muslim worldviews with a brief survey of significance historic and modern Islamic movements and individuals representative of each worldview. A major element in examining each Islamic Worldview will be exploring ways to present Christian truth to adherents of the value system.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the workshop the student will:

- Be familiar with the major worldviews of the Islamic community.
- Understand the historical interaction between representatives of Islamic worldviews.
- Understand elements of sharing Biblical truth with Muslims adhering to each of the explored world views.
- Be better equipped to integrate theology and evangelism in addressing Islam.

Textbooks

Required text: Electronic-PDF copies of Dr. Edens’s unpublished second draft of *Jesus, the Way, for Muslims Seeking the Straight Way* will be supplied to enrolled students.
Supplemental text: *Muslims and the Gospel: Bridging the Gap*, Roland E. Miller, Minneapolis: Lutheran University Press, 2005.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

- The material for each lesson will be introduced in a lecture format.
- Students will read material in the assigned textbooks and journal articles and discuss the topics in class

Students will research selected topics, prepare and deliver written and oral presentations. Each student will critique all other student presentations.

Course Requirements

1. **Class Participation:** The student is expected to demonstrate knowledge of the required reading by answering questions and contributing to class discussion on a basis. Distant students will interact with the classroom questions and discussions by blackboard discussion board. **40%**
2. **Selected Research Project:**
The student will research a selected subject. The topic must be submitted to the professor by email before the second class meeting Jan 31.
Possible Topics:
 1. The doctrinal distinctives of (Sunni, Shi'ite, Sufi, Ahmadiyya, Druze, Bahi) religious expressions.
 2. The religious practice distinctives of (Sunni, Shi'ite, Sufi, Ahmadiyya, Druze, Bahi) religious expressions.
 3. The societal and political distinctives of (Sunni, Shi'ite, Sufi, Ahmadiyya, Druze, Bahi) religious expressions.
 4. The development of politically quiescent and intrusive theocratic ruling systems in Sunni or Shi'ite Islam.
 5. The remnants of Sufi world view today and its ancient roots and power structures.
 6. The impact of non-Muslim world views and systems on the Islamic Middle East/ Southeast Asia/The subcontinent.
 7. The impact of the Zionist movement and Jewish return to the Holy Land within IslamNo two students will be allowed to research the same theme and approval for the theme will be given on a first-come basis. **40%**
3. **Mid Term Exam:** The questions should be answered thoroughly, with the answers reflecting knowledge of the required reading, class discussions, and presentations. **20%**

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Participation in weekly discussion and answering questions based on reading 40%

Research project and presentation 40%

Mid Term Exam and correction 20%

Attendance

Students taking the class live in the classroom have the normal absence policy. If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Blackboard. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog. (See page 184 in the graduate catalog: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/academics/GraduateCatalog.pdf>).
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through **[assignment by professor]** after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

[Other items may be included, such as: expectations for reading assignments, policy on late assignments, academic honesty, classroom demeanor, extra credit]

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Course Schedule

Jan 24	Introduction and Overview
Jan 31	Broad consensus Islamic cultural issues
Feb 7	cont.
Feb 14	cont.
Feb 21	Shi’a Islamic cultural issues
Feb 28	Sufi Islamic cultural issues
Mar 6	Complex Islamic cultural issues- Ahmadiyya and Druze
Mar 13	Revivalist and Reform Islamic cultural issues
Mar 16-20	Spring break
Mar 27	Mid-Term Exam
Apr 3	Presentation of Papers
Apr 10	Good Friday – Easter Break
Apr 17	Presentation of Papers
Apr 24	Presentation of Papers Ramadan begins
May 1	Presentation of Papers
May 8	Final’s week

Selected Bibliography

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Bawer, Bruce. *While Europe Slept: How Radical Islam Is Destroying The West From Within*. New York, New York: Doubleday, 2006

DeLong-Bas, Natana J. *Wahhabi Islam From Revival and Reform to Global Jihad*. New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

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Lewis, Bernard. *Cultures in Conflict: Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Age of Discovery*. New York, New York: Oxford University Press, Inc., 1995

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