

Dr. Abdoulaye Kane  
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Office Hours: Thursday from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

AFS4935/08CA & ANT4930/062E "ISLAM IN THE WEST"  
Tuesday: period 8-9 (3:00pm to 4:55pm)  
Thursday: period 9 (4:05pm to 4:55pm)  
Room: TUR 2305

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines the prospects of integrating Muslim minorities into Western societies. Since 9/11 and the bombings in Madrid and London, Islam and Muslims have been perceived as a threat to western values and "universal" ideals. This perception - often based on fear rather than reason - has created the impression that Muslims cannot be integrated into western societies and led to the appearance of Islamophobia across Europe. The course intends to address the issue of Islamic radicalism and the different ways it affects the perception of Muslim minorities in Europe. It explores the different social, political, cultural and economic processes at work in the European countries that are shaping the social interaction between these countries and their Islamic minorities.

Muslim presence across Western Europe and in the United States has increased substantially over the past three decades making Islam the second most important and the most rapidly growing religion in the Western countries. The Muslim communities in Europe and America are not going home to Africa, Turkey, Middle East or South East Asia. They are in Europe and America to stay not as foreigners but as active citizens with the same rights as "native" Europeans and Americans. The course analyzes the different ways Western countries accommodate the religious demands of their citizens who happen to be Muslims. It examines the principles of religious freedom and the separation of Church and State as they are interpreted and applied to Muslim minorities. The course also explores the diversity within Islam in the West by pointing to differences among Muslims along ethnic, national and racial lines that affect their ability to speak with one voice when negotiating with Western States. Generational difference is also analyzed to determine how Muslim born European and American differ from their parents with regards to religious practice and the relation to the host societies.

### **OBJECTIVES**

The main objectives of this course are:

- To expose students to scholarship on Islam in Europe and America by examining the wider historical and structural processes that has set the stage for the formation of Muslim minorities in Western countries.
- To help students cultivate a greater command over current trends in social analysis and theorization about citizenship, integration of Muslims in secular States, emergence of a European and American Islam.

- To enhance students' critical thinking and analytical writing skills.

## **READING MATERIAL**

- Cesari, J. (2010). *Muslims in the West after 9/11: Religion, Politics and Law*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. New York: AltaMira Press.
- Keaton, Trica D. (2006). *Muslim Girls and the Other France: Race, Identity Politics, and Social Exclusion*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- D'Alisera J. (2004). *An Imagined Geography. Sierra Leonean Muslims in America*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

These books are available for purchase at the UF bookstore. Additional reading material is available at Library West in the course reserve section of this class. Please consult them at the library or make copies of relevant chapters ahead of time.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

### **Readings and Participation (10 points)**

Attendance and active discussion of the assigned readings are necessary to create the kind of intellectual engagement required for a collaborative learning milieu. I will circulate an attendance sheet every meeting, please make sure to sign your name before leaving class. Students are expected to read assigned texts before the class meetings and be prepared to contribute to class discussions. **Each meeting students will be required to submit 3 questions based on their reactions to the readings. Please send your questions by e-mail on Mondays.**

### **Quizzes (30 points)**

In the course of the semester three quizzes will be given to Students to test their overall understanding of the issues that are covered in class. There will not be any make up unless the absentee presents to the instructor a convincing excuse of why he was absent.

### **Report on Muslim minorities in the West (15 points)**

Each student is expected to write a seven-page report (double space, 12" font) on the experience of Muslim minorities in a chosen Western country. Students must go beyond the class readings and lecture and do a personal bibliographical research to cover all aspects of Muslims minorities' experience in the chosen country. All students are required to turn in their report to me in class on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Midterm Exam (20 points)**

A midterm test will be given to Students. The midterm test will be over the themes covered in the first seven weeks of the class. It will consist of short answer questions, multiple choice, and short essays.

### **Final Exam (25 points)**

A final Test will be administered at the end of the semester. It will consist of a series of short answer questions, multiple choice, and short essays. It will cover the reading material reviewed from the 8<sup>th</sup> week to the end of class.

### **Academic Honesty:**

All work submitted by a student for a grade must be completed by that student and free from unauthorized assistance or deliberate misrepresentations. The penalty for plagiarism or cheating is a grade of zero points on the assignment in question; in such cases an incident form will also be sent to the Office of the Dean of Students. If you have questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please consult the UF Honor Code as well as the UF Policies on Academic Honesty, Student Rights and Responsibilities. These are available online at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentrights.php-academichonestyguidelines>.

**ADA Statement:** “Students with disabilities, who need reasonable modifications to complete assignments successfully and otherwise satisfy course criteria, are encouraged to meet with the instructor as early in the course as possible to identify and plan specific accommodations. Students will be asked to supply a letter from the Disability Resource Center to assist in planning accommodations.”

**Grading Scale:** The following scale will be used for grades on all assignments and exams: 94-100=A; 90-93=A-; 87-89=B+; 83-86=B; 79-82=B-; 76-78=C+; 72-75=C; 69-71=C-; 66-68=D+; 62-65=D; 59-61=D-; 58 and below=E (failing). Regarding university grading policies, be advised that a grade of C- is not valid for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule, or for college basic distribution credit. For questions about minus grades, please see <http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>.

You may consult current UF policy on how grade point averages are calculated at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>.

**Health and Counseling:** The University offers the following health and counseling services for students in the event personal problems threaten to hinder academic performance: University Counseling Center (301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575), Student Mental Health (Student Health Care Center, 392-1171), and Sexual Assault Recovery Services (Student Health Care Center, 392-1161).

**Please note:** The Instructor may make minor adjustments to class readings or assignments during the course of the semester. Any and all modifications will be announced ahead of time.

# Course Schedule

## Week 1:

Tue, Jan 10: Syllabus presentation

- Film: Inside Islam

Thu, Jan 12: The Islam versus the West Debate.

- Ibrahim Kalin (2001). "Islam and the West: Deconstructing Monolithic Perceptions—A Conversation with Professor John Esposito." In *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 21:1, pp. 155-163.
- Film: Islam and the West (27 minutes)

## Week 2:

Tue, Jan 17: Muslims in predominantly non-Muslim societies: Theoretical perspectives and practical issues

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 1 and 2.
- Film: Islam an American Faith (28 minutes)

Thu, Jan 19:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 3 and 4.

## Week 3:

Tue, Jan 24: Muslim Experience in America: the analogy with the Jewish and Black Experiences.

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 5 and 6.
- Film: Islam Rising: The Quran and the American dream (52 Minutes)

Thu, Jan 26: Discussion of Muslims as suitable enemies in a post cold war era.

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 7.

## Week 4:

Tue, Jan 31: Black Muslims in America

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 8 and 9.
- Film: African-American Islam (34 minutes)

Thu, Feb 2:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 10.

## Week 5:

Tue, Feb 7: Islam as a Suitable Enemy in the post 9/11 Era.

- Cesari, J. (2010). *Muslims in the West after 9/11: Religion, Politics and Law*. Chap. 1 to 3.

- Film: Islam: a faith Hijacked (27 minutes)

Thu, Feb 9: **Quiz no 1.**

- Cesari, J. (2010). *Muslims in the West after 9/11: Religion, Politics and Law*. Chap. 4 and 5.

**Week 6:**

Tue, Feb 14: Religious Freedom: The Muslim Experience

- Cesari, J. (2010). *Muslims in the West after 9/11: Religion, Politics and Law*. Chap. 6 to 8.
- Film: Tomorrow's Islam (59 minutes)

Thu, Feb 16:

- Cesari, J. (2010). *Muslims in the West after 9/11: Religion, Politics and Law*. Chap. 9 to end.

**Week 7:**

Tue, Feb 21: Muslim Identity and Social Exclusion in Europe

- Keaton, Trica D. (2006). *Muslim Girls and the Other France: Race, Identity Politics, and Social Exclusion*. Chap. 1 and 2.

Thu, Feb 23:

- Keaton, Trica D. (2006). *Muslim Girls and the Other France: Race, Identity Politics, and Social Exclusion*. Chap. 3

**Week 8:**

Tue, Feb 28: **Midterm test**

Thu, Mar 1:

- Keaton, Trica D. (2006). *Muslim Girls and the Other France: Race, Identity Politics, and Social Exclusion*. Chap. 4

**Week 9:**

Tue, Mar 6: **No Class (Spring Break)**

Thu, Mar 8: **No Class (Spring Break)**

**Week 10:**

Tue, Mar 13: Religious identity and Islamic practice among the second generation Muslims

- Keaton, Trica D. (2006). *Muslim Girls and the Other France: Race, Identity Politics, and Social Exclusion*. Chap. 4 and 5.

Thu, Mar 15:

- Andrew F. March (2005). "The demands of citizenship: Translating political liberalism into the language of Islam." In *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 25:3, pp. 317-345

**Week 11:**

Tue, Mar 20: Islamic Education and the Forging of European Islam

- Albrecht Fuess (2007). "Islamic Religious Education in Western Europe: Models of Integration and the German Approach." In *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 27:2, pp. 215-239

Thu, Mar 22:

- Ron Geaves (2008). "Drawing on the Past to Transform the Present: Contemporary Challenges for Training and Preparing British Imams." In *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 28:1, pp. 99-112.

**Week 12:**

Tue, Mar 27: Muslim Women as contested bodies

- Shadid, W. & van Koningsveld (2005). "Muslim Dress in Europe: Debates on the Headscarf." In *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 16:1, pp 35-61
- Film: Young, Muslim and French

Thu, Mar 29:

- **Quiz No 2**

**Week 13:**

Tue, Apr 3: Ethnography of Global Islam

- D'Alisera J. (2004). *An Imagined Geography. Sierra Leonean Muslims in America*. Chap. 1 to 3.
- Film: Dollar Dreams.

Thu, Apr 5

- D'Alisera J. (2004). *An Imagined Geography. Sierra Leonean Muslims in America*. Chap. 4

**Week 14:**

Tue, Apr 10:

- D'Alisera J. (2004). *An Imagined Geography. Sierra Leonean Muslims in America*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. Chap. 5 to end.

Thu, Apr 12: **Quiz no 3.**

**Week 15:**

Tue, Apr 17:

- Cesari, J. (2004). *When Islam and Democracy Meet: Muslims in Europe and in the United States*. Chap. 1 to 2

Thu, Apr 19

- Cesari, J. (2004). *When Islam and Democracy Meet: Muslims in Europe and in the United States*. Chap. 3 and 4.

**Week 16:**

Tue, Apr 24: **Final Test**