

## **Course Syllabus**

**Course:** AKAID, *Principles of faith, Resurrection, the concept of iman and great sin*

**Program of study:** Islamic Theology

**Number of CTS credits:** 6

**Status of course:** Mandatory

**Code of course:** 201

**Number of classes:** 3+2

**Academic year:** 2021/2022

**Semester:** III

**Teacher:** Dr. Bahri Hoxha. Contact: e-mail: bhoxha9@live.com

## **Short description of course**

This course is about the study of belief in the holy books, in metaphysical creatures, Angels and Jinns, their characteristics and the difference in worshipping between the latter and the man. It also includes belief in Judgment Day and the life after it, small and big signs of this day, commencement of accountability, Paradise and Hell. The course concerns as well doctrines on concept of belief in various sects and of Islam, issue of heresy, beautiful names of Allah xh.sh

## **The goal of course**

This course aims to inform students about basics knowledge of Aqaid – Beliefs in Islam – basic principles like belief in holy books, in angels and the after-life. It also aims to enhance skills and abilities to analyze various information on belief included in the study program in order for them to draw conclusions. Also the course intends to instill and advance the sense of critique in terms of assessing arguments based on proper facts of basic textbooks of Islam. Furthermore it aims to instruct essay writing or discuss about it in a clear oral and written convincing manner which a person with academic background should know. At the end of this course we expect students should have benefited detailed knowledge on holy books, angels and eschatology/eternity of Islam belief and different opinions on Judgment Day. Students will learn attitudes on belief in Reincarnation and its forms. Students will be given opportunity to engage in debates to comprehend issues discussed mostly. Students will learn that the growth of studies in belief amounts to moral improvement of individuals and society since it instills humanism on them and makes them be open-minded and courteous.

## **Expected learning outcomes:**

**By the end of course students will be able to:**

Describe the way of belief in books, angels and life after death.

Compare different attitudes with regard to belief that they study in the course

Discuss issues of Islamic belief according to Islamic essential arguments in an more objective way

Defend different viewpoints on reincarnation as maintained by their followers.

Present critical opinion to each viewpoint emphasizing the most valuable one.

Be able to apply obtained knowledge in social relations in our country.

**Instruction methodology:**

- Lectures
- Analyzes and interactive discussion
- Presentations of group and individual projects
- Audio and Video presentation of materials

**Content of course**

**Week one:** Introduction, introduction to the syllabus, general presentation of the course and methodology of elaboration. Brief introduction to the ten principles of Aqedah science

**Week two:** Belief in Allah Almighty

Arguments proving the existence of Allah Almighty. Arguments for the oneness of Allah.

Ontological, cosmological argument, disagreement argument, etc....

Debate over the arguments for the existence and oneness of God.

**Week three:** The views of Islamic philosophers in arguing for the existence of Allah: Al-Kandi, Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, Ibn Rushd.

Interactive talk about the position of Islamic philosophers.

**Week fourth:** Belief in the angels of Allah, the purpose of their existence, their positions and number, the duties of the angels. Main angels: Gabriel, Michael, Israfil, the angel of death.

PROPOSALS OF TOPICS FOR SEMINAR PAPERS AND ESSAY

**Week five:** Belief in the Revealed Books, their features and commonalities, the Torah, the Psalms, the Gospel and the Qur'an. Scrolls of messengers.

**Week six:** Belief in the Prophets of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), concepts: "Rasul", "Nabi". The Qualities of the Prophets. The Prophethood of Muhammad a.s. and its conclusion.

Conversation about man's need for the prophetic mission.

**Week seven:** The concept of the miracles of the prophets, its types, the impact on the veracity of the prophetic mission.

The first test, students are divided into two groups for holding the first test.

**Week eight:** Belief in the Day of Judgment - the Last (Resurrection), the Stock Exchange, the Resurrection and the Arguments about It. The nature of resurrection (body and soul).

Discussion about arguments and doubts about resurrection.

**Week nine:** Judgment Day and its events, Haud River, Rally (Hashri), Bridge (Sirati), Mediation (Shefat) etc.

Discussion: The impact of belief on the Day of Judgment on the behavior of the believer.

**Week ten:** Qada and Qader. Straight and oblique understanding of Qada and Qader. Historical deviations. The role of man in the creation of works.

**Week eleven:** The concept of the reality of iman between Islamic factions. Arguments and misunderstandings

**Week twelve:** The concept of sin in religion. Sin between human nature and divine prohibition. Categories of sins.

Conversation about the interaction with sin and the sinner in contemporary societies

**Week thirteen:** Positions of religious factions around the great sin in the historical stage. Confronting arguments.

**Week fourteen:** Consequences of deviations around the sinner and the challenges of Islamic society in contemporary times.

Talk about new challenges in misunderstanding the issue of takfir.

**Week fifteen:** The names of Allah and their reflection on the believer.

Final test. Students shall be divided in two groups to take the final test.

**Criteria and components of evaluation:**

Participation and involvement in class lecture 10%

Seminar paper 20%

Intermediate test 30%

Final exam 40%

Total 100%

**Mandatory literature:**

1. Mr. Naim Tërnavë, “**Besimi Islam – shtyllat veçoritë dhe rëndësia**”, Prishtinë - 2020.

**Additional literature and bibliography:**

1. *Five masterpieces of Ebu Hanifes*, Translated by: Mustaf Bajrami, Prishtinë, 2000

2. Veliu, dr. Galip; “*God in metaphors, science, Qur’an*”, “ Gostivar, 1998