

IAFS 3010: Islam, Geopolitics and Society (Summer 2019)

Professor: Jennifer L. Fluri, PhD, Associate Professor, Geography

If you are graduating in August 2019 and using this course to fulfill your senior seminar requirement, please contact your IAFS advisor and email Dr. Fluri. You will need to complete a research paper of 15-20 pages.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine Islam, geopolitics and society through the lens of gender, race, and culture in various locations throughout the globe, such as Afghanistan, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel/Palestine, Morocco, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Yemen. We will explore questions about geographic space, gender, and Islam such as: What constitutes a Muslim Space or the Muslim World? Who decides and defines these spaces? How are these spaces gendered, demarcated by racial categories and influenced by political Islam, Islamic practice, Islamic Feminism and counter-Islamic politics? How do men and women's experiences of Islam vary and in what ways are they represented and contextualized by personal practice in comparison with political action? How does the gendering of places differ by context, custom, beliefs, or power structures in different locations? We will also explore how geopolitically contingent discourses shape representations of Muslim people and places associated with Islam. The course materials will address the following topics:

1. Understanding Islam and Setting the Historical Context
2. Gender, Identity and Islam
3. Do Muslim Women Need Saving?
4. Body Politics: Geopolitics, Gender and Islam
5. Islamic Masculinities: Gender, Culture, Migration, and Politics

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course you should be able to:

- Demonstrate a competence of knowledge about Islam and Islamic practice.
- Describe masculinities and femininities, gender roles and relations in various spatial and situational contexts.
- Explain the complexities of gender, body politics, and economics as they intersect with various Muslim identities.
- Critically examine global feminisms and the political and social challenges, opportunities, and conflicts associated with women's activism across geographic spaces, with a particular focus on Islam.
- All learning outcomes will also be continually evaluated throughout the term in the form of on-line discussion **forums, quizzes**, reflection papers, and a final open book essay/exam.

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Communication Policy

- All email correspondences for this course should be sent to: Jennifer.Fluri@Colorado.Edu or Neda.Shaban@Colorado.Edu

For Emails, please enter in the subject line:

“Islam, Geopolitics and Society” OR “IA3010”.

- Emails will be answered Monday thru Friday ONLY. Emails will be responded to within a minimum of 24 hours and maximum of 48 hours from the time sent.

Discussion Boards will be posted weekly, beginning at **8 am (MST)** on Monday (Tuesday the first week of class) thru **5 pm (MST)** on Friday. Required weekly post to the discussion must occur within this time period.

COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Accommodations

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries under Quick Links at Disability Services website (<http://disabilityservices.colorado.edu/>) and discuss your needs with your professor.

Religious Observances

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, should you have a religious commitment that conflicts with your participation, please speak with Professor Fluri **before the end of the first week of the course** to discuss appropriate accommodations.

http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

On-line Classroom Policy

Course Policy: Class participation and quizzes are a graded part of this course.

University Policy: Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at:

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> AND

http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Discrimination and Harassment

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. The University of Colorado does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. (Regent Law, Article 10, amended 11/8/2001). CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, "Protected Classes" refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at

<http://hr.colorado.edu/dh/>

Honor Code

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at:

<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html>

<http://honorcode.colorado.edu>

Sources and Citations

<http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/how/citationstyle.htm>

Academic Assessment

Response Papers

You will be asked to write four short response papers. Each paper should be 2-4 pages that respond to the previous week's readings. Response papers should:

- Identify what you learned from the readings, lectures, and discussion boards.
- Compare the information provided in the readings, lectures and discussion with your own thoughts on or about the subject matter.
- Point out aspects of the course materials that have challenged you.
- Indicate specific questions that arose from or were not addressed by the course materials.

Each paper must be:

1. Typed
2. A minimum of 2 pages and maximum of 4 pages
3. Double spaced with 1" margins; 12-point Times New Roman font; Left justified
4. Uploaded to the **Canvas assignments/Dropbox** by the specified date/time (see schedule)

Participation in on-line Discussions

Discussion topics will be provided each week on the course website.

To meet the minimum requirement for class participation, each week you must answer the prompts and POST to the discussion board (at least once) between Monday and Wednesday and respond to at least one other student's posts on either Thursday or Friday.

Quizzes on the Readings

Quizzes will be posted to the course website each week. Four to Five quizzes will be posted each week (for weeks 1-4) and will ONLY be available during that week. For each quiz there will be five questions or less. Once you begin to take a quiz you will have 30 minutes to complete the quiz. These quizzes are focused on the readings rather than lecture. There are a total of 19 quizzes during the first 4 weeks of course, and lowest four grades will be dropped. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE UP QUIZZES.** There are no quizzes for week 5 because the final exam will have additional questions focused on week 5 course materials.

Final Exam

The final exam will be an open book exam to test your knowledge and understanding of the course materials. The best way to prepare for the exam is to review the readings and your lecture notes.

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Assignments, Quizzes & Exams are due on the date specified in the syllabus, unless otherwise noted by Professor Fluri.

Late Assignments will NOT BE ACCEPTED without prior permission from Professor Fluri. Late Assignments are subject to a 10% grade reduction per each day late.

- Four Response Papers: 40% (100 possible points/paper X 4 papers = 400 points = 40%)
- Participation in on-line Discussion 25% (50 possible points/week x 5 weeks = 250 points = 25%)
- Reading Check Quizzes 10% (5 possible points/quiz x 20 quizzes = 100 points = 10%)
- Final Exam: 25%

Total: 100%

Questions About Grades

Any and all grade questions or concerns MUST be submitted IN WRITING by filling out a grade inquiry form within two (2) business days from receiving your grade. Grade questions after this time will NOT be honored. Please see the course's website to download Dr. Fluri's Grade Inquiry Form.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts (Note: digital versions are available of each of these texts)

1. Esposito, John L. (2011) *What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam*. Second Edition. Oxford University Press.

E-book Available through the Campus Library:

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ucb/detail.action?docID=800838>

2. Abu-Lughod, Lila (2013) *Do Muslim Women Need Saving?* Harvard University Press.

E-book Available through the Campus Library:

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ucb/detail.action?docID=3301358>

NOTE: Articles listed on the syllabus schedule will be available as PDFs through

WEEK 1: Understanding Islam and Setting the Historical Context

Readings:

Esposito, John L., (2011) *What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam*. Oxford University Press.
E-book: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ucb/detail.action?docID=800838>

Wadud, Amina (2003) *American Muslim Identity: Race and Ethnicity in Progressive Islam*. In O. Safi (Editor) *Progressive Muslims: on justice, gender and pluralism*. Oxford University Press, pp. 270-285.

Films:

- ***Inside Mecca, Anisa Mehdi, National Geographic Special, 2003.***
- ***The Muslims are Coming! A film by Negin Farsad and Dean Obeidallah, 2013***

Quizzes:

Quiz 1: Syllabus Quiz, Due: Monday, June 3, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 2: *What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam*, Chapters: “Faith and Practice”; “Islam and Other Religions” and “Customs and Culture”, Due: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 3: *What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam*, Chapters: “Violence and Terrorism”
Due: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 4: *What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam*, Chapters: “Society and Politics” and “Muslims and the West” Due: Thursday, June 6, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Lectures:

Monday

- Lecture 1: General Overview and Islamic Faith and Practice
- Lecture 2: Islam and Other Religions
- Lecture 3: Customs and Culture

Tuesday

- Lecture 4: Violence & Terrorism

Wednesday

- Lecture 5: Society, Politics and Economy
- Lecture 6: Muslims and the West

Thursday/Friday

- Lecture 7: American Muslim Identity: Race and Ethnicity in Progressive Islam

WEEK 2: Gender, Identity and Islam

Paper #1 Due 8 am (MST) Monday, June 10, 2019

Readings:

Aitchison, Cara (Ed.) (2007) *Geographies of Muslim Identities: Diaspora, Gender and Belonging*

[Link to PDFs of each Chapter](#)

Quizzes:

Quiz 5: *Geographies of Muslim Identities* Chapters 1-3, Due: Monday, June 10, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 6: *Geographies of Muslim Identities* Chapters 4-5, Due: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 7: *Geographies of Muslim Identities* Chapters 6-7, Due: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 8: *Geographies of Muslim Identities* Chapters 8-9, Due: Thursday, June 13, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 9: *Geographies of Muslim Identities* Chapters 10-11, Due: Friday, June 14, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Lectures:

Monday

- Lecture 8: Introduction and Chp.2 “Beyond the Mosque: Turkish Immigrants and the Practice and Politics of Islam in Duisburg-Marxloh, Germany” by P. Ehrkamp
- Lecture 9: Chp.3: “Visible Minorities: Constructing and Deconstructing the ‘Muslim Iranian’ Diaspora” by C. McAuliffe

Tuesday

- Lecture 10: Chp.4: “‘The Other within the Same’: Some Aspects of Scottish-Pakistani Identity in Suburban Glasgow” by S. Mir
- Lecture 11: Chp.5: “Migration and the Construction of Muslim Women’s Identity in Northern Ireland” by G. Marranci

Wednesday

- Lecture 12: Chp.6: “Reconstructing ‘Muslimness’: New Bodies in Urban Indonesia” by S. van Wichelen
- Lecture 13: Chp.7: “‘Safe and Risky Spaces’: Gender, Ethnicity and Culture in the Leisure Lives of Young South Asian Women” by E. Green and C. Singleton

Thursday

- Lecture 14: Chp.8: “Daughters of Islam, Sisters in Sport” by T. Kay
- Lecture 15: Chp.9: “Cultural Muslims: The Evolution of Muslim Identity in Soviet and Post-Soviet Central Asia” by W.C. Rowe

Friday

- Lecture 16: Chp.10: “Islam and National Development: A Cross-Cultural Comparison of the Role of Religion in the Process of Economic Development and Cultural Change” by S. Salanga
- Lecture 17: Chp.11: “Young Muslim Men’s Experience of Local Landscapes after 11 September 2001” by P.E. Hopkins

WEEK 3: Do Muslim Women Need Saving?

Paper #2 Due 8 am (MST) Monday, June 17, 2019

Reading:

Abu-Lughod (2014) *Do Muslim Women Need Saving?* Harvard University Press.

E-book Available through the Campus Library:

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ucb/detail.action?docID=3301358>

Web Links:

See video interview with Leila Abu-Luhod

<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674725164>

Quizzes

Quiz 10: Introduction and Chapter 1, Due: Monday, June 17, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 11: Chapters 2-3, Due: Tuesday, June 18, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 12: Chapters 4-5, Due: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 13: Chapters 5-6, Due: Thursday, June 20, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 14: Conclusion, Due: Friday, June 21, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Lectures:

Monday

- Lecture 18: Introduction and Chapter 1: Do Muslim Women (Still) Need Saving?

Tuesday

- Lecture 19: Chapter 2: New Common Sense & Chapter 3: Authorizing Moral Crusades

Wednesday

- Lecture 20: Chapter 4: Seductions of the “honor crime”

Thursday

- Lecture 21: Chapter 5: The Social Life of Muslim Women’s Rights

Friday

- Lecture 22: Chapter 6: An Anthropologist in the Territory of Rights and Conclusion: Registers of Humanity

WEEK 4: Geopolitics, Gender and Islam—Body Politics

Paper #3 Due 8 am (MST) Due Monday, June 24, 2019

[Link to the Readings:](#)

- A.** Silvey, R. (2004). Transnational domestication: state power and Indonesian migrant women in Saudi Arabia. *Political Geography*, 23(3), 245-264.
- B.** Mullally, S. (2004). Feminism and multicultural dilemmas in India: Revisiting the Shah Bano case. *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*, 24(4), 671-692.
- C.** Smith, S. (2009). The domestication of geopolitics: Buddhist-Muslim conflict and the policing of marriage and the body in Ladakh, India. *Geopolitics*, 14(2), 197-218.
- D.** Gokariksel, B. and Secor, A.J. (2010) New Transnational geographies of Islamism, capitalism and subjectivity: the veiling-fashion industry in Turkey. *Area* 41:1 (6-18).
- E.** Lim, J. and Fanghanel, A. (2013) Hijabs, Hoodies, and Hotpants: Negotiating the ‘Slut’ in Slutwalk, *Geoforum* 48: 207-215.

Quizzes

Quiz 15: Reading A: Due: Monday, June 24, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 16: Reading B: Due: Tues. June 25, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 17: Reading C: Due: Wednesday, June 26, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 18: Reading D: Due: Thursday, June 27, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Quiz 19: Reading E: Due: Friday, June 28, 2019 by 5 pm (MST)

Lectures:

Monday

- Lecture 23: Transnational domestication

Tuesday

- Lecture 24: Feminism and multicultural dilemmas in India

Wednesday

- Lecture 25: The domestication of geopolitics

Thursday

- Lecture 26: New Transnational geographies of Islamism, capitalism and subjectivity

Friday

- Lecture 27: Hijabs, Hoodies, and Hotpants

Week 5: Islamic Masculinities

Paper #4 Due 8 am (MST) Monday, July 1, 2019

Readings:

- F.** Gokariksel, B. and Secor, A.J. (2017) Devout Muslim masculinities: the moral geographies and everyday practice in Turkey. *Gender, Place and Culture*, 24 (3): 381-402.
- G.** Shay, Anthony (2009) Choreographing Masculinity: Hypermasculine Dance Styles as Invented Tradition in Egypt, Iran and Uzbekistan. In *When Men Dance: Choreographing Masculinity Across Borders* (Edited by Jennifer Fisher and Anthony Shay) Oxford University Press, pages 287-308.
[Chapter Available as an E-Book at Chinook Library](#)
- H.** Rao, N. (2014) Migration, mobility and changing power relations: aspirations and praxis of Bangladeshi migrants. *Gender, Place and Culture*, 21 (7): 872-887

Lectures:

Monday

- Lecture 28: Reading F: “Devout Muslim masculinities”

Tuesday

- Lecture 29: Reading G: “Choreographing Masculinity”

Wednesday

- Lecture 30: Reading H: “Migration, mobility and changing power relations”

Thursday

- **NO Class for the 4th of July Holiday**

Friday

- **Final Exam, Friday, July 5, 2019 by 11:59 pm (MST)**