

## THE PROPHET AND I: HEEDING THE VOICE WITHIN

Boston Islamic Seminary, Fall 2017

Instructor:

Hisham Mahmoud

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Prophetic Virtues are timeless and inform every generation everywhere. The genre of *shama'il* exemplifies the Prophet's superlative demonstration of each virtue as narrated by those closest to him. He is exalted among men and was anointed to perfect moral character. This course seeks to cover aspects of the supernal character of the Messenger of God and suggest practical ways to refine our own within our individual and communal contexts.

### COURSE TEXT

The foundational text for this course is وسائل الوصول إلى شمائل الرسول للشيخ يوسف النبهاني, which the instructor will furnish via the course website.

Muhammad: His Character and Beauty (*Wasa'il al-Wusul ila Shama'il al-Rasul*) by Shaykh Yusuf Nabahani, tr. by Abdul Aziz Suraqah. Al-Madina Institute, 2015.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be required to write a short paper on any topic related to the content of the course and submit a video recording of a lesson that they deliver to their friends, family, other students, or community, using the required text as the primary source material.

### EVALUATIONS

Attendance: 30%

Paper: 30%

Video Presentation: 40%

### MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Hisham Mahmoud has studied theology, hadith, legal theory, jurisprudence, ethics, Qur'anic recitation, and Arabic with scholars in Morocco, Mauritania, and Egypt. He co-authored a forthcoming work entitled, "A Portrait of the Prophet," as a translation of one of the most important commentaries on the personal qualities of the Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم. He has lectured internationally on the Islamic sciences and on world religions, and continues to read with scholars and students in the United States. He has taught for more than a decade at Yale, Princeton, and Harvard Universities, then left the Academy to institute his own national initiative, Lanturna, a non-profit, educational institution that intends through its various projects to establish learning collectives across the country to enrich community life and enhance personal lifestyle. Currently, he resides in Pennsylvania with his wife and two children.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

1800-1830	<i>Maghrib</i> Prayer
1830-1930	Session 1
1930-1945	' <i>Isha</i> ' Prayer
1945-2100	Session 2

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

1000-1215	Session 3
1215-1230	Break
1230-1245	<i>Zuhr</i> Prayer
1245-1330	Lunch
1330-1530	Session 4
1530-1545	Break
1545-1600	' <i>Asr</i> Prayer
1600-1745	Session 5
1745-1800	Break
1800-1815	<i>Maghrib</i> Prayer
1815-1900	Q & A and Student Reflections

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

1800-1830	<i>Maghrib</i> Prayer
1830-1930	Session 6
1930-1945	' <i>Isha</i> ' Prayer
1945-2100	Session 7

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

1000-1215	Session 8
1215-1230	Break
1230-1245	<i>Zuhr</i> Prayer
1245-1330	Lunch
1330-1530	Session 9
1530-1545	' <i>Asr</i> Prayer
1545-1600	Break
1600-1745	Session 10
1745-1800	<i>Maghrib</i> Prayer
1800-1900	Q & A and Student Reflections

The value of Islamic education in the US. Why should this university exist? We have a milestone with a graduating student, people would have left Islam had it not been for the

school, children getting hit in Qur'an class, Ingrid Mattson (another seminary!), there's not enough of Sh Hamza, being part of the discourse, allowing Muslims and non-Muslims,

Why should I give to the college? Our job is to try to figure out what to do with this place? Ihsan at the organizational level. People can come and get their training. Imams can get their training.

Selling something that's broken is business, selling something that's ... is vision.