

ISLM40007 Methods of Islamic Law

Credit Points:	12.5
Level:	4 (Undergraduate)
Dates & Locations:	This subject is not offered in 2015.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: A 2-hour seminar per week Total Time Commitment: Time commitment totals 170 hours.
Prerequisites:	Admission to the Master of Islamic Studies (coursework and minor thesis), Honours or Postgraduate Diploma in Islamic Studies, or permission of the coordinator
Corequisites:	None.
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None.
Non Allowed Subjects:	None.
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements. Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
Contact:	Prof A Saeed a.saeed@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:a.saeed@unimelb.edu.au)
Subject Overview:	This subject explores key aspects of the theory, philosophy and practice of Islamic law. The central concepts of legal authority, justice, and authoritative texts will be introduced, followed by issues of jurisprudential methodology such as interpretation and ijihad. Students will study major developments in the Islamic legal system, the schools of law, and the similarities and differences between various schools of law, the distinguishing features of these legal schools, as well as the social, political, economic and intellectual contexts within which they developed. The subject will explore the concept of Maqasid (objectives). the importance of maqasid al-Shari'ah (objectives of Islamic law) and its function and role in deducing Shari'ah law and the relationship between Shari'ah laws and Shari'ah objectives. Selected legal texts will be examined critically and a comparative analysis will be made of their jurisprudential methodologies, with special emphasis on the relationship between the text and social realities and that between text and the author. In addition, specific examples of judicial systems and their administrations from selected periods in Islamic history and their impact on contemporary Muslim societies, and the attempts at reform in Islamic law in the modern period will also be explored.
Learning Outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # describe and evaluate key aspects of Islamic law. # demonstrate understanding of theory and practice of law. # analyse and comment upon diverging scholarly approaches to a given issue. # understand a range of differing practical applications of a given theory. # analyse a formal system in a sophisticated and reasoned manner.
Assessment:	An essay of 5000 words 100% (examination period)
Prescribed Texts:	Materials supplied by the Institute
Recommended Texts:	None.

Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # analyse and comment upon diverging scholarly approaches to a given issue. # understand a range of differing practical applications of a given theory. # analyse a formal system in a sophisticated and reasoned manner. #
Notes:	Previously available as 110-562 Methods of Islamic Law. Students who have completed 110-562 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	100 Point Master of Islamic Studies 150 Point Master of Islamic Studies 200 Point Master of Islamic Studies