

CENTER FOR ISLAMIC THEOLOGY (UNIVERSITY OF TÜBINGEN)

Religious Education Teachers Training Project:

Internationalizing, Learning and Mentoring (ILM) (2019-22)

The teaching of Islam in high schools has recently been mandated by the federal government of Germany to run alongside other constitutionally recognized faith communities. This unprecedented initiative in German state history brings with it unique challenges for the education and preparation of future teachers in Germany. This entails not merely mirroring existing models of religious education found in the teaching of Christianity in German schools or those of Muslim majority countries but forging a new model, fitting to the German and larger European context. In light of these challenges, this project aims to create opportunities for German student teachers of Islamic Theology to learn from and engage with other European experiences with teaching Islam in schools, specifically with the UK and Bosnia. In doing so, we create a highly networked cohort of young teachers of Islam in Germany able to critically engage with models of religious education and enabled with the tools and skills necessary to construct and develop their own. The project outcome and impact objectives are:

Project Objectives

1. Enabling students and experts gain knowledge, cultural awareness, training and experience from the foremost institutions engaged in teaching Islam in European contexts.
2. Intensifying international collaboration by systematically building a professional network for collective inquiry and mentorship between student/early career German teachers and established religious education teachers within and outside of Germany, in order to sustain partnerships long beyond the funding period.
3. Developing curriculum materials in consultation with experts and experienced teachers of religious education for implementation in schools throughout Germany by making the materials widely available via an open access web platform.

Collaborations

We have selected institutions in the United Kingdom and Bosnia to foster our project outcomes because of their varying but long standing religious education facilities and the unique skills and knowledge that they can transfer to our students and other participants in the project, about the teaching in confessional and secular contexts. In the United Kingdom, our partners include:

- **The Institute of Education at the University College London:** Premier institute for teacher training in the UK, specialising in Religious Education
- **Cambridge Muslim College, Cambridge:** Leading theological college with expertise in Islamic studies, theological grounding and training of community leaders, teachers and social workers.
- **Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge:** World renowned teacher training programme with emphasis on continuing training for teachers through research and exchange.

We are particularly excited by the prospect of including Bosnia in this project given its long history of teaching Islam in pluralistic contexts Our partner here is:

The Faculty of Islamic Studies, University of Sarajevo: Leading historical institute in all of Europe for the teaching of Islam within a multi-confessional context.

The project involves both formal and informal collaborations. The formal collaborations include institutional cooperation, specific project work (i.e. developing curriculum materials) and teaching and exchange between institutions. The informal collaborations include dialogue resulting in inter-cultural exchange and opportunities for students and senior scholars to foster a heightened sense of collegiality and promote long term partnerships between individuals.

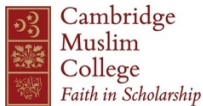
Project Overview

1. The ILM Project will last for three years (2019-2022) and students are expected to be part of the project throughout
2. 20 students will be selected for the project and they shall be divided into two groups of 10 (Group 1 and Group 2). The first group will be selected in November 2019 and the second group in December 2020

Project Partners



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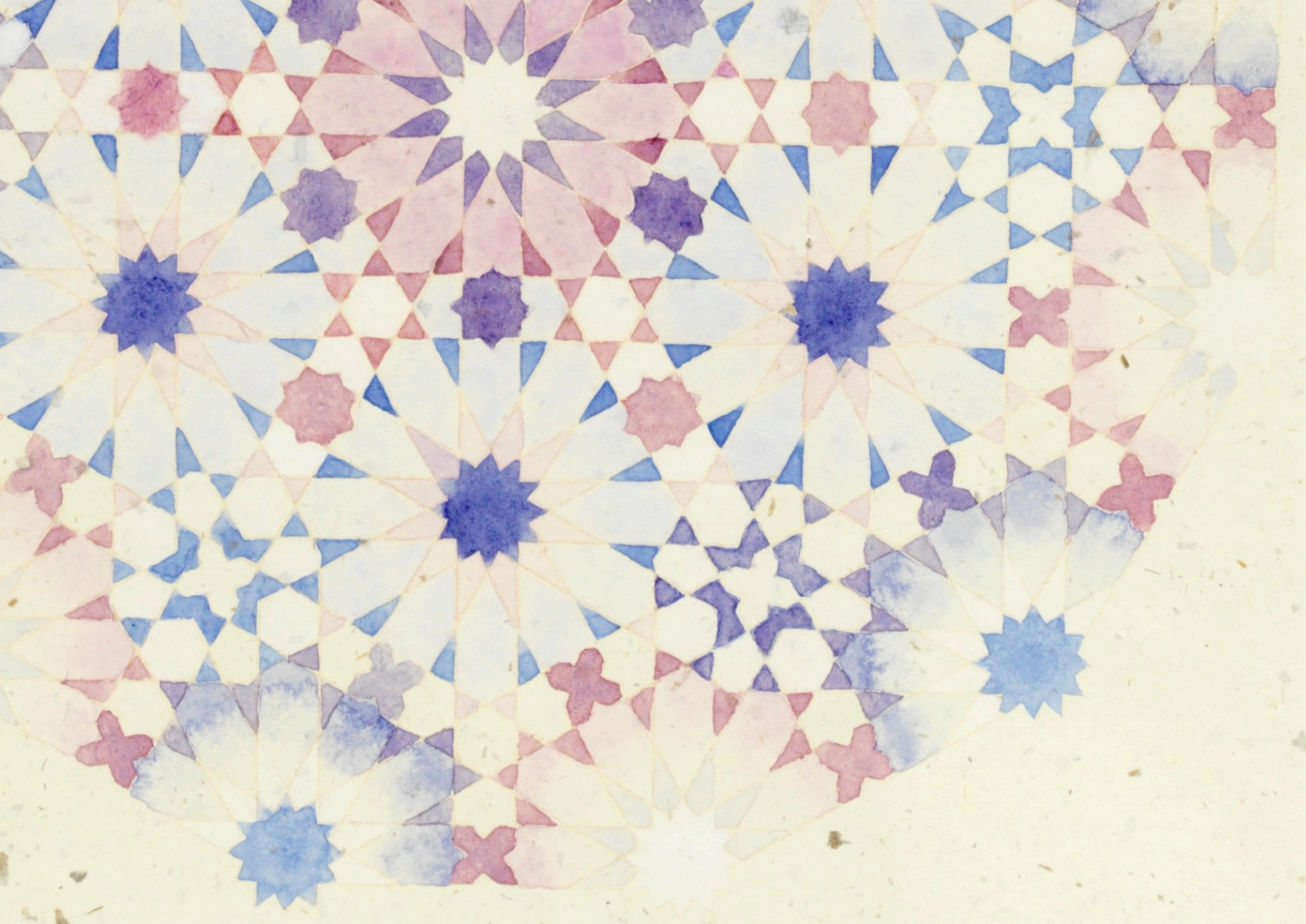
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Project Team

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