

2nd Year

Subject: Qur'ān Translation (ar. *Tarjamah Ma'ānī al-Qur'ān*)

Textbook: Directly from the Muṣḥaf

Description: The meanings of the Holy Qur'ān are translated into English. In this year, one will study Qur'ān translation from Sūrah Yūsuf to Sūrah al-ʿAnkabūt. Studying this subject is a cornerstone feature of our ʿālimiyyah program. In this year, one embarks on an absolutely lifechanging experience. For the next three years, one will traverse page-by-page, in fact, word-by-word through Allāh's Divine Book as an enriching linguistic analysis is undertaken that brings one to understand the Revelation by knowing its language. At the end of this effort, one should be able to translate most of the verses into English.

Learning Objectives:

- Expand one's vocabulary, especially words in the Qur'ān that repeat frequently.
- Experience the wonder of Qur'ānic linguistics by experiencing the theoretical language disciplines of Arabic grammar and morphology coming to life in Allāh's Book.
- Know important Qur'ānic themes from these chapters.

Subject: Qur'ān Recitation (ar. *ʿIlm al-Tajwīd*)

Textbook: Qārī Ismāʿīl Ishāq's *Tajwīd for Beginners*, Shaykh Muḥammad b. Muḥammad Ibn al-Jazarī's *al-Muqaddimat al-Jazariyyah*, Qārī Muḥibb al-Dīn al-Ilāhabādī's *Maʿrifat al-Rusūm*

Description: Recitation of the entire Qur'ān according to Ḥafṣ's narration via the Ṭarīq of Shāṭibī.

Learning Objectives:

- Study the theoretical principles of *tajwīd*.
- Apply the theoretical knowledge through application.

Subject: Arabic Grammar (ar. *ʿIlm al-Naḥw*)

Textbook: Ibn Ajurrūm & Dr. Muḥy al-Dīn ʿAbd al-Hamīd's *al-Tuḥfat al-Saniyyah bi Sharḥ al-Ajurrūmiyyah*, Dr. Muḥammad Fāḍil Ṣāliḥ al-Sāmūrāʾī's *al-Naḥw al-ʿArabī: Aḥkām wa Maʿān* (Select Readings)

Description: The Arabic language's most important rules of grammar are imparted through reading a time-tested primer. For centuries, countless students have derived immense benefit from Ibn Ajurrūm's *Muqaddimah*, which is a concise work that conveys the grammar one needs to read. Dr. Muḥy al-Dīn's commentary provides additional details elucidating the rules. End-of-chapter exercises also give students an opportunity to review and assess their understanding of the material.

Dr. Sāmūrāʾī's work is supplementary to the *Ajurrūmiyyah* reading. One will cover the sections that highlight how grammar impacts meanings specific to the primary grammar rules studied in the *Ajurrūmiyyah*.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn grammar focusing on what is necessary to read unmarked Arabic text.
- Begin understanding how to parse Arabic sentences.

Subject: Arabic Literature (ar. *al-Adab al-ʿArabī*)

Textbook: Shaykh Abū al-Ḥasan ʿAlī al-Nadwī's *Qaṣaṣ al-Nabiyyīn*

Description: The reading continues from where the previous year left off. Sections three, four, and five are studied. Each volume details the Prophets' lives while building one's understanding and ability in classical Arabic.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to read Arabic.
- Parse Arabic sentences.
- Apply one's theoretical knowledge of grammar and morphology.

Subject: Arabic Grammar & Composition (ar. *al-Naḥw wa al-Inshāʾ wa al-Taʿbīr*)

Textbook: ʿAlī al-Jārim & Muṣṭafā Amīn's *al-Naḥw al-Wāḍiḥ* (Part 3)

Description: *al-Naḥw al-Wāḍiḥ* was selected because it has been successful in developing language skills in aspiring students. Through this work one will improve in articulating their thought in Arabic with fluency, experiencing the functionality of a highly-developed clavis through dynamic composition exercises.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to compose coherent expressions in Arabic.
- Gain exposure to various styles of Arabic.
- Expand one's vocabulary.

Subject: Islāmic Jurisprudence (ar. *Ḥanafī Fiqh*)

Textbooks: Shaykh Shafiq al-Raḥmān al-Nadwī's *al-Fiqh al-Muyassar 'alā Madhhab al-Imām al-A'zam Abī Ḥanīfah al-Nu'mān*

Description: Shurunbulālī's *Nūr al-Īdāh* is often one of the first *fiqh* books formally studied. From Egypt's Azhar University to the eminent Dār al-'Ulūms of South Asia, this work has featured as a mainstay textbook. Perhaps for this reason, Shaykh Shafiq al-Raḥman al-Nadwī relied on it extensively while writing *al-Fiqh al-Muyassar*. The book, *al-Fiqh al-Muyassar*, was a project overseen by the rector of India's Dār al-'Ulūm Nadwat al-'Ulamā', Shaykh Abū al-Ḥasan 'Alī al-Nadwī.

Shaykh Shafiq al-Raḥman abridged *Nūr al-Īdāh* most excellently. Along with simplifying it, he formulated an innovative educational methodology in which one will discover a focus on reviewing the textual evidence from which the rulings are derived along with a focus on developing the learners' writing and composition skills. Thereby, one studies *fiqh* while developing the reading skills necessary for more advanced levels. As well, one begins to appreciate the correlation between the source evidence and the rulings while developing the skill of expressing their understandings of those dynamics while wielding a pen.

Learning Objectives:

- Study *fiqh* at a rudimentary level.
- Begin negotiating Ḥanafī Fiqh texts in the subject's *lingo franca*, i.e. Arabic.
- Bolster one's vocabulary and understanding of nomenclature.
- Prepare to study intermediate level jurisprudence from *Mukhtaṣar al-Qudūrī*.

Subject: Prophetic Narrations (ar. *Ḥadīth*)

Textbooks: Imām Abū Zakariyyā Yaḥyā b. Sharaf al-Nawawī's *Riyāḍ al-Ṣāliḥīn*

Description: A work that needs no introduction. Each narration related in Imām Nawawī's *Riyāḍ al-Ṣāliḥīn* will be commented on with a focus on its significance and application in our lives. Studying this text will expose one to a prodigious assortment of *mutūn* that comprise the *ḥadīth* corpus.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn practicable knowledge directly through the words of Allāh's Messenger.
- Develop into a Muslim who is spiritually confident in the Prophet's guidance.
- Imbibe the narrations and explanations in order to share them with others.

3rd Year

Subject: Qur'ān Translation (ar. *Tarjamah Ma'ānī al-Qur'ān*)

Textbook: Directly from the Muṣḥaf

Description: One's journey through Allāh's book continues from where last year left off. The meanings of the Holy Qur'ān are translated into English. In this year, one will study Qur'ān translation from Sūrah al-Rūm to Sūrah al-Nās.

Learning Objectives:

- Expand one's Qur'ānic vocabulary.
- Know important Qur'ānic themes from these chapters.

Subject: Qur'ān Recitation (ar. *ʿIlm al-Tajwīd*)

Textbook: Shaykh Abū Muḥammad al-Qāsim b. Fīrru al-Shāṭibī's *Hirz al-Āmānī wa Wajh al-Tahānī fī Qirā'āt al-Sab'*, al-Qārī Salīm Gaibie's *Ghunyat al-Ṭalabah fī Taysīr al-Sab'ah*

Description: Recitation of Sūrah al-Fātiḥah to Sūrah al-Nisā': one and a half *juz'* will be read *jam' 'atfī* and the rest *jam' ḥarfī*.

Learning Objectives:

- Study the seven modes of recitation as related by Shāṭibī.
- Apply the theoretical study.

Subject: Qur'ānic Linguistics and Grammar (ar. *Lughah al-Qur'ān wa Naḥwuhu wa 'Irābuhu*)

Textbook: Select Readings

Description: This is a dynamic and hands-on class. Students will prepare exercises engaging passages of the Qur'ān while focusing on various aspects of its language. Upon completion of the work, the instructor will go through checking the students' writings while providing feedback.

Learning Objectives:

- Practically engage the Qur'ān and its language.
- Proficiently parse Arabic sentences.
- Become able to explain Allāh's Book from a linguistic perspective.

Subject: Principle Evidence and Legal Theory (ar. *Uṣūl al-Fiqh*)

Textbook: Muftī 'Ubayd Allāh al-Sindī's *al-Mūjaz fī Uṣūl al-Fiqh*

Description: This moderately-sized work carries within it deep insight and profound knowledge. Lucid passages simplify the subject's intricate principles allowing one to gain a solid grasp of the material that can be further developed in the forthcoming years.

The late Syrian *ḥadīth* master Shaykh 'Abd al-Faṭṭāh Abū Ghuddah remarked regarding this priceless masterpiece: "*I found the writing to be beneficial, simple yet inclusive. The author extracted the subject's core from Ḥanaḥī uṣūl works and made it accessible for students. The book consists of concise and lucid passages. Every citation has been verified, and every point has been examined.*"

The subject's nomenclature and primary content will be elucidated through engaging lessons, comprehensively imparting this otherwise complex subject into the arsenal of the student. Each lesson will focus on laying a solid academic foundation in the science.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn the subject's main discourses.
- Develop a solid foundational understanding of key nomenclature.
- Prepare to face the upcoming challenge of reading Nasaḥī's *Manār al-Anwār*.

Subject: Islāmic Jurisprudence (ar. *Ḥanaḥī Fiqh*)

Textbook: Imām Abū al-Ḥusayn Aḥmad b. Muḥammad al-Qudūrī's *Mukhtaṣar* (from *Kitāb al-Zakāh* to the end)

Description: *Qudūrī's* concise passages have trained countless students who reached high ranks in scholarship. This book is a timeless treasure -a *fiqh* manual par excellence- that trains the reader to hone their skills at an

intermediate level. In fact, in studies, the bridge between the introductory and advanced levels is often one of the hardest to cross. Moreover, certain sections, e.g. financial transactions, are some of the most complex and intricate. With each step taken through the work's illuminated pages, one comes closer to making this important transition.

The author presents differing opinions between the Ḥanafī School's leading authorities, such as Imām Abū Ḥanīfah, Qādī Abū Yūsuf, and Imām Muḥammad. One will explore the causes of such differences in a select amount of cases; and in a general way, one will become acquainted with how internal differences in the Ḥanafī School are addressed.

Learning Objectives:

- Review a significant amount of legal cases in the subject of *fiqh*.
- Develop the ability to proficiently read an intermediate level *fiqh* text with understanding.

Subject: Rhetoric (ar. *ʿIlm al-Balāghah*)

Textbook: ‘Alī al-Jārim & Muṣṭafā Amīn's *al-Balāghah al-Wāḍiḥah*

Description: The subject of rhetoric is introduced. This work is a well-structured textbook that imparts the discipline's theoretical aspects along with comprising a munificent number of examples and end-of-chapter exercises. Accordingly, the reading focuses on equipping one with a functional understanding of the subject's key terminology and concepts while solidifying that theoretical knowledge through samples from the foremost literary sources coupled with practical application.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn the fundamentals of the science of rhetoric.
- Establish an understanding of the subject's nomenclature.
- Bolster one's understanding of Arabic's eloquence through hands-on engagement.

Subject: Theology (ar. *Uṣūl al-Dīn*)

Textbooks: Shaykh Ṭāhir b. Ṣāliḥ al-Jazā'irī's *al-Jawāhir al-Kalāmiyyah fī ʿIdāḥ al-ʿAqīdah al-Islāmiyyah*, Shaykh Ismāʿīl b. Mūsā al-Ḥāmidī's commentary on Aḥmad al-Dardīr's *al-ʿAqīdah al-Ṣuḡhrā*, Shaykh Muḥammad b. Yūsuf al-Sanūsī & Ustādh Muḥammad al-Hāshimī's *al-ʿAqā'id al-Durariyyah Sharḥ Matn al-Sanūsiyyah*

Description:

Jazā'irī's work is a lucid text. Rudimentary concepts in the subject are introduced in brief question-and-answer format. Following *al-Jawāhir al-Kalāmiyyah* is Ḥāmidī's commentary on Dardīr's *al-ʿAqīdah al-Ṣuḡhrā*. Through studying this work, one's linguistic ability is further enhanced. Moreover, this is an introductory text written in the classic interlineal format. Becoming accustomed to this manner of writing is imperative because many seminal works are written in this way. Ḥāmidī's work is more complex than Jazā'irī's, both in language and content. Hence, one gradually improves in textual negotiation skills while bolstering their understanding of the subject's nomenclature.

Then, a study of Ustādh Muḥammad al-Hāshimī's marginalia on Sanūsī's *ʿAqīdah* is undertaken. There will be an emphasis on the end of chapter exercises that are included. Each student will be required to submit written explanations to these exercises. Thereby, one's understanding of the subject is augmented along with the onus of expressing one's understanding coherently through a written medium.

Learning Objectives:

- Develop a functional understanding of the subject's main chapters and primary concepts.
- Gradually improve one's skill of negotiating theology textbooks.

4th Year

Subject: Qur'ān Translation (ar. *Tarjamah Ma'ānī al-Qur'ān*)

Textbook: Directly from the Muṣḥaf

Description: One's journey through the Holy Qur'ān's meanings continues from Sūrah al-Rūm until the end of the Qur'ān. One relies on classical Arabic lexicon to examine the meanings of words.

Learning Objectives:

- Expand one's Qur'ānic vocabulary.
- Reference primary linguistic sources.
- Know important Qur'ānic themes from these chapters.

Subject: Qur'ān Recitation (ar. *ʿIlm al-Tajwīd*)

Textbook: Shaykh Abū Muḥammad al-Qāsim b. Fīrru al-Shāṭibī's *Manẓūmat 'Aqīlat Atrāb al-Qaṣā'id fī 'Ilm Rasm al-Maṣāḥif*

Description: Recitation from Sūrah al-Mā'idah to Sūrah al-Nās by way of *jam' ḥarfī*.

Learning Objectives:

- Study the intricacies of the subject along with application.

Subject: Islāmic Jurisprudence (ar. *Ḥanafī Fiqh*)

Textbook: Imām Abū al-Ḥasan 'Alī b. Abī Bakr al-Marghīnānī's *al-Hidāyah Sharḥ Bidāyah al-Mubtadi'* (Volume 1)

Description: Marghīnānī's acclaimed masterpiece in Ḥanafī Fiqh, *al-Hidāyah Sharḥ Bidāyah al-Mubtadi'*, will be perused. *Hidāyah* is based on Imām Qudūrī's *Mukhtaṣar* and Imām Muḥammad's *al-Jāmi' al-Ṣaghīr*. In *Hidāyah*, the author relates differences of opinions from the School's founders along with indicating to the relied-upon opinion in some instances. Accordingly, one will begin exploring cases of difference internal to the School and how those are dealt with by the researchers.

As well, the author systematically presents differences of opinion between the Ḥanafīs and the other Schools. Imām Shāfi'ī's opinions are cited frequently, and the author will present Imām Mālik's opinions too. These opinions are referenced along with their proofs. After citing the differing viewpoints, the author offers responses and counterarguments. Accordingly, this work trains one on how argumentation between jurists is approached and applied. The identification of *ratio legum* is addressed along with sourcing them to the primary evidence. Along with studying legal rulings in specific cases, this study equips one with insights into the intricate nature of the jurists' efforts.

Learning Objectives:

- Study "*Hidāyah Awwal*."
- Analyze how differing opinions in *fiqh* are debated amongst scholars.
- Review the School's *ratio legum*, how they are applied in specific cases, and the basis for them from the primary source evidence.
- Study variations in the School's transmission and how those are reconciled by the scholars.

Subject: The Ḥanafī School of Thought: A Review of its History and Development (ar. *al-Madḥhab al-Ḥanafī: Tārīkhuhu wa Taṭwīruhu*)

Textbook: Shaykh Aḥmad b. Muḥammad Naṣīr al-Dīn al-Naqīb's *al-Madḥhab al-Ḥanafī*

Description: The first quarter of Shaykh Aḥmad al-Naqīb's work is read. This section discusses the history of the Ḥanafī Madḥhab starting with Imām Abū Ḥanīfah's circle of learning. The Madḥhab's structure of scholarship and various factors surrounding the occurrence of its development will be covered.

Learning Objectives:

- Become acquainted with the most important scholars representing the Ḥanafī School.
- Know the School's history and how it developed.
- Know the School's structure of scholarship.

Subject: The Ḥanafī School's Principles and Nomenclature (ar. *Uṣūl al-Madḥhab wa Muṣṭalaḥātuḥu*)

Textbook: Shaykh Aḥmad b. Muḥammad Naṣīr al-Dīn al-Naqīb's *al-Madḥhab al-Ḥanafī*

Description: The second quarter of Shaykh Aḥmad al-Naqīb's work is read. Herein, one will become exposed to the Ḥanafī Madḥhab's principles and legal maxims. Many topics will be addressed, such as how to determine the School's relied-upon positions, how to reconcile with cases in which contradictory statements from the scholars are present, how to approach enigmatic passages, etc. Furthermore, one will undergo a detailed study of the jurists' nomenclature, which are systematically employed throughout the Madḥhab's literary corpus.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to read *fiqh* texts while mindful of the subject's nuanced technical language.
- Obtain a solid set of ground rules to veraciously negotiate even the most challenging of legal discussions.
- Develop the ability to undergo principled research in the subject.

Subject: Principle Evidence and Legal Theory (ar. *Uṣūl al-Fiqh*)

Textbook: Imām Abū al-Barakāt 'Abd Allāh b. Aḥmad al-Nasafī's *Manār al-Anwār fī Uṣūl al-Fiqh*

Description: In *Manār al-Anwār*, Imām Nasafī abridged two seminal works: Imām Fakhr al-Islām al-Bazdawī's *Uṣūl* and Shams al-A'imma al-Sarakhsī's *Uṣūl*. He summarized them, adding highly pertinent information, and generally followed the chapter sequencing found in Bazdawī's work. Even with the *Manār*'s brevity, the content contained therein fully represents the rich contributions from where Nasafī sourced the material. The result of his conscientious effort illuminated the subject for years to come. Countless erudite researchers wrote volumes explaining the treatise. The work is unsurpassed in the field. One of its commentators, Ibn al-'Aynī, remarked regarding it: "*I have never seen anything like it in the subject of uṣūl al-fiqh.*"

In studying this work, one will inherit the Ḥanafī School's legal theory from its masters. With the myriad commentaries that elucidate *Manār*'s core, one will have ample opportunity to critically engage the various insights and observations documented from the scholars during the reading.

Learning Objectives:

- Study *uṣūl al-fiqh* in detail.
- Understand the School's evidence and principles.

Subject: Ḥanafī Ḥadīth Methodology (ar. *Uṣūl al-Ḥadīth 'alā Manhaj al-Ḥanafīyyah*)

Textbook: Shaykh 'Abd al-Majīd al-Turkmānī's *al-Madkhal ilā Uṣūl al-Ḥadīth 'alā Manhaj al-Ḥanafīyyah*

Description: The Ḥanafī School's approach to *ḥadīth* sciences is elaborated on in detail.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the Ḥanafī School's approach to *ḥadīth* sciences.

Subject: Studies in Ḥadīth Methodology (ar. *Ulūm al-Ḥadīth*)

Textbook: Ḥāfiẓ Ibn Ḥajar al-'Asqalānī's *Nuzhat al-Nazar Sharḥ Nukhbat al-Fikar*

Description: The text is studied to lay a strong foundation through which one soundly understands the subject's terminology and principles; most especially, after the effort of codification and crystallization that happened at the hands of the subject's later-day authorities.

Learning Objectives:

- Undergo a detailed study of *ḥadīth* methodology.
- Understand the subject through its codified principles.

Subject: Narrator Criticism (ar. *Ilm al-Jarḥ wa al-Ta'dīl*)

Textbook: Shaykh 'Abd al-Latīf 'Abd al-'Azīz's *Ḍawābiṭ al-Jarḥ wa al-Ta'dīl*

Description: One will study the principles of narrator criticism. Along with gaining a strong understanding of the subject's theoretical principles, one will know how to apply them through practical exercise.

Learning Objectives:

- Study narrator criticism and understand it as a theoretical subject.
- Apply one's theoretical knowledge.

Subject: Theology (ar. *Uṣūl al-Dīn*)

Textbook: Dr. Muḥammad Sa‘īd Ramaḍān al-Būṭī’s *Kubrā al-Yaqīniyyāt al-Kawniyyah: Wujūd al-Khāliq wa Waṣīfat al-Makhlūq*

Description: Dr. Būṭī’s well-known work, *Kubrā al-Yaqīniyyāt al-Kawniyyah*, will be studied *inshā’Allāh*. This work is an intermediate-level textbook in the subject of theology.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn theology’s primary chapters in detail.
- Learn the theologians’ methods of argumentation and summoning proof along with how they have been applied to select philosophical dilemmas.

Subject: Logic (ar. *‘Ilm al-Manṭiq*)

Textbook: Shaykh Muḥammad Anwār al-Badakhshānī’s *Tas-hīl al-Manṭiq*, Imām Athīr al-Dīn al-Mufaḍḍal b. ‘Umar al-Samarqandī al-Abharī’s *Mughnī al-Ṭullāb*

Description: Reading *Tas-hīl al-Manṭiq* equips one with a functional understanding of the science’s most important terms and concepts. Thereafter, one will embark on a study of the Isagoge relying extensively on Abharī’s commentary. This equips one with the ability to read in the subject via the classic interlineal format, which is essential for further study. Moreover, the combination of the two textbooks will equip one with a functional knowledge of logic and hone one’s ability to critically assess concepts and forward intelligible arguments.

Learning Objectives:

- Lay the foundation for further inquiry into the subject.
- Hone one’s argumentation skills.

5th Year (*Mishkāt*)

Subject: Prophetic Narrations: *Mishkāh al-Maṣābīḥ*

Textbook: Imām Walī al-Dīn Abū ‘Abd Allāh Muḥammad b. ‘Abd Allāh al-Khaṭīb al-Tibrīzī’s *Mishkāh al-Maṣābīḥ*

Description: In the traditional Dars Nizāmī curriculum, Tibrīzī’s *Mishkāh al-Maṣābīḥ* is a pivotal textbook that represents an important station on one’s ‘*ālīmiyyah*’ journey. In fact, this year is sometimes referred to as “*Mishkāt*” and students at this level are often called “*Mishkāt students*.” After four full years of intensive scholarly effort, one rolls up their sleeves to diligently engage their first major *ḥadīth* compilation.

Mishkāt is Tibrīzī’s abridgement of Imām Abū Muḥammad al-Ḥusayn b. Mas‘ūd al-Baghawī’s *Maṣābīḥ al-Sunnah*. Furthermore, *Mishkāt* has received a good amount of attention from the scholars. Many have written commentaries on it. Regarding *Mishkāt* and some of its commentaries, the great Turkish Ḥanafī jurist Muḥammad b. Abī Bakr Sājiqlī Zādah al-Mar‘ashlī said in his book *Tartīb al-‘Ulūm*: “*It is necessary that every scholar make it his companion.*”

Learning Objectives:

- Undertake a scholarly study of *Mishkāt*; engage the Prophets’ narrations with the asset of having completed multiple years of advanced Islāmīc Studies.

Subject: Islāmīc Jurisprudence (ar. *Ḥanafī Fiqh*)

Textbook: Imām Abū al-Ḥasan ‘Alī b. Abī Bakr al-Marghīnānī’s *al-Hidāyah Sharḥ Bidāyat al-Mubtadī* (Volume 2)

Description: In this year, one continues in their study of Marghīnānī’s *Hidāyah*.

Learning Objectives:

- Study “*Hidāyah Thānī*.”

Subject: Studies in Ḥadīth Methodology (ar. *‘Ulūm al-Ḥadīth*)

Textbook: Shaykh ‘Umar ‘Abd al-Mun‘im Salīm’s *Taysīr Dirasāt al-Asānīd*, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Muhdī ‘Abd al-Qādir’s *Turuq al-Takhrīj*

Description: In this study, one continues to build on the previous year. One’s ability to determine the authenticity of narrations based on the scholars’ statements of vindication/vilification will be applied through analysis and investigation that examines the quality of *asānīd* in extracts from the *ḥadīth* corpus. And one will couple this ability with tracing and referencing narrations back to their sources while cross-referencing *isnād*-related data. Along with gaining a strong understanding of the subject’s theoretical principles, one will know how to apply them through hands-on research.

Learning Objectives:

- Study *isnād* criticism and understand it as a theoretical subject.
- Know how to trace narrations back to their sources.
- Apply one’s theoretical knowledge.

Subject: Qur’ān Exegesis (ar. *Tafsīr*)

Textbook: Qāḍī Nāṣir al-Dīn ‘Abd Allāh b. ‘Umar al-Bayḍāwī’s *Anwār al-Tanzīl wa Asrār al-Ta’wīl* (the first 141 verses of the Qur’ān)

Description: In *Tafsīr al-Bayḍāwī*, the author abridged al-Rāghib al-Aṣbahānī’s *Mufradāt*, Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī’s *al-Tafsīr al-Kabīr*, and al-Zamakhsharī’s *al-Kashshāf*; accordingly, the linguistic and rational aspects of Qur’ānic exegesis are emphasized in this study.

Learning Objectives:

- Study advanced *tafsīr*.
- Prepare to endeavor to make Qur’ānic Studies a lifelong pursuit.

Subject: The Protocols and Etiquettes of Fatwā (ar. *Uṣūl al-Iftā’*)

Textbook: Imām Muḥammad Amīn b. ‘Umar b. ‘Abd al-Azīz ‘Ābidīn al-Shāmī’s *Sharḥ ‘Uqūd Rasm al-Muftī*

Description: Ibn ‘Ābidīn’s *‘Uqūd Rasm al-Muftī* is a seventy-four-line versification detailing the protocols and procedures for one who provides legal counsel to others in accordance with the relied-upon opinion in the Ḥanafī School. The author himself commentated on the work, providing assiduous insight into the principles of this most important discipline.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn the mechanics of *iftā’* according to the Ḥanafī school of thought.
- Appreciate the complexities and rigor of this field.
- Gain insightful information to become a balanced and precise researcher in the field of jurisprudence.
- Know the etiquettes required for answering people’s religious queries.
- Prepare to face the challenge of offering legal counsel to the community according to the Sacred Law.

Subject: Advanced Arabic Literature (ar. *al-Adab al-‘Arabī*)

Textbook: Various authors’ *al-Muntakhab min Adab al-‘Arab*

Description: This is an extensive collection of excerpts from the leading Arabic litterateurs. One will read selections of this text, focusing on the beauty and eloquence of the language while being exposed to a multitude of style and diverse structure. Through this study one will appreciate Arabic’s belles-lettres.

Learning Objectives:

- Become able to proficiently function in Arabic.
- Experience the beauty of classical Arabic through a variety of literary samples.

Subject: Modern Ideologies (ar. *al-Madhāhib al-Fikriyyah al-Mu‘āṣirah*)

Textbook: Select readings. Dr. Muḥammad Sa‘īd Ramaḍān al-Būṭī’s *al-Madhāhib al-Tawḥīdiyyah wa al-Falsafāt al-Mu‘āṣirah*, Shaykh ‘Abd al-Raḥman Ḥasan Ḥabannakah’s *Kawāshif Zuyūf fī al-Madhāhib al-Fikriyyah al-Mu‘āṣirah*, etc.

Description: In this study, one will review the scholar’s discussions on modern day “-isms,” like Darwinism, materialism, etc.

Learning Objectives:

- Critically review aspects of modern philosophical trends.
- Become intellectually prepared to defend Islām against their ingressions.