Syllabus

Feminist Movements in the Middle East - 38865

Last update 13-01-2015

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies

Academic year: 1

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Liat Kozma

Coordinator Email: liat.kozma@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday, 11:00-12:00

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Liat Kozma
Course/Module description:
The purpose of the course is to study the diversity of feminist activism in the Middle East and North Africa, the achievements of women's movements and their challenges. While the first weeks of the semester will be dedicated to the beginning of feminist thought and activism in the region, most of the semester will examine various cases studies throughout the region. In Morocco and Iran, for example, we shall examine the work of Islamic feminism; the Turkish and Tunisian case studies will illustrate state intervention and sidelining of religion; the Israeli and Lebanese case studies will teach us of the challenges of a feminist movement in conflict-ridden society.

Course/Module aims:
1. Understanding the political context of feminist activism.
2. Understanding the challenges they are facing.
3. Understanding their strategies
4. Assessing their successes and failures

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
Mapping women's movements around the Middle East, and explaining the differences between them

Attendance requirements(%):
90%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course will be based on class discussion.

Course/Module Content:
Beginnings: The beginning of the printed press, Qasim Amin, national struggle and state feminism.
Contemporary case studies: Morocco, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Palestinian society and Iran.
Women's movements after the Arab Spring.

Required Reading:
1. Introductory Remarks
Part I: Historical overview
2. Beginnings: The printed press
Zachs, Fruma and Sharon Halevi. "From Dif' Al-Nis' to Mas'alat Al-Nis' in Greater Syria: Readers and Writers Debate Women and Their Rights, 1858-1900." International Journal of Middle East Studies 41 (2009), 615-633.
3. Qasim Amin: The first Arab feminist?
4. Between Colonialism and Nationalism: The formation of a movement
5. State Feminism

Contemporary Case Studies
6. Morocco: A success story?
7. Lebanon: Within and against a sectorial conflict
8. Jordan: Challenging tribal law
Abu Hassan, Reem and Lynn Welchman. "Changing the rules? Developments on


9. Israel: Calling equality's bluff


10. Palestinian citizens of Israel: A trapped minority


Rouhana, Hoda. "Muslim family laws in Israel: The role of the state and the citizenship of Palestinian women". Women Living under Muslim Laws: Dossier 27 (2005), 37-49.


11. Iran: Within the confines of a regime


12. Palestine: A formative debate

Jad, Islah. "Feminism Between Secularism and Islamism: The Case of Palestine (The West Bank and Gaza Strip)"


Amireh, Amal. "Liberation Struggles: Reflections on the Palestinian Women’s Movement"

Shalhoub-Kevorkian, Nadera. "Indigenizing Feminist Knowledge: Palestinian Feminist Thought Between the Physics of International Power and the Theology of Racist Security"

13. The Arab Spring and the future of Feminism in the Middle East


Morsy, Maya. "Safe city free of violence against women and girls is a safe city for everyone." Egypte / Monde Arabe 9 (2011), 151 -164.

14. Conclusion

Additional Reading Material:
none.

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 20 %
Participation in Tutorials 10 %
Project work 70 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:
The course will be taught in English.