

Hadith 101

Introduction to Hadith Sciences

HDT 101 | FALL, 2025

Instructor: Imam Abdur Rahman

Office Hours: By appointment only

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Class Times: Sep 10th - Oct 8th Tue. 7-9:30 PM

Class Location: Right Side Flex Room (Downstairs)

Zoom Meeting ID: 865 6788 2268

Zoom Password: marifa

PREREQUISITES

Successful completion of MRF (Marifa) 101 – Introduction to Learning the Sacred Sciences.

Students who have not fulfilled the prerequisite are welcome to audit this class. To see the audit policy, please visit the web site: <http://planomasjid.org/marifa/marifa-audit-policy>.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course, *Introduction to the Sciences of Ḥadīth*, explores the indispensable role of ḥadīth in Islamic thought and practice. While the Qur'an is the foundation of faith, the ḥadīth provides essential context, explanation, and application, making it a vital source of guidance for Muslims. Students will examine how the sayings and actions of the Prophet ﷺ were preserved, the meticulous isnād (chain of narration) system developed by scholars, and the rigorous standards used to distinguish between authentic, weak, and fabricated reports. Special attention will be given to the famous Six Books of ḥadīth and the contributions of their authors, as well as the scholarly debates on the use of weak ḥadīths. Along the way, the course will address common questions about the reliability, relevance, and continued importance of ḥadīth in shaping Muslim identity, spirituality, and law.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Appreciate the importance of ḥadīth literature in understanding Islam.
2. Explore the history of ḥadīth collection, preservation, and transmission.
3. Identify the different categories of ḥadīth and their implications.
4. Understand the distinctions between reliable (ṣaḥīḥ), weak (ḍa'īf), and fabricated (mawḍū') ḥadīth.
5. Gain an overview of the famous Six Books of ḥadīth and the contributions of their authors.

TEXTBOOKS

1. **Required:** Zubairi, Furhan. *Introduction to Ḥadīth Studies*. Institute of Knowledge Seminary Curriculum Series.
2. **Recommended:** Kamālī, Muḥammad Ḥāshim. *A Textbook of Ḥadīth Studies*. The Islamic Texts Society.

CLASS POLICIES

- **Punctuality Matters:** Please arrive on time and remain for the full session. Arriving late or leaving early may cause missed content and disrupt class flow. If you miss a session, you are responsible for reviewing the class recording before the next meeting.

- **Come Prepared:** Reading the assigned textbook material before class is essential. Meaningful participation and questions in class discussions depend on having engaged with the readings.
- **Respectful Technology Use:** Electronic devices are allowed for class-related purposes only. Phones must be silenced during sessions to avoid distractions.
- **Zoom Etiquette (if applicable):** Use your full name (as listed on the roster) when joining Zoom sessions. Students using nicknames or unrecognized names may be removed from the meeting.
- **Timely Submissions:** All assignments must be submitted by the deadline. Extensions will not be granted unless there is a documented emergency.
- **Exams and Quizzes:** Make-up exams or quizzes are only allowed with a documented excuse and must be arranged promptly.
- **Attendance Requirement:** To receive course credit, you must attend at least 70% of classes in person. Students who attend fewer than the required sessions will be moved to auditor status.

COURSE ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Assessment in this course is designed to reinforce both foundational knowledge and deeper reflection. Students will complete **five quizzes** in total, distributed across the course:

- **Quizzes 1–4 (Multiple-Choice)**
 - Each quiz is worth **20% of the final grade** (total 80%).
 - Focuses on key terminology, historical developments, preservation, isnād, and categories of ḥadīth.
 - Designed to reinforce comprehension and retention of essential concepts.
- **Quiz 5 (Multiple-Choice + Essay Hybrid)**
 - Worth **20% of the final grade**.
 - **Part A:** Multiple-choice questions testing definitions, comparisons, and key distinctions.
 - **Part B:** One longer essay (approximately 2–3 pages) chosen from two prompts, requiring synthesis and reflection on major themes in ḥadīth studies.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE & READING ASSIGNMENTS

Date	Session	
Sep-10	Session 1	Zubairi, Farhan Chapters 1-3
Sep-17	Session 2	Zubairi, Farhan Chapters 4-6
Sep-24	Session 3	Zubairi, Farhan Chapters 7-9
Oct-1	Session 4	Zubairi, Farhan pages 8-10
Oct-8	Session 5	Zubairi, Farhan pages 11-12