Course Number: IDY-209-68
Monday evenings: March 11, and April 15, 22, 29, and May 6, 2013; Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Civic Hall, inside the Connector Building, Blackwood Campus

LECTURES ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Arts and Islamic Culture

This lecture series will offer a multifaceted view of the arts in Islamic culture, illustrating the wide range of Islamic art and architecture, and the understanding of visual imagery in diverse Muslim contexts.

March 11: Religious Art, Perception, and Practice in Islam
Jamal Elias, Class of 1965 Endowed Term Professor of Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania, will open the series and set the stage for our look at art and Islam. He will explore the complexity inherent in Islamic attitudes toward religious art and how visual imagery is understood in diverse Muslim and comparative contexts.

April 15: Past in Present: Building in the Islamic World Today
Renata Holod, College for Women Class of 1963 Term Professor in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, is a specialist in the study of the visual culture of the Islamic world and has conducted archaeological and architectural field work in Iran, Syria, Morocco, Uzbekistan, Turkey and Tunisia. She will discuss new trends in Islamic architecture.

April 22: Luxurious Layers: An Exploration of Islamic Textiles
Rose Muravchick, a Ph.D. candidate in Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania and Graduate Assistant at Penn’s Center for Ancient Studies specializes in the study of Islamic textile arts. She will discuss the pervasive presence of decorative textiles within the visual culture of the Islamic world and beyond.

April 29: Volatile Spaces and Fractured Heritage: Thinking about National Heritage in a Time of War
Uzma Z. Rizvi is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Urban Studies in the Department of Social Science and Cultural Studies at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. Dr. Rizvi's work spans topics of Archaeology, Anthropology, Urban Studies, and Critical and Visual Studies. In this talk she will be looking at contemporary Iraq and the effects of war on a contemporary city landscape, reformulating the ways in which we understand the construction of national heritage.

May 6: Art of the Qur'an: Writing and Ornaments the Divine Word
Yael Rice received her Ph.D. in History of Art from the University of Pennsylvania in 2011, and is currently the Five College Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Islamic Art at Amherst College and Hampshire College. She specializes in the arts of Iran and South Asia, with particular interests in the arts of the book, portraiture, and depictions of dreams. This richly illustrated talk will explore how Qur'an manuscripts were made and used during the first centuries of Islam.

Current exhibitions of Islamic art:
Penn Museum Islamic Gallery, Philadelphia

Metropolitan Museum, New York, Islamic Art
http://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-museum/museum-departments/curatorial-departments/islamic-art

http://www.textilemuseum.org/

The CCLR is proud to partner with Penn Museum's International Classroom Program and The American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT) and the Penn Middle East Center in offering this program.

Funding for this activity was provided by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) through a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. CAORC is a not-for-profit consortium of twenty-three independent overseas research centers that promote advanced research in the humanities and social sciences. CAORC member centers foster international scholarly exchange through the sponsorship of fellowship programs, foreign language study and collaborative research projects. CAORC was awarded a three-year grant from the Islam Initiative at the Carnegie Corporation of New York to help increase public knowledge about the diversity of thought, cultures and history of Islam and Muslim communities and to develop a more complex understanding among Americans about Muslim communities throughout the world.
It's easy to get to CCC Blackwood Campus!

**Directions:**

**From Philadelphia/Camden/Interstate 295:** Follow southbound Route 42 and take Blackwood/Clementon exit. Turn right at the bottom of the exit ramp onto Blackwood-Clementon Road and turn right at the first light, Erial Road. At the second traffic light turn right onto Little Gloucester Road and continue straight through the next light. The Blackwood Campus is on the right. Follow signs to Connector Building; Civic Hall is located inside the Connector Building.

**From Cherry Hill/Voorhees/Marlton:** Take Route 70 to southbound Springdale Road. Follow Springdale Road approximately 9 miles, noting that the road becomes White Horse Road, Laurel Road and then College Drive. At the traffic light at College Drive and Peter Cheeseman Road, turn left onto Peter Cheeseman Road. The Blackwood Campus is on the right. Follow signs to the Connector Building; Civic Hall is located inside the Connector Building.

**From the New Jersey Turnpike:** Take exit 3 and follow the ramp to southbound route 168 (Blackwood/Atlantic City). Remain southbound on route 168 for 4 miles before turning left onto College Drive. The Blackwood Campus is on the right. Follow signs to the Connector Building; Civic Hall is located inside the Connector Building.

**From Atlantic City Expressway/South Jersey Area:** Follow northbound route 42 and exit at Route 168 (Blackwood/Sicklerville). Turn right at the bottom of the ramp and turn right again at the first traffic light onto northbound 168. At second light, turn right onto College Drive. The Blackwood Campus is on the right. Follow signs to the Connector Building; Civic Hall is located inside the Connector Building.