## **REQUESTING AN MS DESIGNATION**

Please complete the following chart in order for the IS/MS committee to assess how well your course addresses the student learning outcomes. Please indicate with specificity what element of the assessment addresses the SLO. You do not need to address all the assessments for each SLO. Please note that we do not require you to list ALL assignments or texts that address the SLOs, representative texts or tasks are sufficient.

For a course to be designated MS, at least **four** of these seven SLOs must be addresses in content and assessments.

MS SLO #	RESPRESENTATIVE RELEVANT TEXTS/READINGS	RESPRESENTATIVE ASSESSMENT/S
SLO 1. Discuss the diversity of experiences and perspectives of individuals and groups with a wide range of identities (including but not limited to race, gender, economic class, sexual orientation, physical ability, religion, language, age, and/or national identity) and their contributions to educational, social, legal, religious, political, and/or cultural institutions and society.	Reza Aslan's No God But God Michael Muhammad Knight's The Taqwacores Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner	Aslan Essay I: Considering what is happening in the Muslim world today, Reza Aslan writes that his book is "above all else, an argument for reform" (p. xxviii). One could argue, based on Aslan's historical narrative, that Muhammad started a religious reformation in the Arab world after his Revelation at Mt. Hira in 610 C.E. In this assignment, I would like you to write a 1500-2000 word paper in which you do the following:  1. Read the book's preface through Chapter 5 (The Rightly Guided Ones). 2. Write an introduction (1 or 2 paragraphs) in which you repeat the above claim and discuss how you intend to evaluate it. 3. In the body of your paper, use evidence from Aslan's book to evaluate this claim, making sure to inventory contemporary Arab traditions and practices, discuss Muhammad's response to them, and consider their role in shaping what happened to Islam following Muhammad's death.

4. In your paper's conclusion, share your own thoughts about how this "reformationist" point of view influences your understanding of Islam. Aslan Essay II; Reza Aslan shows that the Muslim world is not united in its ideas about how to worship God, how to be a good Muslim, or what an Islamic State should look like. This diversity arises from different histories and different interpretations of history and the Quran. In this assignment, I would like you to write a 1500-2000word paper in which you do the following: 1. Write an introduction (1 or 2 paragraphs) in which you repeat the above claim and discuss how you intend to evaluate it. 2. In the body of your paper, present all the Muslim sects that Aslan identifies in his book and describe their origins in as much detail as you can (a chart or illustration is also acceptable). Discuss the major event, antecedent groups, and responses that shaped the formation of these sects. 3. In your paper's conclusion, share your own thoughts about how knowledge of this diversity has influenced your understanding of Islam and the Muslim World. **Knight Essay:** Michael Muhammad Knight's Tagwacores is an irreverent, some would say

blasphemous exploration of the Americanization (punkification) of Islam. As Knight's anti-hero, Jehangir, claims at the beginning of Chapter 4, "The United States can save Islam." In this assignment, please evaluate Jehangir's assertion by taking into account the following elements:

- 1. What you have learned so far from your readings, discussions, personal observations and our quest lecturers;
- 2. At least three poignant quotes (taken in context) from *Tagwacores*;
- 3. What you believe to be Knight's conclusion based on the resolution of his plot.

## Hosseini Essay:

Identify three events in *Kite Runner* that have affected your understanding of Islam, US/Middle East relations, and/or what it might be like to be an Afghani Muslim immigrant. How has your understanding changed or been enhanced? How might you bring this new understanding into your interactions? Write a 1500–2000-word essay in which you

- Describe the examples you selected, using proper citations (page references from the book) and providing sufficient detail and
- 2. Thoughtfully and thoroughly answer the questions posed above by exploring the examples you chose as well as your own experience.
- 3. Prepare your examples and perspectives for sharing in class.

SLO 2. Explain the social, political,	Reza Aslan's No God But God	Aslan Essay I:
historical, cultural, and/or economic experiences of at least one cultural group in terms of the greater "American Experience."	Michael Muhammad Knight's The Taqwacores Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner	Considering what is happening in the Muslim world today, Reza Aslan writes that his book is "above all else, an argument for reform" (p. xxviii). One could argue, based on Aslan's historical narrative, that Muhammad started a religious reformation in the Arab world after his Revelation at Mt. Hira in 610 C.E. In this assignment, I would like you to write a 1500-2000 word paper in which you do the following:  1. Read the book's preface through Chapter 5 (The Rightly Guided Ones) 2. Write an introduction (1 or 2 paragraphs) in which you repeat the above claim and discuss how you intend to evaluate it. 3. In the body of your paper, use evidence from Aslan's book to evaluate this claim, making sure to inventory contemporary Arab traditions and practices, discuss Muhammad's response to them, and consider their role in shaping what happened to Islam following Muhammad's death. 4. In your paper's conclusion, share you own thoughts about how this "reformationist" point of view influences your understanding of
		Islam.  Aslan Essay II;
		Reza Aslan shows that the Muslim world i
		not united in its ideas about how to
		worship God, how to be a good Muslim,

or what an Islamic State should look like. This diversity arises from different histories and different interpretations of history and the Quran. In this assignment, I would like you to write a 1500-2000-word paper in which you do the following:

- 1. Write an introduction (1 or 2 paragraphs) in which you repeat the above claim and discuss how you intend to evaluate it.
- 2. In the body of your paper, present all the Muslim sects that Aslan identifies in his book and describe their origins in as much detail as you can (a chart or illustration is also acceptable). Discuss the major event, antecedent groups, and responses that shaped the formation of these sects.
- 3. In your paper's conclusion, share your own thoughts about how knowledge of this diversity has influenced your understanding of Islam and the Muslim World.

## **Knight Essay:**

Michael Muhammad Knight's *Taqwacores* is an irreverent, some would say blasphemous exploration of the Americanization (punkification) of Islam. As Knight's anti-hero, Jehangir, claims at the beginning of Chapter 4, "The United States can save Islam." In this assignment, please evaluate Jehangir's assertion by taking into account the following elements:

	<ol> <li>What you have learned so far from your readings, discussions, personal observations and our guest lecturers;</li> <li>At least three poignant quotes (taken in context) from <i>Taqwacores</i>;</li> <li>What you believe to be Knight's conclusion based on the resolution of his plot.</li> </ol> Hosseini Essay: Identify three events in <i>Kite Runner</i> that
	have affected your understanding of Islam, US/Middle East relations, and/or what it might be like to be an Afghani Muslim immigrant. How has your understanding changed or been enhanced? How might you bring this new understanding into your interactions? Write a 1500-2000-word essay in which you  1. Describe the examples you selected, using proper citations (page references from the book) and providing sufficient detail and  2. Thoughtfully and thoroughly answer the questions posed above by exploring the examples you chose as well as your own experience.  3. Prepare your examples and perspectives for sharing in class.
SLO 3. Recognize and explain key concepts and terms related to diversity, equity, and/or inclusion (for example, bias, implicit bias, cultural appropriation, equity, privilege, inclusion, intersectionality, structural inequality, institutional racism, systemic racism, etc.)	

SLO 4. Explain theories and histories of marginalization, discrimination, and/or	
structural inequality, their effects on	
contemporary events, and their	
implications for the future.	
SLO 5. Identify and analyze systems and	
structures (historical, organizational, political, global) of power that create	
and/or perpetuate oppression, privilege,	
or marginalization, and describe how	
these systems present barriers to equity	
and inclusion.	
SLO 6. Identify, analyze, and apply  "3 things to know about cul-	ture shock" ABCs Essay:
strategies for disrupting and dismantling   Michael Muhammad <i>Knight</i>	
systems that perpetuate oppression, Khaled Hosseini's <i>The Kite F</i>	
privilege, and/or marginalization in	find a situation in which you are culturally
order to promote equity and increase	uncomfortable and explore your
access and opportunity for traditionally	reactions. Using the framework of A
excluded communities.	(Affect), B (Behavior), and C (Cognition),
oxeladod communicios.	write a 500-word essay in which you
	1. Choose and engage with a CDZ. This
	could be an unfamiliar place of
	worship, a "strange" student
	organization, an ethnic restaurant you
	would never have visited, etc. Dive in!
	2. Using Stephan and colleagues'
	Intergroup Threat Theory model
	(explained in the reading), describe
	the structural aspects of your
	encounter.
	3. Break down your reaction into the
	ABC categories and explain each one
	in as much detail as you can.
	4. Summarize what you learned about
	yourself from this exercise.

		Civic Engagement Blog: Write and respond to 5 news articles. Each OpEd should be 500-600 words and present a response to a news article concerning MENA (Middle East/North Africa) countries. Every other week you will post a thoughtful, written response to your partner's work on his/her respective blog.
		<ul> <li>End of Semester Reflection: Submit an 800-word essay in which you discuss how this course—its readings, discussions, group activities, documentary screenings, guest lectures/visits, assignments—has influenced you. Be broad in your consideration of this topic. Your essay might include, but does not need to be limited to, addressing the following questions: <ol> <li>How has your perspective on Muslims and/or non-Muslims changed?</li> <li>How has your perception of Muslim and/or non-Muslim identity and diversity changed?</li> <li>In what ways do you think you have changed others' (for example, your Muslim Soliya partners) perceptions of Americans?</li> <li>Has this course influenced your academic or personal goals? If so, how?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
SLO 7. Assess one's own role in systems of oppression, privilege, and/or power and identify the various ways in which	"3 things to know about culture shock" Michael Muhammad <i>Knight's The Taqwacores</i> Khaled Hosseini's <i>The Kite Runner</i>	ABCs Essay: After reading the book chapter, "3 things to know about culture shock," you will find a situation in which you are culturally

they have used or may use their roles to ensure equity, inclusion, and justice.	uncomfortable and explore your reactions. Using the framework of A (Affect), B (Behavior), and C (Cognition), write a 500-word essay in which you 1. Choose and engage with a CDZ. This could be an unfamiliar place of worship, a "strange" student organization, an ethnic restaurant you would never have visited, etc. Dive in! 2. Using Stephan and colleagues' Intergroup Threat Theory model (explained in the reading), describe the structural aspects of your encounter.  3. Break down your reaction into the
	ABC categories and explain each one in as much detail as you can. 4. Summarize what you learned about yourself from this exercise.
	End of Semester Reflection:  Submit an 800-word essay in which you discuss how this course—its readings, discussions, group activities, documentary screenings, guest lectures/visits, assignments—has influenced you. Be broad in your consideration of this topic. Your essay might include, but does not need to be limited to, addressing the following questions:  1. How has your perspective on Muslims and/or non-Muslims changed?  2. How has your perception of Muslim and/or non-Muslim identity and diversity changed?

or personal goals? If so, how?
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