

COURSES > W200-001 INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM > CONTROL\_PANEL > ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Announcements

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### All Announcements

-  **Wed, May 12, 2004 -- Grades and More...**  
As of now you can view all of your **grades on our Blackboard site**. Congratulations to those who are graduating from Temple. **Everybody** have a **pleasant summer**. Hope to see all of you again sometime. [Modify](#) [Remove](#)
-  **Fri, Apr 30, 2004 -- OPTIONAL MEETING Monday, May 3**  
Today (Friday) was our last official day of class. Monday's meeting is optional. We can go and drink coffee or talk about **the course portfolio**. Remember: **You** have to turn in the portfolio **PERSONALLY** until **Friday, May 7 (3:00 p.m.)**. **Send me an email** and let me know when you plan to stop by my office. I will be there **throughout** exam week. [Modify](#) [Remove](#)
-  **Wed, Apr 28, 2004 -- Assignment for Friday, April 30**  
Reminder: Your **REFLECTIVE ESSAY** is **DUE** in class this Friday. This is our last official meeting. Monday's class (May 3) is **OPTIONAL**. Hope to **see you** all. [Modify](#) [Remove](#)
-  **Mon, Apr 26, 2004 -- Assignment for Wednesday, April 28**  
This is an **OPTIONAL** reading in preparation for our **discussion on Wednesday**.  
  
[Course Documents / Additional Readings / Islam and/in the West](#) [Modify](#) [Remove](#)
-  **Wed, Apr 21, 2004 -- Assignment for Monday, April 26**  
TEXTBOOK: Esposito 203-222 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions) [Modify](#) [Remove](#)  
  
REMEMBER: We won't meet in class this Friday. I am going to a conference in Atlanta this weekend. See you all on Monday.
-  **Mon, Apr 19, 2004 -- Assignment for Wednesday, April 21**  
Read the article (18.2) by S.H. Nasr on Blackboard (click link below) and write a 100-word abstract for it. [Modify](#) [Remove](#)  
[Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 18.2](#)
-  **Fri, Apr 16, 2004 -- Assignment for Monday, April 19**  
TEXTBOOK: Esposito 158-203 AND Schimmel 127-145 (if you have not already read this final section in Schimmel) - incl. journal entry and discussion questions. [Modify](#) [Remove](#)  
ALSO: Read through the assignment description for the **REFLECTIVE ESSAY - THE PROPHET**. You will find it on the course syllabus. I also put an updated version on Bb (click link below). We will start Monday's class with your questions about this assignment.  
[Assignments / Reflective Essay - The Prophet](#)
-  **Wed, Apr 14, 2004 -- Assignment for Friday, April 16**  
Read Sayyid Qutb's introduction to Milestones (Bb 18.1) and write a brief essay (300 words) in response to the following: [Modify](#) [Remove](#)

How would you characterize Qutb? Argue whether you find the term 'fundamentalist' adequate to describe his views.

[Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 18.1](#)



**Fri, Apr 09, 2004 -- Assignment for Monday, April 12**

Pre-Modern and Modern Reform Movements and Thinkers

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 115-157, Schimmel 127-145 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions).

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NOTE: For those of you who are going to turn in the final draft of the book review on Monday: You must attach your first draft and the peer review to the final version.



**Mon, Apr 05, 2004 -- Book Review: Farid Esack's "On Being a Muslim"**

Just as a reminder: Your review of Farid Esack's book is due in class on Friday, April 9.

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**Mon, Mar 29, 2004 -- Assignment for Wednesday, March 31**

Read the additional text on Blackboard by Goddard ("Dialogue or Confrontation?").

Write a brief essay (around 300 words) in which you argue whether you see the future relationship between Islam and other religious traditions characterized by dialogue or confrontation. When writing take some of the points Goddard makes in his article into consideration and respond to them.

[Course Documents / Additional Readings / Muslim-Christian Relations](#)

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**Fri, Mar 26, 2004 -- Assignment for Monday, March 29**

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 57-67 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions).

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**Wed, Mar 24, 2004 -- Friday, March 26: Interview/Essay**

Remember that Friday is the deadline for your interview and essay. Bring your essay with you to class on Friday. Remember: The syllabus contains a detailed description of the assignment. There is an interview with Farid Esack on Blackboard (click link below). You may want to consult this for an idea about a possible format for your essay.

[Assignments / Interview with Farid Esack](#)

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**Mon, Mar 22, 2004 -- UPDATED CLASS SCHEDULE**

I put a revised version of the class schedule on Blackboard (under "Syllabus" - click link below). The deadlines for assignments are NOT affected.

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**Mon, Mar 22, 2004 -- Assignment for Wednesday, March 24**

Textbook: Esposito 179-186 (Iran)

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ALSO: READ Enayet's article (Source 9.3 on Bb). In this text the author claims that Shi'i Islam is distinguished by its "ethos" or "spirit." What are its characteristics?

[Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 9.3](#)



**Fri, Mar 19, 2004 -- Assignment for Monday, March 22**

Esposito 109-114, Schimmel 91-100 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions)

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Also note that the Interview/Essay is due on Friday, March 26.



**Wed, Mar 17, 2004 -- Assignment for Friday, March 19**

Source Material: 6.6 Rumi (pp.143-146)

Read the examples of Rumi's mystical poetry. Choose one of his poems and write an interpretation (300 words). In your interpretation you are to explain what makes this poem an expression of Islamic mysticism (Sufism).

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Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 6.6



**Mon, Mar 15, 2004 -- Assignment for Wednesday, March 17**

Read 6.4 and 6.5 (pp.139-143) from the source texts.

Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 6.4

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**Fri, Mar 05, 2004 -- Spring Break**

Everybody have a good spring break. I hope to see you all in good health Monday, March 15.

Here's what you can prepare for during the break:

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 100-109, Schimmel 101-126 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions)

SOURCE: 6.4 - 6.8 Islamic Mysticism: Qur'anic Sources, Ibn Khaldun, Rumi, Hamzah Fansuri, Sejarah Melayu (139-155)

ALSO: Start working on your interview (cf. syllabus). The INTERVIEW/ESSAY will be due Friday, March 26.

Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 6.4

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**Wed, Mar 03, 2004 -- Book Review Wadud - Final Draft**

Your final draft of the book review is due in class on Friday, March 5.

NOTE: Please also hand in your first draft and the peer review along with the final version.

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**Mon, Mar 01, 2004 -- Book Review and Optional Reading for Wednesday/Friday**

REMEMBER: Your book review is due for peer evaluation in class on Wednesday.

ALSO: The following reading assignment is OPTIONAL. You might find it helpful when thinking and writing about the role of women in Islam. SOURCE: 18.3 Muslim Women's Struggle for Independence: Bouthaina Shaaban's A Syrian Muslim Women Speaks Her Mind (367-376).

Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 18.3

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**Fri, Feb 27, 2004 -- Assignemnt for Monday, March 1**

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 93-99 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions)

Read Amina Wadud's book "Qur'an and Woman" and start on your book review.

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**Wed, Feb 25, 2004 -- Assignment for Friday, February 27**

SOURCE: "12. Worship and Ritual" (234-254)

Writing Assignment: Essay (ca. 400 words)

For a Muslim living in the US, how feasible would it be to practice the Five Pillars of Faith? Explain your ideas and give examples.

ALSO: Start with Amina Wadud's book Qur'an and Woman.

Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 12

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**Mon, Feb 23, 2004 -- Reading Assignment for Wednesday, February 25**

SOURCE: Shafi'i's Risala (192-198)

Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 9.2

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**Fri, Feb 20, 2004 -- Assignments for Monday, February 23**

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 74-93; Schimmel 51-57.59-72 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions)

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I also recommend you get started on Amina Wadud's book "Qur'an and Woman." We will discuss it during the last week before the spring break.



**Wed, Feb 18, 2004 -- Assignment for Friday, February 20**

SOURCE: Ibn Khaldun on Theology: Muqqadimah (129-133)  
SOURCE: The Fiqh Akbar II (133-139)

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Write an essay (300 words) in response to the following:  
The Fiqh Akbar II was probably composed by al-Ash'ari, the great opponent of Mu'tazilism. What are the main topics in this controversy? Describe the creed's position on them?

Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 6.3



**Wed, Feb 18, 2004 -- Schedule for Ziba Mir-Hosseini**

Here's the schedule and locations for Ziba Mir-Hosseini at the Law School this week:

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At 4:00 on Thursday, February 19, Professor Mir-Hosseini will deliver a lecture on "Islamic Law and Feminism: The Story of a Relationship" This will take place in the Room 2B in Klein Hall at the Law School.

At 12:20 on Friday, February 20, she will be giving an informal lunchtime presentation on "Islamic Republic in Iran: An Unfinished Project." This will be in room 1C in Klein Hall. Please bring a "brown bag" lunch.

Finally, at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, February 20, we will be showing the documentary film "Divorce Iranian Style," followed by informal conversation with the producer. This will also be in room 1C.



**Mon, Feb 16, 2004 -- Assignment for Wednesday, February 18**

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 68-74; Schimmel 73-89

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SOURCE: Ibn Khaldun on Theology: Muqqadimah (129-133)  
SOURCE: The Fiqh Akbar II (133-139)

Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 6.2



**Fri, Feb 13, 2004 -- Assignments for Monday, February 16**

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 32-57; Schimmel 19-28

- and -

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 68-74; Schimmel 73-89  
(incl. journal entry and discussion questions)

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**Wed, Feb 11, 2004 -- Assignment for Friday, February 13**

Write a brief essay (250-300 words):

Is it necessary to interpret a sacred text (e.g., the Qur'an)? Why or why not? Explain why you think interpretation is (not) necessary.

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**Mon, Feb 09, 2004 -- Reading Assignment for Wednesday, February 11**

SOURCE: 3.3a,b,c The Qur'an (68-86)

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Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 3.3a



**Fri, Feb 06, 2004 -- Assignments for Monday, February 9**

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 17-31; Schimmel 29-50 (incl. journal entry and discussion questions)

SOURCE: 6.1 Islam as a Monotheistic Creed: Selections from the Qur'an (126-129)

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NOTE: The following source texts will be assigned for Wednesday and Friday (3.3a,b,c The Qur'an, 68-86).

[Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 6.1](#)



**Wed, Feb 04, 2004 -- Assignments for Friday, February 6**

SOURCE: Sirat Rasul Allah (Ibn Ishaq, d.767): The Life of Muhammad. (reading 3.2/click on link below)

Writing: Compare and contrast Ibn Ishaq's account of Muhammad's life with the depiction of the Prophet's biography in our textbooks (Schimmel, Esposito). (ca. 300 words)

[Course Documents / Source Material: Readings in Islam / 3.2](#)

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**Mon, Feb 02, 2004 -- Assignments for Wednesday, February 4**

TEXTBOOK: Esposito 1-17; Schimmel 7-17

NOTE: Only bring TWO (2) discussion questions to class. You do NOT need to write a journal entry.

For Friday: SOURCE: Sirat Rasul Allah (Ibn Ishaq, d.767): The Life of Muhammad

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**Fri, Jan 30, 2004 -- Assignment for Monday, February 2**

Book Review of Said's "Covering Islam" (see syllabus).

NOTE: The additional readings for this week from our textbooks and the source material are not due until Wednesday.

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**Wed, Jan 28, 2004 -- Assignments for Friday, January 30**

Reading: Finish the reading assignment for Said's "Covering Islam." (NOTE: The book review is due next Monday. It requires you to have read the whole book. If you have time, I suggest you read ahead.)

Writing: What do you think is Said's main objective for writing this book? What does he want to achieve with it? Refer to at least two different passages in "Covering Islam" when composing your answer (200-300 words).

ALSO: We have to talk about the book review in class during Friday's session. Read through the assignment's description on the syllabus so that you are prepared to ask questions in class if you want me to clarify something.

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**Mon, Jan 26, 2004 -- Assignments for Wed Jan 28**

Continue your reading of Said's "Covering Islam."

ALSO: Find two (2) news articles (paper, internet etc.) dealing in one way or another with "Islam." Write a brief summary (one paragraph) describing what issue the article addresses and how "Islam" is represented in it. Answer the question of whether you consider the article's representation of Islam "objective." Finally: Bring both (articles and writing) to class on Wednesday.

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**Fri, Jan 23, 2004 -- Assignments for Monday, January 26**

Read Chapters One and Three (pp.1-79,134-174) of Said's "Covering Islam" and write your first journal entry and two discussion questions. ALSO: Bring to class a definition of "Islam" from either an encyclopedia or dictionary.

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**Sun, Jan 18, 2004 -- Update Your Blackboard Profile!!!**

Welcome Everybody! Make sure you update your Blackboard profile so that you will be able to receive relevant e-mails. E-mails will be sent to your @temple.edu account. If you are not using this account you have to designate a different account.

You can update your information in the Cherry&White Pages (the link is displayed in the upper section of this page >UPDATE CHERRY&WHITE<). On the Cherry&White Pages designate the account you usually use to receive your e-mail and your @temple.edu e-mail will be forwarded to this account.

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