

The aim of this JAMB IRK Islamic Religious Studies Syllabus for Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) , is to prepare the candidates for the Board's examination. It is designed to test their achievement of the course objectives, which are to:

1. master the Qur'an and Sunnah as foundations of Islamic and social life;
2. be familiar with Islamic heritage, culture and civilization;
3. be acquainted with the tradition of Islamic scholarship and intellectual discourse;
4. demonstrate knowledge of Islamic moral, spiritual, political and social values;
5. be prepared to face the challenges of life as good practicing Muslims.

PART 1: THE QUR'AN AND HADITH



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1. Revelation of the Glorious Qur'an

Topics:

- i. Visits of the Prophet (SAW) to Cave Hira
- ii. His reaction to the first revelation and its importance
- iii. Different modes of revelation (Q.42:51): inspiration behind the veil, through an angel, etc.
- iv. Piecemeal revelation (Q.17:106) (Q.25:32)

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse the Prophet's (SAW) visits to Cave Hira and the purpose;
- ii. describe the Prophet's reaction to the first revelation and its importance;
- iii. differentiate between the modes of revelation;
- iv. explain why the Glorious Qur'an was revealed piecemeal.

1b. Preservation of the Glorious Qur'an

Topics:

- i. Complete arrangement
- ii. Differences between Makkah and Madina suwar
- iii. Recording, compilation and standardization of the Glorious Qur'an
- iv. The role played by the Companions of the Prophet (SAW)

Objectives:

- i. identify the personalities involved in the arrangement of the Glorious Qur'an;
- ii. differentiate between Makkan and Madinan suwar
- iii. analyse how the Glorious Qur'an was recorded, compiled and standardized;
- iv. evaluate the role played by the companions of the Prophet (SAW)

1c. Importance of the Glorious Qur'an

Topics:

- i. as a source of guidance in spiritual, moral, economic, political and socio-cultural matters.

Objectives:

- i. examine the importance of the Glorious Qur'an

1d. Proof of the Divine authenticity of the Glorious Qur'an (Q.4:82) (Q.41:42)

Topics:

- i. Uniqueness of the Glorious Qur'an (Q.39:27) (Q.17:88) (Q.75:16-19)
- ii. Divine preservation of the Glorious Qur'an (Q.15:9)

Objectives:

- i. evaluate the proof of the divine authenticity of the Glorious Qur'an;
- ii. evaluate the uniqueness of the Glorious Qur'an;
- iii. examine the ways by which the Glorious Qur'an was preserved.

2. Tafsir

Topics:

- i. Historical development of Tafsir
- ii. Importance of Tafsir
- iii. Types of Tafsir

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. trace the origin and sources of Tafsir.;
- ii. evaluate the importance of Tafsir

iii. compare the types of Tafsir.

3. Introduction to Tajwid (Theory and Practice)

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

i. examine the meaning and importance of Tajwid

4. Study of the Arabic text of the following suwar/ayats with tajwid

Topics:

- (a) al-Fatihah (Q.1)
- (b) al -Adiyat (Q.100)
- (c) al -Qari'ah (Q.101)
- (d) at -Takathur (Q.102)
- (e) al -Asr ((Q.103)
- (f) al -Humazah (Q.104)
- (g) al -Maun ((Q.107)
- (h) al -Kawthar (Q.108)
- (i) al - Kafirun (Q. 109)
- (j) al- Nasr (Q. 110)
- (k) al -Masad ((Q.111)
- (l) al -Ikhlas (Q.112)
- (m) al -Falaq ((Q.113)
- (n) an-Nas (Q.114)

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

i. recite with correct tajwid the Arabic texts of the suwar;

ii. translate the verses;

iii. deduce lessons from them;

iv. evaluate the teachings of the verses.

5. Study of the Arabic text of the following suwar/ayats with tajwid

Topics:

- a. al-A'ala (Q.87)

- b. ad-Duha (Q.93)
- c. al-Inshirah (Q.94)
- d. at-Tin (Q.95)
- e. al-[Alaq](#) (Q.96)
- f. al-Qadr (Q.97)
- g. al-Bayyinah (Q.98)
- h. al-Zilzal (Q.99)
- i. Ayatul-Kursiy (Q.2:255)
- j. Amanar-Rasul (Q.2:285-6)
- k. Laqad jaakun (Q.9:128-129)

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. recite with correct tajwid the Arabic texts of the suwar;
- ii. deduce lessons from them;
- iii. evaluate their teachings;

6. Hadith

Topics:

- a. History of Hadith literature - Collection of Hadith from the time of the Prophet(SAW) to the period of the six authentic collectors of Hadith
 - b. Authentication of Hadith
 - i. Isnad (Asma'ur-rijal)
 - ii. Matn
 - iii. Classification of Hadith into Sahih Hassan and Da'if
- c. The relationship between Hadith and the Glorious Qur'an
 - i. The importance of Hadith
 - ii. The similarities and differences between Hadith and the Glorious Qur'an
- d. The six sound collectors of Hadith - biographies and their works.
- e. Muwatta and its author - The biography of Imam Malik and the study of his book

- f. The study of the Arabic texts of the following ahadith from an-Nawawi's collection:
1,3,5,6,7,9,10,11,12,13,15,16, 18,19,21, 22,25,27,34, and 41

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. evaluate the history of Hadith from the time of the Prophet (SAW) to the period of six authentic collectors.
- ii. analyse the Isnad;
- iii. analyse the Matn;
- iv. distinguish between Hadith Sahih, Hassan and da'if.

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the importance of Hadith;
- ii. distinguish between Hadith and the Glorious Qur'an.
- iii. evaluate their biographies and works
- iv. evaluate his biography;
- v. analyse his work.
- vi. interpret the ahadith in Arabic
- vii. apply them in their daily lives.

7. Moral lessons in the Glorious Qur'an and Hadith

Topics:

- a. General moral lessons contained in the admonition of Sage Luqman to his son (Q.31:18-20).
- b. Goodness to parents (Q.17:23-24)
- c. Honesty (Q.2:42)(Q.61:2-3)
- d. Prohibition of bribery and corruption (Q.2:188), alcohol and gambling (Q.2:219) (Q.5:93-94), stealing and fraud (Q.5:41) (83:1-5), smoking, drug abuse and other intoxicants (Q.2:172-173, 195 and 219) (Q.4:43) (Q.5:3) (Q.6:118-121) arrogance (Q.31:18-19) and extravagance (Q.17:26-27) (Q.31:18-19)
- e. Dignity of labour (Q.62:10) (Q.78:11) Hadith from Bukhari and Ibn Majah: "that one of you takes his rope....." "never has anyone of you eaten.....".

- f. Behaviour and modesty in dressing (Q.24:27-31) (Q.33:59)
- g. Adultery and fornication (Q.17:32) (Q.24:2), homosexuality (Q.11:77-78) and obscenity (Q.4:14-15) Hadith - “No one of you should meet a woman privately “Bukhari
- h. Leadership (Q.2:124) and justice (Q.4:58 and 135) (Q.5:9) Hadith - ‘take care everyone of you is a governor concerning his subjects” (al-Bukhari and others)
- i. Trust and obligations (Q:4:58) (Q.5:1) and promises (Q.16:91) Hadith ‘he has (really) no faith Not fulfilled his promise” (Baihaqi)
- j. Piety (Taqwa) (Q:2:177) (Q.3:102) (Q.49:13) Hadith 18 and 35 of an Nawawi
- k. Tolerance, perseverance and patience (Q.2:153-157) (Q.3:200) (Q.103:3) Hadith 16 of an-Nawawi
- l. Unity and brotherhood (Q.3:103) (Q.8:46) (Q.49:10) Hadith 35 of an-Nawawi
- m. Enjoining what is good and forbidding what is wrong (Q.3:104 and 110) (Q.16:90) Hadith 25 and 34 of an Nawawi

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- a. use the teachings of the verses in their daily lives;
- b. apply the teachings of the verses to their daily lives;
- c. demonstrate the teachings of the verses in their daily lives.
- d. use the teachings of the verses in their daily lives
- e. apply the teachings of the verses in their daily lives.
- f. demonstrate the teachings of the verses in their daily lives.
- g. apply the teachings of the verses in their daily lives.
- h. apply the teachings of the verses and the al-Hadith to their daily lives.
- i. demonstrate the teachings of the verses and the Hadith in their daily lives.
- j. apply the teachings of the verses and the ahadith in their daily lives.
- i. Interpret the teachings of the verses and the Hadith in their daily lives.
- m. demonstrate the teachings of the verses and the Hadith in their daily lives.
- n. apply the teachings of the verses and the ahadith in their daily lives.

8. PART II: TAWHID AND FIQH



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Faith

Topics:

- i. Tawhid Its importance and lessons

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse the concepts of Tawhid.

Kalimatush-Shahadah

Topics

- i. Its meaning and importance
- ii. The Oneness of Allah as contained in the following verses: (Q.3:19) Q.2:255) (Q.112:1-4)
- iii. The servanthood and messengership of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) as contained in the following verses (Q.3:144) (Q.18:110) (Q.48:29) and (Q.34:28)
 - iv. Universality of his message (Q.7:158) (Q.34:28)
 - v. Finality of his Prophethood (Q.33:40)

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. evaluate the significance of kalimatush-shahadah.
- ii. identify the verses dealing with the Oneness of Allah
- iii. determine the significance of the servanthood of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW).
- iv. evaluate the significance of the universality of Prophet Muhammad's message.
- v. examine the significance of the finality of the Prophethood of Muhammad (SAW).

Shirk

- i. Beliefs which are incompatible with the Islamic principles of Tawhid:

- Worship of Idols (Q.4:48) (Q.22:31)

- Ancestral worship (Q.4:48 and 116) (Q.21:66-67)

- Trinity (Q.4:171) (Q.5:76) (Q.112:1-4)
- Atheism (Q.45:24) (Q.72:6) (Q.79:17-22)

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine what actions and beliefs constitute shirk.
- ii. Determine the implications beliefs and actions of shirk.
- iii. avoid such actions.

General practices which are incompatible with Islamic principles of Tawhid:

- i. Superstition (Q.25:43) (Q.72:6)
- ii. Fortune-telling (Q.15:16-18)(Q.37:6-10)
- iii. Magic and witchcraft (Q.2:102) (Q.20:69) and 73) (Q.26:46)
- iv. Cult worship (Q.17:23) (Q.4:48)
- v. Innovation (Bid'ah) (Q.4:116) and Hadith 5 and 28 of an-Nawawi

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. identify those practices that are incompatible with the Islamic principles of Tawhid;
- ii. determine those practice that are incompatible with Tawhid;
- iii. shun off those actions;
- iv. demonstrate the teachings of the verses and the ahadith in their daily lives.

9. Article of faith

Topics:

- a. Belief in Allah
 - i. Existence of Allah (Q.2:255) (Q.52:35-36)

- ii. Attributes of Allah (Q.59:22-24)
- iii. The works of Allah (Q.27:59:64)
- b. Belief in Allah's angels (Q.2:177 and 285) (Q.8:50) (Q.16:2)
- c. His books (Q.2:253) and 285) (Q.3:3)
- d. His Prophets: Ulul-azmi (Q.4:163-164)
- e. The Last Day: Yawm-al-Ba'th (Q.23:15-16) (Q.70:4)
- f. Destiny: distinction between Qada and Qadar (Q.2:117) (Q.16:40) (Q.36:82)

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. examine the significance of the article of faith;
- ii. examine the attributes of Allah;
- iii. examine the works of Allah;
- iv. examine the belief in Allah's books;
- v. identify the verses on Allah's books;
- vi. identify the belief in the Prophets of Allah and its significance;
- vii. analyse the belief in the Last Day and its significance
- viii. evaluate the belief in destiny and its significance.

10. Ibadat and their types

Topics:

- a. Good deeds (Q.3:134) (Q.6:160) (Q.2:177) (Q.31:8) (Q.103:1-3) 26th Hadith of an-Nawawi
- b. Taharah, its types and importance (al-istinja'/istijmar, alwudu', at-tayammum and al-ghusl (Q.2:222) (Q.5:7) Hadith 10 and 23 of an-Nawawi.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. determine what constitutes acts of ibadah;

- ii. distinguish between the different types of taharah;

Salah

Topics:

- i. Importance: (Q.2:45) (Q.20:132) (Q.29:45) and Hadith 23rd of an-Nawawi
 - ii. Description and types of salah
 - iii. Things that vitiate salah

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. assess the importance of salah to a Muslim's life;
- ii. analyse different types of salah;
- iii. identify things that vitiate salah

Zakah

Topics

- i. Its types and importance (zakatul-fitr, zakatul mal, al-an-am and al-harth (Q.2:267) (Q.9:103) 3rd Hadith of an-Nawawi
 - ii. Collection and disbursement (Q.9:60)
 - iii. Difference between Zakah and sadaqah

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. differentiate between the various types of zakkah and the time of giving them out;
- ii. determine how to collect and distribute zakah;
- iii. distinguish between [zakah](#) and sadaqah

Sawm

Topics

- i. Its types and importance (fard, sunnah, qada and kaffarah) (Q.2:183-185) 3rd Hadith of an-Nawawi
- ii. People exempted from sawm
- iii. Things that vitiate sawm

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. compare the various types of sawm;
- ii. determine the people who are exempted from fasting;
- iii. determine things that vitiate fasting.

Hajj

Topics

- i. Its importance (Q.2:158 and 197) (Q.3:97) (Q.22:27-28)
- ii. Type (Ifrad, Qiran and Tamattu)
- iii. Essentials of Hajj (Arkan al Hajj)
- iv Conditions for the performance of Hajj
- v. Differences between Hajj and Umrah

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- (i. examine the importance of Hajj;
- (ii) differentiate between the types of Hajj;
- (iii) determine the essentials of Hajj;
- (iv) evaluate the conditions for performance of Hajj;
- (v) differentiate between Hajj and Umrah.

Jihad: Concept, kinds, manner and Lessons (Q.2:190-193) (Q.22:39-40)

Candidates should be able to:

- (i) examine the concepts of jihad and its type;
- (ii) evaluate the manner of carrying out jihad and its lessons.

11. Family Matters

Topics:

(a) Marriage

- i. Importance (Q.16:72) (Q.24:32) (Q.30:20-21)
- ii. Prohibited categories (Q.2:221) (Q.4:22-24)
- iii. Conditions for its validity (Q.4:4) (Q.4:24-25)
- iv. Rights and duties of husbands and wives (Q.4:34-35) (Q.20:132) (Q.65:6-7)
 - v. Polygamy (Q.4:3 and 129)
- b. Idrar ill-treatment of wife (Q. 65:1-3)

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse the importance of marriage.
- ii. determine the category of women prohibited to a man to marry.
- iii. examine the conditions for validity of marriage.
- iv. determine the rights and duties of the spouse.
- v. evaluate polygamy and its significance.
- vi examine the ill-treatment of wife in marriage.

Divorce

Topics

- i. Attitude of Islamic to divorce (Q.2:228) (Q.4:34-35) Hadith “of al things lawful most hateful to Allah..” (Abu Daud 15:3)
- ii. Kinds (Talaq, Khul;, Faskh, Mubara’ah and Lian) (Q.2:229-230) (Q.24:6-9)

- iii. Iddah, kinds, duration and importance (Q.2:228 and 234)
- iv. Prohibited forms of dissolution of marriage. (Ila and Zihar) (Q.2:226-227) (Q.58:2-4)
- v. Custody of children (H^adanah)

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse the attitude of Islam to divorce
- ii. examine the different types of divorce;
- iii. differentiate between the various kinds of iddah;
- iv. analyse its duration and significance;
- v. determine the prohibited forms of ending marriage;
- vi. determine who has the right to custody of children;

Inheritance

Topics

- i. Its importance
- ii. Heirs and their shares (Q.4:7-8, 11-12 and 176)

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- (i) Evaluate the significance of inheritance.
- (ii) identify the categories of the Qur'anic heirs.
- (iii) determine the share of each heir.

12. Sources and Schools of Law

Topics:

- i. The four major sources (the Qur'an, Sunnah, Ijma and Qiyas)

ii. The four Sunni Schools of law

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse the four major sources of Islamic law;
- ii. examine the biography of the sunni schools of law;
- iii. examine their contributions.

13. Islamic Economic System

Topics:

- i. Islamic attitude to Riba (Q.2:275-280) (Q.3:130) (Q.4:161) Hadith 6th of an-Nawawi
- ii. At-tatfif (Q.83:1-6)
- iii. Hoarding (ihtikar) (Q.9:34)
- iv. Islamic sources of revenue: Zakah, Jizyah, Kharaj and Ghanimah
- v. Baitul-mal as an institution of socio-economic welfare
- vi. Difference between the Islamic economic system and the Western economic system

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse Islamic attitude to Riba;
- ii. relate at-tatfif and its negative consequences;
- iii. examine ihtikar and its implications on society;
- iv. identify the sources of revenue in Islam;
- v. evaluate the disbursement of the revenue;
- vi. determine the uses of baitul-mal in the Ummah;
- vii. differentiate between the Islamic and Western economic systems.

Islamic Political System

Topics

- i. Allah as the Sovereign (Q.3:26-27).
- ii. The concept of Shurah (consultation) (Q.3:159) (Q.42:38).
- iii. The concept of Adalah (justice) (Q.5:9) (Q.17:13-14 and 36) and Mas'ûliyah (accountability) (Q.4:58) (Q.102:8).
- iv. The rights of non-Muslims in an Islamic state (Q.2:256) (Q.6:108).
- v. Differences between the Islamic political system and the Western political system.

Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse the concept of Allah's sovereignty;
- ii. examine the concept of surah in Islam
- iii. evaluate the concept of justice and accountability
- iv. examine the rights of non-Muslims in an Islamic state
- v. differentiate between the Islamic and Western political systems.

PART III: ISLAMIC HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION



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15. Pre-Islamic Arabia (Jahiliyyah)

Topics:

- i. Jahiliyyah practices: idol worship, infanticide, polyandry, gambling, usury, etc.
- ii. Islamic reforms

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. distinguish the different types of practices common to the Arabs of al-Jahiliyyah;
- ii. trace the reforms brought about by Islam to the Jahiliyyah practices

16. The Life of Prophet Muhammad (SAW)

Topics:

- i. His birth and early life
- ii. His call to Prophethood
- iii. Da'wah in Makkah and Madinah
- iv. The Hjah
- v. Administration of the Ummah and the role of the mosque (Q.3:159) (Q.4:58 and 135)
 - vi. The Battles of Badr, Uhud and Khandaq: causes and effects
 - vii. The Treaty of al-Hudaibiyah and the conquest of Makkah
 - viii. Hijjatul-wada (the farewell pilgrimage) sermon, and lessons.
 - ix. Qualities of Muhammad (SAW) and lessons learnt from them

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. account for the birth and early life of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW);
- ii. provide evidence for the call of Muhammad (SAW) of Prophethood;
- iii. analyse the Da'awah activities of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) to Madinah

- iv. account for the Hijrah of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) in Makkah and Madinah.
- v. analyse the administration of the Muslim Ummah in Madinah.
- vi. account for the causes and effects of the Battles of Badr, Uhud and Khandaq;
- vii. trace the circumstances leading to the formulation of the Treaty of Hudaibiyya;
- viii. account for the Conquest of Makkah;
- ix. examine for the farewell pilgrimage and its lessons;
- x. analyse the qualities of Muhammad (SAW) their relevance to the life of a Muslim.

17. The Rightly Guided Caliphs ((Al-khulafaa'U rashidun)

Topics:

- a. the lives and contributions of the four Rightly Guided Caliphs

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. trace the biographies of the four Rightly Guided Caliphs;
- ii. evaluate their contributions to the development of Islam.

18. Early contact of Islam with Africa

Topics:

- i. Hijrah to Abyssinia
- ii. The spread of Islam to Egypt
- iii. The role of traders, teachers, preachers, Murabitun, Sufi orders and Mujaddidun to the spread of Islam in West Africa.

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. evaluate their circumstances leading to the Hijrah to Abyssinia;
- ii. give reasons for the spread of Islamic in Egypt;
- iii. account for the roles of traders, teachers, preachers, Murabitun, Sufi orders and Mujaddidun in the spread of Islam in West Africa.

19. The Impact of Islam in West Africa

Topics:

- i. The influence of Islam on the socio-political life of some West African Empires: Ghana, Mali, Songhai and Borno
- ii. The impact of Islam on the economic life of some West African states: Timbuktu, Kano and Borno

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. analyse the influence of Islam on the socio-political system of some West African States;
- ii. evaluate the impact of Islam on the economic life of Timbuktu, Kano and Borno.

20. Contributions of Islam to Education

Topics:

- i. The aims and objectives of Islamic Education
- ii. The Glorious Qur'an and Hadith on Education (Q.96:1-5) (Q.39:9)
- iii. "The search for knowledge is obligatory on every Muslim" (Ibn Majah)
- iv. "Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave"
- v. "The words of wisdom are a lost property of the believer a better right to it" (Tirmidhi)

Objectives:

Candidates should be able to:

- i. classify the aims and objectives of Islamic Education;
- ii. assess the position of the Glorious Qur'an and Hadith in education;
- iii. examine the importance of seeking knowledge in Islam.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

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