

# MARIFA CURRICULUM

## 1. AQD 101 – The Creed of Ahl al-Sunnah I: Theology

Prerequisites: MRF 101

Texts: Hussain, *The Muslim Creed: A Contemporary Theological Study*; Ṭaḥāwī, *Creed of Imām Ṭaḥāwī*.

Description: In this course students will learn about Allah, the divine attributes, and the divine decree. They will also explore some of the major differences between the various Islamic sects.

## 2. AQD 201 – The Creed of Ahl al-Sunnah II: Prophetology & Eschatology

Prerequisites: AQD 101

Texts: Hussain, *The Muslim Creed: A Contemporary Theological Study*; Ṭaḥāwī, *Creed of Imām Ṭaḥāwī*.

Description: In this course students will learn the essential beliefs of Ahlussunna regarding Allah's Messengers, Scriptures and Angels, as well as life after death.

## 3. FQH 101 – Fiqh and the Four Schools: A History of Islamic Law and the Madhhabs

Prerequisites: MRF 101

Texts: Bilal Philips, *Evolution of Fiqh*; Abu Zahra, *The Four Imams*.

Description: In this course students will learn some basic terminology used by Muslim jurists, explore the evolution of the various schools of Fiqh, develop an appreciation for the causes of disagreement among Muslim jurists, and learn about Ijtihād & Taqlīd in Islamic Law.

## 4. FQH 102 – Fiqh of Worship

Prerequisites: FQH 101

Texts: Ḥanafī: *Nūr al-Īdāḥ*; Shāfi'ī: *Matn Abī Shujā'*

Description: In this course students will learn the legal rulings pertaining to Purification, Prayer, fasting, Charity and Pilgrimage. Students will choose between Ḥanafī and Shāfi'ī tracks, and study a classical primer in their respective *madhhab*.

## 5. FQH 201C – Commercial Law: The Fiqh of Financial Transactions

Prerequisites: FQH 101

Texts: Mirza, *Fiqh of Financial Transactions*

Description: The course offers a detailed study of Islamic economics, financial transactions, and its modern-day application, with plenty of examples, from a simplified textbook written by a contemporary scholar and expert in Islamic Finance.

## 6. FQH 201F – Family Law: The Fiqh of Marriage & Divorce

Prerequisites: FQH 101

Texts: Class Notes

Description: In this course students will explore the Islamic laws that govern the formation, care, and dissolution of the family. Students will learn the rules pertaining to spouse selection, courting, the marriage contract, the wedding, the rights and duties of husbands and wives, divorce, child custody and maintenance.

**7. FQH 301 – Criminal Law**

Prerequisites: FQH 101, USL 201

Texts: Class Notes

Description: In this course students will learn about Islamic criminal law, rules of warfare, slavery, and the rights of non-Muslims living in Muslim lands.

**8. FQH 401 – Contemporary Legal Issues & Fiqh of Minorities**

Prerequisites: FQH 102, FQH 201, FQH 301

Texts: Class Notes

Description: In this course students will explore various contemporary legal issues such as residing in non-Muslim lands; relationship with non-Muslims; voting & participating in the political process; family planning and abortion; consuming meat; and giving zakat to Islamic institutions.

**9. HAD 101 – An Introduction to the Sciences of Ḥadīth**

Prerequisites: MRF 101

Texts: A'zamī, *Studies in Ḥadīth Methodology & Literature*; Zarabozo, *The Authority & Importance of the Sunnah*.

Description: This course is an introduction to the science of hadith criticism. Students will also learn about the unique features of each of the Six Books of hadith.

**10. HST 101 – The Story of Mecca: Seerah Before the Hijra**

Prerequisites: MRF 101

Texts: Mohiuddin, *Revelation*; Sallaabee, *The Noble Life of the Prophet (peace be upon him)*.

Description: This course will cover the life of the Prophet ﷺ until his migration to Medina. Students will receive an introduction to the discipline of Seerah, its importance and benefits, the Prophet's lineage, the era from his birth until the first revelation, and the struggles that he and his followers faced in Mecca until the migration to Medina.

**11. HST 201 – The Story of Medina: Seerah After the Hijra**

Prerequisites: HST 101

Texts: Mohiuddin, *Revelation*; Sallaabee, *The Noble Life of the Prophet (peace be upon him)*.

Description: This course will cover the life of the Prophet (peace be upon him) from his migration to Medina until his departure from this world.

**12. HST 301 – The Story of Islamic Civilization I: The Rightly Guided Khulafā'**

Prerequisites: HST 201

Texts: Alkhateeb, *Lost Islamic History: Reclaiming Muslim Civilisation from the Past*; Suyūṭī, *History of the Khalifas Who Took the Right Way*.

Description: This course will cover the major events during the era of the Rightly Guided Caliphs – Abū Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmān, 'Alī, and Ḥasan (may Allah be pleased with them).

**13. HST 401 – The Story of Islamic Civilization II: After the Rightly Guided Khulafā'**

Prerequisites: HST 301

Texts: Alkhateeb, *Lost Islamic History: Reclaiming Muslim Civilisation from the Past*.

Description: This course will take the students on a journey through the history of Islamic civilization after the era of the Rightly Guided Caliphs until the demise of the Ottoman Empire in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**14. MRF 101 – Introduction to Learning the Sacred Sciences**

Prerequisites: NONE

Texts: Ibn Rajab, *Heirs of the Prophets*; Ibn Jamā'a, *Etiquette of the Learner*.

Description: This is the introductory course for the Marifa Program. In this course students will learn about the virtues, etiquette, and pitfalls of learning the sacred sciences. They will also receive an overview of the major Islamic sciences and what they entail.

**15. QUR 101 – Introduction to the Sciences of the Quran**

Prerequisites: MRF 101

Texts: Nawawī, *Etiquette with the Quran*, Qadhi, *Sciences of the Quran*.

Description: In this course students will learn about etiquette with the Quran, the history of the Quran, the multiple readings of the Quran, abrogation in the Quran, and approaches in Quranic exegesis.

**16. TZK 101 – Heart of Worship**

Prerequisites: FQH 102

Texts: Ghazālī, *Inner Dimensions of Islamic Worship*, Ibn al-Qayyim, *Invocation of God*, Ibn Qudāma, *Mukhtaṣar Minhāj al-Qāṣidīn*.

Description: In this course students will explore the spiritual dimensions of prayer, fasting, charity, and pilgrimage. They will also learn about the virtues and etiquette of Allah's Remembrance.

**17. TZK 201 – Diseases of the Heart & Their Cures**

Prerequisites: MRF 101

Texts: Ghazālī, *The Forty Principles of the Religion*; Ghazālī, *The Marvels of the Heart*.

Description: This course will introduce the students to the wonders of the spiritual heart, the relationship between the *rūḥ*, *nafs*, *ʿaql* and *qalb*, and provide an overview of the major diseases that plague the heart – their significance, causes, symptoms, and cure.

**18. TZK 301 – Stations of the Seeker**

Prerequisites: TZK 201

Texts: Ghazālī, *The Forty Principles of the Religion*. Qushayri, *Qushayri's Epistle on Sufism*.

Description: In this course students will learn about the spiritual stations that the seeker must aspire to reach in the quest to achieve spiritual excellence [*iḥsān*].

**19. USL 101 – Islamic Legal Theory I**

Prerequisites: QUR 101, HAD 101

Texts: Zubairi, *Introduction to Usul al-Fiqh*; Kamālī, *Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence*.

Description: In this course students will learn about the sources of Islamic jurisprudence, and the rules of interpreting the sacred texts.

**20. USL 201 – Islamic Legal Theory II**

Prerequisites: USL 101

Texts: Husain, *A Treasury of Sacred Maxims: A Commentary on Islamic Legal Principles*.

Description: In this course students will learn about the higher objectives of Islamic law [*maqāṣid al-sharīʿa*] and legal maxims [*al-qawāʿid al-fiqhiyya*]. Students will also take a closer look at the status of innovation [*bidʿa*] in Islam.

