

Course Specifications

From the academic year 2015-2016 up to and including the

History of the Islamic World (A003217)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 50.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2016-2017

A (semester 2)	Dutch	self-reliant study	1.25 h
		guided self-study	2.5 h
		group work	1.25 h
		lecture	45.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2016-2017

Termonia, Maya	LW21	staff member
Van Steenberghe, Jo	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2016-2017

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (China Track))	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (UGent Track))	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject India)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Japan)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy	5	A
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures	5	A
Exchange Programme History	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

History, Islam, Middle Ages, Early Modernity, Islamic world, West-Asia, Middle East, politics, introduction/survey

Position of the course

This introductory module allows students to gain a first insight into the formation and key socio-political processes of the West-Asian Islamic world between the 7th and 18th centuries.

'History of the World of Islam' is complementary with the modules 'Islam' and 'Oriental Literatures', and it prepares for the module 'Politics of the Contemporary Middle East'.

This module contributes to the acquisition of the following BA-learning outcomes: 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 3.2, 3.4, 4.1, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.6.

Contents

This module enables the acquisition of a general framework for the history of the central Islamic lands, the West-Asian Arab world and the Middle East in particular. The aim of this module is to offer an insight into the formation of the Islamic world and into the key developments that characterise this region's history from late antiquity till the early modern period (7th-18th centuries). Moreover, this module also endeavours to acquaint students with the academic discourse shaping current knowledge of the Islamic past. As a result, the module offers a framework of substance and attitudes that enables an academically grounded understanding of this past and its repercussions for the region's current situation.

The module is divided into two major blocks, corresponding to the two main chronological cycles that make up pre-modern Islamic history. The first block runs from the rise of Islam in the early 7th century until the complete disintegration of the Abbasid empire in the 10th century. The second block runs from the multiple invasions of the Islamic world by Turco-Mongol people, in the 11th century and beyond, until the disintegration of early modern empires. Thirdly, the beginning of European infiltration from the early 19th century onwards and the destabilising impact of 'modernisation' in the 19th and 20th centuries will be briefly introduced by way of conclusion. In each block, primarily socio-political factors are discussed, in addition to certain important social, religious and other phenomena.

Initial competences

learning outcomes secondary education

Final competences

- 1 To define and describe key evolutions in Islamic history (7th-20th centuries)
- 2 To explain the historical processes that have shaped the premodern Islamic world
- 3 To connect the historical processes that have shaped the premodern Islamic world
- 4 To define a clear and relevant geographical and historical framework for Islamic history
- 5 To engage with key academic issues and debates on premodern Islamic history
- 6 To understand the value of source texts (in translation) for premodern Islamic history
- 7 To compare academic texts on premodern Islamic history
- 8 To co-operate in group on a specific in-depth assignment regarding premodern Islamic history

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, group work, lecture, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures concern weekly meeting in which the teacher discusses in detail the subjects of the course, possibly also with the aid of audiovisual and digital materials (documentaries, turning point ...)

Group and independent work consist of a portfolio-assignment, for which every student will have to complete a gradual assignment following specific instructions, as a first encounter with a very specific historical subject and its academic study.

Individual study concerns an individual reading assignment of a selection of articles that offer complementary or supplementary information on certain aspects of the lectures.

Learning materials and price

J. Van Steenberghe, *Geschiedenis van de Islamwereld* (available via Minerva) (ca. 6,00 €)

Reading (available via Minerva) (geraamde prijs: 10,60 €)

References

R.S. Humphreys, *Islamic History. A framework for Inquiry*

I.M. Lapidus, *A History of Islamic Societies*

Cambridge Illustrated History of the Islamic World, ed. F. Robinson

A Companion to the history of the Middle East, ed. Y. Choueiri

A. Hourani, *A History of the Arab Peoples*

T. Ansary, *Destiny Disrupted. A History of the World through Islamic Eyes*

In harmony. Art from the Islamic World in the Cinquantenaire Museum, ed. M. Van Raemdonck

Course content-related study coaching

Electronic support via Minerva (forums, e-mail, documents)

individual: by electronic appointment

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Portfolio

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

- portfolio
- oral exam, with written preparation - subject: lectures & syllabus, reading - format: 3 questions (reproduction, interpretation, discussion)
- (in case of resit, assessment will only take place on the basis of an oral exam concerning the course material)

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodical: oral examination (75 %) - non-periodical: combination of individual work and cooperation in group (1 portfolio) (25 %)
(resit: oral examination [100%])

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy