

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



Programme	BS International Relations	Course Code	SIR-222	Credit Hours	02
Course Title	Muslim Political Theories and Institutions				
Course Introduction					
This course explores the fundamental concepts and development of Muslim political theories and institutions. It covers the evolution of political thought in Islam, key political institutions in Islamic history, and their impact on contemporary Muslim societies. Students will engage with classical and modern texts to understand the theoretical underpinnings and practical applications of Islamic governance.					
Learning Outcomes					
By the end of this course, students will be able to:					
<div><div></div><div><div>1. Comprehend the foundational principles of Muslim political theories.</div><div>2. Analyze the development and functions of Islamic political institutions.</div><div>3. Identify key figures and texts in Islamic political thought.</div><div>4. Evaluate the impact of historical Islamic political institutions on modern governance.</div><div>5. Critically assess contemporary applications of Islamic political theories.</div></div></div>					
Course Content					
Week 1	Introduction to Muslim Political Theories				
	<div><div></div><div><div>• Definition and scope of political thought in Islam</div></div></div>				
Week 2	<div><div></div><div><div>• Primary sources: Quran, Sunnah, Ijma, Qiyas</div><div>• Overview of early Islamic governance: The Rashidun Caliphate</div></div></div>				
Week 3	Classical Muslim Political Theorists <div><div></div><div><div>• Al-Farabi: The virtuous city</div></div></div>				
Week 4	<div><div></div><div><div>• Al-Mawardi: Theories on political leadership and public law</div><div>• Ibn Khaldun: The Muqaddimah and the theory of state</div></div></div>				
Week 5	Islamic Political Institutions: The Caliphate				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical evolution and significance of the Caliphate 	
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of caliphates: Rashidun, Umayyad, Abbasid, Ottoman Functions and roles of the Caliphate in Islamic governance 	
Week 7	Shura and Judicial Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shura (Consultation) and its significance in Islamic governance 	
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical and contemporary examples of Shura Islamic judiciary: Structure and functions 	
Week 9	Mid Term Exam	
Week 10	Political Thought in the Ottoman Empire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political structure and governance in the Ottoman Empire 	
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributions of Ottoman scholars to political thought Comparative analysis with other Islamic empires 	
Week 12	Reformist and Modernist Movements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19th and 20th-century reformist thinkers: Jamal al-Din al-Afghani, Muhammad Abduh 	
Week 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modernist approaches to Islamic political thought: Iqbal, Maududi Impact of colonialism on Muslim political thought 	
Week 14	Contemporary Muslim Political Thought and Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political Islam: Movements and ideologies 	
Week 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case studies of contemporary Muslim-majority countries Role of Islam in modern state governance 	
Week 16	Islam and Democracy	

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