

Contemporary Maghrebi Literature

COURSE DESIGNATOR MRCO 3010/MSA 450

Language of Instruction Arabic

NUMBER OF CREDITS 5 credits

Contact Hours 90 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims at exploring North African societies and the production of literature within a postcolonial context with a special attention to Morocco. Students are exposed to a variety of texts, especially the short story and excerpts from selected novels. The focus is not only on the use of Arabic and its stylistic dimensions, but it is also on the major issues that have affected The Maghreb since independence. Therefore, concepts such as gender, identity, class, subalternity, and colonialism are discussed in class to enhance the students' capacity for debate and literary appreciation.

INSTRUCTOR

ALIF faculty

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Enhance their skills in advanced reading
- Acquire and expand new literary vocabulary
- Grasp basic methods of literary analysis
- Understand the major changes in the region
- Deal with new critical concepts, especially what relates to postcolonialism as a trend
- Develop their speaking skills

METHODOLOGY

- Lectures and discussions on some of the most prolific writers;
- Presentation, discussion and detailed examination of excerpts from relevant works of literature.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

MRCO 3002: Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic II (MSA 400)

REQUIRED READING/MATERIALS

Excerpts from short stories produced by influential Maghrebi writers

GRADING

Students will be evaluated for progress in mastery of learning outcomes by one or two of the following methods:

- Oral discussion of literary excerpts suggested by the teacher or students;
- Written report on one of the short stories suggested by the teacher or students;
- Final examination designed to assess the students' mastery of the essential concepts explored in the course.

CRITERIA FOR GRADING AND GRADING STANDARDS

Grading Rubric		
A	93+	Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
A-	90-92	Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet

B+	87-89	course requirements.
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
C+	77-79	
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
D+	67-69	
D	60-66	
F	0-59	Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

Summary of how grades are weighted:

Quizzes	40%
Final Exam	30%
Homework	10%
Oral Presentation & Research Projects	10%
Attendance & Class Participation	10%
<hr/> Overall grade	<hr/> 100%

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance and punctuality are mandatory in order to earn full marks. The final grade will take into consideration preparation required for class (i.e. readings) and participation in class discussions. If you miss any meetings without an excused absence from the on-site director, your final grade will be dropped accordingly. In the case of absences, it is the student's responsibility to find out what information was given in class including any announcements made.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own, can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct and student needs. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.