



GHAMIDI CENTER OF ISLAMIC LEARNING

Sunday School SYLLABUS

Course Name: Understanding the Quran

Course Stage: Intermediate

Stage Theme: Exploring the Quran

Level: 5

Ages: 13-14 years

Version: 1.0

www.ghamidi.org/sunday-school

**Al-Mawrid USA
Ghamidi Center for Islamic Learning**

Overview

The Quran is the ultimate source of guidance for mankind, preserved in its original language. Even though it presents the same message that was revealed to the previous messengers, its style of delivering the message is unique. Most scholars of the Quran agree that Quran is a wonderful book with its own unique genre and style that we cannot compare with any other book in the world. Understanding the genre and style of this book is necessary for someone who wants to appreciate the message and get guidance from it. Because of the lack of this understanding, many people fail to appreciate the Quran. They see the Quran as a book with disjointed statements, which switches its addressees many times in a single verse and often repeats its statements.

This course covers various subject matter related to the Quran (without going into the Arabic language), including its style, topics, arrangement, consistency, collection, and transmission, which the young students of the Quran must be aware of when reading it for understanding. Building on that foundation, this course will also explore various sections of the Quran relevant to faith and different aspects of our lives and explain those passages in a style appropriate for teenagers.

Note: This course does not cover the Arabic language of the Quran.

Objectives:

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- Start appreciating the topic, style, genre, theme, and arrangement of the Quran when reading it on their own
- Appreciate why Quran is a unique book and how it should be approached when understanding it
- Understand how Quran was transmitted from the time it was revealed through the generations before it reached us
- Apply the knowledge gained about the sciences of the Quran to the selected passages of the Quran

Delivery Method:

This course will be taught through various methods suitable for this age group. This includes weekly lectures, presentations, and small projects/homework, and group discussions on various topics. Students will be encouraged to bring their questions to the class for clarification and discussion.

Course Outline:

The following list is comprised of suggested topics for the course. The topics may be slightly adjusted based on the need of the class. Additional reading material (if needed) for each session will be available for download from Google Classroom a week before the session.

Note: The instructor will create a weekly lesson plan or outline *based on these topics, incorporating practical aspects of the course and exercises into the weekly lessons.*

1. Introduction to the Course

- › Course Objectives
- › Structure of the Course
- › Why must we learn the sciences associated with the Quran to appreciate its message?
- › How can we benefit from this course?
- › Suggestions and input
- › Q&A

2. Introduction to the Quran

- › The environment of revelation
 - › 6th Century Arabian Peninsula
 - › The tradition of Abrahamic Religion: Judaism, Christianity, Bible, Distorted tradition of Abrahamic Teachings in the Arabian Culture
- › The Final Book on Religion
- › Quran is Divine
- › Its Relevance is Eternal
- › The Text of the Quran is protected and preserved by God
- › God protects the Language of the Quran
- › Its relationship with other Divine Books
- › Some interesting facts about the Quran
- › Q&A

3. Style of the Quran

- › Genre
- › Sermon was given by a Powerful Orator
- › The Royal “We”
- › Dialogues
- › The rhymes and rhythms
- › Narratives and stories
- › Similes/Allegories
- › Details of the unseen world
- › Q&A

4. Characters of the Quran

- › Characters of the Quran – Prophet, Polytheists, People of the Book, Believers, Hypocrites, Satan, Gabriel
- › Examples from the Quran
- › The shift of the speaker
- › Shift from one addressee to another
- › Direct vs. Indirect addressees
- › Verses starting from “Qul”
- › Q&A

5. The topic of the Quran

- › History of Islam and God’s Scheme
- › God’s law of conclusive communication of the Truth
- › The Journal of the Prophetic Mission
- › Key considerations when understanding the Quran
- › Q&A

6. Arrangement of the Quran

- › Order of compilation vs. order to revelation
- › The emphasis of the Revelation – Makki vs. Madani
- › Coherence/consistency in the Quran
- › Grouping of the Surahs
- › Groups’ themes
- › Surah as a unit and its theme
- › Verses and Paragraphs in the Surah
- › Q&A

7. Oaths in the Quran

- › Purpose of the Oaths
- › Relationship between Swear by and Swear for
- › Examples from the Quran
- › Q&A

8. Collection and Transmission of the Quran

- › Quran was revealed in segments
- › Final Recitation of the Quran
- › Compilation of the Quran at the time of Prophet Muhammad
- › Method of transmission
- › Transmission of Qiraat al Aammah
- › Distribution of the Quran during the Caliphate
- › Q&A

9. Understanding the Quran

- › Quran explains itself
- › General and Specific
- › Status of Reasoning of Revelation
- › Relationship between Hadith and Quran
- › Role of previous Divine Books in understanding the Quran
- › Importance of the Context
- › Significance of Alif Laam
- › Q&A

Review

10. Selections from the Quran

1. Surah Fatiha
2. The Tenets of Faith – Surah Baqarah Verse 285
3. The essence of Religion – Surah Dhariyat Verse 51
4. No Compulsion in Religion – Surah Baqarah Verse 256
5. Permanent Requirements of Faith – Surah Asr
6. The True Righteousness – Surah Baqarah Verse 177
7. The Correct Religious Attitude – Surah Nisaa Verse 125
8. The Person of God 1 – Surah Hashr Verses 22-24
9. The Person of God 2 – Surah Baqarah Verse 255 (Ayat al Kursi)
10. God's Bounties 1 – Surah Raad Verses 1-4
11. God's Bounties 2 – Surah Nahl Verses 65-70
12. Pondering over Creation – Surah Aal e Imran Verses 190-191
13. Arguments for the Day of Judgment 1 – Surah Qalam Verses 35-36
14. Arguments for the Day of Judgment 2 – Surah Muminoon Verses 115-116
15. Arguments for the Day of Judgment 3 – Surah Anbiya Verses 16-17
16. Human Conscience and Day of Judgment – Surah Qiyamah Verses 1-15