

Instructor: Elias G. Saba
Email: sabaelia@grinnell.edu
Office Hours in HSSC N 2152
T 2:00-3:30pm
F 9:30-9:50am
or by appointment.

Rel 268-01: Islam and Gender
Spring 2022

Course Requirements:

This is a seminar course. It is imperative that each student carefully reads all of the assigned readings on time and comes to class ready to participate in class discussion. Class preparedness and participation is a major factor in the final grade and unexcused absences will count against this final grade. You may not pass this class if you miss more than 35% of the class sessions. The course is based entirely around our class sessions.

Course Objectives:

On one level, the objectives of this class are to

terms mean, what they have meant, and how they came to be. We will also, however, do this through analysis of the ways that gender, sex, and sexuality have been experienced historically. On another level, this class is focused on helping us all become better critical readers. Critical reading is a highly active and engaged practice. To this end, our class discussions and our assignments will all challenge us to better engage with the material we are reading.

Grading:

Assignment One (10%)

[Feb. 7]

Assignment Two (10%)

[Mar. 12]

Assignment Three (10%) [Apr. 19]

Breaches of academic integrity will result in an official disciplinary process guided by the
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Academic Honesty policy is located in the Student Handbook available online [[link](#)]. The College expects that students are aware of and meet the expectations of this policy.

Assignments in this course are not collaborative. If you have any questions, please see me before you turn in your work.

If you plan to observe religious holidays that coincide with class meetings or assignment due dates, please meet with me during the first two weeks of classes so that we may reach a mutual understanding of how you can meet these obligations.

I strive to create a fully inclusive classroom, thus I welcome individual students to approach me about distinctive learning needs. In particular, I encourage students with disabilities to have a conversation with me and disclose how our classroom or course activities could impact the disability and what accommodations would be essential to you. You will also need to have a conversation about and provide documentation of your disability to the [Coordinator for Disability Resources](#), located on the ground level of Steiner Hall (641-269-3124).

Textbooks:

Ayesha Hidayatullah, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014).

Ibn al- *Consorts of the Caliphs: Women and the Court of Baghdad*, trans. Editors of the Library of Arabic Literature (New York: New York University Press, 2017)

Khaled El-Rouayheb, *Before Homosexuality in the Arab-Islamic World, 1500-1800*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017).

Sadegh Hedayat, *The Blind Owl*

Saba Mahmood, *Politics of Piety: The Islamic Revival and the Feminist Subject* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012).

Ula Yvette Taylor, *Promise of Patriarchy: Women and the Nation of Islam* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2017).

Course Schedule:

JAN. 24:

SOME BACKGROUND ON GENDER

JAN. 26:

- *Consorts of the Caliphs: Women and the Court of Baghdad*, trans. Editors of the Library of Arabic Literature (New York: New York University Press, 2017), via [Burling](#).

EARLY MODERN FIGURATIONS

FEB. 2

-Rouayheb, *Before Homosexuality*, 1-52. [\[link\]](#)

MAR. 7:

-Rouayheb, *Before Homosexuality*, 53-110. [\[link\]](#)

MAR. 9:

-Rouayheb, *Before Homosexuality* _____

APR. 25:

Taylor, *Promise of Patriarchy*, 44 73. [\[link\]](#)

Assignment #3 Due

Apr. 27:

Working Differently

May 2:

Taylor, *Promise of Patriarchy*, 74 168. [\[link\]](#)

May. 4:

Taylor, *Promise of Patriarchy*, 169 194. [\[link\]](#)

END OF TERM

May. 9: Final Presentations

May. 11: Final Presentations

Final Project Due Wednesday, May 18 @ 5pm!