SUMMER I RELIGION 149

ISLAM IN AMERICA

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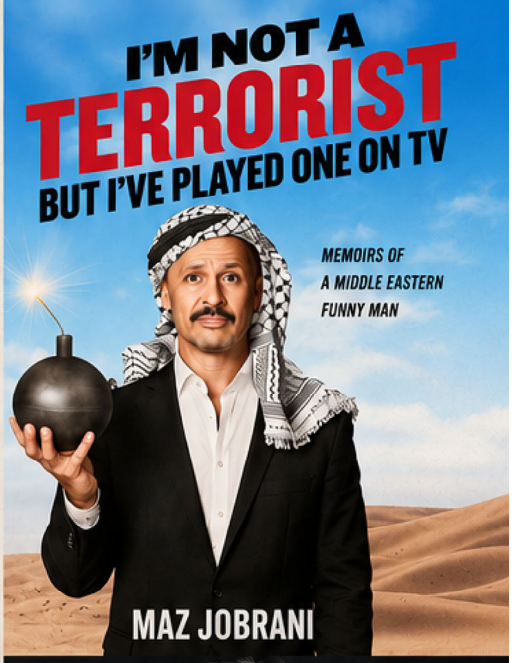
PROFESSOR BABAK RAHIMI



Islam in America explores the history and lived experiences of Muslims in the United States from the colonial era to the present.

The course begins with the arrival of enslaved African Muslims through the Atlantic slave trade and traces the development of Muslim communities across American history, including Arab and Muslim immigration to places like Detroit and Dearborn during the rise of the automobile industry in the early twentieth century. It also examines major changes following the 1965 Hart-Celler Immigration Act, which opened the door to new waves of immigration from Muslim-majority societies.

Through sociological, historical, and religious perspectives, students will study how Muslims in America have practiced their faith, built communities, and navigated changing political and social conditions, especially in the post-9/11 era.

Special attention will be given to influential figures such as Malcolm X, Sharifa Alkhateeb, and Mahmood Mamdani.

The course will also address contemporary issues including Islamophobia, the "Muslim Ban," media representation, and the rise of Trumpism, exploring how Muslim Americans have responded to racism, exclusion, and debates over national identity in modern America.

FROM THE COLONIAL ERA TO TODAY
A long view of Muslim presence, struggle, and contribution in the United States.

COMMUNITIES & EXPERIENCES
From enslaved Africans to Arab immigrants to today's diverse Muslim America.

KEY FIGURES & IDEAS
Malcolm X, Sharifa Alkhateeb, Mahmood Mamdani, and more.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES
Islamophobia, the "Muslim Ban," media representation, Trumpism, and Muslim responses.

"Before I came to the Christian country, my religion was the religion of Mohammed."
— OMAR IBN SAID, 1831

★ QUESTIONS? CONTACT PROFESSOR BABAK RAHIMI: brahimi@ucsd.edu ★