

PHR-512 - Global Islams

February 19, 2020

Essay #2 Prompt

Gender, Sexuality, and Muslim Identity

Prompt #1: The winter term is winding down and you are eating lunch with some friends in Commons. Somewhat unexpectedly, the conversation shifts to Islam and the hijab, where one of your friends says, “I don’t understand why Muslim students continue to wear head scarves at Andover. Don’t they know that they don’t have to do that here?” Fortunately, you have been enrolled “Global Islams” this past term and have an answer. How do you respond?

Prompt #2: It’s spring break and you find yourself back home interacting with some relatives that you haven’t seen in a while. They ask you what courses you were taking this past winter, where you mention that you just finished up a course on Islam. They respond by saying, “Ugh, that religion is so backwards. I just saw that Iran executed several men for being gay. Muslims really need to stand up and start condemning this sort of violence against the LGBTQ community.” How do you respond?

Please indicate the question to which you are responding at the top of the paper. Your response should take the form of a 4-5 page argumentative essay (2.0 line spacing, 1.0-inch margins, 12-point font), complete with a thesis statement, clear claims, and evidence from our course (anything that has been assigned is fair game!). Additionally, your paper should include a Works Cited that adheres to the Chicago Manual of Style. Class time will be set aside on Friday, May 10th to work on this assignment.

A few tips for the writing process:

- **Free Write and Review.** Before our next meeting on Friday, take 5-10 minutes to free write in response to the above prompt. The goal here is idea generation - don’t worry about format/style! Just get your initial thoughts on paper. Once you’ve done some initial brainstorming, take some time to re-read any in-class writing or formal reflections from the past few weeks. What themes do you see in your engagement? Is there any initial evidence that might be useful? Jot these down.
- **Outline.** Classtime will be aside on Thursday, February 20th for outlining. Once you’ve done some freewriting and reviewing, start compiling your ideas/evidence into an outline. What are the claims that you want to make? What evidence will you need to support them? I recommend plugging full quotes right into the outline itself - aim for more than you will actually use (this will help you select the best ones, not just the first one you see)!
- **Draft.** A rough draft will be due on Monday, February 24th, where time will be set aside for peer conferences.
- **Revise.** Set aside some time on Monday evening to incorporate any feedback from class. The final draft will be due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, February 25th.

Submitting Your Essay: In order to facilitate feedback and revisions, please submit your essay as a Google or Word Doc by dropping it into your Google Drive folder.