

HIST3350: Moroccan History (& Study Abroad)

Spring 2024 – UTD & Study Abroad

March 22-May 3 * UTD Campus * Friday 9-11am

May 12-May 25 * In Morocco * Daily

Professor Rosemary Admiral

Email: rosemary.admiral@utdallas.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment on Teams

In Morocco: On Site

Course Description

This course explores the history and culture of Morocco from the early Amazigh dynasties through colonialism, independence, and the modern constitutional monarchy. It centers the theme of law and society, drawing in related topics such as religion, Sufism, and the state. For each time period (premodern, colonial/independence, and modern) we will focus on a case study of one woman's encounter with the law in order to examine the changes in legal institutions and the societal, communal, and family structures that support these institutions. These cases studies will allow us to investigate both change and continuity in gender and law, religious and ethnic pluralism, and power and politics, throughout Moroccan history. Readings will include historical secondary sources in addition to primary sources and fiction.

In Morocco, students will be immersed in the local culture and history through site visits, field trips, and guest lectures. They will directly experience the history, institutions, and contemporary concerns that they encountered first in readings and lectures. The study abroad in Morocco will also include instruction in Moroccan Arabic for basic communication and interaction with Moroccan cultural peers and homestay families. The course will be based in Rabat with field trips to Fez, Chefchaouen, and Casablanca.

Course Goals & Objectives

The goal of this course is for students to immerse themselves in Moroccan history through primary sources, historical studies, fiction, documentaries, and on-site learning. Students will develop foundational historical skills that meet the Historical Studies Student Learning Outcomes, including refining interpretive skills, improving communicative ability, and demonstrating knowledge of key events and themes in Moroccan history. Students will also build intercultural literacy through study abroad in Morocco and learning basic Moroccan Arabic for communication, contributing to the UTD strategic goal of creating responsible global citizens.

Required Texts

- Abouzeid, Leila. *Year of the Elephant: A Moroccan Woman's Journey Toward Independence*. Trans. Barbara Parmenter. Austin: Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UT Austin, 1990
- *Additional chapters and articles will be posted on eLearning*

Course Delivery

Part I of the course will meet Fridays 9-11 during the second 8-week session of the Spring 2023 semester (Friday, March 22 to Friday, May 3). The course will meet virtually on Teams. The final meeting (Friday, May 3) will have an in-person option, and will run from 9-12. Part II of the course will take place in Morocco, from May 12-25 (after the spring semester final exams).

Course Evaluation

Course Participation 25%

Part I: UTD Section

- Response Papers (5 total) 20%
- Midterm Project (due 5/3) 15%

Part II: Morocco Section

- Journal Entries (8 total) 20%
- Final Project & Presentation 20%

Course Participation [25%]

This grade is determined by active and positive contributions to class meetings: joining in class discussions, raising useful questions, and being enthusiastic group members. This type of participation requires coming on time and prepared with the readings completed before each class. Asynchronous weeks (weeks 2 & 4 at UTD) will include discussion board participation. For the Study Abroad section, participation means showing up to all activities and continuing to contribute positively to discussions.

Part I: UTD Section

- **Response Papers (5 total) [20%]**
 - o Short weekly responses to the readings will help you think through and focus your ideas before in-class discussions, and will demonstrate your understanding of the assigned texts. Due each week aside from the first and last weeks of class.
- **Midterm Project (due 5/3) [15%]**
 - o Primary source analysis will explore one of the three case studies in more detail.

Part II: Morocco Section

- **Daily Journal Entries (8 total) [20%]**
 - o Reflections on course readings, educational and cultural activities, and daily encounters during your time abroad. Write daily Monday through Thursday each week.
- **Final Project & Presentation (due 5/23) [20%]**
 - o Assessment of contemporary Moroccan legal topic drawing on course readings in addition to in-country experience and conversations with host families and cultural peers.
 - o Students will present the final project to classmates at the end of the study abroad (Thursday, May 23) and submit the project on the final day of class (Friday, May 24).

*** Detailed information about each assignment will be provided in class and on eLearning. ***

Course Policies

Students with Disabilities

To ensure that disability-related concerns are properly addressed from the beginning, students with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this class are asked to communicate with me as soon as possible. Documentation can be obtained through the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA): <https://www.utdallas.edu/studentaccess/>.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism means representing someone else's words or ideas as your own. It may be intentional or unintentional. If you are unsure of what constitutes plagiarism, please consult me. We will discuss how to incorporate sources in your written work throughout the semester. Please also familiarize yourself with the UTD Student Code of Conduct and the Examples of Academic Dishonesty.

Attendance and Participation

Regular and consistent participation is the best way to succeed in this class. Complete the weekly reading and take notes on what you read. Please participate in a way that is respectful and contributes to the learning of the group. This requires respect for diversity in race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability, socioeconomic status, and age. Please address any concerns with me as they arise. For virtual weeks, use of webcam is encouraged.

Late Work

Please do your best to meet course deadlines. Communicate with me if you might miss a deadline (for any reason). If your situation requires flexibility, let me know.

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the AccessAbility Resource Center has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved AccessAbility Resource Center accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience.

See <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for a complete list of University syllabus policies.

Course Schedule

At UTD: March 22-May 3

Part I: Survey of Moroccan History, Law, and Society

- Weeks 3-7 will include introductory practice in Darija (Moroccan Arabic)
- Weeks 2, 4, and 6 will be asynchronous; other weeks will meet on Teams from 9-11 am
- Week 7 Pre-Departure Orientation will have in-person option and run from 9-12

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|-------------------------|--|
| Friday, March 22 | Week 1: Introduction to Moroccan History |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abdallah Laroui, "Introduction," <i>The History of the Maghrib: An Interpretive Essay</i> (1977), 3-12 - Film: <i>The Kingdom of Morocco</i> (BBC) |
| Friday, March 29 | Week 2: Law & Society in Premodern Morocco |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Asynchronous Week</i> - David S. Powers, "Introduction," in <i>Law, Society, and Culture in the Maghrib, 1300-1500</i> (2002), 1-22 - Elizabeth Fernea, "Introduction," in Abouzeid, <i>Year of the Elephant</i> (1990), xi-xxvi <p style="text-align: center;">* <i>Response Paper Due</i></p> |
| Friday, April 5 | Week 3: Case Study: Marriage and Family (Premodern) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chapter TBA - Primary Sources: fatwas <p style="text-align: center;">* <i>Response Paper Due</i></p> |
| Friday, April 12 | Week 4: Colonization and Independence |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Asynchronous Week</i> - Abouzeid, <i>Year of the Elephant</i> <p style="text-align: center;">* <i>Response Paper Due</i></p> |

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| Friday, April 19 | | Week 5: Modern Legal Reforms |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wael Hallaq, “The Law in the Age of Nation States,” in <i>An Introduction to Islamic Law</i> (2009), 115-139 - Primary Sources: women’s voices <p><i>* Response Paper Due</i></p> |
| Friday, April 26 | | Week 6: Case Study: Women and Modern Law |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Asynchronous Week</i> - Zakia Salime, “Arab Revolutions: Legible, Illegible Bodies,” <i>Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East</i> 35, no. 3 (2015): 525-538 - Primary Sources: news coverage <p><i>* Response Paper Due</i></p> |
| Friday, May 3 | | Week 7: Conclusions and Pre-Departure Orientation |
| | Optional In Person Meeting Room: FN 2.202 9am-12pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Film: <i>Marriage and Divorce in Morocco</i> or <i>475: When Marriage Becomes a Punishment</i> (select one) <p><i>Midterm Project Due Friday, 5/3</i></p> |

Study Abroad in Morocco: May 12-25

Part II: In Depth: Law and Society, Premodern and Modern

- Schedule is subject to change
- Optional cultural integration activities available on a daily basis with host families

| Week 1 | Morocco Past and Present |
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| Sunday, May 12 | <i>Arrival and Airport Transfer</i> <i>Homestay Orientation & Move In</i> |
| Monday, May 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Orientation - Rabat Historical Tour <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Tuesday, May 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class Discussion - Moroccan Arabic Language Class - Guest Lecture: Islam in Morocco - Walking Tour of Jewish Rabat <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Wednesday, May 15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class Discussion - Moroccan Arabic Language Class - Guest Lecture: Women and Sufism in Premodern Morocco - Visit to NGO <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Thursday, May 16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Travel to Fez - Guided Tour of Fez <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Friday, May 17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Travel to Chefchaouen - City orientation - Optional afternoon activities |
| Saturday, May 18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to Akchour - Optional hike and swim - Return to Rabat |
| Sunday, May 19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optional Kayaking and Surfing at Rabat Beach |

| Week 2 | Topics in Modern Moroccan History |
|-------------------|---|
| Monday, May 20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class Discussion - Moroccan Arabic Language Class - Guest Lecture: Colonialism, Law, & Literature - Visit to Legal Institution <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Tuesday, May 21 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class Discussion - Moroccan Arabic Language Class - Guest Lecture: Amazigh Language and Identity - Roundtable Discussion: Law & Women's Rights <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Wednesday, May 22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to Casablanca: Hassan II Mosque, Religion, and the State <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Thursday, May 23 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class Discussion - Independent work on Final Projects - Final Project Presentations <p><i>* Journal Entry</i></p> |
| Friday, May 24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reentry Orientation - Roundtable Discussion with Cultural Peers - Optional: Couscous with Homestay Family <p><i>Final Project Due</i></p> |
| Saturday, May 25 | <i>Airport Transfer</i> |