



MODULE DESCRIPTION

Module title	Code
Šiuolaikinė arabų literatūra Modern Arabic Literature	

Teacher	Unit
Co-ordinating: Henry Diab	Asian & Transcultural Studies Inst./Vilnius University

Cycle of studies	Level of module	Type of module
1st cycle	1/1	Elective

Mode of implementation	Period of instruction	Language of instruction
Lectures / seminars	Autumn semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: to be eligible for the course requires the successful completion of one year of Univ. Studies	Additional requirements (if any): English language proficiency (level B2)

Module volume in credits	Total student workload	Contact hours	Independent study hours
5	133	34 (64 including consultations)	69

Aim of module: competences developed by the study programme		
The course examines the development of the Arabic literature in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Emphasis is on the period post World War II. The goals of the course are reached through the reading and discussion of various representative novels and short story collections as well as other works in literary history. The works are studied with particular attention on their historical and social characteristics, and also their artistic qualities. Literature written by women is emphasised. The literature is read in English translation.		
Learning outcomes of the module	Study methods	Assessment methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to give an overview of modern Arabic literature Ability to demonstrate a familiarity with various works from various genres and from various parts of the Arab world. Ability to read, analyse and interpret the content of literary text in Arabic 	Lectures and seminar exercises and independent reading. Seminars are obligatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written and oral questioning, essay. Oral presentation. Assessed seminars Home assignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to describe the connection between a literary work and its historical context 		

Topics	Contact hours							Independent study time and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Practice	Total contact hours	Independent work	Assignments
The early development of the Arabic novel									
The Arabic Novel: Themes and Techniques									

The Pioneers and the Period of Maturity									
Other Arab Writers									
Najib Mahfuz									
Arab Women Writers									
The Modern Arabic Short Story									
Arabic Literature and the West									
Seminars									
Total	26	30	8				64	69	

Assessment strategy	Weight	Assessment time	Assessment criteria
EXAMPLE: Qualitative participation at the seminars and lectures	30	Whole semester	Students are required to actively participate in class discussions, critical analyse read articles and problematic issues. To be able to fulfil the class tasks working in the groups. No of seminars 4 divided between the two periods (September & November). Duration of seminars will be 3 hours. Students will be divided into 2 groups. Seminars will be based on reading of 2 novels and a collection of short stories. Students should be able to discuss and analyse Arabic literary texts in translation based on their social, historical, and aesthetical contexts.
Oral presentation of selected works	15	1 time/semester (following the list)	Each student will be asked to present a selected literary work;
Home assignment	15	1 home assignment	Students should be able to describe the connection between a literary work and its historical context and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of content.
Written examination	40	Assessment will be announced by the end of the semester	The written examination will consist of 4 open and closed questions and will take place at the end of the semester. The Examination has two objectives: (1) to check that students have read and reflected upon the literature and the lectures and (2) to provide them the opportunity for expressing their own reflections.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or a web link
Compulsory reading list (subject to slight changes)!				
Badawi, M.M.	1993	<i>A Short History of Modern Arabic Literature (page 1-18 & 89-238).</i>		Oxford: Oxford UP
Starkey, Paul	2006	<i>Modern Arabic Literature (page 115 - 162)</i>		Edinburgh UP
Al-Hakim, Tawfik	2005	<i>Diary of a Country Prosecutor</i>		London: Saqi
Al-Shaykh, Hanan	1991	<i>The Story of Zahra</i>		London: Quartet Books Ltd
Mahfouz, Naguib	2005	<i>Miramar</i>		Cairo: The American Univ. Cairo P
Jayyusi, Salma Khadra (Ed.)	1992	<i>Anthology of Modern Palestinian Literature (page 589-596)</i>		NY: Columbia UP
In addition to 5 short stories				

Recommended reading list				
Allen, Roger	2000	<i>An Introduction to Arabic Literature</i>		Cambridge UP
Johnson-Davies, Denys (Ed./Translator)	2000	<i>Under the Naked Sky: Short Stories from the Arab World</i>		Cairo: The American U in Cairo P
Hakki, Yahya	2004	<i>The Lamp of Umm Hashim and other Stories (page 45-88)</i>		Cairo: The American University in Cairo Press
Khedairi, Betool	2002	<i>A Sky So Close</i>		New York: Anchor Books
Zeidan, Joseph	1995	<i>Arab Women Novelists: the formative years and beyond</i>		State University of NYP
Other sources				