

California University of Pennsylvania  
Guidelines for New Course Proposals  
University Course Syllabus  
Approved: September 11, 2014

Department of Modern Languages, Philosophy & Socio-Cultural Studies

A. Protocol

Course Name: Arabic Literature in Translation

Course Number: ARB 421

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: None

Maximum Class size (face-to-face): 35

Maximum Class size (online): 35

B. Objectives of the Course:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Write clear, concise, and effective prose in Arabic.
- Practice reading literary texts within their social, historical, and cultural contexts.
- Explore the relationship of literature to other disciplines.
- Discuss the multifaceted relationship of literature to society as mediator, mirror, interpreter and critique.
- Analyze the ethical implications in literature of the depiction of self and others.
- Identify the different Arabic literary genres: drama, poetry, essays, novels,
- Recognize and discuss the different uses of these genres and the social and personal conditions that allow these works to be produced in a variety of settings.
- Examine multiple interpretive possibilities of Arabic literature and reflect on the aspects of their own circumstances that influence their interpretations of the works examined.
- Analyze the relationship between the cultural and social conditions and the literary norms that encouraged the production of specific literary forms as well as the creative impulses and audience demands that, in part, reformulated those social norms.
- Develop strategies for seeking and synthesizing information to support and present an argument, make a decision, resolve a problem.
- Enjoy reading Arabic literary texts.

C. Catalog Description:

This course is a survey of Arabic literature in translation with a focus on continuity and change, influence, and major trends, themes, and genres. It will provide students with a foundation in Arabic literature. Students will be introduced to short stories, novels, essays, poetry, and plays.

D. Outline of the Course may include the following topics:

1. Introduction  
Syllabus Available on D2L  
Who is Naguib Mahfouz?  
The Mosque in the Narrow Lane (*N. Mahfouz*)  
Children of Gebelaawi (*N. Mahfouz*)
2. Adrift on the Nile (*N. Mahfouz*)  
The Beggar (*N. Mahfouz*)
3. Short Stories  
The Picture (*L. al-Zayyat*)  
The Picture (*N. al-Saadawi*)
4. The Future (*D. al-Amir*)  
Sun, I am the Moon (*H. al-Shaykh*)
5. The Sultana (*E. Osman*)  
She Will Come (*S. Fouad*)
6. A Flower in the Swamp, The Camel (*S. Bakr*)
7. Who is Gibran Khalil Gibran?  
Broken Wings (*K. Gibran*)
8. My Countrymen (*K. Gibran*)  
The Prophet (*K. Gibran*)
9. The Prophet (*K. Gibran*)
10. The Earth Gods (*K. Gibran*)
11. Tears and Smile (*K. Gibran*)
12. The Ablution (*H. al-Rahib*)
13. The Destroyer of Families (*S. Muyhi 'l Din*)
14. The Power of Darkness (*G. Salim*)
15. Presentations & Final Paper

E. Teaching Methodology:

1) Traditional Classroom Methodology:

Cooperative learning is the major teaching method in this course. The instructor will serve as a facilitator to the learning process in class. We will work together to learn more about Arabic literature by keeping up with the required readings and doing the required class work. To this end, the instructor will use short lectures, videos, papers and presentations, homework, and class discussion. It is expected that all students will take part in these discussions.

2) Online Methodology:

Quality Matters™ Statement – The online course follows the standards of the Quality Matters™ rubric.

This class will be offered online. Cooperative learning is the major teaching method in this course. The instructor will serve as a facilitator to the learning process in class. We will work together to learn more about Arabic literature by keeping up with the required readings and doing the required class work. To this end, the instructor will use short lectures, videos, papers and presentations, homework, and class discussion. It is expected that all students will take part in these discussions.

F. Suggested Texts:

Salih J. Altoma, Modern Arabic Literature in Translation. Saqi Books, 2005. ISBN # 0863565972

*“This guide to modern Arabic literature in English translation features not only a comprehensive bibliography but also chapters on fiction, drama, poetry, and autobiography, as well as a special chapter on Iraq's Arabic literature. By focusing on Nadjib Mahfouz, one of Arabic Literature's luminaries, and on poetry--a major, if not the major genre of the region—S. Altoma assesses the progress made towards a wider reception of Arabic writing throughout the western world.”*

Denys Johnson-Davies, Modern Arabic Short Stories, London, Oxford University Press, 1967.

Raymond Francis, Aspects de la littérature arabe contemporaine, Dar El-Maaref, Cairo, 1963.

Additional readings will be available on D2L.

G. Assessment Activities:

1) Traditional Classroom Assessment:

Quizzes/Exams	30%
Paper(s)	20%
Presentation(s)	20%
Class Discussions/Participation	30%

2) Online Assessment:

Online Quizzes/Exams	30%
Individual Paper(s)	20%
Online Presentation(s)	20%
Online Discussions/Participation	30%

H. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

*Accommodations for Students with Disabilities*

Students with disabilities:

- Reserve the right to decide when to self-identify and when to request accommodations.
- Will register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) each semester to receive accommodations.
- Might be required to communicate with faculty for accommodations which specifically involve the faculty.
- Will present the OSD Accommodation Approval Notice to faculty when requesting accommodations that involve the faculty.

Requests for approval for reasonable accommodations should be directed to the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Approved accommodations will be recorded on the OSD Accommodation Approval notice and provided to the student. Students are expected to adhere to OSD procedures for self-identifying, providing documentation and requesting accommodations in a timely manner.

Contact Information:

- Location: Azorsky Building – Room 105
- Phone: (724) 938-5781
- Fax: (724) 938-4599
- Email: [osdmail@calu.edu](mailto:osdmail@calu.edu)
- Web Site: [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu) (search “disability”)

\*\*\*\*\*

- I. Supportive Instructional Materials, e.g. library materials, web sites, etc.  
Video and audio tapes dealing with Arabic culture will be made available.

Additional Information for Course Proposals

- J. Proposed Instructors:  
Qualified Instructor to teach Arabic.

- K. Rationale for the Course:

Among the most pressing issues to emerge from the recent developments on the global scene is that of genuine translatability among cultures. In these contexts, it has become important to assess the status of non-European literatures, especially as they are received in translation. And translation brings with it the deeper issues of translatability. Among these, the case of modern Arabic literature is most pressing, both within the academy and in the society at large. The tragic events of 9/11 led to perhaps an even greater interest in Arab culture and, in a trickle effect down to works of modern Arabic literature (awarding of the Nobel Prize in Literature to Naguib Mahfouz back in 1988). But is modern Arabic literature to be read, native-informant like, only for a view on Arab culture and Arab societies? If these works in translation were to migrate beyond academic contexts and classrooms, is it then the choice of texts or is it the widening of dissemination, forces of the market that would prepare the scene for an otherwise mode of reception?

L. Specialized Equipment or Supplies Needed:

Specialized equipment or supplies are not needed for course instruction.

M. Answer the following questions using complete sentences:

1. Does the course require additional human resources? (Please explain)

*The course does not require additional human resources.*

2. Does the course require additional physical resources? (Please explain)

*No, additional physical resources are not required.*

3. Does the course change the requirements in any particular major?  
(Please explain)

*No, the course does not change any major requirements.*

4. Is the course replacing an existing course? (If so, list the course)

*No, the course does not replace an existing course.*

5. How often will the course be taught?

*The course will be offered once a year.*

6. Does the course duplicate an existing course in another Department or College? (If the possibility exists, indicate course discipline, number, and name)

*No, it does not duplicate an existing course in another Department or College.*

7. What is the recommended maximum class size for this course?

*The recommended maximum class size for this course is 35.*

N. If the proposed course includes substantial material that is traditionally taught in another discipline, you must request a statement of support from the department chair that houses that discipline.

*No, the proposed course does not include substantial material that is traditionally taught in another discipline.*

- O. Please identify if you are proposing to have this course considered as a menu course for General Education. If yes, justify and demonstrate the reasons based on the categories for General Education. The General Education Committee must consider and approve the course proposal before consideration by the UCC.

It will be proposed for consideration as menu course for General Education in Humanities and Cultural Awareness.

We are requesting Arabic Literature in Translation **ARB 421** to be included in the general education menu because it is a course that satisfies the rubric “Humanities.” Students who want to take this class have been asking about using it to satisfy their “Humanities” requirement. This class introduces students to the Arabic literature. The students will develop the practice of reading literary texts within their social, historical, and cultural contexts. Thus, it fits perfectly under the general heading of “Humanities.”

We are requesting Arabic Literature in Translation **ARB 421** to be included in the general education menu because it is a course that satisfies the rubric “Multi-Cultural Awareness.” Students who want to take this class have been asking about using it to satisfy their multi-cultural awareness requirement. This class introduces students to Arabic literature. The students will develop the practice of reading literary texts within their social, historical, and cultural contexts. Thus, it fits perfectly under the general heading of “Multi-Cultural Awareness.”

- P. Provide Approval Form (electronically).

#### Additional Guidelines

The following are additional guidelines that you must follow which will expedite your course proposal. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the return of the proposal to the department.

1. Be sure that your proposal is in the correct format (Guidelines for New Course Proposals) and that all questions have been completely answered.
2. Be sure that you have completed and attached the Application to Establish a New Course form and/or the Advisement Sheet Revision form and that the **appropriate signatures** have been affixed. Please send through the process electronically (the preferred method) or by paper. No items will be placed on the agenda until the Chair of the UCC is in possession of these forms.
3. Be sure that you include an updated advisement sheet for any course that is being required by the department or is classified as a restricted elective. In addition, you must include an electronic copy (MS Word or PDF) of the current advisement

sheet(s) with your proposal. Be certain that all advisement sheets affected by the proposed course change be included with your proposal.

4. When submitting materials for consideration by the Curriculum Committee, you must provide an electronic copy of each item to be reviewed to the Chairperson.
5. All completed items must be in the hands of the Chairperson of the Curriculum Committee a minimum of one week prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.
6. Any department requesting a course name change, number change, prefix changes, credit changes, etc. must submit this request on the Application to Establish a New Course Form and submit electronically.
7. New advisement sheets, major proposals, minors, or changes to advisement sheets will become effective the fall semester following committee approval. **The advisement sheets must also include the committee approval date and the effective date on the advisement page.** Submit this request on the Advisement and /or Program Changes form.
8. New courses will become effective the semester following committee approval.
9. Any references listed must be in the appropriate bibliographic format for the discipline.
10. Online courses must follow the Quality Matters™ rubric and is posted on the UCC website. Be sure that you include the online teaching methodology statement (refer E.2 above) that refers to the Quality Matters™ rubric.
11. All course objectives must follow Bloom's Taxonomy learning domains located on the UCC website.