

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ISLAMIC STUDIES

The graduate certificate in Islamic studies, offered by the Department of Religion, focus on the study of Islam in its classical and contemporary formations, with an emphasis on developing competence in classical Islamic intellectual traditions. The cross-disciplinary program allows students to study with a variety of faculty members who are knowledgeable about the classical formulations of Islam, and have on-the-ground experience in Muslim-majority countries and communities. Centrally located in Washington, DC, the program offers students the opportunity to interact with U.S. government agencies, think tanks, non-governmental institutions, and the large Muslim community residing and working in the metro area. The program also offers nontraditional students, such as working professionals, civil servants, and employees of international agencies, the opportunity to tailor the program to their particular needs.

Visit the program website (<https://religion.columbian.gwu.edu/islamic-studies-graduate-certificate/>) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines: Fall – July 1

Spring – October 1

Standardized GRE not required.
test scores:

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:

- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 6.0 with no individual score below 5.0; or

- TOEFL: 550 on paper-based or 80 on Internet-based; or

- PTE Academic: 53

Applicants who do not meet minimum English language requirements may be eligible for our full-time Applied English Language program.

Recommendations: Two (2) recommendations required:

Prior academic records:

Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

If transcripts are in a language other than English, English language translations must be provided. The English translation alone should be uploaded into your application.

Statement of purpose: In an essay of 250 – 500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in your chosen field. Include your academic objectives, research interests, and career plans. Also discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application.

Additional requirement: Recent writing sample is required.

Interview: An interview may be required.

International applicants only: Please review International Applicant Information (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants> (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/>)) carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW, and English language requirements.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences - Office of Graduate Studies
The George Washington University
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 107
Washington DC 20052

For additional information about the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/>) page.

Contact:

askccas@gwu.edu
202-994-6210 (phone)

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 18 credits, including 12 credits in required courses and 6 credits in elective courses.

Code	Title	Credits
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Required

REL 6401	Islamic Historiographies
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REL 6402	Qur'an and Hadith
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REL 6441	Islamic Law
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REL 6460	Topics in the Study of Islam
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Electives

Two additional courses chosen from an approved list in a variety of disciplines, most of which focus on Islam in the contemporary world