

# World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

**Teacher Name:** Jonathan Arbuckle    **Humanities Discipline:** Anthropology    **Date:** April 21, 2016

**World Religion:** Islam    **Teaching Module Title:** Islam Part 1

## Teaching Module Goals:

1. Introduce students to Islam through a brief history, the Quran, and the 5 pillars of Islam.
2. Focus on how Muslims experience God by combining the spiritual and physical through ritual activities.
3. Address issues related to Islamophobia and assess students' understanding of important themes in Islam.

## Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

Bowker: World Religions, pages 176-195

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFsn49QxwI0>

<http://bridge.georgetown.edu/>

## Class Outline/Study Questions and/or Discussions Prompts/Assessments for Students:

### 1. Opening Exercise:

Distribute post-it notes pads to students in the class. Direct students to take 5 post-its. Using the prompt: "when you hear the word Islam, what five words/themes/ideas/concepts come to mind first?" write one word on each post-it. Once everyone is done have everyone come to the board and working together, arrange the post-its by broad themes. Once finished, this can segue into class discussion.

### General Class Discussion

- a. Brief history of Islam
- b. Qur'an
- c. 5 Pillars of Islamic Practice
- d. Experiencing God
  - i. Prayer
  - ii. Dress
  - iii. Dhikr
  - iv. Art
- e. American Muslims, Fact or Fiction video

### 2. Assignment:

Before, students will visit the [bridge.georgetown.edu](http://bridge.georgetown.edu) site and explore the various topics on Islamophobia. Students will then compose a typed, 2 page essay focusing on the following question: *using the information from class readings, today's discussion, and the information learned on the bridge site, if you only had two pages to explain to someone who does not know what Islam is, what topics/aspects of Islam would you write about and why?* Students should incorporate at least one detail/example from the in-class lesson and one detail from their own research/experiences.