

Course Syllabus

1	Course title	Studies in the Prophetic <i>Sunnah</i> and <i>sirah</i>	
2	Course number	0408716	
3	Credit hours	3	
	Contact hours (theory, practical)	3	
4	Prerequisites/corequisites	-	
5	Program title	M.A in Islamic Studies	
6	Program code		
7	Awarding institution	The University of Jordan	
8	School	Shari'ah/ School of Islamic Studies	
9	Department	Department for the Study of Islam in the Contemporary World	
10	Course level	Master Degree	
11	Year of study and semester (s)	1	
12	Other department (s) involved in teaching the course		
13	Main teaching language	English	
14	Delivery method	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Face to face learning <input type="checkbox"/> Blended <input type="checkbox"/> Fully online	
15	Online platforms(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moodle <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Teams <input type="checkbox"/> Skype <input type="checkbox"/> Zoom <input type="checkbox"/> Others.....	
16	Issuing/Revision Date	October 2022	

17 Course Coordinator:

Name: Dr Omama Hamasha

Contact hours: Sunday & Tuesday 10:30-11:30 am

Office number: 24120

Phone number:

Email: o.hamasha@ju.edu.jo



18 Other instructors:

Name:

Office number:

Phone number:

Email:

Contact hours:

Name:

Office number:

Phone number:

Email:

Contact hours:

19 Course Description:

This course introduces students to the sciences of *Sunnah* and *Sirah* and their history, the relationship between the two disciplines, the authority of *Sunnah*, refutations of criticisms against *Sunnah*, the definition of authentic *hadith* and its conditions, sources and the most important books of *Sunnah* and *Sirah*.

20 Course aims and outcomes:

A- Aims:

After the student study this subject, we expect the students to do the following:

1. To know what is meant by the term Hadith sciences and studies,, its concept, emergence, history, phases, motives, goals, scope, fields, means, features, figures, sources, writings, and attitudes and methodologies.
2. To know what is meant by studies, scope, fields and horizons.
3. To be acquainted with primary sources about Sunnah and Sirah both in Arabic and English.
4. To investigate the use of the term Sunnah in the various fields and disciplines of Islamic sciences.
5. To explore the authority of Sunnah in Islam and its relationship to the Qur'an.
6. To be able to recognize and distinguish between the different branches of the sciences of hadith.
7. To be able to judge and evaluate hadith narrations.
8. To be able to discuss and analyze issue related to the biography of the Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) and refute allegations and doubts about his life, message and mission.
9. To compare contemporary Islamic studies with classical and traditional works in terms of methodologies and subjects.
10. To be able to present a research work that discusses and critiques Issues related to *hadith* and *Sirah* studies especially those related to contemporary Islamic studies.
11. To develop skills of critical thinking and scholarly analyze articles.
12. Researching and writing informatively on a related topic.
13. To be able to write an original piece of work about the methodologies used by *Muhaddithun-hadith* scholars.

B- Students Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

A. Knowledge and Understanding: Student is expected to:

- 1- To know what is meant by the term Hadith sciences and studies,, its concept, emergence, history, phases, motives, goals, scope, fields, means, features, figures, sources, writings, and attitudes and methodologies.
- 2- To know what is meant by studies, scope, fields and horizons.
- 3- To be acquainted with primary sources about Sunnah and Sirah both in Arabic and English.
- 4- To investigate the use of the term Sunnah in the various fields and disciplines of Islamic sciences.
- 5- To explore the authority of Sunnah in Islam and its relationship to the Qur'an.

B. Intellectual Analytical and Cognitive Skills: Student is expected to

1. To explore the authority of Sunnah in Islam and its relationship to the Qur'an.
2. To be able to recognize and distinguish between the different branches of the sciences of hadith.
3. To be able to judge and evaluate hadith narrations.
4. To be able to discuss and analyze issue related to the biography of the Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) and refute allegations and doubts about his life, message and mission. QF-AQAC-03.02.01
5. To compare contemporary Islamic studies with classical and traditional works in terms of methodologies and subjects.

C. Subject- Specific Skills: Students is expected to

SLOs	SLO (1)	SLO (2)	SLO (3)	SLO (4)
SLOs of the course				
1	*			
2		*		
3			*	
4	*			*
5		*		
6			*	

21. Topic Outline and Schedule:

Week	Lecture	Topic	Student Learning Outcome	Learning Methods (Face to Face/Blended/ Fully Online)	Platform	Synchronous / Asynchronous Lecturing	Evaluation Methods	Resources
1	1.1	- Introduction to Course and overview. - A general view of the most important contemporary issues. - Identifying the most important sources that discuss these issues.	A1	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
2	2.1	The Concept of Hadith, Scope and definitions	A1,2	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
3	3.1	History of Hadith Studies.	B1	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
4	4.1	Goals, aims, means, impact, fields, and features of Hadith studies	B2	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
5	5.1	Writings on Narrators	C1	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class	Various Resources

							Discussion	
6	6.1	Figures of <i>Hadith</i> scholars	C2	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
7	7.1	Criticism of Hadith	B2,C1	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
8	8.1	Midterm Exam	A1,2	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Midterm Exam	Various Resources
9	9.1	Evaluation of Hadith	D1	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
10	10.1	Hadith Sources <i>Democracy and Shura</i> , PP. 1-23	D2	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
11	11.1	<i>Hadith and the West</i>	D3	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
12	12.1	<i>Sirah</i> sources	D3,4	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
13	13.1	<i>Sirah</i> and the West	C1, D3	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
14	14.1	Modern studies in the field of <i>Sirah</i> <i>Sirah</i> and Contemporary Islam	D2,3,4	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Presentation & Class Discussion	Various Resources
15	15.1	Final Exam	ALL	Face to Face	Classroom	Synchronous	Final Exam	Various Resources

22 Evaluation Methods:

Opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the SLOs are provided through the following assessment methods and requirements:

Evaluation Activity	Mark	Topic(s)	Period (Week)	Platform
Submission of weekly assignments	10%	all	all	Classroom
presentations	10%	To be determined	To be determined	Classroom



	Research paper	20%	To be determined	14	Classroom
	Midterm Exam	20%	1-7	8	Classroom
	Final Exam	40%	8-14	15	Classroom

23 Course Requirements

(e.g: students should have a computer, internet connection, webcam, account on a specific software/platform...etc):

24 Course Policies:

A- This course is designed to be two-thirds class meetings and one-third online learning. This means that you are expected to attend class at the university every Sunday and Tuesday. You are also expected to participate in online discussions, collaborate and work with your fellow students, and prepare and complete any assigned homework.

- You are expected to be in class on time. Students coming late are allowed to enter but will be marked absent on attendance sheet. The same applies to leaving class early. No exceptions.
- Participation and students' involvement are crucial to the success of the course. All students are expected to have read the assigned materials before coming to class in order to fully engage in the discussions. In addition to in-class discussions, students are encouraged to post their comments and questions on E-Learning (Moodle) which can be accessed at <http://elearning.ju.edu.jo/>.
- The University allows students to be absent seven times during the semester. However, in a BL course like this one, you are allowed a maximum of THREE excused absences. The only excuse that would remove your absence from your record is in case of a conflict with another course (a scheduled written exam). If you exceed this limit, you will not be allowed to sit for the final exam. No make-up exams. In case of sickness, only reports issued directly from a public clinic or hospital will be accepted. Medical reports from private practiced doctors or private hospitals will not be accepted even if they are stamped by the university's clinic. Reports should be produced within a week of the date of the exam. No exceptions.

25 References:

a. Required book(s), assigned reading and audio-visuals:

- 1- Brown, Jonathan. *Hadīth: Muhammad's Legacy in the Medieval and Modern World*. Oxford: Oneworld, 2009.
- 1- Motzki, Harald. "Introduction." In *Ḥadīth: Origins and Developments*, edited by Harald Motzki, xiii-lxiii. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2004.

- 2- Kamali, Mohammad Hashim. *A Textbook of Ḥadīth Studies: Authenticity, Compilation, Classification, and Criticism of Ḥadīth*. Markfield, UK: Islamic Foundation, 2005.
- 3- *El²*, s.v. Sīra. (W. Raven).
- 4- *El²*, s.v. Sunna. (G.H.A. Juynboll).
- 5- Shah, Mustafa. "Introduction." In *The Ḥadīth: Critical Concept in Islamic Studies*, edited by Mustafa Shah I, 1-56. London: Routledge, 2010.
- 6- Brown, Johnathan. "The Rules of *Matn* Criticism: There Are No Rules," *Islamic Law and Society* 19, no. 4 (2012): 356-396.

b. Recommended books, materials, and media:

- 7- Abd al-Rauf, Muhammad. "Ḥadīth Literature—I: The Development of the Science of Ḥadīth." In *The Cambridge History of Arabic Literature: Arabic Literature until the End of the Umayyad Period*. Edited by A. F. L. Beeston et al., 271–288. London: Cambridge University Press, 1983.
- 8- Al-Azami, Muhammad Mustafa, *Studies in Hadith Methodology and Literature*,
- 9- Guillaume, Alfred. *The Traditions of Islam: An Introduction to the Hadith Literature*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1924.
- 10- Robson, James. "Ḥadīth." In *Encyclopaedia of Islam*. 2d ed. Edited by P. J. Bearman et al. Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill, 1960–present.
- 11- Shah Abd al-Aziz. *The Garden of the Hadith Scholars*. Translated by Aisha Bewley. London: Turath, 2007.
- 12- Siddiqi, Muhammad Zubair. *Ḥadīth Literature: Its Origins, Development and Special Features*. Rev. ed. Cambridge, UK: Islamic Texts Society, 1993.
- 13- Burton, John. *An Introduction to the Ḥadīth*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1994
- 14- Cook, Michael. *Muhammad*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1983.
- Rippin, Andrew. "Muhammad in the Qur'an: Reading Scripture in the 21st Century." In *The Biography of Muhammad: The Issue of the Sources*. Edited by Harald Motzki, 298–309. Leiden, the Netherlands: E. J. Brill, 2000.



14. Görke, Andreas. "The Relationship between Maghāzī and ḥadīth in Early Islamic Scholarship." *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 74, no.2 (June 2011): 171-85.

26 Additional information:

Teaching Methods and Assignments:

Reading assignments will be handed out at least one week in advance, along with assigned reading questions and presentation assignments for the following week. Learning will be achieved through careful reading of assignments, thoughtful summary and analysis in short papers and in mid-term examination, in-class discussions between students and instructor, and developed argumentation in final course paper assignment.

Projects and Assignments

Every student in the class is expected to:

- 1) Students will be asked to submit a 2-3 pages short essay each week, analyzing and discussing the assigned readings for the week. Instructor will hand out reading questions for consideration one week in advance.
- 2) Each student will be asked to lead a ten to fifteen minutes discussion on one of the readings each week. Students will be asked to highlight the most important aspects (as they see it) of the article they are reporting on, and to come up with some related questions that can be discussed in class. Students will be assigned readings for which they will serve as discussion leader one week in advance. Students will submit presentation notes to the instructor each week and will receive graded notes in class on the following week.
- 3) Students will be asked to engage in discussion for all the assigned readings and not just for the readings on which they will be presenting.
- 4) Reading assignments will be announced one week in advance. All readings will be available electronically, and students will not be asked to purchase readings for this course.
- 5) The mid-term exam will consist of two short in-class essays, to be completed during Week Seven. Potential essay questions will be handed out in Week Six. Students will be able to use notes when writing essays.
- 6) The final exam will be an eight-to-ten-page essay on a theme chosen by the student, in which the student will discuss at least 4-6 of the assigned readings from the course and will make an argument and draw a conclusion in reference to their chosen subject. Students will submit to the instructor a one paragraph summary of proposed subject for final comprehensive paper, along with



proposed readings to be consulted, by Week #10.

7) **Research Paper (Including Project Proposal and Source List Assignments):** The research paper (15-20 pages) will explore a topic related to contemporary Islam and must incorporate substantial research from primary sources outside of class. The paper must have at least 15 sources, five of which must be primary sources.

- **Project Proposal:** One page proposal describing the topic you will investigate for the research paper. The topic must be specific enough to enable detailed primary source research but must also concern a broad issue such as those discussed in the syllabus. **due 29/3/2023**
- **Source List (Preliminary Bibliography):** A preliminary list of the primary and secondary sources for the research paper.
- **Paper Rough Draft due 26/4/2023**
- **Paper Final Draft due 17/5/2023**
- Students are encouraged to attend my office hours throughout the semester as they write the paper. Students should be aware that I am committed to assisting them at every step of the research process, and are encouraged to check in with me throughout the research process to explore their ideas and writing process.

Name of Course Coordinator: -----	Signature: -----	Date: -----

Head of Curriculum Committee/Department: -----	Signature: -----	

Head of Department: -----	Signature: -----	
-		
Head of Curriculum Committee/Faculty: -----	Signature: -----	
-		
Dean: -----	Signature: -----	