

# Islam 101

March 21, 2019 to May 2, 2019 Thursday 07:00pm-9:00pm  
Respect Graduate School

Islam is considered to be the fastest growing religion in the world. However, it is also one of the most controversial subjects today. It seems that these controversies are mostly caused by misunderstandings. This course aims to provide opportunities for the participants to engage in conversations about Islamic faith, rituals, lifestyle and how Islam has been interpreted in different ways.

Instructor: Dr. Halim Calis

## Session Topics

### 1. **March 21:** Historical Perspective - I

Introduction

Arabia before Islam and the socio-historical context in which Islam emerged

Life of Prophet Muhammad

### 2. **March 28:** Historical Perspective - II

After Prophet Muhammad

Rightly guided caliphs and conquests

First civil war

Sunni-Shi'a Schism

Muslim dynasties

Pre-modern Islam

### 3. **April 4:** Sources of Islamic knowledge and lifestyle

The Qur'an

Sunna

### 4. **April 11:** Creedal Aspect

Belief essentials

Islamic theology and theological schools

Islamic philosophy

### 5. **April 18:** Canonical Aspect

Ritual practices

Islamic law

Islamic jurisprudential schools

### 6. **April 25:** Spiritual Aspect

Islamic Asceticism

Islamic Spirituality

Sufi schools and orders

- 7. May 2:** Contemporary Developments
  - Renewal and reform in Islam
  - Islam and challenges of the modern world