





Course Title	Credits
Islamic Philosophy in the Modern Era	2
Lecturer	
Dr. Rachel Kantz Feder	
Contact details	
rachelkantz@gmail.com, office hours by appointment	
Semester	
Fall Semester	

# **Short Description**

This course will introduce students to the seminal debates and historical developments that defined the tradition of Islamic philosophy and its evolution until the modern era. It will begin with a survey of the formative period for medieval Islamic philosophy (falsafa) and speculative theology (kalam), concentrating on the translation movement (8th - 10th century), and the diversity of Islamicate thought. The course will focus on key figures and schools of thought while analyzing their contributions and discursive communities within the relevant contexts. We will study Muslim and Arab thinkers' relationship to 19th and 20th century European philosophy, particularly to moral philosophy, political economy, and existentialism. We will explore the critical reception of central developments such as Darwin's evolutionary biology and the emergence of modern psychology. The course concludes with the study of philosophical issues that have shaped discourses on self-hood, modernity, and decolonization and have found expression in political and social currents in the modern Middle East.

# **Final grade components**

Participation: 20%

Midterm: Short Paper (3 pages)- 19% Final requirement: Paper (5-6 pages) - 61%

#### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three 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**



# **Short Syllabus**

