**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Evangel University
"Shaping Servant-Leaders"**

MHT 649, Christian-Muslim Theological Issues
Summer 2020

Faculty Information
Professor: Dr. Jim Bennett
Email: jimmylbennett@cs.com
Phone: 417-827-1855
Office location: Adjunct Office
Office hours: As needed

Course Information
Credit hours: 3
Course dates: July 13-17, 2020
Meeting times: 0800 - 1200
Location: Online (Course Commons)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS FOR PRE-COURSE READING:

Geisler, Norman L. & Abdul Saleeb. *Answering Islam*. Baker Books. Grand Rapids, MI. 2003.
Zaka, Anees & Coleman, Diane. *The Truth About Islam*. P&R Publishing. Phillipsburg, NJ. 2004.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK FOR USE IN CLASS:

*Ali, Abdullah Yusuf. The Meaning of the Holy Quran (Arabic-English parallel version). Amana
   Publications. Beltsville, MD. 2008.
   *Text not required for pre-course reading; only for use in class.

Evangel University Mission Statement

Evangel University is a comprehensive Christian university committed to excellence in educating and equipping students to become Spirit-empowered servants of God who impact the Church and society globally.

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary Mission Statement

AGTS shapes servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.

Catalog Description

Christian-Muslim Theological Issues is an examination of the theological challenge of Islam and the Christian response. Key theological differences will be studied with special emphasis being placed upon biblical answers. The purpose is to develop understanding of the congruencies and divergences between Christianity and Islam as a tool for communicating the Gospel to Muslims.

Course Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites.

Course Purpose

This is the introductory course offered by AGTS in the topical area of Islamic studies. The course will enable students participate in an environment of ministry to Muslims by combining the following emphases:

        a.) rigorous academic information;
        b.) comparing Islamic and biblical beliefs and practices;
        c.) ministry applications in bringing the Gospel to Muslims; and
        d.) a pneumatological perspective on what the Holy Spirit is doing in our times.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:	PLO	EU20	FWE/ON
1. Create and use his/her own model in discussing theological issues with Muslims.			
2. Analyze the Quran and Hadith for use in apologetic responses for seeking Muslims.			
3. Articulate the differences in Christian and Muslim understandings of God/Allah, Jesus, salvation and judgement, and the Bible and Quran.			
4. Use the new tools gained from this course to better communicate the Gospel to seeking Muslims			

    This course supports, but does not assess any of the PLO, EU20 or F.W.E. Outcomes.[1]

---

[1] All AGTS Learning Outcomes can be found at: https://agts.edu/current-students/academic-policies/

Course Format

Instruction for this course will feature lectures, classroom discussions, use of PowerPoint presentations and videos. Student evaluation will be based on class attendance and participation, book reviews, a research paper, and a final exam.

Course Schedule

This is a tentative course outline. The course schedule may be changed at the discretion of the course instructor. Notice of changes will be made in class and/or through Course Commons announcements.

Class Date	Class Topics/Activities	Assignments	Due Dates	Points
Monday July 13	(1) Lecture/discussion – Allah/God (2) Video debate and/or discussion	Pre-class reading & writing from: Answering Islam & The Truth About Islam	July 13	n/a
Tuesday July 14	(1) Lecture/discussion – Who is Jesus? (2) Video debate and/or discussion	Pre-class reading from: Answering Islam & The Truth About Islam	July 14	n/a
Wednesday July 15	(1) Lecture/discussion – Salvation and Judgment in Islam and Christianity (2) Video debate and/or discussion	Pre-class reading from: Answering Islam & The Truth About Islam	July 15	n/a
Thursday July 16	(1) Lecture/discussion – Origins & History of the Quran 2) Video debate and/or discussion	Pre-class reading from: Answering Islam & The Truth About Islam	July 16	n/a
Friday July 17	(1) Lecture/discussion – The Authenticity of the Bible (2) Video debate and/or discussion	Pre-class reading from: Answering Islam & The Truth About Islam	July 17	n/a
	Note: Guest presenters will be inserted – to be determined.			

Course Policies & Requirements

Preparation
In order to succeed in this class, students should arrange to have regular access to a computer, the internet, Evangel email and Course Commons. This class will use Course Commons for all course communication, interaction, content, announcements, collaboration and assignments.

Participation
Students are expected to contribute verbally in each class.

Attendance
Attendance is required for all five days of class due to the intensive nature and schedule of this class. Absence must be cleared by the instructor.

Assignments
Note: The following requirements are for Masters level students. For adjusted requirements for undergraduate and doctoral students, see end of this section.

Masters Students

Reading Assignments:
1. Pre-course reading
   a. *Answering Islam*. Geisler, Norman L. and Abdul Saleeb. Baker Books. Grand Rapids, MI. 2003. 366 pages.
   b. *The Truth About Islam.* Zaka, Anees & Coleman, Diane. P&R Publishing, Phillipsburg, NJ. 2004. 194 pages.
2. Post-course reading. Any combination of the following:
   a. *The Life of Muhammad. Ibn-Ishaq* (notes by A. Guillaume), 813 pages.
   b. *Islam and Christian Theology*. J. Sweetman. Origins Pt.1, 216 pages.
   c. *Islam and Christian Theology*. J. Sweetman. Medieval Scholastic Developments Pt.2, 356 pages.
   d. *The Quran and Its Interpreters*. Ayoub. Vol.1, 285 pages.
   e. *Islam: Its Beliefs and Practices*. J. Subhan. 142 pages.
   f. *The Necessity for Retaining Father and Son Terminology in Scripture Translations for Muslims*. Global Initiative. 59 pages.
   g. *Perceptions of Muslim Identity*. F. Farrokh. 269 pages.
   h. *God as Triune, Creator, Incarnate, Atoner*. W. Gairdner. 65 pages.
   i. *The Bible and Islam*. B. Madany. 69 pages.
   j. *The Quran in Its Historical Context*. Ed. Gabriel Said Reynolds. 294 pages.

The minimum required number of pages to be read is 1,500; this includes pre-course textbooks (a total of 560 pages) and post-course reading (a minimum of 940 pages). For post-course reading, you may read any combination of the post-course listings above, or other approved texts. The post-course listings above will be made available digitally.

Writing assignments:
1. Pre-course: Write a 3-page summary/reflection paper on each of the two textbooks. A total of 6 pages due at the beginning of class.
2. Post-course. There are two post-course writing assignments:
   A. Write a ten-page paper on a subject from the textbooks or a topic covered in class. For example:
   - An Evaluation of and Response to Islamic Monotheism
   - An Evaluation of and Response to the Islamic Understanding of Sin and Salvation
   - An Evaluation of and Response to the Quran
   - A Defense of the Bible
   - "Other" as approved by the instructor
   B. From your choice of post-course readings, write 10 pages of evaluation and reflection. You may include a combination of readings.

Post-course writing will be a combined minimum of 20 pages. First, the ten-page paper is on a topic from the list above. Second, the remaining ten pages may be done as evaluation and reflection from your chosen post-course reading choices. The ten evaluation and reflection pages may be done on a combination of reading choices.
Post-course research papers should use Turabian style Eighth edition (e.g. footnotes, bibliography, etc.
All post-course assignments are due two months from the last day of class.

Undergraduate Students

Undergraduate Credit Requirements: Requirements for undergraduate credit are the same – with the following exceptions/adjustments:

1. Total number of pages to be read – 1,000 (including pre-course texts)
2. Post-course writing: a 10-page paper on an appropriate topic, plus 5-pages of evaluation and reflection. A total of 15 written pages.

Doctoral Students

Doctoral Credit Requirements: Requirements for doctoral credit are the same – with the following additional assignments:
1. Total number of pages to be read – 2,000. In addition to the two course textbooks, additional reading may come from the same list that will be provided digitally for Masters level requirements. Total combined reading pages: 2,000.
2. Writing: In addition to the same requirements for masters level students, also write a 10-page research paper – dealing with the history and "theological positions" of the following three persons:
   - Abu al-Ala Maududi
   - Sayyed Qutb
   - Abd al-Salam Faraj

All formal papers (unless otherwise specified by the instructor) are to be formatted according to the AGTS Writing Style Guide.

Communication
 Good communication is essential to success in college and beyond. If you know that you won't be able to access the course for more than 3 days, please communicate with me in advance.

If you have a question, comment or suggestion, feel free to contact me. You may contact me by phone, email. I will respond to emails/messages within 24 hours of a normal business week. I expect students to stay on top of communication that I send to them. Please be sure to set up your notifications so that you are daily connected to what's happening in our class.

Assessment

In lieu of a Final Exam students for credit will sign an affirmation statement that all assigned debates have been viewed. In addition to all other writing assignments, students will submit a one-page summary of the main points of each day's debate topic – for a total of five pages. The five pages of debate review will be due not later than two months after the close of class.

Grading Policy

Assignment Group	Total Points	Weight
Affirmation Statement / Papers	100 pts.	25%
All Reading Assignments	100 pts.	25%
All Other Writing Assignments	100 pts.	25%
Class Attendance / Participation	100 pts.	25%
Total:	400 pts.	100%

Late/Missed Assignment Policy
Late papers will be penalized one letter per week. Papers received after the registrar's final date for summer grading will not be graded.

Grading Scale
Grades will be based on the number of points accumulated by completing assignments, projects, and quizzes. The following grading scale applies:

100% ▸ 94%	93% ▸ 90%	89% ▸ 87%	86% ▸ 84%	83% ▸ 80%	80% ▸ 77%	76% ▸ 74%	73% ▸ 70%	69% ▸ 67%	66% ▸ 64%	63% ▸ 60%	59% ▸ 0%
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F

Grade Access
All course grades will be recorded and shown through Course Commons. Simply click the "Grades" link in the course menu. For more information on how to check your grades and what you can do from this page, see How Do I View My Grades?

I will attempt to grade assignments and provide feedback within 48 hours of the assignment due date. Larger assignments/projects may take up to 1 week to grade so that feedback can be

provided. Please pay attention to notifications of graded items and recent feedback. **I expect students to review and learn from the feedback that I provide on their assignments.**

The Temporary Grade of Incomplete
An "I" (Incomplete) applies to work of acceptable quality when one or more required assignments are not completed because of illness, accident, death in the family, or other satisfactory reason. The request for an Incomplete should be student-initiated. The *Incomplete (I) Grade Request Form* may be obtained from your administrative assistant in your department.

Bibliography

In addition to the post-course reading choices listed above:

Abd-al-Fadi, Abdullah. *Is the Quran Infallible?* Light of Life. Villach, Austria.

Abdul-Haqq. *Sharing Your Faith With a Muslim*. Minneapolis: Bethany Fellowship, Inc., 1979.

Campbell, William. *The Quran and the Bible in the Light of History and Science.* Arab World Ministry, Upper Darby, PA. 1987.

Cragg, Kenneth. *Jesus and the Muslim.* London: Allen and Unwin. 1985.

_____, *The Call of the Minaret.* New York: Oxford Press, 1964.

Gaudeul, J.M. *Encounters and Clashes: Islam and Christianity in History*. Rome: Pontifico Istituto di Studi Arabi e d'Islamistica, 1998.

Gibb, H.R. and Kramer, J.H. *Shorter Encyclopedia of Islam.* Ithaca, NY: Cornell Univ. Press, 1965.

Guillaume, Alfred. *Islam.* Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England: Penguin Books, 1956.

Kateregga, Badru D. and David W. Shenk. *A Muslim and Christian in Dialogue*. Scottdale, PA: Herald Press, 1997.
Khalidi, Tarif. *The Muslim Jesus*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2001.

Kreeft, Peter. *Between Allah and Jesus: What Christians Can Learn from Muslims*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003.

Leirvik, Oddbjorn. *Images of Jesus Christ in Islam*. Uppsala: Swedish Institute of Missionary Research, 1999.

Marsh, Charles R. *Share Your Faith With a Muslim*. Chicago: Moody, 1975.

Matheny, Tim. Reaching *the Arabs: A Felt-Need Approach*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1981.
Newman, N.A., ed. *The Early Christian-Muslim Dialogue*. Hatfield, PA: Interdisciplinary Biblical Research Institute, 1993.

Parrinder, Geoffrey. *Jesus in the Quran*. New York: Oxford University Press. 1977.

Parshall, Phil. *Divine Threads Within a Human Tapestry*. Pasadena, CA: W. Carey Library, 2001.

_____. *New Paths in Muslim Evangelism*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1980.

_____. *The Cross and the Crescent*. Gabriel, 2002.

Pfander, C.G. *The Misan-ul-Haq: Balance of Truth*. Light of Life: Villach, Austria. 1986.

Riddell, Peter G. and Cotterell, Peter. *Islam in Context: Past, Present, and Future*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 2003.

Robinson, Neal. *Christ in Islam and Christianity*. NY: State Univ. of NY Press, 1991.

Saal, William J. *Reaching Muslims for Christ*. Chicago, ILL: Moody Press, 1992.

Tisdall, W. St. Clair. *Christian Replies to Muslim Objections*. Light of Life. Villach, Austria. 1980.

Watt, W. Montgomery. *The Formative Period of Islamic Thought*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1973.

_____. *Muhammad, Prophet and Statesman*. London: Oxford Univ. Press, 1961.

Zahniser, A.H. Matthias. *The Mission and Death of Jesus in Islam and Christianity*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 2008.

Specific Data

Syllabus prepared by Dr. Jim Bennett, May 2020.

.

Academic Integrity

As participants in a Christian university, members of the broader academic community, and active professionals, it is incumbent upon every member of the Evangel community to employ and encourage integrity in all our academic and professional pursuits. Any and every instance of academic dishonesty compromises the mission of Evangel University and violates the standards we hold as people of Christ and practitioners within our professional fields. Students are expected to understand and avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, which includes falsification, cheating, collusion, and plagiarism.

As members of the Evangel community, students share the responsibility to deter and report academic dishonesty. Should a student become aware of a violation of academic integrity, he or she is encouraged to report the incident to a faculty member or department chairperson.

It is the responsibility of the faculty to address any and all acts of academic dishonesty. Sanctions for violations of academic dishonesty can include but are not limited to a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade for the course, suspension from school, or expulsion from the university. Evangel's policy on academic integrity, as published in the [Student Handbook](#), appears in the section IX. University Policies: Academic Integrity.

Accommodation Statement

Evangel University is committed to equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act as amended (ADA). Academic Support, a division of the Center for Student Success, is the office designated by Evangel University to review disability documentation, determine reasonable accommodations, and develop plans for the provision of such accommodations.

If you have already established accommodations through Academic Support and receive accommodation memos, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible (accommodations are not retroactive). If you have not yet established accommodations, but have a disability or health condition (permanent or temporary) that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, you are welcome to contact Academic Support staff in the Center for Student Success (ZM-208; 417-865-2815 x.8215) so that accommodations can be arranged. See the [Disability and Academic Accommodations Handbook](#) for further information on the accommodations process.

Inclusive Language

The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary employs inclusive language for human beings in both verbal and written communication. This commitment to equality and community is rooted in the biblical revelation of God's will to form one united people, including men and women from every nation, people, tongue, and tribe (Rev 7:7–9). In regard to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. Students must use inclusive language in all assignments.

Electronic Devices in the Classroom

It is expected that electronic devices will be used during class to support the students' learning. Any use of technology that substantially degrades the learning environment or promotes dishonesty or illegal activities is prohibited.

Cell phones should only be used for academic purposes during class. It is not permissible to answer cell phones or engage in text messaging while class is in session. Should an emergency situation arise that requires you to use your cell phone, please make the professor aware of the circumstances.

University Resources

Evangel University Libraries

Klaude Kendrick Library's physical holdings currently includes approximately 120,000 bound volumes, 3,100 media in various formats, and number of periodical subscriptions to key titles in relevant fields of study. The facility includes a computer center, equipped with 13 computers, multiple laser printers, and a copy machine/scanner/printer, providing access to productivity software, library resources and the Internet. The library also provides access to a wireless network throughout the facility.

The **Cordas C. Burnett Library** is the major information resource center of AGTS. Its physical holdings currently includes 127,726 bound volumes, 5,561 media in various formats, and number of periodical subscriptions to key titles in relevant fields of study.

To access the library catalogs and resources online, visit [Evangel University Libraries](#). Evangel's libraries include computer centers, equipped with computers and a copy machine/scanner/color printer, providing access to productivity software, library resources, and the Internet. The libraries also provides access to a wireless network throughout the facility.
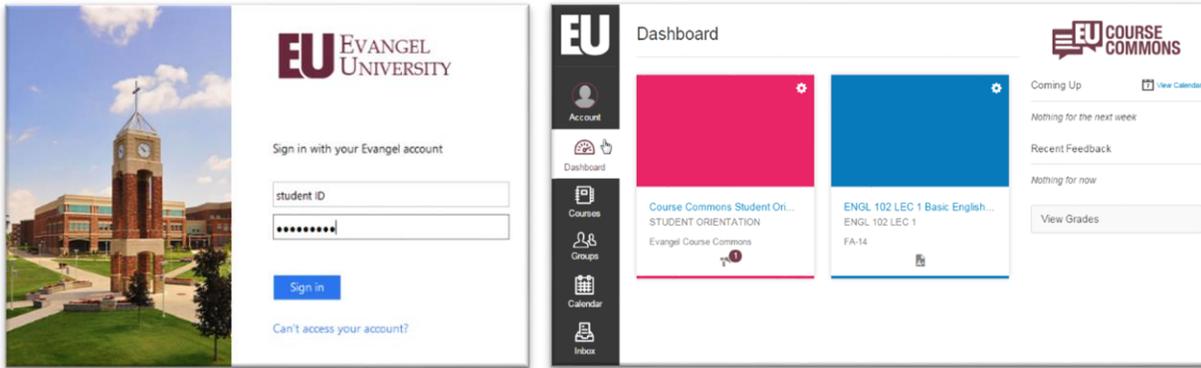
The Write Place

The Write Place is a free service available to all Evangel students. The tutors in The Write Place offer tutoring and support to help each student through the writing process. Although The Write Place is not an editing service, the tutors do teach correct grammar and punctuation, which then may be applied to the student's paper. Students must engage tutors directly and take an active role in the correction process. The Write Place is available to online students. For more information or to set up an appointment, see [The Write Place Online](#).

The Center for Student Success

The Center for Student Success is also available to all Evangel student. The Center for Student Success provides tutoring, coaching and academic support. The Center for Student Success is located in Zimmerman Hall 208. The Center for Student Success is available to online students. For more information or to set up an appointment, see [The Center for Student Success](#).

Course Commons

This course will use Course Commons, Evangel's learning management system. There are links to Course Commons in the Student Portal and the Evangel website. The login page for Course Commons is https://courses.evangel.edu.

Use your Evangel username and password to login.

Course Commons Student Orientation

All Evangel students have access to the Course Commons Student Orientation. If you are new to Course Commons, you are encouraged to take advantage of this excellent resource. As part of your course preparation, this will help you make the most of the features that are available to you as a student.

Accessing the Course in Course Commons

Access your courses list by clicking on the Courses icon on the Global Navigation menu on the left of the screen. You can also click on the course card on the Dashboard.

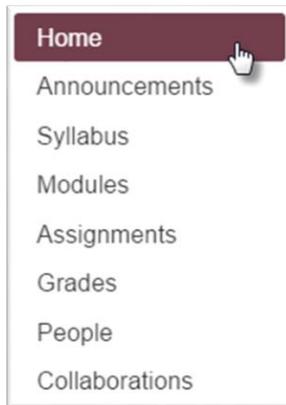To customize your Courses list, see the following Help Guide:

How do I customize my Courses list?

Students will have access to this course in Course Commons seven (7) days *before* the official beginning of the semester. If students have not completed their financial registration by the first official day of class, their course access will be revoked.

After the end of the semester, students will have read-only access to the course through Course Commons. Only access to already submitted work, course resources and grades will be available.

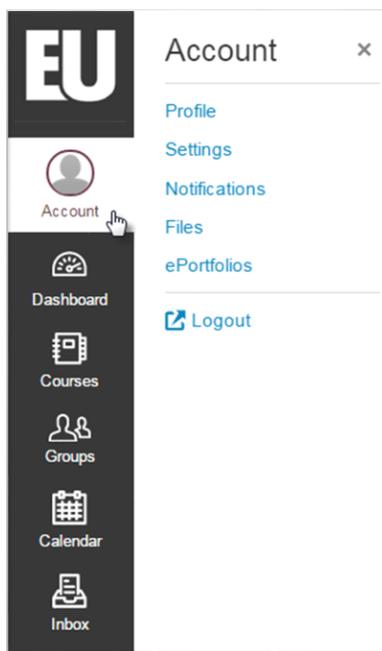## Accessing Course Content in Course Commons

The professor controls the availability of course content and features. Some items may be unavailable until a date set by the professor.

You can navigate the course content and features using the Course Navigation menu on the left. This menu can be customized by the professor, so it may differ from course to course, depending on what features the professor has chosen to make available.

You can collapse the Course Navigation menu to focus on the page content. Click on the menu icon in the upper left (which looks like 3 lines). You can expand the menu by clicking on the menu icon again. All course content (syllabus, modules, course materials, assignments, online quizzes, online discussions, grades, etc.) can be accessed using the links in the Course Navigation menu.

Personal Settings in Course Commons

Students can adjust their personal settings in Course Commons. Click on the Account icon to access the Account menu.

On the **Profile** page, you can add a profile picture to your account. You can also edit your display name, which will show to your instructor and peers throughout Course Commons.

The **Settings** link allows you to add additional contact methods (personal email or cell phone number for text message alerts) to your account. You can also add external services, like Twitter, Skype or Google Drive.

The **Notifications** link allows you to customize *what* notifications you receive from Course Commons and *how* and *when* you receive them. This is a student-centered feature that allows you to optimize your notifications to help you stay connected to what is happening in all your courses.

For more information, see the following pages in the Course Commons Student Orientation: How to Update your Profile and Settings and How to Update Your Notifications Preferences.

Accessing Grades in Course Commons

All course grades will be recorded and shown through Course Commons. Simply click the "Grades" button on the lower right of the Dashboard to access your grades for all courses. You can also use the Grades link in the Course Navigation to access your grades for this course.

For more information on how to check your grades and what you can do from the Grades page, see the following page from the Course Commons Student Orientation: How to Check My Grades.

How to Get Help with Course Commons

Help is never more than a few clicks away! You can access the Support menu from any page in Course Commons.

Click on the Support icon in the lower left corner of the screen. Because the Course Commons is powered by the Canvas Learning Management System, all help guides and helpdesk tickets will reference Canvas.

From the Support menu, you can send a message to your instructor, search the Canvas Help Guides, or report a problem. You can browse the Canvas Student Guide for help on a specific topic.

Course Commons Troubleshooting

Do you have a question about a quiz, an assignment, or another item in the course? Contact your professor.

Are you having technical problems with Course Commons? Click the Support icon, click "Report a Problem" and complete the form to file a ticket for a personal response from the support team. Please be sure to include a thorough description of the problem.

Are you having trouble with your Evangel account (username and password)? Contact the IT Helpdesk at studenthelp@evangel.edu (email) or call 417-865-2815 ext. 4357 (HELP). Please allow 24 hours for a response on a weekday and 48 hours for a response on the weekend.

Support ✕

Course Commons Student Orientation
This course provides on-demand video tutorials for using Course Commons.

The Center for Student Success
Your success is our goal! This course contains resources for career planning, student employment, tutoring and academic support.

The Write Place
Find resources and connect with tutors to help you hone your writing skills.

Ask Your Instructor a Question
Questions are submitted to your instructor

Search the Canvas Guides
Find answers to common questions

Report a Problem
If Canvas misbehaves, tell us about it