

Course Syllabus

Asian American Studies 128AC SEP

Muslims IN AMERICA: COMMUNITIES AND INSTITUTIONS

M/W 5-6:30PM

Office Hours: Wed. 1-2PM

Dr. Hatem Bazian

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Follow the Professor on twitter @Hatembazian

www.hatembazian.com (<http://www.hatembazian.com/>)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hatem-Bazian/270941208377?ref=hl> (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hatem-Bazian/270941208377?ref=hl>)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChx5JSYHoqOqjxW_ONndpvQ
(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChx5JSYHoqOqjxW_ONndpvQ)

Graduate Student Instructors:

- Talha Mirza
- Kristen George;
- Rasheed Shabazz, rasheed@berkeley.edu (<mailto:rasheed@berkeley.edu>) | Sections Tues 2-3pm; Thurs 3-4pm; **Office Hours W & TH 2-3PM** | (<https://calendly.com/rasheed-shabazz/15min>) Rasheed's Section's Syllabus: [.docx](#) or [.pdf](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course traces Islam's journey in America, beginning with an examination pre-Columbus contacts, then moving toward the first exclusionary acts in the new colonies directed at Muslims of West and North African descent, early arrivals in the 16th century, and a look at narratives and documents relative to African Muslim slaves. Building on this early history, we deal with the emergence of identifiable Muslim communities throughout the US and focus on patterns of migration, the ethnic makeup of such communities, gender dynamics, political identity, and cases of conversion to Islam. We spend considerable time on the African American, Indo-Pakistani, and Arab American Muslim communities, since they constitute the largest groupings. Also, the course examines in depth the emergence of national, regional, and local Muslim institutions, patterns of development pursued by a number of them, and levels of cooperation or antagonism. The course seeks an examination of gender relations and dynamics across the various Muslim grouping and the internal and external factors that contribute to real and imagined crisis. The course likewise seeks to conduct and document the growth and expansion of mosques, schools, and community centers in the greater SF Bay Area. Finally, no class on Islam in America would be complete without a critical examination of the impacts of 9/11 on Muslim communities, the erosion of civil rights, and the on-going war on terrorism.

Required Reading:

Books are available at:

Zaytuna College Bookstore

2401 Le Conte Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94709

<https://bookstore.zaytuna.edu> [.\(https://bookstore.zaytuna.edu/\)](https://bookstore.zaytuna.edu)

1. Sylviane Diouf, Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas
2. Kambiz GhaneaBassiri, A History of Islam in America
3. Hatem Bazian, Annotations on Race, Colonialism, Islamophobia, Islam and Palestine.
4. Human Architecture, Vol. 5, Issue I, Fall 2006, Othering Islam, pp.1-29

<https://scholarworks.umb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1151&context=humanarchitecture>

[.\(https://scholarworks.umb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1151&context=humanarchitecture\)](https://scholarworks.umb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1151&context=humanarchitecture)

5. Confronting Fear: Islamophobia and its Impact in the United States, CRG and CAIR annual Report available bcourses. https://www.academia.edu/26342903/Confronting_Fear_Islamophobia_and_its_Impact_in_the_United_States [.\(https://www.academia.edu/26342903/Confronting_Fear_Islamophobia_and_its_Impact_in_the_United_States\)](https://www.academia.edu/26342903/Confronting_Fear_Islamophobia_and_its_Impact_in_the_United_States)
6. Malcolm X : The Documentary <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M> [.\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M)



[.\(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M)

7. Hatem Bazian, Virtual Internment, <http://www.hatembazian.com/content/virtual-internment-arabs-muslims-asians-and-the-war-on-terrorism/> [.\(http://www.hatembazian.com/content/virtual-internment-arabs-muslims-asians-and-the-war-on-terrorism/\)](http://www.hatembazian.com/content/virtual-internment-arabs-muslims-asians-and-the-war-on-terrorism/)
8. The Bay Area Muslim Study: Establishing Identity and Community https://www.academia.edu/6974394/The_Bay_Area_Muslim_Study_Establishing_Identity_and_Community [.\(https://www.academia.edu/6974394/The_Bay_Area_Muslim_Study_Establishing_Identity_and_Community\)](https://www.academia.edu/6974394/The_Bay_Area_Muslim_Study_Establishing_Identity_and_Community)
9. When Swimming As a Muslim Woman Becomes A Political Act – HuffPost <https://apple.news/AnZ3xaQ0iS8Cyy3ucesToMg> [.\(https://apple.news/AnZ3xaQ0iS8Cyy3ucesToMg\)](https://apple.news/AnZ3xaQ0iS8Cyy3ucesToMg)
10. Additional materials will be shared with the class on a regular basis due to national and international developments focusing on Islam and Muslims.

Course Requirements:

Attendance of the weekly lectures and sections.	10%
Participating (lectures and sections).	10%
3 Reflection Papers (due for the GSI).	15%
Mid-term exam. Oct. 14, 2020	20%
Final exam (Friday, Dec. 18th, 3-6PM)	25%
Oral History Project	20%

Attendance: The class is 1.5 hours twice a week, and you are expected to attend from the beginning of the class all the way to the end. For those that are unable to attend due to time zone difference then they can access the recordings.

If you do happen to miss the class lecture, then you are responsible for the material covered and you should get the notes from someone else in the class.

Email: Use of e-mail is limited to very urgent matters and I will not respond to inquiries related to missing class or needing information about what was covered during absences. This is a large class and your immediate communications should be with the GSI. My office hours are the appropriate time to seek clarification on materials covered or to discuss issues related to your

performance in the class. The GSIs are available for you to ask questions and clarify concepts covered in the class as well as any attendance related issues.

Oral Interview Project: The final project is centered on conducting an oral history interview with a Muslim person. The questions will be provided to you by the GSI and a practice on interviewing will take place in your sections. For more interviewing tips and more information visit UC Berkeley Oral History Center page:

<https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/oral-history-center/oral-history-tips>

(<https://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/oral-history-center/oral-history-tips>)

Midterm: Wed. Oct 14, 2020

SCHEDULE:

The course is organized thematically to cover a number of important areas related to current research on the subject of Islam in America. Each theme will take about 3 weeks of class time and the cluster of readings is intended to focus on the specific central aspect of the section. In general, reading assignment account for 50-70 pages of reading per week and each section have various readings to contextualize the subject. Video materials are intended to provide additional context and address recent issues or provide specific examples directly connected to the assigned readings.

(1) Indigenous Islam in America (Aug. 26- Sept. 16)

Readings:

Read the materials listed below with Sylviane Diouf's book being the primary text.

Sylviane Diouf, Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas

Prince Among Slaves

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDDOsRkX72Y> (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDDOsRkX72Y>)



(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDDOsRkX72Y>)

Kambiz GhaneaBassiri, A History of Islam in America, pp. 1-95

Malcolm X: The Documentary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M> (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M>)



(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7kIC1zR60M>)

Hatem Bazian, Annotations, Part 1 pp. 10-75

Alan D. Austin, African Muslims in Antebellum America, pp. 65-84 & 129-156

Aminah Beverly McCloud, African American Islam, pp. 117-163

Latino Muslims:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IT40YXNKJ54> (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IT40YXNKJ54>)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IT40YXNKJ54>

Latinas Converting to Islam:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghNyloQoeyI> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghNyloQoeyI>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghNyloQoeyI>

1st White American Covert to Islam:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SepxVgY-MrU> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SepxVgY-MrU>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SepxVgY-MrU>

White Coverts to Islam:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR78-GK6oyU> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR78-GK6oyU>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR78-GK6oyU>

Dr. Laurence Brown

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Gr54pYc3Ak> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Gr54pYc3Ak>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Gr54pYc3Ak>

Jewish Convert to Islam:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6Os_DgKPMk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6Os_DgKPMk



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6Os_DgKPMk

US Guantanamo Guard Converts to Islam:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsfSfs_AEE0 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsfSfs_AEE0



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsfSfs_AEE0

(2) Immigrant Islam (Sept. 21 – Oct. 12)

Readings:

Kambiz GhaneaBassiri, A History of Islam in America, pp. 95-165

Hatem Bazian, Annotations, Part 2, pp. 78-163

Michael W. Suleiman, Arabs in America, Building a New Future pp. 25-53 & 257-320

Edward Said, Orientalism –Introduction to the book only

Bay Area Muslim Study – bcourses file

Pew Report Muslim Americans – bcourses file

(3) Islam, Civil Rights, and Globalization (Oct. 19- Nov. 11)

Readings:

Kambiz GhaneaBassiri, A History of Islam in America, pp. 165-272

Hatem Bazian, Annotations, Part 3, pp. 166-278

Edward Said, Orientalism, 1-28

Ahmad Gunny, Perceptions of Islam in European Writings, pp. 139-181

Mohamed Nimer, Islamophobia and Anti-Americanism, Causes and Remedies, pp. 1-35

Jack Shaheen, Reel Bad Arabs: How Hollywood Villifies Arabs, Introduction.

Human Architecture, Vol. 5, Issue I, Fall 2006, Othering Islam, pp.1-29

Trevor Aaronson, Inside the Terror Factory, Award-winning journalist digs deep into the FBI's massive efforts to create fake terrorist plots.

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2013/01/terror-factory-fbi-trevor-aaronson-book/>

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2013/01/terror-factory-fbi-trevor-aaronson-book/>

Suzanne Barakat:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiEQmcZi8cM> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiEQmcZi8cM>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiEQmcZi8cM>

All American Muslim Family on TLC

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1F4WVSN1GDE> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1F4WVSN1GDE>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1F4WVSN1GDE>

(4) Institutions, Terrorism, Hip Hop, and Inclusion (Nov. 16 – Dec. 2)

Readings:

Kambiz GhaneaBassiri, A History of Islam in America, pp. 272-379

Hatem Bazian, Annotations, Part four and Five pp. 279-361 and pp. 366-534

Peter Gottschalk and Gabriel Greenberg, Islamophobia: Making Muslims the Enemy, pp. 61-111

Jane I. Smith, Islam in America, pp. 150-177

Mahmood Mamdani, Good Muslim, Bad Muslim, pp.17-63 & 229-261

Michael W. Suleiman, Arabs in America, pp. 304-320

Sami A. Al-Arian, Shackled Dreams, pp. 15-65

David Cole, Enemy Aliens, pp. 17-85

2016 Islamophobic Political Ads:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=16&v=xIJVoumWYtQ https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=16&v=xIJVoumWYtQ



https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=16&v=xIJVoumWYtQ

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1q_lInImbl https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1q_lInImbl



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1q_lInImbl

TV Ads:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Je2RSJU0DoQ> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Je2RSJU0DoQ>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Je2RSJU0DoQ>

Coca Cola 2014 Superbowl ad:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-KxPRptu_Y https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-KxPRptu_Y



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-KxPRptu_Y

Tahera Rahman, a reporter with Hijab:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1IaQzLITkQ> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1IaQzLITkQ>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1IaQzLITkQ>

Secret Life of Muslims: Hijabs Q & A:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7fttKMnDFg> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7fttKMnDFg>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7fttKMnDFg>

Ibtihaj Muhammad on The Ellen Show:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg4qpdcmbA0> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg4qpdcmbA0>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg4qpdcmbA0>

Ibtihaj Muhammad on the Late Show with Stephen Colbert:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xs8O-MFu4yU> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xs8O-MFu4yU>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xs8O-MFu4yU>

Hasan Minhaj 2017 WH Correspondent Dinner:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHLRj1LaPiQ> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHLRj1LaPiQ>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHLRj1LaPiQ>

Linda Sarsour :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnaT8JxUTY0> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnaT8JxUTY0>