COURSE DESCRIPTION
Join this exciting class to explore writings by and about women in Egypt and Iran. The image of the marriage union between Princess Fawzia of Egypt, and the Persian Shah Mohamed Reza Pahlavi rightly captures the intertwining histories of the two cultures. In this class, we will be looking at issues of female identity and agency at different historical stages of Egypt and Iran. Some of the questions the course raises are:

Has female agency always been part of these cultures or is it a modern phenomenon?

What kind of representation women receive in the media and how is it different in reality?

What form of feminism do we have in both countries?

Where do women stand in the middle of the political changes past and present?

We will be examining written texts, images, and popular culture while applying a comparative approach to our discussions. All readings are in English.