

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2019**

**Course** RELS 357  
**Time** Tu-Th 12:30-1:45  
**Instructor** Dr. Mushegh Asatryan  
**Office Hours** Th. 2:25-3:25  
**Office** CHE 322  
**E-mail** [Mushegh.asatryan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:Mushegh.asatryan@ucalgary.ca)  
**Telephone** +1 (403) 220-3241

**Required Text(s):** Aaron Hughes, *Muslim Identities: An Introduction to Islam* (available online at the TFDL library: [https://ucalgary-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=01UCALG\\_ALMA21538073640004336&context=L&vid=UCALGARY&search\\_scope=EVERYTHING&tab=everything&lang=en\\_US](https://ucalgary-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=01UCALG_ALMA21538073640004336&context=L&vid=UCALGARY&search_scope=EVERYTHING&tab=everything&lang=en_US))

Additional texts will be uploaded to D2L

**Course Description:**

The course is a broad overview of the religion of Islam. It surveys the main historical stages of Islam's development, its main trends of thought, its sectarian divisions, and its schools of law. We will study the beliefs and practices of Muslims in the historically Muslim territories as well as in Europe and North America. We will read excerpts from Islam's holy scripture, medieval and contemporary reports by Muslims about their religion, and will watch films illustrating the challenges Muslims face today in a globalized world.

**Core Competencies:** A broad knowledge of the Islamic tradition in its historical and contemporary dimensions. The ability to critically examine religious phenomena pertaining to Islam, as expressed in a variety of ways: textual, ritual, and oral.

**Course Requirements:**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Jan. 22	Test 1	10%	
Feb. 5	Test 2	20%	
Feb. 26	Test 3	20%	
March. 12	Test 4	20%	
March 26	Test 5	20%	
April 11	Test 6	10%	

**Grading**

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, usually used within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form and content.

### **Policy with regard to missed assignments/assessments:**

Missed tests may not be retaken unless you provide supporting documentation, as per the Supporting Documentation and use of a Statutory Declaration regulation stated at the end of this course outline.

### **Expectations for student conduct in this course:**

*Attendance and participation* are key to your success in this class. This is will be an interactive class, and by attending all sessions and by actively participating you will ensure that you maximize your learning experience (and, potentially, your final grade). I won't be taking attendance, but I will be sharing lots of materials in class that will be crucial for your success in the exams and the paper, and it's your responsibility to follow everything that's happening in class.

### **Electronic Device Policy:**

No electronic devices, such as cellphones, are allowed in class. You may only use laptops and tablets to take notes: if you use them for any other purpose, such as surfing the internet, checking email, Facebook, etc., you will be asked to turn them off. I reserve the right to ban the use of laptops altogether, should I notice that they interfere with the students' participation and negatively affect class discussion in general.

### **Syllabus:**

A complete syllabus will be made available the first week of class.

### **Academic Honesty**

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>). If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, or librarian staff.

### **Student Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf).

### **Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help**

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- For program planning and advice, students in the Faculty of Arts will contact The Arts Students' Centre (ASC). Drop in at SS102, call at 403-220-3580 or email at [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- 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 Library.

### **Freedom of Information and Privacy**

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission. As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.

### **Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See [www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds) for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca).

### **Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints). Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Safewalk**

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.

**Health and Wellness**

There are services available to students to help with physical and mental health, including the SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>.

Learn more about the Campus Mental Health Strategy here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.

**Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration**

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided and the student should provide the documentation they feel best supports their case. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-1.html>.