



## Gender and Religion in Contemporary Egypt

Year:	2017-2018
Catalog Number:	
Teacher(s):	
Language:	English
Blackboard:	No
EC:	5
Level:	300
Period:	Semester 2
Hours of study:	104 hrs
Lectures:	26 hrs
Practical work:	10 hrs
Tutoring:	hrs
Examination:	hrs
Other:	hrs
Elective choice:	Yes/No
Contractonderwijs:	Yes/No
Exchange:	Yes/No
Study abroad:	Yes/No
Evening course:	Yes/No
A la carte:	Yes/No
Honours class:	Yes/No

### Admission requirements

This course is available for second and third year Bachelor students from the Humanities and Social Sciences. Please note: this course takes place in Cairo, Egypt.

### Description

This course explores the complex relationship between gender and religion in Egypt while taking into account the intersectionality of class, gender, ethnicity and race. Against the backdrop of colonialism (including the West's Orientalizing depiction of local men and women), the state, cultural constructions of gender, and Islamism, the course will look into (Islamic and non-Islamic) women's movements, masculinities, and feminist activism. In order to do so, the course material will consist not only of theoretical texts, but will also look into cultural productions, like films, literature, music (mahraganat pop), and art. Key concepts from the social sciences, especially critical gender studies, will be introduced to serve as the necessary theoretical underpinnings.

### Course objectives

After the course, students will have

- developed the skill to analyze cultural, religious, and political contexts that shape gender roles.
- become aware of the social and cultural processes by which gender and gender-related stereotypes are constructed.
- gained insight in current theoretical approaches of critical gender studies.
- have developed their skills in exploring a limited topic according to academically sound methods;



- have developed skills in summarizing academic studies on the topic;
- have developed skills in presenting their own academic analyses in oral and in written form.

### Mode of instruction

Weekly seminar of 2 hours per week, a reader will be made available beforehand. The seminar will include lectures by local experts. Examples for guest lectures:

- Dr Paul Amar (University of California, Santa Barbara), "Middle East Masculinity/ies."
- Martina Rieker (American University of Cairo), Director of the Institute for Gender and Women's Studies
- Nazra for Feminist Studies (Cairo), "Feminism in Egypt."

### Course load

The total course load for the course is 140 hours (5 EC x 28 hrs), broken down as follows:

- Attendance in weekly lectures and seminars:  $13 \times 2 = 26$  hrs
- Time for reading/studying compulsory literature = 52 hrs
- Time for preparing assignments: 10 hrs
- Research and writing of paper: 52 hrs

### Assessment method

The final grade is made up of:

- Participation 10%
- Reading report 30%
- Final Oral exam 60%

**Blackboard:** N/A

### Literature

Leila Ahmed, *Women and Gender in Islam*, Yale: Univ. Press, 1992.

Maya Mikdashi, "How Not to Study Gender in the Middle East," *Jadaliyya* 21/3/2012.

### Registration

To register and for further information, please contact NVC ([info@nvc.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:info@nvc.leidenuniv.nl)).

**Registration studeren à la carte and contractonderwijs:** N/A

### Contact

Netherlands Flemish Institute in Cairo (NVC)

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### Remarks

Is part of	Programme type	Semester	Block
The Arab World Today: a semester abroad in Middle East Studies	Semester abroad, Bachelor	2	