Women And Gender in Islam  
Course Outline  
Spring 2018

WOMEN AND ISLAM –Course Assignments  
UNDERGRADUATE  
Spring 2018

Mondays: 10th Period– (5:10 PM – 6:00 PM) AND 134  
Wednesdays: 10th & 11th periods (5:10 -7:05PM)–AND 134

Please Note: Some of you might want to purchase a Qur’an for your personal use or you may simply want to use the Qur’an on line from time to time. You do not NEED to purchase a Qur’an for this class but if you want one, I recommend the Yusef Ali Translation of the Qur’an as it has a very good Commentary that combines history, hadith narratives and material from the Sira (biographies) of the Prophet and his companions if you plan to purchase one. There are full translations on line with recitations in both Arabic and English. I think these are useful as you HEAR the Qur’an which is how it is really supposed to be experienced.

Class One, Monday January 8th  
Introduction of the syllabus for the class and the members of the Class.

Class Two, Wednesday. January 10th  
Topic: The cultural/religious backdrop for the emergence & development of Islam: Viewing First Segment of Inside Islam w/discussion. I am sending a pdf of the book: A Brief History of Islam for your perusal. I urge those who have not taken an Intro to Islam class and are not Muslim to read this text. I am also sending a link to this film which is on You tube. Please view the complete film on your own time. I am posting Study Questions for the Film on Canvas and sending via our Class List. which will help you focus on the most important information in the film.

Monday. January 15th  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Observed

Class Three Wednesday January 17th  
Topic: Women’s Role & the Rise of Islam  
Reading from Women and Gender in Islam  
Introduction & Part I  
The Pre-Islamic Middle East, Chpts. 1 & 2 Pgs. 1-37.

Class Four Monday. January 22nd  
Reading from Women and Gender in Islam.  

Class Five Wednesday. January 24th Topic: Women’s Loss of Status in Islamic Societies

Hand in or E-mail the four Dates you have selected for writing your reaction papers. Also from these four dates, give me your 1st and 2nd choice for your oral presentation of the readings for that class date. I will prepare the master list from your submissions and e-mail the list to the class.

**Class Six Monday, January 29th**
View documentary: Title: *Islam: Empire of Faith, pt. 3, The Ottomans*

**Class Seven Wednesday, January 31st**

**Class Eight, Monday, February 5th**

**Class Nine Wednesday, February 7th**
**Topic: Women’s Status in Islamic Law,**

**Class Ten Monday, February 12th**
**Topic: Women’s Status in Islamic Law,**

**Class Eleven Wednesday February 14th**
**Topic: Same Sex Intimacy in Islamic Law**
Readings from *Sexual Ethics & Islam*, Chpt. 4,”Prohibited Acts & Forbidden Partners:…” pgs.56-74 & Chapter 5, “Don’t Ask; Don’t Tell…”pgs.75-96. Documentary TBA

Book titles for book review are due today. I suggest that this Book be your primary source for your Research Project. The title can be given to me printed or e-mailed to me.

**Class Twelve Monday, February 19th**
**Topic: - Female Genital Mutilation**
Readings from *Sexual Ethics & Islam*, Chpt. 6, “Reduce but do not destroy”…pgs. 97-111 & NY Times Series of Articles on FGM: Type link into your browser -
Class Thirteen, Wednesday. February 21st Topic: Female Bodies & Male Agency
Readings from *Sexual Ethics & Islam*, Chpt. 7, “If you have touched women,” pgs.112-134
Chpt.8, “The Prophet Muhammad, his Beloved Aishah and Modern Sensibilities”, pgs.135-150

Class Fourteen Monday. February 26th Topic: – Sexual Ethics

**Topic: History of Muslim Women’s Feminism**
Readings from *Feminism in Islam* (new book)

Class Fifteen Wednesday. February 28th Topic: History of Muslim Women’s Feminism

February 28th DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC & BEGINNING BIBLIOGRAPHY (Turned in or e-mailed to me)

SPRING BREAK
MARCH 3RD – 10TH
ENJOY

Class Sixteen, Monday, March 12th Topic: - History of Muslim Women’s Feminism Cont’d

Class Seventeen Wed. March 14th Topic: - History of Muslim Women’s Feminism Cont’d

Class Eighteen, Monday, March 19th Topic: - Part II: Muslim World – Late 20th -21st Centuries in History of Muslim Women’s Feminism cont’d: Readings from *Feminism in Islam*, Chpt. 9,
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Class Nineteen Wed. March 21st  Topic: - Rethinking Male Authority in Islam

Class Twenty Monday, March 26th  Topic: - Rethinking Male Authority in Islam

Class Twenty-One Wed. March 28th  Topic: - Rethinking Male Authority in Islam
Cont’d. Readings from *Men in Charge?* Chpt.5, “Islamic Law, Sufism and Gender,” pgs. 106-131, Chpt.6, Qiwamah and Wilayah as Legal Postulates,” pgs. 132-162 & *Are We Up To The Challenge? The Need for A Radical Re- Ordering of the Islamic Discourse on Women* by G. Z. Simmons, pgs 235-247. The chapter will be sent as a pdf file via our Course List & posted on Canvas.) View Documentary, Title: *The Muslims I know.*

Class Twenty-Two Mon. April 2nd  Topic: Rethinking Male Authority in Islam

Class Twenty-Three Wed. April 4th  Topic: Rethinking Male Authority in Islam

Class Twenty-Four Mon. April 9th

**Printed Copy of Book Reviews Due Today**
Students will begin making their oral presentations of their Book Reviews with hand-outs today.

Class Twenty-Four Wed. April 11th
Continue with student presentations of book reviews

Class Twenty-Five Mon. April 16th

Continue with student presentations of book reviews AND Begin Presentation of Research Topics with Hand-outs

Class Twenty-Six Wed. April 18th

Continue Presentations of Research Topics

Class Twenty-Seven Mon. April 23rd

Continue Research Paper Presentations & BEGIN WRAP UP DISCUSSION

Class Twenty-Eight Wed. April 25

LAST DAY OF CLASS
WRAP UP DISCUSSION & CLASS PARTY

RESEARCH Papers ARE DUE IN MY OFFICE
Monday April 30th by 5:00 PM

Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons, Ph.D.
107-A Anderson Hall
Prvt Line 273-2940
zoharah@ufl.edu