



## Washington Theological Consortium Certificate in Muslim-Christian Studies Summer 2010

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### CONS-142 MUSLIM JESUS, CHRISTIAN JESUS

**Instructor:** Richard J. Jones, Al-Alwani Professor of Muslim-Christian Dialogue, Washington Theological Consortium

**Guest lecturer:** Mahmoud M. Ayoub, Hartford Seminary

**Duration:** 8 sessions, Monday-Thursday, July 26-August 5, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

**Credits:** 2

**Location:** Cordoba University Library, 585 Grove St., Suite G20, Herndon, Va. 20170

**Prerequisite:** Introductory course in Islamic or Christian theology, or consent of the instructor (Contact: [rjones@washtheocon.org](mailto:rjones@washtheocon.org)). Open to Muslim and Christian students.

**Description:** Jesus is known to Muslims as prophet, miracleworker, and moral exemplar. Jesus is known to Christians as prophet, teacher, and incarnate Word of God. Using Islamic sources (Qur'an, Hadith, theological statements, and patterns of piety) and Christian sources (Bible, liturgy, theological statements, and patterns of piety), this course seeks to understand each tradition's view of the person and work of Jesus.

**Evaluation:** based on class participation, one oral class presentation, research paper

**Bibliography:** A.H. Mathias Zahniser, *The Mission and Death of Jesus in Islam and Christianity* (Orbis Books, 2008)

Mahmoud Ayoub, *A Muslim View of Christianity* (Orbis Books, 2007) (pp 111-180)

Kenneth Cragg, *Jesus and the Muslim* (Allen & Unwin, 1985)

Neal Robinson, *Christ in Islam and Christianity* (SUNY, 1991)

Richard J. Jones, *Jesus, Son of Mary* (unpublished)

#### Eight 3-hour class sessions:

1. Introduction: the language of love and knowledge: Muslim and Christian testimonials about Jesus
2. Christian understanding of the work of Jesus Christ: prophet, priest, and king
3. Islamic understanding of Jesus, Son of Mary; prophet, miracle worker, poor man
4. Prophethood and Incarnation
5. An Islamic appreciation of Jesus the Christ: Mahmoud M. Ayoub
6. Jesus in Qur'an and Hadith: reports from Christian students
7. Jesus in the New Testament and Christian liturgy: reports from Muslim students
8. Jesus in Islamic and Christian mystical traditions and private prayer: student reports

**Registration:** Students enrolled in a member institution of the Washington Theological Consortium may cross-register through the Registrar of their own institution. Other interested students register directly with Mr. Saber Alkilany, Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences, Cordoba University. Financial aid is also available from the Graduate School, contact Saber Alkilany for details. **P: 571-203-9800 x502** - Email: [cordoba@siss.edu](mailto:cordoba@siss.edu)

(OVER)

**Richard J. Jones** is a priest in the Episcopal Church and for 21 years was professor of mission and world religions at Virginia Theological Seminary. A native of Washington, D.C., he studied American history at Oberlin College, international relations at Johns Hopkins University, Christian theology at Virginia Theological Seminary and the Toronto School of Theology, and quranic Arabic and Hadith interpretation at the Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations in Birmingham, England. He taught English as a foreign language in Viet-Nam and served as a parish priest in Ecuador, Alabama, and Virginia.

Dr. Jones has published *How to talk With Your Muslim Neighbor* (Forward Movement, 2004) and “Wilfred Cantwell Smith and Kenneth Cragg on Islam as a Way of Salvation” (*International Bulletin of Missionary Research* , July 1992).



**Mahmoud M. Ayoub** was born in South Lebanon. He received his education at the American University of Beirut (BA, Philosophy, 1964), the University of Pennsylvania (M.A., Religious Thought, 1966), and Harvard University (Ph.D., History of Religion, 1975).

From 1988 to 2008, he was a Professor and director of Islamic Studies in the Department of Religion, Temple University, Philadelphia, an Adjunct Professor at the Duncan Black Macdonald Center, Hartford Seminary, Connecticut, a Research Fellow at the Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania and the Tolson visiting professor at the Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley California. In 1998, Dr. Ayoub helped devise and launch a graduate M.A. level program in Muslim-Christian relations and comparative religion for the Centre for Christian-Muslim Studies, University of Balamand, Lebanon, and since the Spring of 1999, has been its visiting professor. Mahmoud Ayoub has also previously taught at San Diego State University, the University of Toronto, and McGill University.

He was a recipient of the Kent Doctoral Fellowship and the Canada Council Fellowship. In 1994-5, he participated in the Fulbright Exchange of Scholars program for Malaysia. In the Spring-Summer of 2000, he undertook a research project on Christian-Muslim relations in Egypt and Lebanon, also on a Fulbright scholarship.

Mahmoud Ayoub is the author of a number of books including, *Redemptive Suffering in Islam and The Qur'an and Its Interpreters* (vol. 1 & 2), *Dirasat fi al-'Alaqat al-Masihiyah al-Islamiyyah in Arabic* (Studies in Christian-Muslim Relations) (2000), *Islam: Faith and History* (2004). In addition, his articles have appeared in *The Muslim World*, *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, *Bulletin of the Institute of Middle Eastern Studies* (Tokyo, Japan) and *Islamochristiana* (Rome, Italy).