

INDIA ARAB CULTURAL CENTRE
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

M. A International Studies Arab-Islamic Culture

Course Title:	History of Arab Culture from Classical to Present
Duration:	One Semester
Credit:	4 credit/100 marks
Level of Teaching:	Post-Graduate
Method of Instruction:	Lectures, Seminars, Book Review & Tutorials
Mode of Evaluation:	Internal Assessment and End-Semester Examination

Course Description:

This is an introductory course of Arab Culture. It familiarizes the students about the difference nuances of Arab Culture starting from Pre-Islamic period to the present. The course intends to introduce the Arab culture throughout the period and what were the changes, it went through. Ideally, this course intends to increase the understanding of the students by providing them a realistic view of the cultural contours of the Arab world and introduce them to the richness of the Arab cultural heritage.

Part One: Arab Culture before Islam

A broad outline of the history and genres of classical Arab Culture i.e. the classical Arabic Poetry

History and development of Arab culture during the classical period

How the “The Mu állaqat” (The Hanging Poetry) defined the Arab Culture

Important literary genres.

Part Two: Arab Culture and the Islam

Impact of Islam on Arab Culture

Quar ánic Impact on Arab society and Culture

Constitution of Medina that changed the entire way of Culture.

Part Three: Arab Culture throughout the Islamic Period

Important Centers of religious learning as well as Cultural Learning

Development of the scientific knowledge Centers during (750-1258 A.D.)

Development of mosque schools in Baghdad and Alexandria

Bait al-Hikmah and Dar al-Ilm in Cairo (ca.998) and universities such as Al-Azhar (969 A.D.)

- Simon During (ed.), *The Cultural Studies Reader*, 1993
- Stuart Hall and Paul du Gay, *Questions of Cultural Identity*, 1996
- Albert Hourani, *A History of Arab Peoples*, 1991
- Elizabeth Fernea, *women and the Family in the Middle East: New Voices of Change*, 1985
- Fatima Mernissi, *Beyond the Veil: Male-Female Dynamics in a Modern Muslim Society*, 1987
- William A Rugh, *The Arab Press*, 1979
- Halim Barakat, *The Arab World: Society, Culture and State*, 1993
- Sami Zubaida and Richard Tapper (eds.), *Culinary Cultures of the Middle East*, 1994
- Bakhtin, Mikhail, *The Dialogic Imagination*, Texas Press, 1981
- _____, *Speech Genres & Other Late Essays*, Texas Press, 1986.
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- Bray, Julia, ed. *Writing and Representation in Medieval Islam*. Routledge, 2006
- Gelder, G. J. Van. *The Bad and the Ugly: 1000 Attitudes Towards Invective Poetry (Hija') in classical Arabic Literature*. Leiden, 1988.
- _____ *Of Dishes and Discourse: Classical Arabic Literary Representation of Food*, Richmond, Surrey, 2000.
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- Montgoomery, J. E. *The Vagaries of the Qasidah: The Tradition and Practice of Early Arabic Poetry* (1997).
- Moreh, Shmeul, *Live Theatre and Dramatic Literature in the Medieval Arab World*. Edinburgh, 1992.
- Al-Nowaihi, Magda. *The Poetry of Ibn Khafajah: A Literary Analysis*, Leiden, 1993.
- Ouyang, Wen-chin, *Literary Criticism in Medieval Arabic Islamic Culture*. Edinburgh, 1997.
- Stetkevych, J. *The Zephyrs of Nejd: The Poetics of Nostalgia in the Classical Arabic Nasib*, Chicago, 1993.
- Stetkevych S. P., ed., *Reorientations: Arabic and Persian Poetry*, Bloomington, 1994.
- Stetkevych S.P. *Abu Tammam and the Poetics of the Abbasid Age*, Leiden, 1991.
- _____. *The Mute Immortals Speak: Pre-Islamic Poetry and the Poetics of Ritual*, Ithaca, 1993.
- Sperl, S. *Islamic Kingship and Arabic Panegyric Poetry*, "Journal of Arabic Literature 8 (1979), 20-35.

- _____ Mannerism in Arabic Literature: A Structural Analysis of Selected Texts. Cambridge, 1989.
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- Allen, roger. The Arabic Literature: an Introduction.
- Haywood, John, Arabic Lexicography.
- Makdisi, George. The Rise of Colleges: Institutions of Learning in Islam and the West.
- Makdisi, George. The Rise of Humanism in Classical Islam and the Christian Narrative.
- Pellat, Charles. The Life and Works of Jahiz.