

Module Title: Philosophy of Mysticism

Module Code: IRFISH

Course Duration: 17 Weeks

Teaching Method: 2 units/week

Credits: 15

Overview:

Continuing from the previous semester, this module will introduce students to discussions from the 8th, 9th and 10th chapters of Ibn Sina's *al-Ishārāt wa al-Tanbīhāt* (Pointers and Reminders) that are pertinent to mysticism and metaphysics. Written in an aphoristic style, students will participate with the teacher in working out the steps leading from the stated premises to *Ibn Sina's* proposed conclusions. The 8th chapter focuses on the various types of pleasures such as material, and spiritual; the 9th chapter discusses the states and stations of the mystics; and the 10th chapter deals with the secrets of signs.

Syllabus:

To read and analyse:

- Chapter 8: Various types of 'pleasure': preparatory discussions to chapters 9 and 10
- Chapter 9: States (*aḥwāl*) and stations (*maqāmāt*) of mystics
- Chapter 10: Secrets of Signs (*asrār al-āyāt*)

Learning outcomes:

On completion of this module, the successful student will be able to:

- Distinguish between the various types of pleasure
- Delineate the states and stations of the mystics, with the significance of each
- Discuss the intention of the secrets of signs, both as spiritual method and spiritual disclosure
- Discuss elements of the Khorasani school of Muslim mysticism from a philosophical lens

Assessment Weighting:

- 100% Exam

Learning Materials:

Core texts:

- *al-Ishārāt wa al-Tanbīhāt* (Remarks and Admonitions), ed. S. Dunya, (Cairo, 1960)