

Brock University, Department of History

**HIST 4V59
Women of the Middle East
Winter 2010**

Instructor: Dr. Behnaz Mirzai
Office: 253 (573 Glenridge)
Office Hours: M 16:00-17:00 and by appointment
Class: MCG310
Class Hours: Mondays 1100-1400
Office Tel: (905) 688-5550 ext. 5283
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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Women of the Middle East will examine the lives of women in this region in the modern period. The varieties of social, political, religious and economic institutions with respect to the changing status of women will be explored. In doing so, we shall examine the images of women in tradition and Islamic law as well as Western literature. By studying the above circumstances, students will learn the role of religion, culture and the state structure in shaping the status of women and their contributions to modern Middle Eastern societies.

II. Textbooks on Reserve:

The following book has been placed on a three-hour reserve in the Gibson Library, Brock University:

Nashat, Guity and Tucker Judith E. *Women in the Middle East and North Africa*.
Bloomington: Indiana University Press. 1999.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Weekly Seminar Assignments– 10%

Each student will be required to write a total of 10 one-page analytical questions and responses (for each session 3 questions from the texts, approx. 300-400 words in total) to the main arguments and themes dealt with in that week's readings. These analyses should be made available to other students and posted on the course discussion of Sakai at least 24 hours prior to each class meeting. Students should also submit a copy of their assignment to me in the class (the assignments will not be returned to students).

2. Individual Seminar Participation: Attendance, and Discussion – 25%

Students are required to attend seminars regularly prepared to discuss the readings assigned for each week. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Each absence or failure to participation will result in the grade of 0 for seminars. If there are exceptional circumstances, you should contact me.

3. Group Seminar Leadership: Use of textbooks, Quality of Presentations, Collaboration – 25%

Small groups will lead and facilitate one seminar and weekly class discussions on assigned readings. All students are expected to participate actively in class discussions.

4. Proposal - 10%Due Feb. 8

Students must submit a one-page proposal describing the final research paper, along with a one-page annotated bibliography indicating primary and secondary sources.

5. Paper (14-16 page double-spaced) - 30%Due April 5

Essay topics can be related to the student’s seminar Leadership or any other topics included in the course syllabus. For proper citations and footnotes see: the Chicago Manual of Style, or Making Sense in the Humanities: a student’s guide to writing and Style by Margot Northey and Maurice Legris. Late essay submission will result in the reduction of 5% for each day past the due date. Papers received a week later than the due the date will not receive any comments. Papers submitted electronically will not be graded.

All class work you submit must be your own. Cheating and plagiarism are forbidden.

Link to Brock’s Medical Exemption Policy:
<http://www.brocku.ca/healthservices/exemption.php>

IV. LECTURE THEMES:

- | | | |
|----------|----------------|--|
| 1 | Jan. 11 | Introduction |
| 2 | Jan. 18 | Women in literature, Orientalism and Historiography |

Required Readings:

Colonialism and Gender in the East: Representations of the Harem in the Writings of Women Travellers

Shirley Foster

The Yearbook of English Studies, Vol. 34, Nineteenth-Century Travel Writing (2004), pp. 6-17

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3509480>

Englishmen in Arabia: Encounters with Middle Eastern Women

Carroll McC. Pastner

Signs > Vol. 4, No. 2 (Winter, 1978), pp. 309-323

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0097-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0097-9740%28197824%294%3A2%3C309%3AEIAEWM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9)

[9740%28197824%294%3A2%3C309%3AEIAEWM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0097-9740%28197824%294%3A2%3C309%3AEIAEWM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9)

Problems in the Historiography of Women in the Middle East: The Case of Nineteenth-Century Egypt

Judith E. Tucker

International Journal of Middle East Studies > Vol. 15, No. 3 (Aug., 1983), pp. 321-336

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28198308%2915%3A3%3C321%3APITHOW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N)

[7438%28198308%2915%3A3%3C321%3APITHOW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28198308%2915%3A3%3C321%3APITHOW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N)

Problems in the Study of Middle Eastern Women

Nikki R. Keddie

International Journal of Middle East Studies > Vol. 10, No. 2 (May, 1979), pp. 225-240

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28197905%2910%3A2%3C225%3APITSOM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F)

[7438%28197905%2910%3A2%3C225%3APITSOM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28197905%2910%3A2%3C225%3APITSOM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F)

Women and Gender in Middle East Studies: Trends, Prospects and Challenges

Simona Sharoni

Middle East Report > No. 205, Middle East Studies Networks: The Politics of a Field (Oct., 1997), pp. 27-29

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199710%2F12%290%3A205%3C27%3AWAGIME%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Y)

[2851%28199710%2F12%290%3A205%3C27%3AWAGIME%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Y](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199710%2F12%290%3A205%3C27%3AWAGIME%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Y)

Gendering History: Europe and the Middle East

David R. Blanks

Alif: Journal of Comparative Poetics > No. 19, Gender and Knowledge: Contribution of Gender Perspectives to Intellectual Formations/al-Junusah wa al-Marifah: Siyaghah al-Marifah Bayna al-Tanith wa al-Tadhkir (1999), pp. 43-67

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=1110-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=1110-8673%281999%290%3A19%3C43%3AGHEATM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-G)

[8673%281999%290%3A19%3C43%3AGHEATM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-G](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=1110-8673%281999%290%3A19%3C43%3AGHEATM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-G)

Class and Patriarchy as Competing Paradigms for the Study of Middle Eastern Women

Mervat Hatem

Comparative Studies in Society and History > Vol. 29, No. 4 (Oct., 1987), pp. 811-818

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4175%28198710%2929%3A4%3C811%3ACAPACP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-C)

[4175%28198710%2929%3A4%3C811%3ACAPACP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-C](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4175%28198710%2929%3A4%3C811%3ACAPACP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-C)

Middle Eastern Studies, Feminism, and Globalization

Minoo Moallem

Signs > Vol. 26, No. 4, Globalization and Gender (Summer, 2001), pp. 1265-1268

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0097-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0097-9740%28200122%2926%3A4%3C1265%3AMESFAG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M)

[9740%28200122%2926%3A4%3C1265%3AMESFAG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0097-9740%28200122%2926%3A4%3C1265%3AMESFAG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M)

Area Studies, Transnationalism, and the Feminist Production of Knowledge

Ella Shohat

Signs > Vol. 26, No. 4, Globalization and Gender (Summer, 2001), pp. 1269-1272

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0097->

9740%28200122%2926%3A4%3C1269%3AASTATF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N

3 Jan. 25 Women and Islam, Political Islam and Veil

Required Readings:

Nashat, *Women in the Middle East and North Africa*, xxxv-xxxvi; 34-64.

Purdah

Elizabeth H. White

Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies > Vol. 2, No. 1 (Spring, 1977), pp. 31-42

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0160->

9009%28197721%292%3A1%3C31%3AP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S

Women, Islam and the State

Deniz Kandiyoti

Middle East Report > No. 173, Gender and Politics (Nov., 1991), pp. 9-14

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899->

2851%28199111%2F12%290%3A173%3C9%3AWIATS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-1

The Return to the Veil: Individual Autonomy vs. Social Esteem

Pat Mule; Diane Barthel

Sociological Forum > Vol. 7, No. 2 (Jun., 1992), pp. 323-332

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0884->

8971%28199206%297%3A2%3C323%3ATRRTVI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F

Muslim Identity and Secularism in Contemporary Turkey: "The Headscarf Dispute"

Emelie A. Olson

Anthropological Quarterly > Vol. 58, No. 4, Self & Society in the Middle East (Oct., 1985), pp. 161-171

Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003->

5491%28198510%2958%3A4%3C161%3AMIASIC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K

Muslim Women and Fundamentalism

Fatima Mernissi *Middle East Report* > No. 153, Islam and the State (Jul., 1988), pp. 8-11+50

Stable URL:

<http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=08992851%28198807%2F08%290%3A153%3C8%3AMWAF%3E2.0.CO%3B2-N>

Sexuality and the Moral "Construction" of Women in an Islamic Society

Janet L. Bauer

Anthropological Quarterly > Vol. 58, No. 3 (Jul., 1985), pp. 120-129
Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-5491%28198507%2958%3A3%3C120%3ASATM%22O%3E2.0.CO%3B2-E>

4 Feb. 1 Women, Politic and Nationalism

Required Readings:

Nashat, *Women in the Middle East and North Africa*, xlvi-lix; 84-93; 109-121.

Women in the Middle East and North Africa and Universal Suffrage

Beraët Zeki Üngör

Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Vol. 375, Women around the World (Jan., 1968), pp. 72-81

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1037891>

Women and Politics in the Middle East

Suad Joseph

MERIP Middle East Report > No. 138, Women and Politics in the Middle East (Jan., 1986), pp. 3-7

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-0328%28198601%2F02%290%3A138%3C3%3AWAPITM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D)

[0328%28198601%2F02%290%3A138%3C3%3AWAPITM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-0328%28198601%2F02%290%3A138%3C3%3AWAPITM%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D)

Gender and Political Change

Julie Peteet; Barbara Harlow

Middle East Report > No. 173, Gender and Politics (Nov., 1991), pp. 4-8

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199111%2F12%290%3A173%3C4%3AGAPC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-G)

[2851%28199111%2F12%290%3A173%3C4%3AGAPC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-G](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199111%2F12%290%3A173%3C4%3AGAPC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-G)

Public and Private Politics: Women in the Middle Eastern World

Cynthia Nelson

American Ethnologist > Vol. 1, No. 3 (Aug., 1974), pp. 551-563

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0094-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0094-0496%28197408%291%3A3%3C551%3APAPPWI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

[0496%28197408%291%3A3%3C551%3APAPPWI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0094-0496%28197408%291%3A3%3C551%3APAPPWI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

Political Roles of Iranian Village Women

Mary Elaine Hegland

MERIP Middle East Report > No. 138, Women and Politics in the Middle East (Jan., 1986), pp. 14-19+46

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-0328%28198601%2F02%290%3A138%3C14%3APROIVW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-0)

[0328%28198601%2F02%290%3A138%3C14%3APROIVW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-0](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0888-0328%28198601%2F02%290%3A138%3C14%3APROIVW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-0)

Palestinian Women: Gender Politics and Nationalism

Sherna Berger Gluck

Journal of Palestine Studies > Vol. 24, No. 3 (Spring, 1995), pp. 5-15

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0377-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0377-919X%28199521%2924%3A3%3C5%3APWGPAN%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J)

[919X%28199521%2924%3A3%3C5%3APWGPAN%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0377-919X%28199521%2924%3A3%3C5%3APWGPAN%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J)

Women, Nationalism and Islam in Contemporary Political Discourse in Iran

Nahid Yeganeh

Feminist Review > No. 44, Nationalisms and National Identities (Summer, 1993), pp. 3-18

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0141-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0141-7789%28199322%290%3A44%3C3%3AWNAIIC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Y)

[7789%28199322%290%3A44%3C3%3AWNAIIC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Y](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0141-7789%28199322%290%3A44%3C3%3AWNAIIC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Y)

The Women's Movement during the Uprising

Joost R. Hiltermann

Journal of Palestine Studies > Vol. 20, No. 3 (Spring, 1991), pp. 48-57

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0377-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0377-919X%28199121%2920%3A3%3C48%3ATWMDTU%3E2.0.CO%3B2-B)

[919X%28199121%2920%3A3%3C48%3ATWMDTU%3E2.0.CO%3B2-B](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0377-919X%28199121%2920%3A3%3C48%3ATWMDTU%3E2.0.CO%3B2-B)

Iraq's Excluded Women

Swanee Hunt and Cristina Posa

Foreign Policy, No. 143 (Jul. - Aug., 2004), pp. 40-45

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4152909>

5 Feb. 8

Women : Slavery and haram PROPOSAL DUE

Required Readings:

How the Sex Trade Becomes a Slave Trade: The Trafficking of Women to Israel

Anya Stone; Martina Vandenberg

Middle East Report > No. 211, Trafficking and Transiting: New Perspectives on Labor Migration (Summer, 1999), pp. 36-38

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199922%290%3A211%3C36%3AHTSTBA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M)

[2851%28199922%290%3A211%3C36%3AHTSTBA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199922%290%3A211%3C36%3AHTSTBA%3E2.0.CO%3B2-M)

Late Ottoman Concepts of Slavery (1830s-1880s)

Ehud R. Toledano

Poetics Today > Vol. 14, No. 3, Cultural Processes in Muslim and Arab Societies: Modern Period I (Autumn, 1993), pp. 477-506

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0333-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0333-5372%28199323%2914%3A3%3C477%3ALOCOS%28%3E2.0.CO%3B2-%23)

[5372%28199323%2914%3A3%3C477%3ALOCOS%28%3E2.0.CO%3B2-%23](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0333-5372%28199323%2914%3A3%3C477%3ALOCOS%28%3E2.0.CO%3B2-%23)

How the Sex Trade Becomes a Slave Trade: The Trafficking of Women to Israel

Anya Stone and Martina Vandenberg

Middle East Report, No. 211, Trafficking and Transiting: New Perspectives on Labor Migration (Summer, 1999), pp. 36-38

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3013336>

Western Ethnocentrism and Perceptions of the Harem

Leila Ahmed

Feminist Studies, Vol. 8, No. 3 (Autumn, 1982), pp. 521-534

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3177710>

Required Readings:

Nashat, *Women in the Middle East and North Africa*, xl-xlv; 64-65.

Gender and Citizenship in Middle Eastern States

Suad Joseph

Middle East Report > No. 198, Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East (Jan., 1996), pp. 4-10

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C4%3AGACIME%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z)

[2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C4%3AGACIME%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C4%3AGACIME%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z)

Women and the Women's Equal Rights Law in Israel

Nitza Berkovitch

Middle East Report > No. 198, Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East (Jan., 1996), pp. 19-21

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C19%3AWATWER%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9)

[2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C19%3AWATWER%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C19%3AWATWER%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9)

Women and Personal Status Law in Iran: An Interview with Mehranguiz Kar

Mehranguiz Kar; Homa Hoodfar

Middle East Report > No. 198, Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East (Jan., 1996), pp. 36-38

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C36%3AWAPSLI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-5)

[2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C36%3AWAPSLI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-5](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0899-2851%28199601%2F03%290%3A198%3C36%3AWAPSLI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-5)

Status of Women in Turkey: Cross-Cultural Perspectives

Cigdem Kagitcibasi

International Journal of Middle East Studies > Vol. 18, No. 4 (Nov., 1986), pp. 485-499

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28198611%2918%3A4%3C485%3ASOWITC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z)

[7438%28198611%2918%3A4%3C485%3ASOWITC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28198611%2918%3A4%3C485%3ASOWITC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z)

Modernization and Consanguineous Marriage in Iran

Benjamin P. Givens; Charles Hirschman

Journal of Marriage and the Family > Vol. 56, No. 4 (Nov., 1994), pp. 820-834

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-2445%28199411%2956%3A4%3C820%3AMACMII%3E2.0.CO%3B2-X)

[2445%28199411%2956%3A4%3C820%3AMACMII%3E2.0.CO%3B2-X](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-2445%28199411%2956%3A4%3C820%3AMACMII%3E2.0.CO%3B2-X)

The Changing Moslem Family of the Middle East

Dorothy Fahs Beck, *Marriage and Family Living*, Vol. 19, No. 4 (Nov., 1957), pp. 340-347

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/347800>

Parallel-Cousin (FBD) Marriage, Islamization, and Arabization

Andrey Korotayev

Ethnology, Vol. 39, No. 4, Special Issue: Comparative Research and Cultural Units (Autumn, 2000), pp. 395-407
Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3774053>

7 March 8 Women and Education

Required Readings:

Nashat, *Women in the Middle East and North Africa*, lv-lvi; 65-70; 93-101.

World Religions, Women and Education

Ursula King

Comparative Education > Vol. 23, No. 1, Special Number (10): Sex Differences in Education (1987), pp. 35-49

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-0068%281987%2923%3A1%3C35%3AWRWAE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

[0068%281987%2923%3A1%3C35%3AWRWAE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-0068%281987%2923%3A1%3C35%3AWRWAE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S)

Women and Schooling in the Third World: A Bibliography

Gail P. Kelly; Younus Lulat

Comparative Education Review > Vol. 24, No. 2, Part 2, Women and Education in the Third World (Jun., 1980), pp. S224-S263

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4086%28198006%2924%3A2%3CS224%3AWASITT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

[4086%28198006%2924%3A2%3CS224%3AWASITT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4086%28198006%2924%3A2%3CS224%3AWASITT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

The Feminist Vision in the Writings of Three Turn-of-the-Century Egyptian Women

Margot Badran

Bulletin (British Society for Middle Eastern Studies) > Vol. 15, No. 1/2 (1988), pp. 11-20

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-6139%281988%2915%3A1%2F2%3C11%3ATFVITW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-V)

[6139%281988%2915%3A1%2F2%3C11%3ATFVITW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-V](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0305-6139%281988%2915%3A1%2F2%3C11%3ATFVITW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-V)

Women, Modernization, and Education in Kuwait

Afaf Ibrahim Meleis; Nagat El-Sanabary; Diane Beeson

Comparative Education Review > Vol. 23, No. 1 (Feb., 1979), pp. 115-124

Stable URL: [http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-](http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4086%28197902%2923%3A1%3C115%3AWMAEIK%3E2.0.CO%3B2-4)

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Galit Saada-Ophir

Cultural Anthropology, Vol. 21, No. 2 (May, 2006), pp. 205-233

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Leonard Lewisohn

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