

Module IR 479, UNDERGRADUATE (FALL)

Islam and the West: Bridging the Gap

Tuesdays, 15.00-18.00

Room: Santral Campus E4-304

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Course Description

The Course, "Islam and the West: Bridging the Gap", is concerned to map out the general framework of the issues related to Islam and the European Union members. This course examines, among other topics, the relationship between Islam on the one hand and multiculturalism, orientalism, occidentalism, modernization, post-colonialism, post-communism, globalization, mysticism, the Ottoman Empire, the Balkans and the Middle East. The course also aims at giving students a comparative perspective on the issues from Andalusia to the Ottoman Empire. A historical account of the early encounters between Islam and the Judeo-Christian West will be provided by examining some fields of interaction in philosophy, science, and education. This will be followed by an analysis of the European perceptions of Islam during the Renaissance and the Enlightenment, paving the way for the modern conceptions of Islam and the Islamic world in the Western hemisphere. Special attention will be paid to the rise of the European civilization as the superior power of the modern world and its impact on the relation of the two civilizations in negotiating various forms and patterns of encounter, challenge, rejection, reaction, and adaptation.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, students should display a basic understanding of the most important historical and contemporary debates on Islam and its relation to the West. The students are also expected to generate an awareness of the merits of scientific knowledge in bridging the gap between Islam and Europe. Exploring the process of interaction between Islam and Europe in an historical context, the students will be expected to find about the irrelevance of constructed and fabricated boundaries between the two.

Course Requirements

Students are required to attend the lectures and discussions; they are also required

- a) to write **two discussion papers** of 1.000 words each as the course work (**Deadlines:** the week after we discuss the related topic about which you will write your papers); and
- b) to write **one long essay** of 3.000 words as the final work (**Deadline** 14 January 2014).

Course work will cover two working papers, attendance and participation (40 + 20 = 60 percent); and the **final work** will cover the long essay (40 percent).

SYLLABUS CONTENT

1. **1 October 2013 Theories of Religion: Introduction to Islam**
 - Willfried Spohn, Multiple Modernity, Nationalism and Religion: A Global Perspective", *Current Sociology*, Vol. 51, No.3/4 (May/July): 265–286
2. **8 October 2013 Islam, Multiculturalism and the State in the Ottoman Empire**
 - Karen Barkey (2007). "An Ottoman Model of Toleration: Constructing Mechanisms of Inter-Religious, Inter-Ethnic Peace", *Unpublished Paper*, Columbia University
3. **22 October 2013 Europe, the Enlightenment and the Impact of Islam on the European Civilization**
 - Goody, Jack (2012). "The Arabs and the Italian Renaissance," in N.R.F. Al-Rodhan (Ed.), *The*

Role of the Arab-Islamic World in the Rise of the West. London: Palgrave: 25-37

- Guerin, Frederique (2012). "Re-orienting the Reformation? Prolegomena to a History of the Reformation's Connection with the Islamic World," N.R.F. Al-Rodhan (Ed.), *The Role of the Arab-Islamic World in the Rise of the West*. London: Palgrave: 38-60
4. **5 November 2013 Islam in the Balkans: Tracing the early encounters**
Assist. Prof. Dr. İnan Ruma, International Relations, Istanbul Bilgi University
 - Norris, Harry T. (1993). *Islam in the Balkans: Religion and Society between Empire and the Arab World*. London: Hurst.
 5. **12 November 2013 Political Islam**
 - John L. Esposito (1997). "Claiming the Center: Political Islam in Transition," *Harvard International Review* (Spring).
 - Reiner Herman (2003). "Political Islam in Secular Turkey", *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations*, Vol. 14, No. 3, July): 265-276.
 6. **19 November 2013 The Arab-Israeli Conflict: Implications for Islam**
Prof. Dr. Gencer Özcan, International Relations, Istanbul Bilgi University
 - Anthony Best et al. (2004), *International History of the Twentieth Century*, Routledge: Chapters 5 and 18.
 7. **26 November 2013 Orientalism and Occidentalism**
 - Fred Halliday (1993). "Orientalism and Its Critiques," *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 20, No. 2: 145-163
 - Ian Buruma and Avishai Margalit (2004). *Occidentalism: A Short History of Anti-Westernism*. London: Atlantic Books: 1-12 and 75-99
 8. **3 December 2013 Islam and Women**
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pinar Uyan, Politics, Istanbul Bilgi University
 - Deniz Kandiyoti (1991). "Women, Islam and the State", *Middle East Report*, No. 173, *Gender and Politics*. (Nov. - Dec.): 9-14.
 9. **10 December 2013 Islam, European Enlightenment and Post-Colonialism**
 - Abdelwahab Meddeb (2006). "Islam and the Enlightenment: Between Ebb and Flow", Translated by Charlotte Mandell: available at http://www.logosjournal.com/issue_5.3/meddeb.htm
 - Louay Safi (1995). From Reform to Revolution: A Critical Reading of the Political Discourse and Actions of the Islamic Movement in Egypt", *Intellectual Discourse*, Vol. 3, No. 1: 23-49.
 10. **17 December 2013 Islam, Modernization and Globalization: Transnationalizing Islam**
 - Stephen Vertigans and Phillip W. Sutton (2002). Globalization Theory and Islamic Praxis", *Global Society*, Vol. 16, No. 1: 31-46.
 - Peter Mandaville (2001), "Living Islam: politics and community in the Muslim world," in P. Mandaville, *Transnational Muslim Politics: Reimagining the Umma* (London: Routledge): 109-151.
 11. **24 December 2013 Islam in the West: Migrants in Western Europe and Euro-Islam**
 - Ayhan Kaya (2012). *Islam, Migration and Integration: The Age of Securitization*. London: Palgrave MacMillan, Introduction.
 - Ayhan Kaya (2006). "The Beur uprising: Poverty and Muslim atheists in France", *Eurozine Online*.
 12. **31 December 2013 September 11: Roots, Responses and Results**
 - Gabriele Marranci (2004). Multiculturalism, Islam and the clash of civilisations theory: rethinking Islamophobia", *Culture and Religion* Vol. 5, No 1: 105-117
 13. **7 January 2014 Islamophobia as a form of Governmentality**
 - Ayhan Kaya (2012). "Islamophobia as a form of governmentality," in A. Kaya, *Migration, Integration and Islam: The Age of Securitization*. London: Palgrave, Chapter 7.
 14. **14 January 2014 Submission of Final Papers**