

**University of Florida
Department of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures**

**ABT3500, Section 34C9
Arabic Culture
Spring 2019**

Instructor: Khadidja Arfi
Meeting Time: T 2nd and 3rd periods (8:30a.m-10: 25a.m)
R 2nd period (8:30 a.m-9: 20 a.m.)
Room: TUR 2306

Office Hours: Tuesday from 10:40-12:00 p.m. and
Thursday from 9:30a.m-11: 00 a.m.) or by appointment
Office: Pugh Hall 340
E-Mail: karfi@ufl.edu

Required book:

Stewart, Dona J. 2013. *The Middle East Today: Political, Geographical, and Cultural Perspectives*. 2nd Edition. London and New York: Routledge.

In addition, the following are available in Library West either on reserve or as e-books:
Video (VHS/DVD)

1. **Science and Islam – Three Parts** (DVD 8706)
2. **A Veiled Revolution** (DVD 2049)
3. **Islam, empire of faith** (DVD 3976)
4. **Islamic Mosques** (DVD: NA4670.I85 2006)
5. **Paradise Now** (VIDEO 3396)
6. **Reel Bad Arabs** (DVD 6816)
7. **The Arab World Part 2- The Historic Memory** (VHS Video 3643 pt.2)
8. **When the world spoke Arabic: the golden age of Arab Civilization-The Muslim town** (VHS Video DS36.85.W44 2001)

Books

9. **Women and Islam: Critical Concepts in Sociology – Edited by Haideh Moghissi**. Three volumes (HQ1170 .W555 2005)
10. **Science and Islam: A History – Ehsam Masood**. Available as an ebook through UF Library West. Multiple users may access the book simultaneously.
11. **Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa (e-book)-Philip Mattar**
12. **Islam and Democracy-Fatema Mernissi** (BP163.M47 1992)
13. **Middle East Patterns: Places, Peoples, and Politics-Held, Colbert** (DS44 .H418 2000)
14. **Muslims: their religious beliefs and practices-Andrew Rippin** (BP161.2 .R53 2005)

15. **Nation, Society, and Culture in North Africa-James McDougall (ed.)** (DT176.N38 2003)
16. **The Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa-David E. Long, Bernard Reich, and Mark Gasiorowski (eds.)** (DS62.8. G68 2007)
17. **The Islamic World-Andrew Rippin (ed.)** (DS35.63. I87 2008)
18. **The Arab World: Society, Culture, and State-Halim Barakat** (DS36.88. B36 1993)

Course description:

This course is a survey of Arabic culture from the sixth century to the present. It mainly focuses on Islamic civilization and culture of the people of the Middle East and North Africa.

Course Objectives:

By the conclusion of this course, it is expected that students will:

- have deeper understanding of the Arabs’ culture, with special reference to history, religion, society, politics, and art, as well as to the Arabs’ contributions to medicine, science, mathematics and architecture;
- be familiar with and be able to assess and evaluate misconceptions about Arabs and Arabic culture;
- develop deeper understanding of own culture through comparison with the target culture;
- Get a direction toward more research in the emerging academic field of the anthropology of the Arab World

N.B. The course has a writing requirement (WR) – 6000 words.

Mena Geography Fact	300
Discussions	2700
Book Review	1000
Final Paper	2000

6000 words WR as shown in detail below

I will have office hours two days a week right after class. Please do come to see me if you need help.

Course requirements:

<i>9 discussions</i>	<i>2x9= 18</i>
<i>8 quizzes</i>	<i>2x8= 16</i>
<i>3 presentations</i>	<i>5x3= 15</i>
<i>Book review</i>	<i>= 15</i>
<i>paper (topic 2 + final 28)</i>	<i>= 30</i>
<i>participation</i>	<i>= 06</i>

Assignments:

Discussions: 18 points

Discussion posts will be held via CANVAS. Each student must submit a new discussion thread (about 250 words) and respond to an existing thread (50 words or more). Discussions are assigned between January 15th – April 20th (see dates in schedule). This is an opportunity for you to react to and reflect on specific themes in the readings and a chance to share ideas with your peers and raise questions for them to try to answer on their responses. These ideas and more would be further discussed during class period.

There are 9 scheduled discussions and they count toward your WR so pay attention to content, grammar and structure (**300 x 9 = 2700 words**).

Presentations: (15 point)

1) **Country Presentation** (5 points)

Groups of few students will be assigned a country each to present on January, Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th as shown in schedule. Members of the group are expected to give the class a 10-15 minutes PowerPoint presentation to inform us briefly about their country (its history, geography, demography, social issues, current situation, and issues that grabbed your attention personally).

2) **Book Review Presentation** (5 points)

Groups of few students will present a summary of their selected book review in 15 minutes scheduled on March 19-21 leaving ample time for discussion and questions.

3) **Student's Final Project Presentation** (5 points)

Each student presents the findings of her/his research/fieldwork related to the final paper topic scheduled on April 23-25.

Papers:

1. Mena Geography Facts in PowerPoint (300 words) (1 point)

2. Book review (14 points) (5 pages long or 1000 words) due on Saturday March 23rd before midnight via Canvas.

3. Final paper

- Final project topic and proposal due February 28 or earlier (2 points)

- Final paper (28 points) (10 – 12 pages long or 2000 – 2200 words). Students should use at least 3-5 academic resources, including class readings, and other materials. Students may use any recognizable academic format for citation (e.g. APA). double-spaced, font Times 12, 1" margin all around). Students submit final papers April 28th or earlier via CANVAS Turnitin.

Please visit the UF Reading and Writing Center if you need extra assistance in writing (see “tutoring” section below). You have to score C or higher on these writing assignments in order to fulfill the writing requirement.

Quizzes:

Students take 8 quizzes from Week 3 – Week 14 almost every Thursday as shown in schedule. Each quiz is based on that week’s lecture and resources and knowledge accumulated in previous weeks.

Important: To satisfy the writing requirement for this class, you need to earn C (73-76) or higher.

Grading Scale (& GPA equivalent):

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
100-93 (4.0)	92-90 (3.67)	89-87 (3.33)	86-83 (3.0)	82-80 (2.67)	79-77 (2.33)	76-73 (2.0)	72-70 (1.67)	69-67 (1.33)	63-66 (1.0)	62-60 (0.67)	59- (0)

Note: A grade of C– is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>;
<http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Canvas: All assignments, announcements, exercises, study guides, grades, etc. will be posted on the course website on Canvas. It is your responsibility to check the website regularly and keep up to date with the class.

Attendance/participation: Attendance is mandatory. Absences will be excused in accordance with UF policy. Acceptable excuses include illness, religious holidays, & military obligation: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. These need to be documented excuses. Should you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for informing yourself as to the material covered. Except in the case of certified illness or other UF accepted excuse, there will be no make-up option for missed exams/assignments. Where possible, make-ups should be arranged prior to absence. Alternatively, students should contact me on return to classes. By being in class and participating you are rewarded at the end of the semester.

Refer to the following website:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx#absences>

Late and Make-Up Work: No late work will be accepted or make-ups will be offered unless the student offers a legitimate documented excuse.

Cell phones and other electronic devices: Students are expected to put on silent and put away all cell phones during class sessions. No electronic devices are needed in this course. Accordingly, all electronic devices must be put away as well.

Academic Integrity: Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Violations of the honor code include, but are not limited to: plagiarism, cheating, bribery, misrepresentation, fabrication, and conspiracy. Such violations may result in the following: lowering of grades,

mandatory 0 on assignments, redoing assignments, a final failing grade in the course, expulsion from the course, referral to the student-run Honor Court. The Honor Code states: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.* For more information, refer to: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/Academic_Honesty.html

Students with Special Needs: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (Disability Resources in Reid Hall). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Contact the Disability Resources Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) for information about available resources.

Counseling & Mental Health Resources: Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>).

Online Course Evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Other Issues: Appointments – Letters of Recommendation – E-mail

1) Appointments: No appointment is needed for meetings during office hours. If you make an appointment with me outside my office hours, please make sure you show up on time. If you wish to cancel, do so at least two hours in advance. Students who violate these will not be given a second chance.

2) Letters of recommendation: If you wish me to write you a letter of recommendation, before you approach me with a request, please make sure that:

- You do so at least three weeks before the deadline of the letter.
- You will earn / have earned at least B+ in all classes you had with me.
- You had regular attendance.
- You did all required work, including ungraded work.
- You never behaved in a disrespectful way - tacitly or otherwise - with me or your classmates.

3) E-mail: Please note that e-mail messages WITHOUT the following will be ignored:

- A meaningful subject line
- A proper greeting (at least in the first message in a series of related messages; i.e., messages with the same subject line). Examples of proper greeting include 'Dear/Hello Dr. Arfi.' No 'hey' or simply 'hello'.
- And please make sure you read your message over before you hit 'send'.

SCHEDULE

The dates and distribution of the topics are tentative and subject to modifications.

Week	Lecture #	Themes and Resources
Week 1 January 8 and 10	Lecture 1	Introduction Anthropology and Arab Culture Ethnography / participant observation Anthropologies of Arab-Majority Societies. (2012). Deeb & Winegar
Week 2 January 15 and 17	Lecture 2	Chapter 1, Stewart Beyond Orientalism and the Clash of Civilization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reel Bad Arabs (DVD PN1995.9. A68R44 2006) Video viewing and Discussion 1 Students' groups formation
Week3 January 22 and 24	Lecture 3	Chapter 2, Stewart MENA Geography / Students' Presentations Thursday Map Quiz (1/8)
Week4 January 29 and 31	Lecture 4	Chapter 3, Stewart Culture and Society in MENA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethnic and religious presence in MENA
Week5 February 5 and 7	Lecture 5	Culture and Society in MENA Tradition and Change Discussion 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thursday Quiz (2/8)
Week6 February 12 &14	Lecture 6	Chapter 4, Stewart <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emergence and Evolution of the Region • Historical Foundations: The Islamic and Arab Legacies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E. Said 'culture and imperialism 1993, Introduction - Barakat Halim Isher, 1993. Chapter ten: "creative expression: society and literary orientations" pp. 206 – 238 Ebook - http://www.islamicity.com/Mosque/ihame/Ref6.htm - http://www.google.com/search?sourceid=navclient&aq=t&ie=UTF-8&rls=GGLG,GGLG:2006-30,GGLG:en&q=Muslim+contribution+to+civilization%3a+past+and+present - MuslimHeritage.com - Discover 1000 Years of Missing History - http://muslimheritage.com/topics/default.cfm?ArticleID=888 click for Muslim heritage video (blinking: new) Discussion 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thursday Quiz (3/8)

Week7 Feb, 19 and 21	Lecture 7	Chapter 5,6, and 7 Stewart - Emergence and Evolution of the Region (Continued) 1. States, from Western imperial legacy to a system in flux Discussion 4
Week8 Feb, 26 and 28	Lecture 8	Chapter 8 Stewart - Emergence and Evolution of the Region (Continued) 2. Contemporary Islamic Thought: The Power of Ideology Discussion 5 Thursday Quiz (4/8) Final Project Topic and Proposal Due
Week9 March 3 – 9	NO CLASS!	SPRING BREAK, ENJOY!
Week10 March 12 and 14	Lecture 9	Men, Women, and Family - Gender and Family in the Arab World (Suad Joseph) - Women and Power in the Middle East. 2000. Joseph and Slyomovics - Deconstructing images of the Turkish Woman. 1998. Zahra Arat. Shifting Sands -- Bedouin Women at the Crossroads Al Jazeera World - The Bedouin of Petra Discussion 6 Thursday Quiz (5/8)
Week11 March 19 and 21	Students' Book review Presentations	Capturing Cultural Aspects Through Indigenous Pen - Under Colonial Powers 1. Mohammed Dib 1995/2001). The Savage Night 2. Assia Djebar. (2005). Children of the World - American and middle eastern 3. Where Jasmine Blooms: A Novel Hardcover– April 18, 2017 by Holly S. Warah 4. Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood (Pantheon Graphic Novels), 2004 by Marjane Satrapi Book Review Presentations Submission Saturday 23rd
Week12 March 26 and 28	Students' Book review Presentations	Capturing Cultural aspects through indigenous pen 5. Kanafani, G. (1983). Men in the Sun. 6. Fadi Azzam (translated by Adam Talib). 2011.

		<p>Sarmada.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East 8. The Monk of Mokha Hardcover – January 30, 2018 by Dave Eggers 9. Girls of Riyadh, 2008 by Rajaa Alsanea (Author, Translator), Marilyn Booth (Translator) <p style="text-align: center;">Book Review Presentations Submission Saturday 23rd</p>
<p>Week13 April 2 and 4</p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<p>Language Culture and Politics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language and Agenda of Standardization Booth, Marilyn. "Colloquial Arabic Poetry, Politics, and the Press in Modern Egypt." International Journal of Middle East Studies. 24(3), August 1992. 1. Language, State and Class Haeri, Niloofar. 1997. "The Reproduction of Symbolic Capital: Language, State, and Class in Egypt" 2003. Sacred Language, Ordinary People: Dilemmas of Culture and Politics in Egypt. <p>Discussion 7</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Thursday Quiz (6/8)
<p>Week14 April 9 and 11</p>	<p>Lecture 13</p>	<p>Ethnic and National identities</p> <p>Herzfeld, Michael. 1997. Cultural Intimacy: Social Poetics in the Nation-state. New York: Routledge. (chapter 1)</p> <p>Layne, Linda. 1994. Home and Homeland: The Dialogics of Tribal and National Identities in Jordan. Princeton: Princeton University Press.</p> <p>Saad, Reem. 1998. "Shame, Reputation and Egypt's Lovers:</p>

		<p>A Controversy Over the Nation's Image." Visual Anthropology 10 (2-4): 401-412.</p> <p>Salamandra, Christa. 1998. "Moustache Hairs Lost: Ramadan Television Serials and the Construction of Identity in Damascus, Syria." Visual Anthropology 10 (2-4): 227-246.</p> <p>Swedenburg, Ted. 1995. Memories of Revolt: The 1936-1939 Rebellion and Palestinian National Past. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.</p> <p>Arab Americans before and after 9/11</p> <p>Culture, Identity and Minority status</p> <p>Discussion 8</p> <p>Thursday Quiz (7/8)</p>
<p>Week15 April 16 and 18</p>	<p>Lecture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Anthropology of Food and Eating by Mintz and du Bois (2002) - Food Culture in the Near East, Middle East, and North Africa by Peter Heine (2004) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Arabic Food Tasting - The Art of Calligraphy (PDF resource on Canvas) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Calligraphy Day - Discussion 9 <p>Thursday Quiz (8/8)</p>
<p>Week16 April 23-25</p>		<p>Students' presentations of final projects</p>
		<p>Final Project Due April 28th or earlier</p>