

# HISTORY 314, ISLAM IN THE MODERN WORLD

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS 2:00-3:15 PM CCC 224

## PROFESSOR E. FRANCIS

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Office Hours: Mondays, 3:30-4:30 PM, Hansen Hall Lounge  
Tuesdays, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, CCC 0475;  
Thursdays, 11:00-12:00 PM, CCC 0475;  
**And by appointment**

What does it mean to be “modern”? In this class, students will learn how Muslim leaders and groups have answered to this question, responding to the political, economic, and social changes of the last 250 years through their various interpretations of their religion and its history. Students will study these efforts by reading the works of these Muslims themselves, and will have the opportunity to conduct their own original research.

Even though this is an upper-level course in History, no previous knowledge of Islam or the study of history is required or assumed.

The assignments, deadlines, and policies described in this syllabus are subject to change. Any such changes will be clearly announced. It is your responsibility as a student to regularly check Canvas and your UWSP email account for corrections or updates to the syllabus.

I do not allow anybody to photograph, film, or otherwise record lectures without my express permission. I do not allow anybody to distribute course materials to people not currently enrolled in this class without my express permission. Posting course material I have created onto course-sharing websites directly violates my copyright on my academic materials.

Donohue, John D. and John L. Esposito, editors. *Islam in Transition: Muslim Perspectives*, second edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.

**This book is required. It is available from Text Rental at no further cost to you.**

Turabian, Kate L. et al. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 9th edition. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2018.

**I recommend you purchase this book, but it is not required. It is available for purchase at the UWSP Bookstore.**

Voll, John. *Islam: Continuity and Change*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1994. \$19.95.

**This book is required. It is available for purchase at the UWSP Bookstore.**

Additional readings—mostly primary sources in translation—will be made available through Canvas

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Final course grades will be assigned on a percentage basis: Grades in this course reflect achievement of different levels of mastery. Final course grades will be assigned on a percentage of possible points earned:

A Range	Exceptional or exemplary work	90.0% to 92.99%	A-	93.0%+	A		
B Range	Very good work. Exceeds minimum standards	80.0% to 82.99%	B-	83.0% to 86.99%	B	87.0% to 89.99%	B+
C Range	Acceptable work. Meets minimum standards.	70.0% to 72.99%	C-	73.0% to 76.99%	C	77.0% to 79.99%	C+
D Range	Barely meets minimum standards			63.0% to 66.99%	D	67.0% to 69.99%	D+
F	Does not meet minimum standards	0-62.99%. UWSP does not recognize a grade of D-. Any grade of less than 63.0% will result in a grade of F for the course.					

These grades will be based on students' performance on the assignments described below:

Assignment	Point Value	Percentage
Professionalism	50	11%
Take-Home Exam 1	100	22%
Take-Home Exam 2	100	22%
Research Paper		
Prospectus (Proposal & Bibliography)	25	6%
Annotated Bibliography	50	11%
Final Paper	125	28%
TOTAL	450	100%

Detailed prompts for all assignments will be provided in advance.

### PROFESSIONALISM

College is your gateway into the working world, so I will follow practices of common courtesy and professionalism expected in the workplace and will hold you to those standards. This will be reflected in your professionalism grade. Aspects of your professionalism grade will include **attendance, preparation, courtesy, participation, and academic honesty**. I will post a detailed rubric on Canvas. I will assess students' professionalism three times during the semester.

### TAKE-HOME EXAMS (2 @ 1000-1500 WORDS)

You will be responsible for two "take-home" exams, in which I will ask you a set of essay questions. I will provide prompts approximately one week in advance. The second exam will not be cumulative as such. However, your work in the first half of the semester will form the foundation of your learning in this class.

## RESEARCH PAPER

Over the course of this semester, you will write a research paper on some historical question related to modern Islamic intellectual history. In preparation for this work, you will be responsible for a number of shorter assignments:

### PROSPECTUS (500-750 WORDS)

You will start work on your research paper with a prospectus, including:

- An explanation of your topic and its significance.
- A preliminary bibliography with five items.
- A research narrative describing how you wrote the topic explanation and found the items in your bibliography.

### ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY (6 ENTRIES, PLUS ANNOTATIONS FOR ALL)

In the annotated bibliography, you will summarize your sources and explain their value for your research. This will be subject to peer review.

### FINAL PAPER (CA. 1500-2000 WORDS)

The final paper will be the culmination of your efforts. This will be subject to peer review. You will be allowed to revise your final paper.

## OUTLINE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The following is a basic outline of the planned schedule for this course, week by week. A detailed schedule with assigned readings will be available on Canvas and will be continually updated as needed.

Week 1: 1/25/22, 1/27/22	INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE HISTORY OF THE MUSLIM WORLD (SUMMARY)
Week 2: 2/01/22, 2/03/22	EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY THEMES, CHALLENGES, RESPONSES
Week 3: 2/08/22, 2/10/22	EARLY RESPONSES: THE 19 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY, PART 1. <b><i>ONE-ON-ONE PROSPECTUS MEETINGS, PART 1</i></b>
Week 4: 2/15/22, 2/17/22	<b><i>ONE-ON-ONE PROSPECTUS MEETINGS, PART 2.</i></b> EARLY RESPONSES: THE 19 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY, PART 2
Week 5: 2/22/22, 2/24/22	THE 20 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: NATIONALISM, SECULARISM, RADICALISM, PART 1 <b><i>FEBRUARY 24, 2022: LIBRARY SESSION IN ALB 316</i></b>
Week 6: 3/1/22, 3/3/22	THE 20 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: NATIONALISM, SECULARISM, RADICALISM, PART 2. <b><i>DEADLINE: PROSPECTUS. IN-CLASS PEER REVIEW</i></b>

Week 7: 3/8/22, 3/10/22	VISIONS OF ISLAMIC STATES, PART 1 <b>Thursday, 3/10/22: History Day. Class Activities TBA</b>
Week 8: 3/15/22, 3/17/22	TUES, 3/15. VISIONS OF ISLAMIC STATES, PART 2 THURS., 3/17: DEADLINE: TAKE-HOME EXAM #1
3/19/22-3/27/22	SPRING BREAK, MARCH 19-MARCH 27, 2022. CLASS DOES NOT MEET
Week 9: 3/29/22, 3/31/22	THE ISLAMIC RESURGENCE OR "ISLAMIC THREAT"
Week 10: 4/5/22, 4/7/22	THE QUESTION OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE <b>ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE THURS. 4/7/22, 11:59 PM</b>
Week 11: 4/12/22, 4/14/22	PLURALISM IN MODERN ISLAMIC THOUGHT SPECIAL EVENT: "ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN THE DIGITAL AGE" Th, 4/14/22, 5:00-7:00 PM <b>Class activities TBA</b>
Week 12: 4/19/22, 4/21/22	MODERN REFORMS
Week 13: 4/26/22, 4/28/22	<b>FINAL PAPER DUE, 11:59 PM 4/28 (THURS, WEEK 13).</b> <b>Other Class Activities TBA</b>
Week 14: 5/3/22, 5/5/22	MODERN GENDER ISSUES
Week 15: 5/10/22, 5/12/22	INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MEDIEVAL STUDIES, MAY 10-MAY 16, 2022. <b>Class Activities TBA</b>
Week 16/ Finals Week	<b>TAKE-HOME EXAM #2 DUE</b> <b>THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022, 11:59 PM</b> <b>FINAL PAPER REVISIONS DUE</b> <b>THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022, 11:59 PM</b>

## COMMUNICATION

Please reach out to me to ask questions and to help me know you better as an individual. The best ways to contact me are to ask questions in Canvas Discussions, meet me during my office hours, or sent me an email.

### CANVAS DISCUSSIONS

If you have general questions about the course or about course content, or you just want to chat, please contact me through the “Professor’s Office” discussion forum on Canvas. If you have a question, there’s a good chance several other students have it too! I check the Discussion Boards at least once a day, Monday through Friday. I will usually respond to any question within “one business day,” even if I do not have a definitive answer.

### OFFICE HOURS

At the times listed on the first page of the syllabus, I will be available for office hours in Hansen Hall or in my office (CCC 474). I have set aside those times to meet with students, and I welcome your visits—whether virtual or face-to-face. If you need to meet at another time or you prefer to meet by Zoom, please contact me so we can schedule an appointment.

### EMAIL AND CANVAS INBOX.

Check your UWSP email account regularly (e.g., [spointer@uwsp.edu](mailto:spointer@uwsp.edu)). I check my campus email account ([efrancis@uwsp.edu](mailto:efrancis@uwsp.edu)) at least once a day, Monday through Friday. I may also communicate with you using the Canvas Inbox.

### “NETIQUETTE” IN ONLINE COMMUNICATION

In addition to common courtesy, I ask that all students follow some basic principles of “netiquette” in online exchanges through Canvas Discussions, Inbox messages, emails, and carrier pigeon messages. I recommend these principles in all your academic communication.

- Briefly identify yourself. **Give your name** and mention **the class you have with the professor**. We professors receive numerous emails every day and may have hundreds of students. This makes it difficult to identify emails simply signed “Dave” or “Sally.”
- Always **use appropriate terms of address**. I prefer to be addressed as “Dr. Francis” or “Professor Francis.” I recommend you follow this pattern with your other professors, unless they tell you otherwise.
- Always **include a relevant subject heading** where possible--particularly when you send an email. For instance, identify the course number or course name or summarize your concern.

If you do not follow these standards, it may take me longer to reply—especially if I cannot fully understand your question or concern.

## COURSE POLICIES

These policies cover any issues not addressed above. Course policies are listed in alphabetical order.

### ACADEMIC HONESTY.

I expect all students to uphold principles of academic honesty in this classroom. Students who commit any form of academic dishonesty in this class will be given a **"0" (zero)** grade for the relevant assignment. Further penalties can include: a lower grade in "Professionalism," a lowered grade in the class overall, (up to and including failing the class) or even suspension or expulsion from the University.

- Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):
  - plagiarism.
  - cheating on exams
  - providing false information on official documentation (e.g., making false claims on assignments about research materials used, signing others in for attendance, or giving false excuses to make up work)
  - presenting the same piece of work for credit in two different classes without prior permission
- Review your rights and responsibilities as outlined on the following web page: "Student Conduct Process." UWSP Office of the Dean of Students. 2020.  
<https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>. Accessed June 17, 2020.

### ATTENDANCE

If you must miss class for any reason, please notify me as soon as possible. In accordance with university policy, I will grant **excused absences** when you must miss class due to illness, approved university activities (e.g., sports), military duty, duty as a first responder, religious obligation, or personal emergency.

I consider a "personal emergency" an immediate problem beyond your control, such as a death in the family or unsafe driving conditions. Please note that I will not consider a work conflict or a planned celebration (e.g., a family wedding) to be a personal emergency.

**I will not grant an excused absence if you are required to quarantine solely because you have been identified as a close contact for COVID-19.** (Vaccinated students do not have to quarantine in such circumstances, so such quarantines are simply a consequence of a student's decision not to get vaccinated.)

If you are absent, there will be consequences. Most importantly, all students are responsible for all material presented in every class session. Lectures are not recorded. If you must miss class for any reason, get notes from a classmate and review any relevant material on Canvas. I do post my PowerPoint slides to Canvas, but these are not a replacement for presence in the live class. I will also be happy to answer any specific questions you may have about material that you missed. Furthermore, as noted elsewhere, "Attendance and Participation" will be part of your grade in this class. Each unexcused absence will lower your grade in that category. Finally, if you are absent for an extended period of time, you may be dropped from the class in accordance with UWSP's policies on attendance.

**See Also: Missed Assignments, Late Work, and Extensions; Registrar Policies; Religious Beliefs**

## COPYRIGHT ON COURSE MATERIALS

Lecture materials, recordings, and original materials produced for this class (World History to 1500) are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Other material used in this course, such as textbooks, articles, audiovisual recordings, or applications may also be protected by copyright.

Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

## MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, LATE WORK, AND EXTENSIONS

If you fail to submit or complete an assignment, you will earn a zero (0) as your grade on that assignment. This may have a significant impact on your grade. I will accept late submissions of most assignments. All work submitted after the deadline is subject to a **penalty of -5% per day late** (or portion thereof). In most cases, this will be administered automatically by Canvas.

In certain circumstances, I am willing to waive or reduce late penalties if you are unable to complete work on time due to circumstances beyond your control such as illness, approved university activities (e.g., sports), military duty, duty as a first responder, religious obligation, or personal emergency (including failure of Canvas, but not necessarily the failure of your own computer equipment).

If you believe you will need an extension on an assignment, contact me as soon as possible. When possible (e.g., upcoming religious holidays or scheduled military deployment), contact me before the deadline. The earlier you contact me, the easier it is for me to arrange for some kind of accommodation.

**See Also: Attendance; Registrar Policies; Religious Beliefs**

## REGISTRAR POLICIES

All UWSP students are responsible for understanding the policies which govern their education. See the web page for the Office of the Registrar (<https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/AtoZPolicySearch.aspx>) for information on the following policies (and many more):

- Add/Drop Procedure, Forms, Schedule
- Attendance Information
- Incompletes

## RELIGIOUS BELIEFS.

If you think you may need academic accommodations in this class due to your religious beliefs (for instance, if you cannot complete an assignment due to a religious holiday), please let me know **within the first three weeks of class**. I will work with all such students to provide reasonable accommodations for religious beliefs, in accordance with UWS 22.03.

## STUDENT SUPPORT

The course Canvas page includes a page entitled “UWSP Student Support Resources (General).” This page can connect you to various student support resources at UWSP. Here are some of the most important resources (in my opinion):

### COUNSELING CENTER

The UWSP Counseling Center provides counseling services to UWSP students. Students seeking support for personal or school related topics should use this page to access the Counseling Center's webpage.

### DEAN OF STUDENTS WEBSITE

The website for the Dean of Students Office includes information on university policies on important topics such as Academic Misconduct, Class Attendance, and Grades. The website also includes links and other contact information for a variety of resources which you can consult on a variety of topics relating to student life and safety.

### DISABILITY AND ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER (DATC)

If you are a student who requires modifications due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center by visiting 609 ALB, calling (715) 346-3365, or emailing [datctr@uwsp.edu](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu). I fully support the mission of the DATC and will work with them to provide any accommodations necessary.

### DIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ACCESS

The primary mission of Diversity and College Access is to improve the retention and graduation rates for African American, Asian American and Pacific Islander, Latinx, Native American and LGBTQ+ students.

### EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

The course Canvas page lists emergency procedures for medical emergencies, tornado warnings, fire alarms, and active shooter situations.

### TUTORING-LEARNING CENTER (TLC)

The UWSP Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC) provides tutoring services for ALL UWSP students, including online learners and English Language Learners (ELLs). I encourage all students to take advantage of their services.



## COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

In this class, I will abide by all university policies to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as well as any relevant federal, state, or local laws. The policies listed here reflect existing circumstances and policies as of January 21, 2022. If I must change any of these policies, I will notify students through the usual means.

### FACE COVERINGS

UWSP requires all students, employees, and visitors to any campus or facility to wear face coverings when inside campus buildings. As long as this requirement remains in place, I must enforce it to hold class. I can only make exceptions with written confirmation from The Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC) that a person's disability prevents them from being able to wear a face covering.

### ABSENCES DUE TO COVID-19

If you are diagnosed with COVID-19, or you are sick for any reason, or you are required to quarantine, **do not come to class**. Please review my policies elsewhere on **Attendance** and on **Missed Assignments, Late Work, and Extensions**. As noted above, I will grant excused absences for students who are ill but I will not grant excused absences to students who simply need to quarantine due to being a close contact for COVID-19.

In any case, If you must miss assignments due to illness or quarantine, I will provide reasonable accommodation to help you complete the work (or an equivalent).

### ASSIGNED SEATING

I am required to maintain a seating chart for this class in order to facilitate contact tracing, should it become necessary. Please take your assigned seat as soon as possible during each class session and do not move around the room unless absolutely necessary.