

Muhyiddin Ibn ‘Arabi Society

MIAS Education Online Course



Ocean Journey: Course 1

“In each thing He has a sign”

An introduction to Ibn Arabi’s Spiritual Openings

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Course title

“In each thing He has a sign”: an introduction to Ibn Arabi’s Spiritual Openings.

Course Length

10 weeks – 90min

Contact details

Email: education.uk@ibnarabisociety

Who is the course for?

This course is suitable for anyone who has an interest in Sufism in general, and in Ibn Arabi in particular. *No previous knowledge* of Ibn Arabi's writings is needed.

Course overview

This course is an introduction to the multi-layered meanings of Ibn Arabi's spiritual openings. We will have the opportunity to explore a selection of passages from Ibn Arabi's *Meccan Openings*. We will also study the relationship between Ibn Arabi's spiritual openings and the Names of God.

Course learning aims

1. Identify the multi-layered meanings of spiritual openings in Ibn Arabi's work.
2. Develop a familiarity with Ibn Arabi's key concepts.
3. Discuss the significance of the reader's interpretation in achieving a better understanding of Ibn 'arabi's spiritual world.

Course outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you can achieve any of the possible outcomes below:

Methodology

There are of course several ways of reading and interpreting Ibn Arabi's texts. What we propose in this course is a hermeneutic model of interpretation. Drawing on the theory of Paul Ricoeur, the hermeneutic model adopted in this course is based on two stages. The first stage consists in explaining the textual meanings of Ibn Arabi's spiritual openings. The second stage consists in exploring the "world-propositions" that Ibn Arabi's inner openings project into his readers (Ricoeur 1976: 87). This approach places emphasis on the active and interpretive engagement between the world of the text, the reader's world and Ibn Arabi's spiritual world.

Programme overview

Our online courses are composed of four journeys (see below). Each journey comprises four courses. The current course "In each thing He has a sign" is part of the journey across the Ocean. For more details on the available courses,

refer to MIAS website <https://ibnarabisociety.org/> or contact Richard Twinch: education.uk@ibnarabisociety.org

Instructional strategies

This course combines lecture instructions with group discussions and individual readings. Instructional strategies include mini-lectures, textual analysis, guided individual reflection and discussion.

Course outline

Week 1 - Introduction to the course

Week 2 - Shared reading and discussion

Week 3 - Light and Eyesight in *Meccan Openings*

Week 4 - Shared reading and discussion

Week 5 - Spiritual Openings in *Meccan Openings*

Week 6 - Shared reading and discussion

Week 7 - Spiritual Openings in *Meccan Openings*

Week 8 - Shared reading and discussion

Week 9 - Spiritual Openings and The Divine Names

Week 10 - Disembarking