

# PHIL 7017 WHAT IS ISLAM?

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 102585

**Coordinator** Milad Milani ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Milad Milani/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Milad%20Milani/))

**Description** The 'Muslim question' has been a topic of interest to Western scholarship for over four hundred years. The subject addresses this question in two ways: firstly, by exploring internal historical conceptualisations of the faith-identity of Islam, and examining how these have shaped modern understandings of Islam from within the faith; secondly, by introducing students to multidisciplinary approaches to the study of Islam and inviting them to consider the construction and deconstruction of Islamic Studies as a field of study at various stages of history. The subject provides students with the opportunity to gain increased awareness of both debates within the field and those that scrutinise the field, that is, becoming comfortable with interrogating the cluster of theoretical and methodological strategies for scholarly inquiry into the study of Islam.

**School** Humanities & Comm Arts

**Discipline** Religious Studies

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

**Level** Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

## Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in a postgraduate program.

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Identify major historical, anthropological, and sociological approaches to the study of Islam.
2. Analyse key texts from scholarship on the study of Islam.
3. Apply reflexive methodologies and theories to reading Islam in modernity.
4. Recognise key influences and changes within Islamic history and in the history of field.

## Subject Content

Situating Islam in academic discourse

Historical Islam, imagined Islam, and unknown Islam

Categories and typologies of 'being Islamic'

'Normative Islam' and the 'Authenticity debate'

Understanding Islam: the insider-outsider tension

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

| Type               | Length              | Percent | Threshold | Individual/<br>Group Task |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Discourse Analysis | 2000 words in total | 50      | N         | Individual                |
| Essay              | 4000 words          | 50      | N         | Individual                |

Teaching Periods

## Autumn (2023)

**Parramatta - Victoria Rd**

**On-site**

**Subject Contact** Milad Milani ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Milad Milani/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Milad%20Milani/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=PHIL7017\\_23-AUT\\_PS\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=PHIL7017_23-AUT_PS_1#subjects))