COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course is a survey of the history of Islamic civilization. In this course, we will study social, economic, and cultural aspects of the history of the Middle and Near East region, between the sixth and fifteenth centuries. The treatment of the subject will be roughly chronological, though themes such as law, science, and philosophy will recur throughout the course. In addition to lectures, the course will heavily draw upon discussion sessions, which will give students a hands-on approach to history. In these sessions, we will discuss in detail various historical problems presented in the text and lectures. We will also see different types of historical evidence and learn how they can be used for historical analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- name and identify individuals, events, themes, and issues of major importance in the history of Islamic civilization,
- demonstrate a basic level of competence in differentiating the major periods of the history of Islamic civilization and the significance of historical context,
- recognize the importance of cause and effect in history, and discuss the significance of change and continuity over time,
- develop an understanding toward the use of historical evidence by historians and display some familiarity toward different types of evidence,
- critically analyze historical evidence and articulate a synthesis with a thesis.
TEXTBOOKS:
• Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard. You must print them and bring them to each class.

ASSIGNMENTS:
You are expected to write two papers for this class. The first paper will be a short paper (3-4 pages; due Sept. 17). The second paper will be longer (6-7 pages, due Nov. 28). Detailed information regarding the papers will be announced in class AND posted on Blackboard. You MUST submit your papers through Turn it In. LATE PAPERS AND/OR EMAILED PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Your writing assignment MUST include the Rutgers Pledge:
On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination (assignment).

EXAMS:
There will be two exams, a midterm and a final, which may include identifying terms, dates, names, essay questions, and/or analysis of primary sources. The midterm exam will be on Oct. 17, during our class time, and the final will be given on Dec. 17, 11:45-2:45, as determined by the Office of the Registrar.

QUIZZES:
During the first —OR THE LAST—10 minute of the class, there will be a short quiz, based on the material required for that day of class. These quizzes will be unannounced, unless noted on the syllabus. There will be a total of 10 quizzes, which will count as 20% of your grade. You will NOT have a quiz on the week of the Midterm exam. These quizzes are designed both to ensure that you generally keep up with the readings, and to encourage you to pay attention and take notes during class. If you arrive late or leave early without being in touch first for an excused absence, you may not take the quiz and you will receive a 0/F for that quiz.

The quizzes will be administered through Plickers. At the beginning of the semester each student will be given a card, which s/he MUST bring to EVERY class. You MUST have your card in order to take the quiz. If you do not have your card on a given quiz day you will be unable to take the quiz and will not receive credit.

GRADING:
10% First paper
16 % Second paper
4% Map Quiz
20% Pop Quizzes
20 % First test
30 % Second test
GRADING STANDARDS:
90-100 % A (a genuinely outstanding achievement)
80-89 % B (above average achievement)
70-79 % C (comprehension of the subject at an appropriate university level)
60-69 % D (unsatisfactory performance, barely passing)
Below 60% F (failure)

COURSE POLICIES:
• Attendance at all regularly scheduled meetings of this class is expected. Rutgers catalog
states that “the recognized grounds for absence are illness requiring medical attention,
curricular or extracurricular activities approved by the faculty, personal obligations
claimed by the student and recognized as valid, recognized religious holidays, and severe
inclement weather causing dangerous traveling conditions.” Four UNEXCUSED absences
will lower your final grade by one letter grade. More than four UNEXCUSED absences
will automatically result in your failure. It is your responsibility to come to class and
see that you are marked present for the classes you attend. In the event that you have a
medical, legal, or family-related problem that might lead to an extended absence, you need
to meet me in person and bring necessary documentation as evidence for your problem.
Only then, we can discuss whether your absence can be excused or not. An email message
explaining your problem will NOT be considered as an excuse of your absence.
Ultimately, it will be the instructor’s judgment to decide whether an absence can be
excused or not. If you miss a class due to a reason that you cannot document, please do not
contact me to explain your case. Instead, consider it as one of your unexcused absences.
Please remember that any student who misses eight or more sessions through any
combination of EXCUSED and UNEXCUSED absences will not earn credit in this class.
Such students should withdraw to avoid getting an F.

• You are expected to come to class having done the assigned readings and participate in
class discussions. We will be using our main textbooks (Egger and Robinson) frequently in
class; therefore, please bring it to each meeting. On discussion days, make sure to bring a
copy of the assigned reading with you. Any student who does not have the textbooks (Egger
and Robinson) or the primary source(s) may be asked to leave the classroom and marked
absent for the class.

• The use of laptops or other electronic devices in this class requires the consent of
the instructor. If you have a condition that necessitates the use of a laptop during class for
the purpose of taking notes or accessing readings, please bring it to my attention along
with a letter from The Office of Disability Services. Those students will be asked to sit in the
front row of chairs in the classroom. Otherwise, the use of portable electronic devices, such
as cell phones during class in a manner not compliant with classroom conduct (phone
conversation, texting, and others) will not be tolerated. Students may be warned for such
behavior initially. If repeated, they may be asked to leave the classroom and marked absent
for the day.

• Punctuality and courtesy at all times are expected.
• If you have questions or concerns about this class, come and talk to me in my office hours. Please do not send email inquiries related to your absence or class materials. It is your responsibility to find out about the subjects covered in your absence and study them.

• If for any family or medical reason you find it absolutely necessary to miss an examination, you must contact me before the exam and have my consent to your absence. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the assignment. With the exception of extreme cases there will be no early or make-up exams! As with all other exams, you must contact me in advance should an extreme emergency arise.

Rutgers University-Newark Academic Policies

Academic integrity: As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University's educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community.

. Academic integrity policy: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integritypolicy/

. Disability Services: Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must complete an intake meeting, and submit appropriate documentation. If your request for reasonable accommodations is approved, you will receive a Letter of Accommodations (LOA), which you should present privately to the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations are not retroactive and are effective only upon submission of the LOA to the instructor. Please begin the process by completing and submitting the Registration Form, Applying for Services, which is available at the website below.

. Applying for Services: http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/applying-for-services

. Documentation Guidelines: http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines

. Letter of Accommodations (LOA): http://ods.rutgers.edu/my-accommodations/letterof-accommodations

. Office of Disability Services (ODS)
Suite 219, Paul Robeson Campus Center
(973) 353-5375
odsnewark@rutgers.edu

Religious Holiday Policy: Students are advised to provide timely notification to instructors about necessary absences for religious observances and are responsible for making up the work of exams according to an agreed-upon schedule.

Learning Resources
. Rutgers Learning Center (tutoring services)
Room 140, Bradley Hall
(973) 353-5608
http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/rlc

Writing Center
(tutoring and writing workshops)
Room 126, Conklin Hall
(973) 353-5847
nwc@newark.rutgers.edu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Introduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| W, Sept. 5 | Introduction, discussion of the syllabus, and course policies  
What do we mean by Islamic Civilization? Geography, Languages, Sources and Periodization |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>The Near Eastern Context of the Rise of Islam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| M, Sept. 10 | Pre-Islamic Near East: The Byzantine and Sassanian Empires  
| W, Sept. 12 | Pre-Islamic Arabia  
**Map Quiz**  
**Textbook:** Egger, 16-22.  
**Primary Source:**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>The Rise and Expansion of Islam (ca. 570-632 C.E.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| M, Sept. 17 | Muhammad, the Prophet  
***PAPER 1 DUE***  
**Textbook:** Egger, 20-31.  
| W, Sept. 19 | Qur’an and Hadith  
**Textbook:** Daniel Brown, *New Introduction to Islam*, 2nd ed. 77-87; 99.  
**Primary Source:**  
*The Qur’an*, Suras 89, 99, 100, 101; Sura 2 vv. 221-242; Sura 4 vv. 1-25; Sura 12 "Joseph." Compare Sura 12 with Genesis 37, 39, 42-45. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>The Question of Legitimacy in the Early Islamic Empire (632-661 C.E.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| M, Sept. 24 | The Age of Conquests and Early Institutions  
**Textbook:** Egger, 33-44.  
**Primary Source:**  
| W, Sept. 26 | The First and Second Civil Wars (Fitan)  
**Textbook:** Egger, 62-69. |

Week 5  The Umayyad Dynasty (661-750 C.E.)

M, Oct. 1  'Abd al-Malik and the Later Umayyads
Textbook: Egger, 44-61.

W, Oct. 3  Discussion of Primary Sources
Primary Source for First and Second Civil Wars:

Primary Source for Umayyad Dynasty:

Week 6  The 'Abbasid Caliphate

M, Oct 8  The 'Abbasid Revolution
Textbook: Egger, 69-76.

W, Oct 10  The ‘Abbasid Caliphate
Primary Sources:
•Tale from A Thousand and One Nights

Week 7

M, Oct 15  EXAM REVIEW

W, Oct 17  MIDTERM EXAM

Week 8  Crisis of the Caliphate

M, Oct. 22  The Samarra Period and Crisis in the 'Abbasid Caliphate
Textbook: Egger, 89-93;
Primary Source:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Empire Cannot Hold Three Caliphs</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Primary Source:  
| **Week 10**| **Filling the Power Vacuum (934-1062 C.E.)**                         |                                                                                                      |
| M, Nov 5   | The Buyid Sultanate                                                  | Textbook: Egger, 142-144.                                                                            |
| **Week 11**| **Filling the Power Vacuum (977-1194 C.E.)**                         |                                                                                                      |
| M, Nov 12  | NO CLASS                                                             |                                                                                                      |
“Nizam al-Mulk: A Mirror for Princes,” in Islamic Central Asia, 92-94. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 12 | Christian Encroachment and Muslim Responses | M, Nov 19  
**Zangids, Ayyubids, and the Crusades**  
*Textbook:* Egger 172-182.  
*Primary Sources:*  
| W, Nov 21 | NO CLASS- Thanksgiving Break | |
| Week 13 | Synthesis and Creativity | M, Nov 26  
**Islamic Law and Theology**  
*Textbook:* Egger, 114-122.  
*Biographies:* “Karima al-Marwaziyya, hadith scholar,” in *ICTL*, 134-139.  
*Primary Sources:*  
| W, Nov 28 | Philosophy and Sufism | **PAPER 2 DUE**  
**Watch film, Youssef Chahine, Destiny (1997)**  
*Biographies:*  
 “al-Hallaj ‘the Truth (922),” in *ICTL*, 79-84. |
| Week 14 | Alternatives to the Classical Islamic Principles of Governance | M, Dec 3  
**The Mamluk Dynasty**  
*Textbook:* Egger 269-273.  
*Primary Source:*  
*Primary Sources:*  
| Week 15 | The Islamic World in the Age of Mongol Prestige |
M, Dec 10  Mongol Empire
**Textbook:** Egger, 257-269.
**Biography:** “Rashid al-Din, physician, courtier, and global historian,” in *ICTL*, 194-200.

W, Dec 12  **REVIEW**

**Week 16**

Dec 17  **11:45-2:45**  **FINAL EXAM**