

ANTHROPOLOGY 2219A-001
Cultures of the Middle East
PRELIMINARY COURSE OUTLINE
Fall 2022

Version date: June 21, 2022

Instructor: Dr. Randa Farah (she/her)
Email: rfarah2@uwo.ca
Office Hours: (Zoom) individual meetings as needed
Credit value: 0.5 credit

Mode of course delivery:

This course will be conducted *asynchronously and synchronously*, meaning that students will be provided with a variety of lesson materials and activities that can be done throughout the week. The class will meet synchronously on Zoom on Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 pm.

Requisites:

Antirequisite: the former Anthropology 2219F/G.

Prerequisites: none.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Examine, situate, and connect social and cultural phenomena pertaining to Arab and Islamic societies within larger historical and political (power) contexts.
- List some contributions and discoveries in science, philosophy, medicine, mathematics, and other kinds of knowledge made by Arabs and Muslims.
- Identify popular clichés, propaganda, and racist stereotypes and discourses about Arabs and Muslims, and distinguish these from scholarly knowledge and analytical approaches to Middle Eastern societies.
- Analyze racism against Arabs and Muslims situating it within a broader racist ideology that enables discrimination and racism against other groups.
- Define and grasp some basic knowledge of 'Orientalism' and the relationship between knowledge production and imperial projects of domination.
- Analyze contemporary and publicly debated issues, such as the question of women's veiling, or the Arab uprisings within regional and global social and historical processes.
- Identify some of the contemporary popular cultural trends.

Course Materials

Registered students will be able to access course readings through the course site in OWL before the first day of class.

Evaluation (Details are in the following section)

- 2 written assignments (reflection papers) 2 x 20% = 40%
- 6 online quizzes based on readings and lectures 6 x 10 = 60%

Course Specific Statements and Policies

In order to pass this course, students must participate and be present during class time (zoom) in at least 9 weeks of the course.

Academic Integrity - Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

Statement on Seeking Special Accommodations:

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Institutional Statements and Policies

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined in Western's academic policies by clicking on this link: [Western's academic policies](#).