

Gender and Art in the Muslim World

Instructor: Professor Faegheh Shirazi

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Office Location: Calhoun Hall #502

Office hours: T and T 8:30-9:30 AM, and 2:0-2:30 PM

Or by Appointment

This course is a survey of the development of Islamic art (inclusive of most expressive, and creative art forms) in the Muslim societies from the earliest to the present time with a focus on gender and contemporary artistic issues. Topics will include: gender and gender identities; art patronage, Orientalism, themes of power; and their influential roles in form and expression, the dominant artistic traditions before and after 1900, the loss of traditional aesthetics due to Western influence, and the re-emergence of calligraphic art as an expression of “Universal Muslim Identity”, and themes of artistic expressions as it is related to current world events (war, occupation of land, and religious resurgence).

The Discussions incorporate analysis of historical, political, social & economic factors that gave rise to aesthetic changes in the regional cultures. Selected biographical data on some of the most influential traditional and modern Muslim artists will be discussed, to provide a basis for the appreciation of the artistic works and the important roles played by the artists in regard to the theme of “Gender”, in both the traditional and the contemporary Muslim societies.

Text: Reader Packets 2 Volumes purchase at Jenn ’ s Copy

Requirements: Upper Division Standing

Grading:

Attendance: 5%

Active Class participation 5%

Short quizzes 3
(Lowest grade will
be dropped) 20%

Class Presentation 20%

First Exam 25%

Second Exam 25%