CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS TO ISLAM
SYLLABUS
Course 2 Syllabus
CHRISTIAN APologetics TO ISLAM
DR. JOSHUA LINGEL | 2 UNIT CREDITS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to equip the Christian to effectively engage in evangelism with Muslims through a deeper understanding of the Islamic Worldview. Muslims often raise polemical questions about the Bible, the nature of Jesus, and the origins and development of Christianity. This course discusses a response to those critical questions while assessing the origins and early development of Islam. The research has been peer-reviewed, and covers modern critical scholarship on the Biography of Muhammad, the six genres of Islamic historical tradition, as well as source and textual criticism of the Qur’an.

Subjects in this course also include:

- Islamic worldview
- The Life and supposed-Prophethood of Muhammad
- The miraculous nature of the Qur’an
- Textual criticism of the Qur’an
- Shariah Law
- The nature of Jesus
- The origins and development of Christianity
- Practical Guidelines to being involved in the Great Commission

The course will assist students in becoming equipped with responses to critical questions (philosophical and theological issues) raised by Muslims that attempt to undermine the foundations of the Christian faith and prove it to be self-contradictory, flawed, or false (This is a defense). Secondly, this class will provide the students with information on Islam and an introduction to polemics that undermine ones confidence in trusting the Islamic historical origins, philosophy or doctrines as true (This is the “offense”).

SESSIONS IN THIS COURSE

1. Why Care About Muslims
2. How Muslims Come to Christ
3. Biography of Muhammad Part 1
4. Biography of Muhammad Part 2
5. Muhammad’s Prophethood & Moral Character
6. Historical Critique of the Sources for the Life of Muhammad
7. Shariah Law & Society
8. Qur’an Critique Part 1: Revelation and Compilation
9. Qur’an Critique Part 2: Content, Stories, Prophets, Enemies, Rituals
10. Qur’an Critique Part 3: Miraculous Nature: Eloquence, Literary Qualities, Arabic, Universal Application
11. Textual Criticism of the Qur’an
12. ‘Isa in Islam or Jesus in Christianity?
Joshua Lingel is the President and visionary leader of i2 Ministries. Currently, he is responsible for leading training in Muslim Ministry and Islamic Studies for a network of over 20,000 churches in Asia, Africa and South America. The goal of i2 is to provide each church and Christian the accessibility to all the training they need to finish the Great Commission among Muslims from voices of global Christianity.

Joshua Lingel was called into Muslim Ministry at age 18 when God spoke to him to study everything he could about Islam and since then train up the global church to target the Muslims in one generation. He has been involved in Muslim evangelism since 1991. Lingel attended six universities in Islamic Studies, including University of Washington, University of London, Harvard and Talbot School of Theology, in Muslim Ministry and Christian Theology, teaching at Biola University & Talbot School of Theology undergrad & graduate students in Christian Apologetics to Islam since 1999.

From 2003-2009 Joshua Lingel was co-founder and director of strategic projects with Ravi Zacharias International Ministries (RZIM), He is married to Jussara Robert Lingel and together they lead i2 Ministries.

REQUIRED READING

1. Life of Muhammad. Ibn Hisham/Ibn Ishaq Tr. A. Guillaume. Oxford Press. 2004. Read only part III pages 219-690 (PDF included). This is the earliest, primary source on the Life of Muhammad which was compiled and edited around 830AD.


3. Christian Apologetics to Islam Course Book, 2016. Compiled and updated by Joshua Lingel and i2 Ministries. This pack includes the some of the very best Christian materials in existence on Islam.


6. What is the Koran. Lester, Toby. The Atlantic, January 1999 Issue


ASSIGNMENTS

1. Complete lecture application questions:
   1. Write a 2-3 sentence summary of the class in your own words
   2. What is one prayer point from this session that you can add to a prayer list
   3. Write out a question that you can ask a Muslim based on something in this Class
   4. What is a question that you have from this class. What do you want to learn more about?

2. Start a Prayer Meeting for the Muslim World and write a report on it.
   1. How many people did you get praying?
   2. How often did they pray?
   3. How often did you meet corporately to pray together?
   4. Describe the overall structure of the prayer meetings.
   5. What did the Holy Spirit do in your heart through these prayer meetings.
3. **Create a 2 page handout index on Issues in the Life of Muhammad** Make a two page handout of 15-20 passages from the Life of Muhammad that you can discuss with a Muslim friend. Write out a question and then quote the passage from the book.

Example:

Ibn Ishaq’s *Sirat Rasul Allah*  
The Life of Muhammad Translated by A. Guillaume  
1. Why would Muhammad think about marrying a baby?  
   When Muhammad saw Ummu'l-fadl when she was a baby crawling before him he said, ”If she grows up and I am still alive I will marry her.” Life of Muhammad Pg. 311

2. Why would Muhammad ask for this woman to be killed?  
   A female poet is murdered for being critical of M. When he heard about what she had said about him, he said ”’Who will rid me of Marwan's daughter?’ Umayr...heard him, and that very night he went to her house and killed her.” Pg. 676

4. **Write a Polemics Paper (2500 words with footnotes)**  
   Choose one of the following topics:  
   - 1. Historical Problems with the Life of Muhammad  
   - 2. Historical Problems with the Qur’an  
   - 3. Textual Criticism of the Qur’an  
   - 4. Source Criticism of the stories of the Qur’an  
   - 5. Biblicist prophets in Muslim Literature  
   Minimum of 2500 words with proper footnotes  
   (See formatting guide at the end of the Syllabus)

5. **Create an Evangelism Tract**  
   1. Tract must be 2 page front and back tri-fold format (see the example below)  
   2. Tract must be designed so that it is readable and functional to handout to someone. (A maximum of 12 pt font)  
   3. You will be required to give it to a Muslim during one of your evangelism reports.

6. **Submit RISE Discussion Comments on Each Required Reading Posted**  
   Create a new discussion post (or respond to a peer's comment) for each assigned reading posted using the RISE model. QUOTE - ELEVATE - SUGGEST - INQUIRE - REFLECT
STUDENT COMMENT EXAMPLE:

(Quote)
"The simple answer is that God’s control was always with them in their writings, such that the Bible is nothing more than "The Word of God in the words of men" (McDowell 1990:176). This means that God utilized the culture and conventions of his penman’s milieu, a milieu that God controls in His sovereign providence. Thus history must be treated as history, poetry as poetry, hyperbole and metaphor as hyperbole and metaphor, generalization and approximation as what they are, and so forth. Differences between literary conventions in Bible times and in ours must also be observed: Since, for instance, nonchronological narration and imprecise citation were conventional and acceptable and violated no expectations in those days, we must not regard these things as faults when we find them in Bible writers”
- P. 211, 101 Cleared up Contradictions, Radical Evangelims to Muslims Course Book. Smith, Jay

(Reflect) I agree with this quote about the inspiration of scripture because it makes the mode of revelation a partnership between God and man and I think that accurately portrays the way the God of the Bible acted throughout the biblical narrative.

(Inquire) I wonder if Jay has considered Ben Warfield’s approach to inerrancy who starts with the evidence that the Bible is an accurate historical document, rather than with the presupposition that it is inspired.

(Suggest) I would also suggest that Jay include actual examples from scripture for each of the various literary genres he mentions.

(Elevate) I would love to see Jay include a more extensive historical argument for inspiration using the prophecies of Jesus fulfilled in the Old testament and a table outlining the major ones and where they are fulfilled in the new testament.

7. Submit Five Evangelism Reports: (Including):

1. Where did you go to share the gospel?
2. How did you approach the person? How did the Holy Spirit lead you?
3. What questions did you ask?
4. What questions did they ask?
5. Did you present the gospel?
6. What content from this course was helpful during your conversation?
7. How long did your conversation last?
8. Will you have a second meeting? When?
9. How would you grade how you did in the conversation (1-10)?
10. In your opinion how far/near was the person from coming to Christ after your conversation (1-10)?

EXAMS

1. Complete and pass the christology quiz (Multiple Choice)
2. Complete and pass the final exam based on course book reading. (Multiple Choice)
POLEMIC PAPER FORMAT GUIDELINES

Margins. Use 8½ x 11-inch paper with 1-inch margins.

Font. Use Times New Roman 12-point font for all text with the exception of footnotes, which should be 10-point font.

Indents. The standard indent is ½ inch. This applies to the opening line of every paragraph, indents in footnotes, and block quotations.

Spacing. Double-space all text except for block quotations and footnotes.

Heading. Do not use a cover page. In the top left-hand corner of the page please place your name, the name of the class, the due date of the assignment and the assignment title on successive lines. Leave a space between the heading and your opening paragraph.

Example:
Ryan James
Christian Apologetics to Islam
September 12, 2019
Polemics Paper

Quotes. For quotations of four lines or less, simply use quotation marks. For quotations of five or more lines, use block formatting. (In block formatting the quotation should be single-spaced and indented ½ inch, with a space preceding and following the quotation.)

Reference and Bibliography Formatting

Style Guide. MMWU follows the style guide created by Kate L. Turabian: A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (7th edition). Please refer to Turabian’s Manual when formatting your references and bibliography. An overview of her style guide can be found in the online “Turabian Quick Guide” (http://cmosshoptalk.com/for-students/).

Scripture citations. For scripture, use a simple in-text parenthetical citation. Example: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:3). Do not include the Bible in your bibliography.

Footnotes. For all references or quotations outside of scripture, footnotes are required. Use Times New Roman 10-point font for all footnotes. Example: “Footnotes must be placed, or at least must begin, on the page where they are referred to … Each footnote must begin on a new line, indented the same amount as paragraphs in the text. Footnotes are usually single-spaced, with a blank line between notes.”

Bibliography. If you use footnotes, you must include a bibliography listing all references. Use a separate page for your bibliography. Center, bold and capitalize the title “BIBLIOGRAPHY” at the top of the page. Number all bibliographic entries and order them alphabetically. For information on how to format entries, consult the “Turabian Quick Guide.”

COURSE LAYOUT

WELCOME AND ORIENTATION
Introduction to i2 Ministries (Lecture)
Course Syllabus
Comments Assignment: RISE model of Peer Feedback
Application and Commitment
Introduction to Evangelism Reports
Introduction to Required Reading

Chapter 1
Why Care About Muslims Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Introduction to the WISE Global App
Prayer Initiative (Lecture) - Ryan James
Read Pages 29-72 of Putting Jesus in His Place
Read: Life of Muhammad (Introduction)

Chapter 2
How Muslims Come to Christ Video Lecture
Lecture Application
Course Book Reading: The Foundations of Islam by Joshua Lingel
Read Chapter 1 of Biblical Prophets in the Qur'an and Muslim Literature
Read Pages 69-104 Life of Muhammad

Chapter 3
Biography of Muhammad Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Course Book Reading - The Real Life of Muhammad - W.H.T. Gairdner
Comment on your prayer initiative
Read Pages 104-132 of Life of Muhammad

Chapter 4
Biography of Muhammad 2 Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Course Book: Review index of the Life of Muhammad
Read Pages 73-126 of Putting Jesus in His Place
Read Pages 132-161 of the Life of Muhammad

Chapter 5
Muhammad's Prophethood and Moral Character Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Course Book Reading: "The Politico-Religious Catalyst to the Early Islamic Conquests
Read Pages 161-219 of Life of Muhammad

Chapter 6
Historical Critique of the Sources for the Life of Muhammad Video Lecture
Lecture Application
Comment on your prayer Initiative
Read Pages 127-184 of Putting Jesus in His Place

Chapter 7
Shariah Law and Society Video Lecture
Lecture Application
Course Book: Review the Hadith Index
Read pages 219-280 of Life of Muhammad
Read Chapter 2 of Biblical Prophets in the Qur’an and Muslim Literature
Chapter 8
Qur'an Critique part 1 Revelation and Compilation Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Course Book Reading: The Qur'an - A Christian Apologetic “ - Dr. Jay Smith
Read pages 280-370 of Life of Muhammad

Chapter 9
Qur'an Critique part 2 Content Stories Prophets Enemies Rituals Video Lecture
Lecture Application
Comment on your prayer Initiative
Read pages 184-234 of Putting Jesus in His Place
Read pages 370-450 of Life of Muhammad

Chapter 10
Qur'an Critique 3 Miraculous Nature Eloquence Literary Qualities Arabic Universal Application
Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Course Book Reading: "A Historical Comparison Between the Bible and the Qur'an" by Dr. Jay Smith
Read pages 450-566 of Life of Muhammad

Chapter 11
Textual Criticism of the Qur'an Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Read: "What is the Koran" by Toby Lester
Comment on your prayer initiative
Read pages 566-617 of Life of Muhammad

Chapter 12
‘Isa in Islam or Jesus in Christianity Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Read pages 1-51 of Jesus and the God of Israel - God Crucified by Richard Bauckham
Christology: the Central Battle Between Christians and Muslims Lecture - Ryan James
Read: Pauline Christology article by Richard Bauckham
Read pages 234-288 of Putting Jesus in His Place
Read pages 617-691 of Life of Muhammad

Chapter 13
A Guide to Finishing the Great Commission Video Lecture - Dr. Joshua Lingel
Lecture Application
Course Book Reading: "Dare We Confront" by Dr. Jay Smith

Further Christology Study
Mohammed Hijab vs. David Wood - Tawheed vs. Trinity (Lecture)
Christology: Jesus' Divine Identity by Stephen Venable (Lecture)
Bart Ehrman vs. Michael Bird - How Jesus Became God Debate. (Lecture)
Two powers in Heaven - Michael Heiser (Lecture)
Read and Review this Handout on Christology and the Trinity
Christology Test

Evangelism Reports
Evangelism Report One
Evangelism Report Two
Evangelism Report Three
Evangelism Report Four
Evangelism Report Five
**Final Chapter**
Turn in Prayer Initiative Report
Turn in Evangelism Tract
Turn in Life of Muhammad Index
Turn in Polemics Paper
Complete Assigned Reading Assessment
Final Exam

**Course Completion Certificate - 2 Unit Transfer Credit - gbs.edu**
This course is self paced and upon completion students will receive a course certificate. On average you’ll need to spend 9 hours a week for 15 weeks to complete this course. The student must complete every element of the course content and receive a passing grade on all assignments to receive the course certificate. Here is a breakdown of the expected time commitment per type of work.

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