STUDIES IN ISLAMIC PAINTING: ILLUSTRATED MANUSCRIPTS CA. 1200-1550

BILHA MOOR

Over 90% of Islamic figurative painting is found in manuscripts and illustrates their texts. What is an illustrated manuscript? What relationships and dialogues the manuscripts produce? The course discusses the arts of the book in the Islamic lands from the 13th century until the second half of the 16th century in historical and cultural contexts. First, it examines Arabic illustrated manuscripts of scientific texts and of adab literature, and explores their literary and pictorial precedents. Second, it discusses the changes that occurred in the subject-matter and style following the Mongol conquest of Persia and Baghdad in the second half of the 13th century. An emphasis will be given to historical texts, heroic and romantic Persian poetry, and mystical allegories.

WINTER 2014

F 2:00-5:00 PM