



POSTCOLONIAL HISTORY OF THE MAGHREB: ISSUES AND DEBATES

APA Program: Rabat: June Short-Term

Language of instruction: English

US semester credits: 4.0

Contact hours: 36

Term availability: June Short-Term (3 weeks)

Instructor: Professor Taoufiq Sakhkhane

Course Description

This course explores how the dyad colonialism/postcolonialism has shaped and continues to shape contemporary Morocco. We ask what the transition from a colonial state to postcolonial state looked like and what it meant to Moroccans. The course also investigates how the problematics of identity, language and representation have manifested since independence. More particularly, the course will cover the following aspects:

- A brief historical synopsis of Morocco, from an imperial power to a state with territorial issues of its own. We will consider both Western historical accounts as well as indigenous scholars writing against the empire.
- Morocco and France: colonial and postcolonial issues. For good or worse, France has been part of Moroccan history. For while the French entertained talking of Algeria as a further department within French jurisprudence, Morocco has been considered as a land better kept true to its history to serve French interests.
- Identity, language and representation: Like all postcolonial societies, Moroccans are haunted by questions of identity, language and representation. The student will be introduced to all these questions from the lenses of Moroccan writers. Showcases will comprise Moroccans writing in French, English and Arabic (an English translation, of course, will be provided.)
- Morocco in the light of American anthropology, literature and politics: Resuming a long-embedded British interest in Morocco, Americans have produced a huge literature on Morocco and Moroccans. This will be the opportunity to review that literature with American students.

Assessment

- Class participation: 25%
- Oral Presentation: 25%
- Paper: 25%
- Final Examination: 25%