



Course description: NISIS-NOSTER Network Meeting 2019

Title	Network Meeting
Academic year	2018-2019
EC	1
Level	600
Language	English
Theme	Moving in/out Religion
Keynote speakers	Karin van Nieuwkerk
Hosted by	Utrecht University

Admission requirements

PhD candidates and research master students active in the field of Islamic Studies may apply for admission and should contact NISIS at nisis@uu.nl.

NISIS junior members qualify automatically and do not need to apply for participation. However, they are required to **register** for the Network Meeting via nisis@uu.nl.

In order to gain 1 EC, participants must prepare a reaction sheet and show active participation in the Network Meeting.

Description

The Network Meeting provides an excellent opportunity for PhD candidates and research master students to acquaint themselves with the newest developments in their field of study and to exchange information and experiences with colleagues and specialists. PhD candidates and research master students within the field of Islamic Studies will be given the opportunity to network with NOSTER and NISIS participants.

Course objectives

- Enlarging and deepening the already existing knowledge of Islam and Muslim societies
- Providing insight and participation in the current academic debate
- Introducing the candidates to an international network of scholars in the field
- Creating an academic community in which research in the field of Islam and Muslim societies can be optimally pursued

- Mediating between a new generation of researchers and innovative disciplinary and interdisciplinary developments, theoretical and methodological initiatives and explorations in the field
- Training presentation and reflection skills.

Timetable

To be announced. Please make sure to be informed about programme details and updates via our website: www.nisis.nl.

Mode of instruction

- Lecture
- Reaction sheet – **deadline 7 February 2019, 9.00 hours**

Course load

Total course load for the course is 28 hours.

Attendance network day: 8 hours

Preparation literature: 10 hours

Preparation reaction sheet: 10 hours

Assessment method

The examination of PhD candidates and research master students is based on:

- attendance of the meeting and participation in the discussion (40% of the final grade);
- reaction sheet (60% of final grade);

Reaction sheet

In preparation for this course, you are required to prepare, in advance, a reaction sheet (min 1000 words max 2000 words including quotations).

Aim

The reaction sheet, to be prepared in advance of the NISIS course 'Network Meeting,' serves as an introduction to the topic of the lectures at the meeting and it enables you to relate your own research to topical themes raised in the field of Islam Studies. To this purpose, you read the prescribed literature, prepare a reaction sheet (and attend the workshop):

A. Abstract & key quotations, 500-max. 1000 words

- **key quotation:** Select ONE quotation of each article of at the most (approx.) 30 words from the text that reflects the most important/one of the most important elements within the argument.
N.B. please give the correct reference - author, title, page number - where the quotation can be found in the text.
- **abstract/argument:** Write an abstract on each article in no more than 100 – 150 words). Please note: an abstract is not a summary. As the word indicates, an abstract is formulated on a more abstract level and answers questions like:
 - What are the main questions and problems that are addressed?
 - What are the key theories, concepts and ideas employed in the article?
 - What is the nature and content of the empirical data/sources that are analysed/interpreted & how is (the analysis of) the data structured and organized?

In order to make an effective abstract, you may find it helpful to take the following steps:

- A. after reading the text, write a short summary.
- B. make a list of 5 to 10 key words that reflect the most important theoretical concepts, the nature of the empirical data, themes, etc.
- C. Formulate in your own words an abstract of the text by using these key words. Describe the argument formulated in the article (no summary)

B. 500- max. 1000 words

- **Crosscutting themes:** While each article will have its own dominant topical focus, in one way or another, all readings address or touch upon wider issues as well. Give an overview of crosscutting themes you can discern in the articles under discussion. Reflect on similarities, differences, complementary information/arguments (max. 100 words per article) [n.b. identifying crosscutting themes entails more than stating that the articles discussed all study, for example, one of the five pillars of Islam; the pillars are 'subject matter'].
- **Relevance for your own research:** Some articles will link obvious with the topic of your own research. Others will have focusses that maybe not directly relate to your own research. Often, on a more abstract or theoretical level it proves possible to find parallels and/or differences between the article and your own research. Articulate in general how the literature adds to your own research and choose at least two articles for which you substantiate the relation more profoundly (max. 100 words per article.)

Please, send the reaction sheet to nisis@uu.nl before **7 February 2019, 9.00 hours CET**.

Literature

General readings:

Rambo, L., & Farhadian, C. (2014). Introduction. In: Lewis R. Rambo and Charles E. Farhadian (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Religious Conversion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Harding, S. (1987). Convicted by the holy spirit: The rhetoric of fundamental Baptist conversion. *American Ethnologist*, 14(1).

Özyürek, E. (2014). Introduction: Germanizing Islam and Racializing Muslims. In Özyürek, E. (Ed.), *Being German, Becoming Muslim: Race, Religion, and Conversion in the New Europe*. Princeton University Press.

Enstedt, Daniel (2018) Apostasy, Disaffiliation, and Islam in Contemporary Sweden. In Nieuwkerk, K. van (Ed.). (2018). *Moving in and out of Islam*.

Readings for those who expertise in the social study of moving in/out of religion:

Paloutzian, R. (2014). Psychology of Religious Conversion and Spiritual Transformation. In: Lewis R. Rambo and Charles E. Farhadian (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Religious Conversion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Yang, F., & Abel, A. (2014). Sociology of Religious Conversion. In: Lewis R. Rambo and Charles E. Farhadian (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Religious Conversion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Readings for those who expertise in the historical and textual study of moving in/out of religion:

Baer, M. (2014). History and Religious Conversion. In: Lewis R. Rambo and Charles E. Farhadian (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Religious Conversion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Stromberg, P. (2014). The Role of Language in Religious Conversion. In: Lewis R. Rambo and Charles E. Farhadian (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Religious Conversion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Application

The application deadline for participation in the Network Meeting 2019 is **1 February 2019**. Please note that the number of available places is restricted.

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Website

www.nisis.nl