

**From:** [Steele, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Carmichael, Phoebe](#); [Nagar, Ila](#)  
**Cc:** [Fletcher, Richard](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Cody, Emily](#)  
**Subject:** Arabic 2241  
**Date:** Monday, November 21, 2022 11:06:35 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
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Good morning,

On Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for Arabic 2241.

The Panel unanimously approved the request with three contingencies, 3 recommendations, and one comment:

1. Comment: The Panel was very pleased to see this course and looks forward to having a course on Arab culture be a part of the Race, Ethnicity and Gender Diversity category.
2. Contingency: The Panel asks that the department include more material in the course that engages with the construction of race in the Arab world and the diversities of race in contemporary Arab cultures, perhaps with some discussion of the racialization of Arab-American identities.
3. Contingency: The Panel asks that the department alter and/or amend the descriptions of the assignments (syllabus pg. 2-4 under "Course Requirements") and the topics in the course calendar (syllabus pg. 4-7 under "Course Schedule") to make the inclusion of and focus on REGD topics, concepts and language more obvious to students. For example, even though the readings in Week Two indicate that some intersectional discussion of gender is likely to occur, the weekly course topics (which seem to be driven by the textbook chapters), make it appear as though gender is rarely engaged with in the course. However, the Panel hesitates to assume this based on the topics listed and ask that the department provide more detailed information. To this end, the Panel asks that some of the excellent topical questions and readings named in the GE Submission Form, such as "How do we engage in a conversation about gender in the Arabic-speaking region in a way that recognizes agency, and the varied identities and positions that people from the region hold?" and Maya Mikdashi's "How Not to Study Gender in the Middle East" (GE Submission Form pg. 2 under the response to ELO 1.1) be incorporated into the course calendar so that the syllabus and the GE submission form compliment and "agree with" one another.
4. Contingency: The Panel asks that the department include in the syllabus the Legacy General Education Goals and ELOs (as well as a short paragraph explaining how the course intends to meet those Goals and ELOs) for the Cultures and Ideas and Global Studies categories, as the class will continue to fulfill those requirements for students on the GEL.
5. Recommendation: The Panel recommends that all courses seeking approval in the new GE Foundations: REGD category include a Land Acknowledgement. A sample Land Acknowledgement, information about the purpose of such a statement, and further

- action steps can be found here: <https://mcc.osu.edu/about-us/land-acknowledgement>.
6. Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department use the most up-to-date version of the Mental Health statement (syllabus pg. 8 under “Mental Health”), as the phone number and name of the suicide prevention hotline have changed. An up-to-date statement can be found here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.
  7. Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department use the most up-to-date version of the Student Life Disabilities Services statement (syllabus pg. 7 under “Disability Services”). An up-to-date statement can be found here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before a course can move forward in the approval process. *Recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught.

I will return Arabic 2241 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel’s requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panel, please feel free to contact Richard Fletcher (faculty Chair of the REGD Panel; cc’d on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Rachel



**Rachel Steele, MA**

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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