COURSE OUTLINE

English 266 - The Modern Islamic World Through Film and Literature

Revised by Ali Zaidi (March 2015)
A. **TITLE**: The Modern Islamic World Through Film and Literature

B. **COURSE NUMBER**: ENG 266

C. **CREDIT HOURS**: 3 credit hours

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE**: Determined by semester

E. **COURSE LENGTH**: One full semester

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED**: Fall, Spring, or Summer

G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY**:  
   This course consists of forty-five instructional hours.

H. **CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION**:  
   This course introduces the student to the history, cultures, and politics of the modern Islamic world with a special emphasis on film and literature. Readings will include poets such as Rumi and Hafiz as well as novelists such as Mahfouz and Farah. Films will include those of such Persian and Arab directors as Majidi, Kiarostami, and Chahine.

I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-COURSES**: Must have passed Expository Writing or Oral and Written expression.

J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES)**:  
   By the end of this course, the student will:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objective</th>
<th>Institutional SLO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Identify key features of Shia and Sunni schools of Islam.</td>
<td>2. Crit. Thinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Describe the function of sound, rhythm, and repetition in poetry of the Islamic world, as well as recognize such concepts as symbol, simile, metaphor, diction, tone, understatement, hyperbole, irony, paradox, and ambiguity.</td>
<td>1. Communication 3. Prof. Competence</td>
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<td>c. Analyze imagery and metaphor in film</td>
<td>2. Critical Thinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Recognize and remember seminal events in the history of the Islamic World.</td>
<td>2. Critical Thinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Distinguish different forms of cultural identity as expressed in the fiction of writers from Muslim countries.</td>
<td>4. Professional Competence</td>
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K. **TEXTS**: Text to be selected by the instructor.
Sample texts:


_____________. *Children of the Alley*. Anchor, 1996.


Sample Films:


*Cairo Station*, Dir. Youssef Chahine, Typecast Releasing, 2009.


L. REFERENCES


M. EQUIPMENT: Audiovisual equipment
N. GRADING METHOD:  A-F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:  Students will be graded on the basis of examinations, research papers, and class participation.

P. DETAILED TOPICAL OUTLINE

**TOPICS – Modern Islamic World Through Film and Literature**

A) Schism Between Shia and Sunni Islam

B) Languages of the Islamic World: Arabic, Persian, Kurdish, Azeri, Balochi, Pashto, and Turkmen, Urdu, Hindi

C) Political and Military Conflict in the Middle East

D) Modern Fiction and Poetry in the Islamic World

E) Colonial and Postcolonial Indonesia

F) The Overthrow of the Shah and the Creation of a Theocratic State in Iran

G) Civil War in Afghanistan

H) Cinema in Egypt and Iran

I) The Partition of India