Syllabus: Unique 41575
Sacred and Ceremonial Textiles:
A Study of Various Rites off Passage
& Cultural Objects in Muslim Societies
Fall 2016

August 25, TH– First day of class

A- Gender, Culture, Dress, and Cloth
Introduction to course
Grant McCracken. Clothing as Cloth… Expressive Properties of Material Culture

August 30, T
Robin O’Brien. Who Weaves and Why? Weaving, Loom Complexity and Trade

September 1, TH
Claire Nicholas. Of texts and Textiles…contemporary Moroccan
Sonda Andrew. Textiles Semantics: Considering a Communication based readings of Textiles

September 6, T
Kathryn S. March. Weaving writing and Gender
Myrien Naji. Gender and Materiality in the making (Weaving in Southern Morocco)

B- Islam: Jinns, Rites of Passage, Commerce, and Material Culture
Qur’an and Jinns
William C. Young. The Ka’ba, Gender, and the Rites of Pilgrimage

September 8, TH
Lila Abu-Lughod. Islam and the Gendered Discourses of Death

September 13, T
Quiz #1
Maria Judith Feliciano. Muslim Shrouds for Christian Kings
Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood. Dressed in Ihram

September 15, TH
David Yelin. From white stone to blue bead
World Health Organization- Male Circumcision, Global Trends and Prevalence, Safety, and Acceptability

September 20, T
Parviz Tanavoli- Lion Rugs from Fars (Iran)
Diane D’Souza. In the presence of the martyrs
September 22, TH
Mehlika Orakcioglu. Enclothed cognition and hidden meanings in important Ottoman Textiles

September 27, T
Faegheh Shirazi. The Sofreh: comfort and community Among Women in Iran
Rahul Ramagundam. Ihadi, and its Agency Organizing Structures of Philanthropic Commerce (India)

September 29, TH
Susan S. Bean. Gandhi and Khadi, the Fabric of Indian Independence (India)
Heinrich Schmidt. Turkish Brocades and Italian Imitation.

October 4, T
Ruth Barnes- Indian Textiles for Island Taste (India)
Ronald T. Marches. Sacred Textiles

October 6, TH
Niky Guninder Jaur Singh- Sacred Fabric and Sacred Stiches: The Underwear of the Khalsa
Bernard S. Cohn. Cloth, Clothes, and Colonialism: India in the 19th Century

October 11, T
Exam 1

October 13, TH
Nils Bubndt- Interview with an Ancestor: Spirit and Informants and the Politics of..
Fiona Kerlogue- Interpreting Textiles as a Medium of Communication: Cloth and Community in Malay Sumatra (Malaysia)

October 18, T
Ayami Nakatani. Dressing Miss world with Balinese Brocades: The Fashionalization and Heritization of Handwoven Textiles in Indonesia
Susan F. Rasmussen- Reflections on Witchcraft, Danger, and Modernity Among the Taureg

October 20, TH
Aretha Oluwakemi Asakitikpi- Function of hand Woven Textiles among Yoruba Women in Southwestern Nigeria

October 25, T
Adeyinka Theresa Ajayi- Weaving in Ekiti Land, Nigeria: The Gendered Perspective
Susan M. Kenyon- Movable Feast of signs: Gender in Zar in Central Sudan
October 27, TH
Quiz#2
Elisha P. Renne. Water, Spirits, and Plain White Cloth: The Ambiguity of Things in Bunu Social Life (Central Nigerian- Yoruba People)

November 1, T
John Piction. Cloth and the Corps in Ebira (Nigeria)
Patricia Darish-Dressing for the next life: Raffia Textile Production and Use Among the Kuba of Zaire

November 3, TH
Yedida K. Stillman. New Data on Islamic Textiles from the Geniza
Stephani Bunn. Moving People and the Fabric of Society: The power of Felt Through Time and Place (Central Asia)

November 8, T
C- The War, Politics, and Textiles
Irine Bogoslovskaye. The Soviet Invasion of Central Asian Applied Arts: How Artisans incorporated Communist Political Messages and Symbols

November 10, TH
Kate Fitz-Gibbon. Something Borrowed, Something Red: Textiles in Colonial and Soviet Central Asia

D- Healing Textiles
Ellison Banks Findly. A Protective Spirit in Lao-Tai Textiles. The pii Nyak and its Indian Antecedents

November 15, T
Mac Carocci. Textiles of Healing Native American AIDS Quilts

November 17, TH
Quiz #3

November 22, T
E- Reclaimed, Up-cycled, Recycled, Reused, Secondhand Textiles
Lucy Norris. Trade and Transformation of Secondhand clothing: Introduction
Carol Young, Charlotte Jirousek, Susan Ashdown. Undesigned: A study in sustainable design of apparel use post consumer recycled clothing

November 24, TH No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday
November 29, T
Jana M. Hawley. Digging for Diamonds: A….Reclaimed Textiles Products

December 1, TH Last Day of our class- Exam 2