In this lecture course students will engage in socio-cultural readings and literary analyses of celebrated works of Arabic fictional narrative (primarily novels) from the latter half of the twentieth century. Political and historical themes such as colonialism, nationalism, feminism, patriarchy, exile, revolution, liberation will be presented and discussed in the light of literary form and expression. Textual analyses will emphasize the impact of narrative modes and devices (such as the interplay between voices, shifts in story-planes, and the sequencing of events) on content, meaning, and message. Two or three works may be accompanied by screenings of film adaptations.

**Week 1**
Naguib Mahfouz [Najib Mahfuz], *Bayn al-Qasrayn* (1956)

* Palace Walk [by Naguib Mahfouz], trans. William Maynard Hutchins and Olive E. Kenny. (Multiple editions. The edition of the *Trilogy* with the introduction by Sabry Hafez is recommended, but this introduction will be made available to students who use other editions)


**Week 2**


**Week 3**

Tayeb Saleh [al-Tayyib Salih], *Mawsim al-hijra ila al-shamal* (1967)


**Week 4**


**Week 5**


**Week 6**


**Week 7**

Mohamed Berrada [Muhammad Barada], *Lu’bat al-nisyan* (1987)


**Week 8**


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Further Reading:
On the Arabic Novel


On Narratological Theory and Method


For more information contact Dr. Hammond at (martha.hammond@orinst.ox.ac.uk).