

INT 368 - Topics in Global Culture: Maghrebi Immigration and Literature (Study Abroad to Morocco) Shailja Sharma
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Class: Mondays 6-9.15 pm
Arts and Letters Hall 106

INT 368 – Topics in Global Culture: Maghrebi Immigration and Literature

Fall 2015

Course Description: This course is an interdisciplinary attempt to understand migration between Morocco and France; its roots and effects and the hybrid culture it gives rise to on both sides of the Mediterranean. We will study the causes of migration, its patterns, and its effects on Morocco and its people. Since Morocco's economy and culture is shaped by remittances from Europe, it forms an important part of understanding Morocco itself.

You will be studying these materials as part of your preparation for the *Winter 2015 Study Abroad trip to Morocco*. About 3.3 million Moroccans emigrate to Northwestern Europe and their remittances total about \$5.7 billion annually, their impact on Moroccan society is huge. Morocco's foreign policy is also influenced by its diaspora. Through this course, students will study the postcolonial history of Morocco, the causes and effects of migration and aspects of its diaspora's culture.

The course will consist of two parts: the first part will look at the history of migration from the postwar period until the present, the patterns of settlement and employment in France and examine some debates around race, post-colonialism and identity. The second part of the course will read novels and film narratives from the second and third generation of Maghrebi-French authors and examine the issues that they raise about diasporic identity, transnational affiliation and the role of culture. This course fulfills the Arts and Literature or Junior Year Experiential Learning Liberal Studies domain.

Classes: The class will be co-taught with Dr. Christina Rivers once a week on Wednesday nights 6-9.15 pm. Attendance is mandatory. We will continue the reading and discussions while in Morocco and upon returning we will meet once in the Winter. Papers and assignments will be due at the end of Winter quarter.

Required Texts: *Please buy these texts online at your favorite e-retailer.*

1. David A. McMurray. *In and Out of Morocco: Smuggling and Migration in a Frontier Boomtown*. (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2001)
2. Tahar ben Jelloun. *A Palace in the Old Village*. (New York: Penguin Books, 2009)
3. Leila Lalami: *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits* (Harcourt Books, 2005)
4. Film: *La Haine* (1996) Dir. Mathieu Kassovitz

Essays:

4 critical and background essays which are required reading have been placed on e-reserves for you.

Assignments:

1. **3 analyses of the readings: (30%)** Please choose 3 of the required readings to submit a reading analysis on the book/film/articles. The bulk of the paper (total 3-5 pages) is devoted to analyzing what the reading is about and giving an opinion on it, and placing it in the context of a) the other readings or b) different information or other knowledge. Usually the structure of the paper should follow this approximate structure:

Part 1: A short summary of the reading(s), not to get any longer than one paragraph.

Part 2: Pick out a few main points under which you can synthesize the reading or those that you want to focus on for your analysis. For example you might say, I want to look at how today's reading deals with the issue of gender in migration, and focus your analysis around that.

Part 3: Relevance to your own research. How does this reading influence your thinking about your own interests or project? Why does it not?

Part 4: opinions and summary. This is the space to express your general view of the readings (I liked it, why? Or not? Is the prose style problematic? Something about the examples the author uses bugs me etc.) And in conclusion, summarize your take on the reading.

You should try and stick with the structure but also use it to be as comprehensive as possible.

Grading rubric:

A: Papers are turned in on time, are free of grammatical and other errors, are organized clearly, show a good comprehension of the readings, and are capable of analyzing their formal structures and ideas in a clear prose style.

A-: Papers are turned in on time, have some errors, but are well organized, show a good comprehension of the readings, and a good analysis of the structures and ideas.

B: Papers are on time, have some errors, are mostly well organized, and show good comprehension and are able to do a middling analysis.

B-: Papers are not all on time, contain errors, writing is not clear, and comprehension is good but analysis is lacking.

C: Papers are consistently late, contain errors, writing is unclear, and there are mistakes in comprehension.

D and below: Egregious errors, evidence of not having read the material, writing mistakes and analytical errors.

2. Journaling in Morocco and in Paris: (30%) Please use your journal entries to relate what you observe in Morocco and Paris to your reading and views before your experiences in person: including readings, class discussions and guest lectures. At the end of the trip, I expect about 20 pages. **Note:** the journal exercise is the same one as you are doing for Dr. Rivers' class. However, in my class, a higher portion of your grade comes from this exercise.

Grading rubric:

A grades: Regular journaling through the trip, reflective and insightful writing, clear connections drawn between observations and preparatory readings, evidence of thinking about final project/paper.

B grades: Journaling may be irregular or clustered at the end, entries are short and show a lack of thought and insight, entries tend to be descriptive but not analytical, and show no evidence of processing your experiences.

C grades: Entries are scattershot, done in a hurry, large gaps between entries, no reflection on preparatory readings and observations, and only nominal gestures towards final project.

D and below: Sparse entries, lack of thoughtfulness and analysis, almost totally descriptive or complaining, lack of reflection on experiences.

3. Final Paper: (40%) Due in Winter quarter March 2014. The final paper should be a research plus reflective paper on the causes and effects of migration from Morocco and the ways in which its diaspora has changed Morocco. Your readings and observations on the ground are the primary materials to start preparing for this paper. But you should feel free to use materials you come across in Morocco and Paris. If you take any pictures, or interview people in Morocco, you can use those to bolster your argument. The structure of your paper should include:

Grading Rubric:

A grades: A clear thesis or argument, a clear structure with a good flow among different sections, clear evidence of research and thought, a Works Cited page at the end, use of a consistent Citation style like the APA or Chicago Manual of Style, a clear conclusion.

B grades: Mostly clear thesis or argument, structure is somewhat unclear, language is error-prone, lack of adequate research, and citation mistakes.

C grades: An un-thought through thesis or argument, lack of adequate research, error prone writing and no clear citation style.

D and below: Egregious mistakes, grammatical and spelling errors, lack of research.

Attendance and Participation: is **mandatory**. If there is an emergency and you need to miss a class, please speak to both Dr. Rivers and me *ahead of time*.

Since this is a class where Dr. Rivers and I share class time, please be aware that this means we will coordinate many of the standards and expectations we have regarding writing standards, behavior in class, attendance and scholarship.