

FALL QUARTER

Course: Anthropology M116Q/Arabic M171/History M108C: Culture Area of Maghrib

Instructor: Aomar Boum

MW 8:30-9:45

Description: Designed for juniors/seniors. Introduction to North Africa, especially Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya, also known as Maghrib or Tamazgha. Topics include changing notions of personal, tribal, ethnic, linguistic and religious identities; colonialism; gender and legal rights, changing representations of Islam, and religions in region's public spaces. P/NP or letter grading.

Course: Anthropology 142Q: Ethnic and Religious Minorities

Instructor: Aomar Boum

M 2:00-4:50pm

Description: Analytical overview of ethnic and religious minorities in contemporary Middle East and North Africa structured around sociocultural experiences of ethnic and religious groups to understand their political and economic realities. P/NP or letter grading.

Course: Arabic M110 / Comp Lit M110: A Thousand and One Nights / Alf Layla wa-Layla

Instructor: Susan Slyomovics

TTh 9:30-10:45

Description: Since its appearance in Europe in 1704, A Thousand and One Nights is the most well-known work of Arabic literature in the west. This course examines the cycle of tales more commonly known as The Arabian Nights and includes the history of its translation, contemporary oral performances of the tales in the Arabic-speaking world, the literary emergence of the vernacular language in relation to Classical Arabic, and Western appropriations of the tales in music, film and the novel (Ravel, Rimsky-Korsakov, Barth, Poe, and Walt Disney). Knowledge of Arabic is not required.

Course: Arabic 250: Premodern Arabic Literature Seminar

Instructor: Michael Cooperson

M 3:30-6:20

Description: Readings in Arabic texts from variety of periods and genres, along with appropriate secondary literature. Will focus on pre-Islamic and Umayyad poetry. We will read the opening lines of all the mu‘allaqāt, then read the mu‘allaqah of ‘Amr b. Kulthūm in its entirety. We will then read selections from the poems of al-Khansā’, Laylā al-Akhyaliyyah, ‘Umar ibn Abī Rabī‘ah, and Majnūn. May be repeated for maximum of 24 units. S/U or letter grading.

Course: Art History 119A: Western Islamic Art: The Mediterranean(s)

Instructor: Lamia Balafrej

TTh 3:30-4:45

Description: Examines how the Mediterranean Sea facilitated the mobility of objects, people, and ideas in pre-modern times. Other geo-cultural zones of interaction will be studied, including the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean, and Central Asia.

Course: Art History 220B: Advanced Studies in Islamic Art: The Desert

Instructor: Lamia Balafrej

W 3:30-5:20

Description: Interrogates the desert as both ecosystem and discourse, real and imagined space, with a particular focus on the Middle East and North Africa.

Course: History 96W: Introduction to Historical Practice: "Full Moons Rising in Splendor": Muslim Scholars, Poets, and Mystics in 18th Century South Asia

Instructor: Sohaib Baig and Craig Yirush

W 4:00-6:50pm

Description: Enforced prerequisite: English Composition 3 or 3H or English as a Second Language 36. Introduction to study of history, with emphasis on historical theory and research methods. Satisfies Writing II requirement. Letter grading.

Course: Iranian 103 - Introduction to Classical Persian Poetry

Instructor: Domenico Ingenito

TTh 9:30-10:45pm

Description: Prerequisite: course 102C. Students who do exceptionally well in course 20C may be permitted to enroll with consent of instructor. May be taken independently for credit. P/NP or letter grading.

Course: Iranian 150A: Survey of Persian Literature in English

Instructor: Domenico Ingenito

TTh 2:30 - 3:45

Description: Knowledge of Persian not required. Each course may be taken independently for credit.

Course: Islamic Studies M110 / Religion M109: Introduction to Islam

Instructor: Asma Sayeed

TTh 11:00 – 12:15

Description: Introduction to history of Islamic civilization and beliefs and practices of Muslims globally. Survey includes major topics such as Quran, Hadith, Prophet Muhammad, Islamic law, Shi'ism, and Sufism. Introduction to discourses in contemporary Muslim societies such as feminism, human rights, and political reform. Primary source in translation (excerpts from Quran, hadith, poetry, and chronicles). P/NP or letter grading.

WINTER QUARTER

Course: Arabic 250: Premodern Arabic Literature Seminar

Instructor: Michael Cooperson

M 3:30-6:20

Description: Readings in Arabic texts from variety of periods and genres, along with appropriate secondary literature. Will focus on philosophy and science in the early to middle periods. We will read from al-Kindī's epistles on philosophy, al-Rāzī's clinical case histories, al-Tawḥīdī on translation, al-Bīrūnī on India, and others. May be repeated for maximum of 24 units. S/U or letter grading.

Course: Art History C120: Islamic Art and Architecture Before 1500

Instructor: Lamia Balafrej

Time TBA

Description: Variable topics in Islamic art and architecture that reflect interests of individual regular and/or visiting faculty members. May be repeated twice for credit.

Course: History 105A: Survey of Middle East, 500 to 1300

Instructor: Michael Morony

Time TBA

Description: Designed for juniors/seniors. Background and circumstances of rise of Islam, creation of Islamic Empire, and its development. Rise of Dynastic Successor States and Modern Nation States. Social, intellectual, political, and economic development. P/NP or letter grading.

Course: History 187B: Holy Wars: Medievals and Moderns

Instructor: Jessica Goldberg

Time TBA

Description: In 1099, people claiming to be Christian pilgrims massacred crowds of men, women and children taking refuge at the Temple Mount as the last step in the conquest of Jerusalem, and celebrated that they had waded in blood up to their knees. Just over 900 years later, people claimed Muslim martyrdom in flying airplanes into skyscrapers and killing crowds of men and women going about their daily business. Are these events related? Do they express the essence of the religion the actors say they represent, or a strange and abhorrent aberration? More broadly, how did some adherents to these religions come to understand warfare as a legitimate part of religious practice, or even a religious obligation? In this course, we will focus on the problem of Crusade and Jihad in Christianity and Islam, the forms of Holy War that cast the longest shadow into the modern world. We will begin by looking at the history of medieval Crusade and Jihad, and the roots of ideas of Holy War in the scriptures of these two traditions.

We will then look at how both history and scripture have been understood and disputed, and the objects and texts that uncover the meaning of Crusade and Jihad for people in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.

Course: Iranian 103B - Classical Persian Prose

Instructor: Domenico Ingenito

TTh 9:30-10:45

Description: This course follows upon 102A-C, intermediate Persian and, by focusing on the grammatical, stylistic, visual and socio-anthropological specificities of what is considered as one of the largest literary heritages of the world, it is intended to acquaint students with the main genres of Persian classical prose from the aftermath of the Arab conquest until the XIV century of the common era. The course will also serve as propaedeutic introduction to the morphological, syntactic and semantic specificities of the literary language for the purpose of discerning the main differences between classical and modern Persian and also to historically contextualize the grammatical meaning of a given text.

Course: Islamic Studies M107 / Arabic M107 / Religion M107: Islam and the West

Instructor: Asma Sayeed

TTh 2:00 – 3:15

Description: Acquisition of understanding of basic doctrines and practices of Islam. Survey of history of Islam in West, with focus on U.S. and France. Analysis of issues relevant to growth and development of selected Muslim communities in West. Exposure to diverse expressions of Islam through independent research on Muslim communities and institutions in U.S. Development of strong analytical writing and speaking skills.

Course: Islamic Studies 177: Jihad: Striving in God's Way (Tentative)

Instructor: Luke Yarbrough

Time TBA

Description: Survey of the numerous and changing ways in which 'jihad' has been conceptualized, from pre-Islam to contemporary U.S. culture. Letter grading.

Course: Islamic Studies 220: Themes in Islamic History (Tentative)

Instructor: Asma Sayeed

T 3:30 – 6:20

Description: This graduate seminar provides an overview of early and classical Islamic history (up to 1250) with a focus on selected issues such developments in political and military organization of the Islamic empire, sectarian history, non-Muslims under Muslim rule, and ethnicity. The course is also designed as an initial step in preparing for a PhD field exam in early and classical Islamic history.

Course: Middle Eastern Studies M50B / Ancient Near Eastern Studies M50B / Religion M50:
Origins of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Instructors: Carol Bakhos

Time/Location TBA

Description: Examination of three major monotheisms of Western cultures -- Judaism, Christianity, and Islam -- historically and comparatively. Development, teachings, and ritual practices of each tradition up to and including medieval period. Composition and development of various sacred texts, highlighting key themes and ideas within different historical and literary strata of traditions, such as mechanisms of revelation, struggle for religious authority, and common theological issues such as origin of evil and status of nonbelievers. Letter grading.

Course: Middle Eastern Studies M111 / Islamic Studies M111 / Art History M119C:
Introduction to Islamic Archaeology

Instructor: Katherine Burke

TTh 11:00-12:15

Description: From the earliest monuments of Islam in Arabia and Jerusalem to the humble remains of a small Egyptian port, instruction focuses broadly on archaeological remains in the central Islamic lands (primarily Syria, Egypt, and Iraq), but also Iran, Turkey, North Africa, and Spain. This vast region experienced profound cultural transformations from the birth of Islam in the seventh century to the early Ottoman period in the 16th and 17th centuries CE, which are traceable in the material record. The dominant theme of the course will be identifying and interpreting the manifestations of religious practices in archaeological remains.

Course: Middle Eastern Studies 133 / Religion 133: Bible and Qur'an

Instructors: Carol Bakhos

Time/Location TBA

Description: Survey of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, New Testament, and Qur'an to familiarize students with content of scriptures of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and sociocultural background from which these multifarious texts emerged, and to explore major themes and consider variety of approaches to scripture. Development of appreciation for role scripture plays in these religious systems and in American culture and society. P/NP or letter grading.

SPRING QUARTER

Course: Arabic 150: Classical Arabic Literature in English

Instructor: Michael Cooperson

Time TBA

Description: Readings in English; knowledge of Arabic not required. Survey of premodern Arabic cultural production in its political, religious, and social contexts. Coverage of pre-Islamic Arabia, rise of Islam, and major themes of Southwest Asian history, along with significant figures and moments in literature and culture of premodern period. Consideration of selected modern responses to Arabic tradition.

Course: Arabic 250: Premodern Arabic Literature Seminar

Instructor: Michael Cooperson

M 3:30-6:20

Description: Readings in Arabic texts from variety of periods and genres, along with appropriate secondary literature. Will focus on Mamluk and Ottoman Egypt. We will read chroniclers such as Ibn Iyās, Ibn Taghrī Birdī, and al-Jabartī, the geographer al-Maqrīzī, the Sufi poet ‘Ā’ishah al-Bā’ūniyyah, and the ethnographer al-Ṭāhtāwī. May be repeated for maximum of 24 units. S/U or letter grading.

Course: Archaeology M112 / Middle Eastern Studies M112 / Islamic Studies M112 / Art History M119D: Archaeology and Art of Christian and Islamic Egypt

Instructor: Katherine Burke

TTh 11:00-12:15

Description: The culture of Egypt transformed quite gradually after the Muslim conquest in the mid-7th century CE. According to material evidence such as ceramics, textiles, architectural forms, and building techniques, it is functionally impossible to separate pre-Islamic Christian Egypt from early Islamic Egypt. And, although the population may have become largely Muslim by the 10th century, Egypt remained “Coptic” in many senses even until the 14th century, and retains a sizeable Christian minority to the present. This course will survey the archaeological remains and standing architecture of Egypt from the 6th century to the 19th, charting changes and continuities in material culture, and issues of religious identity in archaeology.

Course: History 108A: History of North Africa from Islamic Conquest to 1578

Instructor: Michael Morony

Time TBA

Description: Designed for juniors/seniors. Survey of political, social, economic, and religious history of Islamic West (Maghrib) from Muslim conquest in 7th and 8th centuries C.E. until 1578. P/NP or letter grading.

Course: Islamic Studies M50: Islam and Other Religions

Instructor: Luke Yarbrough

TTh 2:00-3:15

Description: Students gain familiarity with historical cases and modes of interaction between Muslims and non-Muslims in plural societies. Consideration of axis questions such as how

does Qur'an reflect religious plurality; how does it situate Islam vis-à-vis its alternatives; what encounters did rapid expansion of Islam bring about in diverse societies; how did Islam and other religions change through debate, war, and exchange of ideas; what roles has political power played in conditioning interreligious interaction; how have conversion and hybridity affected what it means to be Muslim; what is different about interreligious interactions in secular states and societies; and how is past invoked to justify opinions and policies today. Investigation of these questions by conducting microstudies: close readings of sources through theoretical lens. P/NP or letter grading.

Course: Islamic Studies 201: Methods and Approaches of Islamic Studies (Tentative)

Instructor: Asma Sayeed

Time TBA

Description: Introduction to major subfields in Islamic Studies, their trajectories, and theoretical and methodological approaches. Students will also acquire research skills in classical Arabic texts in selected fields with a focus on early and classical Islamic thought and civilization. Major topics include: Qur'an, Hadith, Islamic law, and history (additional variable topics depending on student interest and research fields). Pre-requisite: Knowledge of classical Arabic (students without Arabic background may take course only with instructor permission).

Course: Islamic Studies 291A: Islamic Counsel for Rulers

Instructor: Luke Yarbrough

Time TBA

Description: Seminar, three hours. Readings in the genre of *naṣīḥa* and relevant scholarly literature. S/U or letter grading.

Course: Law 677: Muslims, Race, and Law

Instructor: Khaled Abou El Fadl

W 3:20-5:20

Description: This course will undertake a systematic study of the role of law in constructing, defining, and negotiating the Muslim “other” in the American legal system. Since the commencement of the war on terror, intellectuals and scholars have coined the expression ‘Islamophobia’ to describe the social and political animus of hate, dread, and fear of Islam and Islamism rising in the West and the United States. The term ‘Islamophobia’ describes social and structural narratives and dynamics that treat Islam and Muslims as presumptively inassimilable, inherently violent and antagonistic, irrational, and fundamentally threatening. Historically, Muslims have been seen as outsiders, and as a repugnant race at odds with the rooted principles of civility, rationality, and reasonableness that are at the core of Western identity. The construction of Islam and Muslim as the alien other played a critical role in serving imperial and colonial projects in the Muslim world and in facilitating the power dynamics of subordination and domination. With the end of colonialism, however, a new challenge began with the influx of migrants from the formerly colonized populations to the West. With this influx arose complex

questions as to identity, assimilation, the performance of Whiteness, and intersectionality between race, ethnicity, religion, and power dynamics.

Course: Middle Eastern Studies 50C: Making and Studying the Modern Middle East

Instructor: Susan Slyomovics

TTh 9:30-10:45

Description: Exploring the “modern” part of the NELC departmental three-quarter sequence, “Modern Middle Eastern Studies” engages with aspects of global modernity affecting the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) cultures of the 21st century. Each spring quarter readings are changed. Topics for spring quarter 2015, addressed through readings of ethnographic texts, films, and literature in translation, include debates surrounding translating MENA writers into English, immigration and emigration, prison literature, a case study of the Arab Uprising, Egyptian music and song, francophone and arabophone North African production, writings in Arabic, Hebrew, French and Dari/Afghan Persian, and more. Although the emphasis is on works originating from the region with a concentration on the Arabic-speaking world, a number of articles written by scholars from a range of disciplines are included. This course will involve intensive reading, writing, and film viewing. This course satisfies GE area: Arts & Humanities (Literary and Cultural Analysis)

Course: Sociology 285: Sociology of Religion

Instructor: Jeffrey Guhin

Time TBA

Description: This course will examine sociological approaches to the category of religion, using the category of Islam as a test case. We will examine various definitions of Islam and we will look at how various sociologists have engaged the question of religion through the study of Islam, Muslims, and Muslim societies.