WOMEN AND ISLAM – Course Assignments
GRADUATE
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. Or you may simply want to use the Qur’an on line. For a printed version, 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. Readings from Women in Middle Eastern History, Chpts. 1 & 2, pgs 1-42.

Class Four Monday. January 22nd Reading from Women and Gender in Islam.
Part Two – Founding Discourses, Chpt. 3 Women and The Rise of Islam, pgs. 41-63 & Chpt 4 The Transitional Age, pgs 64-79. Readings from Women in Middle Eastern
History, Chpts 3, 4 & 5.


Hand in or E-mail the five 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 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. Additional chapters on Islam and Homosexuality will be posted. 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

Class Thirteen, Wednesday. February 21st Topic: Female Bodies & Male Agency

Class Fourteen Monday. February 26th Topic: -- Sexual Ethics
Readings from Sex & Society in Islam, Chpt 3, “Contraception Theory in Muslim Thought,” pgs. 39-39. (Chapters will be e-mailed & posted.)

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
Readings from *Feminism in Islam*, Chpt 1, “Competing Agenda: Feminism, Islam, and the State In 19th & 20th Century Egypt,” pgs. 17-54, Chpt 2, “Women, Qasim Amin, and the Rise of Feminist Discourse,” pgs. 55-64. Qasim Amin’s books, *The Liberation of Woman* and *The New Woman* will be sent as pdfs & posted on canvas (These are short books that created tremendous controversy in Egypt when they were written during the Colonial Era.

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

**SPRING BREAK\nMARCH 3RD – 10TH\nENJOY**

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 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

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

Class Twenty-Three Wed. April 4thth Topic: Rethinking Male Authority in Islam
Cont’d. Readings from *Men in Charge?* Chpt 9, “Understanding *Qiwamah* & *Wilayah* through Life Stories,” pgs. 219-256 & Chpt 10, “The Ethics of *Tawhid* over the Ethics of *Qiwamah*,” pgs.256-274.

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
Women And Gender in Islam                  Course Outline                  Spring 2018

Prvt Line 273-2940
zoharah@ufl.edu