

## Grande Prairie Regional College

**Department of Art & Education**  
**History 2700 (Section A3): Wednesday 6:00-9:00**  
**Introduction to History of Islam**  
**Winter Term January-April 2009**

Instructor: Ali M. AL-Asadi  
 Office Number: C-402  
 Office Hours: Tuesday 3-6 & by appointment  
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 \* Awaiting approval

Course Credit Hours: 3  
 Student Contact: 3 hours per week  
 Prerequisites: None  
 Uni. Transfer: UA, UC\*, UL, AU  
 Mode of Delivery: In-class Lectures

**IMPORTANT: Please remember this is a university course and you are a university student.**

### **Textbooks:**

- Hill, F. J., & Awde, N. (2003). A History of the Islamic World. Hippocrene Books, Inc., New York, NY, USA.
- Armstrong, K. (2002). Islam: A Short History. Random House Publishing Group, New York, NY, USA.
- Kennedy, H. (2003). The Prophet and the Age of the Caliphates: The Islamic Near East from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> Century (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Pearson Education Limited, Harlow, UK.

### Further Reading list:

- Saunders, J. J. (1978). A History of Medieval Islam. Routledge Publishing, New York, USA.
- Smith, H. (2001). Islam: A Concise Introduction. HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., San Francisco, California, USA.
- Armstrong, K. (2007). Muhammad: A Prophet for our Time. Harper San Francisco, New York, NY, USA.
- Armstrong, K. (1994). History of God. Random House Publishing Group, New York, NY, USA.
- Ayoub, M. M. (2005). Islam: Faith and History. Oneworld Publications, Oxford,

England, UK.

- Maalouf, A. (1989). *Crusades through Arab Eyes*. Schocken Books, New York, NY, USA.
- Armstrong, K. (2001). *The Crusades and their Impact on today's world*. Anchor Books, New York, NY, USA.

### **Course Description**

This course is a general survey of the history of Islam from about 500 to 1917. This course will provide a general overview of the rise and fall of the Islamic empire and its impact on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. This course will cover, in 13 weeks, the major events that shaped and sustained the Islamic Empire over 1400 years. Topics will include: Arabia before Islam, Mohammad's message, succession (Caliphate), wars of expansion, Umayyad and Abbasid periods, the decline and the resurgence of the Islamic empire during the Ottoman Empire, WWI, final dissolution of the Islamic empire, and western domination of the region.

### **Evaluation**

3 papers 1500-2000 words	60%
Final Exam	30%
Attendance, Participation, and reflective paper	10%

**Essays:** Each paper should be about 1500-2000 words in length (typed and double-spaced). The word limit does not include a reference page. Papers must be stapled (not in duo tang or other fancy cover) and written in proper and current acceptable style. Please use plain white paper, 12-point font and approximately a one-inch margin on all sides of your text. Please ensure that spelling, grammar and sentence structure are correct.

**Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. You should consult the section on cheating and plagiarism of current GPRC Calendar.**

### **Grading System:**

Please note that Universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**. This means **DO NOT GET LESS THAN "C-" IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO TRANSFER TO UNIVERSITY.**

A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	65-69
A	4.0	90-94		C	2.0	60-64
A-	3.7	85-89		C-	1.7	55-59
B+	3.3	80-84		D+	1.3	53-54
B	3.0	75-79		D	1.0	50-52
B-	2.7	70-74		F	0.0	00-49

**Course Content**

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Topic</u></b>
1	Why study Islamic History? Sources and Methods
2	Pre-Islamic Arabia: political, cultural, social, and religion
3	Arabia in the context of the Persian and the Byzantine Empires
4	The message of Islam and Arabs' reaction
5	Early days of Islam and the death of Mohammad
6	The crisis over succession and the four "rightly guided" Caliphs
7	The rise and decline of the Umayyad Caliphate
8	The rise and decline of the Abbasid Caliphate
9	The Crusades
10	Post Abbasid Caliphate
11	The Ottoman Empire
12	WWI and the dissolution of the Islamic Empire
13	Current events in the context of Islamic History