



Introduction to the Sciences of the Quran

QRN 101 | Fall, 2024

Instructor: Imam Abdur Rahman Bashir

Office Hours: By appointment only

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Class Times: Wednesdays, 6:30 – 9:00 PM

Class Location: Quad Room, Plano Masjid

Zoom Meeting ID:

Zoom Password:

PREREQUISITES

Successful completion of MRF 101 – Introduction to Learning the Sacred Sciences. Students who have not fulfilled the prerequisite are welcome to audit this class. See the audit policy here: <http://planomasjid.org/marifa/marifa-audit-policy>.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

“Indeed, We have sent down (the Quran) and we will most definitely protect it.” (al-*Hijr*, 15:9)

‘Alī b. Abī Ṭalīb, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “I heard the Messenger of Allah ﷺ say, “There will soon be turmoil [*fitan*].’ I asked, “Then what will be the way out, O Messenger of Allah?’ He replied: “The Book of Allah! It contains tidings of what came before you, and news of what will come after you. It is the judge between you. It is the criterion. It cannot be taken lightly. Whoever abandons it out of arrogance will be destroyed by Allah, and whoever seeks guidance by other than it will be misled by Allah. It is the firm rope of Allah. It is the Wise Remembrance. It is the Straight Path. Desires do not stray because of it. Tongues do not get confused by it. Scholars never have enough of it. It does not get old by repetition. Its wonders never cease. Whoever speaks with it speaks the truth. Whoever acts upon it shall be rewarded. Whoever rules by it shall rule with justice. And whoever calls to it is guided to the Straight Path.” (Tirmidhī and Dārimī)

In this course you will learn about:

- the history of the Quran
- abrogation [*naskh*] in the Quran
- approaches in Quranic exegesis [*tafsīr*]
- the multiples readings [*ahruf*] of the Quran
- etiquette with the Quran

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To appreciate the value of the Quran
2. To be convinced of the authenticity of the Quran
3. To distinguish between normative and aberrant interpretations of the Quran
4. To develop the ability to answer questions about the Quran with clarity and accuracy

TEXTBOOKS

Required:

1. al-Nawawī, Yahya b. Sharaf, *Etiquette with the Quran*. Islamosaic.
2. Zubairi, Furhan, *An Introduction to the Sciences of the Qur’an*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

Recommended:

1. al-A‘zamī, Muhammad Muṣṭafā, *The History of the Qur’ānic Text*. Al-Qalam Publishing, 2011.
2. Usmani, Muhammad Taqī, *An Approach to the Quranic Sciences*. Darul Isha‘at, 2007.
3. Qadhi, Yasir, *An Introduction to the Sciences of the Qur’aan*. Al-Hidaayah Publishing, 1999.

CLASS POLICIES

1. You have the option to audit this course or take it for credit. If you choose to audit the course, you must abide by the Marifa Audit Policy outlined on the web site.
2. Make every possible effort to be on time! Coming late or leaving early can leave you with misunderstandings about what is discussed during class. If you are late or absent, be sure to listen to the class recording before the next class.
3. You are expected to read the assigned portion of the textbook before coming to class. Not doing so will disqualify you from asking questions during class.
4. You may use electronic devices exclusively for class-related purposes. Cell phones must be silenced during class.
5. Use your full name during all Zoom sessions. Do not use nicknames or fake names. Names that are not on the roster will be removed from the meeting.
6. All assignments must be submitted on time. No exceptions allowed.
7. No make-up exams will be permitted without a documented excuse. Students who miss an exam with a legitimate excuse must email me as soon as possible.

COURSE ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Exam 1	50%
Exam 2	50%

Note: Your final grade must be higher than 70% in order to receive credit for this course.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE & READING ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Lecture	Reading Assignment Due
Aug. 21	1: Quranic Etiquette & Virtues; <i>‘Ulūm al-Qur’ān</i> Intro	Required: Zubairi, Ch. 1-2; Nawawi, Ch. 1-2 (pp. 5-8)
Aug. 28	2: Quranic Etiquette & Virtues (contd.); Types of <i>Waḥī</i>	Required: Zubairi, Ch. 3; Nawawi, Ch. 5 (pp. 26-34) Recommended: Qadhi, pp. 61-95; Usmani, Ch. 1 (pp. 27-54); A‘zamī, pp. 51-55
Sep. 4	3: Subject Matter; <i>Makkī & Madanī</i>	Required: Zubairi, Ch. 5-6 Recommended: Qadhi, pp. 97-105; Usmani, Ch. 2 (pp. 59-77)
Sep. 11	4: Causes of Revelation; Abrogation	Required: Zubairi, Ch. 7-8 Recommended: Qadhi, pp. 107-119; 232-256; Usmani, pp. 80-101; 167-180
Sep. 18	5: Preservation & Compilation	Required: Zubairi, Ch. 4 Recommended: Qadhi, pp. 124-165; Usmani, pp. 181-216; A‘zamī, 67-107
Sep. 25	6: The 7 Letters & Different Recitations	Required: Zubairi, Ch. 9 Recommended: Qadhi, pp. 184-202; Usmani, pp. 105-163
Oct. 2	7: Tafsir & Approach to Studying the Quran	Required: Zubairi, Ch. 10-11 Recommended: Qadhi, pp. 289-344; Usmani, pp. 337-359