Center of Islamic Studies

Courses taught in English, Summer Semester 2016

**Course title:** Faith and Reason in Islam and Christianity  
**Link:** [http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135162](http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135162)  
**Course type:** Seminar  
**Contact hours:** 2  
**Course coordinator:** Dr. Yazid Said

**Course title:** History of Islamic Theology and Philosophy: Scholars, Works and Concepts  
**Link:** [http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135223](http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135223)  
**Course type:** Lecture  
**Contact hours:** 2  
**Course coordinator:** Prof. Dr. phil. Lejla Demiri  
**Target audience**  
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**Course description**  
This course is intended to offer an overview of the history of Islamic theology (kalām) and philosophy (falsafa). Beginning with the formative period, the course will examine the major trends of thought, schools of theology and philosophy, and their methodologies. Arguments for the existence of God and His unity, discourse on the divine nature and attributes, discussions on the relationship between free will and predestination, scripture (naql) and reason (‘aql), theology and philosophy are some the topics to be covered.

**Course title:** Teaching Islam: Considerations of Theology, Methodology and Pedagogy  
**Link:** [http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135218](http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135218)  
**Course type:** Seminar  
**Contact hours:** 2  
**Course coordinator:** Mujadad Zaman  
**Target audience**  
This course is a requirement for BA Education students and is open to advanced BA as well as MA students with the instructors permission.  
**Course description**  
This course aims at giving BA Education students an appreciation of the many interrelated issues concerning the teaching of Islam whether at high-schools or at university. Rather than providing a guide of ‘how to teach Islam’ we intend to contextualize students theological studies to help them think about becoming teachers of Islamic Studies in the future. In order to do so, the course is broken into three parts. The ‘theological’ element covers prominent discussions in Islamic thought whilst ‘methodology’ investigates philosophical questions of how teachers may approach Islam as a subject matter and finally ‘pedagogy’ looks at classical Islamic approaches...
to teaching and its contemporary relevance and wisdom. The readings, writing assignments and discussions will be exclusively in English, allowing students to engage English in their scholarship in a more thorough way. Students will prepare short presentations and write essays to help them think about, and create their own, Islamic studies curricula for universities and high schools. This course is a requirement for BA Education students and is open to advanced BA as well as MA students with the instructors permission.

**Course title:** Women and Religion  
**Link:** [http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135217](http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135217)  
**Course type:** Block Course  
**Contact hours:** 2  
**Course coordinator:** M.A. Almedina Fakovic, Dr. Amina Nawaz  
**Course description**  
In the Summer Semester of 2016, the Equality Commission at the Centre for Islamic Theology will invite a series of international female scholars who have achieved great feats in their research exploring different faith traditions, to participate in a seminar series entitled "Women and Religion". The programme will consists of 6 public seminars on topics related to the theme of women and religion from interreligious perspectives, and 6 seminars with enrolled students to allow further, more personal discussion opportunities with the guest. This lecture series represents a landmark initiative of the Center for Islamic Theology and an exciting opportunity for students and other participants to hear about the research of women who have achieved great success in their work in religious and theological studies, and also learn more about their lives as researchers. For those who wish to enroll as students, the programme will consists of 6 public lecture/seminars, 6 seminars and an additional 2 classes conducted by the course conveners, for a total of 14 sessions or 2 ECTS points. Students can also write 2,000 or 4,000 words throughout the semester (either as short responses to each session, or a longer essay) to receive a note/mark for the course as well as a further 1-2 ECTS points, dependent upon the quantity of written work, for a total of up to 4 ECTS points.

**Course title:** 'The Art of Living': Themes in Islamic Theology and World Literature  
**Link:** [http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135216](http://campus.uni-tuebingen.de/20161e135216)  
**Course type:** Practical Course  
**Contact hours:** 2  
**Course coordinator:** Dr. Amina Nawaz  
**Target audience**  
compulsory course for MA students, but open to B.Theol. students with instructor permission.  
**Course description**  
"Know, O beloved, that man was not created in jest or at random, but marvellously made and for some great end. Although he is not form everlasting, yet he lives for ever; and though his body is mean and earthly, yet his spirit is lofty and divine". Al-Ghazali’s famous opener to The Alchemy of Happiness is a clarion call to the reader to seek out meaning and forms the departure point for the English for Islamic Theologians Seminar in the Summer Semester. Focusing on the theme of "the art of living", the course will function as an advanced seminar, relying upon extensive discussion and close textual study. Each class will examine the significant essays of writers who have reflected upon this theme within Islamic literature and beyond, including those such as Henry David Thoreau, John Ruskin, Leo Tolstoy, Marcel Proust, William Wordsworth, Naomi Klein, Germaine Greer, George Orwell, Christopher Alexander and others, critically scrutinising both the content and the composition and engaging with the texts from Islamic theological perspectives. Key components of this course include critical reading, class participation and perfecting the long form essay. This course is part of the English for Theologians Programme at the Centre for Islamic Theology, and a requirement for MA students but open to BA students with instructor permission. The objective of this course is
not to ‘teach English’ but rather, to create a platform in which students of Islamic theology can begin to utilise English as a medium for their scholarship. This semester, the seminar will focus particularly on perfecting the short and long form essay.