

HISTORY 2607F
History and civilization of Medieval Islam
Fall/Winter 2022-23
[Sept-Dec. 2022, Wednesday 4:30-7:30 FNB 1200 (FIMS and Nursing Building)]
Course delivery in-person

Instructor: Professor Maya Shatzmiller

Office Hours: 2229 Lawson Hall Wednesday 3:00-4:30

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This is a draft syllabus. Please see your course OWL site for the final syllabus.

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the intent was for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 landscape has necessitated that at least the first part of the course be delivered on-line synchronously (i.e., on Zoom at the times indicated in the timetable) / asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted on-line as determined by the course instructor. The course will return to an in-person mode of delivery when the University and local health authorities deem it safe to do so.

Course Description:

This is a survey course meant to introduce students to the main structures of Islamic history and civilization, covering main political events and achievements and place them in comparative perspective as universal components. We begin in the 7th century with the appearance of a third Monotheistic religion, Islam and follow with the conquest and settlement of the Middle East. seventh century Arab sweep across the Middle East and the newly established Islamic Empire and states. The course is structured thematically albeit in chronological order presentation. Topics include Muhammad and the Qur'an, pre-Islamic Middle East and the conquest, the Islamic legal system, the economy, social structure, political institutions, literature, philosophy, theology, art and architecture, medicine and science, interaction with Europe, the Crusades, trade, and the translation of scientific knowledge into Arabic. The course methodology combines instructor's input through thematic lectures and students' independent work by guided readings of selected primary Arabic sources in translation and study of scholarly work on the subject from secondary sources, i.e. articles, books, Encyclopedia entries etc..

Prerequisite(s):

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Syllabus:

The course is built on the lectures and the tutorials. Students are asked to prepare for both by reading chapters from two text book and analyze and discuss the themes covered in the tutorials.

Lectures 1-4

Students are asked to read in the *Oxford Islamic Studies*, Muhammad and the Caliphate (All 12 sections) To gain background for all lectures in addition to specific entries from Egger, *A History of the Muslim World to 1405*

Orientation Structure, general introduction.

Readings: Egger, xv-xvi, 1-20.

1. Muhammad: The man and the mission. The Environment.

Readings: Egger, 20-32.

2. Political Developments 1: Conquest and the Empire

Note: No readings, all information will be given in class

3. The Qur'an

Readings: Egger, 33-61

For Lectures 5-6 general a background, *Oxford Islamic Studies online*, Law and Society (All 9 sections)

In tutorials, **Encyclopedia of Islam Assignment due**

4. Social Structures and Institutions. The Islamic City.

Readings: Egger, 62-103

5. The Legal System

Readings: Egger, 114-122

6. The Economy.

Readings: Egger, 104-113

7. Political Developments 2: Regional States

Readings: Egger, 94-104

8. Arabic Literature, Philosophy and Mysticism

In tutorials **Research Essay due**

Readings: Egger, 123-138. General background *Oxford Islamic Studies: Philosophy and Theology* (All 13 sections)

9. Islamic Medicine and Science

Readings: Oxford Islamic Studies: Science, Medicine, and Technology (All 10 sections)

For Lectures 11-12

Oxford Islamic Studies online, read: Art and Architecture (All 6 sections)

10. Islamic Architecture

11. Islamic Art

Course Materials:

-Vernon O. Egger, *A History of the Muslim World to 1405. The Making of a Civilization*. (Pearson Prentice Hall, New Jersey, 2004)

-*Oxford Islamic Studies online* (Gain access through the UWO Library website)

-Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing In History*, Sixth Edition. (Bedford/St.Martin's, 2010)

OR

William Kelleher Storey and Towser Jones, *Writing History. A Guide for Canadian Students*, Third Edition. (Oxford University Press, Canada, 2011)

Methods of Evaluation:

The customary components evaluating students engagement with the course is currently under investigation, so that components of attendance and participation are waved at the moment and grade will be composed of marks given on assignments and final exam.

Component Weight

Encyclopaedia of Islam Assignment (20%)

Research Essay (10 pages) (30%)

Cumulative Final Exam (50%)

Accommodation for missed midterms with a Self Reported Absence:

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test will be required to write a makeup test on one of the two time slots available in each term:

Fall Term

- Tests scheduled before November 1 – the makeup will take place Monday, November 9 at 9:30am.
- Tests scheduled between November 9 and December 3 – the makeup will take place Friday, December 4 at 12:30pm.

No other make-up opportunities will be provided. Students who fail to write a makeup test in the designated time slots will receive a grade of zero.

Students in online courses will write the make-up test through OWL over a 24-hour period beginning at the time noted above.

Students should be aware that course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup test slots.

Accommodation for missed tests/midterms:

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test will be required to write a make-up test. The make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Online courses will have online make-up tests.

For in-person classes, make-up tests will be written at one of the Department of History make-up midterms. Dates for the make-ups will be listed on the Department of History website under [Important Dates](#).

IMPORTANT: In the event the University moves to online learning make-up tests will take place online via OWL. The date for the make-up may differ from the date listed above.

No other make-up opportunities will be provided unless further academic consideration is granted by Academic Counselling. Students who fail to write a make-up test in a designated time slot will receive a grade of zero on that assessment.

Course professors may not be available to respond to questions during the make-up test slots.

Additional Statements:

Please review the Department of History Course Must-Knows document, <https://www.history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/Docs/Department%20of%20History%20Course%20Must-Knows.pdf>, for additional information regarding:

- Academic Offences
- Accessibility Options
- Medical Issues
- Plagiarism
- Scholastic Offences
- Copyright
- Health and Wellness