



**MASTER
OF ARTS
IN ISLAMIC
STUDIES**

PROSPECTUS

Master of Islamic Studies (MIS)

NQF level 9

Credits: 180

SAQA Qualification ID: 119862

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

The purpose of the programme is to examine the sources and origins of Islamic thought and practice, in particular the Qur'an and Sunnah, together with a knowledge and understanding of the life of the Prophet Muhammad and its contemporary significance. The overall goal of the qualification is to comprehend the religious influence on social contexts throughout the world. In addition, it offers a wide range of optional modules that will prepare students to contextualise Islamic scholarship and be able to critically analyse contemporary debates and issues concerning Islam and Muslims. The degree offers students the opportunity to concentrate on Classical Islamic texts, the opportunity to continue, further and enhance their understanding and knowledge of Islam, pursue higher postgraduate degrees, as well as training in the translation of Islamic religious material. The programme employs a critical and analytical approach to the study of Islam and contemporary Muslim society. The degree requires a high level of theoretical engagement and intellectual independence, as well as demonstration of the ability to conduct research using quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods approaches in data collection, analysis and interpretation and dissemination of results.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: On completion of the qualification the student will be able to:

- Apply sound and grounded knowledge in dealing with contemporary theological, social, and cultural issues behind the Muslim belief.
- Comprehend and analyse the Islamic religion, while shedding light upon the religious practice and culture immediately connected with it.
- Address the role Muslims play in understanding and providing solutions to pressing issues in South Africa and the contemporary world.
- Enjoy a strong interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary graduate education that will enable a specialisation in one of the several important areas within Islamic scholarship.
- Acquire exceptional knowledge of Islam and critical thinking skills for teaching in any of the specialisation areas.
- Examine traditional Islamic knowledge and place such knowledge in the context of the challenges faced by modern society.
- Develop a feeling for why Islamic societies have developed the way they did and being part of an active citizenship that plays a fundamental and transformative role in community and nation building processes for better living.
- Develop graduates who can practice the values of moderation and contribute to social cohesion within communities and the wider world.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- BA Honours degree or BSc Honours degree in Islamic Studies or a related field.
- **Or** an appropriate postgraduate diploma (NQF Level 8) in Islamic Studies or a related field.
- **Or** an 480-credit bachelor's degree with a minimum of 96 credits, at NQF Level 8 in Islamic Studies or a related field.

Duration:

2 Years Full Time

4 Years Part Time

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

Madina Institute accepts recognition of prior Learning (RPL) as an integral part of education and academic practice. For RPL in the Master of Islamic Studies programme, the Faculty acknowledges that all learning has value and thus, RPL is the comparison of previous learning and experience of a student, however obtained, against the learning outcomes required for a specific qualification and the acceptance of such learning for purposes of qualification of that which meets the requirements (SAQA Regulation 452, No. 18787. March 1998:5).

MODE OF DELIVERY: CONTACT AND REMOTE LEARNING

Teaching and learning approach (strategy)

The MA is a postgraduate course that requires a considerable amount of preparation and reading prior to attending the classes and seminars. Our teaching and learning approach, encourages learners to be: (i) confident, (ii) understand complex social, religious and/or philosophical concepts, (iii) expressing views, opinions, and judgements around these, (iv) recognise the complexity and sensitivity of issues that give rise to religious debate, (v) be reflective, (vi) consider the diversity of views (including personal ones) and the ways in which they are supported and justified.

ASSESSMENTS: ASSIGNMENT ESSAYS:

Case studies: 30%; Critique of texts: 15%;

Presentations 15%; Portfolio of Evidence 10%.



THE STRUCTURED COURSE CONSISTS OF THREE CORE MODULES AND THREE ELECTIVES MODULES:

Compulsory Modules

MINOR DISSERTATION	CORE	Year 2, S1 and S2
TAFSEER	CORE	Year 1, S1
FIQH (ISLAMIC JURISPRUDENCE)	CORE	Year 1, S1
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	CORE	Year 1, S1

Electives Choose 3 from the following

IHSAN (SUFISM)	Elective	Year 1, S2
HADITH (PROPHETIC TRADITIONS)	Elective	Year 1, S2
EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY	Elective	Year 1, S2
TAWHID	Elective	Year 1, S2
AQIDAH	Elective	Year 1, S2
ISLAMIC THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY	Elective	Year 1, S2






CAREER PATHS



Graduates of the Masters of Islamic Studies Programme may proceed onto PhD Research. They can also seek employment opportunities in organisations in the private, public, and non-profit sectors in a broad range of positions and roles. The Master of Islamic Studies opens up opportunities for careers that demand postgraduate skills in Islamic Studies such as in research, community leadership, policy analysis and consultancy, NGOs, Media international development, and which require multi-disciplinary understanding to address challenges in their community, workplace and in the world, as well as for becoming researchers in the field. Career choices also include a wide range of areas such as policy-making roles at local and national governmental level, and advisory/consultative positions in Civil services or NGOs; or working with Muslim specialised journalism and media; Islamic education; chaplaincy (pastoral care); charitable sectors; community service; international corporation, interfaith relations, Shariah advisors; the public sector - including the civil service; banking/finance; legal studies and post-graduate studies and research. A Master's degree in Islamic Studies may be beneficial for policymakers, imams/religious ministers, chaplains, plus lecturers/teachers who are aspiring to further advance their careers.



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Fully accredited with the Council on Higher Education, listed on the registry with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) and provisionally registered by the Department of Higher Education and Training until the 31 December 2024 as a private higher education institute under the Act. Registration certificate No.2018/HE08/001.