

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST/TEMPE CAMPUS

GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Courses submitted to the GSC between 2/1 and 4/30 if approved, will be effective the following Spring.

Courses submitted between 5/1 and 1/31 if approved, will be effective the following Fall.

(SUBMISSION VIA ADOBE.PDF FILES IS PREFERRED)

DATE 9/17/08

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: SILC
2. COURSE PROPOSED: ARB 335 Arabic Culture & Islam 3
3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: Derar Serhan Phone: 727-8772
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4. ELIGIBILITY: New courses must be approved by the Tempe Campus Curriculum Subcommittee and must have a regular course number. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact the General Studies Program Office at 965-0739.

5. AREA(S) PROPOSED COURSE WILL SERVE. A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study.

Core Areas

Awareness Areas

- Literacy and Critical Inquiry-L
Mathematical Studies-MA CS
Humanities and Fine Arts-HU
Social and Behavioral Sciences-SB
Natural Sciences-SQ SG

- Global Awareness-G
Historical Awareness-H
Cultural Diversity in the United States-C
(Note: one course per form)

6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.
(1) Course Description
(2) Course Syllabus
(3) Criteria Checklist for the area
(4) Table of Contents from the textbook used, if available

7. In the space provided below (or on a separate sheet), please also provide a description of how the course meets the specific criteria in the area for which the course is being proposed.

CROSS-LISTED COURSES: [X] No [] Yes; Please identify courses:

Is this a multisection course?: [X] No [] Yes; Is it governed by a common syllabus?

Professor Joe Cutter
Chair/Director (Print or Type)

[Signature]
Chair/Director (Signature)

Date: 9/17/08

Description of how the course meets the G criteria:

This course will give the students the opportunity of learning about a different culture. The course will provide an in-depth study that focuses on Arabic culture & Islam. In this course the students will learn about and discuss different aspects of the Arabic culture. The topics of the course will include: Arabic family, women. Islam, food and music.

Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

ASU-[G] CRITERIA			
GLOBAL AWARENESS [G]			
YES	NO		Identify Documentation Submitted
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Studies must be composed of subject matter that addresses or leads to an understanding of the contemporary world outside the U.S.	
		2. Course must be one or more of following types (check all which may apply):	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a. In-depth area studies which are concerned with an examination of culture-specific elements of a region, country or culture group. The area or culture studied must be non-U.S. and the study must contribute to an understanding of the contemporary world.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b. Contemporary non-English language courses that have a significant cultural component.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c. Comparative cultural studies in which most, i.e., more than half, of the material is devoted to non-U.S. areas.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. In-depth studies of non-U.S. centered cultural interrelationships of global scope, such as the global interdependence produced by problems of world ecology, multinational corporations, migration, and the threat of nuclear war. Most, i.e., more than half, of the material must be devoted to non-U.S.	

Course Prefix	Number	Title	Designation
ARB	335	Arabic Culture & Islam	G

Explain in detail which student activities correspond to the specific designation criteria. Please use the following organizer to explain how the criteria are being met.

Criteria (from checksheet)	How course meets spirit (contextualize specific examples in next column)	Please provide detailed evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)
In-depth area studies which are concerned with an examination of culture-specific elements of a region, country or culture group. The area or culture studied must be non-U.S. and the study must contribute to an understanding of the contemporary world.	Students participate in discussions about the Arabic culture. These discussions include: Arabic family, status of women, food, music and islam. In addition to the discussions, students will write three papers relates to the Arabic culture & Islam.	In the syllabus under: Course Description and Objectives. Course Requirements

Catalog description:

This course aims at developing awareness of Arabic culture & Islam. It will cover a variety of cultural topics including: family, status of women, food, music and Islam.

Course Syllabus
Fall 2008

ARB 394
Arabic Culture & Islam

Instructor:	Derar Serhan
Email:	derar@asu.edu
Phone:	(480) 965-6281

Required Textbook: Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East by Daniel Bates and Amal Rassam
(2nd edition)

Recommended Readings will be posted during the semester from different web sites.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course aims at developing awareness of Arabic culture & Islamic religion. This specific course is taught via the Internet, in BlackBoard. There will be seven units in this course. These units will cover different topics including: family, status of women, food, music and Islam. Each unit will be covered over a 2 weeks period.

Approach: You will explore various web sites, have discussions on line, take your final exam on line, do all your assignments on line, and more, all via the Internet and BlackBoard!

Course Requirements:

1. **Three Writing Assignments:** (100 points each, 300 points total) . These writing assignments will reflect on the topics covered in the different units, each one is 2-4 pages, Times New Roman, font 12 and double spaced. No late writing assignments will be accepted, any assignment submitted after the due date will receive “zero”. The due days for these assignments will be posted and announced in advance.
2. **“On Line” Class Discussions.** (7 on line discussions, 420 points total) . Participation includes writing and posting your thoughts and comments to the questions / topics posted, (called “threads”). There will be 7 main discussions, one for each unit. Each discussion will be open for about 2 weeks. After it closes you will be given a grade based on the number of your postings and the quality of your discussions and postings. **You must post at least in 6 different days** to receive full grade for the unit. The more you participate to the questions posted and respond to your fellow classmates postings and comments, (with well researched answers and in depth reflections), the more points you have a chance of earning. If you do not participate in the Discussion topics or questions for each Unit, you will receive a “zero” for that unit.
3. **Other Assignments:** (total 80 points). Randomly throughout the semester, I will give / post other assignments that might include two one page summaries.
4. **Final Exam:** (total 200 points) The Exam will be multiple choice or T/F. Exams are in BlackBoard, prescheduled and timed.

→ **Other Class Requirements:**

- **Class participation.** Participate in all class discussions and assignments, communicate and help each other!
- **Readings:** Do all assigned readings and be prepared to discuss them in the On Line Discussions.
- **Attendance.** As this is an Internet course, there is no way to “take attendance” like the traditional classroom. You will be in “attendance” (good standing) as long as you actively participate in all assignments and exams. If you wish to withdrawal from the course, please let me know, otherwise, you may be in danger of receiving a failing grade for the course.
- Students will complete all assignments and Exams by the due date.
- Students will know and abide by the course policies concerning exams, quizzes, assignments, grades, and technical policies.

Exam and Assignment Policies: (VERY IMPORTANT, KNOW THIS!!)

- You may take the Final Exam once only (One try only!!) Once you begin an exam, it is timed. You will have 120 minutes to complete it. If you leave the exam in the middle of taking it, it will close on you after 120 minutes. Once you begin taking an exam, finish it!!
- **Late assignments and not taking the exams on the scheduled due dates are not acceptable and will result in zero points.**
- **I recommend that you hand in all assignments early and take the exams on the first day they open to avoid deadline due to technical problems.**

Technical Information & Policy:

You are responsible for your computer and it being able to work properly for you for this on line class. You are responsible for assuring you have updated software, plugins, etc. and that you can access BlackBoard, open and turn in the assignments and take the final exam.

Students will communicate with the instructor via email throughout the semester.

If you experience technical difficulties (your computer is acting up, crashes, your Internet provider is not getting you on line, or any technical problems on your end, **go to the ASU computer lab or a public library and utilize the computers there to access BlackBoard.** Don't get left behind! Your computer not working properly is not an excuse to hand in assignments or take quizzes and exams late. There are other computers at the university available for you to use!

GRADING SYSTEM:

We will use a points system.

- (1) Final Exam: 200 points total possible.
- (7) Main On Line Class Discussions:, 60 points each, 420 points total possible.
- (3) Writing Assignments: 100 points each, 300 points total possible.
- Other Assignments: 80 points total

Total Possible Points for the semester: **1000 points.**

A+: 980 - 1000 points A: 900-979 A-: 880-899
B+: 860 - 879 points B:790-859 B-: 770-789
C : 680 - 769 points
D : 600 - 679 points
E : below 600 points

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