



TAYYIBUN INSTITUTE

## COURSE GUIDEBOOK

**Course:**  
THE FOUR IMAMS

**Faculty:**  
Islamic History

**[www.tayyibun.com](http://www.tayyibun.com)**

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PO BOX 57328, London, E1 2WL, United Kingdom

## 2. Background Information

### ABOUT THIS COURSE

The everlasting contribution of the Four illustrious Imams, namely Imam Abu Hanifah, Imam Malik, Imam Shafi and Imam Ahmed (may Allah shower His mercy on them all), cannot be diminished by any human being; whether it be in the field of creed, jurisprudence or moral conduct. Their words, teachings and authorship still continue to directly impact the lives of every Muslim.

The course will primarily be based on the book written by the great Egyptian scholar Muhammad Abu Zahra. This book is a compilation of four books which deal with the lives and works of the four imams who founded the four great canonical schools of thought of Islamic Fiqh.

The course aims to explore the four Sunni Madhabs and their founders, giving details of their biography and the methods they used in reaching their legal conclusions. This is particularly important in the world today when many thousands of Muslims find themselves in a situation where there is not enough knowledge and therefore, no traditional allegiance to a particular madhab. As a result of this ignorance, there is also a great deal of futile disagreements amongst the Muslims. The hope is to contribute in bridging the gap amongst the Muslims and uniting them.

## 3. Course Details

### COURSE OVERVIEW

In this course you will learn the following:

- The importance of studying the lives and legal theory of the Four Imams in breeding appreciation and tolerance within the ummah
- The piety, characteristics and qualities of the Four Imams
- The most prominent events in shaping their lives
- The lives of these Imams in their youth, and how that impacted their learning
- The prominent teachers of the Imams and their students
- The opinions held by their contemporaries regarding them
- How they dealt with the rulers of their time
- Their stance against the deviated sects of their time
- The trials and tribulations they faced
- Why they are so famous and prominent in Islamic history
- Their most famous works and their acceptance within the ummah
- The propagation of their respective school of jurisprudence
- The trials and tribulations they faced
- What distinguishes each of their schools of thought from others
- The legal basis for their school of thought, and the principle of jurisprudence unique to each

## 4. Assessment

The final examination for what you will have learnt throughout this course, takes place on week 11, this consists of a 60 Minute written paper. The pass mark for this course is 50%.

## 5. Course Duration

This course is taught over a 3 month period, each week's lesson consists of 2 hours class time.

## 6. Course Materials

A course pack containing notes pertaining to “The Four Imams” will be provided. You should also bring a notepad and pen to take notes.

## 7. Homework

For 2 hours of class work you will need to do at least 1 hour of homework, rewriting notes and revision each week.

## 8. Certificates

You will receive an in-house certificate recognizing your achievement in this course.

## 9. Course Fees

Students/Unemployed: £70  
Employed: £80  
That’s only £3.18/£3.64 per hour!

## 10. Progression

After studying this course you should consider studying the following:

- Fiqh of Worship (purification, prayer, fasting & hajj)
- Marriage, Divorce and Family
- Seerah Part 1 & 2; Makkan and Madinan Period

## 11. Additional Reading

- The Four Imams : Their Lives, Works and Schools of Jurisprudence, by Shaykh Muhammad Abu Zahra
- The biography of Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal, by Salahuddin Ali Abdul Mawjud

## 12. Registration

You can register online now securely via PayPal or if you prefer you may visit us at our office during our registration dates (see registration timetable) where registration staff will be awaiting to welcome, assess, advise and help you register.

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