

**Module Title:** ‘Ulūm al-Ḥadīth

**Module Code:** ULMHAD

**Course Duration:** 17 Weeks

**Teaching Method:** 2 units/week

**Credits:** 15

### **Overview:**

The module on ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* will be divided into two parts: the first part of this module will focus specifically on *Ḥadīth* sciences themselves, whereby it will define the subject matter, objectives, benefits and the origin and historical development of ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth*. This part of the module will also introduce the students to the four periods of compilation of *ḥadīth* and the circumstances which led to the development of each stage until the time of the authors of the canonical texts. Moreover, this part will introduce students to a detailed discussion on the main topics and themes covered in the traditional literature on ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* and will introduce students to *ḥadīth* terminology. It will also demonstrate the link and relationship between ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* and other Muslim disciplines.

The second part of this module will deal with ‘*Ilm al-Rijāl* (Biographical Studies). ‘*Ilm al-Rijāl* is an important Muslim discipline as it establishes the authenticity of narrations. It is not to be confused with *tarjumah* (biographies) which is a designation to biographies of personalities in general; whereas ‘*Ilm al-Rijāl* provides the rubrics of the importance, principles and classification of biographical data of narrators of *ḥadīth* insofar as is necessary for ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth*. This part of the module will define ‘*Ilm al-Rijāl*, and give an overview of its subject matter, its objectives, its benefits and its origin and historical development. It will also link the science of *rijāl* with other Muslim disciplines and explain their mutual relationship, especially with ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* and Islamic History.

This module will test that students have the skills to independently verify the authenticity of traditions according to the criteria and methodology of classical ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* and ‘*Ilm al-Rijāl*.

### **Syllabus:**

The following are the subjects that are discussed in this module:

Definition, history and development, subject matter and benefits of ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth*

The relationship between ‘*Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* and other Islamic disciplines

The components of a tradition

The categories of reports

A critical study of all the major themes, theories, methodologies, and terminologies from classical texts on ‘*Ilm Muṣṭalah al-Ḥadīth* (Ḥadīth terminology)

The sources of Ḥadīth

Fabricated reports (*mawḍū‘āt*)

A critical study of all the major themes, theories, methodologies, and terminologies from classical texts on *‘Ilm al-Rijāl* and *‘Ilm al-Jarḥ wa al-Ta’dīl*.

The relationship between *‘Ilm al-Rijāl*, *‘Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* and other Islamic disciplines

Practical application of the principles of *‘Ilm al-Rijāl* and *‘Ulūm al-Ḥadīth*

### **Learning outcomes:**

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

- Critically discuss the development of the methodology and debates in *‘Ulūm al-Ḥadīth*
- Have the knowledge of the terminologies employed in the authentication of reports by classical scholars of *ḥadīth*.
- Establish the link and relationship between *‘Ulūm al-Ḥadīth* and other Islamic disciplines.
- Have the knowledge of *ḥadīth* typology including the *mawū‘āt*
- Discuss the development of *‘Ilm al-Rijāl* and *‘Ilm al-Jarḥ wa al-Ta’dīl*.
- Critically discuss the methodology of *rijāl*
- Apply the methodologies of textual criticism and evaluation of reporters of traditions to other disciplines such as theology, law and jurisprudence.
- Engage in a critical analysis of the chain and text of *ḥadīth*

### **Assessment Weighting:**

50% Assignment  
50% Exam

### **Learning Materials:**

#### Core Texts:

Faḍlī, A.H., Virjee, N., & Shahīd al-Thānī, Z., (2002), *Introduction to Ḥadīth*, London: ICAS Press (2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2011)

Ayrwānī, Bāqir, (1999), *Durūs Tamhīdiyya fil Qawā‘id al Rijāliyya*, Qom: Muassasat al-Fiqh

Kamali, Mohammad Hashim, (2005), *A Textbook of Hadith Studies: Authenticity, Compilation, Classification and Criticism of Hadith*, Leicestershire: Islamic Foundation

Further Reading:

Al-Azami, M., (1977), *Studies in Hadith Methodology and Literature*, USA: American Trust Publications

Siddiqi, M. Z., (1993), *Hadith Literature: Its Origin, Development and Special Features*, Cambridge: Islamic Texts Society