ANNEX: PROFILES OF LECTURERS AND SYNOPSIS OF MODULES

PROFILES OF LECTURERS

Dr Arif Jamal **Associate Professor, NUS Law**	
	Arif Jamal studied politics (BA) and law (LLB) in Canada and was called to the Bar of British Columbia. Thereafter, he undertook post-graduate work in the UK earning an LLM degree, focusing on Islamic law, at the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS) and then obtaining his PhD from the Faculty of Laws at UCL. Arif has previously been a Teaching Fellow at UCL Laws and at the School of Law at SOAS, and also a Visiting Researcher with the Islamic Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School. Arif's research and teaching interests include legal and political theory, law and religion and law in Muslim contexts.
Dr Nazirudin Nasir **Senior Director, Religious & Policy Development, MUIS**	
	Nasir earned an MA in comparative law at SOAS, University of London, an MSt in religion at Oxford, and a DPhil from St Cross College, Oxford. His dissertation investigated the geneology of the concept of Abrahamic religions, particularly in the works of the French Islamicist Louis Massignon. His first degree is in Islamic law from Al-Azhar University in Cairo.
Dr Jaclyn Neo **Associate Professor, NUS Law**	
	Jaclyn specialises in constitutional law and human rights. She was a recipient of two graduate scholarships from NUS under which she completed her Masters of Law (LLM) and Doctor of the Science of Law (JSD) at Yale Law School. Jaclyn is currently the Deputy Director of the Asian Law Institute (ASLI) and sits on the editorial boards of the Singapore Journal of Legal Studies (SJLS), the Asian Journal of Comparative Law, and the Asian Yearbook of International Law. She has published widely in leading journals in her field, including the Oxford Journal of Law and Religion and the International Journal of Constitutional Law. Before joining the faculty, Jaclyn practiced in the litigation department at WongPartnership, and is currently a consultant at the firm. Jaclyn is a member of the Law Society's Public and International Law Committee and a member of the Singapore Academy of Law's Law Reform Committee.

Mr Ahmad Nizam Abbas **Director, Straits Law Advocates & Solicitors**	
	Ahmad Nizam Abbas was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in January 1994. He holds a Masters of Laws in Islamic Law and Finance from the Singapore Management University in 2013. He is a Facilitator and Trainer at the Singapore Institute of Legal Education in Family Law, Wills, Probate & Administration and Mediation. He has acted for clients in cross-border disputes on children and matrimonial assets. He is the current Chairman of the Muslim Law Practice Committee of the Law Society and was a member of the Law Society's team which participated in the Parliamentary Select Committee Hearing on the amendments to the Administration of Muslim Law Act back in 1997. In 2012, his paper on 'The Islamic Legal System in Singapore' was published in the *Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal* of the University of Washington. In the last decade, Ahmad has been active in various organisations including MUIS (Islamic Religious Authority of Singapore), Mendaki and Mediacorp.
Ms Halijah Mohamad **Practising Lawyer, Halijah Mohamad & Co**	
	Halijah Mohamad graduated from NUS Law. In 1995, she started her law firm Halijah Mohamad & Co. The focus of her practice is primarily family law. She was past Vice Present of AWARE (1999, 2000 and 2010-2012). She was a Council member of the Muslim Financial Planning Association. She is now Vice President of Singapore Association of Women's Lawyers. She is a member of the Family Law Practise and Muslim Law Practise Committees in the Law Society. She wrote the chapter on "Overview of Syariah law in family matters" in the book *Law & Practice of Family Law in Singapore* that was published by Sweet & Maxwell (2016).
YAA Dato' Dr Hj Mohd Na'im Hj Mokhtar **Judge, Syariah Court of Appeal Malaysia**	
	YAA Dato' Dr Hj Mohd Na'im Hj Mokhtar is currently a Judge at the Syariah Court of Appeal Malaysia. Before this, he was Director of Family Support Division at the Syariah Judiciary Department Malaysia. He was also appointed by the Prime Minister to the Islamic Consultative Council Panel. He also sits as Malaysian Qualifying Agency (MQA) panel and committee member. He has also been appointed as Adjunct Professor by the Law Faculty of University Technology Mara (UITM) in 2012. He graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from International Islamic University, Malaysia (IIUM). He also obtained a Masters in Laws (LLM) degree from University of London, United Kingdom, a Diploma in Syariah Law and Practice from IIUM, a Diploma in Administration and Islamic Judiciary from IIUM and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Syariah from National University of Malaysia (UKM).

SYNOPSIS OF MODULES

Module 1: Historical Overview, Sources and Contextual Development of Islamic Law

This module focused on the historical background of Islamic law, its sources and its development in Southeast Asia and Singapore. The first part of this session introduced an overview of the early developments of Islamic law and the formation of various schools of juristic thought. Knowledge of the formative period in its historical context is pertinent to comprehending contemporary themes in Islamic law. Additionally, the primary and secondary sources of classical Islamic jurisprudence as tools for independent reasoning (ijtihad) were discussed. The second part of the session contextualised these developments as they have developed in Southeast Asia and Singapore. It also touched on the consideration of customary and state laws in issuing legal edicts. The plurality of thought and application within Islamic scholarly works was discussed.

Module 2: Dissolution of Muslim Marriages in Singapore: Issues of Jurisdiction and Practice

In the first part of the module, the constitutional and statutory framework in Singapore determining the jurisdiction and powers of the Syariah court was examined. The historical evolution of the Syariah courts' jurisdiction and powers, and their relationship with the civil courts were elaborated upon. It studied cases where Islamic law has been raised before the civil courts, including but not limited to cases where jurisdictional conflicts between the civil and Syariah courts have arisen and been addressed.

The second part of the module examined divorce cases in the Syariah court in Singapore. It elaborated on complex pre- and post-separation issues such as value of nafkah iddah and mut'ah, division of matrimonial assets, distribution of CPF moneys and harta sepencarian, nusyuz (recalcitrance) and the legitimacy of Hakams (arbitrators). It also elucidated the different practices between Syariah and civil court such as law of evidence, the irrelevance of proving unprofessional behaviour (UB) as grounds for divorce and others. It also aimed to provide participants with a platform to appreciate diversity of thoughts within the Islamic tradition and provided insights on how legal rulings can be contextualised according to the needs of the society within an accepted legal framework.

Module 3: Theoretical Analysis of Divorce in Islamic Law

This module provided an in-depth analysis of the various modes of dissolution of marriages in Islam which are talaq, khuluk, faskh and ta'liq. It also dealt with issues surrounding the different modes of pronouncing talaq by elucidating the consequences and ramifications of each mode. Participants were exposed to Quranic and Prophetic injunctions pertaining to dissolution of marriage in order to extrapolate general principles on the subject. Following that, this module identified the distinction between hadanah (custody) and wilayah (guardianship) and how legitimacy of a child is established in Islamic Legal System. The module also contrasted the diverse opinions within the Islamic tradition regarding separation focusing on the two dominant schools of thought; The Hanafi and Syafi' mazhabs.