



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

## ASIA\_V 395 - Modern Persian Literature

### Mostafa Abedinifard

This course introduces modern Persian literature in English translation, offering an accessible entry point for students with no prior knowledge of the subject. Focusing on works from Iran, it spans the late nineteenth century to the twenty-first century. Beginning with the transformative impact of the Constitutional Revolution, we trace the emergence and evolution of modern Persian literature through significant social and political milestones. Readings include representative short stories, poems, and excerpts from longer fiction and nonfiction, providing an overview of key periods and preoccupations in modern and contemporary Iranian society. Thematically, the course explores modernization and westernization, social and political critique, identity and nationalism, gender and sexuality, war and revolution, and diaspora and exile. By situating these works within their historical and cultural contexts, students will examine the dynamic interplay between literature and the broader social currents shaping Iranian society.

**Mode of Delivery:** Online

### Sample Readings

Karimi-Hakkak, Ahmad. "The Transition from Classical to Modern in Persian Poetry What Changes Occurred?" *Routledge Handbook of Post Classical and Contemporary Persian Literature*, edited by Kamran Talattof, Routledge, 2023.

Milani, Farzaneh. *Words, Not Swords: Iranian Women Writers and the Freedom of Movement*. Syracuse University Press, 2011.

Talattof, Kamran. *The Politics of Writing in Iran: A History of Modern Persian Literature*. Syracuse University Press, 2000.

### Assignments

Present & Participation | 8%

Online Discussion and Responses | 24%

Quizzes | 12%

Recorded Presentation + Peer Review | 21%

Take-home Final | 35%