

**St. Louis University**  
**College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Philosophy**  
**493.01 Islamic Philosophy**

**(COURSE SYLLABUS)**

<i>Class: 493</i>	<i>Class hours: 3</i>	<i>Time: 9:30 – 10:45 T.TH.</i>
<i>Section: 01</i>	<i>Credit hours: 3</i>	<i>Class room: PL 402</i>

**Mashhad Al-Allaf**

*B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in Philosophy: Concentration on Science and Metaphysics.*

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**Office hours:** After class, and by appointment. **Office:** H 214. (314) 977-3162

**Text Book:** **The Essence of Islamic Philosophy**, Mashhad Al-Allaf, 2003.  
**Mirror of Realization**, Mashhad Al-Allaf, 2003.  
**The Incoherence of the Philosophers**, Al-Ghazali, 1997.

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to present the student with a solid introduction to the major thinkers in classical Islamic philosophy, with emphasis placed on developing a properly philosophical understanding of the issues and arguments. Topics include: Reason and revelation (can the human mind reach the truth without the aid of revelation?); the existence of God; creation, eternity, and infinity. Causality and Miracles. Human nature and knowledge; the nature of ethical obligations; and the constitution of the ideal political state. Philosophers to be studied include al-Kindi, al-Razi, al-Farabi, Ibn Sina (Avicenna), al-Ghazali, Ibn Taimia, Ibn Baja, Ibn Tufail, and Ibn Rushd (Averroes).

**Course Requirements:**

- 1- Class attendance and participation is mandatory: Students should arrive at class having carefully studied the assigned text and prepared to discuss it.
- 2- Complete all reading assignments.
- 3- Take three exams on course material.
- 4- Reading quizzes.
- 5- Verbal Report has to be presented in groups of 3-4 students.

**Grading Scale:**

	97-100 =A+	92-96=A	89.5-91=A-
First Exam. 100	86-89 =B+	82-85=B	79.5-81=B-
Second Exam. 100	76-79=C+	72-75=C	69.5-71=C-
Third Exam. 80	66-69=D+	62-65=D	59.5-61=D-
	59 and below=F, or 92=A, 82=B, 72=C, 62=D		

**20 points for the Followings:**

Quizzes and Participation:	6 points.
Verbal report:	6 points.
Attendance:	8 points, every absence is a (-2 points). <b>6 absences = F.</b>

**Make-up Exams and Late Papers:**

Make-up exams will only be given in cases of a *documented* illness or personal crisis. If you are too ill to take the exam, then you will need to present verifiable documentation from a licensed healthcare professional. The same rule applies to late papers.

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<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>READING/ACTIVITY</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE #</u></b>
Week 1: T.	<i>Class Introduction and Policies</i>	-----
TH.	Islam and the Essence of Islamic Philosophy	9-47 MR
Week 2: T.	The Sources of the Islamic Divine Law	57-81MR
TH.	The Objectives of the Islamic Divine Law	82-93MR
Week 3: T.	Al-Kindi: Religion, Philosophy & Epistemology	9-46 EIP 239-245 MR
TH.	Al-Kindi: Metaphysics; Creation and infinity	47-76EIP
Week 3: T.	Al-Razi, Philosophy and Metaphysics	77-85EIP
TH.	Al-Farabi, Philosophy and Epistemology Discussion and Review.	86-107EIP
Week 4: T.	Al-Farabi, Metaphysics; Theory of Emanation	108-128EIP
TH.	<b><u>First Exam</u></b>	-----
Week 5: T.	Ibn Sina, Life and Philosophy	129-136EIP
TH.	Ibn Sina, Metaphysics; Essence and Existence See <b>Incoherence</b>	137-147EIP 85-96 Incoherence
Week 6: T.	Al-Ghazali, Life, Philosophy, and Truth	147- 187 EIP
TH.	Al-Ghazali; Epistemology	187-204 EIP
Week 7: T.	Al-Ghazali, Metaphysics against the Philosophers The Incoherence; Creation and Eternity	205-228 EIP 1-12 Incoherence
TH.	The Incoherence; Will and Time Discussion and Review	12-31 Incoherence -----
Week 8: T.	<b><u>Break; No Class.</u></b>	-----
TH.	Al-Ghazali on Causality and Miracles, and the Justification of Induction	229-238 EIP 170-81Incoherece
Week 9: T.	God is a Percept- The Universe is a Concept	Lecture
TH.	Class Discussion	-----
Week 10: T.	Review	-----
TH.	<b><u>Second Exam.</u></b>	-----
Week 11: T.	Philosophy in Spain; Ibn Baja	242-257 EIP
TH.	Biography of a Solitary Man, Defining Solitude	257-273 EIP
Week 11: T.	Ibn Tufail, Hayy Ibn Yaqdhan	274-284 EIP
TH.	Hayy Ibn Yaqdhan	284-304 EIP
Week 12: T.	Ibn Rushd	305- 310 EIP
TH.	Discussion	-----
Week 13: T.	Verbal Report	-----
T.H	Verbal Report and Review.	-----
Week 14: T.	<b><u>Third Exam</u></b>	-----
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