

Gender, Space and Islam (WGST 37 / Geog 41)  
Syllabus Fall 2006

<u>Professor</u>	<u>Office Hours</u>	<u>Course Meeting Days/Times</u>
Jennifer Fluri	Tuesday 2:00-4:00 pm	(10 hour) MWF 10:00-11:05 am
HB 6017	and/or by appointment	X-hour Thursday 12:00-12:50 pm

**OFFICE: 015 Fairchild (Geography) and 10 Carpenter (WGST)**

**(Office Hours will be held in 10 Carpenter)**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will examine various aspects of Gender and Geographic Space within Islamic contexts. We will seek to answer various questions about space, gender and Islam such as: What constitutes a Muslim Space and the "Muslim World"? Who decides and defines these spaces? How are these spaces gendered and influenced by Islam or Islamic practices? How does gendering of spaces differ by context, custom, beliefs, or power structures in different locations? The course readings will address both context and belief with regard to Islam, location, space and gender.

**COURSE PLAN**

The format for this course will include both lectures and class discussions. Your grade will be calculated from class participation; 2 quizzes in the second and third weeks of the term; 3 essay/position papers on the readings throughout the term; 2 group activities and corresponding individual papers. Please see the course grading/assessment policies for more information.

**Required Texts** (All Texts are available at Wheelock Books, 2 W. Wheelock St.)

*What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam* (2002)  
John L. Esposito, Oxford University Press

*Women, Gender and Islam* (1992)  
Leila Ahmed, Yale University Press

*Believing Women in Islam: Unreading Patriarchal Interpretations of the Qur'an* (2002) Asma Barlas,  
University of Texas Press Austin

*The Veil: Modesty, Privacy, and Resistance* (1999)  
Fadwa El Guindi, Berg Press

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*Geographies of Muslim Women* (2005)

Edited By Ghazi-Walid Falah and Caroline Nagel, Guilford  
Press

**Articles will also be assigned and are available  
on Blackboard, through library e-resources, and/or course  
reserves.**

**(Please see the course schedule)**

**POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND RESOURCES**

DISABILITIES

If you require assistance during the course due to a disability of any kind, please speak with the Professor as soon as possible. All discussions will be confidential. If you require any assistance with exams and/other assessment materials, you **must** contact the professor **BEFORE** the scheduled assessment in order to make proper accommodations. Written documentation will be required.

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

Some students may wish to take part in religious observances that fall during this academic term. Should you have a religious commitment that conflicts with your participation in the course, please speak with the professor **before the end of the second week of the term** to discuss appropriate accommodations.

ASSISTANCE IN THE COURSE

If you require extra assistance at any time during the course, please do not hesitate to contact the professor and make an appointment to discuss your concerns.

Please also consider:

The Academic Skills Center  
<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~acskills/>

Library Services  
<http://diglib.dartmouth.edu/libserv/index.shtml>

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ACADEMIC HONESTY

Dartmouth College's policies and procedures regarding Academic Honesty and Honor apply to this course. For more detailed information, please see:

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~reg/regulations/undergrad/acad-honor.html>

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

**ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE TO CLASS ON TIME & PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVE DISCUSSION!**

As the professor for this course, I fully expect that ALL students will read the assigned material BEFORE class and be prepared to discuss and answer questions about the readings.

**THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ALLOWED IN CLASS AT ANY TIME:**

LAP-TOP COMPUTERS, ACTIVATED CELL-PHONES,  
I-PODS, GAMES OR ANY OTHER DISTRACTING MATERIALS

WHAT IS CLASS PARTICIPATION?

Knowledge production and successful classroom experiences depend on both the professor and students engagement with the course material, informed discussion, and the open exchange of thoughts and ideas.

In order to both encourage and reward students for their active participation in class, class participation is graded and worth 15% of your overall grade. Effective class participation can only be reached if you read and critically examine the assigned course materials, and subsequently illustrate this by participating in class.

Speaking often in class without reading the assigned material will **NOT** result in a positive grade. If you have difficulty

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participating in class and fear this will hurt your overall grade, please see the professor **before** the end of the second week of classes.

Much to the material discussed in class will deal with sensitive issues. Debate and disagreement is welcome as a necessary part of dynamic and engaging discussion. ALL students are expected to respect the ideas, opinions, and comments of other students, the professor, and any guest speakers or students.

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GRADE BREAK DOWN

Class Participation:	15%
Corporeal Marker Activity-Paper:	15%
Group Presentations: (2)	10%
Position Papers (3)	45%
Final Paper	15%
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Total:	100%

Assignments/Activities are due on the date specified.

**Late assignments/activities will NOT be accepted!**

Grade Calculation based on percentages

A	96-100%	A-	91-95%	B+	87-90%	B	83-86%
B-	80-83%	C+	76-79%	C	73-75%	C-	70-72%
D	65-69%	E	64% and below				

**An "A" (A/A-) Student ...**

Completes all of the assigned reading material, is present in class at least 95% of the time, actively participates in class discussions, completes all assignments (activities, papers, and presentations) and hands them in on time and receives a grade of 91% or above on all assessment materials (including quizzes).

**A "B" (B+, B, B-) Student ...**

Completes a majority of the assigned reading material and is present in class on time at least 85% of the time. Actively participates in class discussions, when present. Completes all the assignments (activities, papers, and presentations) on time, and receives an average grade on the assignments and quizzes of 80-90%.

**A "C" (C+, C, C-) Student ...**

Completes 70% of the assigned reading material and is present in class and on time at least 75% of the time. Partially participates in class discussions. Completes a portion of the assignments or hands in material in an untimely fashion (**remember late assignments are not accepted**), and/or receives a grade of 69-79% on these assignments and quizzes.

**A "D" Student ...**

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Completes less than 70% of the assigned material and is not present in class on time and/or less than 75% of the time. Does not actively participate in class. Does not complete the assigned material on time and/or receives a grade of 65-68% on these assignments and quizzes.

**Less than the above will result in an "E" grade.**

<b>SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2006</b>			
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
	20 Introductions  <i>Mapping the Islamic World</i> <i>Important Terms</i>	21 <b>NO CLASS</b>	22 <i>What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam</i> pp. 1-116
25 <i>What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam</i> pp. 117-180	27 <i>What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam</i> Wrap-Up Sacred Spaces in Islam	28 <b>STUDENT Questionnaire DUE</b>  <b>Quiz #1 (Terms)</b>	29 <i>Women, Gender and Islam</i> Part 1, pp. 1-38
(October) 2 <b>NO CLASS</b>	4 <i>Women, Gender and Islam</i> Part II, pp. 29-124	5 <i>Women, Gender and Islam</i> Part III, pp. 125-168	6 Overview of Assessment Materials & Expectations  <b>Quiz #2: (Terms &amp; Basic Information on Islam)</b>
9 <b><i>Women, Gender and Islam</i></b> <b>Position Paper #1 DUE</b>  <i>Believing Women in Islam</i> pp. 1-30	11 <i>Believing Women in Islam</i> pp. 31-92	12 <i>Believing Women in Islam</i> pp. 93-128	13 <b>NO CLASS</b>

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<b>OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2006</b>			
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
16 <i>Believing Women in Islam</i> pp. 129-166	18 <i>Believing Women in Islam</i> pp. 167-210	19 <b>NO CLASS</b>	20 <b>NO CLASS</b>
23 <b><i>Believing Women in Islam</i></b> <b>Position Paper Due</b>  <i>Veil: Modesty, Privacy, &amp; Resistance</i> Part 1: pp. 1-48  <b>Corporeal Marker Assigned</b>	25 <i>Veil: Modesty, Privacy, &amp; Resistance</i> Part 2: pp. 49-160	26 <i>Veil: Modesty, Privacy, &amp; Resistance</i> Part 4: pp. 161-186  Stowasser (article)	27 <b>GROUP PROJECT/PAPER PROPOSALS DUE</b>  <b>CORPOREAL MARKER PROTOTYPES DUE</b>
30 <i>Geographies of Muslim Women</i> Introduction and Chapters 1-2 pp. 1-67	(November) 1	2 <i>Geographies of Muslim Women</i> Chapter 5	3 <i>Geographies of Muslim Women</i> Chapters 6&7
6 <b>NO CLASS</b>	8 <i>Geographies of Muslim Women</i> Chapters 8 & 9	9 <b>CORPOREAL MARKER PRESENTATIONS &amp; PAPERS DUE</b>	10 <i>Geographies of Muslim Women</i> Chapters 10 & 11

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<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
13 <i>Geographies of Muslim Women</i> Chapter 12	15 <u>AFGHANISTAN</u>  “Skin of the Burqa” Gillian Whitlock. 2005)  “Gendering War Talk” (Ayesha Khan, 2003)	16 <b>NO CLASS</b>	17 “Mullahs, Martyrs and Men: Conceptualizing Masculinity in the Islamic Republic of Iran” (Shahin Gerami, 2003)  “September 11: Masculinity, Justice, and the Politics of Empathy” (Vaheed Ramazani, 2002)
20 <b>Optional Paper Draft Due</b>  “Young Muslim Men in Scotland: Inclusions and Exclusions” (Peter H. Hopkins, 2004)  “Muslim First, Arab Second: A Strategic Politics of Race and Gender” (Nadine Naber, 2005)	22 <b>NO CLASS</b>	23 <b>NO CLASS</b>	24 <b>NO CLASS</b>
27 <i>Geographies of Muslim Women &amp; Masculinities</i> <b>Position Paper #3 Due</b>  <b>GROUP PRESENTATIONS</b>	29 <b>GROUP PRESENTATIONS</b>		(December) 1 <b>FINAL GROUP PROJECT—INDIVIDUAL PAPERS DUE</b>