

# Add Undergraduate Course

000001

### Course Attributes

**Subject Abbreviation:** REL-Religion      **Catalog Title:** Islam and the West  **Additional Fee?**  
**Course Number:** 3350      **Transcript Title:** Islam and the WestJustification  
**Effective Term:** Spring 2018      **Cross-reference(s):**  
**College:** Arch, Arts and Humanities      **Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Department:** Philosophy and Religion

### Form

**User ID:** msaif      **Name:** Mashal Saif  
**Date:** 04/18/2017      **Number:** 30932

### Hours

**Fixed Credit Course**  
**Credit Hrs Contact Hrs**  
  
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**Variable Credit Course**  
**Credit Hrs Contact Hrs**  
**Min Max Min Max**

### Rationale for Add Course

- Strengthen Program Requirement(s)
- Alignment of Student Learning Outcomes
- Alternative Delivery of Content
- Improve Time to Degree
- Evolution of the Discipline
- Changing Prerequisites
- Address DWF Rates
- General Education Modifications
- Other (Please specify.)

I have already taught the course as a special topics course. It was well-received and addresses contemporary concerns. For these reasons, it should be formalized as a regular university course.

### Schedule Types

- Field Course
- Independent Study
- Internship
- Lab No Fee
- Lab With Fee
- Lecture
- Other
- Seminar
- Studio
- Tutorial

### General Education

- English Composition
- Oral Communication
- Mathematics
- Natural Science w/Lab
- Math or Natural Science
- A&H (Literature)
- A&H (Non-Literature)
- Social Science
- CCA
- STS

### Projected Enrollment

**Year 1:** 15  
**Year 2:** 15  
**Year 3:** 15  
**Year 4:** 15

000002

**Evaluation**

## Undergraduate

<b>A</b>	90	-	100
<b>B</b>	80	-	89
<b>C</b>	70	-	79
<b>D</b>	60	-	69
<b>F</b>	<		60

## Grade Distribution and Assignments

Frequent Surprise Quizzes: 30%

Film and Documentary Reaction Papers: 10% (There are two reaction papers in total. Each is worth 5%.)

Clash of Civilizations Paper: 20%

Islam in the Media Paper: 20%

Final Paper: 20%

**Catalog Description**

Focuses on challenging popular representations of antagonism between Islam and the West to elucidate the complex relationship between the two.

**Statement of need and justification based on assessment of student learning outcomes**

As the Religious Studies major grows and evolves, we want our students to understand the vital, often misunderstood, relationship between Islam and the West. This course aims to inform students of the complexity of that relationship.

**Textbook(s)**

- Goody, Jack. *Islam in Europe* (Cambridge, UK: Polity Press, 2004.)
- Said, Edward. *Covering Islam: How the Media and the Experts Determine How We See the Rest of the World* (New York: Pantheon Books, 1981.)
- Bulliet, Richard. *The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2004.)

**Learning Objectives**

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a working knowledge of Islamic history and the history of Islam and Muslims in Europe
- Evidence familiarity with seminal academic debates on the relationship between Islam and the West.
- Be attuned to the politics of representation in the study of religion, and particularly in the study of Islam and the West.
- Think critically and speak authoritatively about Islamophobia and the Western media's depictions of Islam and Muslims
- Speak authoritatively about the similarities and differences between Islam and Christianity.
- Critique, evaluate and construct arguments.

**Topical Outline**

Week 1: Religion, Islam and Muslims

Week 2: Muhammad and Early Muslim History

Week 3: Islam in Europe

Week 4: Islam in Europe (cntd.)

Week 5: Islam in Europe (cntd.)

Week 6: Clash of Civilizations?

Week 7: Clash of Ignorance?

Week 8: Islam in America

Week 9: Islam in America (cntd.)

Week 10: Islam as News

Week 11: Islam as News (cntd.)

Week 12: The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization

Week 13: The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization (cntd.)

Week 14: The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization (cntd.)

Week 15: The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization (cntd.)

**Learning Activities associated with General Education competencies (if applicable)**

Frequent Surprise Quizzes: Over the course of the semester, there will be twelve surprise quizzes. That roughly comes out to a quiz every other class period. The quizzes will be based on the readings assigned for that day. The quizzes will test you on key points and broad themes. As long as you have done the readings carefully, you should have no problem doing well on the quiz. The quizzes will be administered at the start of class. At the end of the semester each student's lowest two grades on the quizzes will be dropped. The remaining ten quiz grades will be used in calculating the student's score.

Film and Documentary Reaction Papers: Students must write two "reaction papers" to films and documentaries. The reaction papers must be at least 500-word in length. There is no upper limit to how much you may write. Reaction papers are not supposed to be summaries of the videos under consideration. Instead, they must evidence a critical examination of, and engagement with, the films. Reaction papers must be submitted on Blackboard. The due dates for these reaction papers are noted on the syllabus.

000003

Clash of Civilizations Paper: Papers are expected to be between 1000-1200 words in length. Papers should respond to the following prompt: Where do you stand on the debate between Said and Huntington? Convince your reader of your stance by referencing facts from our class readings and engaging with the views expressed by the guest lecturers. You don't have to agree with the guest lecturers' views, but you do need to engage with them in your work.

Islam in the Media Paper: Papers are expected to be between 1000-1200 words in length. Papers should respond to the following prompt: Watch between three to five video clips of Donald Trump talking about Islam, Muslims and mosques. Engaging(\*) with the Edward Said readings that we've done in class, reflect on how Trump describes Islam, Muslims and mosques. Compare Trump's descriptions with what you have learnt in class and with your own experience of interacting with Muslims and visiting a mosque.

(\*)Remember that just because you're engaging with Said, doesn't mean that you need to agree with him. Feel free to challenge his views, but remember to back your disagreements with convincing facts.

Final Paper: Papers are expected to be between 1000-1200 words in length. Papers should respond to the following prompt: Are you convinced by Bulliet's argument in favor of an Islamo-Christian civilization? Why or why not? You are required to draw on other class readings to substantiate your assertions. You may also engage with scholarly sources that we have not read in class to make your argument.

Syllabus

Upload File: [Syllabus - REL 3350-20170330133729.docx](#)

*Mashal Saif*

04/18/2017

Chair, Department Curriculum Committee

Date

*Charles Stante*

4/18/2017

Department Chair

Date

*Andrew Linn*

4-20-17  
~~4-18~~

Chair, College Curriculum Committee

Date

*A. Kumar*

4/20/17

College Dean

Date

Director, Calhoun Honors College

Date

*John D. Stiff*

5/5/2017

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Date

Chair, Graduate Curriculum Committee

Date

*Robert Jones*

8/24/17

Provost

Date

President

Date