

2018 NEH Summer Institute

A Reverence for Words: Understanding Muslim Cultures through the Arts

Day-by-Day **DRAFT** Program of Study with Accompanying Reading Lists

Sunday, July 15, 2018 at New York University (NYU)

10:00am-2:00pm Arrival and check-in at New York University
5:30pm Welcome reception at the Hagop Kevorkian Center and tour of The Richard Ettinghausen Library at New York University

Monday, July 16, 2018 at NYU (morning and early afternoon); Islamic Cultural Center (late afternoon)

9:00am Introductory session with an overview of the institute with City Lore and Poets House staff
Lecture: "Introduction to Islam and the Language of the Qur'an" by Dr. Bruce Lawrence, Duke University and Dr. Rafey Habib, Rutgers University
Teachers' content discussion with Dr. Lawrence and City Lore staff
12:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Seminar: "Building Cultural Terrains through the Prism of Islamic Calligraphy: Language, Culture, Art, Techniques, and Spirituality" by artist Mitra Dejkameh
Classroom Connections with City Lore staff
Travel to Islamic Cultural Center
3:30pm **Excursion:** A Tour of the Islamic Cultural Center on Manhattan's Upper East Side with Dr. Lawrence, Dr. Habib and City Lore staff
5:30pm End of Session

Readings

Lawrence, Bruce, *The Qur'an: A Biography*. New York: Grove/Atlantic, 2006, chapters 4 (pp. 62-72) and 10 (pp. 133-142).
Khalidi, Tarif, "Reflections of a Qur'an Translator," *International Qur'anic Studies Association*, April 2013, pp. 1-8.
James, David, "Calligraphy – the geometry of the spirit," *Islamic Arts & Architecture*.

Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at NYU

10:00am Lecture: "Arabic Poetry: Trajectories of Modernity and Tradition" with Dr. Muhsin al-Musawi, Columbia University
Teachers' content discussion with Dr. al-Musawi and City Lore staff
12:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Presentation by special guest Suheir Hammad, a Palestinian-American poetry slam champion
3:00pm End of session

Readings

Van Gelder, G.J.H, *Classical Arabic Literature*. New York: New York University Press, 2013, pp. 37-43; 245-247.
Sells, Michael, *Desert Tracings*. Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 1989, pp. 32-44.

Lyons, M.C., *The Arabian Nights: Tales of 1001 Nights. Volume 1, Nights 1 to 294.* London: Penguin, 2010, pp. 3-19.

Hammad, Suheir, www.thescreamonline.com

Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at NYU (morning and afternoon); City Lore (evening)

- 10:00am Lecture: “The Persian Lyric Tradition: Rumi and Hafez” with Dr. Jawid Mojadeddi, Rutgers University
Teachers’ content discussion with Dr. Mojadeddi and City Lore staff
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Workshop: Arabic and Farsi Translation—Teachers & Writers Collaborative on Mahmoud Darwish (1941-2008, Palestine) and Forugh Farrokhzad (1935-1967, Iran)
Classroom Connections with City Lore staff
- 3:15pm End of session
- 7:00pm **Excursion:** Evening Public Performance at City Lore: “Verbal Duels: Classical and Contemporary Poets from the Middle East, Central Asia, South Asia and Diaspora – A Reading and Poetic Game,” hosted by City Lore and Ping Chong + Company

Readings

Poetry selections from Bell, Gertrude, *The Garden of Heaven: Poems of Hafiz*. New York: Dover, 2003.

Introduction and poetry selections from Jalal al-Din Rumi. *The Masnavi, Book One*. Jawid Mojadeddi, trans. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Darwish poems for the afternoon sessions will be chosen from English language translations found in Darwish, Mahmoud, *The Adam of Two Edens: Selected Poems*, Munir Akash, ed. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2000, and from the original Arabic editions.

Farrokhzad poems for the afternoon sessions will be chosen from English language translations found in Farrokhzad, Forugh, *Sin: Selected Poems of Forugh Farrokhzad*, Sholeh Wolpe, trans. Fayetteville, AK: University of Arkansas Press, 2007, and from the original Farsi editions.

Thursday, July 19, 2018 at NYU

- 10:00am Lecture: “Masters of Urdu Poetry, Yesterday and Today” by Dr. Frances Pritchett, Columbia University
Teachers’ content discussion with Dr. Pritchett and City Lore staff
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Seminar: “Bait Bazi: An Urdu Verse Game from the Indo-Pak Subcontinent” with Zeyba Rahman, Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art
- 2:30pm Lecture and Workshop: “Central Asian Poetry and American Interactions” by Zohra Saed, Graduate Center at CUNY and “Poetry from the Afghan Diaspora” by poet Sahar Muradi
Classroom Connections with City Lore staff
- 4:00pm End of session

Readings

Poetry selections from Russell, Ralph, *An Anthology of Urdu Literature*. Manchester: Carcanet, 1999.

Pritchett, Frances W. "Orient Pearls Unstrung: The Quest for Unity in the Ghazal." *Edebiyat* NS 4 (1993), pp. 119-135.
 Introduction and selections from Saed, Zohra and Sahar Muradi, *One Story, Thirty Stories: An Anthology of Contemporary Afghan American Literature*. Fayetteville, AK: University of Arkansas Press, 2010.

Friday, July 20, 2018 at NYU (morning); Islamic Center at NYU (afternoon)

10:00am Lecture: "Two Parallel Traditions: the Ottoman Lyric and the Turkish Folk Song" by Dr. Kemal Silay, Indiana University
 Teachers' content discussion with Dr. Silay and City Lore staff

12:00pm Lunch break

1:00pm Leave for Islamic Center at NYU

1:15pm **Excursion:** Islamic Center at NYU (238 Thompson St.) – Friday service, followed by discussion with Imam Latif/representative from the ICNYU

2:30pm Return to Kevorkian Center

3:00pm Poetry Inside Out Workshop: Turkish and Arabic Translation with Dave Johnson of Teachers & Writers Collaborative—Nâzım Hikmet (1902-1963, Turkey) and Mahmoud Darwish (1941-2008, Palestine)
 Classroom Connections with City Lore staff

5:00pm End of session

Readings

Poetry selections from Silay, Kemal, *An Anthology of Turkish Literature*. Bloomington: IN: Indiana University Press, 1996.
 Selections from Basılgöz İnan, *Turkish Folklore and Oral Literature: Selected Essays*. Kemal Silay, ed. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1998.
 Faiz poems for the afternoon sessions will be chosen from English language translations found in Faiz, Faiz Ahmad, *The Rebel's Silhouette: Selected Poems*. Agha Shahid Ali, trans. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 1995, and from the original Urdu editions.
 Hikmet poems for the afternoon sessions will be chosen from English language translations found in Hikmet, Nazim, *Poems of Nazım Hikmet*. Randy Blasing and Mutlu Konuk Blasing, eds. and trans. New York, NY: Persea Books, 2002, and from the original Turkish editions.

Saturday, July 21, 2018 at City Lore (morning); Untermyer Park and Gardens (afternoon)

930am – 12:00pm Independent project meetings with staff advisors

12:00pm Leave for Grand Central Station

12:58pm Take Croton Harmon Hudson Line train to Yonkers

1:27pm Arrive Yonkers train station; van transport to Gardens

2:00pm **Excursion:** Untermyer Park and Gardens (945 N. Broadway, Yonkers) for tour of historic gardens, including the Walled Garden, inspired by Indo-Persian gardens of antiquity led by Stephen Byrn, President of the Conservancy

4:30pm Workshop: "The Elements of Persian Garden Design" with artist Haifa Bint-Kadi

6:00pm End of session and transport to Yonkers train station

6:34pm Train back to Grand Central Station

Monday, July 23, 2018 at City Lore

- 10:00am Lecture: "Introduction to the Music of the Middle East" by Dr. Steven Blum, Graduate Center at CUNY
Teachers' content discussion with Dr. Blum and City Lore staff
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Seminar: "Crosscurrents in Persian and Turkish Classical Music and Poetry" by musician Amir Vahab
Classroom Connections with City Lore staff
- 3:15pm End of session
- 7:00pm **Excursion:** Evening Public Performance at Poets House (10 River Terrace) for performance, "Sufi Songs: Crosscurrents in Persian and Turkish Classical Music and Poetry" with Amir Vahab & Ensemble

Readings

- Blum, Stephen, "Hearing the Music of the Middle East" in *The Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, Vol. 6*, Virginia Danielson et al, eds. New York: Routledge, 2002, pp. 3-13.
- Selections from Qureshi, Regula Burckhardt, *Sufi Music of India and Pakistan: Sound, Context and Meaning in Qawwali*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995.
- Selections from Robinson, Basil W. and Ernst J. Grube, *Islamic Painting and the Arts of the Book*. London: Faber and Faber, 1976.
- Rough Guide to Sufi Music*. London: World Music Network, 2011. (CD)

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at the Metropolitan Museum

- 10:00am **Excursion:** A Tour of the Metropolitan Museum's Islamic Wing with curator Maryam Ekhtiar
Teachers' content discussion led by Museum and City Lore staff
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Seminar: "Teaching with Art from the Metropolitan Museum's Islamic Wing" by Deborah Lutz
Classroom Connections with City Lore staff
- 3:15pm End of session

Readings

- Selections from Ekhtiar, Maryam, et al. *Masterpieces from the Department of Islamic Art in the Metropolitan Museum of Art*. New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art; New Haven, CT: Distributed by Yale University Press, 2011.
- Sutton, Daud, *Islamic Design*. New York: Walker and Co., 2007.

Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at City Lore

- 9:30am** Lecture: "The Blues and the Muslim Call to Prayer" by Dr. Sylviane Diouf, Schomburg Center/ New York Public Library
Teachers' content discussion with Dr. Diouf and City Lore staff
Screening and Discussion: "Muslim Folk Traditions on Film" with Dr. Steve Zeitlin and Sierra Leonean poet-historian Kewulay Kamara
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Seminar: "Oral Traditions from the Muslim World" by Dr. Najwa Adra, New York University
Classroom Connections with City Lore staff
- 3:45pm End of session

Readings

Selections from Diouf, Sylviane A., *Servants of Allah: African Muslims Enslaved in the Americas*. New York : New York University Press, 1998.

Marcus, Scott, “The Muslim Call to Prayer”, in *The Garland Encyclopedia of World Music, Vol. 6*, Virginia Danielson et al, eds. New York: Routledge, 2002, pp. 153-155.

Banks, Marcus, “Which films are the ethnographic films?” from Crawford, Peter Ian, and Turton, David, eds. *Film as Ethnography*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1992, pp. 116-130.

Selections from Heider, Karl G., *Ethnographic Film: Revised Edition*. Austin, University of Texas Press, 2006.

Thursday, July 26, 2018 at City Lore

10:00am Lecture: “Poetry and Musical Imagination in Central Asia” by Dr. Theodore Levin, Dartmouth College

Teachers’ content discussion with Dr. Levin and City Lore staff

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Workshop “Teaching with the Muslim World’s Poetic Traditions” by City Lore’s Education Director Dr. Amanda Dargan

3:00pm End of day’s session; return for concert in the evening

Readings

Fletcher, Catherine, ed., *Essays on the Occasion of Illuminated Verses* (New York: City Lore and Poets House, 2011). Abu-Haidar, Farida, “The Poetic Content of the Iraqi "Maqam," *Journal of Arabic Literature*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (Sep., 1988), pp. 128-141.

Maqams of Baghdad. New York: Safaafir, 2006. (CD)

Friday, July 27, 2018 at City Lore (morning); Brooklyn (afternoon and evening)

10:00am Independent project meetings with staff advisors

4:00pm **Excursion and Dinner:** “Middle (F)Eastern Brooklyn”—City Lore staff lead a cultural and culinary discovery walk through Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, the center of Arab-American community life, culminating in a group dinner for participants, local Arab-American poets, and staff at Tanoreen Restaurant.

Saturday, July 28, 2018

8am -12pm Check out and departure from New York University