

World Religions in Greater Indianapolis Teaching Module

Teacher Name: Jeffrey Dodge

Humanities Discipline: Philosophy

Date: May 12, 2016

World Religion: Islam

Teaching Module Title: Islamic Thought Traditions

General Philosophy (PHIL 101)

The Philosophy of Religion: Islam Section (PHIL 220)

Introduction to the Ethics of Islam Section (PHIL 102)

Teaching Module Goals:

(PHIL 220) Introduce students to American Islamic thoughts on the Religious Ideas and Experiences, and how their world experience has affected them.

(PHIL 102) Introduce students to American Muslim moral thinking including those given in Sharia/ethics.

(PHIL 101) Introduce students to American Islamic Philosophy, especially on Culture and Religion.

Assigned Readings and/or Websites:

Curtis, *Muslims in America*, 2009

Islamic Horizons, www.ISNA.net (magazine of Islamic Society of North America), bimonthly publication (contains several resources of current Islamic topics).

Study Questions and/or Discussions Prompts for Students:

1. Overall, what effect did immigration to America have upon Muslims and their religious and ethical practices?
2. How did the first wave (1700-1800s) of Muslim immigrants come to America and what religious practices changed for them?
3. Explain the conditions under which the first Muslim immigrants lived and how did they adapt to America?
4. In the 1800's what attracted the first American converts to Islam?
5. How did many Americans view Islamic beliefs and practices in the 1800s?
6. What are the major beliefs of theosophy and how did the people who followed this philosophy view Islam?
7. What were the beliefs that Muslim missionaries to America used to bring people to Islam?
8. What Muslim groups/sects were able to appeal to other Americans, and what beliefs or practices did they follow?
9. From where did Muslims immigrate to the United States during the 1900s? What beliefs and values were important to them?
10. What beliefs and values did they bring to America? How did their practices change or stay the same in America?
11. What are the differences between the Nation of Islam and most other Muslim groups?
12. What Nation of Islam beliefs were accepted or rejected by other Muslim groups?
13. What were some of the dynamics of the American Muslim religious awakening during and after the 1960s?
14. What major ethical issues did Muslims deal with during the late Twentieth Century?
15. What were the American Muslims debating about education and other American institutions and culture?
16. What specific changes occurred for American Muslims after September 11, 2001?
17. What issues and beliefs were part of the American Muslims discussions with non-Muslim Americans?
18. What is the dominant American Muslim understanding of terrorism?
19. What effect has feminism had upon American Muslims?
20. What effect have youth organizations had upon Muslim Americans?

Written Assignments and/or Other Assessment Instruments: You may use the additional resources.

(PHIL 220) Black Board Journal entries (essay minimum 500 words each).

(PHIL 102) Black Board Discussion Board (minimum 500 words).

(PHIL 101) Black Board Discussion Board (minimum 500 words).

Additional Resource information:

Against Terrorism and Religious Extremism: Muslim Position and Responsibility, ISNA, Plainfield, IN, 2005

Islam Philosophy website <http://islam.uga.edu/philosophy.html> (several sources given including Scientific Thought)

Islamic Philosophy Online, <http://www.muslimphilosophy.com/> (Major Islamic scholars, includes some modern scholars as well as historical philosophers of importance to Islam, and has a graphic organizer of how Islamic Philosophy is connected to other world philosophies. The modern scholars address issues of ethics as well as answering modern questions, and articles can be selected from this source for use by students in writing assignments).

Teaching Tolerance (a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center), <http://www.tolerance.org/publication/law-religious-freedom>

Hutton, *Founding Fathers and Islam*, <http://www.loc.gov/loc/lcib/0205/tolerance.html>

Kadi, Wadad, & Roraud Wielandt, *Islamic History and Civilizations Studies and Texts*, Vol. 49, Method and Theory in the Study of Islamic Origins, editor Herbert Berg, Leiden, 2003, ISBN 90 04 12602 3

Reynolds, Gabriel Said, *Remembering Muhammad*, University of Notre Dame, 2011.