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Universidad
de Granada

Centro de
Lenguas Modernas
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CONTENIDOS

CURSO DE LENGUA Y CULTURA ESPAÑOLAS EN INGLÉS

CULTURE

Islamic culture in Spain

ISLAMIC CULTURE IN SPAIN

General Description

The main objective of this subject is to give the students an overall view of the Arab-Islamic world through its history and culture. Thus, the program is divided in five chapters that include Arab-Islamic history from its beginning to the present time, rendering special attention to the Islam as a fundamental religious and cultural phenomenon in Arab history, as well as to the socio-political development of al-Andalus.

Programme contents

I. THE ARAB CONTEXT

1. Arab World / Islamic World - Relationships and divergences. The Arab-Islamic context
2. Pre-Islamic Arabia - Geography, society, culture and politics. The concept of 'Jahiliyya'

II. THE MESSAGE OF ISLAM

3. Muhammad the Prophet of Islam - Prophethood and leadership. The *Sunna*
4. The Coran - An approach to its structure and contents
5. The 'Five Pillars of Islam' and the Islamic beliefs
6. The Islamic Law (*Sharia*) - Foundations, principles and development of the juridical *sunni* schools

III. THE ISLAMIC EMPIRE

7. The spread of Islam - From the 'Rashidun' Caliphs to the Omayyad and 'Abbasid Caliphates.

IV. AL-ANDALUS

8. Political history of al-Andalus - From the early conquest to the *Tawa'if* Kingdoms. Almoravids and Almohades
9. Society and culture - Literature, philosophy and art
10. The *Nasri* Sultanate of Granada - Socio-political development

V. CONTEMPORARY ARAB-ISLAMIC WORLD

11. Colonialism and independence - From reformism to Arab nationalism. Political Islam and Islamism
12. The Arab Mass Media and the question of Democracy. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Evaluation

Final exam (50%). Attendance and active participation (25%). Accomplishment of the exercises and programmed activities in the classroom, and homework (25%)

Bibliography

- AZZAM, Henry T. *The Arab World facing the Challenge of the New Millennium*. London: Tauris, 2002.
- BELL, R.. *Introduction to the Qur'an*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1977.
- HOURANI, Albert (ed.). *The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the Middle East and North Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988.
- . *Historia de los pueblos árabes*. Barcelona: Ariel, 1992.
- KENNEDY, Hugh. [*Muslim Spain and Portugal: A Political History of al-Andalus*](#). Harlow, England: Longman , 1996.
- . [*Prophet and the Age of the Caliphates: the Islamic Near East from the Sixth to the Eleventh Century*](#). London: Longman , 1996
- SICKER, Martin. *The Islamic World in Ascendancy from the Arab Conquests to the Siege of Vienna*. Westport, Conn: Praeger, 2000.