

**The Ohio State University  
First-Year Seminar Program  
Course Proposal**

**Course Information**

1. Attach a syllabus that includes the following (sample syllabi can be found at <http://firstyearseminars.osu.edu>):

- the course goals
- a brief description of the content
- the distribution of meeting times
- a weekly topical outline
- a listing of assignments
- grade assessment information (A-E or S/U)
- required textbooks and/or reading list
- the academic misconduct and disability services statements (sample statements can be found at <http://asccas.osu.edu/curriculum/asc-syllabus-elements>)

**Instructor Information**

2. Attach a brief biographical paragraph that includes the current research interests, teaching awards and honors, and undergraduate courses taught by the participating instructor(s). The paragraph will be included in materials for first-year students.

Mira Assaf Kafantaris, English

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Proposer's Name and Primary Academic Unit (please print)

Senior Lecturer

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Proposer's Title

Kafantaris.6@osu.edu

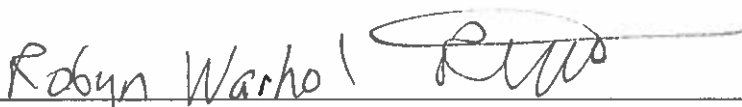
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Proposer's e-mail Address

February 28, 2019

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Submission Date

  
Approval of Department Chair of Academic Unit (please print)

## Foreign Queens from Cleopatra to Meghan Markle

Autumn Semester 2019

ARTSCI 1138

1 Credit

See Course Sparks Page here: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/rYH5YtxqFKRrY/>

ROOM /TIME	TBA
INSTRUCTOR	Dr Mira Assaf Kafantaris, Senior Lecturer PhD, English, The Ohio State University, 2014 MA, English, American University of Beirut, 2007
OFFICE HRS	MWF 11:30 am-12:30 pm & by appointment Location: 503 Denney Hall
CONTACT	<a href="mailto:Kafantaris.6@osu.edu">Kafantaris.6@osu.edu</a> <i>Note: Before you email me, please review my <a href="#">email policy</a> below</i>
COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES	<p>This First-Year Seminar will serve as an overview of foreign queens, from the famous Cleopatra of the Ptolemaic dynasty, to Marie-Antoinette, the last queen of France, to Meghan Markle, Duchess of Sussex. We will read texts that shed light on how these queens were represented in their host countries. By doing so, we will uncover how difference is constructed, especially when the subject is a woman in the spotlight.</p> <p>Over the course of the semester, we will develop critical strategies to examine how representations of foreign queenship shape our understanding of women in power, especially women who are different from us. Each week we will focus on a queen, reading a range of texts including historical chronicles, biopics, and news reels.</p> <p>Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Through critical analysis, discussion, and writing, students demonstrate the ability to read carefully and express ideas effectively.</li> <li>2. Students recognize the tropes surrounding the gendered construction of otherness.</li> </ol>
REQUIRED MATERIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings posted on Carmen</li> <li>• A tablet and headphones/earbuds</li> </ul>
<b>COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>	
This course is evaluated on an A-E Grading Scale.	
<b>Digital Documentary 50 %</b>	You will develop a 7-10 minute digital story that represents some aspect of the representation of foreign queenship. The purpose of this “mini-documentary” is for you to select a theme (such as appearance, language, social norm, sexuality, material surroundings and to develop a story Additional information will be provided in class for support.
<b>Discussion Leader 20 %</b>	You will lead discussion on class reading once during the semester. You will post to Carmen a short analytical response (approximately two well-developed paragraphs) and two thought-provoking questions about the reading for one class session.
<b>Participation 30%</b>	This is a seminar, not a lecture course. Reading assignments are intended to provoke discussion among seminar participants. I expect you to come to class prepared to talk about the assigned readings and your critical response to them. If you are not

comfortable speaking in large settings, you will have the opportunity to express your thoughts in small groups.

### Course Policies

#### ATTENDANCE

**Attendance** is important to the success of this class and to your development as a college student.

Excused absences, such as those for documented illness, family tragedy, religious observance, or travel for inter-collegiate athletics, will not affect your grade. If you miss class, it is your responsibility 1) to contact me as soon as possible 2) to provide written documentation for your absence, 3) to arrange to share notes with a classmate, and 4) to catch up with all the assignments.

#### TARDINESS

**Tardiness** is disruptive to the classroom environment, and prevents you from fully participating and assimilating the information and materials discussed in class. If you are more than ten minutes late for class and you do not have a valid excuse, you will be marked absent for the day.

#### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

**Plagiarism** is the unauthorized use of the words or ideas of another person. It is a serious academic offense that can result in referral to the Committee on Academic Misconduct and failure for the course. Faculty Rule 3335-5-487 states, "It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term 'academic misconduct' includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee." In addition, it is a violation of the student code of conduct to submit without the permission of the instructors work for one course that has also been submitted in fulfillment of the requirements of another course. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (<http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resources/>).

#### INSTRUCTOR COMMUNICATION & EMAIL ETIQUETTE

If at any time you have questions or concerns about the course or a specific assignment, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can stop by my office during my office hours and I will be readily available. If my office hours are inconvenient and you would like to meet at another time, please contact me so we can set up an alternate appointment.

You can also email me at anytime and I will reply within 24 hours (except weekends). As part of an effort to help you develop your professional communication skills, I request that you follow this formal *email etiquette* policy:

- Use a **properly descriptive subject line** that consists of a brief summary of the subject of your message, such as "Appointment request." Please *refrain* from using short, nonspecific subject lines that have little to do with the actual message (like "hi," "class," "question," "help," or just leaving the subject line blank). □
- Start the body of your email off with a proper **greeting**, such as "Hello Dr. Kafantaris," or something similar.
- Follow your greeting with a blank line. □
- Compose your email in paragraph form (they don't have to be indented; instead, use a line of whitespace between paragraphs). Make sure you adhere to proper sentence structure, and do your best to *proofread* for typos and spelling mistakes.
- Please capitalize the first letter in each sentence. □

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finally, use a proper closing and then finish with your first name. ☐</li> </ul>
CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE	<p>Everyone in the class is expected to be respectful and civil to other members of the class. Part of this classroom etiquette is remembering to turn off all cell phones, mp3 players, or other electronic equipment before the beginning of the class.</p> <p>All discussions, regardless of subject matter, will be conducted in a civil, respectful, and adult manner. Harassment will not be tolerated in any form and will result in disciplinary action.</p>
CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY	<p>If class is canceled due to emergency, I will contact you via email and request that a note be placed on the door. In addition, I will contact you as soon as possible following the cancelation to let you know what will be expected of you for our next class meeting.</p>
BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT	<p><b>Mira Assaf Kafantaris</b> earned her PhD in English from The Ohio State University, where she is currently a Senior Lecturer. Her work has appeared in <i>The Cambridge Edition of the Works of Ben Jonson</i>, <i>The Palgrave Handbook of Shakespeare's Queens</i>, and <i>The Rambling</i>. She is working on a study on the theorization of royal marriage, foreign queens, and race in the early modern period. She is recipient of multiple awards and grants, including the competitive Presidential Fellowship from The Ohio State University and two grants-in-aid from the Folger Institute to attend seminars at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.</p> <p>At OSU, she has taught several writing and literature courses, including Introduction to Shakespeare, Introduction to British Literature: Medieval to Eighteenth Century, and First and Second-Year Writing. In 2010, she received the First-Year Writing Teaching Award from the English department at OSU.</p>
RESOURCES	
<p>The <b>OSU Writing Center</b> is available to provide free, professional writing tutoring and consultation. You may set up an appointment by visiting <a href="http://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center">http://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center</a>.</p> <p>Students with disabilities (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions) that have been certified by the Office of Student Life Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office of Student Life Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue; telephone <a href="tel:614-292-3307">614-292-3307</a>, <a href="mailto:slds@osu.edu">slds@osu.edu</a>; <a href="http://slds.osu.edu">slds.osu.edu</a>.</p>	
DAILY SCHEDULE	

Week 1

Topic: Welcome and Course Introduction

Week 2

Topic: Jezebel

Reading Due: Readings from the Old Testament

Week 3

Topic: Cleopatra

Reading Due: William Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra

Week 4

Topic: Cleopatra

Reading Due: William Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra

Week 5

Topic: Margaret of Anjou

Reading Due: Excerpts from the *Chronicles of Holinshed*

Week 6

Topic: Henrietta Maria of France

Readings Due: Readings from *The Queen's Closet Opened* (1655)

Week 7

Topic: Catherine of Braganza

Readings: Excerpts from her Wedding Panegyrics (1662)

Week 8

Topic: Marie-Antoinette

Readings Due: Excerpts from Antonia Fraser's biography

Week 9

Topic: Marie-Antoinette

Readings Due: Listen to the BBC4 episode of *In Our Time* on Marie Antoinette

Week 10

Topic: TBA

Readings Due: TBA

Week 11

Topic: Wallis Simpson

Readings Due: Watch interview with WS and episodes from *The Crown*

Week 12

Topic: Meghan Markle,

Readings Due: "Meghan Markle, Good English Housewife"

Week 13

Presentations of Digital Documentary

Week 14

Presentations of Digital Documentary

WEEK 15

Presentations of Digital Documentary

