

Motion Title: Friday prayer on campus

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This Union notes:

1. City, University of London has a diverse student population, including large Muslim and international students' cohorts. It is a religious requirement for Muslim men to perform the congregational Friday prayer (Jumu'ah) and is an important part of all Muslims' lives.
2. The Equality Act 2010 states that religion and beliefs are protected characteristics. NUS policy states that it will "support student faith groups negotiate for improved services and gain acknowledgement from their institutions of their specific needs". This naturally extends to its member Students' Unions.
3. Providing Friday prayers on campus is necessary for students- Friday prayers can occur in between lectures, which makes it is inconvenient for students to have to leave campus to pray.
4. Praying together as students increases the sense of a "City community". Almost all Universities make provisions for the Friday prayer to take place on campus.
5. Arrangements for Friday prayers off campus are not suitable for students- the local mosque can become very crowded, with members of the Islington community also using this space.

This Union believes:

1. Friday prayers should have a designated space (the Great Hall) which is reserved at the appropriate times. This should be arranged through a block booking by Students' Union staff, on behalf of the student population.
2. Friday prayers are essential to making Muslim and international students feel welcome at City, University of London

This Union Resolves:

1. The Students' Union will lobby the University to continue to facilitate Friday prayers for both Muslim male and female students on campus.
2. The Students' Union will work with the relevant Muslim societies to ensure that society-led Friday prayers on campus take place smoothly. This includes, allowing booking forms for Friday prayers in the Great Hall to be the same as any other room booking.
3. The Students' Union to work with the University to ensure adequate provisions are in place for Friday prayers during the revision periods.