

CAMBRIDGE IGCSE

Islamiyat 0493

Syllabus Overview

Examinations 2028

Understanding the whole syllabus

The subject connects religious teachings and sources with beliefs, practices, history and lived experience. Accurate knowledge supports an explanation of meaning and significance. Where the syllabus requires evaluation, different views need fair treatment and evidence rather than unsupported assertion.

For Islamiyat 0493, the content map below follows the approved subject briefing and the official syllabus. Labels group related areas for orientation; the detailed syllabus remains the authority for individual learning requirements.

Content map

Syllabus area or component	What the area covers
Paper 1: Prescribed Qur'anic passages	Paper 1 content begins with prescribed Qur'anic passages exploring three major themes: God in Himself, God's relationship with the created world, and God's Messengers. You will study these passages in English translation while referring to the original Arabic.
Paper 1: Qur'an, Prophet and first community	You will also examine the revelation, compilation and importance of the Qur'an; the life, character and significance of Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him; and the individuals who formed the first Islamic community.
Paper 2: Hadith and its authentication	Paper 2 focuses on prescribed Hadith passages concerning individual conduct and community life. You will study the collection and authentication of Hadith, including the chain of transmission and the text itself.
Paper 2: Caliphs, beliefs and practices	The course then examines the leadership of the four Rightly Guided Caliphs, together with the Articles of Faith and the Pillars of Islam.
Religious significance	Across every topic, you must do more than recall events or teachings. You must also explain their religious significance and their continuing importance for Muslims today.

These areas should be read as a connected course. Begin with the foundational knowledge identified in the first part of the map, then build towards the applications and explanations that depend on it. Link each teaching or text to its meaning, context and relevant practice. Keep knowledge and explanation distinct in revision, and develop supported evaluation only where the assessment requires it. Where a row describes a choice of topics or components, study the selection required by your agreed route rather than treating all alternatives as compulsory.

Qualification and component choices

All candidates follow the component structure shown in the Assessment Overview. There is no separate Core/Extended route in this syllabus.

Answers are written in English. Familiarity with the prescribed Arabic passages supports understanding, but it does not replace the required explanation of their meaning and importance.

The assessed skills

Assessment objectives describe the abilities Cambridge looks for across the qualification. The following explanations paraphrase the syllabus objectives; they are not additional topics or separate orientation tasks.

Assessment objective	Meaning for the learner
AO1: Knowledge	Recall and organise accurate material about the prescribed faith and history topics.
AO2: Understanding	Explain why the material matters within Islamic teachings and Muslim life.

These abilities work together in an answer. Accurate knowledge supports application, while a clear explanation shows how the evidence or method leads to a conclusion. The balance varies by component, so the next lesson connects these abilities with the actual assessment formats.

Key pointers: Follow the stated examination-year syllabus, cover the required areas for your route and develop skills alongside knowledge. **Next:** Open **Assessment Overview**.