

**LESSON H-UV-L1**

# Reactions to and from the Muslim and Arab Communities After 9/11

**Unit V:** Post 9/11: Challenges and Consequences

**Grade Levels:** 9–12

**Time:** 120–150 minutes



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## Objective

- Assess the validity of accusations and acts of violence against the Muslim and Arab communities following the events of 9/11.

## Key Terms

- Arab
- Muslim
- Qur'an

## Lesson Materials

- Access to the following web site: <http://groups.colgate.edu/aarislam/response.htm>
- Student Assignment: Reactions to and from the Muslim and Arab Communities After 9/11

## Lesson Background

The website referenced above was produced through the cooperation of over fifty professors of Islamic Studies and Middle Eastern Studies from the US and Canada. These scholars are members of the Study of Islam section at the American Academy of Religion, the largest international organization responsible for the academic study of religion. Review and determine which sections you will use for your students.

## Lesson Plan

- Have the students go to this web site: <http://groups.colgate.edu/aarislam/response.htm>
- Distribute the Student Assignment: Reactions to and from the Muslim and Arab Communities After 9/11. Instruct the students to use the web site to research the answers to the questions on the assignment worksheet.
- When the students have completed the assignment, engage the class in a discussion of their findings.

## Evidence of Understanding

- Have the students write an essay analyzing the Muslim and Arab communities' responses to the events of 9/11 based on their answers to the questions in the student assignment.

OR

- Have the students create a multimedia presentation analyzing the Muslim and Arab communities' responses to the events of 9/11 based on their answers to the questions in the student assignment.

## Taking Action and Giving Service

- Have students compare the statements issued by various humanitarian and peace organizations to the thoughts of Nobel Peace Prize winners and develop an opinion piece for how the work of the Nobel Laureate can be applied to prevention of terrorism. Students can use Nobel Prize web site ([http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/)) and articles on the work of the Nobel laureates (found at [http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/articles/](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/articles/)). Have the students submit their opinion pieces to the local newspaper and the school newspaper in October when the Nobel Peace Prize is announced.
- Have students visit <http://www.nobelprize.org/educational/> and learn more about the Nobel Laureates.

Summary of Nobel Peace Prize Winners [http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/shortfacts.html](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/shortfacts.html)

Listing of Nobel Peace Prize Winners [http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/)

The Nobel Peace Prize 2011 laureates: Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Leymah Gbowee, Tawakkol Karman

[http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/2011/](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2011/)

Encourage the students write a letter to one of the Nobel Laureates or their organization responding to their work.

# Student Assignment: Reactions to and from the Muslim and Arab Communities After 9/11

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period/Class \_\_\_\_\_

*Directions:* Use the web site <http://groups.colgate.edu/aarislam/response.htm> to research answer to the questions below.

1. Who authored this web site?
2. What were the reactions of Muslim leaders (from around the world) to the events of 9/11?
3. Did any of the above reactions differ? Was there a common thread?
4. What were the opinions voiced concerning acts of terrorism, Islamic law, and the Qur'an?
5. Discuss the increase in incidents and types of incidents against Arab and Muslim Americans after 9/11.
6. Identify various groups listed in the web site and their positions on terrorism.
7. What is the purpose of this web site? What message are the authors promoting?
8. What is the true definition of the word "jihad?"
9. What messages do the pictures on the web site send to you?