

## Brief Course Outline

**Course Title:** Interpreting the Quran in Translation

**Course Number and Section:**

RELSTUD

2310F 550

**Instructor Name(s):** Julie Lowe

**Instructor Email(s):** jlowe6@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

### Course Description:

This course explores passages in the Quran that have shaped classical and contemporary Islam, particularly regarding the tensions between text, context, and community. In addition to textual analysis, the course covers the history of reception

### Learning Outcomes:

- Identify the major tools of traditional and modern Quran interpretation
- Describe the primary methodological differences among major schools of Islamic thought in interpreting the Quran
- Be able to identify acts of interpretation in a variety of Islamic texts
- Discuss how reason, science, ethics and context have been variously invoked by Quran interpreters as filters for normative readings.
- Conduct basic research in the academic study of Quran interpretation

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

Karen Bauer, *Gender Hierarchy in the Qur'an: Medieval Interpretations, Modern Responses* (Cambridge University Press 2017). Students require a personal hardcopy of this book (no e-books) for an in-class assignment. Available from the Western bookstore, \$53.

### Methods Of Evaluation:

| Assignment    | Due Date mm/dd/yy | Weight - % |
|---------------|-------------------|------------|
| Participation | Ongoing           | 10         |
| Glossary      | Ongoing           | 10         |
| Test 1        | 10/14/2025        | 25         |
| Test 2        | 12/02/2025        | 30         |

| Assignment                                                                       | Due Date mm/dd/yy | Weight - % |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Book Assignment: Pre-Modern and Contemporary Interpretations of Gender Hierarchy | 11/11/2025        | 25         |

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Tuesday, September 2, 2025