

# **ISLAMIC PEDAGOGY: From Purpose to Methodology**

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# Objectives

1. Understand the scope of “pedagogy” within Islam
2. Critically examine the purpose of education
3. Start to connect purpose with methodology

# Pedagogy within Islam

- Conventional understanding
  - How: Methodology
- Islamic understanding
  - Why: Purpose
  - What: Content
  - How: Methodology

# Why do we teach? (Purpose)

- REFLECTION:

1. What is the difference between instruction and education?
2. What is the purpose of education?
3. Why do YOU teach?

# Why do we teach? (Purpose)

- PAIR-SHARE

- “The process of acquisition of knowledge is not called ‘education’ unless the knowledge that is acquired includes moral purpose that activates...*adab*. *Adab* is right action that springs from self-discipline founded upon knowledge whose source is wisdom.” (Al-Attas 2005, 28).

- What does this mean?

- How does it compare to your purpose?

# Methodology: elements to consider

- Teacher-Student Relationship
- Instructional Strategies
- Modeling & Mentorship
- Social-Emotional Development
- Classroom Management
- Setting
- Assessment


# How: From Purpose to Methodology

- **REFLECTION:** What would your “purpose” look, sound, and feel like in your class?
- Use elements mentioned on the previous slide (at least 3).
- Come up with 3 examples under each category (look, sound, feel).

Look

Sound

Feel



# Moving Forward

- **Critically examine your methodology:**
  - Is it effective?
  - Is it appropriate?
  - Does it connect with the purpose of education?
- **Develop a teaching philosophy (refer to handout)**
- **Challenges:**
  - Come up with challenges / obstacles that may hinder your ability to implement this philosophy



**Questions? Comments? Concerns?**

# Suggested Readings

1. Al-Attas, S. M. Naquib. "Preliminary Thoughts on the Nature of Knowledge and the Definition and Aims of Education" in *Journal of Islamic Philosophy*, 12-47. Philosophy Documentation Center, 2005.
2. Ashraf, Syed Ali. "Preface" in S. M. N. al-Attas (Ed.) *Aims and objectives of Islamic education*, ix-xiv. London: Hodder & Stoughton. 1979.
3. Halstead, Mark. "An Islamic Concept of Education" in *Comparative Education*, 40(4), 517-529. Taylor and Francis Group, 2004.
4. Memon, Nadeem & Ahmed, Qaiser. *The Pedagogical Divide: Toward an Islamic Pedagogy*. ISNA Educators Forum, 2006.  
<http://www.isna.net/Documents/Programs/uploads/media/Nadeem Memon and Qaiser Ahmad 2006 - The Pedagogical Divide.pdf>. Accessed April 09, 2011.
5. Guenther, Sebastian. "Be Masters in that you Teach and Continue to Learn: Medieval Muslim Thinkers on Education Theory" in *Comparative Education Review*, 50 (3), pp.367-388. University of Chicago Press.