

APPLICATION FOR NEW COURSE

Submitted by the College of Arts & Sciences

Date 11-1-03

Department/Division offering course: **Modern and Classical Language, Russian and Eastern Studies**

2. Proposed designation and Bulletin description of this course:

(a) Prefix and Number **RAE 338**

(b) Title* **Women and Islam**" (if applicable sub. req.)

*NOTE: If the title is longer than 24 characters (including spaces), write a sensible title (not exceeding 24 characters) for use in transcripts: **n/a**

(c) Lecture/Discussion hours per week **3**

(d) Laboratory hours per week

(e) Studio hours per week

(f) Credits **3**

(g) Course description:

A survey of women's issues related to Islam and contemporary Muslim culture including the perception of women in Islam, the role and rights of women in Islam, female circumcision, honor killing women's dress. The course will discuss the viewpoints of the Muslim traditionalists, modernists, western feminists and the emerging Islamic feminists.

(h) Prerequisites (if any): **None**

(i) May be repeated to a maximum of _____ (if applicable)

4. To be cross-listed as:

Prefix & No

Signature, Chairperson, cross-listing department

5. Effective Date: **Fall 2004**

6. Course to be offered

(a) Fall

7. Will the course be offered each year?

(b) No

(Explain if not annually): **To maximize student enrollment.**

8. Why is this course needed: **This course is needed to fill the gaps in the curriculum of the new Islamic Studies minor, which was initiated in Fall 2002. Present courses provide a solid foundation for the minor, including courses on the religion itself, history and the Arabic language. However, after review of the present courses, the principle professors in the minor, Ihsan Bagby and Suleiman Darrat, felt very strongly that the curriculum needed to be broadened to include courses that discuss in depth the contemporary issues facing Islam and Muslims—courses that investigate the dynamic process of change occurring within the religion and also the often confrontational relations between Islam and the West. The issues of women and fundamentalism/reform are undoubtedly the most critical and controversial issues in Islam and the Muslim world today. Another related reason is that there is only one other 300 level course in the minor, and therefore it was felt that more 300 level courses should be added. The proposed course on Gender Issues in Islam, therefore, is an essential course in providing a well-rounded curriculum in the Islamic Studies minor.**

9. (a) By whom will the course be taught? **Dr. Ihsan Bagby**

(b) Are facilities for teaching the course now available?

(a) Yes

If not, what plans have been made for providing them?

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10. What enrollment may be reasonably anticipated? **20**
11. Will this course serve students in the Department primarily? **(b) No**
Will it be of service to a significant number of students outside the Department? **(a) Yes**
If so, explain
Students in women's studies, political science and history will take the course.
- Will the course serve as a University Studies Program course? **(b) No**
If yes, under what Area?
12. Check the category most applicable to this course:
traditional; offered in corresponding departments elsewhere;
 relatively new, now being widely established
not yet to be found in many (or any) other universities
13. Is this course applicable to the requirements for at least one degree or certificate at the University of Kentucky? **(b) No**
14. Is this course part of a proposed new program? **(b) No**
If yes, which?
15. Will adding this course change the degree requirements in one or more programs? **(b) No**
If yes, explain the change(s) below:
16. Attach a list of the major teaching objectives of the proposed course, outline and/or reference list to be used.
17. If the course is a 100-200 level course, please submit evidence (e.g., correspondence) that the Community College System has been consulted.
18. Within the Department, who should be contacted for further information about the proposed course?
Name/e-mail: **Ihsan Bagby iabagb2@uky.edu** Phone Extension: **257-9638**

*NOTE: Approval of this course will constitute approval of the program change unless other program modifications are proposed.

APPLICATION FOR NEW COURSE

Signatures of Approval:

Theodore Fiedler

Department Chair

William

Dean of the College

Gene Huggs

*Undergraduate Council

*University Studies

*Graduate Council

*Academic Council for the Medical Center

*Senate Council

*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate

11-13-03

Date

JAN 16 2004

Date

NOV 21 2003

Date of Notice to the Faculty

3-9-2004

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date of Notice to Univ. Senate

ACTION OTHER THAN APPROVAL:

GENDER ISSUES IN ISLAM TEACHING OBJECTIVES

To increase student sensitivity to other cultures by immersing them in the critical issue of women's rights in Islam and Muslim culture. Part of that sensitivity includes understanding the issues that Muslim women face and their various points of view and tactics in addressing these issues.

2. To expose students to the complexity and difficulty of the myriad issues of women in Muslim culture, such as the right of women to participation in society, female genital mutilation, honor killing, dress, etc. Hopefully this will give students a greater appreciation of the efforts of women and men to affect change in society.
3. To expose students to the process of change that Islam and Islamic Law are experiencing as it moves from a more traditional view of women to a more modern view. Students should learn how change occurs within a particular cultural context and is, therefore, unique to that culture. In this regard students will learn how feminism can also wear Islamic garb.
4. To give a sense to students of how societies change—that societies are not static. Students should appreciate how ideology, social factors, culture, economic forces and brilliant individuals produce change.

**GENDER ISSUE IN ISLAM
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Student should be able to:

1. Describe the four trends in Muslim thinking concerning women's issues: traditionalism, neo-traditionalism, Islamic feminism and secular feminism.
2. Compare the four trends of Muslim thinking concerning women and articulate the student's own position concerning the issue of women in Islam.
3. Describe one Muslim woman's point of view based on a reading of that woman's life.
4. Identify and describe the critical issues concerning women in the Muslim world: education, jobs, dress, honor killing, family planning, marriage, divorce, female circumcision, etc.
5. Analyze in depth one particular critical issue concerning women in the Muslim world.

SYLLABUS

RAE 338 WOMEN AND ISLAM

Instructor: Dr. Ihsan Bagby
Office: Patterson, Rm. 1075
Contact Info: 257-9638 (office) iabagb2@uky.edu
Office Hours: MW 11:00-12:00, TR 1:45-2:45

Course Description:

This course is a survey of women's issues related to Islam and contemporary Muslim culture including the perception of women in Islam, the role and rights of women in Islam, female circumcision, honor killing and women's dress. The course will discuss the viewpoints of the Muslim traditionalists, modernists, western feminists and the emerging Islamic feminists.

Required Texts:

Qur'an and Woman (1999) Amina Wadud. Oxford University Press.
Windows of Faith: Muslim Women Scholar-Activists in North America (2000) Gisela Webb, Editor. Syracuse University Press.

Course Requirements and Grading

- 10% Class participation and attendance (deduction after 3 unexcused absences)
- 50% One book review, one essay (5-7 pages) and two oral presentations based on the book review and essay.
- 10% Quizzes
- 10% Mid-Term Exam
- 20% Final Exam

Course Outline:

1. Perception of Women in the Islamic Texts and Islamic Law
2. Rights and Role of Women in Islam
3. Family Planning
4. Honor Killing
5. Women's Dress
6. Female Circumcision

Grading Scale

- A 90-100%
- B 80-99%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 0-59%

DETAILED SCHEDULE

- August 28
Reading Introduction to Islam and Subject
Windows, Ch. 1 “Alternative Quranic Interpretation” pp. 3-21
Handout: *Islam A Global Civilization*
- Sept. 2-4
Reading Introduction to Islam and Subject
Windows, Ch. 2 “Muslim Women’s Islamic Higher Learning as a Human Right” pp. 22-47
- Sept. 9-11
Reading Perception of Women in Islamic Texts
Windows, Ch. 4 “Woman’s Self-Identity in Quran and Islamic Law” pp. 72-101.
- Sept. 16-18
Reading Perception of Women in Islamic Texts
Quran and Woman, Preface (ix-xix), Introduction (1-14) and Ch. 1 “In the Beginning” (15-28)
Quiz Tuesday, Sept. 16
- Sept. 23-28
Reading Perception of Women in Islamic Texts
Quran and Woman, Ch. 2 “Quranic View of Woman” pp 29-47
- Sept. 30-Oct. 2
Reading Rights and Role of Muslim Women
Quran and Woman, Ch. 4 “Rights and Roles Woman” pp. 62-93
Windows, Appendix A “Human Rights in the Quranic Perspective” pp 241-248
Quiz Tuesday, Sept. 30
Oral Present Tuesday and Thursday
- 7-9
Reading Rights and Role of Muslim Women
Windows, Ch. 3 “Introduction Muslim Women’s Rights” pp 51-71
Book Review Due Thursday, Oct. 9
Oral Present Tuesday and Thursday
- 14-16
Oral Present Mid-Term Tuesday
Mid-Term Thursday, Oct. 16

Oct 21-23	Islamic Family Planning
Reading	<i>Windows</i> "Is Family Planning Permitted in Islam" Rifat Hassan, pp. 226-240
Oct. 28-30	Honor Killing
Reading	<i>Windows</i> , "Her Honor" Quraishi, pp. 102-135 Handout: "Honorable Murder" L. Reserve
Nov. 4-6	Women's Dress
Quiz	Nov. 4
Reading	Handouts: "Rethinking Muslim Women and the Veil" Katherine Bullock
Nov. 11-13	Women's Education
Reading	<i>Windows</i> , Ch. 2 "Muslim Women's Islamic Higher Learning as a Human Right" pp. 22-47
Nov. 18-20	Female Circumcision
Quiz	Nov. 18
Reading	Handouts: "Sister in Affliction: Circumcision and Infibulation" Raqiya H. Abdalla
Oral Pres	Begin Nov. 20
Nov. 25	Marriage and Divorce
Essay Due	Nov. 25
Reading	Handouts: "Divorce and Muslim Women" S.A.H. Moinuddin "Marriage and Islam" Y. Qaradawi
Nov. 27	Thanksgiving
2-4	Marriage and Divorce
Dec. 8-10	Women in the Work Place
Reading	Handouts: "A Women's Right to Work" Fatimah Yusuf
14-18	Final

WOMEN AND ISLAM BIBLIOGRAPHY

GENERAL WORKS

Abd al-Ati, Hammud. (1977) *The Family Structure in Islam*. Indianapolis: American Trust Publications.

Afkhami, M. (Editor) (1995). *Faith and Freedom: Women's Human Rights in the Muslim World*. London: I.B. Tauris Publishers.

Ahmed, Leila. (1992) *Women and Gender in Islam: Historical Roots of a Modern Debate*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Badawi, Jamal. (1995). *Gender Equity in Islam: Basic Principles*. Indianapolis: American Trust Publications.

Badran, Margot. (1995) *Feminists, Islam, and Nation: Gender and the Making of Modern Egypt*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Brown, Daniel W. (1996). *Rethinking Tradition in Modern Islamic Thought*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cooke, Miriam. (2001). *Women Claim Islam: Creating Islamic Feminism through Literature*. New York: Routledge

El Saadawi, Nawal. (1980). *The Hidden Face of Eve: Women in the Arab World*. Boston: Beacon Press.

Esposito, John L and Yvonne Haddad, eds. (1998). *Islam, Gender and Social Change*. London: Oxford University Press.

Fernea, Elizabeth Warnock and Basima Qattan Bezirgan, eds. (1977) *Middle Eastern Muslim Women Speak*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

al-Ghazzali, Zainab. (1987). *Return of the Pharoah*. Leicester: The Islamic Foundation.

Goodwin, Jan. (1995). *The Price of Honor: Muslim Women Lift the Veil of Silence of the Islamic World*. New York: Penguin

al-Hibri, Aziza. (Editor) (1982). *Women and Islam*. Oxford: Pergamaon Press

Jeffery, Patricia and Amrita Basu, eds. (1997) *Appropriating Gender: Women's Activism and Politicized Religion in South Asia*. New York: Routledge.

Karim, W.J. (Editor) (1995). *Male and Female in Developing Southeast Asia*. London: Berg Publishers

Kassamali, Noor. (1998) *Women in Muslim Societies: Diversity within Unity*. London: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Mernissi, Fatima. (1991). *The Veil and the Male Elite: A Feminist Interpretation of Women's Rights in*

Islam. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.

Roald, Anne Sofie. (2001). *Women in Islam: The Western Experience*. London: Routledge

Wadud-Muhsin, Amina. (1992). *Qur'an and Women*. Kuala Lumpur: Penerbit Fajar Bakri.

Yamani, Mai, ed. (1996) *Feminism and Islam: Legal and Literary Perspectives*. New York: New York University Press.

Autobiographical/Biographies in the UK Library

Border Passage: from Cairo to America-a woman's journey. Leila Ahmed.
HQ 1793 .Z75 A55 1999

Harem years: the memoirs of an Egyptian Feminist (1879-1924). Huda Shaarawi
HQ 1793 .S5 AS 1987

Khul-Khaal, Five Egyptian Women Tell Their Stories. Nayra Atiya HQ 1793 .A87 1982

Muslim Women Speak. Elizabeth Fernea HQ 1170 .M53

Do they hear you when you cr. Fauziya Kassindra and Layli Miller Bashir JV 6601 .K37 1998

Life Histories of African Women. Patricia W. Romero HQ 1787 .A3 L54 1988

Voices from Iran: The Changing Lives of Iranian Women. Mahnaz Kousha
HQ 1735.2 .K68 2002

Behind the Burqa: Our Life in Afghanistan and How We Escaped to Freedom. Bulima
And Hala as told to Batya Swift Yasyn DS 371.3 Y37 2002

Three Swahili Women: life histories from Mombasa, Kenya. Sarah Mirza and
Margaret Strobel HQ 1796.5 .W3613 1989

Doing Daily Battle: interviews with Moroccan women. Fatima Mernissi
HQ 1791 .M3713 1988

In Search of Shadows: conversations with Egyptian women. Wedad Zenie-Ziegler
HQ 1793 .Z4613 1988

Anthropology/Sociology

Patience and Power: Women in a Moroccan Village. Susan S. Davis
HQ 1791 .D32 1983

Women without Men: Gender and Marginality in an Algerian Town. Willy Jansen
HQ 800.4 .A4 J350

- Nubians of West Aswan: Village Women in the Midst of Change.* Anne M. Jennings
DT 159.6 .N83 J45 1995
- Behind the Veil in Arabia: Women in Oman.* Unni Wikan HQ 1731 .Z8 S838
- The Women of Nar [Yemen].* Joyce Raper HQ 1780 .N37 R66 1974
- Daughters of Allah: Among Moslem Women of Kurdistan.* Henny H. Hansen
HQ 1779 .K8 H33
- Accommodating Protest: working women, the new veiling and change in Cairo.*
Arlene Eloive Macleod HQ 1793 .Z9 C356
- Qatari Women, past and present.* Abeer Abu Saud HQ 1732 .A63 1985
- Women's Voices in A Man's World: Women and the Patorial Tradition in Northern
Somali Orature c. 1899-1980.* Lidwien Kapteijns GR 356.3 .K36 1999
- Women in a borderland: managing Muslim identity when Morocco meets Spain.*
Eva Evers Rosander HQ 1694 .C48 R670 1991
- Daughters of Another Path: expressions of American women choosing Islam.* Carol
Anderson Anway. BP 170.5 > A1 A69 1996
- Women of Amran [Yemen]: a Middle Eastern Ethnography Study.* Susan Dorsky
HQ 1730.7 .Z8 A473 1986
- Both Right and Left Handed: Arab women talk about their lives.* Bouthaina Shaaban
HQ 1784 .S47 1991
- Defiance and Compliance: negotiating gender in low-income Cairo.* Heba Aziz El-Kholy
HQ 1793 .Z9 C353 2002
- Three Women of Herat.* Veronica Doubleday HQ 1735.6 .D68/1990

ARTS AND SCIENCES COLLEGE COUNCIL/CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

INVESTIGATOR REPORT

INVESTIGATING BODY Humanities COURSE, MAJOR, DEGREE or PROGRAM RAE 338
(Area) (department or college)
DATE FOR COUNCIL REVIEW Jan. 16, 2004 CATEGORY: NEW, CHANGE, DROP

INSTRUCTIONS: This completed form will accompany the course application to the Graduate/Undergraduate Council(s) in order to avoid needless repetition of investigation. The following questions are included as an outline only. Be as specific and as brief as possible. If the investigation was routine, please indicate this. The term "course" is used to indicate one course, a series of courses or a program, whichever is in order. Return the form to David Leep Associate Dean, 231 Patterson Office Tower for forwarding to the Council(s). ATTACH SUPPLEMENT IF NEEDED.

List any modifications made in the course proposal as submitted originally and why.

2. If no modifications were made, review considerations that arose during the investigation and the resolutions.

3. List contacts with program units on the proposal and the considerations discussed therein.

4. Additional information as needed.

5. A&S Area C Curriculum Committee Recommendation:

APPROVE, APPROVE WITH RESERVATION, OR DISAPPROVE

6. A&S Council Recommendation:

APPROVE, APPROVE WITH RESERVATION, OR DISAPPROVE

7. Karen Petrone Date: 1/16/04
A&S Council Investigator, Karen Petrone