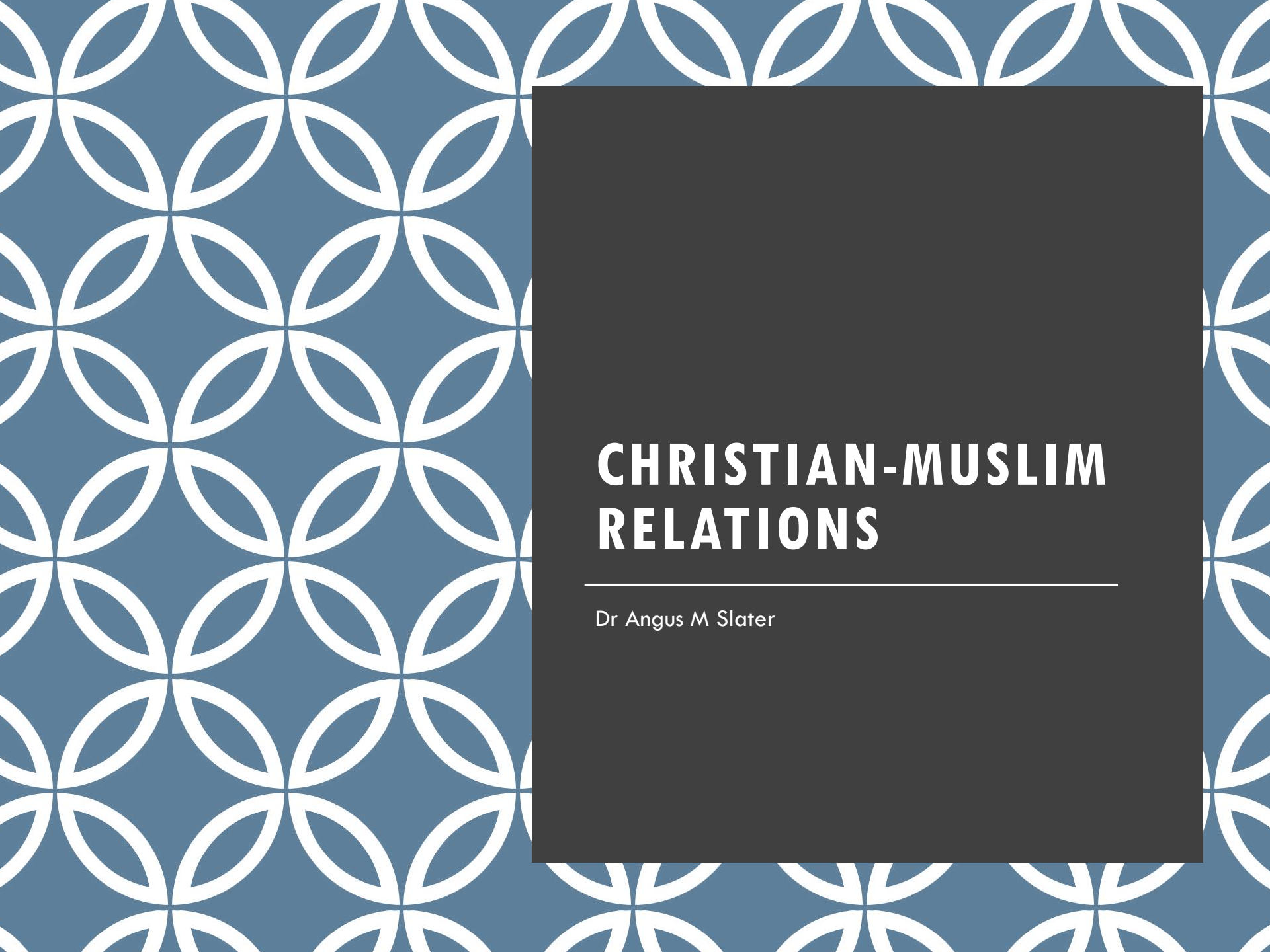




CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM RELATIONS

Dr Angus M Slater

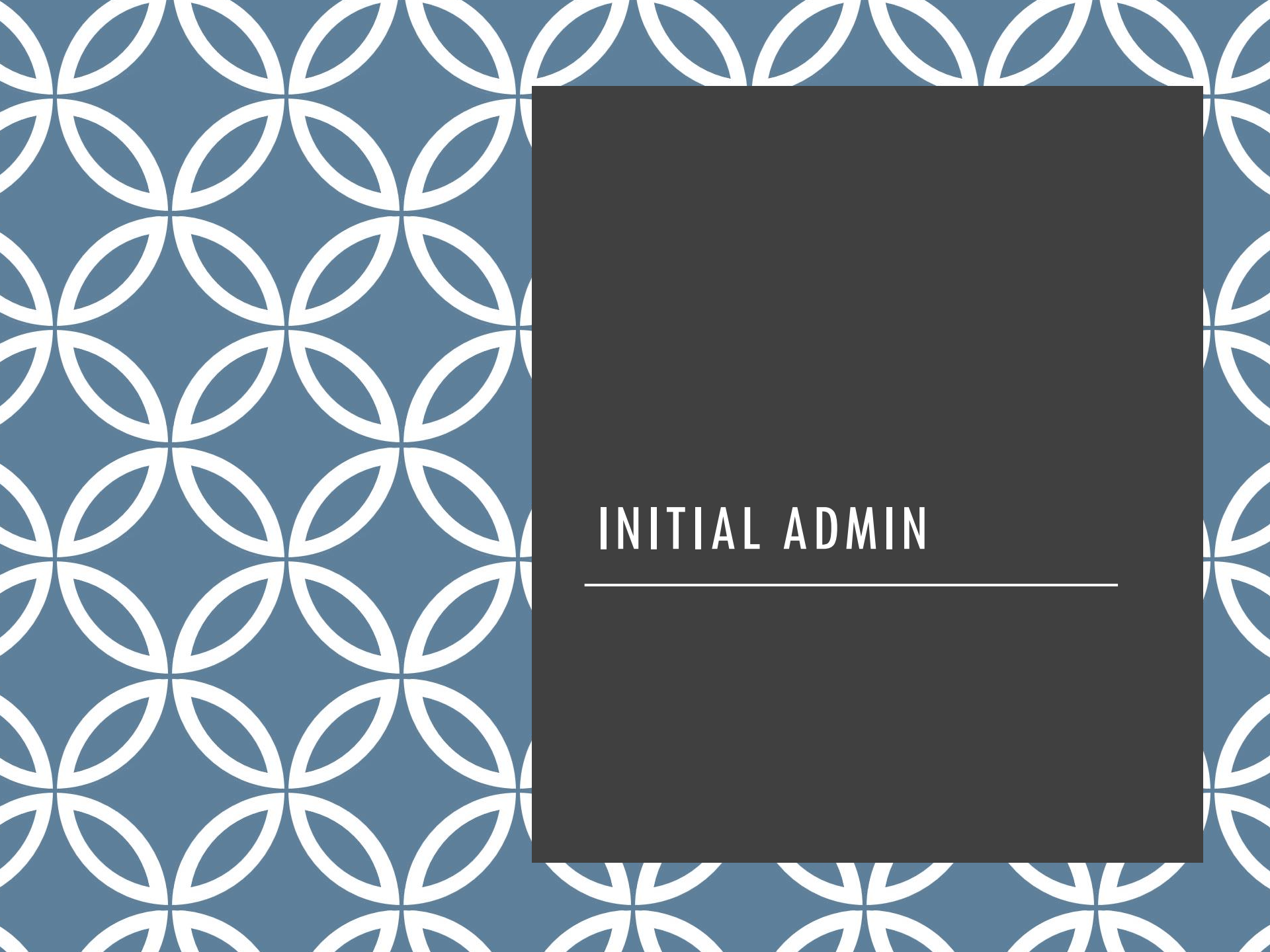
INTRODUCTION

This module functions as an optional module for the MA Interfaith Studies and DProf Interfaith Studies programmes at UWTSD.

It aims to provide you with the core material and skills needed to excel in your studies and to allow for your progression through the programme as a whole.



Dr Angus M Slater
Programme Director



INITIAL ADMIN

AIMS OF THE MODULE

This module aims to:

1. Deepen students' awareness of cross-cultural approaches to the inter-relationship of the Christian and Islamic traditions, and their shared historical realities.
2. Allow students to analyse and assess the methods by which differing religious traditions approach issues of religious plurality – historically and in the contemporary world.
3. Using methods taught in class for critical reading and thinking, to identify underlying theological, social, and political impetus to historical and contemporary points of interaction.



LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the module, you should be able to:

1. Work creatively, respectfully and effectively with each other and with course content.
2. Examine and explain motivating factors in points of interaction between the Christian and Islamic traditions.
3. Demonstrate charitable and thoughtful reflection of values held by others and the implications of those values (cause and effect).
4. Critically assess values held in our contemporary society, and explore links that these values have with the past (change and continuity).
5. Engage in appropriate work that conforms to standards that are established and upheld by the scholarly community, including the construction of a thoughtful claim that can be supported by evidence gathered.

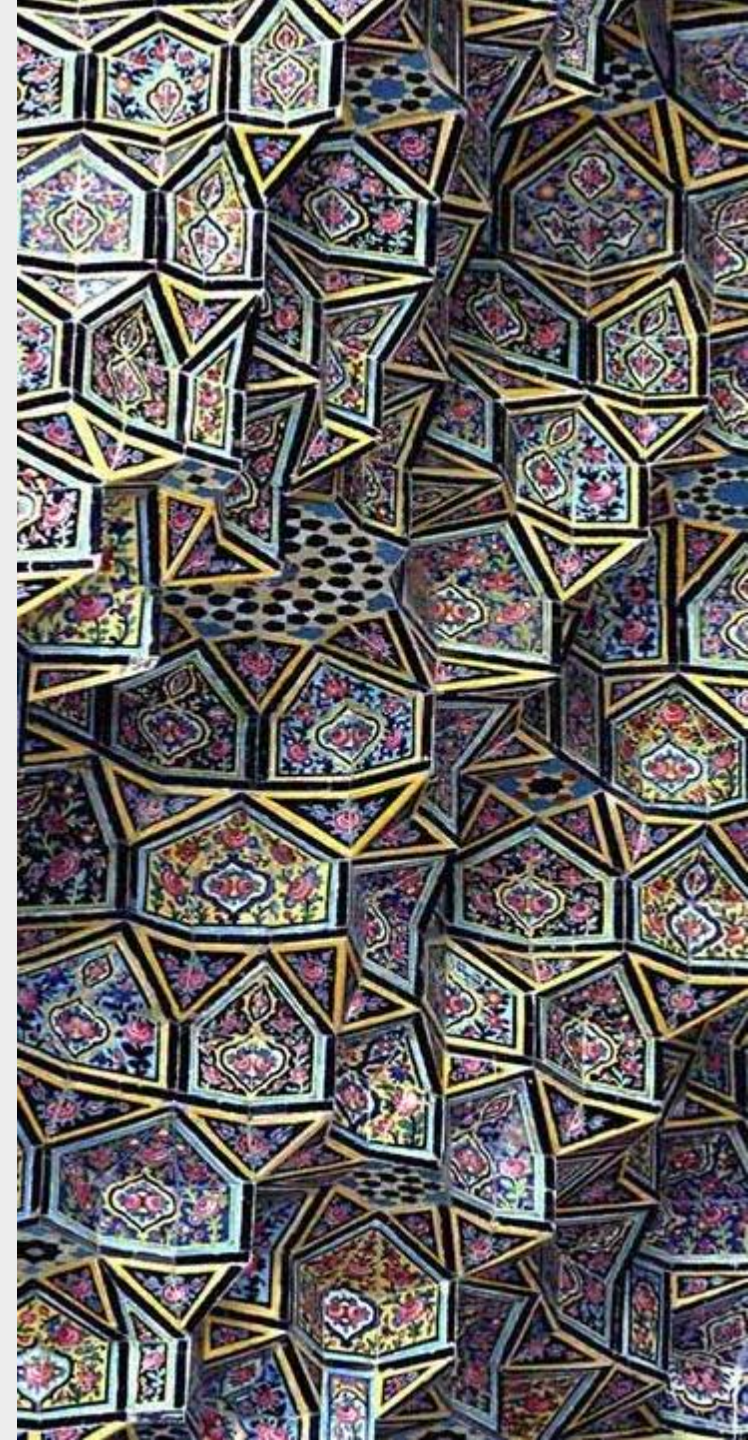


STRUCTURE

In order to equip you with these skills, the module takes a journey through a number of different areas in Christian-Muslim studies, and engages with a variety of different themes and topics.

The module is roughly split into three areas – examining the historical relationship, aspects of theology and belief, and then two further contemporary types of interaction.

This means we end up covering quite a lot of material, some of which may be of greater or lesser interest to you – but all of which is important!





The Pre-Islamic Christian landscape:
Early Christian Thinking



The Coming of Islam: Muhammad and
the Qur'an



Early Contact and Conquest: Polemics
and Responses



The Medieval Period: Crusades,
Knowledge and Transmission



Empire and Mission: Colonialism and
Muslim Responses

HISTORICAL TOPICS



The Nature and Doctrine of God -
Trinity, Tawhid, and Epistemology.



Scripture - Muslims on the Bible,
Christians on the Qur'an



Jesus — Christian Narratives



Isa — Muslim Narratives

THEOLOGY TOPICS



Contemporary Issues -
Contemporary Polemics
and Politics



The 'East' & Islam - Islam
as the East and
Orientalism



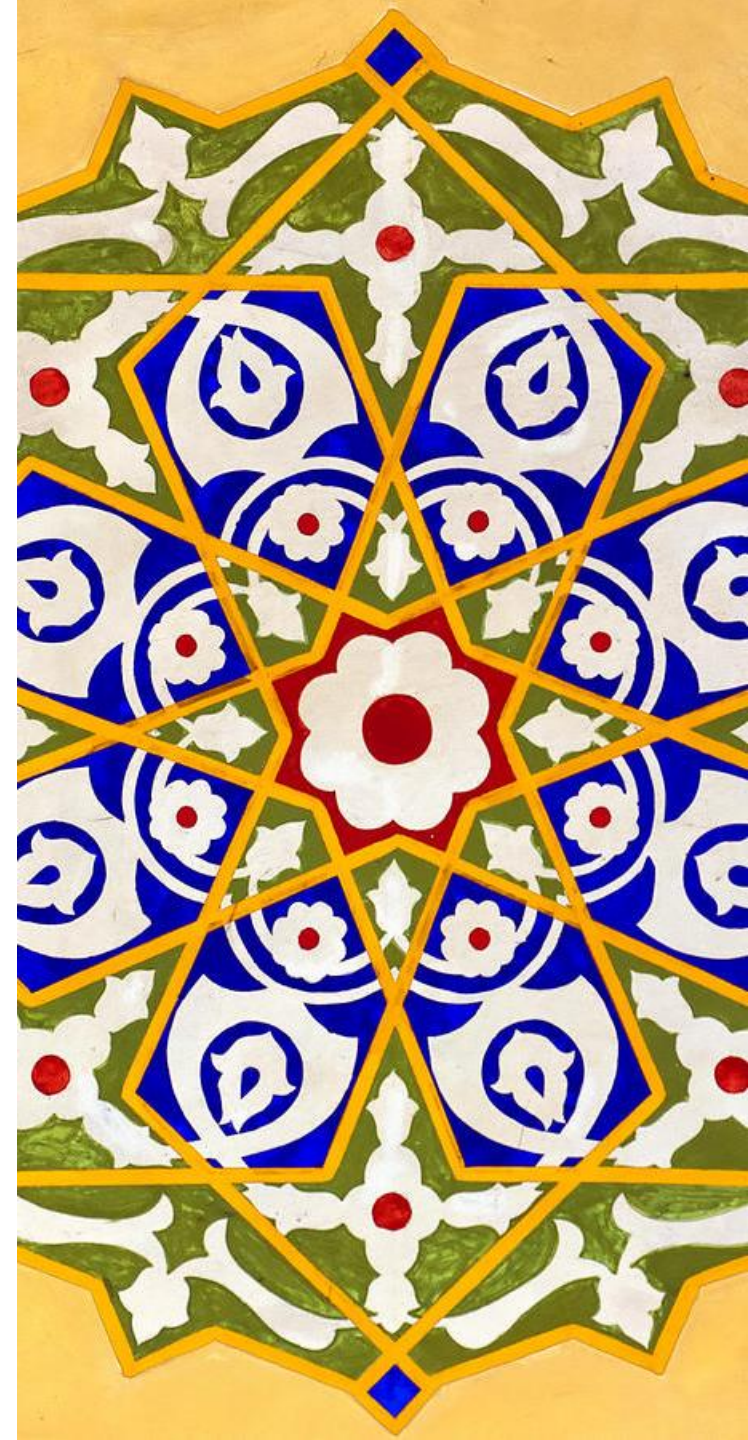
The 'West' & Christianity -
Christianity as the West
and Occidentosis

**CONTEMPORARY
TOPICS**

EXPECTATIONS

This module has certain expectations of you, the student, in order to certify your involvement with, and completion of, the module.

These take the form of discussions of the readings on Moodle and of your assessments.



READING DISCUSSIONS

Each section of the course will come with a series of expected readings for you to complete – normally 3-4 pieces of academic work, journal articles, or book chapters per section.

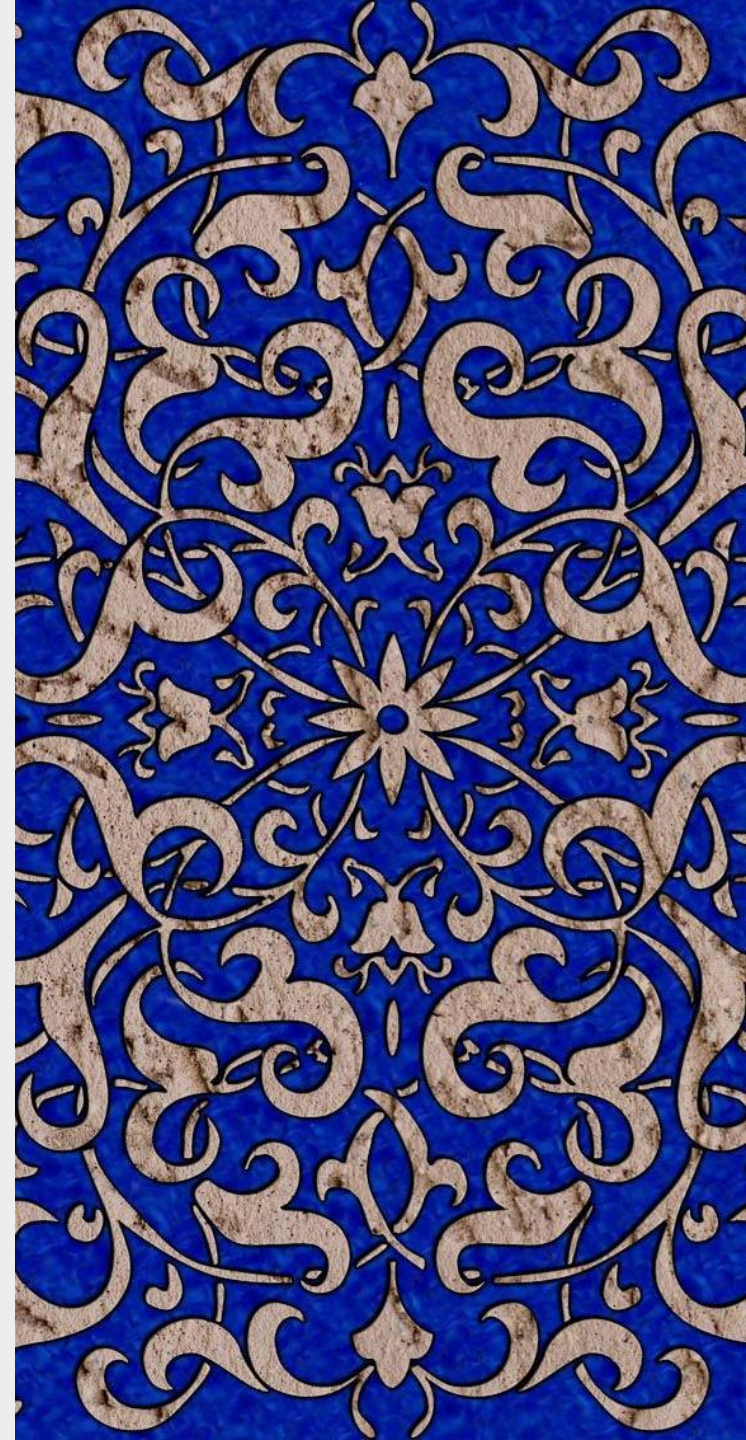
Once you have completed the reading material, you are expected to identify a particular question or questions that you have about the readings.



READING DISCUSSIONS

Once you have identified a question that you have about the readings, you are expected to post it to the provided discussion forum for that section, along with a sketch of your thinking and a potential answer.

This will allow us to engage as a learning community with the various aspects of the reading that speak to us and get to know each other better!



ASSESSMENTS

As part of this module, you will also complete three assessments.

These assessments have been kept deliberately open in nature in order to allow the student multiple potential approaches to the question.

Do seek out the advice and guidance of the tutor before engaging in the assessments.



ASSESSMENT 1

Style: A short essay, including appropriate citation and bibliography

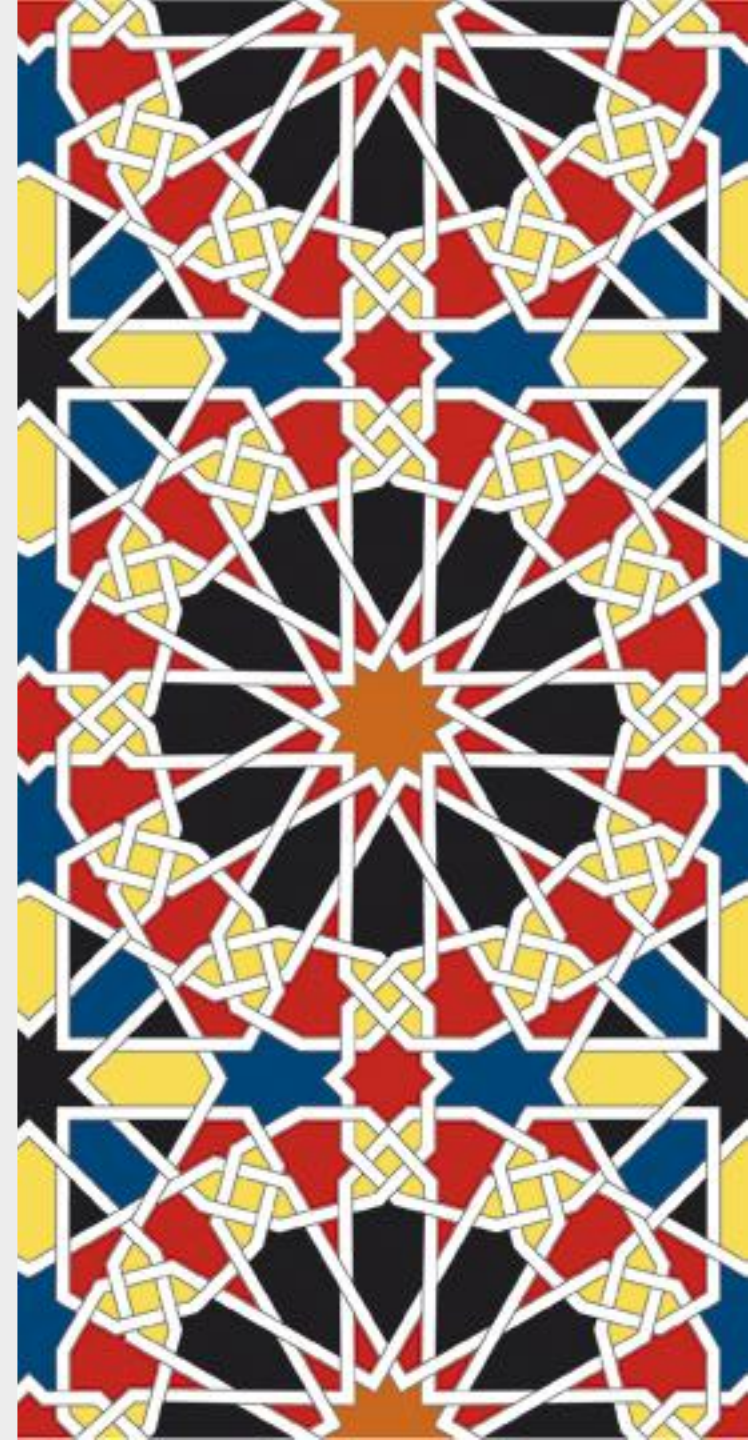
Length: 1,500 words, 20% of overall mark

Topic:

Choose one area of historical overlap between the Christian and Islamic traditions not covered in the course material.

Provide a detailed report on the nature of the historical interaction identified, and its historical importance.

Make sure that your report draws on appropriate source material.



ASSESSMENT 2

Style: A short essay, including appropriate citation and bibliography

Length: 1,500 words, 20% of overall mark

Topic:

Choose one area of theological overlap or contrast between the Christian and Islamic traditions not covered in the course material.

Provide a detailed report on the nature of the theological context identified, and its theological importance.

Make sure that your report draws on appropriate source material.



ASSESSMENT 3

Style: A short essay, including appropriate citation and bibliography

Length: 5,000 words, 60% of overall mark

Topic:

Select one area of historical or theological interaction between the Christian and Islamic traditions (this can be one you have covered in Assessment 1 or 2).

Analyse and assess its continuing relevance to, and influence on, contemporary interactions between Christian and Islamic communities.



RECOMMENDED READING

Much reading in the field of Christian-Muslim studies approaches the matter from within a particular religion, at least initially, or is focused around a specific theme or area. This means that it can be difficult to find good quality introductions to the subject!

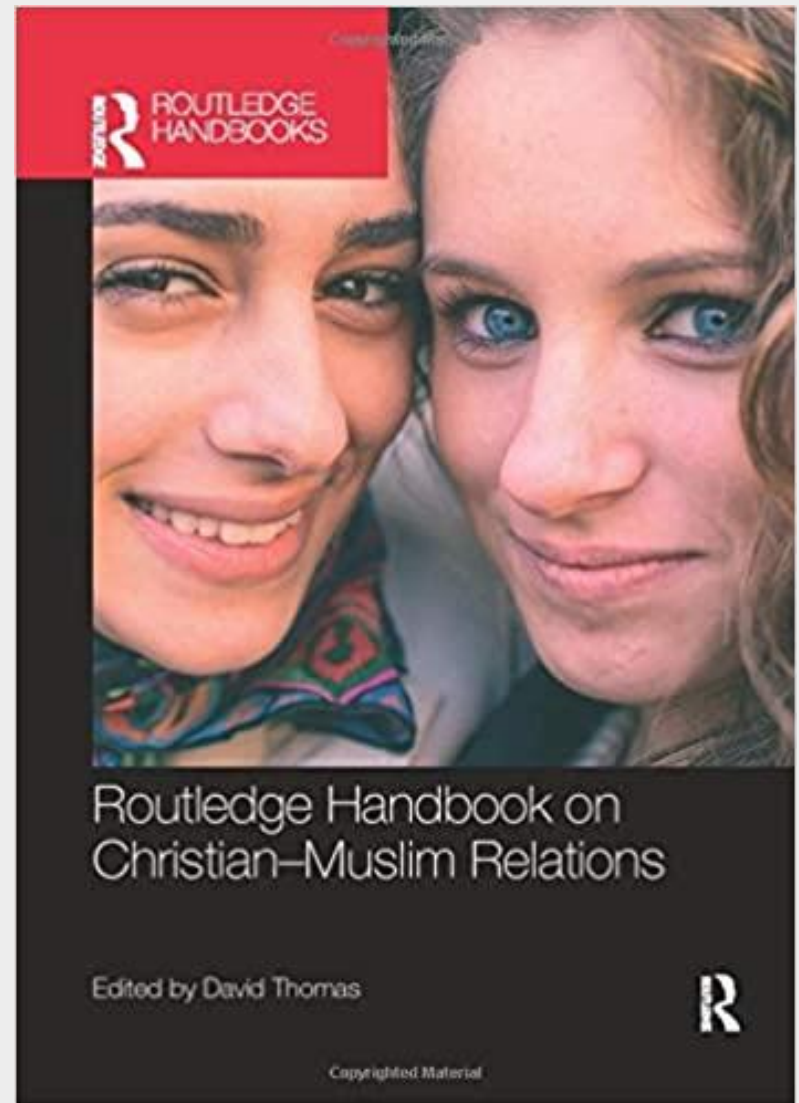
In this module, we will try to cover a number of different areas of Christian-Muslim relations, but there are many many more. Make sure to ask me if there are any specific areas of interest and I will be able to advise.



(EXPENSIVE) RECOMMENDED READING

David Thomas (ed) (2018)
*Routledge Handbook on
Christian-Muslim Relations*,
London: Routledge.

Any edition is fine, copies
can be found on Amazon
for <£40.



(CHEAPER) RECOMMENDED READING

Bennett, C (2008)
'Understanding Christian-
Muslim Relations: Past and
Present'

Any edition is fine, copies
can be found on Amazon
for less than £15

