

## Department of Theology

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### UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Fall 2010**  
Instructor: Dr. Irfan A. Omar  
Course #: THEO 4530/5530  
Section: 101  
Course Title: **Islam: Faith and Practice**

#### Description:

This course will introduce the Islamic tradition both as faith and practice. It will cover classical, medieval, and modern Islam, with an emphasis on history, religious thought and social organization. It will include discussions of the "ideals" of Islam as well as contrasting them to the social realities in the Muslim world. More importantly we will try to understand Islam as a living faith; the ways in which Muslims practice it. The diversity within the Muslim world pertaining to culture, social values, and religious attitudes will be observed through audio-visual materials. Parallels and relations with the Jewish and Christian traditions will be included where helpful in understanding Islam's historical context.

#### Required texts:

--*Introducing Islam* by William Shephard  
ISBN: 978-0-415-45518-3  
Routledge 2009

--*Islam and Healing: Loss and Recovery of an Indo-Muslim Medical Tradition, 1600-1900*  
Seema Alavi  
Palgrave Macmillan, October 2008  
ISBN: 978-0-230-55438-2, ISBN10: 0-230-55438-5,

--*Becoming Muslims: Western Women's Conversions to Islam* by Anna Mansson-McGinty  
Palgrave Macmillan, October 2009  
ISBN: 978-0-230-61668-4, ISBN10: 0-230-61668-2,

--*The Muslim Jesus - Sayings and Stories in Islamic Literature*  
Edited and translated by Tarif Khalidi  
ISBN 13: 978-0-674-01115-1  
ISBN 10: 0-674-01115-5