INITIATIVE ON ISLAM AND MEDICINE
INSTILLING HIKMAH IN HEALTHCARE

# How to Use the **Exploring Bioscience and Islam** Curriculum

## ❖ Getting Started:

- ➢ This curriculum is geared towards, but not limited to, Islamic school science teachers, particularly at the high school/college level. [There are no prerequisites or requirements for using this curriculum.]
- ➢ Go to the curriculum website: https://www.medicineandislam.org/bioscience-and-islam/
- ➢ On this website, you will find all the needed curriculum materials. Which include:
  - Unit Lesson Plans
  - Incorporated Activities
  - Presentation Slides
  - Lecture Video
  - Supplemental Materials
  - Resource Materials
  - Assessments
- ➢ To access the curriculum materials, you will need to provide your name, email, and affiliated school/organization. [All materials are free to use for educational purposes only.]

## ❖ Exploring Bioscience and Islam Curriculum Overview:

- ➢ This curriculum comprises six thematic units, and an additional application tool, to address the five fundamental questions. Each lesson is designed to take approximately one 45-50 minute class period. Some lessons may take longer, depending on students' level of understanding and if supplemental materials are utilized. Classroom activities are also sewn into the lessons along with associated instructions on how to conduct the activity. These can be adapted to meet the needs of the students in the classroom.
- ➢ Lesson Outline - A summary of the lesson's structure and layout.
- ➢ Scope and Sequence
  - **Unit 1** - What Do We Know and How Do We Know It?
    Reasoning Exercises in Islam and Science.
    - **Lesson 1**: Intro to Epistemology and Islamic Epistemologies
    - **Lesson 2**: The Spectrum of Certainty and Judgment Types
    - **Lesson 3**: Overlapping Naturalistic and Islamic Epistemologies
  - **Unit 2** - How did Human Beings Come About?
    Evolution and God's Special Creation.
    - **Lesson 1**: Islamic Narrative of Creation
    - **Lesson 2: Day 1** - The Science of Evolution - Key Principles
    - **Lesson 2: Day 2** - The Science of Evolution - Evidence and Acceptance
  - **Unit 3** - What Does it Mean to be a Human Being?
    Neuroscience, Artificial Intelligence and the Soul.
    - **Lesson 1: Day 1** - Islamic Concept of the Soul and Neuroscience Reductionism
    - **Lesson 1: Day 2** - Physicalism, Modern Science, and Consciousness
    - **Lesson 2**: Artificial Intelligence
  - **Unit 4** - Human Enhancement and Transhumanism:
    Are We Changing the Human Being and Should We Change Our Being?
    - **Lesson 1:** Transhumanism - Biomedical Intervention and Biomedical Futures
    - **Lesson 2**: Enhancement vs Treatment
    - **Lesson 3**: Revelatory Insight into Enhancing Our Beings and Human Features

- **Unit 5** - Are We Programmed or Do We Have Free Will?
  Discussions on Fate and Genetic Determinism
  - **Lesson 1**: Islamic View on Free Will & Determinism
  - **Lesson 2**: What Does Science Tell Us About Free Will & Determinism
- **Unit 6** - Are Human Beings Unique in this Universe?
  Science and Theological Inquiry about Extraterrestrial Life
  - **Lesson 1:** Do Extra-terrestrial Beings Exist?
  - **Lesson 2:** Human Exceptionalism and How Certain Is Extra-terrestrial Life
- **Epistemic Framework** - Knowledge Café and Harvest: An Application Tool

## ❖ Teaching Strategies:

- **Assess your students' needs.** Understanding what your students need to be successful in class can help you plan more effective lessons. Use the results from closure activities to determine whether you can move forward or need to spend more time re-teaching certain content to your students.
- **Keep a log.** Try keeping a log of each day's plans and explain whether the plan was effective. You can write what went well and what didn't so you know how to improve that lesson in the future. You can also use it to learn what strategies have helped your students so you can plan similar lessons. (This log can also serve as feedback to the curriculum developers on how they can improve and adjust these lessons to be more productive/beneficial.)
- **Practice previously taught material.** You can strengthen students' knowledge by reviewing past content in your plans. You can begin some lessons with worksheets on past skills to let them review and master previously learned materials before moving on to more complex skills.
- **Plan ahead for differentiation.** Since students are at varying ability levels and intellectual capacities, differentiating instruction to meet the needs of diverse learners is crucial in attaining student understanding. Engage students and promote active participation To improve student growth and achievement continually.

## ❖ Support Resources:

- Additional supplemental materials and resources are included to complement the curriculum and support the teacher in their instruction. These materials can be used as needed by teachers to educate and prepare themselves before teaching the content, as well as supplemental materials to enhance student understanding.
- **Professional Development Workshops** are also offered to train teachers to implement the curriculum in their schools or educational environments effectively.
- A **Professional Learning Community (PLC)** has been organized to provide instructional support for the teaching staff and to assist with any questions that arise during the implementation of the curriculum.