

Virtual Exchange Global Alliance



Leiden University	Sharia in the west		
Course description	Sharia in the west		
Domain	Theology and religious studies		
Prerequisites	<p>This course can be taken by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students admitted to any Master in Social Sciences, Humanities or Law, • With a basic knowledge of the history of Islam and in particular Islam in the West, and • very good knowledge of English (reading, writing and speaking) 		
Level	Master		
Language	English		
Number of credits and workload	5 credits	8-10 hrs per week	120 hrs in total
Semester period and Start date course	Semester 1	Start date: 10-Sep-18 End of course: 30-11-2018	
Application deadline	26-Aug-18		

Full course description	<p>Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SRzTjPW0yY</p> <p>The notion and practice of Sharia in the West is entirely new and in continuous development. In this course we will discuss the interaction between what Muslims in the West want and do in terms of Sharia, and how the Western legal, political, societal and cultural systems respond to these manifestations of Sharia. We will see that this interaction creates the dynamic that result in a new synthesis of ‘Sharia in the West.’ In order to study this new domain, we will develop methods of law, anthropology, and other disciplines to approach this domain.</p> <p>Active participation of the students is key to this course: they are invited to provide examples of sharia from their own Western countries, and to analyse them by means of discussion and essays.</p> <p>The students will gain insight in how European policy makers as well as the Muslim communities have been struggling to accommodate an ‘Islamic’ presence in a mostly secular European environment. The students will acquire the skills to read and discuss the relevant court rulings, policy documents in a critical fashion, to contextualize these readings in a larger academic theoretical framework, and to present the results of independent research in terms of policy briefs or oral advice to government officials or Muslim community officials. The students are encouraged to develop and express their personal views on the various topics in a well-founded and coherent manner.</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Week 1: Approaches to Sharia in the West Week 2: Understanding Sharia Week 3: Discussion session “Sharia patrol” Week 4: Understanding ‘the West’ Week 5: Islamic family law Week 6: Discussion session “Sharia courts in the West” Week 7: Headscarf and burka Week 8: Discussion session “Headscarf and burka” Week 9: Freedoms of religion and opinion Week 10: Discussion session “Sharia and human rights” Week 11: Citizenship, integration and participation Week 12: Discussion session “The freedom to be different?”</p>	
Platform and link to course description	Blackboard	https://blackboard.leidenuniv.nl/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab_group_id= 8 1

Virtual Exchange Global Alliance

Course description in study guide	https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/71343/Sharia-in-the-West#part-of	
Lecturer(s)	Prof. dr. M. Berger	
Picture of course		
Final examination date and time / period	TBA	
Examination registration deadline or drop-out deadline	Examination registration before - Drop-out deadline -	
Type of examination	Both the Leiden registered and foreign students will have successfully concluded this course when they have a) watched all lectures and made all MC tests, b) written all essays, c) participated in all online discussion sessions, d) participated in at least three discussion forums. The total grade is made up as follows: a) 10%, b) 40% c) 30%, d) 20%.	
Midterm examination?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	
Previous exam papers available	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	

Virtual Exchange Global Alliance

<p>Specific rules for examinations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six short essays and/or policy briefs (1-2 pages). These essays will be evaluated online by their fellow students, and graded by the instructor. • Seven Multiple Choice tests based on the lecture and assigned literature of each week • Five online discussion sessions (oral) Chaired by the instructor, groups of students will engage in discussion based on specific cases or hypotheses, resulting in oral or written policy recommendations to be conveyed to imaginary officials. Online discussion forum (written) Students are invited to discuss any issue related to the course’s topic on the discussion forum. This may vary from questions regarding the literature or research projects, to personal experiences and observations, or opinions on issues discussed in class or noted in local news outlets. 	
<p>Resit? and date</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no</p>	
<p>Grade release and transcript release</p>	<p>14- Dec-18</p>	