

UC 12129 12F ✓

CBM003 ADD/CHANGE FORM

APPROVED DEC -5 2012

Undergraduate Council
 New Course Course Change
 Core Category: WID Effective Fall 2014

or

Graduate/Professional Studies Council
 New Course Course Change
 Effective Fall 2013

1. Department: MCL College: CLASS
 2. Faculty Contact Person: Emran El-Badawi Telephone: 3-3044 Email: eel-badawi@uh.edu

3. Course Information on New/Revised course:

- Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
ARAB / 3314 / Women and Gender in Arabic Literature
- Instructional Area / Course Number / Short Course Title (30 characters max.)
ARAB / 3314 / WOMEN & GENDER IN ARABIC LIT
- SCH: 3.00 Level: SO CIP Code: 1611010001 Lect Hrs: 3 Lab Hrs: 0

RECEIVED OCT 12 2012

4. Justification for adding/changing course: To meet core curriculum requirements

5. Was the proposed/revised course previously offered as a special topics course? Yes No
 If Yes, please complete:

- Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
____ / ____ / ____
- Course ID: _____ Effective Date (currently active row): _____

6. Authorized Degree Program(s): B.A.

- Does this course affect major/minor requirements in the College/Department? Yes No
- Does this course affect major/minor requirements in other Colleges/Departments? Yes No
- Can the course be repeated for credit? Yes No (if yes, include in course description)

7. Grade Option: Letter (A, B, C ...) Instruction Type: lecture ONLY (Note: Lect/Lab info. must match item 3, above.)

8. If this form involves a change to an existing course, please obtain the following information from the course inventory: Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title

- ARAB / 3314 / Women and Gender in Arabic Literature
- Course ID: 48202 Effective Date (currently active row): 20123

9. Proposed Catalog Description: (If there are no prerequisites, type in "none".)

Cr: 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: ENGL 1304 Description (30 words max.): Critical survey of literature by and about Arab women focusing on a particular theme. Taught in English.

10. Dean's Signature: _____ Date: 10-12-2012

Print/Type Name: Sarah Fishman

REQUEST FOR COURSES IN THE CORE CURRICULUM

Originating Department or College: Modern and Classical Languages

Person Making Request: Emran El-Badawi

Telephone: 713-743-3044

Email: eel-badawi@uh.edu

Dean's Signature: _____

Date: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Course Number and Title: ARAB 3314: Women and Gender in Arabic Literature

Please attach in separate documents:

Completed CBM003 Add/Change Form with Catalog Description

Syllabus

List the student learning outcomes for the course (Statements of what students will know and be able to do as a result of taking this course. See appended hints for constructing these statements):

- Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the vast contribution of women authors to Arabic literature.
- Students will be able to analyze primary and secondary sources and cite them as evidence to support their understanding of historical events, as well as cultural ideas, values and beliefs.
- Students will be able to identify, evaluate and appropriately cite online and print sources.
- Students will be able to communicate effectively their understanding of patterns, processes and themes in the gender debates in the Arab World.

Component Area for which the course is being proposed (check one):

Communication

American History

Mathematics

Government/Political

Science

Language, Philosophy, & Culture

Social & Behavioral Science

Creative Arts

Component Area Option

Life & Physical Sciences

Competency areas addressed by the course (refer to appended chart for competencies that are required and optional in each component area):

Critical Thinking

Teamwork

Communication Skills

Social Responsibility

Empirical & Quantitative Skills

Personal Responsibility

Because we will be assessing student learning outcomes across multiple core courses, assessments assigned in your course must include assessments of the core competencies. For each competency checked above, indicated the specific course assignment(s) which, when completed by students, will provide evidence of the competency. Provide detailed information, such as copies of the paper or project assignment, copies of individual test items, etc. A single assignment may be used to provide data for multiple competencies.

Critical Thinking:

Students will be required to write a 6-7 page paper that will cite primary as well as secondary sources as evidence for the arguments made. Each paper will also need to analyze the ideas, values and beliefs found in the literature.

Students may answer one of the following questions:

1) How have Arab women authors articulated their agency? Have they articulated it in *religious* or secular terms (or both!)? What role do sex, social independence and gender roles play in their arguments? What were the main challenges they faced and do these challenges remain until today?

2) What are the most important themes explored by Arab women authors? Why are these themes important and what can they tell us about the social and political climate of the region? How are their arguments similar or different from their male counterparts, Amin and Haykal?

Communication Skills:

In the same 6-7 page paper as above, students will demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively.

Empirical & Quantitative Skills:

Click here to enter text.

Teamwork:

Click here to enter text.

Social Responsibility:

In the same 6-7 page paper as above, students will explore issues of social responsibility.

Personal Responsibility:

In the same 6-7 page paper as above, students will explore issues of personal responsibility.

Will the syllabus vary across multiple section of the course? Yes No

If yes, list the assignments that will be constant across sections:

Inclusion in the core is contingent upon the course being offered and taught at least once every other academic year. Courses will be reviewed for renewal every 5 years.

The department understands that instructors will be expected to provide student work and to participate in university-wide assessments of student work. This could include, but may not be limited to, designing instruments such as rubrics, and scoring work by students in this or other courses. In addition, instructors of core courses may be asked to include brief assessment activities in their course.

Dept. Signature: [Signature], [Signature], [Signature], Chair

ARAB 3314: Women and Gender in Arabic Literature

Instructor: Emran El-Badawi
Office Hours: TBA (AH 618)

Contact: eel-badawi@uh.edu / 3-3044
Course web site: uh.edu/blackboard

Course Description:

This course is a survey of Arabic literature dealing with issues of women and gender. It will study the works of Arab authors who have written works of fiction and non-fiction about women and gender issues, as well as prominent works by Arab women. This course hopes to generate lively discussion on several issues including the role of women in vs. men, the Islamic veil, the status of women in Arab societies and representations of women's power and influence in such societies.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the vast contribution of women authors to Arabic literature.
- Students will be able to analyze primary and secondary sources and cite them as evidence to support their understanding of historical events, as well as cultural ideas, values and beliefs.
- Students will be able to identify, evaluate and appropriately cite online and print sources.
- Students will be able to communicate effectively their understanding of patterns, processes and themes in the gender debates in the Arab World.

Course Objectives:

- To expand students' knowledge of the human condition and culture, especially within Arabic Literature.
- To expose students to the literature, philosophy, arts
- To teach students how to the humanities critically and in a systematic function, taking the social and historical context into consideration
- To develop a profound appreciation for the humanities and its values in the academy and everyday life.

Texts:

Required

Al-Khansa', *Selections from 'The diwan of al Khansa*
The Arabian Nights (selections)
Muhammad Husayn Haykal, *Zaynab* (selections)
Saadawi and Hetata, *The Nawal El-Saadawi Reader*
Qasim Amin, *The Liberation of Women*
Nathalie Handal, *The Poetry of Arab Women*
Fatema Mernissi, *Dreams of Trespass: Tales of a Harem Girlhood*
Middle Eastern Muslim Women Speak, Ed. Fernea and Bezirgan (selections)
Linsey Moore, *Arab, Muslim, woman: voice and vision in postcolonial literature and film*
Leila Ahmed, *A Quiet Revolution: The Veil's Resurgence, from the Middle East to America*

Olfa Youssef, Sermons (selections)
Mona Eltahawy, "Why do they hate us?"
Sondos Asem, "Misogyny exists, but blaming it for women's suffering is simplistic"
'Ashur et al, *Arab Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide, 1873-1999*

Course Grading:

Attendance & Participation	20%
2 Papers	40%
Final Exam	20%

Papers:

Students are required to write TWO essays answering a range of questions posted on Blackboard. Each essay should demonstrate knowledge of the terminology, theories and ideas, examine the sources critically and put them in conversation with one another. The essays should also demonstrate how Islamic civilization is in dialogue with other civilizations, and how it influenced the history, beliefs and values of modern society as a whole. The essays have to be sent via [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com)

Each essay must be between 6-7 pages in length (about 1500-1750 words). A rough draft of each essay is due two weeks before the final draft. Students will receive feedback on grammar, writing style, analysis, use of evidence and overall critical thinking.

Timeline:

Week 1: Women in traditional Arab societies in the 21st century

Week 2: Women depicted in classical Arabic literature I.
'Ashur, Introduction; al-Khansa.

Week 3: Women depicted in classical Arabic literature II.
The Arabian Nights.

Week 4: Women in modern Arabic Novels.
'Ashur, ch. 1; Haykal.

Week 5: Women in traditional Islam.
'Ashur, ch. 2; Fernea and Bezirqan (selections)

Week 6: Liberation I.
'Ashur, ch. 3; Amin.
ESSAY 1 Rough draft due

Week 7: Liberation II.
'Ashur, ch. 4; Saadawi (selections).

Week 8: Challenging gender norms.
'Ashur, ch. 5; Saadawi (selections).

ESSAY 1 Final draft due

Week 9: Women's struggle against tradition.
'Ashur, ch. 6; Hetata (selections)

Week 10: The Backlash: The Veil.
'Ashur, ch. 7; Fernea and Bezirgan (selections); Ahmed (selections).

Week 11: Sex and coming of Age.
'Ashur, ch. 8; Mernissi.

Week 12: Modernist religious discourse.
'Ashur, ch. 9; Youssef (selections)

Week 13: Self Expression.
Moore (selections)
ESSAY 2 Rough draft due

Week 14: Arab-American women authors.
Handal (selections); Hammad (selections)

Week 15: Women and the Arab Spring.
Eltahawy; Asem
ESSAY 2 Final draft due

Holidays: TBA

Other Policies:

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to abide by the UH Academic Honesty Policy. Students who violate this policy will be penalized. For more on academic honesty, please see the sections on "Conducive Learning Environment" (p. 64) and "Disciplinary Code" (pp. 66-67) in the *University's Student Handbook* at <http://www.uh.edu/dos/publications/handbook.php>

Disability

The University of Houston is committed to providing equal education opportunities for all students, and will make reasonable academic accommodations for students identified as disabled under the law. For more information, contact the Center for Students with Disabilities at 713-743-5400, or see their online explanation of policies and procedures at <http://www.uh.edu/csd/>

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For this Writing in the Disciplines course, the writing assignments will teach students to use the shared writing conventions, practices and methods of citation of Middle Eastern Studies.

Course Objectives:

- To expand students' knowledge of the human condition and culture, especially within Arabic Literature.
- To expose students to the literature, philosophy, arts
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