



Faculty of Social Sciences

## CMEN17, Middle Eastern Studies: Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East, 7.5 credits

*Mellanösternstudier: Genus och sexualitet i Mellanöstern, 7,5 högskolepoäng*

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Center for Middle Eastern Studies Board on 2018-03-07 to be valid from 2018-03-16, autumn semester 2018.

### General Information

The course is an elective component of the Master of Science (120 credits) programme in Middle Eastern Studies.

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Middle Eastern Studies

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

For a Pass on the course, students shall be able to

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate specialised knowledge of key concepts, current topics, scholarly perspectives and issues in relation to gender and sexuality based on the research field of Middle Eastern Studies
- demonstrate specialised understanding of gender and sexuality in relation to the exercise of power
- demonstrate knowledge of how gender and sexuality influence economic, cultural, political and social phenomena and processes in the Middle East

### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrate skills to combine antagonisms and apply theories and concepts relevant to social phenomena and current societal issues with regard to the Middle East
- demonstrate a specialised ability in speech and writing to critically review present-day debates and phenomena in Middle Eastern societies from an intersectional and transnational perspective
- demonstrate a specialised ability to assess the challenges and opportunities offered by an intersectional and transnational analysis, in relation to the themes studied

### **Judgement and approach**

- demonstrate the ability to critically assess different discussions and approaches to gender and sexuality in the Middle East, based on constructed arguments in current political agendas and programmes as well as other public debates in a global, regional and local context
- demonstrate a specialised ability to evaluate policy, practice and life experience based on gender and sexuality in the Middle East, from reflexive and ethical perspectives

### **Course content**

The course addresses key issues and new research specialisations about sex and sexuality with a focus on the Middle East. Throughout the course, students will analyse how sex and sexuality have been adapted, reinforced, experienced and subverted based on different contexts in the Middle East.

Students are to use an intersectional approach to put sex and sexuality in relation to power structures, class, race/ethnicity, citizenship and geopolitics. During the course, students will explore varying and complex behaviours that shape sex and sexuality, as well as how these are transformed by socio-political institutions, structural forces and social hierarchies. Themes that are discussed during the course include citizenship, inclusion, lack of boundaries/delimitations, precarity, family, processes for migration and relocation, civil society and activism.

The course draws attention to research about sex and sexuality in the Middle East based on several different disciplines and a range of critical social theories. Furthermore, the course emphasises scholarly precision in the study of the Middle East from a transnational perspective by focusing on the connection between the global, regional and local context. The course provides students with tools to use static, ahistoric, dualistic and normative configurations to critically review the concepts of "east-west", "culture", "religion" and "modernity/civilisation" that permeate large parts of the representations in the region with regard to general scholarship, the shaping of declarations of intent, activism and cultural work.

## Course design

The teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, participation in seminars is compulsory. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or retake compulsory components. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative.

## Assessment

The course is assessed through written home assignments.

Home assignment 1 30%

Home assignment 2 30%

Home assignment 3 40%

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit exam for courses completed in the past academic year (catch-up exam). Two further re-takes on the same course content are offered within a year of a major change or discontinuation of the course. After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

*Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.*

## Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The highest grade is A and the lowest grade for a Pass is E. The designation for a Fail grade is U.

The grade for a non-passing result is Fail. The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student have shown unacceptable results.

The course grade is based on the grading scale

A = 92- 100 % of the total points

B = 84- 92 % of the total points

C = 76- 84 % of the total points

D = 68- 76 % of the total points

E = 60- 68 % of the total points

U = 0- 59 % of the total points

All assessed assignments are graded and their combined grades determine the grade for the whole course.

At the start of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied on the course.

### **Entry requirements**

To be admitted to the course, students must be admitted to the Master's programme in Middle Eastern Studies (120 credits) or have completed courses amounting to 150 credits.

Oral and written proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. International qualifications will be assessed in accordance with national guidelines.

## Subcourses in CMEN17, Middle Eastern Studies: Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East

Applies from H18

1801 Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A