**Carleton University** **Winter-2025**

**Department of Political Science**

**PSCI 3311B: HISTORY OF MUSLIM POLITICAL THOUGHT**

Monday 2:35 - 5:25 p.m.

*See location on Carleton Central*

**Professor Farhang Rajaee (farhang.rajaee@carleton.ca)**

Office: TBA

**Office Hours**: Monday 11:00 a.m-1:00 p.m. & Thursday 10:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.

**Description**: The Professor focuses on the unfolding of political thought among Muslims from the formation of their first polity in Medina in 622 CE until the encounters of Muslims with the process of modernity that led to a complete disruption of thinking seriously about politics in the beginning of the twentieth Century. In these almost 1500 years, Muslims thought about politics in variety of ways through juridical, practical and administrative, or philosophical approaches. The result was two phases of Muslim civilization production, the first between 750- 1250 and the second between 1500- 1870s, through dynamic and constructive responses that Muslims gave to the challenges in their respective historical contexts. Both the various approaches and historical developments will be discussed in the course.

**Organization**: The material will be organized based on the variables i.e., the approaches of the jurists, practitioners, and the philosophers as well as how they unfolded in Muslim history. In terms of the delivery of the materials, lectures will be the main medium although the instructor encourages questions and invites comments during the lectures.

**Required Texts**:

Anthony Black. *The History of Islamic Political Thought, from the Prophet to the Present*. New York: Routledge, 2001(pdf available). $21.94

Karen Armstrong. *Islam; A Short History.* New York: The Modern Library, 2000 (pdf available). $25.11

**Note:** As the course progresses during the term, there might be some extra materials that will be put on Brightspace for you.

**Requirements: S**tudents must meet all the course requirements; attendance, reviews, and examinations. Students who do not meet these criteria will be assigned a grade of "F." Late reviews will be penalized one fraction of a grade (i.e., B to B-) for each weekday they are late. All assignments should be handed in by email or dropped in Brightspace, but the name and student numbers should be clearly identified on the assignments. The mark will be calculated as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| First in Class Exam* | 20% **(February 10**) |
| First Review** | 15% (**February 27**) |
| Secon in Class Exam* | 30% **(March 24)** |
| Second Review** | 15% (**March 31**) |
| Participation grade*** | 20% |

* Questions for the exam come from the materials of lectures and the two main readings. The first in class exam will be based on the texts and the content of the first four weeks of lectures on the material (until February 3rd). The second in class exam covers the same material from February 10 to the end of the term. Both exams consist of two parts: five short answer questions

worth a total of 10% (2% each question) and long answer questions (each 10%). In the first exam I ask for one long answer question and in the second I ask for two long answer questions. Thus, the first exam is worth 20% of the total grade and the second 30% of the total grade.

**Your reviews should be about 3-5 pages each (double space and typed). The material to be reviewed is any of the recommended readings listed in the syllabus or a book of your own choice, provided it is confirmed with the professor. Your reviews should address at least the following questions: What is the main objective of the writer? How has the author done his/her research and presentation? Did he/she achieve the stated objective (s)?

*** This is calculated based on regular attendance and participation in class.

## Calendar

**Week 1 (Jan. 6): The Beginning**

Introduction and Orientation
Political Thought, the base of Political Order

### Part One: The New Civilizational Context

**Week 2 (Jan. 13): The New Way of Life**

The Old/New Message
Early Ideas of Ruling
**Reading: Black (pp. 1-31) & Armstrong (pp. 3- 37)**

**Week 3 (Jan. 20): The Two prevalent Paths**

The Sunnis and Tradition
The Shi'as and the Charisma
**Reading: Black (pp. 32-48)**

**Week 4 (Jan. 27): Other Influences**

The Persian Influence
The Greek Influence
**Reading: Black (pp. 49-78)**

### Part Two: Caliphate Based Polity

**Week 5 (Feb. 3): The Caliphate and the Sultan**

The Theory of the Caliphate, Mawardi
Rules for Sultan, Nizam al-Mulk
**Reading: Black (pp. 81-97)**

**Week 6 (Feb. 10): The Need for Revival**

Ideal and Practice
**First in Class Exam**
**Reading: Black (pp. 97-115)**

**February 17–21 Winter Break**

**Week 7 (Feb. 24): Philosophy and Mysticism**

Philosophy and Knowledge
Sufism and Work as Religion

**Reading: Black (pp. 115-134)**
**First Review Due date**

**Part Three: Shari'a Based Polity**

**Week 8 (March 3): The New Challenges**
The Mongolian Invaders
Integrated Polity, Tusi
**Reading: Black (pp. 137-153)**

**Week 9 (March 10): Law and Power**
Shari'a based Politics, Ibn Taymiyya
Civilization, and Power, Ibn Khaldun and Khunji
**Reading: Black (pp. 154-189)**

**Part Four: The Last Muslim Polities**

**Week 10 (March 17): The Ottomans**
The New Sultans
The Social grouping
**Reading: Black (pp. 193-220) & Armstrong (pp. 130- 138)**

**Week 11 (March 24): The Safavids**
The New Iran, and the Clergy
**Secon in Class Exam**
**Reading: Black (pp. 221-237) & Armstrong (pp. 117- 124)**

**Week 12 (March 31): The Mughals**
The Enlightened Monarch
The Tolerating Civilization
**Readings: Black (pp. 239-254) & Armstrong (pp. 124- 130)**

**Week 13 (April 7): Contemporary Period, Summation**
The Agonists
Your Thoughts and Feedback
**Reading: Armstrong (pp. 141- 187)**
**Second Review Due date**

**Recommended Materials**

To be used for doing your reviews.

Said Amir **Arjomand** (1984). *The Shadow of God and the Hidden Imam: Religion, Political Order, and Societal Change in Shi'ite Iran from the Beginning to 1890*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Gerhard **Bowering** (ed.) (215). *Islamic Political Thought: An Introduction*. Princeton: Princeton University Press

Charles E. **Butterworth** (Tr.) (2001). *Al-farabi, the Political Writings: Selected Aphorisms and other Texts*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press (B753.F32 E5 2001).

Charles E. **Butterworth**. (Ed.) (1992). *The Political Aspects of Islamic Philosophy: Essays in Honor of Muhsin S. Mahdi.* Cambridge: Harvard University Press (B741.P74 1992).

Georges **Corm** (2020). Arab Political Thought; Past and Present. Translated by Patricia M. Philips-Batoma and Atoma Batoma. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

P. M. **Holt**, Ann K. S. Lambton and Bernard Lewis (Editors) (1970). *The Cambridge History of Islam*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (DS35.6.C3).

Patricia **Crone** (2005). *Medieval Islamic Political Thought*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Patricia **Crone** (2003). *God's Caliph: Religious Authority in the First Centuries of Islam*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (BP166.9.C76).

Carl W. **Ernst** (2003). *Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press (BP161.3.E76 2003).

Majid **Fakhry** (2004). *A History of Islamic Philosophy*. New York: Columbia University Press (B741 .F23 2004).

Abu Nasr **Farabi** (1985). *Al-Farabi on the Perfect State: Abu Nasr al-Farabi's Mabadi' Ara' Ahl al-madina al-fadila*. A revised text with introduction, translation, and commentary / by Richard Walzer. Oxford: Oxford University Press (BP75. F33. M313).

Abu Nasr **Farabi** (1961). *Fusul al-madani; Aphorisms of the Statesman.* Translated by D. M. Dunlop. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (PN6277. A7.F3).

Muhammad **al-Ghazali** (1964). *Counsel for Kings*. Translated F. R. C. Bagely. Oxford: Oxford University Press (JC 393 A3 G453).

H. A. R. **Gibb** (1982). *Studies on the Civilization of Islam*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, (D199.3.G5).

Marshal **Hodgson** (1974). *The Venture of Islam*. 3 Volumes. Chicago: Chicago University Press (DS35.6. H63).

Kai Ka'us **ibn Iskandar** (1951). *Qabus-Nama (A Mirror for Princes).* Translated from the Persian by Reuben Levy, New York: E.P. Dutton, 1951 (BJ 1678.P3K33 1951).

Abu al-Abbas Taqi al-Din Ahmad **Ibn Taimiyya** (1966). *Ibn Taimiyya on Public and Private Law in Islam or, Public Policy in Islamic Jurisprudence*. Translated from Arabic by Omar A. Farrukh. Beirut: Khayats (KBL I2I2 1968).

Ahmad **Kazemi Moussavi**, (1996) *Religious Authority in Shi'ite Islam,* Kuala Lumpur: International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization.

Majid **Khadduri** (1984). *The Islamic Conception of Justice*. Baltimore. MD: Johns Hopkins University Press (BP 173. 43K44)

Nelly **Lahoud** (2005). *Political Thought in Islam; a Study in Intellectual Boundaries*. New York: Routledge Curzon.

Ann K. S. **Lambton** (1981). *State and Government in Medieval Islam: an Introduction to the Study of Islamic Political Theory: the Jurists*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (JC49.L35 1981).

Ralph **Lerner** and Muhsin Mahdi. Eds. (2001). *Medieval Political Philosophy*. New York: Free Press of Glencoe (J82.L4).

Wilferd **Madelung** (1997). *The Succession to Muhammad: A Study of the Early Caliphate*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (Net Library)

Mushin **Mahdi** (1964). *Ibn Khaldun's Philosophy of History: A Study in the Philosophic Foundation of the Science of Culture* (D116.7.I3.M3).

Muhsin **Mahdi** (2001). *Al-Farabi and the Foundation of Islamic Political Philosophy*. With a Foreword by Charles E. Butterworth. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press (B753.F34M33 2001).

Hamid Manavi (2013). *Religious Authority and Political Thought in Twelver Shi'ism: from Ali to Post-Khomeini*. New York: Routledge (BP166.94.M28 2013).

Syed Abul Ala **Maudoodi** (1960). *Political Theory of Islam*. Lahore: Islamic Publications (JC49.M442 1960).

Abu al-Hasan Ali Ibn Muhammad **Al-Mawardi** (1996). *The Ordinances of Government*. Translated by Wafa H. Whba. Reading: Garnet Publishing Limited (KBP2000 .M3913 1996).

Hanna **Mikhail** (1995). *Politics and Revelation: Mawardi and After*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press (JC49.M54).

Roy P. **Mottahedeh** (1980). *Loyalty and Leadership in an Early Islamic Society*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1980 (HN 656 .A8M67).

Abu Ali Hassan **Nizam al-Mulk** (1978). *Book of Government or Rules for Kings*. London, Routledge (JC49. N43 1978).

Erwin Jacob **Rosenthal** (1958). *Political Thought in Medieval Islam; an Introductory Outline***.** Cambridge [Eng.] University Press (JA82. R6).

Franz **Rosenthal** (1960). *The Muslim Concept of Freedom Prior to 19th Century*. Leiden: Brill (JC585. R65 1960).

A. A. **Sachedina** (1988). *The Just Ruler (al-Sultan al-'Adil) in Shi'ite Islam: the Comprehensive Authority of the Jurist in Imamite Jurisprudence*. New York: Oxford University Press (JA 49. S162).

William Montgomery **Watt**. (1988). *Islamic Political Thought*. New York: Columbia University Press (JA84.I78W3 1968).

William Montgomery **Watt**. (1961). *Muhammad: Prophet and Statesman*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (BP75. W33).

William Montgomery **Watt**. (1963). M*uslim Intellectual: A Study of al-Ghazali*. Edinburgh: The Edinburgh University Press (B753.G34W3).

## Political Science Course Outline Appendix

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

### Student Mental Health

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

**Emergency Resources (on and off campus):**
https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/

**Carleton Resources:**

Mental Health and Wellbeing: https://carleton.ca/wellness/

Health & Counselling Services: https://carleton.ca/health/

Paul Menton Centre: https://carleton.ca/pmc/

Academic Advising Centre (AAC): https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/

Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): https://carleton.ca/csas/

Equity & Inclusivity Communities: https://carleton.ca/equity/

**Off Campus Resources:**

Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/

Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, http://www.crisisline.ca/

Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/

ood2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, https://good2talk.ca/

The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: https://walkincounselling.com

**Academic consideration for medical or other extenuating circumstances**: Students must contact the instructor(s) of their absence or inability to complete the academic deliverable within the predetermined timeframe due to medical or other extenuating circumstances. For a range of medical or other extenuating circumstances, students may use the online self-declaration form and where appropriate, the use of medical documentation. This policy regards the accommodation of extenuating circumstances for both short-term and long-term periods and extends to all students enrolled at Carleton University.

Students should also consult the Course Outline Information on Academic Accommodations for more information. Detailed information about the procedure for requesting academic consideration can be found here.

**Pregnancy:** Contact your Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, please contact Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC) at equity@carleton.ca or by calling (613) 520-5622 to speak to an Equity Advisor.

**Religious obligation**: Contact your Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details click here.

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, please request your accommodations for this course through the Ventus Student Portal at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For final exams, the deadlines to request accommodations are published in the University Academic Calendars. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally scheduled exam (if applicable).

**Survivors of Sexual Violence:** As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services.

**Accommodation for Student Activities:** Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of

class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control may apply within three working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully supported by the appropriate documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered. See Undergraduate Calendar, Article 4.3

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s). Permissibility of submitting substantially the same piece of work more than once for academic credit. If group or collaborative work is expected or allowed, provide a clear and specific description of how and to what extent you consider collaboration to be acceptable or appropriate, especially in the completion of written assignments.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last day to withdraw from full fall term and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment is September 30th, 2024. The last day for a fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter term courses or the winter portion of two-term courses is January 31, 2025. The last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall courses is November 15, 2024. The last day for academic withdrawal from full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses is March 15, 2025.

**WDN:** For students who withdraw after the full fee adjustment date in each term the term WDN will be a permanent notation that appears on their official transcript.

OFFICIAL FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD

Fall courses: December 9-21, 2024. Winter and Fall/Winter courses: April 11-26, 2025 (may include evenings & Saturdays or Sundays)

For more information on the important dates and deadlines of the academic year, consult the Carleton 2024-2025 Calendar.

## GRADING SYSTEM

The grading system is described in the Undergraduate Calendar section 5.4.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's Academic Integrity Policy.

## PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own.*" This can include:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*"

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course's instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

RESOURCES (613-520-2600, phone ext.)

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|---|---|
| Department of Political Science (2777) | B640 Loeb |
| Registrar's Office (3500) | 300 Tory |
| Centre for Student Academic Success (3822) | 4th floor Library |
| Academic Advising Centre (7850) | 302 Tory |
| Paul Menton Centre (6608) | 501 Nideyinàn |
| Career Services (6611) | 401 Tory |