

Prof. Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway

Integral Chair for the Study of Imam Al-Ghazali's Work at the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and Al-Quds University
(HM King Abdullah II Endowment)

bietet im Sommersemester 2023 folgende Lehrveranstaltung an, organisiert vom Seminar für Arabistik/Islamwissenschaft II, Göttingen, in Kooperation mit Institut für Islamische Theologie der Universität Osnabrück.

Mögliche Modulbelegungen in Göttingen: M.Ara.05, M.Ara.05a, M.Ara.10

Datum: 30.06. – 02.07. (ganztägig)

Format: Hybrid (genaue Informationen zu Ort und Zeit werden rechtzeitig auf der Webseite und im EXA bekannt gegeben!)

Imam Al-Ghazali's *Ihya' 'Ulum al-Din*

This intensive course begins with an overview of Imam Al-Ghazali's life and works to contextualize his magnum opus *Ihya' 'Ulum al-Din* (The Revival of the Islamic Sciences), which reflects the impact of Sufism on his narrative. It has been described as probably the most important book in the history of Islam, after the Holy Qur'an and the compendia of Hadith. Its structure has four quarters, with a total of forty books:

1. First Quarter - Acts of Worship (*Rub' al-'Ibadāt*)
2. Second Quarter - Norms of Daily Life (*Rub' al-'Adāt*)
3. Third Quarter - The Ways to Perdition (*Rub' al-Muhlikāt*)
4. Fourth Quarter - The Ways to Salvation (*Rub' al-Munjiyāt*)

We will have a close reading of the *Ihya'* in Arabic, with texts chosen from the first quarter on the acts of worship, highlighting the five pillars of Islam. Here Al-Ghazali departs from the classical methodology of *fiqh* (jurisprudence), which is typically technical and devoid of spirituality, as in his books *Al-Basit*, *Al-Wasit*, and *Al-Wajiz* in the Shafi'i school of jurisprudence. In the *Ihya'*, Imam Al-Ghazali aims at reviving the original meanings of key Islamic concepts including *fiqh*, *'ilm*, *tawhid*, *tadhkir*, and *hikmah*. The overall difference is reintroducing Islamic spirituality, etiquette, and ethics.