

## Course Descriptor:

### Miss 223 Islam and Christian Relations Cross and Crescent: A Historical Perspective of Christian-Muslim Relations

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This course presents a general overview of the interaction of Muslims and Christians before focusing on the paradigms and impact of the last two centuries of Protestant outreach to the Middle East.

Course evaluation will be based on a 1500 word research essay on a topic to be approved by the professor, and a final exam. The essay requires that you identify a thesis and then develop and support your argument. Essay and exam are each worth 50% of the final grade.

#### Course outline:

##### I. A Historical Overview

1. The Early Period in the Middle East
2. Spain and Sicily
3. The Period of the Crusades
4. Intellectual debate in the Middle Ages
5. The Reformation/Enlightenment
6. The Napoleonic campaign to Egypt and its results
7. The Period of Western Colonial Rule
8. Beginnings of a new movement
9. Islam in North America
10. Islam and the Modern Age

##### II. History of Protestantism to the Middle East

1. Four Eras:
  - 1818 to end of WWI
  - End of WWI to the end of WWII
  - End of WWII to 1979
  - 1979-present
2. Five Questions:
  - What were the characteristics of the era's missionaries to the Middle East?
  - What were the characteristics of the socio-political and cultural framework in which they had to work?
  - What were their goals and strategies?
  - What was the response to those methods and strategies?
  - What lessons can we draw?

#### Text book:

Pikkert, P. *Protestant Missionaries to the Middle East: Ambassadors of Christ or Culture?* (WEC, 2006)

Suggested reading:

Bernard Lewis, *The Muslim Discovery of Europe* (N.Y. and London, 1982).

\_\_\_\_\_ "The Question of Orientalism," in B. Lewis, *Islam and the West* (Oxford, 1993)

Edward Said, *Orientalism* (N.Y., 1978).

F. Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, tr. C. Farrington (N.Y., 1963 – Fr. original, 1961)

F. Fernández-Armesto, *Before Columbus: Exploration and Colonization from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, 1229-1492* (Phil., 1987)

I. Lapidus, "The Conversion of Egypt to Islam," *Israel Oriental Studies*, II (1967)

J. Coope, "Religious and Cultural Conversion to Islam in Ninth-Century Umayyad Cordoba," *Journal of World History*, 4 (1993)

K. Wolff, *Christian Martyrs in Muslim Spain* (Cambridge, 1988)

Mark D. Johnston, "Ramon Lull and the Compulsory Evangelization of Jews," in *Iberia and the Mediterranean World of the Middle Ages* (Leiden, 1995), ed. L. J. Simon

*Oxford Illustrated History of the Crusades*, ed. J. Reilly-Smith (Oxford, 1988)

P.K. Hitti, "The Impact of the Crusaders on Moslem Lands," *A History of the Crusades*, ed. K. Setton, N. Zacour et al., vol. V (Madison, 1985)

R. Bulliet, *Conversion to Islam* (N.Y., 1977)

Usâmah Ibn Munqidh, *An Arab-Syrian Gentleman and Warrior in the Period of the Crusades*, tr. P. K. Hitti (N.Y., 1930).