

Approaches to Islam: Theological and Practical (Course Schedule)

Week	Lectures	Reading	Essay questions	Discussion questions
Intro	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Topic 1. Journey with Muslims</p> <p>Topic 2. Quiz - What Do You Know About Islam?</p>	Journeys ch.1		What is your journey with Muslims? Have you ever had a chance to talk about faith with them? With what expectations are you taking this course?
1	<p>Topic 3. Early Theological Formation in the Arabian Background</p> <p>3.1. The Christian Context.</p> <p>3.2. The Jewish Context.</p> <p>3.3. The Jahiliyya and the HanifContexts.</p>	<p>Journeys ch 2</p> <p>Dialogue ch 1, 13</p>		How does it make you feel to learn that Muslims believe that one of their responsibilities is to clarify to Christians who Jesus is? How should Christians respond to that commitment?
2	<p>Topic 4. The Muslim Community (Ummah)</p> <p>4.1. Part 1.</p> <p>4.2. Part 2.</p>	Dialogue ch 8, 21		Why does the Christian church have more cultural diversity than Ummah and some other religious communities on earth?
3	<p>Topic 5. Muslim Theology and Praxis</p> <p>5.1. The Five Pillars of Muslim Theology (Iman).</p> <p>5.2. Presenting the Gospel to Muslim.</p> <p>5.3. The Five Pillars of Muslim Praxis (Ihsan).</p> <p>5.4. The Mission of Islam to the World</p>	Dialogue ch 9, 10		How do we become righteous? Islam recognizes that rules and moral teaching are helpful in many ways. But the question remains: Are moral and civil regulations sufficient?
4	<p>Topic 6. Adam and Eve</p> <p>Topic 7. Abraham, Ishmael and Isaac</p>	<p>Journeys ch 3-4</p> <p>Dialogue ch 2, 3, 4, 14,15, 16</p>		Would people today find the Muslim doctrine of the shortcomings of people more attractive than the biblical doctrine of sinfulness? Give reasons for your response. Which understanding is most realistic when compared with our real experiences in life?

Week	Lectures	Reading	Essay questions	Discussion questions
5	<p>Topic 8. Muhammad and Jesus</p> <p>8.1. The Qur'an and Jesus. 8.2. The Qur'an and Muhammad. 8.3. Is Muhammad the Seal of the Prophets?</p>	<p>Journeys ch 5 Dialogue ch 6, 7, 18,19</p>	<p>What are the differences in Muslim and Christian understanding of the Messiah?</p>	
6	<p>Topic 9. The Qur'an and the Bible</p> <p>9.1. Understanding the Qur'an. 9.2. The Arabic Qur'an.</p>	<p>Journeys ch 6 Dialogue ch 5, 17</p>		<p>Suggest ways Christians might respond to Muslim concerns that the Bible is corrupted.</p>
7	<p>Topic 10. Tanzil and Incarnation</p> <p>10.1. Part 1. 10.2. Part 2.</p>	<p>Journeys ch 7</p>		
8	<p>Topic 11. The Hijrah and the Cross</p> <p>11.1. Migration of Muhammad from Mecca to Medina. 29:30 11.2. Jesus's Journey to the Cross.30:51 11.3. The Significance of the Cross.18:17</p>	<p>Journeys ch 8</p>		<p>Why did Jesus refuse political or military power? How do you go about establishing what you believe to be good for you and others? Do you embrace the way of the hijrah or the way of the cross. Give real life examples.</p>

Week	Lectures	Reading	Essay questions	Discussion questions
9	Topic 12. Medina and Jerusalem 12.1. The Muslim Ummah in Medina. 16:55 12.2. The Church in Jerusalem. 24:19 Topic 13. Tawhid and Trinity 32:11	Journeys ch 9, Dialogue ch 12 Journeys ch 10		Comment on the muslim observation: Life and teachings of Jesus are impractical.
10	Topic 14. The Hajj and the Eucharist Topic 15. Shari'a is Muslim Law 15.1. Part 1. 15.1. Part2.	Journeys ch 11 Dialogue ch 20, 21 Journeys ch 12 Dialogue ch 11, 23		
11	Topic 16. The Shi'a or Shi'ite Muslims Topic 17. Sufi Mystics Topic 18. Folk and Secularist Islam 2	Journey ch 13 Dialogue p 83		
12	Topic 19. Principles for Ministry Among Muslims 22:53 Topic 20. An Open Door (Revelation 3:7-12) 21:20	Journey ch 14-15 Dialogue ch 24, Conclusion		In what ways has the Islamic alternative to the Gospel helped to clarify the meaning of the Gospel? What have you learned about the mission of the church that has surprised you? Are there ways that the Muslim community challenges the church to greater faithfulness?

Wrap-up week : Write a paper ***The Gospel is good news for Muslims.*** Fill in course evaluation form. Write a personal response to reading materials. Take your final examination.