



UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO – FACULTY OF ISLAMIC STUDIES
 Contemporary Approaches to the Sunnah

Course code:	Course Title: Contemporary Approaches to the Sunnah		
Cycle: II	Study year: VI	Semester: XII	ECTS: 5
Study mode: Obligatory		Total hrs: Lectures: 2 Laboratory/practical exercises: 1	
Teaching participants	Asst. Prof. hfz. Kenan Musić, PhD		
Enrolment preconditions:	-		
Course goal(s):	<p>The module deals with the reflections of the Sunnah in the contemporary European context. The increased presence of Muslims in Europe has resulted in the intensification of discourse on the Sunnah as a constitutive part of Islamic identity that resides in the ambience of secular European states. The course aims to acquaint students with the most significant tendencies in Sunnah reflection, key issues and attitudes of both individuals and groups thus confronting Muslims with the challenges of modernity and different contexts compared to that of Sunnah understanding in majority Muslim states.</p> <p>The objectives of the module are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acquaint students with the most important ideas and reflections of the Sunnah in the European context; - enable the student to properly understand the perceptions of the Sunnah and understand the starting points of different perceptions of the Sunnah; - build in the student the ability to compare different perceptions of the Sunnah and direct it towards the fundamental values of the Sunnah as a framework for applying the teachings of the sources of Islam. 		
Thematic units: <i>(if needed, the weekly work schedule is established taking into account the organizational units' peculiarities)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sunnah and the development of literature on the Sunnah in the European context. 2. The most significant ideas about the Sunnah in the past century in European academic circles 3. Orientalism in the contemporary context 4. Sunnah and ideological interpretations in the modern age 5. The influence of internal and external factors in the modern interpretation of the Sunnah 6. Contemporary reflections on classical approaches to the Sunnah in Europe, the dilemma of renewal and reformism 7. Recapitulation / Test 8. Interpretation of the Sunnah in Europe in the context of the 		



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	<p>complexity of identity</p> <p>9. Sunnah and the civic concept of state organization</p> <p>10. Activism of Muslim communities and the attitude towards the Sunnah in European Muslim activism</p> <p>11. The most prominent authors in the field of hadith and Sunnah in the contemporary European context</p> <p>12. Development of the interpretation of the Sunnah among Bosniaks in the modern age</p> <p>13. Intellectual directions and their interpretations of Islam and Sunnah in Europe in the 20th century.</p> <p>14. Interpretations of the Sunnah in the 21st century / 15th century AH in the European context</p> <p>15. Recapitulation of all topics</p>
Learning outcomes:	<p><i>Knowledge:</i> The student critically adopts the presented contents on complex reflections on the Sunnah in the modern age and in a specific geographical context - Europe.</p> <p><i>Skills:</i> The student is able to lead polemics and conversations about the reception of the Sunnah in the European context and to have a critical approach in the above.</p> <p><i>Competences:</i> The student is able to - based on his knowledge of the topic of European reflections on the Sunnah - critically reflect and write on current topics relevant to social and other processes both in the Muslim world and in the world in general.</p>
Teaching methods:	Lectures, exercises
Knowledge assessment methods with grading system¹:	Essay 20 points, partial exam 30 and final 50 points
Literature²:	<p>Mandatory:</p> <p>Jonathan AC Brown, <i>Misquoting Muhammad: The Challenge and Choices of Interpreting the Prophet's Legacy</i>, Oneworld.</p> <p><i>New Directions in Islamic Thought: Exploring Reform and Muslim Tradition</i>; edited by Kari Vogt, Lena Larsen, Christian Moe, IBTauris& Co Ltd., 2008.</p>

¹The system of points and the grading criteria for each subject shall be defined by the organizational unit's Council prior to the commencement of the academic year in which the teaching activity is performed in accordance with the Article 64, paragraph 6 of the Sarajevo Canton Law on Higher Education.

²Acting on behalf of the higher education institution as a public institution, the Senate or organizational unit Council respectively, shall define the mandatory and recommended textbooks and manuals list as well as the other recommended literature as a basis for preparing and taking the examination by rendering a special Decision which is to be published on their websites before the start of the academic year in accordance with the Article 56, paragraph 3 of the Sarajevo Canton Law on Higher Education.



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	<p>Muhammad Mustafa Al-Azami, <i>On Schacht's Origins of Muhammadan Jurisprudence</i>, Islamic Texts Society, 2004</p> <p>Additional:</p> <p>Fikret Karčić, <i>The Bosniaks and the Challenges of Modernity</i>, El-Kalem, 1999.</p>
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