

The Islamic Seminary of America

An Institution of the Islamic Seminary Foundation Inc.

2021 - 2022 Catalog

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2021 - 2022 Academic Calendar

Fall 2021 Semester

April 01, 2021 (Thursday)	Fall Registration Opens
August 20, 2021 (Friday)	Semester Begins
September 20, 2021 (Monday)	Add/Drop Ends
October 15, 2021 (Friday)	Spring Schedule Published
November 01, 2021 (Monday)	Withdrawal Deadline
November 15, 2021 (Monday)	Spring Registration Begins
December 10, 2021 (Friday)	Grade Deferral Deadline
December 13, 2021 (Monday)	Semester Ends
December 17, 2021 (Friday)	Grades Due

Spring 2022 Semester

November 15, 2021 (Monday)	Spring Registration Opens
January 03, 2022 (Monday)	Semester Begins
January 31, 2022 (Monday)	Add/Drop Ends
February 12, 2022 (Saturday)	Summer Schedule Published
February 28, 2022 (Monday)	Summer Registration Begins
March 28, 2022 (Monday)	Withdrawal Deadline
March 31, 2022 (Thursday)	Fall Registration Begins
May 02, 2022 (Saturday)	Semester Ends
May 09, 2022 (Monday)	Grade Deferral Deadline
May 16, 2022 (Monday)	Grades Due

General Information

Vision

Our **vision** is a world constantly bettered by religious scholarship and ethical leadership.

Mission

Our **mission** is to cultivate generations of world class doers and thinkers who lead from an Islamic paradigm while engaging contemporary challenges and opportunities.

Commitments

As **Believing Academics** we are committed to mutual teaching and learning, to academic excellence, to open inquiry within the parameters of our faith, and to critical engagement of texts, contexts, and practices in all of our educational programs with the aim of graduating leadership that has the following core competencies¹

1. **Qur'anic Literacy.**
2. **Prophetic Theory and Praxis.**
3. **Cross-Cultural Competence.**
4. **Facilitation Skills.**
5. **Professional Practice.**

Accreditation / Texas State Authorizations

Accreditation is a process that typically takes several years – no seminary or college is able to attain accreditation from its inception. Hence, because The Islamic Seminary of America is new, it is not currently accredited. However, the Islamic Seminary Foundation board, the governing body of TISA, has made accreditation a top priority and has appointed a compliance committee with the primary task of overseeing the accreditation process. We will keep our students abreast of these developments, and, God-willing, be accredited soon. Currently, The Islamic Seminary Foundation is registered as DBA The Islamic Seminary of America with the Texas Secretary of State. As per the regulations of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, ISF/TISA has received a “no approval needed letter” from the Board pursuant to its regulations that indicate “a religious institution which would like to offer degree programs or courses leading to a degree in a religious discipline may request a letter from the Coordinating Board indicating that no approval from the Coordinating Board is required”.

History

The Islamic Seminary of America was founded in June 2016 and grew out of the vision by several Dallas-area based leaders to establish the first accredited Muslim seminary in America. On April 10, 2017, the Islamic Seminary Foundation entered into a MOU with the original Islamic Seminary

¹ As developed and required by Muslim Endorsement Council Inc.

of America board, transferring the name and all assets of the original Islamic Seminary of America to the board of directors of the Islamic Seminary Foundation.

Programs Offered

The Islamic Seminary of America offers two advanced degrees and one certificate. The two advanced degrees are the Master of Arts in Islamic Studies and the Master of Divinity Degrees. Graduates of TISA's MA in Islamic Studies will be conversant with the major classical and modern texts in the main areas of Islamic scholarship, accessing the texts in their original language; able to conduct and produce research in fiqh and other essential areas with an understanding of its relationship to the North American context.

The Master of Divinity Degree is designed primarily, but not exclusively, for persons seeking to be spiritual leaders in the Islamic faith and tradition. This degree is interdisciplinary in focus and intended for professionals who seek to enhance their knowledge of Islam relevant to their profession.

The certificate program, Graduate Certificate in Islamic Studies, is designed to give students a general overview of graduate level Islamic Studies.

Arabic and Qur'anic Proficiency

- **All MA degree-seeking students** are required to attain a passing grade for Fawakih Institute's Level 2 assessment for Arabic Proficiency before graduating from TISA.
- **All MDiv degree-seeking students** are required to attain a passing grade for Fawakih Institute's Level 4 assessment for Arabic Proficiency before graduating from TISA.
- **All degree-seeking students** are required to memorize 1 juz of Qur'an with tajwid before graduating from TISA.
- These two proficiencies must be demonstrated successfully as soon as possible and prior to the student's taking the last 9 credits of their degree. This means that if these two requirements are not met, the student will not be allowed to take their last 9 credits until they have met these requirements.

General Admission Requirements

Degree-seeking students must submit a completed application form along with official transcripts from their college or university of their undergraduate (and/or graduate) academic work, three letters of recommendations, and a writing sample. Applicants with degrees from non-accredited schools may be accepted on a case-by-case basis. A background in Islamic studies and/or liberal arts is highly recommended and a plus for admissions. However, a background in Islamic studies and/or liberal arts is not required. TISA reserves the right to request TOEFL or other English language assessment scores if the student's Undergraduate degree was obtained in a language other than English.

Master of Arts in Islamic Studies

Careers

The Master's degree in Islamic Studies provides the background for a student to serve as a teacher in Islamic schools, public schools or junior colleges. The Master's degree in Islamic Studies is also a stepping-stone for those who wish to pursue a doctoral program in Islamic Studies.

Course Requirements

48 credit hours—16 courses

There are two concentrations: Islamic Sciences and Islamic Leadership

Required Institutional Core Courses for both Islamic Sciences and Islamic Leadership concentrations

(10 courses—30 credit hours) + 2 Assessments (no credit)

- TISA-601: Advanced Qur'anic Studies and Tafsir
- TISA-602: Advanced Hadith Sciences and Hadith Commentary
- TISA-611: Advanced Aqidah
- TISA-612: Comparative Religion and Interfaith Involvement
- TISA-621: Advanced Fiqh al-Ibadat
- TISA-622: Fiqh al-Mu'amalat: Family
- TISA-631: Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality
- TISA-641: Contemporary Issues in the Muslim Ummah
- TISA-642: Islam in America
- TISA-643: History of Islamic Civilization and Muslim Cultures
- TISA-892: Arabic Proficiency Assessment – Pass/Fail (No credit)
- TISA-894: Qur'anic Recitation Assessment – Pass/Fail (No credit)

Concentration: Islamic Sciences

(2 required courses and 4 electives)

This concentration is for students who are more interested in pursuing a career in scholarship.

Required Courses

(2 courses—6 credit hours)

- TISA-615: Advanced Sirah
- TISA-620: Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh

Electives

(Choose 4 courses from the following list—12 credit hours)

- TISA-650: Counseling and Cross-Cultural Communication

- TISA-661: Non-profit Management and Leadership
- TISA-675: Financial and Human Resource Management
- TISA-721: Contemporary Issues in Fiqh
- TISA-751: Family Counseling
- TISA-760: Foundations of Effective Organizational Leadership
- TISA-821: Islam and Gender in the Contemporary Context
- TISA-840: Imam and Chaplain Functions
- TISA-841: Islamic Economics
- TISA-866: Effective Youth Work

Concentration: Islamic Leadership

(3 required courses and 3 electives)

This concentration is for those students who desire to pursue a career as imam, chaplain, nonprofit manager, or youth worker.

Required Courses

(3 courses—9 credit hours)

- TISA-650: Counseling and Cross-Cultural Communication
- TISA-760: Foundations of Effective Organizational Leadership
- TISA-840: Imam and Chaplain Functions

Electives

(Choose 3 courses from the following list—9 credit hours)

- TISA-615: Advanced Sirah
- TISA-620: Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh
- TISA-661: Non-profit Management and Leadership
- TISA-675: Financial and Human Resource Management
- TISA-721: Contemporary Issues in Fiqh
- TISA-751: Family Counseling
- TISA-821: Islam and Gender in the Contemporary Context
- TISA-841: Islamic Economics
- TISA-866: Effective Youth Work

Master of Divinity

Careers

The Master of Divinity (MDiv) is for those students who want to pursue a career as an imam, scholar-in-residence or chaplain. The concentration in Religious Leadership is intended for those who are interested in a career as an imam or scholar. The concentration in Islamic Chaplaincy is intended for those who desire a career as a chaplain.

Course Requirements

72 credit hours

There are two concentrations: Religious Leadership and Islamic Chaplaincy

Required Institutional Core Courses for both Religious Leadership and Islamic Chaplaincy concentrations

(10 courses – 30 credit hours) + 2 Assessments (no credit)

- TISA-601: Advanced Qur’anic Studies and Tafsir
- TISA-602: Advanced Hadith Sciences and Hadith Commentary
- TISA-611: Advanced Aqidah
- TISA-612: Comparative Religion and Interfaith Involvement
- TISA-621: Advanced Fiqh al-Ibadat
- TISA-622: Fiqh al-Mu’amalat: Family
- TISA-631: Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality
- TISA-641: Contemporary Issues in the Muslim Ummah
- TISA-642: Islam in America
- TISA-643: History of Islamic Civilization and Muslim Cultures
- TISA-892: Arabic Proficiency Assessment – Pass/Fail (No credit)
- TISA-894: Qur’anic Recitation Assessment – Pass/Fail (No credit)

Required Core Courses for the MDiv

(9 courses — 27 credit hours)

- TISA-650: Counseling and Cross-Cultural Communication
- TISA-760: Foundations of Effective Organizational Leadership
- TISA-830: Spiritual Formation
- TISA-840: Imam and Chaplain Functions
- TISA-842: Public Speaking
- TISA-890: Field Placement I (200 Hours)
- TISA-891: Field Placement II (200 Hours & Capstone Paper: Leading from an Islamic Paradigm)
- TISA-895 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) I (200 Hours)
- TISA-896: Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) II (200 Hours)

Concentration: Religious Leadership

(2 required courses and 3 electives)

Required Courses: Religious Leadership

(2 courses – 6 credit hours)

- TISA-620: Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh
- TISA-825: Advanced Usul al-Fiqh

Electives: Religious Leadership

(Select 3 courses from the following list — 9 credit hours)

- TISA-615: Advanced Sirah

- TISA-641: Contemporary Issues in the Muslim Ummah
- TISA-721: Contemporary Issues in Fiqh
- TISA-750: Navigating Muslim American Cultures and Identities
- TISA-821: Islam and Gender in the Contemporary Context
- TISA-851: Pastoral Care and Counseling
- TISA-866: Effective Youth Work

Concentration: Islamic Chaplaincy

(2 required courses and 3 electives)

Required Courses: Islamic Chaplaincy

(2 courses — 6 credit hours)

- TISA-835: Foundations of Islamic Chaplaincy
- TISA-851: Pastoral Care and Counseling

Electives: Islamic Chaplaincy

(Select 3 courses from the following list — 9 credit hours)

- TISA-615: Advanced Sirah
- TISA 641: Contemporary Issues in the Muslim Ummah
- TISA-721: Contemporary Issues in Fiqh
- TISA-750: Navigating Muslim American Cultures and Identities
- TISA-821: Islam and Gender in the Contemporary Context
- TISA-866: Effective Youth Work

Joint Master of Divinity in Interreligious Chaplaincy (Islamic Focus)

Note: This degree is granted by The United Theological Seminary - Twin Cities

The joint Master's degree in Interreligious Chaplaincy with an Islamic Focus provides the background for a student to serve in interfaith settings as a chaplain in corrections, the military, educational institutions, healthcare facilities and the community. This joint degree program was implemented by TISA and The United Theological Seminary – Twin Cities through a signed memorandum of understanding. The degree for this program is awarded by The United Theological Seminary - Twin Cities, which is accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and the Higher Learning Commission.

Required Courses

(16 courses — 48 credit hours)

Religious Texts (4 courses)

- RT1101: Hebrew Bible 1: Orientation
- RT1201: New Testament 1: Epistles, Acts, and Revelation OR RT2201 New Testament 2: Four Gospels (Select one)
- TISA-601: Advanced Qur'anic Studies and Tafsir
- TISA-602: Advanced Hadith Sciences and Hadith Commentary

Theological Tradition (4 courses)

- TISA-615: Advanced Sirah
- TISA-620: Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh
- TISA-631: Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality
- TISA-642: Islam in America

Ethics & Justice (2 courses)

- EJ1002: Comparative Religious Ethics
- ST1002: Theology for Social Transformation

Formation (2 courses)

- FL1001: Intro to Spiritual and Personal Formation
- FL2001: Organization Leadership and Administration

Cultural Contextualization (1 course)

- CC1002: World Religions

Art & Theology (Select 1 course)

- AT1001: History of Arts and Theology OR
- AT1002: Art, Religion, and Contemporary Culture

Social Transformation (1 course)

- ST1001: Leadership and Strategies for Social Change

Integration (1 course)

- MS3000: Capstone Seminar (Co-taught by United and TISA faculty)

Vocational Contextualization & Skills

(8 courses - 24 credit hours)

- PM1001: Intro to Pastoral and Spiritual Care
- PM2003: Preaching and Your Public Voice
- QC3001: Interreligious Spiritual Care (Masters)
- IC2002: Intercultural Chaplaincy
- IC4001: Trauma, Suffering and Care
- FE3003: Ministry Practicum (Islamic focus)
- FE3002: CPE Ministry Practicum (Islamic focus)
- 1 elective course

Certificate Program

The Islamic Studies Certificate Program

The certificate in Islamic Studies allows students to concentrate on the basic theory and practices of the Islamic subjects and sciences that equip them to teach and provide general Islamic knowledge and information.

Requirements for Graduation

Required Courses

(3 courses – 9 credit hours)

- TISA-601: Advanced Qur'anic Studies and Tafsir
- TISA-602: Advanced Hadith Sciences and Hadith Commentary
- TISA-611: Advanced Adiqah

Electives

(Select 2 courses from the following list)

- TISA-615: Advanced Sirah
- TISA-621: Advanced Fiqh al-Ibadat
- TISA-622: Fiqh al-Mu'amalat: Family
- TISA-631: Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality
- TISA-643: History of Islamic Civilization and Muslim Cultures
- TISA-721: Contemporary Issues in Fiqh
- TISA-821: Islam and Gender in the Contemporary Context
- TISA-825: Advanced Usul al-Fiqh

Financial Information

Matriculation in the Seminary constitutes an agreement by the student to comply with all Seminary financial rules, regulations and policies.

Withdrawal

- Students who choose to withdraw from the Seminary must submit proper written notification to the Registrar's Office.
- A leave of absence is a special category of withdrawal that may be requested by a student who intends to withdraw for a period not to exceed one year from the end of their last term of enrollment.
- Readmission after a period of absence exceeding one year requires reapplication through the admissions process.
- Readmission following a withdrawal or leave of absence longer than one year is subject to the approval of the Admissions Committee.
- Students readmitted following a withdrawal are subject to the program requirements of the academic year under which they re-enter.

Enrollment in the Seminary is a declaration of acceptance of all Seminary rules and regulations.

Refund Policy

No refunds will be issued based on verbal discussions or emails.

1. Only Tuition is refundable. The Application Fee and Administrative Fees are non-refundable
2. Tuition is refundable according to the following schedule:

ONLINE/HYBRID COURSES	
Deadlines	Refund Percentage*
Before the Add/Drop deadline	100 percent
After the Add/Drop deadline	0 percent
Up until and after the Withdrawal deadline*	0 percent

*Please note that any student officially withdrawing after the Withdrawal date, will receive whatever grade the instructor issues instead of a “W” on their transcript. **If you simply stop attending class, this is not considered an official withdrawal.**

SUMMER INTENSIVES	
Withdrawal/Drop Date (based on the official start of course)	Tuition Refund Percentage
Until the first day of course	100 percent
On the second day of course	50 percent
On the third day of course and after	0 percent

Financial Aid

TISA has a policy to never turn down a regular student for financial reasons. Any student who feels that they need financial aid must complete the application for financial aid. The students will be informed of TISA's decision within 3 weeks. Only Regular Students are eligible for financial aid. Financial aid will be applied to student accounts only after the Add/Drop period ends.

Our partner, A Continuous Charity (ACC), provides interest-free loans for higher education. Please refer to their website: <https://www.acceducate.org> for more information.

Academic Regulations and Procedures

The Academic Year

The academic year is divided into Fall, Spring and Summer terms.

The Course Load

Most courses carry three credit hours. Normally, the maximum course load is 12 credit hours per term. With the permission of the dean, a student may register for more than 12 credit hours during a term.

Coursework

Regular attendance is expected in all classes. In the event of unavoidable absences, students are responsible for securing from their colleagues any information about lectures or assignments missed, and, if their absences are unexcused, they assume the risk of failing quizzes or other graded in-class work.

All course assignments are to be completed on time. Work submitted late may be accepted at the instructor's discretion and may incur a penalty in grade. Students are advised to consult with the instructor in advance if circumstances make it impossible to meet an assignment deadline.

Course Recording Availability

Students that have had excused absences and would like to catch up with the class recordings, can do so up until the Grades Due deadline for the semester. Once that date has passed, the class recordings will no longer be available to students. It is students' responsibility to complete all of their makeup work by the end of the semester.

Academic Responsibility

Each student at the Seminary is expected to adhere to rigorous standards of academic honesty. Plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty are regarded as serious offenses and are treated accordingly. Students are advised to consult with their course instructors if they have any questions about expectations and procedures in this regard.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

TISA makes best efforts to facilitate individual accommodations for persons with disabilities who notify the Registrar in writing accordingly at registrar@islamicseminary.us. Faculty members are notified in writing when students in their classes have disabilities and need accommodations for class work and exams.

Student Grade Rubric and Access

- Students can view their semester grades online using their assigned ID number and password.
- Grade points are determined on the basis of hours attempted according to the following grade symbols and scale:
- Grade Symbols:
 1. A - work of excellent quality
 2. B - work of commendable quality
 3. C - work of acceptable quality
 4. D - work of minimal but passing quality
 5. F - failure to do minimal passing work; with no credit given
 6. AUD - Audit
 7. I – Incomplete / Grade Deferred
 8. W - Withdrawal
 9. R - Retake
 10. TR - Transfer
- Students should not assume that credits will automatically or unequivocally transfer to or from any educational institution.
- Before executing an enrollment contract or agreement, all students are advised to confirm whether or not TISA will accept any credits earned at another educational institution.
- Should a student decide to transfer credits earned at TISA to another educational institution, it is advised to contact that institution to determine whether or not those credits will transfer.
- The ability to transfer credits earned at TISA to another institution may be limited and may necessitate repeating courses at another institution.

ii. Grade Scale:

Letter Grade	GPA Scale
A	4.00
A-	3.66

B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.66
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.66
D	1.00
F	0.00

- B- is the minimum grade for course work credited towards a degree.
- If a student fails a required course, the course must be repeated until a passing grade is received.
- When a student retakes a course, either to rectify a failure or to improve a grade, both grades will be included in the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA).
- If a student feels that their final semester grade in a given course is not fair, the student should discuss the grade with the course instructor.
- If the student is not satisfied, they may then appeal to the Academic Dean by filing a written statement of particulars via academics@islamicseminary.us and registrar@islamicseminary.us.
- The Dean will confer with the faculty involved and seek a satisfactory resolution of the problem.
- If the problem cannot be solved in this manner, the Dean may make a decision on the matter or, at their discretion, or may refer it to the Academic Council for final adjudication.
- All grade changes must be approved by the Academic Dean and must be made within one year after the course for which the grade in question was given.

Academic Standing

- Students whose semester GPA falls below 2.66:
 - For the first time will be placed on academic warning by the Academic Council.
 - The second or third time a student's semester GPA falls below 2.66 whether or not in consecutive semesters, the student will be placed on academic probation. If the semester GPA falls below 2.66 a fourth semester, the student will be dismissed for academic cause.
- Students who fail a course in any term:
 - Will be contacted in writing concerning their performance.
- Students who fail the same course a second time will be automatically placed on academic warning.
- Students who fail the same course a third time will be dismissed for academic cause.
- Students who fail three or more courses at any time during their Seminary studies will be placed on academic warning.
- Students who fail five or more courses will be dismissed for academic cause.
- Academic dismissals occur when a student has either failed to meet the GPA requirement, failed the same course more than three times, or failed five or more courses while at the Seminary.

- A student who has been dismissed may qualify for readmission as a degree student only by completing two consecutive semesters (at least a total of twelve semester hours) as a non-degree student at another Seminary with prior permission from the Registrar's office.
- Readmission after academic dismissal can be granted only one time.
- Academic probation or dismissal will be recorded on the student's official transcript.
- Appeal of academic probation or dismissal may be made in writing to the Academic Dean.
- Appeal of the Dean's decision may be made in writing to the Academic Council.
- Further appeal, if warranted, may be made in writing to the President of the Seminary.

General Policies

Confidentiality of Education Records

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 is a federal law that grants students the right to inspect, obtain copies of, challenge, and to a degree, control the release of information contained in their education records.

In general, no personally identifiable information from a student's education record will be disclosed to any third party without written consent from the student. Several exceptions exist, including: 1.) Information defined by TISA as directory information may be released unless the student requests that it be withheld and 2.) Information authorized by the student may be released to those individuals designated by the student.

Student Photograph

Students are required to provide a passport-style photograph of themselves for their Populi profile immediately after acceptance into the program. This photo is required for security purposes and shall not be shared outside of TISA or used for any marketing purposes. Student registration will be considered incomplete without their photograph.

Student Identification Number

The Seminary assigns each student an identification number. The student should furnish the identification number on all forms when requested because it is the primary means the Seminary has to identify the student's academic records and transactions related to the records.

Name Change

A student who has a change in name must provide to the Seminary Registrar's Office his or her Social Security card or the form issued by the Social Security Administration, or a valid passport. Enrollment or records services for the student under the name different from the last enrollment cannot be accomplished without one of the above documents. All grade reports, transcripts, certificates, and diplomas are issued only under a person's legal name as recorded by the Seminary Registrar's Office.

Contact Information

Each student must provide the Seminary Registrar's Office with a current email, home address, telephone number and local mailing address as well as the name, email address and telephone number of a designated emergency contact. Students enrolling at the Seminary authorize the Seminary to notify their emergency contacts in the event of a situation affecting their health, safety, or physical or mental well-being, and to provide these contacts with information relating to their situation.

Students are required to keep current all their addresses and telephone numbers including emergency contact details through the Seminary's web-based self-service system. Changes of personal information should be reported via email to registrar@islamicseminary.us. Students may be prevented from enrolling if their information is insufficient or outdated.

The Seminary issues all degree-seeking students an email address. Students may have other email addresses, but the Seminary-assigned email address is the official address for Seminary electronic correspondence, including related communications with faculty members and academic units.

Official Seminary correspondence may be sent to student's mailing addresses or TISA email address on file. It is the responsibility of students to keep all their addresses current and to regularly check communications sent to them since they are responsible for complying with requests, deadlines, and other requirements sent to any of their mailing addresses on file or to their Seminary email. Once students complete, drop-out, or are dismissed from the Seminary, they will lose access to the Seminary issued email address.

Degree/Certificate Declaration

Regular students must declare the TISA degree/certificate they are pursuing by completing the Degree/Certificate Declaration Form. If the students change their degree or certificate, they must re-submit the form. This policy does not apply to students who only audit courses. Once the Degree/Certificate Declaration Form is completed, only then will the students receive the email issued from TISA.

Transcript Service

A transcript is an official document of the permanent academic record maintained by the Seminary Registrar's Office. The permanent academic record includes all Seminary courses attempted, all grades assigned, degree received, and a summary of transfer hours accepted. Official transcripts and certifications of student academic records are issued by the Seminary Registrar's Office for all students.

There is no charge for two or fewer transcripts. If you order more than two you will be charged \$5 for each additional copy above the two. No partial transcripts will be issued. Transcripts will not be released to anyone except the student, unless appropriately requested in writing by the student. TISA policy prohibits issuing transcripts to any student indebted to TISA. If you are ordering more than two transcripts, they are \$5.00 for each additional transcript. Make a check payable to The Islamic Seminary of America and write "Transcript" in the memo section. Mail to TISA Registrar at 811 S. Central Expressway, Suite 200, Richardson, TX 75078.

Enrollment Policies

Stop Enrollment / Administrative Withdrawal

Insufficient or improper information given by the student on any admission or enrollment form - or academic deficiencies, disciplinary actions and financial obligations to the Seminary - can constitute cause for the student to be determined ineligible to enroll or to be administratively withdrawn.

Graduation Policies

Apply to Graduate

Students must file an Application for Candidacy to Graduate form with the Registrar's office at the beginning of the term in which they will complete all degree requirements. Applications should be filed by the deadline date in the Official Seminary Calendar. Students will be charged an Apply to Graduate fee during the term the application is filed. The Seminary has one degree conferral period: spring (May).

Commencement Participation

To participate in a ceremony, a student must file an Application for Candidacy to Graduate or Intent to Participate Form with the registrar's office.

Catalog of Courses

Courses & Course Descriptions

Course Name: Advanced Qur'anic Studies and Tafsir

Course Code: TISA-601

Course Description: A detailed study of Ulum al-Qur'an and the science of tafsir in classical and modern times.

Course Name: Advanced Hadith Sciences and Hadith Commentary

Course Code: TISA-602

Course Description: A detailed study of Ulum al-Hadith and the literature of hadith commentary in the classical and modern era.

Course Name: Advanced Aqidah

Course Code: TISA-611

Course Description: A detailed study of the issues of Islamic theology with special emphasis on modern concerns.

Course Name: Comparative Religion and Interfaith Involvement

Course Code: TISA-612

Course Description: A thorough comparison of religions with special focus on the Abrahamic faiths, and an exploration of the dynamics of interfaith work.

Course Name: Advanced Sirah

Course Code: TISA-615

Course Description: A deep dive into the issues of the sirah and the historiography of sirah literature.

Course Name: Evolution of Islamic Law and Usul al-Fiqh

Course Code TISA-620

Course Description: An introduction to the development of legal methodology of the madhhabs and an outline of the main issues in Islamic legal theory.

Course Name: Advanced Fiqh al-Ibadat

Course Code: TISA-621

Course Description: A full introduction to the fiqh issues of worship, taught from the perspective of comparative fiqh.

Course Name: Fiqh al-Mu'amalat: Family

Course Code: TISA-622

Course Description: A detailed introduction to the fiqh of marriage, divorce, and other family issues from a comparative fiqh perspective.

Course Name: Fiqh al-Mu'amalat: Finances

Course Code: TISA-623

Course Description: A detailed introduction to the fiqh of financial transactions, inheritance and other economic issues from a comparative fiqh perspective.

Course Name: Advanced Akhlaq and Spirituality

Course Code: TISA-631

Course Description: A thorough exploration of the dimensions of Islamic character and spirituality.

Course Name: Contemporary Issues in the Muslim Ummah

Course Code: TISA-641

Course Description: A scholarly examination of important, impactful current subjects.

Course Name: Islam in America

Course Code: TISA-642

Course Description: A thorough discussion of the history of Islam in America and a focus on the dynamics of the contemporary situation.

Course Name: History of Islamic Civilization and Muslim Cultures

Course Code: TISA-643

Course Description: A detailed study of political historical developments and the intellectual history with a focus understanding the various contemporary Muslim cultures.

Course Name: Counseling and Cross-Cultural Communication

Course Code: TISA-650

Course Description: The theoretical basics of counseling and effective techniques for working with the Muslim American population with particular emphasis on the basics of communications and the specifics of cross-cultural communication.

Course Name: Nonprofit Management and Leadership

Course Code: TISA-661

Course Description: An introduction to the principles and practices of nonprofit management and leadership.

Course Name: Strategic Management for Nonprofit Organizations

Course Code: TISA-662

Course Description: A study of the principles and practices of strategic planning for nonprofits.

Course Name: Principles of Fundraising

Course Code: TISA-671

Course Description: An introduction to the principles of fundraising, taught in cooperation with the IU School of Fundraising.

Course Name: Financial and Human Resource Management

Course Code: TISA-675

Course Description: A study of the issues of the financial management of nonprofits and the issues of human resource management.

Course Name: Principles and Practices of Islamic Humanitarian Work

Course Code: TISA-680

Course Description: An introduction to the Islamic and professional principles of humanitarian work with a focus on best practices.

Course Name: Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector

Course Code: TISA-691

Course Description: An introduction to the history and contemporary reality of nonprofits and the voluntary sector.

Course Name: Contemporary Issues in Fiqh

Course Code: TISA-721

Course Description: An in-depth study of the legal reasoning behind some of the fiqh debates on contemporary issues.

Course Name: Navigating Muslim American Cultures and Identities

Course Code: TISA-750

Course Description: The course is designed to apply the inclusive methods and praxis of Muhammad's early Muslim community to the divisive racial and ethnic divides faced by Muslims today.

Course Name: Family Counseling

Course Code: TISA-751

Course Description: A study of the issues of family counseling in the contemporary Muslim setting with emphasis on practice.

Course Name: Foundations of Effective Organizational Leadership

Course Code: TISA-760

Course Description: The essential principles and practices of effective organizational leadership and management in North America with particular attention to how these principles and practices are found in Islamic fundamentals and practice.

Course Name: Advanced Qur'an Memorization and Tajwid

Course Code: TISA-790

Course Description: A class devoted to Qur'an memorization and tajwid with most of the time spent in one-on-one sessions.

Course Name: Civil Society and Public Policy

Course Code: TISA-791

Course Description: A study of how public policy is made and how nonprofits can influence public debate with focus on issues of poverty and discrimination.

Course Name: Advanced Arabic I

Course Code: TISA-795

Course Description: An Arabic reading course, reviewing some Arabic grammar but mainly focused on reading and translating Islamic texts.

Course Name: Advanced Arabic II

Course Code: TISA-796

Course Description: An Arabic reading course, practicing translating Islamic texts.

Course Name: Islam and Gender in the Contemporary Context

Course Code: TISA-821

Course Description: A thorough study of the issues of gender in the North American context, looking at both the sociology and fiqh of these issues.

Course Name: Advanced Usul al-Fiqh

Course Code: TISA-825

Course Description: An advanced study of the issues in Islamic legal theory that impact debates in fiqh.

Course Name: Spiritual Formation

Course Code: TISA-830

Course Description: This course focuses on the dynamics of the struggle to build Islamic character as you prepare for leadership.

Course Name: Foundations of Islamic Chaplaincy

Course Code: TISA-835

Course Description: The course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the history and development of chaplaincy in North America, with an emphasis of how its values and practices connect to Islamic tradition.

Course Name: Imam and Chaplain Functions

Course Code: TISA-840

Course Description: An introduction to all the duties of an Imam and Chaplain.

Course Name: Islamic Economics

Course Code: TISA-841

Course Description: An exploration of contemporary issues surrounding Islamic economics including riba, insurance, investments, etc.

Course Name: Public Speaking

Course Code: TISA-842

Course Description: This course explores the theory and practice of effective communications in various settings.

Course Name: Pastoral Care and Counseling

Course Code: TISA-851

Course Description: This course connects the theory and practice of pastoral counseling to Islamic tradition.

Course Name: The American Mosque and Issues of Management

Course Code: TISA-861

Course Description: An in-depth study of the contemporary American mosque with a focus on issues management and governance.

Course Name: Ethics and Values of Nonprofit Organizations

Course Code: TISA-862

Course Description: An in-depth study of the issues of ethics within nonprofits with a focus on ethical leadership.

Course Name: Effective Youth Work

Course Code: TISA-866

Course Description: A study of what constitutes effective youth programs.

Course Name: Field Placement I

Course Code: TISA-890

Course Description: On-site experience in a mosque or other community setting where the student will take a leadership role.

Course Name: Field Placement II

Course Code: TISA-891

Course Description: On-site experience in a mosque or other community setting where the student will take a leadership role.

Course Name: Arabic Proficiency Assessment – Pass/Fail (No credit)

Course Code: TISA-892

Course Description: MA-Islamic Studies students must pass Fawakih Institute's Level 2 assessment and MDiv students must pass Fawakih Institute's Level 4 assessment, 9 credits prior to completing their degree.

Course Name: Qur'anic Recitation Assessment – Pass/Fail (No credit)

Course Code: TISA-894

Course Description: Students must memorize at least one juz with tajwid, 9 credits prior to completing their degree.

Course Name: Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) I

Course Code: TISA-895

Course Description: Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in a selected community setting where the student will take a leadership role.

Course Name: Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) II

Course Code: TISA-896

Course Description: Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in a selected community setting where the student will take a leadership role.

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