



Short Syllabus

Course Title	Credits
Women's Representation in Contemporary Middle Eastern Literature and Culture	2
Lecturer	
Dr. Hilla Peled-Shapira	
Contact details	
hillapeled1@gmail.com	
Semester	
Spring	
Short Description	
<p>This course explores the image of women as reflected in contemporary literature from various Middle Eastern countries, including Iraq, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Morocco and Kuwait. We shall read works of different genres - prose, poetry, autobiography and nonfiction - which raise various issues concerning Middle Eastern women, among them: How are women affected by early forced marriage? What are the physical and mental outcomes of female genital mutilation? How are relationships between men and women depicted in works of art? What is the difference between the social surroundings of women in the urban space and those in the countryside? What are "honor killings" and how do Middle Eastern authors, men and women alike, refer to and depict them? We will read primary sources written by prominent thinkers, poets and novelists, including Nawal al-Sa'dawi, Qasim Amin, Fatema Mernissi and Nazik al-Malaika, analyze their works and examine their contribution to the current discourse on the status of women in the Middle East.</p>	
Final grade components	
<p>Active participation – 20% Midterm paper – 20% Final take-home exam – 60%</p>	
Attendance	
Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unauthorized absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.*	
Academic Conduct	
Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.*	
Additional requirements	
Phones should be kept turned-off while in class.	

* See Liberal Arts academic handbook for further details