

Inheritors Jjaza

Inherit real scholarship



Curriculum Guide

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Introduction

The Inheritors Ijaza track allows you to gain complete mastery of a particular religious discipline by studying its classical teaching texts in their original Arabic, the language of Islamic religious scholarship.

You will gradually progress to higher level texts until you reach a level of independence. This level of independence means that you can use and reference the authoritative works of the discipline to answer questions that you receive related to the discipline and also teach these texts to others.

This is real scholarship, and true inheritance of our scholarly tradition.

What is an Ijaza?

An ijaza is your connection to the Prophet Muhammad, Allah bless him and give him peace, through an uninterrupted chain of teachers, along with an authorization to teach from your own teacher. Through direct aural instruction, the teacher gives birth to the student into the world of religious scholarship, and the student becomes like the teacher's child. Merely listening to a teacher deliver a lesson is not sufficient for being born into the world of scholarship—for a student to claim a teacher as his parent, the teacher must approve of the student by authorizing him to convey sacred knowledge to others.

Why an Ijaza and not just a degree?

The difference between an ijaza and a degree is this: An ijaza certifies that you have acquired an ability to read and understand not just the text that you studied, but all of the authoritative reference works of that discipline that are of a similar level to the text that you studied. By completing the ijaza track all the way to its end, all books of the discipline open up to you, and you are able to use the entire body of classical scholarship to solve contemporary problems. In other words, you have become a scholar.

A degree, on the other hand, only certifies that you have learned the information contained in the particular text that you studied. Although you can teach what you learned, you must still depend on scholars to deal with issues not explicitly covered in the text. In other words, you are still a student, albeit an advanced one.

Upon Completion

As mentioned above, upon completing the study of a particular discipline, you will be given an ijaza. This will allow you to use the works of the discipline as references in answering questions, as well as teach the books of the discipline to others.

Inheritors Texts

By completing the Seekers Degree, you will have gained both the experience with beginning-level classical texts and the Arabic skills needed to read intermediate-level texts in their original Arabic.

The series of texts listed below represent a typical path of learning that you would take when seeking mastery of a particular discipline. Beginning-level texts are omitted from the list because by completing the Seeker's degree, you have already completed these. The first book on each list is an intermediate-level text, and it is with this text that you will begin this stage of learning. In some cases, you may have to take transitional courses after the Seekers courses in order to be prepared for Inheritors.

Law (Hanafi)

Kanz al-Daqa'iq by Abu al-Barakat al-Nasafi

al-Hidaya by Marghinani

Law (Shafi'i)

Fath al-Mu'in by Zayn al-Din al-Mallibari

Minhaj al-Talibin by Yahya b. Sharaf al-Nawawi

Legal Methodology (Hanafi)

Mukhtasar al-Manar by Abu al-Barakat al-Nasafi

Kashf al-Asrar by Abu al-Barakat al-Nasafi

Kashf al-Asrar by Bazdawi

Legal Methodology (Shafi'i)

al-Luma' by Abu Ishaq al-Shirazi

Jalal al-Din al-Mahalli's Commentary on Jam' al-Jawami' by Taj al-Din al-Subki

Belief

Sharh al-'Aqa'id al-Nasafiyya by Sa'd al-Din al-Taftazani

Sharh al-Maqasid by Sa'd al-Din al-Taftazani

Logic

Zakariyya al-Ansari's Commentary on the Isaghujji by Athir al-din al-Abhari

Khabisi's Commentary on Tahdhib al-Mantiq wa al-Kalam by Sa'd al-Din al-Taftazani

Hadith Methodology

Sharh Nukhbat al-Fikar by Ibn Hajar al-'Asqalani
al-Muqaddima by Ibn al-Salah

Hadith Commentary (Hadith Study with Isnad)

Muwatta of Imam Malik
Sahih Muslim
Sahih al-Bukhari
Jami` al-Tirmidhi
Sunan Abu Dawud
Sunan al-Nasa'i
Sunan Ibn Majah

Quran Commentary

Tafsir al-Jalalayn by Jalal-Din al-Mahalli and Jalal al-Din al-Suyuti
Sections of Tafsir al-Baydawi by al-Qadi al-Baydawi

Arabic Grammar

Hasan al-Kafrawi's Commentary on the *Ajurrumiyya*
Qatr al-Nada by Ibn Hisham al-Ansari
Ibn 'Aqil's Commentary on the *Alfiyya* by Ibn Malik

Arabic Morphology

Sa'd al-Din al-Taftazani's Commentary on the *Izziyya*
Marah al-Arwah by Ahmad b. 'Ali b. Mas'ud

Arabic Rhetoric

Mukhtasar al-Ma'ani by Sa'd al-Din al-Taftazani

Transitional Texts

Transitional Courses are courses that are not a part of the Seekers Degree, but are required or recommended preparation for students wishing to continue on for an Inheritors Ijaza in that subject area (Belief, Quran, or Legal Methodology).

A Note on Taking Transitional Courses

Before students can take any courses in Inheritors, they must successfully complete the Seekers curriculum in its entirety and complete any additional prerequisites in the Transitional Courses.

However, if you're interested in taking any Transitional Courses, all you need to do is complete the course prerequisites—i.e., you don't need to complete the entire Seekers curriculum before taking a Transitional Course.

Transitional Courses for Belief

BLF201: The Jawhara Explained—Seekers Degree Course

LGC201: Introduction to Classical Logic—Transitional Requirement for Inheritors
Sharpen your mind by learning and applying the rules of classical logic and formalized thought, thereby saving yourself from falling victim to illogical arguments as well as learning how to discourse convincingly rather than emotionally. The course is based on Imam al-Akhdari's *Al-Sullam al-Munawraq* (The Ornamented Ladder), a 142-line poem studied across the Muslim world as a primer on logic. Prerequisite: At least one technical course at SunniPath (this would include any course in the Law, Methodology, or Belief departments, or either the Quran and Its Disciplines or 40 Hadith of Imam Nawawi).

BLF301: The Sanusiyya Explained—Transitional Requirement for Inheritors
A study of the key beliefs about God and His messengers, based on Imam Sanusi's *Umm al-Barahin*, along with copious notes from its major commentaries. This course focuses on rigorous rational proofs for these key beliefs. Topics include proofs for the existence of God and his attributes and proofs for the veracity of His messengers' claims to prophethood and their attributes. Prerequisites: LGC201 is a prerequisite due to the strong focus on rational proofs. ARB112 is a prerequisite due to the introduction of Arabic technical terms used in theology. ARB201 and ARB202 are recommended.

BLF302: Islamic Sects: Modern and Classical—Transitional Recommendation for Inheritors
A study of the major Islamic sects, both classical and modern. The beliefs of these sects are critically examined based on students' previous study in logic and scholastic theology.

BLF401: Sharh al-Aqa'id al-Nasafiyya—Inheritors Ijaza Course

Transitional Courses for Quran

QRN101: Commentary of Short Suras—Seekers Degree Course

QRN201: Commentary of Oft-Recited Chapters—Transitional Recommendation for Inheritors
Through an in-depth study of Surah Kahf, Yasin, and Waqiah, recognize the beauty and wisdom behind these oft-recited chapters. Your knowledge of Arabic will help you appreciate the linguistic aspects of Quranic commentary. This course also complements the Miftah curriculum and you can take it as additional practice for their Arabic. Prerequisite: Because of the Arabic component, ARB112 is a prerequisite.

QRN301: Commentary of Sura Yusuf—Transitional Recommendation for Inheritors
A detailed and inspiring examination of the dramatic story of the Prophet Yusuf, upon him be peace, with particular emphasis of aspects of Quranic commentary that are based on Arabic language. Unlike other long chapters, Sura Yusuf is a complete narrative from beginning to end, which makes it particularly suited to study Arabic. It also illustrates a number of important rules of the Arabic language. This course also complements the Miftah curriculum and students can take it as additional practice for their Arabic. Prerequisite: ARB201 is a prerequisite. ARB202 is recommended.

QRN401: Tafsir al-Jalalayn—Inheritors Ijaza Course

Transitional Courses for Legal Methodology

LMT201: The Waraqat Explained—Seekers Degree Course

LMT211: Applied Legal Methodology: Understanding Legitimate Scholarly Disagreement—Transitional Recommendation for Inheritors
An examination of the causes of legitimate scholarly disagreement. A selection of issues of disagreement between the four schools of law will be examined and a rigorous presentation of each sides' argument will be presented, leaving you with an appreciation of the depth of classical Muslim legal scholarship and respect for the various scholarly positions.

LMT401: Luma'or Mukhtasar al-Manar—Inheritors Ijaza Course

Ready to Apply?

Please check the Inheritors Ijaza page at <http://www.SunniPath.com/Curriculum/Inheritors/> for application details.

Questions?

Contact Academic Advising through the Helpdesk at
<http://support.SunniPath.com>