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Office Hours: Thursday from 10:00am to 12:00pm

AFS4935/1384 & ANT4930/17GD "ISLAM IN THE WEST"

Tuesday: period 7 (1:55 to 2:45)

Thursday: period 7-8 (1:55 to 3:50)

Room: TUR 2319

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the prospects of integrating Muslim minorities into Western societies. Since 9/11 and the bombings in Madrid and London, Islam and Muslims have been perceived as a threat to western values and "universal" ideals. This perception - often based on fear rather than reason - has created the impression that Muslims cannot be integrated into western societies and led to the appearance of Islamophobia across Europe and North America. The course intends to examine the different ways political Islam and Islamic radicalism dictate the framing of Islam and Muslims in the West. It also explores the different political discourses and counter-discourse that shape the relationship between Muslims in the West and the societies in which they live. It looks at the different social, political, cultural and economic processes at work in the globalized world and their impacts on the integration of Muslims in the West.

Muslim presence across Western Europe and in the United States has increased substantially over the past three decades making Islam the second most important and the most rapidly growing religion in the Western countries. The Muslim communities in Europe and North America are not going home to Africa, Turkey, Middle East or South East Asia. They are in Europe and America to stay not as foreigners but as active citizens with the same rights as "native" Europeans and Americans. The course analyzes the different ways Western countries accommodate the religious demands of their citizens who happen to be Muslims. It examines the principles of religious freedom and the separation of Church and State as they are interpreted and applied to Muslim minorities. The course also explores the diversity within Islam in the West by pointing to differences among Muslims along ethnic, national and racial lines that affect their ability to speak with one voice when negotiating with Western States. Generational difference is also analyzed to determine how Muslim born European and American differ from their parents with regards to religious practice and the relation to the host societies.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this course are:

- To expose students to scholarship on Islam in Europe and America by examining the wider historical and structural processes that has set the stage for the formation of Muslim minorities in Western countries.
- To help students cultivate a greater command over current trends in social analysis and theorization about citizenship, integration of Muslims in secular States, emergence of a European and American Islam.

- To enhance students' critical thinking and analytical writing skills.

READING MATERIAL

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations. New York: AltaMira Press.
- Morey P. and Yaqin A. (2011). Framing Muslims: Stereotyping and Representation after 9/11. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Joppke C. and Torpey J. (2013). Legal Integration of Islam: A Transatlantic Comparison. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Gemie S. (2010). French Muslims: New Voices in Contemporary France. Chicago: University of Chicago Press

These books are available for purchase at the UF bookstore. Additional reading material is available at Library West in the course reserve section of this class. Please consult them at the library or make copies of relevant chapters ahead of time.

REQUIREMENTS

Readings and Participation (10 points)

Attendance and active discussion of the assigned readings are necessary to create the kind of intellectual engagement required for a collaborative learning milieu. I will circulate an attendance sheet every meeting, please make sure to sign your name before leaving class. Students are expected to read assigned texts before the class meetings and be prepared to contribute to class discussions. **Each meeting students will be required to submit 3 questions based on their reactions to the readings. Please send your questions by e-mail on Mondays for the Tuesday class meeting and on Wednesday for the Thursday class meeting.**

Quizzes (30 points)

In the course of the semester three quizzes will be given to Students to test their overall understanding of the issues covered in class. There will not be any make up unless the absentee presents to the instructor a convincing excuse of why he was absent.

Report on Muslim minorities in the West (20 points)

Each student is expected to write a seven-page report (double space, 12" font) on the experience of Muslim minorities in a chosen Western country. Students must go beyond the class readings and lecture and do a personal bibliographical research to cover all aspects of Muslims minorities' experience in the chosen country. All students are required to turn in their report to me in class on April 22nd.

Midterm Test (20 points)

A midterm test will be given to Students. The midterm test will be over the themes covered in the first seven weeks of the class. It will consist of short answer questions, multiple choices, and a short essay.

Final Test (20 points)

A final Test will be administered at the end of the semester. It will consist of a series of short answer questions, multiple choices, and a short essay. It will cover the reading material reviewed from the 8th week to the end of class.

Academic Honesty:

All work submitted by a student for a grade must be completed by that student and free from unauthorized assistance or deliberate misrepresentations. The penalty for plagiarism or cheating is a grade of zero points on the assignment in question; in such cases an incident form will also be sent to the Office of the Dean of Students. If you have questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please consult the UF Honor Code as well as the UF Policies on Academic Honesty, Student Rights and Responsibilities. These are available online at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentrights.php-academichonestyguidelines>.

ADA Statement: “Students with disabilities, who need reasonable modifications to complete assignments successfully and otherwise satisfy course criteria, are encouraged to meet with the instructor as early in the course as possible to identify and plan specific accommodations. Students will be asked to supply a letter from the Disability Resource Center to assist in planning accommodations.”

Grading Scale: The following scale will be used for grades on all assignments and exams: 94-100=A; 90-93=A-; 87-89=B+; 83-86=B; 79-82=B-; 76-78=C+; 72-75=C; 69-71=C-; 66-68=D+; 62-65=D; 59-61=D-; 58 and below=E (failing). Regarding university grading policies, be advised that a grade of C- is not valid for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule, or for college basic distribution credit. For questions about minus grades, please see <http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>.

You may consult current UF policy on how grade point averages are calculated at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>.

Health and Counseling: The University offers the following health and counseling services for students in the event personal problems threaten to hinder academic performance: University Counseling Center (301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575), Student Mental Health (Student Health Care Center, 392-1171), and Sexual Assault Recovery Services (Student Health Care Center, 392-1161).

Please note: The Instructor may make minor adjustments to class readings or assignments during the course of the semester. Any and all modifications will be announced ahead of time.

Course Schedule (I reserve the right to add films and documentaries in the Schedule)

Week 1:

Tue, Jan 6: Syllabus presentation

Thu, Jan 8: The Islam versus the West Debate.

- Introduction to Islam: Basic knowledge about Islam as a world religion
- Ibrahim Kalin (2001). "Islam and the West: Deconstructing Monolithic Perceptions—A Conversation with Professor John Esposito." In *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, 21:1, pp. 155-163.

Week 2:

Tue, Jan 13: Misconceptions and Stereotypes of Islam and Muslims

- Morey P. and Yaqin A. (2011). *Framing Muslims: Stereotyping and Representation after 9/11*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chapter 1

Thu, Jan 15: Representation and the illusion of cultural identity

- Morey P. and Yaqin A. (2011). *Framing Muslims: Stereotyping and Representation after 9/11*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chapter 2-3
- Film: *Reel bad Arabs: How Hollywood vilifies a people*.

Week 3:

Tue, Jan 20: Representing Muslims in Films and TV

- Morey P. and Yaqin A. (2011). *Framing Muslims: Stereotyping and Representation after 9/11*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chapter 4

Thu, Jan 22: Performing beyond the Frame

- Morey P. and Yaqin A. (2011). *Framing Muslims: Stereotyping and Representation after 9/11*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chapter 5, 6 and conclusion.
- Film: *Muslims are Coming*

Week 4:

Tue, Jan 27: Muslims in the United States: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Introduction & Chap. 1.
- **Quiz No. 1**

Thu, Jan 29:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 2.

Week 5:

Tue, Feb 3:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 3

Thu, Feb 5:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). *Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations*. Chap. 4

Week 6:

Tue, Feb 10: Itinerary of Muslim Integration and Political Participation in America

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations. Chap. 5 & 6.

Thu, Feb 13:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations. Chap. 7.

Week 7:

Tue, Feb 17: Islam and the Black Experience in America

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations. Chap. 8.

Thu, Feb 19:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations. Chap. 9-10.
- **Quiz No 2**

Week 8:

Tue, Feb 24:

- Bukhari, Zahid H.; Nyang, Sulayman S.; Ahmad, Mumtaz, and Esposito, John L. (2004). Muslims' Place in the American Public Square: Hope, Fears, and Aspirations. Chap. 12 & 13.

Thu, Feb 26: **Midterm test**

Week 9:

Tue, Mar 3: **No Class (Spring Break)**

Thu, Mar 5: **No Class (Spring Break)**

Week 10:

Tue, Mar 10: Integrating Muslims in France: The War of Symbols.

- Gemie Sharif (2010). French Muslims: New Voices in Contemporary France. Intro & Chap. 1.

Thu, Mar 12: Muslims' Individual Experience of Integration

- Gemie Sharif (2010). French Muslims: New Voices in Contemporary France. Chap. 2
- Film: Young, Muslim and French

Week 11:

Tue, Mar 17:

- Gemie Sharif (2010). French Muslims: New Voices in Contemporary France. Chap. 3

Thu, Mar 19: An Islamic Theology of Liberation

- Gemie Sharif (2010). French Muslims: New Voices in Contemporary France. Chap. 4

Week 12:

Tue, Mar 24:

- Gemie Sharif (2010). French Muslims: New Voices in Contemporary France. Chap. 5.

Thu, Mar 26:

- Gemie Sharif (2010). French Muslims: New Voices in Contemporary France. Chap. 6 and Conclusion

Week 13:

Tue, Mar 31: Legal Integration of Islam in the West

- Joppke C. and Torpey J. (2013). Legal Integration of Islam: A Transatlantic Comparison. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chap. 1.

Thu, Apr 2

- Joppke C. and Torpey J. (2013). Legal Integration of Islam: A Transatlantic Comparison. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chap. 2-3.

Week 14:

Tue, Apr 7:

- Joppke C. and Torpey J. (2013). Legal Integration of Islam: A Transatlantic Comparison. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chap. 4.
- **Quiz no 3.**

Thu, Apr 9:

- Joppke C. and Torpey J. (2013). Legal Integration of Islam: A Transatlantic Comparison. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Chap. 5

Week 15:

Tue, Apr 14:

- Joppke C. and Torpey J. (2013). Legal Integration of Islam: A Transatlantic Comparison. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Conclusion

Thu, Apr 16:

Final Test

Week 16:

Tue, Apr 21: Concluding Remarks