

Announcement

International Islamic University Malaysia KULLIYAH OF ISLAMIC REVEALED KNOWLEDGE AND HUMAN SCIENCES

GRADUATE STUDIES

The University invites applications for admission in postgraduate programmes leading to the Masters or Ph.D degrees, on full-time or part-time basis. The general entry requirements for all postgraduate programmes are as follows:

- a. A good Bachelor (Honours) Degree or its equivalent in a related field from a recognised University.
- b. Proficiency in English, for candidates applying for programmes with English as the medium of instruction (a minimum score of 550 in the TOEFL, or a minimum of 6.0 points in the IELTS examinations). Applicants who have not taken any of the above examinations will be required to sit for the IIUM-administered English Placement Test (EPT).
- c. Proficiency in Arabic, for candidates applying for programmes with Arabic as the medium of instruction. Successful candidates will be required to sit for the IIUM-administered Arabic Placement Test (APT) to ascertain their level of proficiency.
- d. Proficiency in the Arabic and English languages when the programme requires them both.

I. DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D) PROGRAMMES

Requirements: Apart from a good bachelor degree, a Master degree in Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Heritage with specialization in the relevant area. At present Ph.D. is being offered in the following two areas:

- a. Usuluddin and Comparative Religion
- b. Fiqh and Usul al-Fiqh

II. MASTERS IN ISLAMIC REVEALED KNOWLEDGE

Requirements: A good bachelors degree. The duration of the Masters programmes in IRK is two years and includes 42 credit hours of course work and thesis. The programme is offered in three areas:

- a. Qur'ān and Sunnah
- b. Fiqh and Usul Al-Fiqh
- c. Usuluddin and Comparative Religion

III. MASTERS PROGRAMME IN HUMAN SCIENCES

Requirements: A good bachelors degree. The duration of this programme is two years and includes coursework and thesis. The programme is offered in the following areas:

- a. **Arabic as a Second Language**, with specialisation in:
 - i. Applied Linguistics
 - ii. General Linguistics
 - iii. Teaching of Arabic as a Second Language
 - iv. Literary Studies
- b. **English as a Second Language**
- c. **Political Science**, with specialisations in:
 - i. Comparative Politics
 - ii. International Relations
 - iii. Political Theory
 - iv. Public Administration
- d. **Psychology**, with specialisation in:
 - i. Counselling and Clinical Psychology
 - ii. Industrial and Organisational Psychology
 - iii. Testing and Measurement
- f. **Sociology and Anthropology**, with specialisation in:
 - i. Theories and Methods
 - ii. Social Change
 - iii. Area Studies for Selected Muslim Communities
- g. **History and Civilization**

IV. MASTERS PROGRAMME IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

The entry requirement for this programme is a Bachelors (Honours) degree with acceptable grade, or a 3/4 year Diploma from a recognised institution with 5 years of professional experience. Graduation requires a total of 48 credit hours of course work that includes 6 credit hours of practicum and an elective thesis. Following are the areas of concentration:

- i. IT Applications
- ii. Information sources and services
- iii. Information sources and services

For more information contact: Dean A & R, International Islamic University Malaysia, P.O. Box 70, Jalan Sultan, 46700, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.

The Foundation of Knowledge

by Louay Safi

A Comparative Study in Islamic and Western Methods of Inquiry

The Foundation of Knowledge critically examines research methods and methodological approaches associated with mainstream scholarship, both in the classical Muslim and modern western scientific traditions. The author argues that western methods are helpful in analyzing social interactions, but they present Muslim intellectuals with a serious problem, namely, that they do not recognize Revelation as a proper source of scientific knowledge. Classical Muslim methods are, on the other hand, primarily concerned with understanding the Divine Text, but show little interest in studying social actions which do not fit into the revealed norms. Given the difficulties outlined above, this study aspires to overcome the shortcomings of both classical Muslim and modern western methods by forging a synthesis among the elements of both. This synthesis is presented in a unified model. However, the unified model, while building on the achievements of Muslim and western traditions, does not attempt to bring harmony between the two traditions, but aspires to integrate the knowledge received from revelations with that gained from human experience.

Louay M. Safi graduated in Civil Engineering (B.Sc.) and in Political Science (M.A. and Ph.D.) from Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan. He is currently Associate Professor in the Department of Political Sciences and Deputy Dean, Research Centre, International Islamic University Malaysia. He also serves as Executive Director at the International Institute of Islamic Thought, Malaysia.

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The University

The International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) was established by the Government of Malaysia in 1983. During recent years, it has expanded on all fronts and is now offering degree programmes in Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Heritage, the Human Sciences, Economics, Management, Laws, Engineering and Medicine. It is also planning to open soon other programmes of study such as Architecture and Environmental Design. The student population has rapidly grown to over eight thousand representing more than 80 countries. The students and faculty truly represent an international character. The University, while trying its best to attain the goals of excellence and commitment, regards knowledge as a trust from Allah, to be utilized in accordance with Divine Will. Accordingly, the quest of knowledge is regarded as an act of worship. This philosophy of knowledge and education is based on the recommendations of the First World Conference on Muslim Education held in Makkah, Saudi Arabia in 1977.

The Kulliyah

The Kulliyah (Faculty) of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences was established in January 1990 with a new agenda and a new vision. Many Universities in the Muslim world and elsewhere offer programmes in Social Sciences, Islamic Studies, and other areas of knowledge. However, they still observe a secular classification of knowledge as Islamic and non-Islamic. This faculty of IIUM is unique in the sense that it combines and attempts to integrate in all its academic programmes the contents of Revealed Knowledge with Human Sciences. While teaching the Human Sciences, the subject matter is presented in an objective manner without excluding the Islamic views on it. Added to the Human Science disciplines is a content of coursework in various areas of Islamic Revealed Knowledge such as Qur'anic Studies, Hadith Studies, Fiqh, Sirah and Islamic History.

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