

MWF 9:00–9:50am

HSSC N1168

**Instructor: Elias G. Saba**

**Email: [sabaelia@grinnell.edu](mailto:sabaelia@grinnell.edu)**

**Office: HSSC N2152**

**Office Hours: T 8:30am-9:50am;**

**F 1:00pm–2:30pm**

or by appointment

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All assignments must be submitted to pass the course. There is no penalty for early assignments. Late assignments will be penalized a third of a letter grade for every day late. Again, there is no penalty for early assignments. Repeat, there is no penalty for early assignments.

### Grading:

x Assignment One (10%)	[Feb. 8]
x Assignment Two (10%)	[Apr. 5]
x Assignment Three (10%)	[Apr. 26]
x Primary Source Presentation (5%)	[Mar 6, 8, 10]
x Annotated Bibliography (35%)	[May 12]
x Final Presentations (5%)	[May 8, 10, 12]
x Extra Credit Assignment (2%)	[Feb 3–May 6]
x Participation (25%)	

### Learning Outcomes:

- x Learn how to identify primary and secondary sources.
- x Learn how to read and critically analyze primary and secondary sources.
- x Engage with history as a craft and a discipline
- x Understand a variety of different concepts and methods for investigating and explaining the past.
- x Develop your skills of oral communication, dialogue, and classroom citizenship.
- x Gain a thorough understanding of the life of the Prophet Muhammad and the challenges of describing this life.

### Course Policies:

- x I try always to prioritize belonging and generosity in our learning spaces. For both teachers and learners, this means respecting and remaining curious about others' individual experiences, traditions, and ideas; working toward critical distance from aspects of our own experiences; and maintaining openness to being unsettled by perspectives and experiences different from our own. We ask that all members of our course communities consider equity of access in the ways we speak and engage others, share materials for exploration and discussion, and use examples when contributing to class conversation.
- x You are expected to attend every class. Two or more unexcused absences will have a negative impact on your final grade. Grinnell College offers alternative options to complete academic work for students who observe religious holy days. Please contact me within the first three weeks of the semester if you would like to discuss a specific instance that applies to you. If you miss a class, make sure you do the assigned readings and get notes from a classmate. Class preparedness and participation is a major factor in

the final grade and unexcused absences will count against this final grade. Missing more than 30% of the classes with unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.

- x Please send all e-mail to [sabaelia@grinnell.edu](mailto:sabaelia@grinnell.edu). During the week, I will respond to within 24 hours. It may take longer to respond during the weekend. Feel free to send any questions you may have about the course, although I rather discuss substantive issues in person rather than via e-mail.
- x Breaches of academic integrity will result in an official disciplinary process guided by the Dean's office. If you have questions about the Academic Honesty policy, the College's Academic Honesty policy is located in the Student Handbook available online [\[link\]](#). The College expects



- John Arnold, *History: A Very Short Introduction*, 35–57.

Class 14: Feb 22

- Sarah Maza, *Thinking about History*, 45–82.

Class 15: Feb 24

- Sarah Maza, *Thinking about History*, 83–117.

Class 16: Feb 27

- “Hadith” in Norman Calder, Jawid Mojaddedi, and Andrew Rippin, *Classical Islam: A Sourcebook of Religious J h̄dīth* θ



- 0D•PDU LEQ 5 — VKLG *The Expeditions: An Early Biography of Muhammad* trans. Sean E. Eamman Anthony (New York: New York University Press, 2015), 60–108. [[link](#)]

Class 38: May 3

- 0D•PDU LEQ 5 — VKLG *The Expeditions: An Early Biography of Muhammad* trans. Sean E. Eamman Anthony (New York: New York University Press, 2015), 109–66. [[link](#)]

Class 39: May 5

- Patricia Crone, “The Rise of Islam” in *Meccan Trade and the Rise of Islam*, 231–252. [[link](#)]
- Markus Gross, “Early Islam: An Alternative Scenario of its Emergence” in *Routledge Handbook of Early Islam* (London: Routledge, 2017). [[link](#)]

Class 40: May 8

- Final Presentations

Class 41: May 10

- Final Presentations

Class 42: May 12

- Final Presentations
- **Annotated Bibliographies Due**