



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

ALMC 319  
**Islam and Modernity**  
Winter 2021

TR 15:30 – 16:45 via Zoom  
**COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Omar Edaibat

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays 12:00 – 1:00 or by appointment (via Zoom).

**E-MAIL:** [omar.edaibat@ucalgary.ca](mailto:omar.edaibat@ucalgary.ca) (students can expect a response within 48 hours)

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 514-348-5943.

**DESCRIPTION**

This course is a thematic exploration of the Islamic encounter with modernity from around the end of the eighteenth century up to the present period. The course surveys broad regional developments within the Muslim world following the gradual dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, with a special focus on the diverse intellectual, social, and political reactions of Muslim societies to the challenges of colonial modernity. These developments include the responses of Sufi traditionalism, the puritan Wahhabi movement, and Islamic modernism at the turn of the twentieth century, where special attention will be paid to the religious thought and socio-political influences of the major Muslim intellectuals and actors throughout this period. The course also covers the Islamist response and the emergence of political Islam in the twentieth century, surveying its major social and ideological expressions and political consequences, including the Iranian Revolution, the global War on Terror, the Arab Spring, and the rise of militant movements such as al-Qaeda and ISIS. Finally, the course also aims to expose students to internal Muslim scholarly discourses on the place of Islamic law within Muslim society and politics and on the challenges of secularism, democracy, and human rights in the modern world.

**OBJECTIVES**

Upon completing this course, students should have a sound grasp of the major socio-religious, ideological, and political developments affecting the Muslim world over the past two centuries and the diverse ways in which Muslim intellectuals and political leaders have sought to respond to the challenges of colonial modernity and its aftermath leading up to the present period.

**OUTCOMES**

In addition to expanding their knowledge on the complex historical interactions between Islam, modernity, and politics, the course is also an opportunity for students to develop their analytical and writing skills, in being able to conduct their own independent research and express their ideas in an academically sound and effective manner.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

Students are requested to purchase the following book online, which is also available as an e-book directly from the publisher:

al-Azmeh, Aziz. *Islams and Modernities*. 3rd ed. London: Verso, 2009.



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Purchase link:

<https://www.versobooks.com/books/390-islams-and-modernities>

All other assigned class readings should be accessible online via the U of Calgary library, and links will be posted on D2L.

### **COURSE NOTES**

- **Participation:** Online attendance and participation is key to your success in this class, as class discussions will also include material not covered in the readings. This is an interactive class, and by attending and actively participating, you will ensure that you maximize your learning experience. You are allowed one unexcused absence; the second unexcused absence will reduce your class participation grade by one level (e.g. A to A-).
- **Missed tests/assignments:** Assignment may not be extended and missed tests may not be rescheduled, except in cases of genuine personal distress or a medical emergency. Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of one grade per day. (e.g. an A will be A- if late for one day and B+ if late for two days).
- All assignments and tests are to be submitted to the D2L homework drop box by the appropriate due dates (provided below). Tests will be available for a 24-hour period (midnight to midnight), and students can complete and submit them via D2L anytime during that 24-hour period.
- There will be no final exam in this course.

### **Zoom class etiquette & guidelines:**

- Students should conduct themselves appropriately and actively participate during Zoom class sessions.
- Please mute yourself when you are not talking, in order to reduce background noise.
- Only the student enrolled in the course may participate in the Zoom class sessions

### **Technology requirements:**

Students should be prepared with the following:

- A computer with a supported operating system
- A web browser
- Webcam/Camera
- Microphone and speaker
- Stable internet connection

### **ASSESSMENT**

#### **Class Attendance/Participation (10%):**

Students are expected to attend and actively participate in class discussions on Zoom.

#### **2 Class Tests (30%):**

There will be 2 short tests on the class readings throughout the semester. Each test will count towards 15% of the final grade.

#### **2 Reflection Essays (30%):**



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Students will be requested to write two 1000-word reflection essays engaging the course readings of any one of the weeks in the course outline. Each essay will count towards 15% of the final grade, and one of the papers must be submitted before the term break (week 6), while the latter can be submitted on the readings for any of the weeks following the term break.

**Final Paper (30 %):**

Students are required to write a 15-page research paper (double-spaced, 12-point font, one-inch margins) on any topic generally related to one of the themes touched upon in this course.

\* All assignments and tests must be completed in order to receive a passing grade.

**Important Submission Dates:**

**Test 1:** Tues. Feb. 9.

**Reflection Essay 1:** For any week's readings before week 6.

**Test 2:** Tues. March 23.

**Reflection Essay 2:** For any week's readings between weeks 7 and 14.

**Final Paper:** Due by midnight Sun. April 10.

**GRADING SCALE**

<b>A +</b>	96 +	<b>A</b>	90 - 95	<b>A -</b>	85 - 89
<b>B +</b>	80 - 84	<b>B</b>	75 - 79	<b>B -</b>	70 - 74
<b>C +</b>	65 - 69	<b>C</b>	60 - 64	<b>C -</b>	55 - 59
<b>D +</b>	53 - 54	<b>D</b>	50 - 52	<b>F</b>	Under 50

**INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT**

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

**Academic misconduct**

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:
  - a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
  - b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
  - c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
  - d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.



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While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

#### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

#### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students



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with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate).

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

**INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

**SUPPORT AND RESOURCES**

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.