**Course Content Form**

PIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Effective Term:** Fall 2023

**HUM** **160** **Middle Eastern Humanities**

**Credit Hours:** 3.00 **Lecture Periods:** 3.00 **Lab Periods:**

**Description:**

Introduction to the values, traditions and development of Southwest Asian and North African culture and civilization. Includes principle achievements in art, architecture and literature of the “Middle East,” as well as contemporary art, music, film, cuisine and popular culture of the region. Examines Islamic civilization and the socio-cultural history of the modern Middle East, with an emphasis on the Arabic, Persian, Turkish/Ottoman and Kurdish humanities tradition through a de-colonized lens. Explores the geopolitical significance of the region as a pillar of the Global South, as well as its implications for the 20th and 21st century United States and the “Western” World, including transnational cultural exchange, Diaspora communities and culture, media representation and the Muslim-American experience.

*Possible Designations: Gen Ed: Meets AGEC – HUM/SBS G, I & C*

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

**Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:**

1. Identify the basic geography of Southwest Asia and North Africa.
2. Describe the cultural heritage (history, literature, art and architecture) of Southwest Asia and North Africa, as it emerged with the introduction of Islam as a world religion.
3. Explain cultural patterns of the modern “Middle East” and relate them to current events in the world and the United States.
4. Critically examine and distinguish between the culture and humanities tradition of Arabs, Persians, Turks and Kurds.
5. Explain the socio-cultural, economic and political significance of the region within the global context, as well as its implication for the United States.
6. Effectively communicate and mobilize information about the experience of Middle Eastern and Muslim Americans and explain issues faced by various diasporic communities.
7. Understand and evaluate cultural difference.

**Outline:**

1. Preliminaries
   1. “Middle East” vs. Southwest Asia & North Africa (SWANA)
   2. Stereotypes & Western Representation
   3. Orientalism
2. Geography (Diversity & Environment)
   1. Resources & Access
      1. People
      2. Religion
      3. Lifestyle
   2. Aridity & Water
      1. Fertile Crescent
      2. Nile River Valley
      3. Oases
   3. Borders & Boundaries
   4. Cityscapes
3. Food
   1. Agriculture & Civilization
   2. Gardens of Paradise
   3. Flatbread Trail
   4. Legumes
   5. Wine & Beer
   6. Transnational Connections
      1. Al-Andalus (Spain)
      2. Morocco
      3. Mexico
   7. Natural Remedies
   8. Hospitality
   9. Land & Animals
      1. Nomadic Tribes
      2. Camels & Sheep
      3. Meat & Rituals
4. Islam
   1. Messenger & Message
      1. Prophet Muhammad
      2. Quran
   2. Islamic Practice
      1. Five Pillars
         1. Faith (shahada)
         2. Prayer (salat)
         3. Alms Giving (zakat)
         4. Fasting (sawm)
         5. Pilgrimage (hajj)
      2. Articles of Faith
         1. Oneness of God (Tawhid)
         2. Angels & Jinn
         3. Revelations (Books)
         4. Prophets & Messengers
         5. Judgement Day
            1. Heaven
            2. Hell
         6. Fate (Qadar)
         7. Resurrection
      3. Umma (the community/collective)
      4. Honor (Sharaf)
   3. Islamic Fault Lines
      1. 4 Righteous Caliphs (Rashidun)
      2. Sunnism & Shi’ism
      3. Ismailis
      4. Sufism
      5. Dynasties
         1. Umayyads
         2. Abbasids
         3. Seljuks
         4. Ottomans
         5. Fatamids
         6. Safavids
         7. Qajars
      6. Imperial capitals
         1. Damascus
         2. Baghdad
         3. Constantinople
         4. Esfahan
   4. Women & Family
      1. Gender, Sex & Sexuality
      2. Harem Life
      3. Weddings
      4. Temporary Marriage
5. Private & Public (Cultural Expressions)
   1. Hijab
   2. The City
   3. Kabyle House
   4. Cafés
   5. Mashrabiya
   6. Hamam
   7. Dome of the Rock
6. Islamic Intellectual Life & Culture
   1. Science, Space & Surface
   2. Astronomy
   3. Math
   4. Medicine
      1. Muslim Roots of European Medicine
         1. Avicenna (Ibn Sina)
   5. Golden Age of Islam (Harun al-Rashid)
   6. Paper
   7. Islamic Art & Architecture
      1. Mosques
      2. Domes
      3. Muqarnas
      4. Minarets
      5. Calligraphy
7. Oral Tradition vs. Written Word
   1. Qasida
   2. Quranic Recitation
      1. Sunna
   3. Writing & Islam
      1. Sunna
      2. Hadith
      3. Isnad
   4. Hakawati (Storytellers)
   5. 1001 Nights
   6. The Book of Kings
   7. Writing & Modernity
      1. Al-Nahda
      2. The Novel
         1. Naquib Mahfouz
         2. Mahmoud Dowlatabadi
         3. Simin Daneshvar
         4. Sadegh Hedayat
         5. Orhan Pamuk
         6. Elif Shafak
      3. Modern Poetry
         1. Nima Yushij
         2. Sohrab Sepehri
         3. Forough Farrokhzad
         4. Akhavan Sales
         5. Nizar Qabbani
         6. Mahmoud Darwish
8. Making the Modern Middle East
   1. World War I
   2. The Nation-State
      1. Arab Israeli Conflict
      2. Palestine
   3. Revolution
      1. Iran
      2. Intifada I & II
   4. Children of War
      1. Iraq
      2. Afghanistan
   5. Resistance
      1. Green Movement
      2. Arab Spring
9. Contemporary Culture & Current Hybrids
   1. Graphic Novels
   2. Film
   3. Art
   4. Music & Dance
      1. Spirituality & Sexuality
      2. Sufis
      3. Maqamat (modes/modalities)
      4. Instruments
      5. Classic Music
         1. Um Kulthum
         2. Moluk Zarabi
         3. Fairuz
         4. Abdel Halim Hafez
         5. Farid al-Atrache
         6. Mohammad Reza Shajarian
      6. Pop music
      7. Dance
         1. Raqs Sharqi (Belly Dance)
         2. Debkah
   5. Fashion
   6. Muslim Americans & Diaspora Communities