



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 offers an engaging introduction to modern Persian literature in English translation, designed for students with no prior background. Spanning from the late nineteenth century to the present, it traces how literary writing in Iran responded to moments of profound social, political, and cultural transformation. Through a curated selection of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction, students explore how writers grappled with questions of modernity, identity, power, gender, revolution, war, and life beyond the nation. Placing literary texts in conversation with their historical and cultural contexts, the course highlights literature as a dynamic space where social change is imagined, contested, and reworked.

Mode of Delivery: Online

Sample Readings

Dehkhoda, Ali-Akbar. *Charand-o Parand: Revolutionary Satire from Iran, 1907-1909*.

Translated, with introduction and notes by Janet Afary and John R. Perry. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2016.

Hedayat, Sadegh. "The Spinster." Translated by Siavash Danesh. In a short-story collection by Sadegh Hedayat, Westview Press.

Lambert-Hurley, Siobhan, Daniel Majchrowicz, and Sunil Sharma, editors. *Three Centuries of Travel Writing by Muslim Women*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2022.

Assignments

Presence and Participation|10%

Annotated Bibliography and Abstract|30%

Recorded Online Presentation and Peer-Review|25%

Expanded Presentation Essay|35%