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Specialist in Arab and Muslim Relations from Morocco Speaks March 9 at Winthrop

ROCK HILL, S.C. - A specialist in Arab and Muslim relations from Morocco, Dr. Yamina El Kirat will discuss March 9 at Winthrop University how the Amazigh language is becoming endangered in northern Africa due to cultural stigmatization, economic opportunity and lack of community support.

The lecture will be held at 11 a.m. March 9 at Plowden Auditorium in Withers/W.T.S. Building. The particular case of Amazigh will be used as a backdrop for explaining how many other languages are now endangered as a result of globalization.

Kirat comes to Winthrop from Greenville Technical College where she is visiting on a Fulbright scholarship from early February to mid-March 2010. She has extensive experience in teaching at the university level and has had great involvement in research at the national and international levels, which have endowed her with a rich background about the history, literature and culture of the Muslim and Arab world.

Kirat holds both a Ph.D. and Masters degree from the University Mohammed V-Agdal in Rabat, Morocco where she has served as chair of the Department of English at the Faculty of Letters.

The lecture is sponsored by the International Center, International Studies Minor and Department of Modern Languages. For more information, contact Angie Edwards at edwardsa@winthrop.edu or 803/323-2604.