

UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON -- NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

Electronically submit this completed form with attachments in one file to the Chair of the College Curriculum Committee.

COLLEGE (check one):	Arts and Sciences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposal Submitted By: Mehdi Aminrazavi			Date Prepared: 12/1/2016			
Course Title: Religion and Politics in Islam						
Department/discipline and course number*:			CPR/Religion 252 (will also be accepted in Middle Eastern Studies Minor)			
Prerequisites: none						

*This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.

Number of credits:	3	Will this course meet for at least 700 contact minutes for each credit hour proposed? <i>If no, provide a credit hour justification.</i>	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will this be a new, repeatable "special topics" course? (Do you want students to be able to take this new course more than once if the topic changes?)			NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>

Date of first offering of this new course:		Spring 2018	
Proposed frequency of offering of the course:		Once every other year	
List the faculty who will likely teach the course:		Mehdi Aminrazavi	
Are ANY new resources required?	NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YES
Document in attached impact statement			

This new course will be (check all that apply):			
Required in the major	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required in the minor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elective in the major	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Elective in the minor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
General Elective		<input type="checkbox"/>	
General Education**		<input type="checkbox"/>	

**AFTER the new course is approved, a separate proposal must be sent to the General Education Committee.

Catalog Description (suggested length – less than 50 words):	
This course is designed to familiarize students with political aspects of Islam, in particular radical Islam and its major ideologues. The emphasis will be placed on modern and contemporary periods (1850-present).	

COURSE HISTORY:	Was this course taught previously as a topics or experimental course?	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Course Number and Title of Previous Course		Semester Offered	Enrollment		
Relg. 331M Religion and Politics in Islam		Fall 2007	20		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHECK HERE if the proposed course is to be equated with the earlier topics or experimental offerings. If equated, students who took the earlier "topics" course will only be able to take the new course as a repeat (C- grade or lower).				
NOTE: If the proposed course has not been previously offered as a topics or experimental course, explain in the attached rationale statement why the course should be adopted even though it has not been tried out.					

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

- Rationale Statement** – Why is this course needed? What purposes will it serve?
- Credit Hour Justification** (if required) – explain how this course will comply with the UMW Credit Hours Policy (D.5.3)
- Impact Statement** – Provide details about the Library, space, staffing, budget, and technology impacts created by adding this new course. Include supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. **Any change that impacts another Department must have a written statement (such as a copy of an email) from the Chair(s) agreeing to the change.**
- Sample Syllabus**

Department Chair Approval: Craig Vasey

Date: Jan 23, 2017

CCC Chair Approval: Surupa Gupta

Date: 01/23/2017

UCC Chair Approval: Patricia Reynolds

Date: 2/13/2017

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

This course has been offered several times before as a special topics course. The course has done quite well especially in post 9/11 period.

1. Rationale Statement: Why is this course needed? What purposes will it serve?

Given the state of affairs between the Islamic world and the West in general and America in particular, a course of this nature will go a long way to shed light on the so call "clash of civilizations" which is unraveling before us.

This course is designed to familiarize students with political aspects of Islam, in particular radical Islam and its major ideologues. The emphasis will be on modern and contemporary periods (1850-present). We will study the political philosophy of the founders of the modern radical Islamic movements in four geographical areas beginning with the Indo-Pakistani sub-Continent. The Islamic revolution of Iran, radical Islam in the Arab world, and the Palestinian struggle against occupation will be treated next. Among the issues that will be discussed are Sunni and Shi'ite political philosophy as well as the writings of some of the ideologues of Islamic radical movements such as Seyyed Qutb, Mawlana Muwdui, Ali Shariati and Ayatullah Khomeini of Iran.

We will discuss how the current relationship between the Islamic world and the West have been affected by the rise of radical Islam and how it is exacerbated by Western policies in the Muslim world.

2. Credit Hour Justification: This class will meet three times a week and is in compliance with UMW credit hours policy.

3. Impact Statement – Provide details about the Library, space, staffing, budget, and technology impacts created by adding this new course.

N/A---None of the above except the use of library is needed.

4. Sample Syllabus

Mehdi Aminrazavi
Relg. 331M
Religion and Politics in Islam
Fall 2007

Religion and Politics in Islam

- 1- Introduction, methodology, analysis of the geo-politics of the Muslim world
- 2- Islamic Doctrine and the place of politics in Islam
- 3- Political dimension of the Quran
- 4- The influence of Greek philosophy on Medieval Islamic political thought
A. Plato's *Republic*

- B. al-Farabi
 - C. Ibn Khaldun
- 5- Modern Islamic political thought
 - A. History
 - B. Colonialism & Neo-Colonialism
 - C. Imperialism
 - E. Westernization or modernization?
 - F. Family resemblance: Taliban, ISIS, Boko Haram, etc.
 - 6- India and Pakistan
 - A. Seyyed Ahmad Khan
 - B. Cheragh Ali
 - C. Muhammad Iqbal
 - D. Mulana Muwdudi
 - 7- Islamic Revolution: IRAN
 - A. Shi'ism and radicalism
 - B. Clergy and the court
 - C. Constitutional revolution of 1906
 - D. Mossadeq and the oil crisis of 1953
 - D. The rise of radicalism
 - E. Emergence of liberation theology
 - G. Ali Shariati: Revolutionary Islam
 - H. Mujahedin: Islamic Marxism
 - I. Ayatullah Khomeini: Islamic State
 - 8- Egypt and Fundamentalism
 - A. Hasan al-Banna and the Muslim Brotherhood
 - B. Seyyed Qutb
 - C. Islamic Revivalism: The Contemporary debate
 9. The Palestinian problem
 - A. Zionism in the heartland of Islam
 - B. Islamicization of the Palestinians problem
 - C. Radicalization of Muslims
 - 10- Concluding Remarks:
 - A. Pan-Islamism and the Rise of *Ummah* again
 - B. The Clash of Civilization Revisited
 - C. America in the Middle East
 - D. Where Do We Go From Here?

This course is designed to familiarize students with political aspects of Islam, in particular radical Islam and its major ideologues. The emphasis will be on modern and contemporary periods (1850-present).

We will study the political philosophy of the founders of the modern radical Islamic movements in four geographical areas beginning with the Indo-Pakistani sub-Continent. The Islamic revolution of Iran, Egypt, and the Palestinian struggle against occupation will be treated next. Among the issues that will be discussed are Sunni and Shi'ite political philosophy as well as the writings of some of the ideologues of Islamic radical movements such as Seyyed Qutb of Egypt, Mulana Muwdudi of Pakistan, Ali Shariati and Ayatullah Khomeini of Iran.

We will discuss how the current relationship between the Islamic world and the West have been affected by the rise of "radical theology" in Islam and exacerbated by America's attempt to seek hegemony in the Muslim world.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

I.B. Abu-Rabi, *Intellectual Origins of Islamic Resurgence in the Modern Arab World*
Shariati, Ali, *Marxism and Other Western Fallacies*
Esposito, John, *Voices of Resurgent Islam*
Khomeini, *Islam and Revolution*
V. Nasr, *The Shia Revival*

Sayyid Qutb

<http://www.ashbrook.org/publicat/thesis/loboda/home.html>

MECHANICS OF THE CLASS:

Mid-Term	25% (TBD)
Final	30%
Journals	30% (Due on the last day of class)
Attendance and participation	15%

Journals:

There will be a journal (12-15 pages, double spaced) in which you should write the following:

1. A two page summary of each of your required readings.
2. Your own analysis and interpretation of the central theme(s) of each book read.
3. Your own opinion about the class discussions, observations and reflections on anything you find intellectually stimulating to write about. Journals are a place for you to express your opinion freely and why you agree or disagree with materials presented. You will not be graded on the basis of your opinion but on how well you have argued for them.

Mid-Term and the Final:

Mid-Term and the final are both in essay format and short answer definitions. Your final will be comprehensive and covers *all* the materials from the beginning to the end.

Regular attendance and participation above and beyond of what is expected of a University student will count for 10% of your grade. Except for the final, the dates of the tests are to be determined in consultation with the students.

A grade of D or below will be reported as "unsatisfactory" on the mid-semester report.

Office Hours:

M: 9:30-10:00 & 1:00-3:00
T: By Appointment Only
W: 9:30-10:00 & 1:00-2:00
TH: By Appointment Only
F: 9:30-10:00 & 1:00-2:00

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