

**Department of Political Science**  
**Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences**  
**University of the Punjab, Lahore**  
**Course Outline**



Programme	BS International Relations	Course Code	SIR-211	Credit Hours	02
Course Title	Foundations of Muslim Political Thought				
Course Introduction					
<p>This course provides an overview of Muslim political thought and institutions from historical, theoretical, and practical perspectives. It explores the development of political ideas in Islam, significant political institutions, and the application of these ideas and institutions in various historical and contemporary contexts.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p>By the end of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Understand the fundamental concepts and principles of Muslim political thought.</li><li>2. Analyze the historical development of Islamic political institutions.</li><li>3. Evaluate the contributions of key Muslim political thinkers.</li><li>4. Examine the relevance and application of Islamic political theories in contemporary Muslim societies.</li><li>5. Critically engage with various perspectives on governance in Islam.</li></ol>					
Course Content					
Week 1	Introduction to Muslim Political Thought <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Definition and scope of political thought in Islam</li></ul>				
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sources of Islamic political theory: Quran, Sunnah, Ijma, and Qiyas</li><li>• Early Islamic governance: The Rashidun Caliphate</li></ul>				
Week 3	Classical Islamic Political Theories <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Al-Farabi’s ideal state</li></ul>				
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Al-Mawardi's views on political leadership and public law</li><li>• Ibn Khaldun's theory of the state and political cycles</li></ul>				

<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Islamic Political Institutions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Caliphate: Concept, evolution, and historical significance</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shura (Consultation) and its role in governance</li> <li>Judicial institutions in Islamic governance</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Political Thought in the Ottoman Empire</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The political structure of the Ottoman Empire</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributions of Ottoman scholars to political thought</li> <li>Comparative analysis with other Islamic empires</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Mid Term Exam</b>	
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Reformist and Modernist Movements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19th and 20th-century reformist thinkers: Jamal al-Din al-Afghani, Muhammad Abduh</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modernist approaches to Islamic political thought: Iqbal, Maududi</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>Contemporary Muslim Political Thought</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political Islam: Movements and ideologies</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case studies of contemporary Muslim-majority countries</li> <li>The role of Islam in modern state governance</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>Islam and Democracy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compatibility of Islam with democratic principles</li> <li>Various models of Islamic democracy</li> <li>Criticisms and defenses</li> </ul>	
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>Review and Case Studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comparative analysis of Islamic political systems</li> <li>Case studies on the application of Islamic</li> </ul>	

	political thought in contemporary contexts	
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>Final Term Exam</b>	
<b>Textbooks and Reading Material</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>"Islamic Political Thought: An Introduction"</b> by Gerhard Bowering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provides a comprehensive introduction to the major themes and developments in Islamic political thought.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>"The Political Aspects of Islamic Philosophy"</b> by Charles E. Butterworth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Explores key political ideas of major Muslim philosophers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <b>"Islam and the Political Order"</b> by Ian Netton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Discusses the political organization and institutions in Muslim societies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. <b>"The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History"</b> by Ibn Khaldun, translated by Franz Rosenthal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A seminal work that provides insight into Ibn Khaldun's views on society, state, and politics.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. <b>"Al-Mawardi's Theory of the Caliphate"</b> by Wafaa H. Wahba <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Examines Al-Mawardi's political thought and its significance in the development of Islamic political theory.</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. <b>"Political Islam: A Critical Reader"</b> edited by Frederic Volpi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A collection of essays that critically examines the various aspects and interpretations of political Islam.</li> </ul> </li> <li>7. <b>"Modern Islamic Political Thought"</b> by Hamid Enayat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provides a detailed analysis of modern Islamic political thought and key reformist thinkers.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>Additional Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Journals:</b> Islamic Studies, The Muslim World, Journal of Islamic Political Studies</li> <li>• <b>Websites:</b> Islamic Heritage Project, Al-Islam.org, Muslim Philosophy</li> </ul>		
<b>Teaching Learning Strategies</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes and participate actively in discussions.</li> <li>• Assignments: All assignments must be submitted on time. Late submissions will incur a penalty.</li> <li>• Academic Integrity: Students must adhere to academic integrity guidelines, avoiding plagiarism and dishonest practices.</li> </ul>		
<b>Assignments: Types and Number with Calendar</b>		
1. Class Quiz	5 marks	
2. Short Test	5 marks	
3. Presentations	5 marks	
4. Assignment	10 marks	

Assessment			
Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1.	Midterm Assessment	35%	Written Assessment at the mid-point of the semester.
2.	Formative Assessment	25%	Continuous assessment includes: Classroom participation, assignments, presentations, viva voce, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, projects, practical, reflections, readings, quizzes etc.
3.	Final Assessment	40%	Written Examination at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test, but owing to the nature of the course the teacher may assess their students based on term paper, research proposal development, field work and report writing etc.