

**WOMEN AND ISLAM –Course Assignments  
GRADUATE  
Spring 2018**

**Mondays: 10<sup>th</sup> Period– ( 5:10 PM – 6:00 PM) AND 134**  
**Wednesdays: 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> Introduction of the syllabus for the class and the members of the Class.**

**Class Two, Wednesday. January 10<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday  
Observed**

**Class Three Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.*

**Class Five Wednesday. January 24<sup>th</sup>** Reading from *Women And Gender in Islam*, Part Two – *Founding Discourses* cont'd, Chpt 5 - pgs. 64- 101 & Chpt 6, Pgs 102-124. Readings from *Women in Middle Eastern History*, Chpts 6 & 7. View segment of Documentary: *Islam Empire of Faith Part I – The Messenger*

**Hand in or E-mail the five Dates you have selected for writing your reaction papers. Also from these four dates, give me your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup>** View documentary: Title: *Islam: Empire of Faith, pt. 3, The Ottomans*

**Class Seven Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> Topic Women in Islamic Societies in the Modern Era: 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century:** Reading from *Women and Gender in Islam* Part 3 “*New Discourses*” pgs. 125-127 & Chpt 7, “*Social And Intellectual Change*” pgs. 127-143, & Chpt 8 “*The Discourse of the Veil,*” pgs. 144-168. Readings from *Women in Middle Eastern History*, Chpt.8, “*Women & Islamic Education in the Mamluk Period,*” pgs. 143-160.

**Class Eight, Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>** Readings from *Women and Gender in Islam*, Chpt. 9 “*The First Feminists,*” pg 169-188, & Chpt.10 “*Divergent Voices,*” pgs. 189-207. Readings from *Women in Middle Eastern History*, Chpt. 9, pgs. 161-176 & Chpt 10, pgs. 177-194.

**Class Nine Wednesday. February 7<sup>th</sup>** Reading from *Women and Gender in Islam*, Chpt. 11, “*The Struggle for the Future,*” pgs. 208-234 & Conclusion, pgs. 235-243. Readings from *Women in Middle Eastern History*, Chpt 11, pgs.195-214, Chapter 12, pgs. 215-233. **.Topic: (New) Women’s Status in Islamic Law,** Readings from *Sexual Ethics & Islam* (**new book**) “*Introduction,*” pgs. xxii-xxviii, Chapter 1, “*Marriage, Money and Sex,*” pgs. 1-23.

**Class Ten Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> Topic: Women’s Status in Islamic Law,** Readings from *Sexual Ethics & Islam*, Chpt. 2 “*Lesser Evils: Divorce in Islamic Ethics,*” pgs.24-38 & Chpt 3, “*What Your Right Hand Possess...*” pgs.39-55. “*Rationale for a Feminist Critique of Islamic Personal Status Law*” pgs. 46-72 & “*Comparison of Western*

(Anglo-American & Islamic Legal Systems pgs 107-126 by Zoharah Simmons, (These two chapters will be sent as a pdf via Course List).

**Class Eleven Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 - <https://www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/female-genital-mutilation>

**Class Thirteen, Wednesday. February 21<sup>st</sup> 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 Reading from *Sex & Society in Islam*, Intro, pgs 1-9, Chpt 1, "Why Islam permitted contraception," pgs. 10-27, Chpt 2. "Contraception and the Rights of Women," pgs 28-38. (These chapters will be sent as pdf via Our Class List and posted on Canvas.

**.Class Fourteen Monday. February 26<sup>th</sup> 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.)

Readings from *Sexual Ethics & Islam*, Chpt.9, "Toward an Islamic Ethics of Sex," pgs. 151-157.

**Topic: History of Muslim Women's Feminism**

Readings from *Feminism in Islam* (new book)  
"Introduction –Part I: Egypt – Late 19<sup>th</sup> C to end of The 20<sup>th</sup> C: First Century of Feminism," pgs. 1-16.

**Class Fifteen Wednesday. February 28<sup>th</sup> Topic: History of Muslim Women's Feminism**

Readings from *Feminism in Islam*, Chpt 1, “Competing Agenda: Feminism, Islam, and the State In 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> DEADLINE FOR STUDENTS RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC & BEGINNING BIBLIOGRAPHY ( Turned in or e-mailed to me)**

**SPRING BREAK  
MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup>  
ENJOY**

**Class Sixteen, Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> Topic: - History of Muslim Women’s Feminism Cont’d**

Readings from *Feminism in Islam*, Chpt 3, “From Consciousness to Activism,” pgs. 65-89 & Chpt. 4, “Expressing Feminism and Nationalism in Autobiography,” Pgs.90-115.

**Class Seventeen Wed. March 14<sup>th</sup> Topic: - History of Muslim Women’s Feminism Cont’d**

Readings from *Feminism in Islam*, Chapter 5, “Independent Women,” pgs.116-140, Chpt.6, Gender Activism, Chpt.6, “Gender Activism,” pgs. 141-167 & Chpt. 7,” Body Politics,” pgs.168-191. Readings from *Islam, Gender and Social Change*, Chpt 4, “Feminism in an Islamic Republic,” pgs. 59-84.(Chapter will be e-mailed & Posted). Film Doc. TBA

**Class Eighteen, Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> Topic: - Part II: Muslim World – Late 20<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>**

**Centuries in History of Muslim Women’s Feminism cont’d:** Readings from *Feminism in Islam*, Chpt. 9, “Towards Islamic Feminisms,” pgs. 215-241 & Chpt. 10, “Islamic Feminism: What’s in a Name?” pgs. 242-252. Readings from *Islam, Gender and Social Change*, Chpt. 5, “Secularist and Islamic Discourses on Modernity in Egypt,” pgs 85-99. (Chapter will be posted on Canvas & e-mailed.)

**Class Nineteen Wed. March 21<sup>st</sup> Topic: - Rethinking Male Authority in Islam**

Readings from *Men in Charge?* (new book), Forward, Pgs. vii-x, Introduction, pgs. 1-12, Chpt 1. "Muslim Legal Tradition & the Challenge of Gender Equality," pgs. 13-43 & Chpt. 2, "The Interpretative Legacy of *Qiwamah* as an Exegetical Construct," pgs. 44-64. Readings from *A Quiet Revolution*, Introduction, pgs. 1-15, Part I – The Islamic Resurgence and the Veil, Chpt 1, "Unveiling," pgs 19-45.

**Class Twenty Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> Topic: - Rethinking Male Authority in Islam**

**Cont'd.** Readings from *Men in Charge?* Chapter 3, "An Egalitarian Reading of the Concepts of *Khilafah*, *Wilayah*, & *Qiwamah*, pgs. 65-87 & Chpt. 4, "Producing Gender-Egalitarian Islamic Law," pgs 88-107. Readings from *A Quiet Revolution*, Chpt. 2, "The Veil's Vanishing Past," pgs. 46-67, Chpt. 3, "The 1970s: Seeds of the Resurgence," pgs. 68-93.

**Class Twenty-One Wed. March 28<sup>th</sup> 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.) Readings from *A Quiet Revolution*, Chpt. 4, "The New Veil," pgs. 93-116 & Chpt. 5, "The 1980s: Exploring Women's Motivations," pgs. 117-130 View Documentary, Title: *The Muslims I know*.

**Class Twenty-Two Mon. April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Topic: Rethinking Male Authority in Islam**

**Cont'd.** Readings from *Men in Charge?* Chpt.7, "Islamic Law Meets Human Rights," pgs. 163-197 & Chpt 8, 'Men are the Protectors & Maintainers of Women,' pgs. 197-219. Readings from *A Quiet Revolution*, Chpt. 6, "Islamist Connections," pgs. 131-156 & Chpt. 7, Migrations, pgs. 157-176.

**Class Twenty-Three Wed. April 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

Readings from *A Quiet Revolution*, Chpt. 8, “The 1990s: A Climate in America, pgs. 177-190 & Part Two After 9/11: New Pathways in America, Prologue, pgs 193-198 & Chpt. 9, “Backlash, The Veil, the Burka and the Clamor of War,” Pgs. 199-232.

**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 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Continue with student presentations of book reviews**

**Class Twenty-Five Mon. April 16<sup>th</sup>**

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

**Class Twenty-Six Wed. April 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Continue Presentations of Research Topics**

**Class Twenty-Seven Mon. April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**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 30<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 PM**

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