

**DRAM 080.001**  
**Fall 2018**

**Project #2: Pious Dress across Cultures**

In her review of *Pious Fashion: How Muslim Women Dress* by Elizabeth Bucar, *Washington Post* staff writer and fashion critic Robin Givhan wrote on August 24, 2017: “Indeed, the main message ... is quite basic: Fashion among Muslim women, whether they are fully cloaked in a chador or wearing an Alexander McQueen skull-print scarf as a head covering, along with skinny jeans and a fur vest, is varied, highly individual and nuanced. At times, their style is intentionally political and subversive. At others, it is aimed purely at modesty — as the faith dictates. And sometimes, it is all about fashion, beauty and personal delight ([https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/the-fashionable-woman-in-the-islamic-attire/2017/08/23/64af74f6-7e0f-11e7-9d08-b79f191668ed\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.b6b4f73aad50](https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/the-fashionable-woman-in-the-islamic-attire/2017/08/23/64af74f6-7e0f-11e7-9d08-b79f191668ed_story.html?utm_term=.b6b4f73aad50)).”

Students, working in groups of three or four (different teams than comprised for Project #1 will be assembled), will choose one culture in which modesty dress is worn and develop a presentation about it. Students are not limited to the cultures and historical eras in the book. The topic chosen by each group must be approved in advance.

During 15-20 minute class period each group will:

- Document the chosen form through illustrations (paying attention to sources);
- Define the chosen forms through careful description;
- Relate the chosen form to the general manner of dress in the culture and time in which they occur (if different);
- Explain the rationale, including symbolism or color and shape;
- Focus on the manner of dress worn by women while at the same time including that worn by men (note that if a culture and era is chosen in which the focus is on men, then this premise would be reversed);
- And, respond to questions from class members.

Each group will also submit a formal paper version of all the above materials to Professor Owen on the date of their class presentation. The paper version must be organized in a coherent manner, prepared following MLA style guidelines, and written in the objective third person. In this context “written” does not mean written by hand.

Each member of the group will also assess the process of creating the presentation and the participation of the other members of their group (provided anonymously to Professor Owen). Each member of the group will receive the same grade for the presentation but the peer assessment will be factored into the class participation grade. The project is worth 20% of the course grade.

Room 24 Cobb has excellent projection equipment and internet access, a document camera, and USB ports.