
Islamic Golden Age

OSHER 275-001**Dates:** Thursdays: January 14 – February 18**Time:** 3:30 – 5:00 pm**Location:** Online via Zoom**Instructor:** Dr. Abdulnaser Kaadan, MD, PhD**Email:** ankaadan@weber.edu **Telephone:** (617) 991-0533**Course Description:**

The evolution and practice of the Islamic civilization, during the Islamic Golden Ages, from origins until the fall of the Islamic civilization. The goal of this course is to encourage the student to think about Islamic golden age from an historical perspective, and to appreciate how Islamic civilization can inform the study of history.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will understand Islamic golden age; sciences, technology, and medicine, in their historical and social contexts during Islamic civilization. Through the Umayyad and, in particular, the succeeding Abbasid Caliphate's early phase, lies the period of Islamic history known as the Islamic Golden Age, between 692 and 945, with stable political structures and flourishing trade. Major religious and cultural works of the empire were translated into Arabic. The culture inherited Greek, Indic, Assyrian and Persian influences, and a new common civilization formed, based on Islam. An era of high culture and innovation ensued.

Course outlines:

Introduction

1: History of the concept

2: Causes

1. Religious influence
2. Government sponsorship
3. Earlier cultural influence
4. New technology

3: Philosophy

1. Metaphysics
2. Epistemology

4: Mathematics

1. Algebra
2. Geometry
3. Trigonometry
4. Calculus

5: Natural sciences

1. Scientific method
2. Astronomy
3. Physics
4. Mechanics
5. Chemistry
6. Geodesy
7. Biology

6: Healthcare

1. Hospitals
2. Pharmacies
3. Medicine
4. Surgery

7: Arts and culture

1. Poetry
2. Art
3. Architecture
 - a. Moorish architecture

The Mosque–Cathedral of Córdoba
The Alhambra
The Giralda
Medina Azahara
The Mosque of Cristo de la Luz
The Aljafería Palace

8: Decline

1. Invasions
2. Economics
3. Culture

9: Islamic world contributions to Medieval Europe

10: Transmission routes