

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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# Encountering Islam: Understanding and Sharing with Muslims

Our Daily Bread University

### Course Description

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The nature and practices of Islam draw worldwide intrigue. What do Muslims believe? Why do they defend their beliefs as they do? How do we present the gospel to them? This course examines Islam from both a Christian and a Muslim perspective, covering the history and validity of the Koran, Muslim theology, the role of women, and the places of Christ, the Bible, and the Trinity within Islam. The goal of the course is to understand the Muslim mindset, and to learn how to share Christ from within that mindset.

### Course Objectives

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Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Prayerfully consider your responsibilities to the unreached Muslims both in the West and in the Muslim world.
- Take steps toward understanding Islam from within, as Muslims understand themselves, and from without, as Christians understand Muslims.
- Begin to learn how to share Christ with Muslims through both theory and practice.
- Become better equipped for a life of faithfully ministering to Muslims and/or better prepared as pastors and teachers for effectively supporting missions to Muslims.
- Become familiar with some of the literature dealing with Islam and Christian-Muslim relations.
- Have ignited within you an attitude of research into Islam and how to communicate the Savior with Muslims.
- Become acquainted with opportunities for witness to Muslims at home and overseas.

### Course Lecturer

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The lecturer for this course has taught at a number of institutions including Wheaton College, Dallas Theological Seminary, Columbia International University, Yan Fook Seminary in Hong Kong and in a number of Hispanic countries including Spain, Venezuela, Panama and Paraguay. He and

his wife have ministered for four years in Iran and five in Egypt. He specializes in Christian-Muslim relations.

Education:

- Wheaton College, BA
- Dallas Theological Seminary, ThM
- Hartford Seminary, PhD

## Recommended Reading

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Though not required, you may choose to read the textbooks shown below to supplement your learning.

Pickthall, Mohammed Marmaduke. *The Meaning of the Glorious Koran*. Beltsville, MD: Amana, 1996.

\*\*Note: This is an explanatory translation of the Koran and may serve as the student's Koran reading.

Farah, Caesar E. *Islam*. 7th Edition. New York: Barron, 2003.

Woodbury, J. Dudley, ed. *Muslims and Christians on the Emmaus Road*. Monrovia, California: MARC, 1989.

Textbooks can be ordered through your local bookstore, various online bookstores, or through your preferred eReader when available.

## Course Methods

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The lecture content for each lesson is provided in two easy-to-use formats: audio and PDF text (if available). Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

## Course Assessment and Requirements

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To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Listening to all 24 audio lectures.
2. Completing a final self-assessment form in which you will reflect on the content in the course and evaluate your life in light of what you have learned. The specifics of this assessment are provided in the course materials.

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before a Certificate of Completion is awarded to any student.