ENGL 5173, Advanced Studies in Medieval Literature and Culture: History of the Book

Teacher: J.B. Smith

Textbooks Required:

Description: This course invites students to learn and think critically about writing technologies, from cuneiform tablets to the Kindle. This course won’t be like other English courses, as it will have a strong hands on element. We will be spending half of our time in the Special Collections Library, examining and studying objects from our own archive, including cuneiform, papyrus fragments, medieval manuscripts, early printed books, and all manner of later books. We will learn how writing technology affects literature and literary interpretation. Our digital age, as we will see, is only just the most recent change in reading habits and the materiality of the written word. This is the first time in recent memory that a course like this has been taught at the University of Arkansas.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: attendance; vigorous participation; one presentation; final project.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for graduate students at the 5000 level: attendance; vigorous participation; one presentation; final project (longer than undergraduates).

MA advisory code: A, 2, 5

ENGL 5593, Advanced Studies in Gender, Sexuality, & Literature / ENGL 5603, World Literature and Culture in English: Biblical Figures in the Quran: Mary, Jesus, Moses, and More

Teacher: M. Kahf

Texts Required:
Online reading of various translations of the Quran & Bible.
Description: Examining the Quran as literary texts, students will explore its treatment of figures and stories that are also found in the Bible, and will read scholarly analysis that examines the Quranic presentation of Adam and Eve, Joseph; Mary, and others figures, including analysis of gender in the Quran. Students will also explore the different literary style and structure of the Quran in terms of how these affect its presentations of these figures.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: assignments will be designed to be suitable for a 10-day intersession course

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for graduate students at the 5000 level: assignments will be suitable for a 10-day intersession course

Special requirements for seminar students at the 5000 level: assignments will be suitable for a 10-day intersession course at the graduate level.

MA advisory code: H, 1, 2, 3, 4

World Literature

WLIT 603V, Special Studies in Comparative Literature: Biblical Figures in the Quran: Mary, Jesus, Moses, and More

Teacher: M. Kahf

Texts Required:


Online reading of various translations of the Quran & Bible.

Description: Examining the Quran as literary texts, students will explore its treatment of figures and stories that are also found in the Bible, and will read scholarly analysis that examines the Quranic presentation of Adam and Eve, Joseph; Mary, and others figures, including analysis of gender in the Quran. Students will also explore the different literary style and structure of the Quran in terms of how these affect its presentations of these figures.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: assignments will be designed to be suitable for a 10-day intersession course

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for graduate students at the 5000 level: assignments will be suitable for a 10-day intersession course
Special requirements for seminar students at the 5000 level: assignments will be suitable for a 10-day intersession course at the graduate level.

MA advisory code: H, 1, 2, 3, 4

The advisory codes indicate what course distribution requirement will be satisfied by the designated listing. If more than one code is listed in the description for a particular class, a student may satisfy only one of those distribution requirements with that class, unless the code is T, for Theory.

For M.A. Students with the Generalist Concentration
Generalist A: satisfies Medieval Literature and Culture requirement.
Generalist B: satisfies Renaissance Literature and Culture requirement.
Generalist C: satisfies Restoration and 18th-century Literature and Culture requirement.
Generalist D: satisfies 19th-century British Literature and Culture requirement.
Generalist E: satisfies British Literature and Culture After 1900 requirement.
Generalist F: satisfies American Literature and Culture Before 1900 requirement.
Generalist G: satisfies American Literature and Culture After 1900 requirement.
Generalist H: satisfies World Literature and Culture Written in English requirement.

For M.A. Students with the Specialist Concentration
Specialist 1: satisfies Comparative Literature requirement.
Specialist 2: satisfies Cultural Studies requirement.
Specialist 3: satisfies Ethnic and Regional Literatures requirement.
Specialist 4: satisfies Gender and Sexuality requirement.
Specialist 5: satisfies Medieval Literature requirement.
Specialist 6: satisfies Modern American Literature requirement.
Specialist 7: satisfies Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy requirement.

For All M.A. Students
(T): satisfies Theory requirement.
   (A course can satisfy the theory requirement while also satisfying one of the other requirements in the lists above.)