OBJECTIVE

The objective of this course is to offer students a more concise view of Islam as a religion, while exploring the current contexts and existing conflicts of the Arab-Islamic World within a historical framework.

From the 8th century until the 17th century, Islam played a crucial role in the history of the Iberian Peninsula. Today this period is often portrayed as one of inter-religious harmony, while Al-Andalus is simultaneously mourned in contemporary Islamist discourse as a lost paradise. While we look at the history of Al-Andalus and assess the importance of the contributions of Al-Andalus to Europe and America, we evaluate the significance of its legacy in modern Spain. Furthermore, we will study the protagonist role that Spain has played in relations between Europe and the Mediterranean Islamic countries during the Modern Age. Students will gain further understanding and contextualization of current Arab-Muslim geopolitics. As a case study, we will address the Spanish Protectorate in Morocco, as well as its ensuing process of decolonization and the consequences that shape the current international relations between the two neighboring countries, Spain and Morocco.

METHODOLOGY

I.- LECTURES

Topics to be discussed in detail:
1. The Islamic religion (dogma, Islamic law)
2. Origin and expansion of Islam
3. Principle branches of Islam
4. Al-Andalus: The Iberian Peninsula under Islam
5. Coexistence and… tolerance?: The minorities in Medieval Islam. The case of the Jews and Christians in al-Andalus
6. Imperial Spain and Mediterranean Islam (XV-XVIII centuries)
7. European Colonialism and the Arab-Islamic World.
8. The Spanish Protectorate in Morocco.
9. Processes of decolonization and independence: the contemporary Arab-Islamic World
10. Points of conflict in the international relations between Spain and Morocco.
12. The Islamic community in Spain today.

Supporting presentations of the class will work with:

Graphic Aids
A regular teaching aid will be slides and presentations using *PowerPoint*. These will include diagrams, maps, genealogical graphs, images of artistic demonstrations and urban development, etc.

**Readings**

Students will read, analyze, and discuss in class a selection of supporting texts (including primary sources and news articles) in order to better understand the subjects studied. What will be required depends on the dynamics of the course.

**Films and Documentaries**

Throughout the course the following documentaries will be shown and commented in class:

- “Islam: Imperio de Fe (I, II y III)”
- and the movies “La batalla de Argel”, “Harka” or “Khandahar”.

**Blackboard and Website**

In addition to Blackboard, a website will also be available to students as an instrument of educational support. Students will be able to find graphics, selected readings, chronologies, glossaries, bibliographies (general and specific), links and additional complementary material for the course. The course will also have a calendar of subjects and email with the professor for online attention for advice, possible problems, etc.

**II. ACTIVITIES**

An important part of the course will consist of a series of activities with the aim to illustrate and serve as a complement to the presentations in class.

See Required and Suggested Co-curricular Activities.

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**Desired Outcomes**

At the end of the course students will have achieved an intercultural view of Spain and will know enough about Islam, its history and the relationship between Spain and the Islamic Countries to be able to understand and argue about the conflicts in the contemporary Islamic World and in its relationships with the West. They will also have learnt about the medieval primary Arab sources and the main historiographic references of the topics they are interested in, thanks to the research work they will have to do.

**Assessment Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Grade</th>
<th>Class participation …… 10%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>___________________________ 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>___________________________ 30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>___________________________ 30%</td>
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**Grading Policy**

**Mandatory readings**

A reader will be uploaded to Blackboard with a selection of contemporary texts that will complement the various topics addressed in class. Some readings may be in photocopy form.

**Essay**

Students will have to write a research paper (between 8 and 14 pages) about a specific and concrete subject related to the course. The focus of the work will be chosen in agreement with the professor. The guidelines of the presentation of the work will be discussed in class. It is mandatory to consult *Encyclopaedia of Islam* (ed. Brill), available through NYU’s website. Do not use only references from websites, and when using those, they should be academic.

This work will be worth 20% of the final grade, and the due date will be announced in class. Any paper past due will impact the final grade (will lower your paper grade one level, for example: from B+ to B). Papers will not be accepted for grading after the 3rd day past the due date. Hence you will receive a “0” for the paper.

**Exams**
Students are required to take a midterm and a final examination. Each exam, worth 35% of the final grade, is divided into two parts. The first will be 10 short-answer questions to be chosen from 15; this will make up 40% of the exam grade. The second part will be in essay form, asking students to explain one topic in detail (you will have a choice of topics). Students need to develop a solid argument and illustrate their points with examples. An introduction and a conclusion is required. The grading of the essay part of the test will make up 60% of the exam grade.

**Class participation**

Attendance and active class participation (comments on mandatory readings, supporting texts, documents, films and documentaries, and other activities) will make up 10% of the final grade. For this, it is necessary for all students to have participated actively throughout the course. Evaluation is based on each student’s attention and interest, preparation for the class discussion on readings, remarks, and questions. Unexcused absences will impact the final grade (will lower your participation grade one level, for example: from B+ to B).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance Policy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance is mandatory. Unexcused absences will impact the final grade (will lower your participation grade one level, for example: from B+ to B).</td>
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<tr>
<th>Late Submission of Work</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any paper past due will impact the final grade (will lower your paper grade one level, for example: from B+ to B). Papers will not be accepted for grading after the 3rd day past the due date. Hence you will receive a “0” for the paper.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Plagiarism Policy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. Plagiarism: presenting others' work without adequate acknowledgement of its source, as though it were one's own. Plagiarism is a form of fraud. We all stand on the shoulders of others, and we must give credit to the creators of the works that we incorporate into products that we call our own. Some examples of plagiarism:</td>
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<tr>
<td>· a sequence of words incorporated without quotation marks</td>
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<tr>
<td>· an unacknowledged passage paraphrased from another's work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· the use of ideas, sound recordings, computer data or images created by others as though it were one's own</td>
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<tr>
<td>· submitting evaluations of group members' work for an assigned group project which misrepresent the work that was performed by another group member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· altering or forging academic documents, including but not limited to admissions materials, academic records, grade reports, add/drop forms, course registration forms, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For further information, students are encouraged to check <a href="http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html">www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html</a></td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Required Text(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<th>Supplemental Texts available via BB</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See every session program.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of the course. Introduction and general concepts <em>(Al-Andalus-Maghreb; Arabic language</em>...</td>
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</table>
16 January

Session 2
Islamic religion: The dogma (I)

Session 3
Islamic religion: The dogma (II)

Session 4
Islamic religion: Islamic Law (I)

Session 5
Islamic religion: Islamic Law (II)

Session 6
Islamic religion: Islamic Law (III)

Session 7
The Message: The Holy Quran
The Messenger: The Prophet Muhammad (I)

Session 8
The Messenger: The Prophet Muhammad (II)

18 January

23 January
READING:

25 January

30 January

1 February
- “Muhammad VI cierra el Harén” (El Mundo, 7/IV/2002)
- “Calvario de un converso egipcio (ABC, 19/II/2008)

6 February

8 February
READING: - “Jaybar” (Chapter 69 from Lings, M., Muhammad: Su vida basada en las Fuentes más antiguas. Madrid: Ediciones Hiperión, 1989)

DOCUMENTARY: “Islam: Imperio de Fe (I)”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 9</th>
<th>The Perfect Caliphate: The four first caliphs of Islam (I)</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session 10</th>
<th>The Perfect Caliphate: The four first caliphs of Islam (II)</th>
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<tr>
<th>Session 11</th>
<th>Principle branches of Islam: Sunnis, Shiites and Kharijites. Origin and differences (I)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>READING: - Karbala (Extract from <em>Encyclopaedia of Islam</em>. Ed. Brill on-line).</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 13</th>
<th>Islamic Expansion in the Mediterranean</th>
</tr>
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</table>

**DOCUMENTARY: “Islam: Imperio de Fe (II)”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 14</th>
<th>Al-Andalus (I): The Islamic conquest of the Iberian Peninsula The Age of the Amirs The Independent Umayyad Emirate</th>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session 15</th>
<th>Al-Andalus (II): The Umayyad Caliphate The Taifa Kingdoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5 March | READING: - “Al-Andalus” (Extract from *Encyclopaedia of Islam*. Ed. Brill, CD-ROM Edition v.1.1).  

| Session 16 | MIDTERM EXAM |
7 March

**Session 17**

Al-Andalus (II):

The Berber Dynasties of North Africa: Almoravids and Almohads.

The Nasrid Kingdom of Granada

- “Dahir (decreto real) promulgado en el año 637 /1239 por el soberano almohade al-Rachid, que puso el lugar de Ribat al-Fatah a disposición de los emigrantes andalusíes” (in *El Marruecos Andalusí*. Madrid: Museo sin Fronteras, 2000, p. 247).

12 March

**Session 18**

Coexistence and tolerance: The minorities in Medieval Islam. The case of the Jews and Christians in Al-Andalus

The last Muslims: from “mudejares” to “moriscos”.

READING: - Vincent, B., “De la conversión a la expulsión”, *Los Moriscos, Cuadernos Historia* 16, nº 225, pp. 8-12;

14 March

**Session 19**

Spain and Islam in the Modern Age (16th -18th Centuries)

Spanish and Portuguese expansion in Morocco

The Berber Corsairs

The Ottoman Empire

The Mediterranean War


21 March

**Session 20**

DOCUMENTARY: “Islam: Imperio de Fe (III)”

9 April


11 April

**Session 21**

Islam in the Contemporary World (I: The 19th Century)

Panislamism and nationalism

European Colonialism in the Islamic World

Spain – Morocco (I)

The “War of Africa” (1860)

The International Conference of Algeciras (1906)

The Spanish Protectorate in Morocco (1912 – 1956)

Session 22
16 April

Islam in Contemporary World (II: The 20th Century)
The Islamic World during the first an second War World
Processes of decolonization and independence: the contemporary Arab-Islamic World
Spain – Morocco (II):
The independence of Morocco


Session 23
18 April

The “Sahara Issue”


Session 24
23 April

International relations between Spain and Morocco:
Western Sahara
Ceuta and Melilla
The agriculture and fishing rights
Moroccan emigration: The “pateras”

Session 25
25 April

Islamism, fundamentalism, terrorism. Contexts and conflicts in contemporary Islam.


Session 26
4 May

The Islamic community in Spain today.

- La comunidad musulmana en España. Estudio de opinión realizado por metroscopia para el Ministerio del Interior. Madrid, nov. 2006. (PDF in http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/materiales/docs/comunidad_musulmana_esp_nov06.pdf)

Session 27
(TBA)

FINAL EXAM

Classroom Etiquette
Students will behave according to the etiquette rules of NYU Madrid. It is not allowed:
- To eat and drink in class (except water)
- To use celular phones
- To use the computer for non-academic purposes
- To be disruptive by getting up and leaving the classroom
- To be late and leave early
- To show lack of respect to others’ opinions and/or beliefs.

Required Co-
Visit to the Mosque of Madrid and Islamic Cultural Center (TBA)
A visit to the Mosque and Islamic Cultural Center, where the students will receive a chat about the
Islamic religion. (Attendance is mandatory)

**Suggested Co-curricular Activities**

**Trip to Morocco (TBA)**

As a complement to the course, students will have the opportunity to participate in an optional academic trip to Morocco, a country intimately related to the culture and history of Spain. The objective of the trip will be to understand *in situ* the enormous mutual influences that have existed throughout history between the two countries, from the formation of Al-Andalus up until our time.

**Culinary Experience**

Eating in an Arab restaurant that preserves the culinary traditions of Al-Andalus.

**Islamic Library “Félix María Pareja”**

Students will be invited to visit and make use of bibliographic resources of the *Biblioteca Islámica “Félix María Pareja”*, of the Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional (Mº AA.EE.), which is one of the most important centers of specialized information about the Arab World.

**Dirección:**
Avenida de Reyes Católicos, 4
Ciudad Universitaria
28040 Madrid - España

**Apertura y consulta en Sala:**
9 a 19:45 (1 de septiembre a 30 de junio)
9 a 15:00 (1 de julio a 31 de agosto)

**Información Bibliográfica y Servicio de Libros:**
9 a 14:30 h. (1 de septiembre a 30 de junio)
16 a 19:00 h. (1 de septiembre a 30 de junio)
9 a 14:30 h. (1 de julio a 31 de agosto)

**Transportes y comunicaciones:**

**Metro:** Moncloa (salida Isaac Peral)

**Autobús:** Circular, 1, 12 y 44 (Plaza de Cristo Rey)

**Teléfono:** 915838164

**Suggested references**

**Islam**


**Al-Andalus**


Islam Moderno y Contemporáneo


