What is a revolution? What is the difference between a revolution and an uprising, a civil war, or an anti-colonial movement? Since the Arab uprisings, which began 2010, this question has been much debated in the media and in the academy. This course aims to address the ways that gender, sex, and race are constructed, regulated and articulated at moments of political upheaval. While this course is centered in the contemporary Middle East, we will also be examining the Haitian, American, and French revolutions. We do so to better understand how the body and its regulation continue to be a central site from which the question of “revolution” emerges.

This course is inter-and trans-disciplinary. Throughout the semester we will be watching films and monitoring media in addition to weekly course readings.