

General Education Course Information Sheet

Please submit this sheet for each proposed course

Department & Course Number NELC-M Arabic 107/Islamic 107/Rel 107
 Course Title Islam in the West
 Indicate if Seminar and/or Writing II course _____

1 Check the recommended GE foundation area(s) and subgroups(s) for this course

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| Foundations of the Arts and Humanities | X |
| • Literary and Cultural Analysis | <u>X</u> |
| • Philosophic and Linguistic Analysis | _____ |
| • Visual and Performance Arts Analysis and Practice | _____ |
|
Foundations of Society and Culture |
X |
| • Historical Analysis | <u>X</u> |
| • Social Analysis | <u>X</u> |
|
Foundations of Scientific Inquiry | |
| • Physical Science | _____ |
| <i>With Laboratory or Demonstration Component must be 5 units (or more)</i> | _____ |
| • Life Science | _____ |
| <i>With Laboratory or Demonstration Component must be 5 units (or more)</i> | _____ |

2. Briefly describe the rationale for assignment to foundation area(s) and subgroup(s) chosen.

This course explore the history and development of Muslim communities in the West (primarily in the U.S. and France). We consider how Muslims have formed institutions and are articulating their religious aspirations in the contexts of two very different secular democratic countries. The literary and artistic expression of Western Muslims (particularly poetry, film, and music) is one way to understand the history and development of this religious community and analysis of such sources forms an important part of the course.

3. "List faculty member(s) who will serve as instructor (give academic rank):

Asma Sayeed—Assistant Professor

Do you intend to use graduate student instructors (TAs) in this course? Yes X No _____

If yes, please indicate the number of TAs 2

4. Indicate when do you anticipate teaching this course over the next three years:

2010-2011	Fall	_____	Winter	_____	Spring	_____
	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	_____
2011-2012	Fall	_____	Winter	_____	Spring	_____
	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	_____
2012-2013	Fall	_____	Winter	X	Spring	_____
	Enrollment	_____	Enrollment	50	Enrollment	_____

5. GE Course Units

Is this an ***existing*** course that has been modified for inclusion in the new GE? Yes _____ No X

If yes, provide a brief explanation of what has changed. _____

Present Number of Units: N/A Proposed Number of Units: 5

6. Please present concise arguments for the GE principles applicable to this course.

❑ General Knowledge

This course will give students core literacy about Islam and about the history of Muslims in the United States. We will explore Islam in the United States as one of many diasporic religions which exist in the U.S., and as such students will develop a comparative religions framework to understand the history and experiences of American Muslims.

❑ Integrative Learning

The course integrates approaches from religious studies, history, anthropology, sociology, film and media studies and literary analysis. We examine primary sources as well as secondary source (anthropological and sociological studies) on Muslims in America.

❑ Ethical Implications

Students will discuss freedom of religious practice, expression of religious identity and how these fundamental interests intersect with (and at times conflict) with mandates for domestic security post September 11. We also discuss interpretations of secularism and religious expression in contemporary France and the United States and the implications of secularism for freedom of religious practice and expression.

❑ Cultural Diversity

Students will be immersed in readings, discussions, and course assignments that expose them to the cultural, religious and ethnic diversity of Muslims in the West. They will discuss how “American-ness” or “Western-ness” is defined and the ways in which we include or exclude the “Other” in our discourses about American and Western identities.

❑ Critical Thinking

Throughout the course, students will be required to discuss and write about the construction of Muslim identities by Muslims as well as non-Muslims in the West. Interrogating commonly-used terms and concepts such as “Western,” “Muslim,” “Eastern,” “Traditional” and “Modern” and arriving at more nuanced ways of understanding these terms are central to the course, and students will be able to apply these analyses in other courses.

❑ Rhetorical Effectiveness

Students are required to write papers examining and critiquing popular media depictions of Islam and to reflect on the agendas (scholarly, religious, political, or otherwise) that shape discourse about Muslims in the West. They are also required to do short presentations in class on topics of contemporary relevance (e.g. the headscarf controversy in France; the American Muslim hip-hop tradition; domestic security and mosques).

❑ Problem-solving

N/A

❑ Library & Information Literacy

An important goal of the course is to enable students to evaluate media and internet sources on Islam and Muslims. Given the proliferation of news stories and internet sources on these topics, I aim to teach students how to ask questions that will help them understand the background and perspectives of authors/scholars writing about topics relevant to the class and to critique and engage with a range of perspectives on issues related of Islam in the West.

(A) STUDENT CONTACT PER WEEK (if not applicable write N/A)

1. Lecture:	<u>3</u>	(hours)
2. Discussion Section:	<u>1</u>	(hours)
3. Labs:	<u>N/A</u>	(hours)
4. Experiential (service learning, internships, other):	<u>N/A</u>	(hours)

5. Field Trips: N/A (hours)

(A) TOTAL Student Contact Per Week 4 **(HOURS)**

(B) OUT-OF-CLASS HOURS PER WEEK (if not applicable write N/A)

- 1. General Review & Preparation: 2 (hours)
- 2. Reading 4 (hours)
- 3. Group Projects: 0 (hours)
- 4. Preparation for Quizzes & Exams: 2 (hours)
- 5. Information Literacy Exercises: 2 (hours)
- 6. Written Assignments: 1 (hours)
- 7. Research Activity: 1 (hours)

(B) TOTAL Out-of-class time per week 12 **(HOURS)**

GRAND TOTAL (A) + (B) must equal at least 15 hours/week 16 **(HOURS)**

ISLAM IN THE WEST

Professor A. Sayeed

sayeed@humnet.ucla.edu

NELC-388 Humanities

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Acquire understanding of the basic doctrines and practices of Islam
- Survey the history of Islam in the West (with a focus on the U.S. and France)
- Analyze issues relevant to the growth and development of selected Muslim communities in the West
- Expose students to diverse expressions of Islam through independent research on Muslim communities and institutions in the United States
- Develop stronger analytical writing and speaking skills

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Class Participation: 20%

Tests: 20%

Papers: 30%

Final Paper and Presentation: 30% [Paper 20%, Presentation 10%]

REQUIRED TEXTS

J.I. Smith, *Islam in America*, (Columbia University Press, 2000).

Malcolm X, *Autobiography*.

Mohja Kahf, *E-mails from Scheherazad* (University of Florida Press, 2003).

Joan W. Scott, *Politics of the Veil*, (Princeton University Press, 2007)

Other required readings will be posted on Moodle.

I. Introduction to Course & to Islam

1. Introduction
2. Islam and the Construction of mainstream Western perceptions
E. Said, *Covering Islam*, 3-73.
3. Mainstream Western perceptions (con't)
E. Said, *Covering Islam*, 74-125.
J. Hinnells, "The Study of Diaspora Religions," in *A New Handbook of Living Religions*. (Blackwell, 1997).
(Paper 1 due February 9th-Description posted on Moodle)
4. Introduction to Major Doctrines and Practices of Islam

J.I. Smith, *Islam in America*, Introduction, pp. 1-49
 D. Eck, "What is Pluralism," and "From Diversity to Pluralism," at
<http://www.pluralism.org/pluralism/meanings.php>
 Navigate this website (of the Harvard Pluralism Project) and familiarize
 yourselves with the Islam section under "America's Many Religions."

II. Historical Background

5. Islam in the U.S.
 J.I. Smith, *Islam in America*, pp. 50-103.
6. Muslim Slaves in the Americas
 S. Diouf, *Servants of Allah*, pp. 1-70.
Paper 1 due in class
7. African-American Islam
 Begin reading *Malcolm X*.
8. African-American Islam
 Finish reading *Malcolm X*.
9. Muslim Immigrants to the U.S. and Conversion to Islam
 M. Nimer, North American Muslim Resource Guide, pp. 21-37.
 G. Sabagh and M. Bozorgmehr, "Secular Immigrants," in
Muslim Communities in North America, pp. 445-73.
 A. Sachedina, "A Minority within a Minority, the Case of the Shi'a in North
 America," Y Haddad et al. eds, *Muslim Communities in North America*, pp. 3-14.
10. H. Aidi, "Jihadis in the Hood," *MERIP*, 2002, 36-43.
11. American Sufism
 "Sufism" from *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*
 Hermansen, "What's American about American Sufi Movements?"

III. Contemporary Issues

12. Islamic Law in the United States
 Khaled Abou el Fadl, "Striking a Balance: Islamic Legal Discourse on Muslim
 Minorities" in *Muslims on Americanization Path?*
 Noah Feldman, "Why Sharia?"
13. Gender, Family and Feminism
 J. I. Smith, *Islam in America*, 104-25.
 Shaykh, "Transforming Feminisms" (Recommended reading)
 Rouse, *Engaged Surrender*. (selected chapters)

14. New Identities and Syntheses

H. Samy Alim, "A New Research Agenda: Exploring Trans-Global Hip-Hop Umma" in *Muslim Networks: From Hajj to HipHop*.

Yusuf Nuruddin, "Five Percenters: Teenage Nation of Gods and Earths," in Haddad et al. eds, *Muslim Communities in North America*.

15. New Identities and Syntheses

Read the following introduction to Mohja Kahf and her poetry:

<http://www.arteeast.org/artenews/artenews-articles2006/september06/artenews-mohja-kahf.html>

M. Kahf, *Emails from Scheherazad*

16. New Identities and Syntheses

New Muslim Cool-Documentary screening; Paper 2 due

IV. Islam in Europe

17. Historical Overview

Waardenburg, *Muslims and Others*. (selected chapters)

18. Clash of Civilizations? The Cases of Bosnia and Spain

Hansen et al. eds, *Borders of Islam*. (selected chapters)

19. Muslims in France

J. W. Scott, *Politics of the Veil*, Introduction, Chapter 1-3.

20. Muslims in France and Conclusions

J.W. Scott, *Politics of the Veil*, Chapters 4, 5, Conclusion



New Course Proposal

	Arabic M107 Islam in the West	
Course Number	Arabic M107	
Multiple Listed With	Study of Religion M107 Islamics M107	
Title	Islam in the West	
Short Title	ISLAM IN THE WEST	
Units	Fixed: 5	
Grading Basis	Letter grade or Passed/Not Passed	
Instructional Format	Lecture - 3 hours per week Discussion - 1 hours per week	
TIE Code	LECS - Lecture (Plus Supplementary Activity) [T]	
GE Requirement	Yes	
Major or Minor Requirement	No	
Requisites	None	
Course Description	Acquire understanding of the basic doctrines and practices of Islam. Survey the history of Islam in the West (with a focus on the U.S. and France). Analyze issues relevant to the growth and development of selected Muslim communities in the West. Expose students to diverse expressions of Islam through independent research on Muslim communities and institutions in the United States. Develop stronger analytical writing and speaking skills.	
Justification	Our new professor, Dr. Asma Sayeed is preparing curriculum and coursework that focuses on Islam. This is a vital course for our department, as well as those who are interested in studying Religion.	
Syllabus	File Islam in the West-UCLA-New course Syllabus.pdf was previously uploaded. You may view the file by clicking on the file name.	
Supplemental Information		
Grading Structure	Class Participation: 20% Tests: 20% Papers: 30% Final Paper and Presentation: 30% [Paper 20%, Presentation 10%]	
Effective Date	Winter 2013	
Instructor	Name	Title
	Asma Sayeed	Assistant Professor

Quarters Taught	<input type="checkbox"/> Fall	<input type="checkbox"/> Winter	<input type="checkbox"/> Spring	<input type="checkbox"/> Summer
Department	Near Eastern Languages & Cultures			
Contact	Name	E-mail		
Routing Help	ESTHER CHANG	estchang@humnet.ucla.edu		

ROUTING STATUS

Role:	Registrar's Scheduling Office
Status:	Pending Action
Role:	FEC School Coordinator - Castillo, Myrna Dee Figurac (mcastillo@college.ucla.edu) - 45040
Status:	Returned for Additional Info on 10/3/2012 8:59:07 AM
Changes:	No Changes Made
Comments:	Routing to Doug Thomson in the Registrar's Office
Role:	FEC Chair or Designee - Meranze, Michael (meranze@history.ucla.edu) - 52671
Status:	Approved on 9/23/2012 10:44:09 AM
Changes:	No Changes Made
Comments:	No Comments
Role:	L&S FEC Coordinator - Castillo, Myrna Dee Figurac (mcastillo@college.ucla.edu) - 45040
Status:	Returned for Additional Info on 9/18/2012 9:10:36 AM
Changes:	No Changes Made
Comments:	Routing to Michael Meranze for FEC approval
Role:	Dean College/School or Designee - Schaberg, David C (dschaberg@college.ucla.edu) - 54856, 50259
Status:	Approved on 9/13/2012 10:47:17 AM
Changes:	No Changes Made
Comments:	No Comments
Role:	L&S FEC Coordinator - Castillo, Myrna Dee Figurac (mcastillo@college.ucla.edu) - 45040
Status:	Returned for Additional Info on 9/12/2012 10:27:57 AM
Changes:	No Changes Made
Comments:	Routing to David Schaberg for Humanities approval
Role:	Department Chair or Designee - Bakhos, Carol Ann (cbakhos@humnet.ucla.edu) - 61384

Status: Approved on 9/10/2012 10:32:27 AM

Changes: No Changes Made

Comments: No Comments

Role: Department Chair or Designee - Schniedewind, William M
(williams@humnet.ucla.edu) - 54165

Status: Approved on 9/7/2012 4:35:03 PM

Changes: No Changes Made

Comments: No Comments

Role: Initiator/Submitter - Chang, Esther S (estchang@humnet.ucla.edu) - 54165

Status: Submitted on 9/7/2012 4:08:55 PM

Comments: Initiated a New Course Proposal

[Back to Course List](#)

[Main Menu](#) [Inventory](#) [Reports](#) [Help](#) [Exit](#)
[Registrar's Office](#) [MyUCLA](#) [SRWeb](#)

Comments or questions? Contact the Registrar's Office at
cims@registrar.ucla.edu or (310) 206-7045