

What is so special about Al-Maktoum Institute?

Al-Maktoum Institute is a unique institution in many ways:

- It is based on the vision of Shaikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum for multiculturalism, civilisational dialogue, and mutual understanding and respect;
- Research and studies at Al-Maktoum Institute are designed as post-orientalist, post-traditionalist, and multicultural, the approaches are interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary;
- The Institute is relatively small, which allows for intense academic training and a friendly atmosphere, students form a lively community in and outside the classroom;
- Excellent facilities at the Institute foster successful studies;
- The Institute is located in multicultural Dundee and maintains vibrant ties with the local and national communities.
- Teaching and research at Al-Maktoum Institute is designed to be of the highest standard, and is linked to a School of the internationally renowned University of Aberdeen which was evaluated as grade 5 in the most recent research assessment exercise (RAE).
- The new field of inquiry of Islamicjersusalem Studies has been pioneered at Al-Maktoum Institute and is currently the only institution where it is possible to study this new and exciting field.

Entrance Requirements

To enrol at Al-Maktoum Institute for the Masters programme in Islamicjersusalem Studies you will have, normally, an upper second-class Bachelors degree (2.1) or above in any of the Arts, Humanities, Islamic Studies, or Social Sciences from a recognised university or institute of learning or a qualification or experience which is acceptable as equivalent.

Teaching takes place solely in English. Any applicant whose first language is not English is required to have an IELTS score of 6.5 (with a score of at least 6.0 in the writing section of the test) or equivalent (e.g. TOEFL 580) as a condition of entry. Applicants who do not meet these criteria should contact the Institute to establish how to develop their language skills.

Would you like to do a PhD on Islamicjersusalem Studies?

The Masters programmes (taught or research-based) offered at Al-Maktoum Institute can be the road leading to a PhD on Islamicjersusalem Studies.

Application Deadline

Candidates for the MLitt in Islamicjersusalem Studies programme are advised to apply as early as possible. Intending candidates should be aware that the number of places available is limited in order to allow the individual attention and contact appropriate for graduate study to be maintained. The academic session begins in mid September. Applications for entry in September 2007 should be received by 1 June.

Scholarships

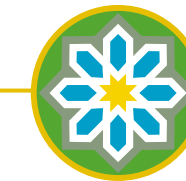
Al-Maktoum Institute do not have any funding available to support postgraduate study.

Students looking for funding are advised to try the following possible sources:

- Al-Maktoum Foundation, www.almaktoumfoundation.com – competitive partial scholarships for MLitt and PhD programmes
- Islamic Research Academic (ISRA) www.isra.org – competitive funding for MLitt programme in Islamicjersusalem Studies
- Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk>
- Economics and Social Science Research Council (ESRC): <http://www.esrc.ac.uk>
- The Overseas Research Student Awards Scheme (ORSAS): <http://www.orsas.ac.uk>
- British Chevening Scholarships: <http://www.chevening.com>
- British Council Awards: <http://www.britishcouncil.org>
- Commonwealth Scholarship Commission: <http://www.acu.ac.uk>



AL-MAKTOUM INSTITUTE
FOR ARABIC AND ISLAMIC STUDIES



MLitt in
Islamicjersusalem Studies
Postgraduate Taught Masters Programme



NEW AGENDA FOR THE
STUDY OF ISLAM AND MUSLIMS

post orientalist
post traditionalist
multi cultural
inter disciplinary
multi disciplinary



For more information please contact:

Postgraduate Administration
Al-Maktoum Institute
124, Blackness Road, Dundee DD1 5PE, Scotland, UK
Phone: + 44 (0) 1382 908070
Fax: + 44 (0) 1382 908077
www.almi.abdn.ac.uk
pgadmin@almi.abdn.ac.uk



UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN
Cover photo by Muhsin Kilby



UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN

www.almi.abdn.ac.uk

MLitt in Islamic Jerusalem Studies

Postgraduate Taught Programme

NEW AGENDA

Islamic Jerusalem Studies

'Islamic Jerusalem is a new terminology for a new concept, which may be translated into the Arabic language as Bayt al-Maqdis. It can be fairly and eventually characterised and defined as a unique region laden with a rich historical background, religious significances, cultural attachments, competing political and religious claims, international interests and various aspects that affect the rest of the world in both historical and contemporary contexts. It has a central frame of reference and a vital nature with three principal intertwined elements: its geographical location (land and boundaries), its people (population), and its unique and creative inclusive vision, to administrate that land and its people, as a model for multiculturalism.' (Abd al-Fattah El-Awaisi, 2005, Introducing Islamic Jerusalem)

Islamic Jerusalem Studies is an intellectually exciting and stimulating new field of inquiry, that seeks to understand the region of Islamic Jerusalem from an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective. The field explores the historical and theoretical framework within which Muslims approach Islamic Jerusalem, as well as examining the ways in which the region has been manifest in particular historical and social contexts. The approach consists of social, religious, historical, geographical and political perspectives on Islamic Jerusalem with in-depth studies and critical analyses of particular aspects and approaches. In particular, Islamic Jerusalem Studies addresses the key social, religious, historical, geographical, and political aspects of Islamic Jerusalem from the time of the rise of Islam to the present day, and how can the region be understood within the context of the relationship between the land, the people, and the vision of Islamic Jerusalem as a model for multiculturalism.

AL- MAKTOUM INSTITUTE

'educating the next generation of scholars in Islamic Jerusalem'

Al-Maktoum Institute and Islamic Jerusalem Studies

'The Study of Islam and Muslims should be based on the principle of "One Discipline, Many Approaches", which is pursued by a cross-cultural academic body which may include people of any background. The differences between our cultural and religious backgrounds are what give strength and importance to this field of study, and the different cultural lenses that we each bring add to our pursuit of a common intellectual goal' (from the Dundee Declaration for the Future Development of the Study of Islam and Muslims).

Are you interested in obtaining a Masters degree in the new field of inquiry of Islamic Jerusalem Studies? Would you like to pursue interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches in this emerging field of inquiry?

Then why not come to study to Masters or PhD level in Islamic Jerusalem Studies at Al-Maktoum Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies in Dundee?

Further programmes

Al-Maktoum Institute also offer MLitt programmes in the following areas:

- Islamic Studies
- Multiculturalism
- Muslims, Globalisation and the West
- Islamic Education

For further details see our website (www.almi.abdn.ac.uk).

AL- MAKTOUM INSTITUTE

'Islamic Jerusalem Studies a new branch of human knowledge based on interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary and approaches'

Programme Structure

Six taught courses:

Autumn semester:

1. The Theoretical Framework of Islamic Jerusalem

This course will examine the theoretical and conceptual framework within which Muslims approach the region of Islamic Jerusalem. It will address the key social, religious, historical, geographical, and political aspects of Islamic Jerusalem. Several questions will be key to the study of this course: What are the reasons for Muslims' having close links and concern with Islamic Jerusalem? What is the significance of Islamic Jerusalem to Islam and Muslims? Does Islamic Jerusalem have any special status compared with any other region? Particular attention will be paid to the vision of Islamic Jerusalem, its boundaries, and the Circle Theory of Islamic Jerusalem.

2. History of Islamic Jerusalem I: from 'Umar to Salah al-Din

This course will examine the first phase of the physical manifestation of the theoretical conceptual framework of Islamic Jerusalem from the time of 'Umar to Salah al-Din. It discusses the historical developments and perspectives on Islamic Jerusalem with in-depth studies on particular aspects. It will examine how Muslims have ruled that region during this early period. Particular attention will be paid to the first and second Muslim conquests of the region, the reconstruction of Al-Aqsa Mosque, the first brief interruption and the transformation of Islamic Jerusalem (1099-1187).

3. Optional course, from the following list:

- Islam and Muslims in history and society
- Core sources and approaches in the study of Islam and Muslims
- Islam and the West: multiculturalism, globalisation, and Muslims
- Educational studies: an introduction
- Multiculturalism in theory and practice



Spring semester:

4. History of Islamic Jerusalem II: from the late Crusades to the contemporary era

This course will examine the second phase of the physical manifestation of the theoretical and conceptual framework of Islamic Jerusalem. It discusses the historical and political developments and perspectives on Islamic Jerusalem with in-depth studies on particular aspects. It covers the history and politics of Islamic Jerusalem from the late Crusades to the contemporary era. It will examine how Muslims have ruled that region during this late period and the key political and demographic issues involved. Particular attention will be paid to specific subjects at the socio-political, demographical, legal and academic levels in the late contemporary period.

5. Postgraduate Research Methods

This course addresses various research methods in the humanities and social sciences, such as analytical, comparative, historical, and social, introducing an in-depth critical analysis of contemporary research methods. In particular the students will engage with methodologies in the following disciplines: historical, textual, anthropological (ethnographic), and social scientific (both qualitative and quantitative). Students taking this course will be expected to reflect on different methodologies and select appropriate methodological approaches for their own research.

6. Optional course, from the following list (subject to availability)

- Globalisation and Political Islam
- Islam and Muslims and international relations: contemporary issues and twenty-first century challenges
- Islamic education: theory and practice
- Women in Islam
- Political Islam
- Islam and Muslims in Multicultural Britain
- Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence (Usul al-Fiqh)
- Editing Islamic Texts and Manuscripts
- Qur'anic Arabic (for non-Arabic speakers)

Summer:

(MLitt candidates): Dissertation (15-18,000 words)

The dissertation is an independent piece of work and should be regarded as an exercise in the analysis, interpretation and presentation of information and ideas to the standards of current scholarly practice in an area related to the programme of study. The student will choose a topic in consultation with a member of academic staff, under whose supervision they will develop and write the dissertation.

Assessment

All assessment is by coursework, with most courses assessed by a combination of i) a critical review of 2,000 words, ii) an essay of 3-4,000 words, and iii) a seminar presentation. There are no exams. Students who take the MLitt will also be required to complete a research dissertation of 15-18,000 words.

AL- MAKTOUM INSTITUTE

'an innovative, challenging and inspiring programme'