

We live in a world where knowledge about Islam and the Muslim world has taken on vital importance.

Islam is a global religion, with over 1 billion practitioners worldwide—nearly one quarter of the world’s population. Only 20 percent of Muslims live in the Middle East, and Islam is one of the fastest growing religions in the United States. Predominantly Muslim nations are playing an expanding role in global economic and political relations.

Despite the growing presence of Islam and Muslim nations on the global stage, too many Americans are uninformed about basic Muslim beliefs, practices, and history. Few Americans recognize the diversity of Islamic cultures or know

how much Muslims have contributed to philosophy, science, commerce, and art. U.S. Foreign Service, military, and business leaders who work in Muslim countries are often not fluent in Arabic or other Islamic languages. Muslim leaders and professionals, for their part, need more than a superficial understanding of Western culture, institutions, and beliefs if the desired dialogue and exchange of perspectives is to be productive.

The Duke Islamic Studies Center is taking on the critically important work of using education as a tool for advancing cross-cultural understanding and addressing the economic, political, and social challenges of the world’s Muslims. We are committed to working

with partners at home and abroad to provide students, professionals, and policy makers with the knowledge about the Muslim world and Islamic cultures, beliefs, and practices that will enable them to operate effectively in a multicultural world.

The profiles in this brochure give examples of the kinds of extraordinary students and faculty who are part of DISC. The chart of gift opportunities shows some of our important fundraising needs.

Gifts to support Duke’s Islamic Studies Center

<i>Your gift of...</i>	<i>will...</i>
\$2.5 million	endow a Professorship for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Islamic World.
\$500,000	endow an annual conference or speaker series on the study of the Islam and the Muslim world.
\$375,000	endow a DISC annual distinguished lecture.
\$250,000	endow an undergraduate scholarship named for you or a name of your choosing.
\$250,000	endow a graduate fellowship named for you or a name of your choosing.
\$100,000	endow a research and internship fund for undergraduate and graduate students.
\$100,000	endow a fund for library acquisitions in Islamic culture.