

# ISLAMIC ESSENTIALS PROGRAM

Education | Spirituality | Tarbiyah

"Connecting the Muslim community to the tradition of sacred knowledge"



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#### **MISSION**

Taybah Academy was founded with a simple yet farreaching objective: to bridge the gap between traditional Islāmic knowledge and the Muslim community, remaining relevant without compromising Islāmic values.

#### VISION

We strive for a community in which all Muslims are endowed with the blessed knowledge of the Qur'ān and Sunnah in order to fully understand their responsibilities firstly as Muslims, and then as students of knowledge, seekers of spiritual purification, and disseminators of the faith.

#### ABOUT



Taybah Academy is an educational initiative founded by a group of Atlanta-based scholars seeking to address a gaping hole in the Muslim community: educational opportunities in the Islāmic sciences catered towards full-time students and working professionals. Our goal is to connect this segment of the community with traditional Islāmic knowledge and reliable scholarship, while increasing the desire for authentic learning amongst the Muslim community as a whole.

Utilizing the skills, experience, and knowledge of young and traditionally-trained scholars, Taybah Academy is focused on the development of an Islāmic awareness relevant to today's Muslims. We seek to empower and enhance the lives of all Muslims with the blessed knowledge of the Qur'ān and Sunnah.





#### WHY TAYBAH?

Our Prophet mentioned in a Hadīth, "Seeking knowledge is an obligation on every Muslim."

Islām places a great emphasis on seeking knowledge, and this emphasis applies to every stage of a person's life. Taybah Academy aims to make knowledge accessible to full-time students and working professionals who find it challenging to otherwise fulfill this obligation.

To facilitate the ability for this part of the community to seek knowledge amidst of responsibilities, Taybah Academy offers part-time, weekend courses in which students can join the tradition of sitting in front of qualified teachers and learn the essentials of worship (farā'iḍ al- 'ayn) and gain an exposure to the Islāmic sciences.







#### ISLĀMIC ESSENTIALS PROGRAM

The Islāmic Essentials Program consists of 16 courses covering the essentials of worship (farā'iḍ al- 'ayn) and an introductory understanding of the major Islāmic sciences, allowing students to gain a familiarity with classical scholarship.

Students can take up to four courses in any semester, allowing for the completion of the program in as little as four semesters. The courses have been designed without any prerequisites, allowing students to join in any semester. Upon completion of all 16 courses, students will earn a Certificate in the Islāmic Essentials.



# ISLAMIC ESSENTIALS CURRICULUM



Fiqh	FQH110: Introduction to Fiqh	FQH120: Fiqh of Purity and Prayer	FQH130: Fiqh of Zakāt, Fasting and Ḥajj
'Aqīdah	AQD110: Core Beliefs of Islām I	AQD120: Core Beliefs of Islām II	AQD130: Fortifying Faith
Ḥadīth	HAD110: Introduction to Hadīth	HAD120: 40 Ḥadith of Imām Nawawī	HAD130: Shamā'il of the Prophet
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Tafsīr	TFS110: Introduction to the Science of Qurān	TFS120: Tafsīr I - Surahs from Juz 'Amma	TFS130: Tafsīr II - Selected Surahs
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Sīrah	SRH110: Meccan Sīrah	SRH120: Madinan Sīrah	
Spirituality	SPR110: Islāmic Spirituality I	SPR120: Islāmic Spirituality II	

# ISLAMIC ESSENTIALS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



#### FIQH COURSES

#### FQH110: Introduction to Figh

This course is designed to build a foundation for understanding the field of Islāmic jurisprudence (fiqh). Students will study the development of fiqh, learn its sources, and understand the reason for differences in legal opinion amongst scholars. This course is designed to develop an appreciation for the field of fiqh and its contributors, along with an understanding of the connection between the application of fiqh and a Muslim's relationship with Allah Ta'ālā.

#### FQH120: Figh of Purity and Prayer

This course aims to familiarize students with the legal rulings of purity  $(tah\bar{a}rah)$  and ritual prayer  $(sal\bar{a}h)$  within Islām. The initial weeks of the course will focus on the spiritual and legal dimensions of facets such as general purity,  $wudh\bar{u}$ , and ghusl, and then it will transition into covering the rulings and spiritual aspects surrounding ritual prayer.

#### FQH130: Figh of Zakāt, Fasting, and Ḥajj

This course is centered upon the legal rulings of Zakāt, fasting, and Ḥajj in Islām. This course will be separated into three sub-modules – one for each of the mentioned topics. Students will gain familiarity with each of these pillars, and discussions will include contemporary rulings related to each. The course aims to strengthen students' ability to uphold these pillars by equipping them with knowledge of the legal and spiritual dimensions of these foundations of the faith.

# ISLĀMIC ESSENTIALS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



#### 'AQĪDAH COURSES

#### AQD110: Core Beliefs of Islām I

This course focuses on establishing a strong foundation for students' belief in Allāh Ta'ālā by covering general proofs for the existence of God, specific evidences for believing in Allāh Ta'ālā, as well as covering the belief in the Attributes and Qualities of Allāh Ta'ālā. Additionally, students will explore arguments against modern belief systems, such as atheism and modernism.

#### AQD120: Core Beliefs of Islām II

This course covers some of the major beliefs in Islām, including the beliefs in prophethood, angels, divine scriptures, and the Hereafter. Students will study the core beliefs ('aqāid) pertaining to each of these tenants and explore their proofs.

#### AQD130: Fortifying Faith

This course equips students with knowledge regarding common objections against Islām. Students will dive into misunderstood Qur'ānic verses and Prophetic Ḥadīth and explore controversial questions and objections against Islām. This course seeks to provide students with confidence on such topics, to empower them with the ability to respond to, defend, and deconstruct ideas raised against Islām.

# ISLAMIC ESSENTIALS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



#### HADĪTH COURSES

#### HAD110: Introduction to Hadīth

This course aims to equip students with foundational knowledge of the Hadith sciences, fostering a deeper appreciation for the complexities of this Islāmic science. Students will explore its basic principles, historical development, methodologies, and significance in Islāmic scholarship. Additionally, discussions will encompass key concepts, terminology, and critical issues surrounding the authenticity and transmission of Hadith.

#### رحمه الله HAD120: 40 Hadīth of Imām Nawawī

This course studies the 40 Ḥadith of Imam Nawawi, a pivotal collection which encapsulates core Islāmic teachings. Each Ḥadith is a concise narration of Prophet , emphasizing moral principles, ethical conduct, and spiritual insights. Throughout the course, students will explore these teachings, enhancing their understanding of Islāmic values and their relevance in today's world.

#### HAD130: Shamā'il of the Prophet

This course explores Imam Tirmidhi's *Shamā'il Muhammadiyyah*, a compilation of Hadith detailing the Prophet , including his physical attributes, moral qualities, and exemplary conduct. Derived from various authentic sources, the Shama'il provides insight into the life and character of the Prophet , allowing students to strengthen their connection and love for him ...

# ISLĀMIC ESSENTIALS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



#### TAFSĪR COURSES

#### TFS110: Introduction to the Science of Qur'an

This course offers an introduction to the sciences of Qur'ān, exploring the various methodologies that pertain to Qur'ānic preservation, textual analyzation, and implementation. Through the course, students will learn the status which the Qur'ān holds in the life of a Muslim and in the preservation of the teachings of Islām.

#### TFS120: Tafsīr I - Surahs from Juz 'Amma

This course seeks to connect students with oft-recited surahs of the Qur'ān by covering Surah Fātihah and the concluding surahs of the Qur'ān. Students will cover the translation, background of revelation, and explanations of each surah. Additionally, discussions will focus on practical points which can be extracted from these surahs and how such points can be implemented in one's life.

#### TFS130: Tafsīr II - Select Surahs

This course introduces students to the Qur'ānic commentary of select surahs from the Qur'ān, such as Surahs Mulk, Yasin, Kahf, and Rahmān. Students will cover the translation, background of revelation, explanations, and practical points from surah. This course seeks to connect students to these surahs and provide an impetus for making them part of one's life.

# ISLĀMIC ESSENTIALS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



#### SĪRAH COURSES

#### SRH110: Meccan Sīrah

This course offers an exploration of the Meccan period of the life of the Prophet , a pivotal era that laid the foundation for Islāmic belief and practice. Students will study the societal background of pre-Islāmic Arabia, the early life of the Prophet , and events in his life following his receiving of revelation until his migration to Madīnah. This course enhances understanding the historical, social, and spiritual context of Islām during the initial years of its propagation by the Prophet .

#### SRH120: Madinan Sīrah

This course delves into the Madinan period of Prophet's life, a transformative era marked by the establishment of the first Islāmic community, the development of key Islāmic principles, and the expansion of the Muslim community. Through this course, students will explore the significant events, challenges, and achievements that shaped the early Muslim community in Madīnah.

#### SPIRITUALITY COURSES

#### SPR110: Islāmic Spirituality I

This course introduces students to the true meaning of Islāmic spirituality and seeks to dispel misconceptions about it through proofs found in the Qur'ān and Sunnah. Students will then cover excerpts from texts on Islāmic spirituality to help illustrate steps to be taken by seekers of spiritual perfection to elevate their closeness to Allāh Ta'ālā.

#### SPR120: Islāmic Spirituality II

This course dives into the core of one's spirituality – the heart. Through this course, students will explore spiritual diseases which detract from one's efforts towards spiritual reformation as well as their remedies. Moreover, students will explore praiseworthy qualities which all Muslims must strive to imbibe.



#### **MEET OUR TEAM**

#### SHAYKH ZAIB TALAT

- 'Ālimiyyah Degree, Lusaka, Zambia
- ↑ Year Post-Graduate, Hadīth Studies
- ◆ Ijazah, Islāmic Spirituality
- ◆ BS in Computer Science & MS in Analytics, Georgia Tech

#### SHAYKH ASADULLAH KHAN

- ▶ Post-Graduate Degree, Hadīth Studies
- BA in Philosophy, University of Georgia
- Dean and Instructor, Georgia Islāmic Institute

#### **MUFTI NAFISUR RAHMAN**

- Post-Graduate Degree, Hadīth Studies & Iftā
- Nesident Scholar, Masjid Uthman

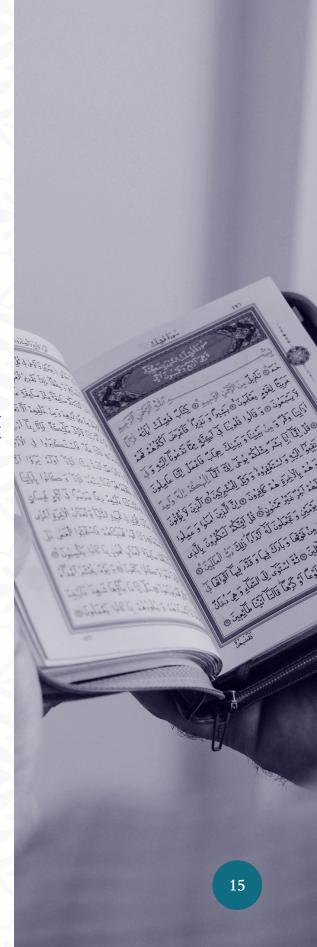
#### SHAYKH AHAZ ATIF

- ◆ 'Ālimiyyah Degree, Darul Uloom Zakariyya
- Post-Graduate Degree, Arabic Literature
- Instructor, Georgia Islāmic Institute
- Resident Scholar, Masjid Abu Bakr

#### SHAYKH FAYAAZ MOHAMMED

- 'Ālimiyyah Degree, Darul Uloom Online
- ▶ BA in Information Systems, Kennesaw State
- Director, Brighter Futures Foundation







## Shaykh Zaib Talat

Shaykh Zaib Talat was born in Bloomington, Indiana and raised in Kuwait where he completed his secondary education. He then returned to the United States and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in computer science from Georgia Tech, and more recently, completed his Master's degree in analytics from his alma mater.

Shaykh Zaib started the pursuit of Islāmic knowledge and Islāmic spirituality in 2004 under Shaykh Husain Abdul Sattar. Thereafter, along with balancing a full-time job in the IT industry, Shaykh Zaib formally enrolled in the part-time Alim course under Mufti Mohammad Khalid Qasmi in Darul Uloom Atlanta in 2010 where, over the course of the years, he completed up to the 7th year of a traditional 8-year course. During this time, he also completed his memorization of the Qur'ān in 2011 under Mufti Khalid during his daily commute to work.

In 2014, Shaykh Zaib traveled to Lusaka, Zambia to complete the final year of 'Ālimiyyah degree. During this time, he also received formal authorization in the Islāmic science of spiritual purification. Subsequently, Shaykh Zaib completed an additional postgraduate year specializing in the sciences of Hadīth under the tutelage of Mufti Mohammad Sharief Dalal.

Shaykh Zaib currently resides in Norcross with his wife and four children. During his free time, he teaches and lectures on various subjects of Islāmic knowledge and also serves as an online instructor for the Sacred Learning program based in Chicago, IL.



## Shaykh Asadullah Khan

Shaykh Asadullah Khan was raised in Atlanta, GA where he completed his memorization of the Holy Qur'ān at the age of 11 under his father, Shaykh Abdul Ghaffar Khan. Thereafter, while being homeschooled, Shaykh Asadullah began teaching hifz for several years.

After beginning college, Shaykh Asadullah enrolled in the Islāmic seminary, Darul Uloom Zakariyya, in Johannesburg, South Africa. There, he received ijāzah in the seven qirā`āt, and in 2013, he graduated from the seven-year 'Ālimiyyah program. Following his graduation, Shaykh Asadullah spent an additional year specializing in the science of Hadīth under the Hadīth specialist, Mufti Mohammad Ishaq Bana, in Benoni, South Africa.

After returning to Atlanta in 2014, Shaykh Asadullah began teaching various subjects at the Georgia Islāmic Institute and simultaneously resumed his college degree. In 2022, Shaykh Asadullah graduated with his Bachelor's degree in philosophy and minor in religion from the University of Georgia. Around the same time, he also helped found Project Ihya, an initiative aimed at providing clarity with regards to Islām and Liberalism.

Shaykh Asadullah currently resides in Lawrenceville, GA with his family and serves as the head of the Islāmic Uloom Department at the Georgia Islāmic Institute.

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#### Mufti Nafisur Rahman

Mufti Nafisur Rahman was born in New York and moved to Atlanta during his childhood. After graduating from high school in 2008, Mufti Nafis began to undertake his ḥifz at Masjid Taqwā in Doraville, later completing it at the Georgia Islāmic Institute in Lawrenceville in 2009. In the same year, he travelled to Johannesburg, South Africa to pursue a 7-year 'ālimiyyah course in Dārul 'Ulūm Zakariyyā.

In 2015, he received ijāzah in the seven qirā'āt in the ṭarīq of Imām al-Shāṭibī. In 2016, he completed his ālimiyyah course, receiving ijāzāt in the major books of hadīth from the senior shuyūkh of the madrasah. After graduating in 2016, he pursued a two-year specialization course in 'ulūm al-ḥadīth in Benoni, South Africa under the Hadīth specialist, Mufti Mohammad Ishaq Bana, a direct student of Shaykh Muhammad Awwama. Thereafter, he pursued a 2-year course in iftā' at Dārul 'Ulūm Zakariyyā, which he completed in 2020.

Currently, Mufti Nafis resides in Chamblee with his family where he serves as the resident scholar at Masjid Uthman in Dunwoody and a remote instructor for the DarusSalam Seminary located in Lombard, IL.



# Shaykh Ahaz Atif

Shaykh Ahaz B. Atif completed his memorization of the Holy Qur'ān at the age of 14, receiving an ijāzah in the recitation of Hafs. He then began his studies in the Islāmic sciences locally at Georgia Islāmic Institute. After four years of study, he traveled abroad to South Africa to complete his studies under the senior lecturers at Darul Uloom Zakariyya, receiving ijazat in the six canonical Hadīth collections. After graduating from the seven-year 'Ālimiyyah program, he completed a one-year postgraduate specialization in Arabic literature, poetry, and translation under Mawlana Abdul Quddoos Qasmi.

Shaykh Ahaz holds an Honors degree in Islāmic studies from the University of South Africa as well as a Bachelor's degree in Middle East Studies from Georgia State University.

Shaykh Ahaz currently serves as an instructor at the Georgia Islāmic Institute, a resident scholar at Masjid Abu Bakr in Brookhaven, and as a translator and editor for the publishing house, An-Nadi Al-Arabi.

Shaykh Ahaz is the author of A Summary of al-'Awāmil al-Mi'ah: An Elucidation of the Governing Powers of Arabic Syntax and their Types and the translator of The Diwan of Imām al-Shafi'i.

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## Shaykh Fayaaz Mohammed

Shaykh Fayaaz was born in Chattanooga, TN and grew up in Atlanta, GA. In 2012, he was blessed with completing his memorization of the Qur'ān in Darul Uloom Atlanta. Thereafter, he began studying elementary subjects of the Islāmic sciences at the same institute, and he continued privately studying with scholars while also completing his high school and Bachelor's degree in Information Systems from Kennesaw State University.

In 2024, he completed his Alimiyyah degree and graduated from Darul Uloom Online. Shaykh Fayaaz is a founding member Taybah Academy, and he is also a founding member and the Director of Operations at Brighter Futures Foundation, a non-profit organization committed to spreading Islāmic knowledge and other essential resources in impoverished Muslim communities across the globe. He currently lives in Kennesaw where he works as a consultant and remains active in the local masajid.



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