DM9065W Understanding Islam

This unit will introduce students to Islam by studying its historical development and examining its worldview. Students will have the opportunity to listen to a Muslim teacher and visit a mosque. The assessment will include dialogue with a Muslim. Particular attention will be given to the dominant Muslim worldview; Folk Islam; Muslim apologetics; the role of the Quran and the hadith; Christian-Muslim relations; and Islam in Australia. The unit will focus mainly on Sunni Islam, with some reference to Shiite and Sufi expressions.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Outline the basics of Islamic history, beliefs and practices.
2. Identify aspects of the dominant Muslim worldview and evaluate their outworking in Islamic thought and practice.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of Muslim points of view and articulate a Christian response.
4. Write a research project and an essay using appropriate methods for postgraduate work.

Prerequisites: 45 points in Foundational Studies

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One tutorial paper (1,000 words)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>One research project (2,000 words)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>One essay (3,000 words)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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Faculty: Ian Dicks

Offered: 2016: Semester 2

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Parshall, Phil. *Inside the community: Understanding Muslims through their tradition*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994