



# Course Description: NISIS Seminar 2020



Title	Islam and Diversity
Academic year	2019-2020
EC	1
Level	600
Language	English
Keynote Speakers	t.b.a.
Hosted by	Maastricht University

## Admission requirements

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PhD candidates and research master students active in the field of Islamic Studies may apply for admission via [www.nisis.nl](http://www.nisis.nl).

NISIS junior members qualify automatically and do not need to apply for participation. However, they are required to register for the Seminar via [www.nisis.nl](http://www.nisis.nl).

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

Please note that participants from outside of the Netherlands who are not a member of NISIS pay a fee of 50 euros per EC.

## Description

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The NISIS Seminar 2020 will be co-organized by Maastricht University (Law Faculty, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences) and NISIS, and is supported by UNU-Merit (United Nations University: Maastricht Economic and Social research Institute on Innovation and technology).



The theme of the meeting is Islam and Diversity, which will be divided into three subthemes, representing various disciplines: Law, Civil Society, and Gender & Diversity. There will be three keynote speakers, to be announced. There will also be workshops where students and PhD candidates will present their research and receive feedback from senior researchers and other participants.

The Seminar 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 other students and professors from other universities in the Netherlands.

## Course objectives

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- 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, writing and reflection skills.

## Time Table

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T.b.a. Please make sure to be informed about programme details and updates via our website: [www.nisis.nl](http://www.nisis.nl).

## Mode of instruction

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- Lecture
- Workshops
- Reaction sheet



## Course load

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Total course load for the course is 28 hours

Attendance seminar: 8 hours

Preparation literature: 10 hours

Preparation reaction sheet: 10 hours

## Assessment method

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

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

## Reaction sheet

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

The reaction sheet, to be prepared in advance of the NISIS Seminar, 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.)

## Reading list

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T.b.a.



## Application

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## Website

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[www.nisis.nl](http://www.nisis.nl)