OHLONE COLLEGE
Ohlone Community College District
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

I. **Description of Course:**

1. **Department/Course:** WS - 132
2. **Title:** Introduction to US Muslim Women and Islam
3. **Cross Reference:**
4. **Units:** 3
   Lec Hrs: 3
   Lab Hrs:
   Tot Hrs: 54.00
5. **Repeatability:** No
6. **Grade Options:** Grade Only (GR)
7. **Degree/Applicability:**
   Credit, Degree Applicable, Transferable - CSU (T)
8. **General Education:**
9. **Field Trips:** Not Required
10. **Requisites:**
    Advisory
    ENGL 101A Reading and Written Composition
12. **Catalog Description:**
    This course is an in depth study of American Muslim women: their roots, beliefs and practices; social, spiritual and economic status; discriminatory treatment in education and employment; political involvement and socialization; and a comparative study of Muslim women to pre-Islamic, ancient, and Western women.

13. **Class Schedule Description:**
    Introduction to American Muslim women and their social, spiritual and economic status.

14. **Counselor Information:**
    This course will meet the cultural diversity requirement as well as transfer to UCs and CSUs, and provide students the opportunity to have a better understanding of the American Muslim community.

II. **Student Learning Outcomes**

The student will:

1. Demonstrate, develop and foster a better understanding of Muslim women that is more accurate than the media representation.
2. Analyze Islam and its concepts relevant to understanding Muslim women.
3. Compare and contrast the current demographics of Muslim women from Asia, Africa, Middle East, and Eastern Europe living in the United States.
4. Define contemporary Muslim women in relation to feminist movement in the United States.
5. Compare and contrast the experience and social characteristics of Muslim women with other women living in the U.S.
6. Identify and evaluate Muslim women involvement and participation in U.S. institutions.
7. Evaluate the primary issues facing Muslim women in general and after 9/11 in particular.
8. Discuss and analyze the future prospects of Muslim women in the U.S.

III. **Course Outline:**

A. Women in Islam
    1. Historical Background
    2. Pre-Islamic Women
    3. Women in Ancient Culture
    4. Women in Modern Culture
    5. Perception of Women and Interpretation of the Qur'an
B. Islamic Law and Qur'an
    1. Religion vs. Culture
    2. Sex and segregation
    3. Who makes laws in the name of God
    4. Tyranny and Hypocrisy
    5. Why the misconceptions persist
    6. Media distortion
C. Position of Islam on Women
    1. The Spiritual Aspect
    2. The Social Aspect
    3. The Economic Aspect
    4. The Political Aspect
    5. Women in Leadership Role
    6. Women as Scholars and Activists
D. Patriarchal Culture and Muslim Women
    1. Women in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq and Iran
    2. Women in Turkey, Egypt and Morocco
    3. Women in Uzbekistan, Bosnia and Africa
    4. Women in Afghanistan, India, Pakistan and Bangla Desh
    5. Women in Malaysia and Indonesia
E. American Muslim Women
    1. Education
    2. Changing Roles
    3. Assimilation
    4. Participation
    5. Intermarriages
    6. Social Problems
F. Social and Political Movements
    1. Struggle for Equality
    2. Discrimination
    3. Muslim Women Movement
    4. Future Trend in Work and Education and on the search for identity
G. American Muslim Women after 9/11
    1. The Aftermath of 9/11
    2. Myth versus reality
    3. Racial Profiling
    4. Future Prospects/ Directions

IV. **Course Assignments:**

A. Reading Assignments
   1. Textbook chapters, magazine, journal, or other articles as assigned.

B. Projects, Activities, and other Assignments
   1. Research project: Explore 5 web sites relevant to Muslim Women and their issues and write a paragraph for each web site describing their contents.
   2. Interview a staff member of a Muslim organization and write a short paper explaining the purpose of that organization and services provided.

C. Writing Assignments
   1. Short papers related to projects described above.
   2. Survey the stereotypes of Muslim women in the West. Write a 3 page summary and analysis paper.
   3. Essay midterm and final.

V. **Methods of Evaluation/Assessment:**

A. Multiple choice/essay midterm.
B. Participation in class activities and discussions both online and in-person.
C. Student projects--oral presentation or online group presentations.
D. Final Exam--multiple choice/essay.

VI. **Methods of Instruction:**

A. Lecture
B. Discussion
C. Audiovisual
D. Seminar
E. Computer Assisted Instruction
F. Collaborative Learning
G. Distance Learning

VII. **Textbooks:**

Recommended

1. Asra Q. Nomani *An American Woman's Struggle for the Soul of Islam* 1st Edition, Harper Collins Publishers, 2005
2. Wiebke Walther *Women in Islam from Medieval to Modern Times* 1st Edition, Marcus Wiener Publishers, 2008
3. Yvonne Yazbeck Haddad, Jane I. Smith, Kathleen M. Moore *Muslim Women in America. The Challenge of Islamic Identity Today* 1st Edition, Oxford University Press, 2005

Supplemental

VIII. **Supplies:**