

## HIST 212

### Islamic History: Origins and Empire, 600-750

The course focuses on the origins of Islam in Arabia, Islamic expansion, internal divisions, and the establishment of the Umayyad dynasty. It emphasizes the themes of Arab expansion and adaptation, the historical roots of Shi'ism, institutional developments, problems of societal integration, and the factors of decline.

Assignments: Two short papers (40%), midterm (20%), final exam (35%), class participation (5%)

#### Books:

Blankinship, Khalid. *The End of the Jihad State* (1994)

Kennedy, Hugh. *The Prophet and the Age of the Caliphates* (1986)

Lings, Martin. *Muhammad: His life based on the earliest sources* (1983)

#### The Qur'an

#### Course Packet

Week 1: Overview; Islamic Origins in the context of world history; early Muslim historians

Course Packet: Tarif Khalidi, "History and *Hadith*," *Arabic Historical Thought in the Classical Period*, pp. 17-61, 73-82.

Week 2: The Near East and Arabia on the eve of Islam

Kennedy, pp. 1-14

Lings, pp. 6-9, 19-22

Course Packet: Trimmingham, *Christianity Among the Arabs in Pre-Islamic Times*, pp.178-202, 267-79, 287-307

Henninger, "Pre-Islamic Bedouin Religion"

Newby, *A History of the Jews of Arabia*, pp. 33-77

Week 3: Muhammad and Meccan Islam

Kennedy, 15-33

Lings, 33-51, 77-92, 96-117

Course Packet: Peters, "The Quest for the Historical Muhammad"

The Qur'an, Surat al-Najm (53), Surat al-Shura (42), Surat al-Shu'ara' (26)

Week 4: Medinan Islam (1): The 'Constitution' of Medina and the Maghazi

Kennedy, 33-49

Lings, 118-52, 160-66, 180-90, 203-33, 240-56, 263-73, 290-307,332-41

Course Packet: Sargent, "Constitution of Medina"

Week 5: Medinan Islam (2): Qur'anic legislation

The Qur'an, Sura 2:177-282; Sura 4:1-43; Sura 5; Sura 9:1-72

#### FIRST SHORT PAPER DUE

### **Islamic History, 2**

Week 6: Abu Bakr, 'Umar and the Islamic conquests

Kennedy, 50-69

Course Packet: Donner, "Islam, Conquests of"

Morony, "Conquerors and Conquered: Iran"

Week 7: 'Uthman, 'Ali, and the first civil war (fitna)

Kennedy, 69-81

Course Packet: Hinds, "The Killing of 'Uthman"

Madelung, *The Succession to Muhammad*, pp. 78-140

Week 8: Mu'awiya, Yazid, and the second civil war

Kennedy, 82-103

Course Packet: Kister, "The Battle of the Harra: Some Socio-Economic Aspects"

## MIDTERM

Week 9: 'Abd al-Malik and Marwanid Umayyad institutions

Blankinship, *The End of the Jihad State*, pp. 11-35

Course Packet: Blair, "What is the Date of the Dome of the Rock?"

van Ess, "'Abd al-Malik and the Dome of the Rock'"

Week 10: Marwanid-Umayyad expansionism

Course Packet: Kennedy, *Muslim Spain and Portugal*, pp. 1-29

Gabrieli, "Muhammad ibn Qasim ath-Thaqafi and the Arab Conquest of Sind"

Week 11: Religion and culture under the Umayyads

Course Packet: Watt, *The Formative Period of Islamic Thought*, 82-116

Momen, *An Introduction to Shi'i Islam*, pp. 23-45, 61-71

Jayyusi, "Umayyad Poetry"

Dhu al-Rumma, "To the Encampments of Mayya"

Week 12: Hisham and the end of the 'Jihad state'

Khalid Blankinship, *The End of the Jihad State*, pp. 117-209.

Week 13: Yazid III and the 'Abbasid revolution

Course Packet: Hawting, *The First Dynasty of Islam*, pp. 90-119

al-Qadi, "The Religious Foundation of Late Umayyad Ideology and Practice"

Crone/Hinds, *God's Caliph*, pp. 116-32

Week 14: Revisionist historians and the problem of the sources

Course Packet: Donner, *Narratives of Islamic Origins*, pp. 1-31