

Introduction to Islamic Law (RGST 119a)
One Page Syllabus for Spring 2014
Ahmad Atif Ahmad
Religious Studies, the University of California in Santa Barbara
Class meets T/Th 8:00-9:15, 387 103; Office Hours Tuesdays 9:30 am-12:00 pm

Texts

- Wael Hallaq, *An Introduction to Islamic Law* (Cambridge: CUP, 2009).
- Ahmad Atif Ahmad, *The Fatigue of the Shari'a* (New York: Palgrave, 2012).

Additional materials will be made available in class.

Description

This course aims at acquainting students with the basic history of Islamic jurisprudence and the nature of Islamic legal reasoning. Activities in class will vary between presentation by me and discussion. The golden rule is 'problems you create by missing a class are your problems.' I expect 100% attendance. I will not reply to emails requesting materials that were distributed in class while you were absent. Be in touch with a classmate for things like this.

Grading

40% oral participation; 30% for each essay (one due at the end of week 6 and one at the end of week 10). Essay questions are given by email at 9 am and answers must be 1500 words or less and are to be submitted at 4 pm (PST) on Friday May 9th and June 6th.

Basic Plan

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| April 1 | General Introduction |
| April 3 | Hallaq Ch. 1, 2 |
| April 8 | Hallaq Ch. 3 |
| April 10 | Hallaq Ch. 4 |
| April 15 | Hallaq Ch. 5 |
| April 17 | Hallaq Ch. 6 |
| April 22 | Hallaq Ch. 7 |
| April 24 | Hallaq Ch. 8 |
| April 29 | Hallaq Ch. 9 |
| May 1 | Hallaq Ch. 10 |
| May 6 | Ahmad Introduction + Ch. 1 |
| May 8 | Ahmad Ch. 2 (review your notes and it won't hurt to go to sleep early tonight) |
| May 13 | Ahmad Ch. 3 |
| May 15 | Ahmad Ch. 4 |
| May 20 | Ahmad Ch. 5 |
| May 22 | Ahmad Ch. 6 |
| May 27 | Ahmad Ch. 7 |
| May 29 | Ahmad Ch. 8 |
| June 3 | Ahmad Ch. 9 |
| June 5 | Ahmad Ch. 10 (almost there; review all course materials and go to sleep early again) |