



Islam, Art, and Social Change

Spring 2018

ARBC 3984 / HIST 3984

Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:00-1:15 PM

Carmen Gitre, History

William Taggart, Foreign Languages & Literatures

This course will familiarize students with the arts, architecture, fashion, and music of Muslim cultures around the world, and will offer students an opportunity to work closely with visiting artists, including Syrian-American hip-hop artist Omar Offendum, mixed-media visual artist Saba Taj, and Egyptian musician and DJ Karim Nagi to create works of art inspired by the themes of the course. The focus of the course will be the role of art as a means of social change throughout the contemporary Muslim world. Themes include the impact of colonialism, globalization, war and conflict, religion, and shifting notions of gender and sexuality in the Muslim world and beyond. Under the supervision of their instructors, students will conduct original research on art and culture in the contemporary Muslim world, providing them a foundation for further research and creative work.

This course is part of the Salaam: Exploring Muslim Cultures project. This project is made possible by a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Professionals; Building Bridges: Arts, Culture, and Identity, a component of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; and the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.