



**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION
COURSE OUTLINE
Summer 2022**

COURSE NUMBER: RELS 353-01

COURSE NAME: Islam in the Modern World

CLASSROOM LOCATION: SA 129

CLASS DAYS & TIMES (in person): T-Th 1:00-3:45PM

Office hours (over zoom, link will be provided): Monday 12:00-1:00pm

INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT:

Dr. Mushegh Asatryan

Email: Mushegh.asatryan@ucalgary.ca

Phone: 403-220-3241

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL POLICY:

- I will try to respond to students' emails within 48 hours during the week, and I won't be checking my email during the weekend.
- During the semester, I will be providing lots of information about the course policies, readings, and guidelines – in class and in writing. Before emailing me with a question, therefore, *check if the answer is found in one of the guideline-sheets, on the syllabus, or in your class notes*. If it's already there, please don't email me.
- Don't email me to discuss grades. If you have questions about your grades, come to my office hours, or email me to set up an appointment to meet.
- If you want your email to be answered, please begin it with a proper salutation (such as *Hi Dr. Asatryan* or *Hi Professor Asatryan* or *Dear Dr. Asatryan*). Please don't begin emails with "hey there," "hey prof," "hello," or with no salutation at all.

COURSE CALENDAR STATEMENT:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.html>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

How is Islam today different from what it was a thousand years ago (or is it)? What are the responses to Western colonialism, the rise of nation states, and globalization by various Muslim groups and individuals? This course will address these and other questions within a broad historical framework, by asking, not only *what?* and *when?*, but also *how?* and *why?*

During the semester will read about the history of various Islamic movements that have emerged in the last couple of hundred years, while examining the political and social circumstances of their rise. We will examine the writings of modern Muslim thinkers and will study how they have used the Islamic tradition to advocate for contemporary concerns. We will try to understand the ways Islam has been invoked to justify and organize political action. The materials covered during the course include films, studies *about* modern Islam as well as works *by* modern Muslim thinkers.

***COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Knowledge of key Muslim thinkers, political figures, and movements in the modern period; the ability to critically read and analyze religious texts; to place individuals, events, and ideas in historical context; the ability to express oneself with clarity orally and on paper.

***LEARNING RESOURCES**

The learning resources for this course include articles, book chapters, and videos, and they will all be posted on D2L (and will be listed in the schedule of readings and lectures).

***LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

- Please refer to the D2L site for this course for additional information and materials:

<https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>

CLASS SCHEDULE

A full schedule of lectures, readings, and assignments will be uploaded to D2L during the first week of classes.

***EXAMINATIONS**

There is no final exam for this course.

***ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)	Required pass/fail
Throughout the semester	Article/chapter presentation	10 %	
July 28	Midterm exam	40 %	
August 9	Final paper topic presentation	5 %	
August 12	Final papers due	45 %	

MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS*

Missed tests may not be retaken unless you have a serious excuse. If you do not submit your papers on the due date, for each additional day you will lose 10% (e.g., if it's 100%, you will get 90% and so on). You can have five extra days to submit your paper, after which you cannot submit it anymore and will

receive 0 for that paper. If you have missed a component of the course, contact me within 24 hours to discuss options to make-up for that component (and only if you have a serious excuse).

***GRADING**

Here's the University's undergraduate grading system: [University of Calgary : F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System \(ucalgary.ca\)](http://www.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/grading)

A student's final grade for the course is the sum of the separate assignments. A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

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

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING

All written assignments (including written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

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 your final grade).

Please do not come to class late, this disrupts the teaching and learning process.

USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS

No 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.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

***ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

***ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

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

Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). 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.

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/.

***INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

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. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

***FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

***COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

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-policy.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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

***MEDIA RECORDING (if applicable)**

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

***Media recording for lesson capture**

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

***Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices**

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

***Media recording for the assessment of student learning**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain

circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

***OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk