Week One

Monday, May 10. Dr. Barbara Stowasser, Professor, Department of Arabic and Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.

Morning Session: Women in the Qur’an: Tradition and Interpretation [Open session in collaboration with University of Pennsylvania Middle East Center]
Reading: Barbara Stowasser Women in the Qur’an Oxford Univ. Press

Afternoon Session: The Qur’an and Gender
Readings:
Asma Barlas ‘Believing Women’ in Islam Univ. of Texas Press
Amina Wadud Qur’an and Woman Oxford Univ. Press.

Tuesday, May 11. Jeffrey Tigay, University of Pennsylvania;
Morning Session: Gilgamesh as Archeological, Religious and Literary Text
Readings

Afternoon Session: Comparison of Biblical and Mesopotamian Flood Stories
Readings
Wednesday, May 12. David Prejsnar, History and Philosophy Department, Community College of Philadelphia “Zoroastrianism” (Morning Session)

Readings:

We will have a brown-bag lunch to discuss themes of the first week and review expectations for course modules.

Thursday, May 13 Dr. S. Tamar Kamionkowski, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Morning Session: Gender Studies and the Hebrew Bible: Modern and Post-Modern Approaches

Readings:

Afternoon: Analysis of Biblical Texts

Readings:
Hosea 1-3
Ezekiel 16 and 23
Isaiah 54:1-10
Week Two

Monday May 17 Pardis Minuchehr, Lecturer of Persian Language and Literature, University of Pennsylvania;

Morning Session: Persian Narrative/Romance

Readings:
Norton Anthology: Introduction and Time Line
“Ghazal: The Ideals of Love” from Julie Scott Meisani “Medieval Persian Court Poetry
Excerpt from a Persian Romantic Poem by Nizami 1197
“The Ideal Beloved” from Layli and Majnun: Love Madness, and Mystic Longing in Nizami’s Epic Romance by Ali Asghar Seyed-Gohrab
Frame story from “The Thousand and One Nights” from Norton labeled 14th Century
“Otherness and Otherworldliness: Edward W. Lane’s Arabian Nights” chapter by Jennifer Schacker

Afternoon Session: Sufi Mysticism and Rumi

Readings: Tales from The Masnavi Trans. Arberry
“More Tales from the Masnavi” Trans. Arberry
Poems from Rumi the Book of Love Trans. Coleman Barks
Rumi: The Person and the Poet by Fatemeh Keshavarz

Tuesday May 18, Richard Bulliet, Professor of History, Columbia University;
Morning Session: Early views of Persia
Afternoon Session: Conversion process to Islam in the Iraq/Iran area

Wednesday May 19. Richard Bulliet. [Open Session in collaboration with University of Pennsylvania Middle East Center]
Morning Session: “Urbanization and Culture in 9th and 10th Century Iran”

Afternoon Session: Introduction to Shiite Islam in Iran 9th Century to Present.
Reading: Richard Bulliet. Islam: The View from the Edge
Thursday May 20. Marie Swietochowski, Curator-Emeritas, Islamic Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Morning Session: Introduction to Persian Miniatures: Historical and Aesthetic Perspectives
Afternoon Session: 16th Century Illustrations of the Shanahmeh

Week Three

Wednesday, May 26. Cathlyn Mariscotti, Assistant Professor of History Department, Holy Family College.

Morning Session: Theory and Controversy in Academic Approaches to the Middle East: Debate of Edward Said and Bernard Lewis: ‘Orientalism’
Readings: Introduction to Said’s Orientalism
“The Question of Orientalism” by Bernard Lewis
Dan Varisco. “East Vs. West, Orient vs. Occident: The Binary that Haunts Orientalism and the Clash of Civilizations”

Afternoon Session: Introduction to Twentieth Century Arab Nationalism.

Thursday, May 27. Ayala Guy, Instructor of Hebrew, Temple University

Morning and Afternoon Sessions: Fiction of Israel: 1949 to present.

Week Four

Wednesday June 2: Jerry M. Kutnick, Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor History and Jewish Thought, Gratz College,

Morning Session: History of Modern Zionism: 1870-1919
Reading: “The Rise of Zionism” from Howard Sachar, The Course of
Modern Jewish History


Afternoon Session: Zionism and Jewish-Arab Relations: 1907-1949


Thursday, June 3

Week Five

Monday, May 7, 2004. Robert Vitalis, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania.

Morning Session: “Understanding 20th Century Middle East: The Case of Saudi Arabia and the Role of Oil”


Afternoon Session: “Understanding Current U. S. Policy in Iraq”


Morning Session: A Literary and Cultural Background to the Qur’an.
Afternoon Session: Introduction to the Qur’an


Wednesday, May 9. Professor Sells
  Morning: Teaching the Qur’an on the college level.
  Reading and CD: Approaching the Qur’an
  Afternoon: Teaching About Contemporary Islamic Society through Fiction

Readings: Taleb Salib The Wedding of Zein