

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Subject Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Type</b>
PS-424	Islamic History	02(02+0)	General

### **DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to the political, social, intellectual, and cultural history of the central Islamic lands, particularly Arabia. It provides them insights into the dynamic leadership of the Prophet Muhammad, the pious Caliphs, and the new Islamic pattern of administration that transformed the nomadic Bedouin life of Arabs into an Islamic civilized social system, polity, economic prosperity and a flourishing culture. The course makes known to the students the Abbasside and Umayyad caliphates and socio-economic, political, cultural and art developments during these periods, including the Islamic disintegration of Spain and the crusades against

Islam. It familiarizes students with the rise and fall of the Ottoman Turks, Sufism and its contribution to the Muslim civilization, and highlights the emergence of Islamic modernism and its intellectual, political, economic, social and cultural aspects.

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

1. Have an understanding of the major concept of historical knowledge.
2. Make out different aspects of Islamic history, its origin, evolution, and influence on society.
3. Familiarize with a solid foundation in understanding and evaluating the history of Islam, different developments, and the spread and growth of Islamic civilization.
4. Recognize the concepts of Sufism and Islamic modernism and their impacts on Muslim Society.

### **SYLLABUS**

#### **1. Pre-Islamic Arabia**

- Geography, socio- economic, political, and religious conditions of pre-Islamic Arabia:  
An overview

#### **2. The Dawn of Islam: The Prophetic Age (570-632)**

- Biography of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH): A chronology of the major events in his life, the Prophet Muhammad's Mission, His achievements and as a Head of the Islamic state.

#### **3. The Caliphate period (632-660)**

- Caliph Abu Bakr (632-34): Early life and succession, Apostasy wars and consolidation of Islam
- Caliph Umar Bin Khattab (634-44): Early life and succession, establishment of administrative system and expansion of Muslim empire
- Caliph Uthman Bin Affan (644-56): Early life and succession, problems and issues in the Muslim community
- Caliph Ali Bin Talib (656-660): Early life and succession, rise of factionalism, abdication of Imam Hassam and establishment of Umayyad dynasty

#### **4. Institutional Development in the early Muslim Civilization: (622-660)**

- Administration and structure of government under the pious Caliphs: administrative, financial and judicial systems under the Pious caliphs, social life of the Muslims: An overview of the Khalifat-i-Rashida.
- Heritage and Culture

#### **5. The Rise of Umayyads (660-749)**

- Political history of the Umayyad dynasty, statecraft and administration under the Umayyads, society and the development of Arabic literature, and cultural achievements.

#### **6. The Abbasids of Baghdad (749-1258)**

- The Abbasid revolution and the establishment of the Abbasid Dynasty, administrative structure under the Abbasids, development of scientific knowledge, and Muslim philosophy and cultural achievements under the Abbasids.

#### **7. Spain under the Muslim Rule**

- Spain under the rule of the Arabs and Moors (711-1492), political fragmentation and the fall of Granada (1492), Muslim contribution in the realm of culture and arts.

#### **8. The Crusades against Islam**

- Major encounters and actors (1092-1228), impact of the Crusades on Muslim-Christian relations

#### **9. The Ottoman Empire**

- Rise and fall of the Ottoman Turks (1299-1923), state, society and economy under the Ottomans, treatment with the religious minorities, contribution towards culture and arts.

#### **10. Sufism as an Institution of the Muslim Society**

- Origin and development of Sufism, contribution of the Sufism to the Muslim civilization, relationship of the Sufis with the state and political authorities, a critical look at Sufism.

#### **11. Islam and Modernity in Contemporary World**

- The Emergence of Islamic Modernism, intellectual, political, economic, social and educational aspects of Islamic modernism, dissemination of Muslim learning in the West

#### **SUGGESTED READINGS**

- 1) Rice, M. (1994). *The Archaeology of the Arabian Gulf*. Cambridge University Press.
- 2) Lings, M. (1983). *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources*. Inner Traditions.

- 3) *Kennedy, H. (2004). The Prophet and the Age of the Caliphates: The Islamic Near East from the 6th to the 11th Century. Pearson Education Limited.*
- 4) *Shoemaker, S. J. (2017). The Umayyad Caliphate 661-750: A Political History. Routledge.*
- 5) *Rudolph, U., & Adamson, P. (Eds.). (2023). Philosophy in the Islamic World: Volume 2/1: 11th-12th Centuries: Central and Eastern Regions (Vol. 115). Brill.*
- 6) *Grabar, O. (2023). Early Islamic Art, 650–1100: Constructing the Study of Islamic Art, Volume I. Taylor & Francis.*
- 7) *Finkel, C. (2005). Osman's Dream: The Story of the Ottoman Empire, 1300-1923. Basic Books.*
- 8) *Shah, I. (1999). The Sufis. Octagon Press.*
- 9) *Kenney, J. T., & Moosa, E. (2013). Islam in the Modern World. Routledge.*