

Module Title: *ʿIlm al-Uṣūl: al-Ḥalaqat al-ʿUlā*

Module Code: USLHAL

Course Duration: 17 Weeks

Teaching Method: 3 units/week

Credits: 10

Overview:

This module will teach the first part (*al-Ḥalaqat al-ʿUlā*) of Shahīd al-Ṣadr’s magnum opus, *Durūs fī ʿIlm Uṣūl al-Fiqh*. Students will be taught from the Arabic text; they are expected to supplement this teaching by comparing the Arabic text with its translation, “*Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence*” by Shaykh Arif. This module will introduce the students to the atomistic teaching style in traditional Hawzas, and the critical analytical method and ethos in western academia. On completion of the module, students are expected to have detailed knowledge of Shahīd al-Ṣadr’s first volume providing an excellent foundation of all the major topics, discussions and debates in traditional *Uṣūl al-Fiqh*, which will be studied in more detail in the subsequent semesters.

Syllabus:

This module will extensively cover all the themes from the first part (*al-Ḥalaqat al-ʿUlā*) of *Durūs fī ʿIlm Uṣūl al-Fiqh* (pp. 35-204). Students are expected to revise the lectures thoroughly by going through the Arabic text alongside its translation, “*Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence*” by Shaykh Arif (Lesson One to Lesson Twenty-Eight).

Learning outcomes:

On completion of this module, the successful student will:

- Be able to demonstrate a deep understanding of *al-Ḥalaqat al-ʿUlā*
- Have acquired the knowledge of the technical language and terminology of *uṣūl al-fiqh*
- Have established the link and relationship between *uṣūl al-fiqh* and other classical Muslim disciplines
- Show a good understanding of the main topics, discussions and debates in *uṣūl al-fiqh*

Assessment Weighting:

100% Exam

Learning Materials:

Core Texts:

Al-Şadr, M. B., (2004), *Durūs fī ‘Ilm Uşūl al-Fiḥ* (Vols. 1), Beirut: Dār al-Ta‘āruf li al-Maṭbū‘āt

Al-Şadr, M. B., (2003), *Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence*, (trans. Arif Abdul Hussein), London: ICAS Press

Further Reading:

Şadr, M. B., & Mottahedeh, R. P. (2003), *Lessons in Islamic Jurisprudence*, Oxford: Oneworld

Kamali, Hashim, (1991), *Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence*, Cambridge: Islamic Texts Society