

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
The City University of New York

Department of ENGLISH

Title of Course	Course Number:	ENG 340
<b>ENGLISH 340: MIDDLE EASTERN LITERATURE</b>	Class Hours per Week:	3
	Lab Hours:	0
	Credits:	3

E. Description

This course surveys fiction, poetry, and drama from writers throughout the Middle East, beginning in the late 19th century and concluding in the present time. English translations of well-known literature from the Middle East, a region defined as the countries of southwest Asia and northeast Africa, are considered in the context of such recurring themes as cultural/national identity, colonialism religion (e.g. Islam, Judaism, Christianity), gender relations and class conflict.

B. Prerequisites and/or Corequisites

English 201 or English 121

C. Student Outcomes

D. Required Texts and/or Supplementary Materials

Al Aswany, *The Yacoubian Building*, Harper Perennial  
Munif, *Cities of Salt*, Vintage  
Aslan, *No God But God*, Random House  
Parsipur, *Women Without Men*, Feminist Press  
Gardner & Maier, *Gilgamesh*, Vintage  
Sfar, *The Rabbi's Cat*, Pantheon  
*Arabian Nights*, Norton Critical Edition

E. Evaluation and Requirements of Students

Two formal essays – 40% of total grade  
Informal writing assignments – 20% of total grade  
Oral reports – 20% of total grade  
Quizzes – 20% of total grade  
Final Exam – possible extra credit

F. General Education Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to

- Discuss course content in a range of critical contexts.
- Demonstrate knowledge of themes and genres of course texts.
- Critique the complexities and differences among course texts.

### **College Attendance Policy**

At BMCC, the maximum number of absences is limited to one more hour than the number of hours a class meets in one week. For example, you may be enrolled in a three-hour class. In that class, you would be allowed 4 hours of absence (not 4 days). In the case of excessive absences, the instructor has the option to lower the grade or assign an F or WU grade.

### **Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. BMCC is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

### **BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement**

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one's own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism.

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's web site, [www.bmcc.cuny.edu](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu). For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).

### G. Outline of Topics