



# Sunday School SYLLABUS

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**Course Name:** Islamic Law and Wisdom - 1  
**Course Stage:** Advanced  
**Stage Theme:** Islam in the Contemporary World  
**Level:** 7  
**Ages:** 15-16 years  
**Version:** 1.3

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**Al-Mawrid USA**  
**Ghamidi Center for Islamic Learning**

## **Overview:**

Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) emphasized that seeking religious knowledge is obligatory for every Muslim, regardless of gender. Following the assertion of our Prophet, the purpose of this course is to provide its students with the required knowledge, offering fresh insight into Islam, its beliefs, its practices, and the wisdom behind them. In this two-part course, students will learn about Islam, its core beliefs, and teachings to appreciate the true essence of the directives given by Allah SWT: the purification of oneself. Every lecture or discussion will be a sincere effort to understand how these beliefs and directives play a significant role in self-development and personal growth. Students will be asked to evaluate the subject matter rationally. The first part of the course will focus on articles of faith and their relationship to our social lives, with a brief introduction to rituals. The second part will focus on the laws given by Allah SWT for Muslims to lead their lives in this world.

## **Objectives:**

The primary objective of this course is to explore the objectivity behind Islamic beliefs and understand how the articles of faith are closely intertwined with our daily lives. The effort is to know that it is ok to rationalize the commandments of Allah SWT and the reasons for the success criteria in Allah's eyes. At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- Rationally evaluate the reasoning behind the articles of faith and their requirements.
- Understand how the objective of Islam, purification, is at the center of every commandment given by Allah SWT
- Learn how to use the tools given by Allah SWT in the form of ethics and morality to achieve success in the Hereafter.

## **Delivery Method:**

This course will be taught through various methods suitable for this age group. This includes weekly lectures, group discussions, multiple Q&A sessions, homework assignments, and independent reading of additional reference materials. In addition to the lecture slides, students will be encouraged to read the provided handouts and other available reference materials to further discuss and explore deeper questions about the subject matter. Appropriate discussion forums will be created to enrich the course content, encouraging students to engage in discussions on relevant topics and enhance their understanding. Students can also bring in their questions for discussion in these forums.

## **Assessment**

Students will be randomly assessed on what they have learned after a few lectures using short quizzes, assignments, or projects.

## Course Outline:

The following list comprises the suggested topics that will be covered in this course. These topics are primarily drawn from Ustaz Javed Ahmed Ghamidi's book, *Al-Meezan: Islam, A Comprehensive Introduction*. The discussion forum(s), reference reading material, and Q&A sessions will be added to the lesson plan or outline. These topics are not arranged by week, and some may require multiple sessions to cover fully.

**Note:** *A weekly lesson plan or outline will be created based on these topics. The weekly lessons will incorporate practical aspects of the course, homework, and reference reading exercises.*

### 1. Introduction

- › Course Objectives
- › Structure of the course
- › Why revisit Islam? Am I not a Muslim?
- › The Journey
- › Introduce your understanding of Islam in 2 minutes
- › Suggestions and input
- › Questions and Answers

### A. Introduction to Islam

#### 2. Islam – The True Religion

- › The definition of religion
- › Concept of Worship
- › Islam and its essence
- › History of Islam
- › The sources of Islam
  - Quran – the Divine Book
  - Sunnah – practices of the Prophets
- › What is Hadith? Difference between Sunnah and Hadith
- › Purpose of Divine Books
- › Purpose of Prophets & Messengers
- › The content of Islam (Al-Kitab and Al-Hikmah)
- › Al-Kitab – The Law
- › Examples of Al-Kitab and Al-Hikmah
- › Divine Books
- › The Objective of Islam
- › Iman: The Inner Aspect of Islam
  - Permanent Requirements of Iman
    - Righteous deeds
    - Urging one another to truthfulness and urging one another to remain steadfast
  - Contingent Requirements of Iman

- Migration for the cause of Islam
- Supporting the cause of Islam
- Adhering to justice
- › The correct religious attitude
- › The famous hadith of Jibrael (Gabriel)
- › Quick Recap
- › Questions and Answers

### **3. The Final message**

- › The need for religion
- › Who has the answers?
- › Revealed vs. 'Other' religions
- › Mysticism and revealed religion
- › "I am spiritual but not religious" group
- › The appeal of areligious life
- › Dangers of areligious life
- › Atheism and their arguments
- › Religion and Science
- › Islam, Judaism, and Christianity
- › Abrahamic religion(s)
- › Why Islam is the ONLY divine religion
- › Quick Recap
- › Questions and Answers

## **B. Faith and Beliefs**

### **4. Beliefs in Islam**

- › The role of Faith in religion
- › The concept of blind faith
- › The relationship between Faith and Actions
- › Belief in God
  - Evidence – A quick discussion
  - His Being
  - Allah SWT
  - His Attributes
  - Who created the Creator?
  - Predestination – Good and Evil fate
  - Playing a game – another example
- › Allah's Dealings and Practices
  - Importance
  - Principles
  - Tests and Trials
  - Guidance and Error
  - Beyond Capacity Directives
  - Rise and Fall of Nations
  - Divine Help

- Remorse and Repentance
- Reward and Punishment
- › Dealing with Shirk (A couple of slides will be added here to cover the next chapter)
- › Belief in Angels
- › Belief in Prophets
- › Belief in Divine Books
- › Belief in the Hereafter
- › Quick Recap
- › Questions and Answers

## 5. Prophets & Messengers

- › The concept of Prophethood
- › Prophets unique merits
- › How does God communicate?
- › The reality of Prophethood
- › Why does God send Prophets?
- › Prophets are humans
- › Why aren't women chosen as prophets?
- › Prophethood is a grave responsibility
- › Prophets and Messengers
- › The fate of Prophet Muhammad's nation
- › Innocence of Prophets
- › Examples of Prophets and Messengers
- › Obeying the Prophet
- › How do I recognize a Prophet?
- › Signs of a Prophet
- › Prophet Muhammad, the last Prophet
- › Why did God seize the prophethood?
- › The special status of Prophet Ibrahim's progeny
- › Quick Recap
- › Questions and Answers

## 6. Quran

- › The purpose of Divine Books
- › Last Divine Book – The Quran
- › Some facts about Quran
- › God has protected Quran
- › How God preserved Quran?
- › The language of the Quran is protected
- › Some terms
- › The subject matter of the Quran
- › How to understand Quran?
- › The style and genre of the Quran
- › The miraculous nature of the Quran – its relevance is eternal

- › Other Divine Books (Torah, Psalms, & Gospel)
- › Quran and other Divine Books
- › Quran and Science – is there a relationship?
- › Quick Recap
- › Questions and Answers

## **7. The Day of Judgment**

- › The Day of Judgment and the Hereafter
- › Significance of the Day of Judgment
- › Evidence 1 – Human Conscience
- › Evidence 2 – The concept of Justice
- › Evidence 3 – Incompleteness of man and the universe
- › Evidence 4 – God’s attributes of Mercy and Providence
- › Evidence 5 – Empirical evidence
- › Judgment through Prophet Muhammad
- › How does the belief influence our lives?
- › When will be the Day of Judgment?
- › What will happen on that Day?
- › Phases and Abodes
- › Intercession of the Prophets
- › Major and Minor Signs of the Day of Judgment
- › Questions and Answers

## **8. Heaven & Hell**

- › The concept of heaven & Hell
- › Description of Hell in the Quran
- › Who are the dwellers of Hell?
- › Types of punishment in Hell
- › Description of Heaven in the Quran
- › Dwellers of Heaven
- › Rewards in heaven
- › Life in Heaven
- › Is heaven solely for Muslims?
- › Deciding people’s fate in this world
- › How hard is it to be successful?
- › Why is there an ‘eternal’ punishment of hell for some crimes?
- › Questions and Answers

## **C. Islamic Morals and Morality**

### **9. Fundamental Principle**

- › The significance of a good character
- › Prophet Muhammad is our model
- › Good character and religion

- › How are we different from other animals?
- › Our knowledge of Good and Evil is inspired – Surah 91, Verses 7-10
- › Who sets the standards for right and wrong?
- › We tend to justify our deeds – Surah 75, Verses 14-15
- › What drives us to be good?
- › The objective of being good
- › The foundation of good and evil – Surah 16, Verse 90
  - Concept of Justice
  - Goodness – the pinnacle of ethics and morality
  - Rights of close relations
  - Principles of prohibitions
- › Building character is a lifelong struggle
- › Faith and building moral character
- › Questions and Answers

## **10. Islam's Moral Standards**

- › Introduction
- › A common word in Abrahamic religion
- › Ten commandments of the Quran (Surah 17, Verses 22-39)
  - Worshiping God alone
  - Treating parents with kindness
  - Spending in the way of God
  - Immoral behavior
  - Sanctity of human life
  - Misappropriating the wealth of orphans
  - Keeping promises
  - Honesty in business and dealings
  - Speculation and suspicion
  - Pride and vanity
- › Pinnacle of Morality
- › Questions and Answers

## **11. Interacting with non-Muslims**

- › Introduction
- › Misconceptions about dealing with non-Muslims
- › Relationships with people of other faiths
- › Calling others to Islam
- › Joining non-Muslims on social causes
- › Attending social gatherings and non-religious festivals
- › Celebrating religious festivals with non-Muslims
- › Inviting non-Muslims to your home and on religious occasions
- › Examples from Quran and Sunnah
- › Islamophobia and our role
- › Be the ambassador of Islam
- › Questions and Answers

## **12. Modesty and Relationships**

- › The concept of Modesty and Chastity in Islam
- › Reminder: Don't go near adultery
- › Islam's guidance on the etiquette of gender-mixing
- › The etiquette
- › Reminder: Purity is the objective
- › Dating and premarital relationships
- › How to fight the temptations?
- › Summary
- › Questions and Answers